To: Dr. Bilin Tsai (Co-Chair of Campus Climate Team) & Dr. Andrea Schokker (Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs)
From: Jean R. Perrault (SFA/UCT Chair)
RE: Shades of Africa Report
Date: June 19, 2013

Project title, timeline and schedule of activities

African Music Festival (April 2-6, 2013)

- **March 2** - Mezzo Soprano Chantal Lavigne performed Music from African Ritual Services
- **March 3** - Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir performing in the traditional gospel genre
- **March 4** - Catalyst String Quartet (A Sphinx Organization) performing works of composers from African descent
- **March 5** - Sowah Mensah (from Ghana) playing traditional African percussion and performing with UMD percussion ensemble, Harbor City High School, Macalester African Percussion Group, Sing! A Women’s Chorus, with opening performance by Nettleton Elementary School “World Beat Drummers”
- **March 6** - Dr. Joshua Russell (piano) performing with UMD Symphony Orchestra. Music of composers from African descent.

Additional related activities
- **March 1** - Master class with Chantal Lavigne and UMD voice students
- **March 2** - “Lunch Discussion” with Chantal Lavigne on issues of race, roots and challenges
- **March 4** - Teaser performance by Catalyst String quartet for all music students in Weber Hall, followed by Q&A
- **March 4** - Master class with members of Catalyst Quartet for UMD string students
- **March 5** - Workshop and master class by Sowah Mensah with members of UMD Percussion Ensemble, Harbor City High School, Sing! A Women’s Chorus.
- **March 5** - Master class by Dr. Joshua Russell with UMD piano students

Chantal Lavigne
March 31 – April 3, 2013

Sunday 3/31
Arrival Flight information RL# G3XBBD        Delta Airlines DL4132 – 12:15pm
(Rudy picks up at airport and drops off at Holiday Inn)
Accommodation: Holiday Inn - Confirmation # 61407462
Rudy pick up for rehearsal
Afternoon rehearsal with Dr. Doty (time 4:30pm – Location Weber Hall)
Rudy picks up for dinner (Perrault residence) and back to Hotel after dinner.

Monday 4/1
Breakfast at Hotel
Holiday Inn shuttle to UMD
Rehearsal with Dr. Doty (time 10am – Location Weber Hall)
Lunch with Rudy and Dr. Doty (Chester Creek Café)
Master class with voice students (time 6-7:15pm – location HU170)
Performance Chamber Orchestra Concert (7:30pm Weber Hall)
Late dinner with Rudy and Voice Faculty (Burrito Union)
Rudy drives back to Hotel

**Tuesday 4/2**
- Breakfast at Hotel
- Holiday Inn shuttle to UMD
- Rehearsal with Dr. Doty (time TBA – Location Weber Hall)
- Lunch/Conversation in Kirby Ballroom A with UMD Music Students (12-2pm)
- Rudy drives back to Hotel after Lunch
- 6:00pm pick up from Hotel (Jean Bergum)
- 7:30pm concert Weber Hall
- Post-concert meal/celebration (Midi Restaurant)
- Rudy drives back to Hotel

**Wednesday 4/3**
- Holiday Inn shuttle to Airport
- Departure Flight information RL# G3XBBBD Delta Airlines DL3866 – 6:30AM

Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir  
April 3, 2013

**Wednesday April 3**
- Arrival (by bus) to Duluth (Parking in loading dock area) (5pm)
- Set-up for concert 4/5pm and sound check
- Technical needs: Grand piano, drum set, 3 speaker/monitors, microphones, amps
- 7:30pm Concert
- Backstage needs (Green Room, Singer Hall and HU170 reserved for warm-up and dressing station)
- Water, soda and light refreshments
- Post-concert – load and leave.

Catalyst Quartet  
April 3 – 5, 2013

**Wednesday April 3**
- Drive from MSP airport to Duluth
- Accommodation: Holiday Inn – Confirmation #
- Reserve 4 tickets from ensemble for TCCGC Concert Weber Hall
- Post concert meal (Valentini’s Restaurant)

**Thursday April 4**
- Breakfast at Hotel
- Drive to UMD for AM rehearsal (time TBA – Location Weber Hall)
- Recital Hour “teaser performance” (12pm – Weber Hall) Possible Q&A following performance
- Master class (1pm – Weber Hall)
- Lunch (Sarah’s Table) following master class
Free afternoon
7:30pm Concert – Weber Hall
Post concert dinner (location Zeitgeist) w/Joshua Russell

Friday April 5
Breakfast at Hotel
Drive back to MSP Airport

Sowah Mensah
Friday April 5, 2013

Drive to Duluth – Loading available for parking
Set-up in Weber Hall (after 12pm)
Workshop in Weber Hall with
  • UMD Percussion Ensemble - Gene Koshinski, director
  • Harbor City International School Drum Group - Darin Bergsven, director
  • Sing! A Women’s Chorus - Mags David, director
  • Macalester African Music Ensemble - Sowah Mensah, director
7:30pm Concert
Opening Performance by Nettleton World Beat Drummers - Teri Akervik, director
Depart after concert

Joshua Russell
April 4 – 7, 2013

Thursday April 4
Arrival Flight Information RL#: MLRHFU United Airlines 5349 – 10:16AM
(Rudy picks up from Airport and drops off at Hotel)
Accommodation: Holiday Inn – Confirmation # 61535427
Holiday Inn shuttle to UMD/Chester Park
Rehearsal with UMD Symphony Orchestra 5-7pm Chester Park CP13
Concert Catalyst Quartet concert 7:30pm
Post concert dinner (location Zeitgeist) w/Catalyst Qt.

