The background features a white central area with a large, light red triangle pointing downwards from the top left. To the right, a dark red shape forms a large arrow pointing left towards the text. The top right corner has a dark red square, and a vertical dark red bar runs down the right edge.

Architectural Settings which Facilitate Transcultural Understanding

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Architectural Research Studio 771

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Introduction to Transcultural Understanding

To understand how a space can promote transcultural understanding, it is imperative to understand transculturalism. It is defined as seeing one's self in the other (Cuccioletta, 2002). This means finding aspects of, or similar to, one's own culture in a different culture. Transculturalism is a tool for creating understanding, and therefore bridging cultural gaps. Transculturalism seeks to remove the us versus them attitude by eliminating the concept of the other. There is an important distinction to make between the ideas of transculturalism and multiculturalism. They are parallel ideas, encouraging the mixing of cultures, but in differing applications. Multiculturalism seeks to identify and celebrate the differences of cultures. Often, multicultural is commonly used to discuss diversity. A culture's unique identity creates unique individuals within the culture and formers stronger bonds between members.

They are many ways in which people can interact in a transcultural manner. To identify settings where these interactions take place, a list of methods has been derived. This list is non-exhaustive, and the methods are broad enough to include what could be other micro-methods The methods on this list are not exclusive to themselves; they overlap an intermingle The methods this study will be focusing on are: Storytelling, Music and Dance, Food, Marketplace, and Artifacts.

Storytelling

Storytelling focuses on settings in which people have the chance to discuss and share stories whether they be culture-specific or containing culture-specific knowledge.

Public Library
Fargo, ND



Sharing of Culture

Libraries give abundant opportunities for sharing of cultures through stories read and community events. Within the main stacks, however, there were minimal interactions between people. The most common form of communication happened between the librarian at the information desk and a book-searcher. These instances were without substantial substance and pertained to discussing location of media or suggesting resources.

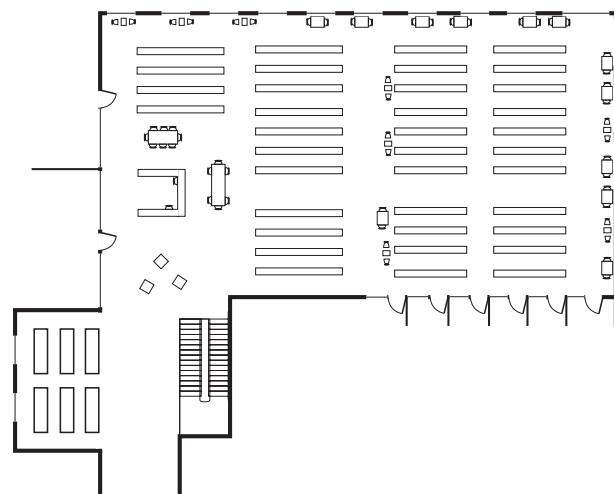
Most people retreated to solitary experiences with their book, magazine or laptop. They created personal bubbles larger than the typical standard amount of space due to the over abundance choice of seating.

While culture does not seem to be share directly between people, it certainly is being shared through the media being viewed. The sheer amount of material available indicates that some, at the very least, will include culturally relevant information for people to read, view, and learn.



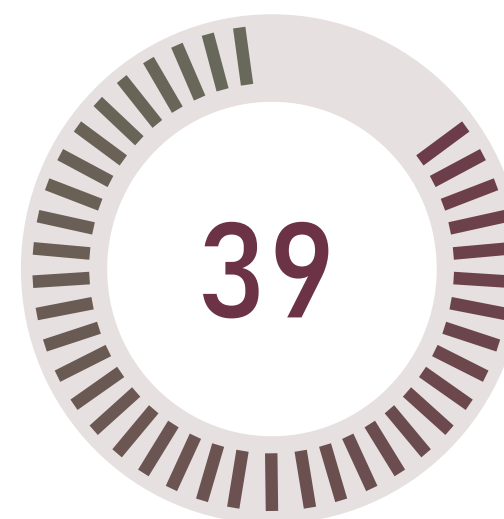
Transcultural Understanding Score

Fargo has many locations of their public library. The downtown library is a place easily accessible to many people in both Fargo and Moorhead. It provides access to books, magazines, and more. The library also hosts various programs related and otherwise to books and literature.



