

Project Hope: the creative revolution mural, a human singularity approach



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Abstract

Art & Design schools, coming into the 21 century realized the growing need to keep up with advancing technologies, the global consumer markets, and especially how people are learning. The global pandemic served an inevitable disruption across all industries. It was necessary to adapt and figure out 'Hybrid' learning methods. Artists are driven by the environment they are immersed in, but during this time we were stuck inside our own bubbles. How can design, which is fundamentally community and collaboration based, be taught remotely?

Learning happens beyond the class sessions and assignments. The interpersonal relationships among peers, the open dialogues between professors, and cross-department conversations facilitate great work. It is clear that physical space matters at an Art & Design school. The environment must nurture various perspectives and bring cultures together. This would

lend itself to experiments and encourage learning through experience.

The College For Creative Studies (CCS) in Detroit has gone through a century-long transformation. But, the past few decades, CCS has taken the fine art 'White Cube Gallery' approach. As the college goes into the next era, two international students decided to make their final project to understand the role physical space will play in the future.

This thesis was a cross-department, collaborative passion project that eventually took the final form as a mural displayed permanently in the Walter B. Ford building at CCS. The project was based on 4 foundational pillars: Creative, Community, Culture & Collaboration. Through this project, the participating members began to understand the approach we must take when it comes to diversity, inclusivity, and culture in a learning environment.