Friday April 5
Breakfast at Hotel
Holiday Inn shuttle to UMD/Weber Hall
Master class with UMD piano students (10am – Weber Hall)
Lunch with Rudy and Piano Faculty (location TBA)
Rudy drops off at Hotel after Lunch
Holiday Inn shuttle to UMD/Chester Park
Rehearsal with UMD Symphony Orchestra 5-7pm Chester Park CP13
Concert Sowah Mensah concert 7:30pm
Post-concert dinner with Rudy (Top of the Harbor Restaurant)
Rudy drops off after dinner
Saturday April 6
Breakfast at Hotel
Rudy picks up from Hotel (9am)
Rehearsal with UMD Symphony Orchestra (10-1pm) – Weber Hall
Lunch after rehearsal (location TBD)
Rudy drops off after lunch
Holiday Inn shuttle to Weber Hall for concert
7:30pm Concert – Weber Hall
Post concert dinner (Belissio’s Restaurant)
Rudy drops off after dinner

Sunday April 7
Holiday Inn shuttle to airport
Departure flight Information RL#: MLRHFU United Airlines 5292 – 6:00AM

How project activities advanced Goal #2
The “Shades of Africa” Music Festival, a series of concerts celebrating the rich diversity of composers and performers of African descent. The festival featured world-class artists in a variety of settings (solo recitals, choral, traditional, classical, orchestral and popular). All of the artists selected for this festival were carefully screened. They have all given themselves the mission to educate and affect change through their performances and teachings. These artists appealed to a very broad spectrum of our student body and community. Many made themselves available for informal “conversations” with students, community members, faculty and staff, to continue the dialogue on race and diversity issues. Artists were available on an informal and formal basis to interact with students through master classes, “conversations”, and performances.

Project outcomes and long-term impact
For all daytime activities (master classes, workshops, lectures, conversations…) and evening concerts, students and audience members were asked to fill-out surveys. The results were overwhelmingly positive which pointed to the need for such a festival in the Northland. Some of the negative comments included difficulties in finding parking, inability to attend multiple concerts due to work conflicts, mid-week concerts, in short many matters that were beyond our control. Of the nearly 200 surveys collected, only a handful referred to choice of repertoire, inadequate advertising and lack of access to artists.

It is my belief that the direct interaction with these artists will leave a lasting impact on all of the students involved. Students experienced firsthand the majesty and beauty of the music through rehearsals and performances. They heard from world-class artists about the challenges of “making it” into a world that can be unwelcoming and even hostile to non-white performers. This repeated exposure to art and artists from other cultures will undoubtedly lessen the paranoia, mistrust and fear that tend to accompany a lack of knowledge. In the end, all of those “new” experiences will help mold the way they see or think about cultures different from their own.

“Shades of Africa” by the numbers
UMD students participating in concerts 67
UMD students attending all master classes 18
UMD students attending recital hour performance 174
UMD students attending all evening concerts Number not available
UMD students participating in “conversations” 150+
Total number of audience members for concerts 770
Revenue for combined concerts $4,131.00

**Financial Report – Actual Expenses**

**Shades of Africa - Budget**

**Chantal Lavigne (Soprano)**
- Artist fee $1,000.00
- Airfare and transportation $567.93
- Lodging and food (1 room- 3 days) $291.15

**Dr. Jeanne Doty (Accompanist)**
- Artist fee $500.00

**Sowah Mensah (Percussionist)**
- Artist fee $1,450.00
- Food (Hospitality) Sent as fee! $0.00

**Joshua Russell (Pianist)**
- Artist fee $500.00
- Airfare and transportation $341.60
- Lodging and food (1 room- 3 days) $476.02
- Rental Music (Danzon of Marquez) $480.00

**Twin Cities Community Gospel Choir**
- Artist Fee $1,750.00
- Transportation $1,350.00
- Food (20-25 people) Sent as fee!!

**Catalyst String Quartet**
- Artist Fee $7,000.00
- Food (Hospitality) $206.50
- Lodging (4 rooms – 2 days) $442.48

**Marketing and Promotion**
- Newspaper and billboard ads $800.00
- Graphic Designer (Doug Bowen-Bailey) $250.00
- Mailings $849.84
Receptions (Food)
• Conversation with Catalyst Qt $0.00
• Conversation with Ms. Lavigne $330.00

Miscellaneous $214.48

Total $18,800.00

Approved Funding
Ovation Series $3,500.00
SFA Dean’s Office $0.00
UCT Campus Climate Proposal $4,000.00
Diversity Proposal $11,300.00

Total $18,800.00

Balance $0.00

Attendance Report and sustainability

The overall attendance was clearly disappointing. The “Shades of Africa” music festival only reached 25% of its projected goal. The inaugural concert, with only a reported 56 people in the audience, was a tough sell and statically predicted to have the lowest number because of the nature of the concert (vocal recital). Although momentum did pick up over the week, attendance at each of the succeeding concerts fell short of their goals. There were however enough encouraging and lauding comments to justify doing another of those festivals, perhaps focusing on a different region of the globe.