Description of Space

The restaurants take up an isle of the marketplace. One side of the isle is the ordering and serving window. The other side is tables and chairs. They are not specific to Each restaurant, but for each customer to pick and choose after receiving their food. Menus large and above the restaurant counters with big, bright pictures of the meals.



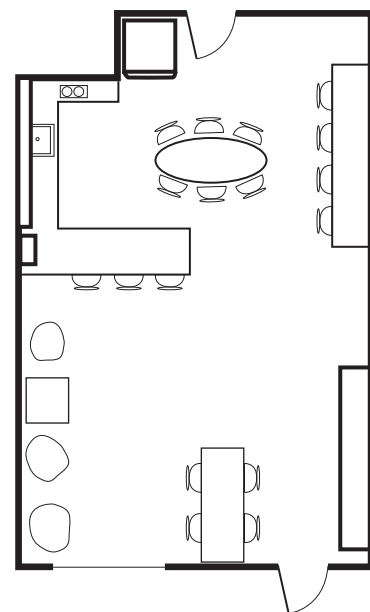
This setting received a score of 39. It is easily accessible to the public due to its proximity to other busy areas. It offers a wide variety of gathering spaces within like community rooms and large tables with appropriate seating. It has clearly market entrances and large displays of transparent outer walls (windows) allowing people to view into the setting before entering. It negates culture sharing due to the majority of small cluster or singular seating due to typical use of a library (individual reading).

**Hostel
Community
Kitchen**
Warsaw, Poland



Photo Source: hotels-warsaw.net

Hostels are different from hotels in that guests are expected to share space with strangers. This is amplified in their community spaces. Their community kitchen is set up as a place for preparing and storing food, lounging outside of bedrooms, and, most importantly, gathering. There is no explicit rule saying users must interact with others, but in such tight quarters, it is bound to happen.



Description of Space

The room is very to-the-point in terms of what it included. A small table sits near the entrance flanked by a few beanbag chairs. Across, there are storage lockers where the key must be taken from reception before use. The kitchen area is made of simple, inexpensive materials. The counter is L shaped with room for a few bar stools, sink, and a hot-plate. Above is a long shelf containing only a microwave. The back wall hosts a refrigerator for guests to store food. Finally, there is another was of counter high seating.

The essential gathering point in the space is the coffee machine which charges just a Euro for a cup. People would flock to the room for this mediocre caffeine fix. Some would grab a cup and leave, others would borrow the hostel-provided mugs and lounge while they enjoyed sipping on their drink. As people sat, they would begin to chat with one another. Slowly it would start with “where are you from” and “what brings you to this city” and eventually full blown conversation is taking place.

We gathered around the counter as we began to learn about each other. There were two of us from NDSU traveling together and we had met two travelers from Australia. We discussed the similarities and differences of our education systems. They explained that they were on a gap year before starting university which is almost standard for young people from Australia. We chatted around the counter for several hours sipping the sad coffee before we departed for exploring the city.

**Transcultural
Understanding
Score**



Others would come through to make their own food from the fridge. Some were there individually, some gathered in group at the other counter. It was unclear whether they had known one another or not. Some would speak in unknown languages. It was interesting to see how they would choose to prepare their meals. One person came in and cooked a full meal start to finish including copping ingredients. Other would simply warm up a quick meal.



Photo Source: hotels-warsaw.net

This setting has been given a score of 32. It appropriately creates spaces for people to gather and communicate in the several alcoves created by the various seating options: high top tables, bean bag clusters, and a counter top peninsula. It is restrictive in that is not open to anyone but those staying at the hostel, and within the hostel is far from the rooms, and lacks a line of sight into or out of the setting.

