# Changing Workplace Culture and Building Community with Student Outreach

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## Empower student employees through outreach projects

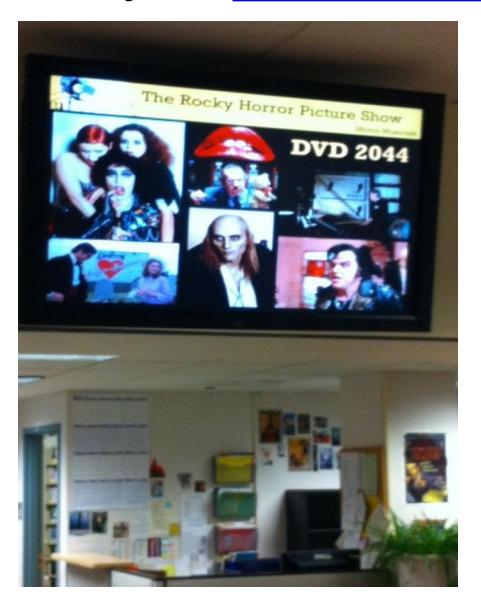
- Outreach: Promoting library collections and services.
- Wanted to grow something natural and wild but knew that it needed some cultivation.
- Why involve students in outreach?
  - Good management; Give students projects where they make decisions and get to display their work to the public.
  - Boost to morale and create opportunities for meaningful contributions – they own the projects.
  - Build a true sense on involvement in the workplace.
  - User identify with peer-to-peer outreach.



## **Getting Started**

- Started in Media: Smaller, fewer students/staff, easier to organize.
- Media staff brainstormed ideas for several ongoing outreach activities:
  - Spare 52" monitor for slide shows
  - Library homepage blog for reviews
- Anne and Lori worked with students to produce projects.
- Gave student staff creative freedom in short time student employees took initiative.

## Outreach Project: <u>Themed Slideshows</u>



## Outreach Project: Film Recommendations

http://library.uvm.edu/news/?p=4238



### Student Outreach Committee

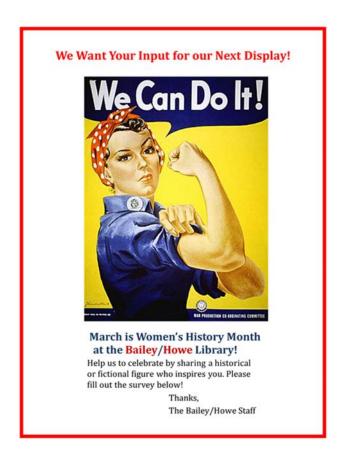
- Began Spring 2012.
- Collaboration between Circulation and Media students and staff.
- Members act as a steering/planning committee for outreach projects.

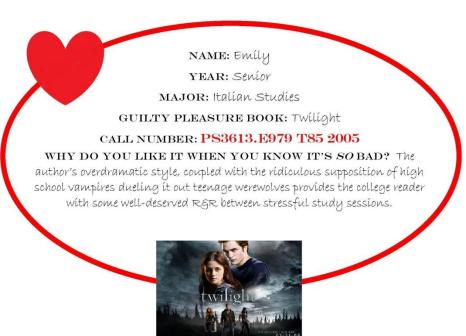


## Themed Displays



## Themed Displays: Guilty Pleasures and Women's History





## Themed Displays



#### **Celebrating Women's History Month**

Chosen by: Billy Clark
Graduate Student in English

Woman who inspires Billy:

Musician and Civil Rights Activist, Nina Simone

We recommend the following sound recordings:

- Nina Simone Sings the Blues (CD 3103)
- High Priestess of Soul (CD 3014)

## **Branding Resource Discovery Tool**







## Group Room Video

http://library.uvm.edu/news/?p=5437



### Other Activities

- Admitted student tours
- Fundraising for Chittenden County Food Shelf
- LibQUAL+ survey promotion
- CATQuest Promotion

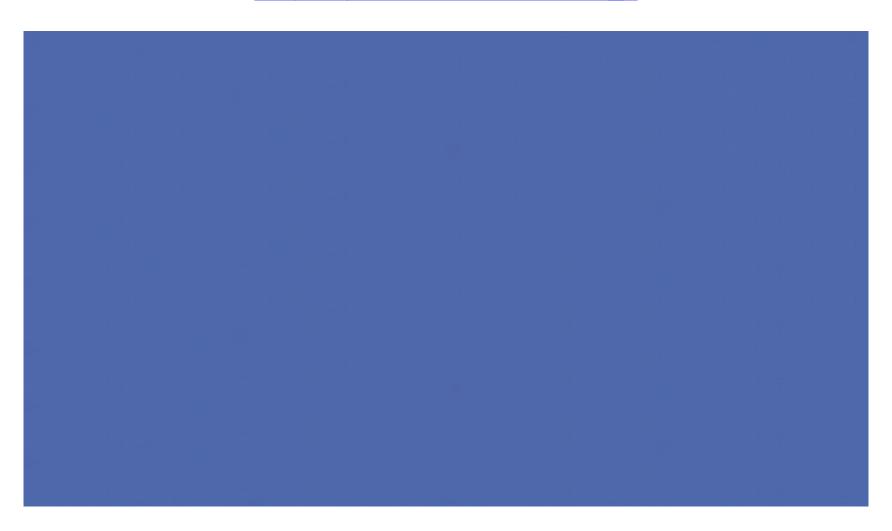


### **Outcomes**

- Noticeable improvement in student morale; more enthusiasm for work.
- Staff and students build stronger bond through outreach projects.
- Student employees identify more with the library – proud of their work.

## What student employees are saying...

http://youtu.be/OcdLILJNH\_c



## What's Next?

- Contribute to library social networking tools.
- Give students even more creative freedom.
- Encourage more independence.
- Expanding visibility of our projects.

## **Special Thanks**

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