BIGGEST TAKEAWAYS FROM OCTOBER 1ST
with Mark Rabideau & Jennifer Edwards

• Opening up our students’ (and their parents’) perspectives to the legitimacy and necessity of embracing a portfolio; career rather than the pinnacle or ultimate singular token of evident success
• Despite all of the emerging technologies, the arts are still about human connection
• Content-creator is an important phrase…creativity must be an overt value…creativity can be more than just making up music
• Disturbed by the suggestion that the capstone experience, the recital, is not creative (or at least that is what is being insinuated)…yes, there is work to do, but let us not forget some of those values
• I fear that I heard much of this 28 years ago in high school…I teach this way…and yet here we are
• Relationships with audiences need to change…embrace new definitions of “audience” and “concert”
• With all change, there is loss
• Renewal and expansion
• Make students “active learners” who can do research
• Creative artists who can translate skills across mediums/platforms and can make an impact on their community
• Teach students what they need to know
• Make institutional core values overt and use them as a cohesive tool throughout their experience at the conservatory
• Teaching arts as a social good
• Conservatory education should broaden your focus not narrow it
• I would go to rush hour concerts
• I’d love to have continued conversations with Mark, as I think his ideas especially connect with what we’re trying to do at SU
• Making work that makes social good
• Teaching creativity and taking artistic risk
• I’m struck by the notion of finding a community space where everyone involved (eg. students, faculty, community) feels comfortable…we can do this
• Engagement…having an off-campus space for student work with community
• It is disturbing that audiences are “aging out”…Will reimagining what a concert is contribute to attracting and keeping audiences?
• This change is not negotiable…we either get ahead of it or we die…still unsure how we will do it, but it is good that we are doing it
• Tradition (sticky note has a large slash through this word)
• Attending a conservatory should expand a student’s focus, not narrow it (in other words, train students to be active learners)
• Train active learners, content creators, and career as a portfolio
• Change = loss…give it space
• The importance of teaching students to be consistently relevant in ever-changing fields and environments
• How can we creatively reimagine a curriculum design in a way that mimics our own creative practices?
• Training students for the future and to be active learners
• Artists must have impact and contribute to the social good
• Intersection between art and doing good
• The question of what is enough for undergraduate education and what is really graduate work
• With all change there is loss…be aware of how vulnerable and protective folks can be about change
• I now feel hopeful…I think we can do this and that we definitely should do it
• Meet end so we know where we are going…don’t just change because we have to
• We must be creative in this endeavor and change is good, but also difficult
• What does it mean to innovate without losing depth of critical study…if we produce the most successful busker who cannot read music nor has ever heard of Palestrina, have we succeeded?
• With all change comes some loss
• Engaging the community leads to artist citizens which leads to art as a social good
• Students need to develop, and we need to foster, the flexibility to adapt their skills to a variety of situations and media
• Diversify your creativity...cultivate a diverse audience
• Store front property for multi-discipline programs/performance audience through community needs and creating performance to reflect...overt core creativity values...entrepreneurship-the need of creatives to see themselves as artists, not specialists...artists as those who impact diversity...complex collaborations...original projects...intersecting pockets of community
• Finding a way for students and faculty to engage the community
• Diversify your goals and your talents
• We need to help the students understand the importance of their exploration of creativity to keep working
• Be creative, not recreative
• Understand the concept of what a 21st century concert looks like
• Both are talking about humanism through the arts...in a way, it is asking the conservatory to lean out of the traditional specialty mindset, closer to liberal arts...big question: what do we give up?
• We need to guide students to answer the questions: 1) Who am I? 2) What needs can my talent fill?...so that this can lead to creation of a rich, flexible, sustainable career

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Shenandoah Conservatory