**Sharing of
Culture**

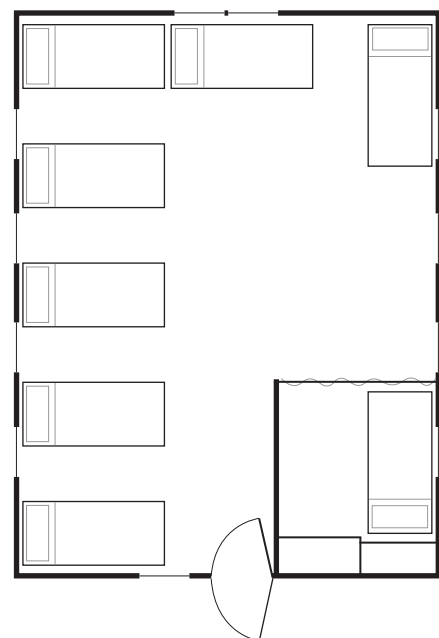
Summer Camp Cabin

Lake Park, MN



Photo Source: campcormorant.org

Summer camp is a place for kids to experience new opportunities in a place outside of their parents influence. Each child is assigned to a cabin where they will meet their counselors and other children in their cabin, While it is inherently a place to sleep, much more happens in a summer camp cabin.



Description of Space

The rectangular building is one large rooms lined with bunk beds. A small alcove holds the counselors bed and personal items. Children keep their bags and suitcases either between beds or underneath. The walls each have small windows lining them. The two long walls each have four windows and the back short wall has two. The front short wall features one window and a door which is centered on the facade.

Sharing of Culture

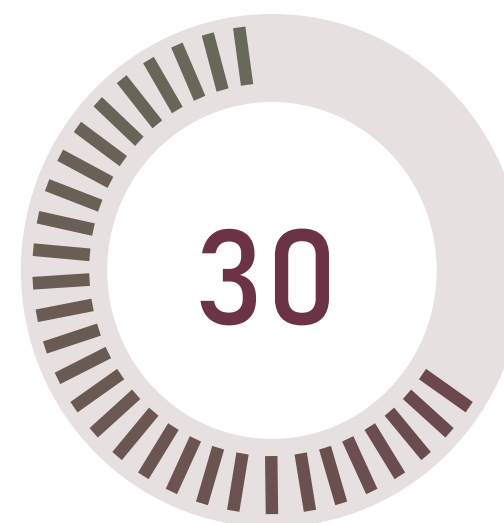
Campers first meet and interact with other campers in their cabin. Counselors do ice breakers to assure everyone is familiar with one another since they will do most activities with together throughout the day. The large aisle between beds leaves enough room for this inside the cabin.

Each day, they have break times and quiet hours within the cabin, giving another opportunity for children to visit and learn more about one another. At bedtime, the children are not usually ready for their head to hit the pillow and sleep for the night, so the counselor lets they talk among each other and sometimes play games or make friendship bracelets. During these times, stories are often shouted from their individual bunks to the group about their families, or school, or other aspects of their lives that are unique to them.



