

Example of Arts Appreciation Portfolio reflection paper for RMU's Student Engagement Transcript

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If you're pondering your purpose in life and think you're alone, I highly recommend going to see Robert Morris University's theatrical performance of Avenue Q. This musical is centered on a puppet named Princeton, and the things he learns as he tries to find his purpose in life. Robert Morris University chose an outstanding cast to portray the mix of puppets and humans in this hilarious musical. Although some rated "R" concepts and language were used, it's absolutely a must see (if you're old enough)!

To give you a quick overview without ruining the surprise of the show, Princeton moves to Avenue Q, fresh out of college, to pursue a new job. Along the way he stumbles while realizing he doesn't know his life's purpose. Throughout the musical you witness love, heartbreak, financial struggle, friendship, questions about sexuality, and many other real life concepts, portrayed hilariously by a half puppet cast.

This show exemplifies many real aspects of life. For instance, it's entirely about trying to find your purpose when you're out of college. For many college students and recent graduates, this is an all too real feeling. The cast also sang about how racism is still very present in our everyday lives, but without the intention of being racist. For example, people sometimes use slang terms or make jokes about a certain race, without realizing how it makes that person feel. This has a great correlation to life these days and how racism is still apparent.

On the less philosophical side, the cast of characters did a phenomenal job portraying the puppets as real human-like characters: they moved their mouths and themselves at appropriate times, gave them great emotion, and even sang using the character's voices. Speaking of singing, did the entire cast take music lessons? These students sang perfectly, I felt as though I was at a professional performance.

There was nothing that the Robert Morris University cast could've done to make this a better performance. The costumes were appropriate, the content was hilarious, and the actors were well prepared and very interested in what they were doing. The only suggestion I have is cutting out the intermission so we don't have to wait for more!

I know you're all dying to know what rated "R" concepts and language are displayed in this musical, so I won't keep you waiting any longer. If you don't want your child hearing about sexual terms and porn, don't bring them to this show. Also, if "f bombs" and racial jokes aren't something you want in your child's vocabulary, leave them with their grandparents.

If you're looking for a different view on the meaning of life, or just a humorous night out, head on down to Massey Hall at Robert Morris University for an outstanding show!