

Portraying Issues

Grade level: 4-9

Time: two 45-minute sessions

Objectives:

- Inform people in the community about their issues and findings.

Curricular Connections: Civics, Theatre Arts, Visual Arts, Language Arts

Materials: Art supplies, large paper, markers, costumes, posterboards, other materials as needed

Procedure:

- 1) Tell students that they are going to present their findings about community practices to others in their community, other students, parents, etc. If you can find a younger PA or other group to present to, this works well.
- 2) Students create a presentation that illustrates the relationship between their issue and the community stakeholders involved. Students should consider: the age of their audience, what vocabulary they will use, what pictures to include, who will have which roles, when will they practice, what information is appropriate to include or avoid, etc.

Reflection Activities:

- Students could journal about how well their story or skit taught their audiences, what they would change for next time, and what was successful.
- Students might adapt their presentations to be seen by different audiences.

Assessment:

1. Effectiveness of presentations.
2. Get feedback from audience – whether it will influence them to change behaviors.

Source: Adapted from Sheridan AmeriCorps Service Project