Photo Source: campcormorant.org

Transcultural Understanding Score



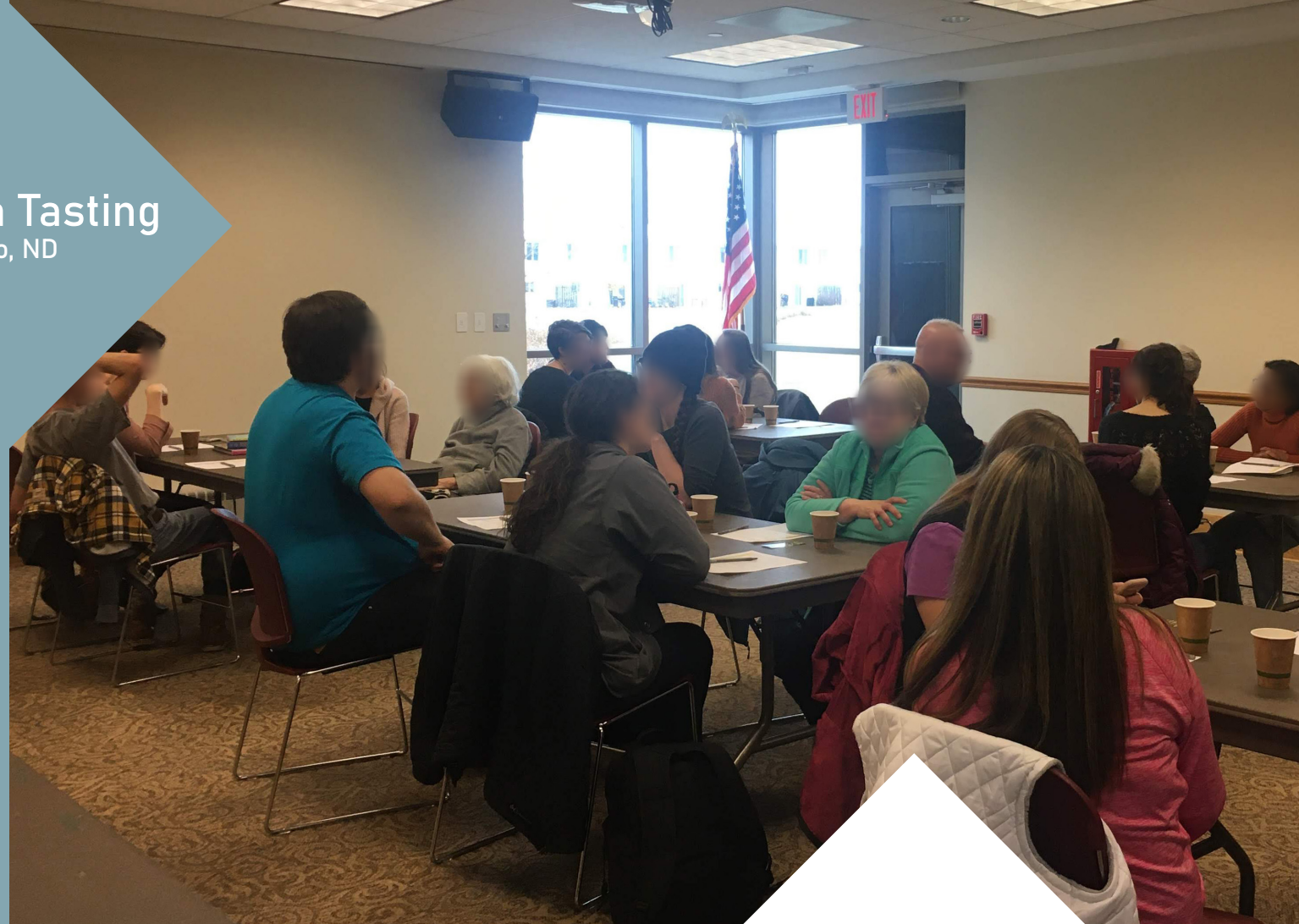
This setting received a score of 30. It provides a natural gathering space between the bunk beds, as well as a semi-sharing circle with the bunks themselves. The main hindrance of this setting is the exclusivity of access. While necessary for its use, only a settle number of people will enter and communicate within each camp week.

FOOD

Food includes the sharing of culture specific cuisine, how it is prepared, or where is it consumed.

