

Adopting a Nonprofit: The Empire Arts Center

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What is the Adoptive Nonprofit Program?

The Adoptive Nonprofit Program was initially developed in 2006 as a means of creating a reciprocal relationship between students in the program and a nonprofit organization in our community by creating co-curricular experiences for the students and strengthen the nonprofit organization through service, support, and fundraising. Each semester, students review project proposals from area nonprofits and choose one to “adopt.” In the fall of 2016, the Nonprofit Leadership Student Association adopted the Empire Arts Center. In Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Project Goals & Objectives

Students assisted in the creation of the Empire Arts Center’s arts and culture publication, The Beat. In creating this publication, students sought to create exposure for local events and organizations while increasing the readership of the publication throughout the community. The Adoptive Nonprofit Program also sought, and continues to seek, to foster relationship between the University of North Dakota Nonprofit Leadership Student Association and community organizations.

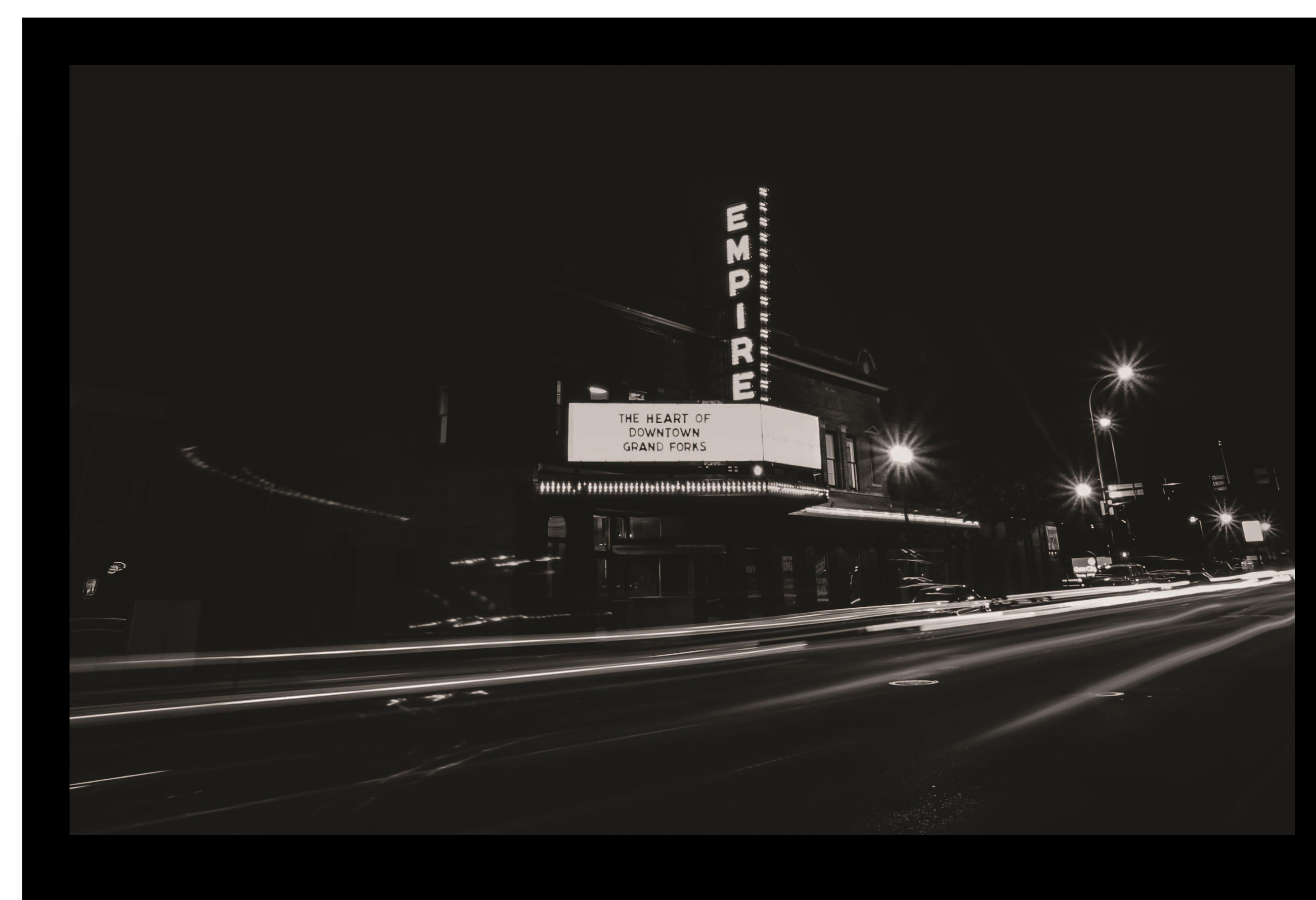
Student Activities

During this project, students:

- Wrote articles,
- Secured advertisements,
- Developed marketing techniques,
- Created a business partner list,
- Distributed completed publication, and
- Organized a campus outreach event.

Competencies addressed

Communication, Marketing and Public Relations
Volunteer and Human Resource Management
Cultural Competency and Diversity
Financial Resource Development and Management
Program Development
Professional and Personal Development
Future of the Nonprofit Sector



Project outcomes

In the completion of The Beat, students assisted the Empire Arts Center by exposing individuals to unique activities, events, and art and increasing community participation in cultural and artistic activities. This project also expanded our collaboration beyond the nonprofit community. Though the Adoptive Nonprofit Program, students bridged the gap between the university and larger community.

Student outcomes

In the Adoptive Nonprofit Program, students experienced the RFP process in a unique way. Students also developed competencies through hands-on learning, as well as participated professionally in the duties and responsibilities necessary for completion of this project.

Project Impact

The creation of The Beat, through a partnership of the NLSA and Empire Arts Center, provided students with hands-on experience relating to competencies while fulfilling the mission of promoting lifelong learning, arts, and culture.