BIGBANG

BIG PICTURE LEARNING’S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING

DETROIT, MI | JULY 22–25, 2019
the

IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY

Being part of any community means making real connections in the real world. There’s no better way to know the real world than to be out there. Why fly to a city and stay inside of a hotel when there’s a wealth of knowledge just outside its doors?

Big Bang locations aren’t selected by chance. Whether it’s New Orleans, St. Louis, Atlanta and - now - Detroit, we select cities where we know there’s a real opportunity for us to interact with, learn from, and be inspired by the people who are activating in their own communities.

At Big Bang, groups of 20 attendees break out of the conference walls and take to the streets to learn directly from the community that has invited us in. We pay particular attention to opportunities that will allow participants to get outside, be active, do things that they couldn’t do in any other location or through any other convening, and – most importantly – lean way into empathetic practices. We learn together. We build together. We take those experiences back to our own communities for more seeds to grow.
the IMPORTANCE OF VOICES

Big Bang is an intergenerational collaboration where students and educators come together as equals to learn from one another and from the community. You can’t have a student-centered learning conference without involving students. Student scholars make up an important contingent of Big Bang attendees and aren’t there to learn or observe. They’re there to teach. To lead.

To inspire our students, educators, policy-makers and all other learners, we welcome thought-leaders who have themselves benefitted from experiences in which they were encouraged to pursue their passions through learning and through life. Speakers such as activist DeRay McKesson, New York Times best selling author Sir Ken Robinson, actor Wendell Pierce, and acclaimed director Ava DuVernay. They’ve all graced the Big Bang stage and have shared important lessons. But, on more than one occasion, they too have found themselves moved by student-performances that often precede their talks.

This is what we mean by the importance of voice. It is a conversation in which everyone is invited to participate. Your voice is welcome at Big Bang. We wouldn’t have it any other way.