Tea Tasting

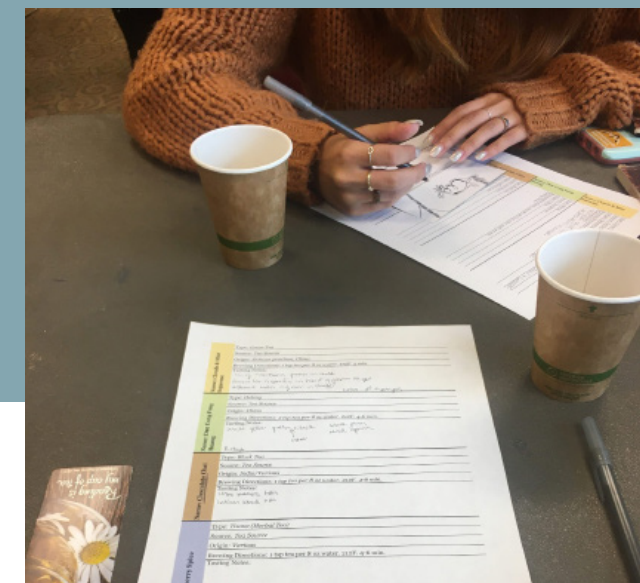
Fargo, ND



Sharing of Culture

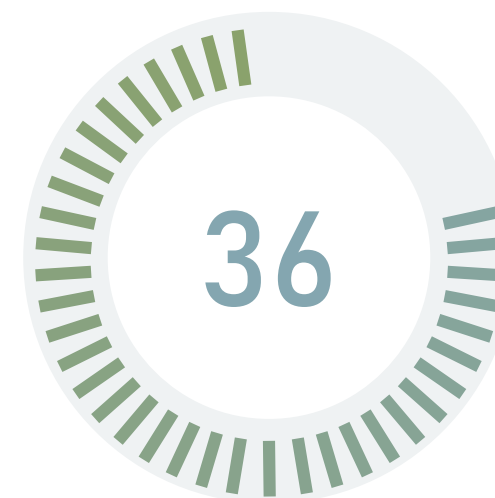
As people arrived, they filed into tables. Some came alone, other brought friends with them to the tea tasting. As tables filled, conversations started with asking about people's interest in tea, and if they had attended a tasting in the past. Seats filled, and more chairs were brought around the table, packing the room.

The first tea was brought out and the person running the event gives background on the tea: where its from, what herbs and flavors can be tasted, and what it is typically used for in its native context. The books on the table sparked more conversations about people's backgrounds and past experiences. As tea is sipped, nostalgic stories are brought up at each table about when they first began to drink tea, and memories they associated with it. Soon, all the teas had been tasted and everyone left with a note sheet filled with scratching about the flavors they tasted in the teas and stories they heard that morning.



This event was hosted at one of Fargo's Public library and was open to all that registered for the event. In it, four teas were sampled with each coming from a different place and a different type of tea. While the purpose of the event was tea tasting, interactions with fellow tea enthusiasts sparked conversation.

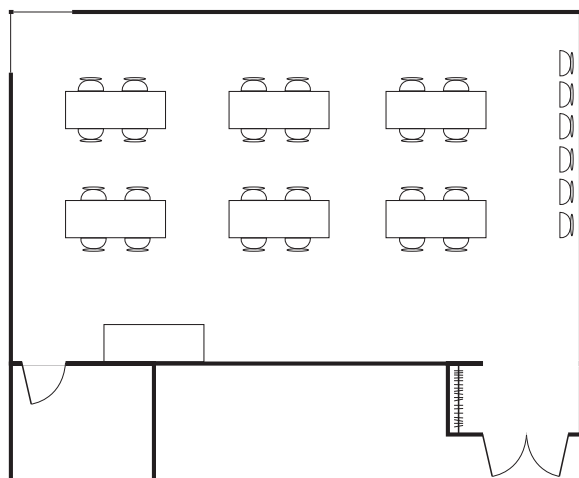
Transcultural Understanding Score



This setting received a score of 36. This setting provided broken down spaces to interact with others present due to the multiple tables with limited number of seats available. While the room was open to the public, it was obscured from those wandering through creating a more intimate level of interpersonal communication within each table cluster.

Description of Space

The room was a community room within the library. It was a simple square room with tables. There were six tables with four chairs each. Extra chairs were located in the room to add to tables as needed. A small side room connected to the main room and served as a place to prepare the tea. Only the person running the event and her assistant went into the side room.



