Proposal Essay

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How do people in different communities interact through dance?

Actions speak louder than words. The CNMI is a small area, but consists of many talented people who come together as one through dancing. This is interesting because the Northern Marianas Islands has various styles in dancing,which our community gets involved with. People who come to represent their island come together as one unified group to create something beautiful to show the CNMI. The CNMI deals with a variety of events and activities that bring people together through dancing, such as Street Market, Flame Tree, Pika Fest, NMC Charter Day, Youth Fest, etc. The student researcher has found literature for the proposed research question, planned out methods to collect data, and established schedules to prepare writing, reading, and analyzing for the data that has been developed.

The student researcher has found literature for the proposed research question; How do people in different communities in the CNMI interact through dance? The student researcher has acquired four academic resources and four non-academic resources. Academic resources were found from University of Oregon, student projects, and ABC Education online containing information about how dance is a form of communication. For non-academic resources, the student researcher acquired different articles from the local newspaper in the CNMI providing information of different events and dance groups in the variety of communities being active. These articles also provide information of how people outside the community are able to join and learn from these different dance groups.

Three types of methods that will be conducted are online surveys, interviews, and observations. The electronic survey will be given to at least 40 NMC students and will contain 10 questions about dance being a form of communication, how people interact through dance, and personal opinions of how dance is portrayed. Another method would be interviews, these will be conducted with dance members and choreographers from different dance groups in the CNMI. Interviews will consist of questions about how dance is perceived and if dance has brought social interaction in different places. Lastly, observations will be made through videos online from different occasions in the CNMI that include dancing to be collected as data. All the collected data and information will be analyzed and organized to be written.

The table shown below is the schedule for collecting, analyzing, reading, and writing data.

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| Data Collecting | September 20, 2018 - October 26, 2018 |
| Analyzing Data | October 28, 2018 - November 13, 2018 |
| Reading Data | October 28, 2018 - November 13, 2018 |
| Writing Data | November 13, 2018 - November 25, 2018 |

The student researcher will be able to do the project, “How do people in different communities interact through dance in the CNMI” in about 10 weeks because there are 8 strong literature resources found to support the research question. There are well-organized methods to collect data; electronic surveys, interviews, and observations. Lastly, a well-developed schedule to read and write for the research topic has been planned as shown in the table above.