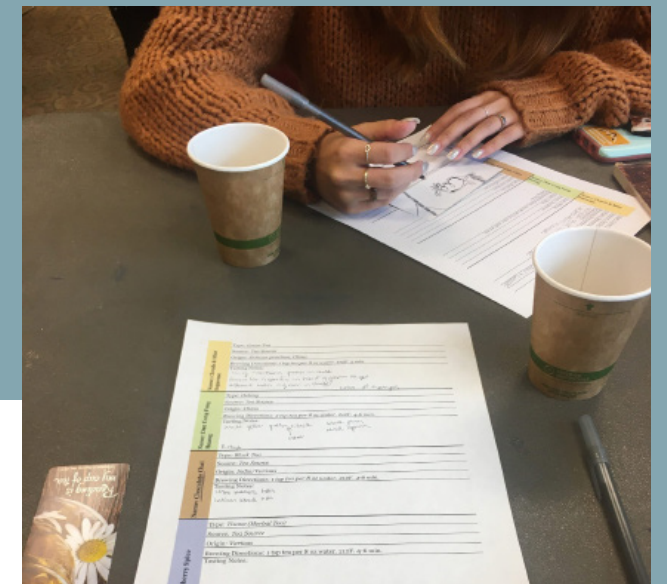
Hmong Village:
Restaurants
St. Paul, MN



Sharing of
Culture

The cuisine offered differs greatly from typical western foods, so as someone goes to order, they often ask questions about the food from the seller. Here they may learn what is in the food, and when it may typically be eaten. People would bring their ordered food over to the tables on cafeteria style trays. Much of the food is consumed using non-western style utensils.

Another way that people can learn about cultures is observing the different groups and families sitting at tables together. Different dynamics observed and customs as they eat are cultural aspects to their lives, whether similar or the same to the observer's customs.



The Hmong Village is a market place intended Hmong people to buy and sell goods and services. The niche market has picked up interest from those not a part of the culture. One section of the market that is especially popular is the food court where Hmong food is made and enjoyed by many.

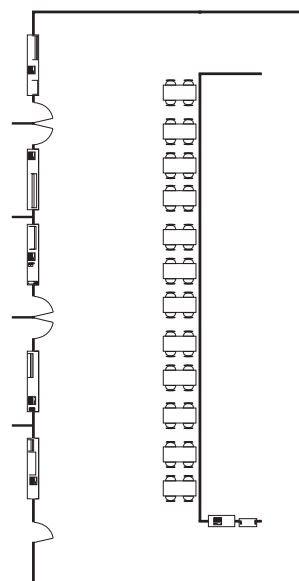
Transcultural
Understanding
Score



This setting received a score of 41. It was easily accessible to people outside of the setting due to multiple open entrances on either end of the aisle. There are also sight line views into the food court area from other parts of the market. The counters of each restaurant give clear indication of where to go to order and receive food as well as bright signage for menus which are eye catching.

Description of Space

The restaurants take up an isle of the marketplace. One side of the isle is the ordering and serving window. The other side is tables and chairs. They are not specific to Each restaurant, but for each customer to pick and choose after receiving their food. Menus large and above the restaurant counters with big, bright pictures of the meals.



East African Restaurant

Fargo, ND



Sharing of Culture

Entering the restaurant, it was a fairly quiet experience. One person quietly sat as they enjoyed their meal while the employees were somewhere in the back of the kitchen. The large menus provided context for what the unfamiliar food may be like when ordered. Small interactions for ordering took place without deeper communication.

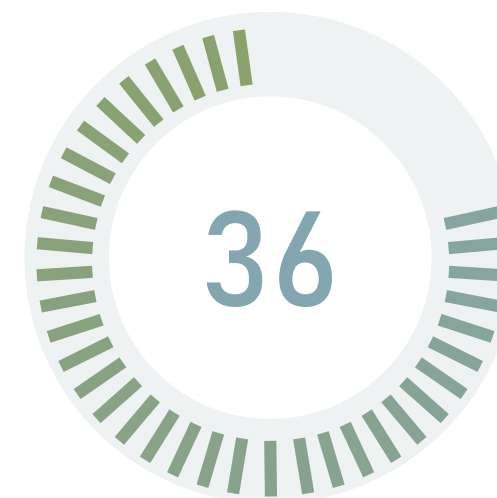
While waiting for the food to be finished, a number of other customers come in to order or pick up their food. Many appeared to be regulars as the worker already knew their order or began a conversation with them. These conversations were able to be carried on longer due to the half wall of the kitchen. As the employees cooked at the large grill, they had to simply turn their head to carry on conversation.

Another important aspect of the open kitchen is that it let customers view how their food was being prepared. Technique and practice of cooking can be culturally unique depending on the dish being prepared.



Rugsan is a restaurant serving East African foods. Located in a strip mall, the unassuming restaurant is rich in unique foods not typical to the area. The informal dining zone gives customers the chance to order their meals to go or to enjoy in the setting.

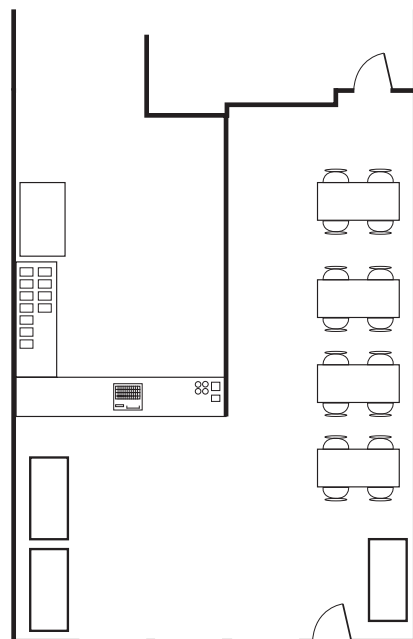
Transcultural Understanding Score



This setting received a score of 36. It provides large, pictorial menus to communicate the food being served and ordered. The open kitchen provided a sense of connectivity between customers and workers due to easier possibility of interaction. The setting had mostly covered windows leaving it ambiguous of whether it was open and gave no indication of what the inside would be like.

Description of Space

The small restaurant is broken into two halves longitudinally: kitchen and dining. The Front half of the kitchen includes the cash register and is separated only by a half wall. The Dining area consist of a few four person tables. Generic photographs hang on the walls next to their large pictorial menus. Near the cash register are two beverage coolers containing both common and culturally unique beverages for purchase.



Music and Dance

Music and Dance can be in the form of either ceremony or entertainment. This Method is unique as, much of the time, it requires an audience as a participant rather than interpersonal communication.

Polka Music Band
 Fargo, ND



Sharing of Culture

Culture can be learned through observing the band itself like what instruments are used, and what sort of melodies and tempos are played. How the audience reacts to the band also shares cultural aspects. Are people dancing full of energy? Are they slowing down their dances? Are people observing the band without much reaction? These can give clues as to the significance and purpose of the music.

The benches create an interesting point of connection in the audience due to the size and the lack of clear boundary of each person's seat. The tables were too large for just one group to fill, so often strangers were sitting by strangers. This is another place for conversations to be picked up. Topics can vary greatly on the band, the market, or beyond that.



It is common to see bands playing at social events. They provide entertainment and a focal point for people in attendance. This band was a part of a larger Christmas Market event. It was inside where people could enjoy the music and dance along in the warmth. The music flowed through the building to be heard anywhere inside.

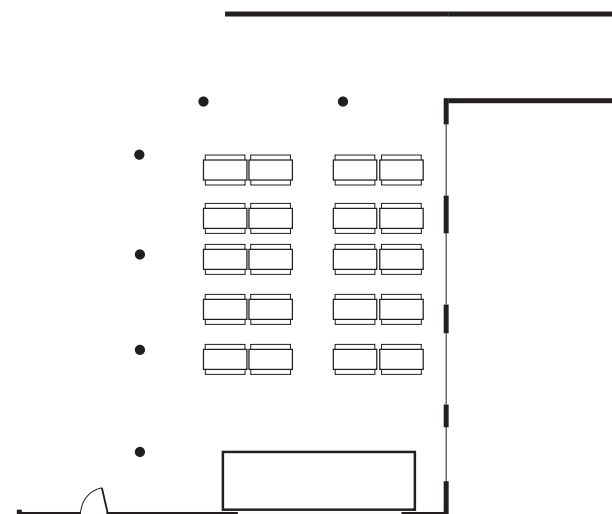
Transcultural Understanding Score



This setting received a score of 34. Many people were able to gather and listen to the band play due to the number of tables in an area, but strangers were not compelled into conversation due to the size of the tables which allowed for group separation. The amount of people seemed to create more anonymity between festivalgoers. The space in front of the stage was too tight compared to the seating and number of people. It dissuaded people from dancing in front of such a large crowd. The stage at front and center did create a focal point for attendees.

Description of Space

The band was located on a small stage in at the front of a large gathering hall. A small area was left empty in front of the stage to encourage dancing. Beyond that, long tables and benches stretched down the remaining length of the hall. Tall ceilings and windows surround the hall. Toward the back end of the hall, a loft- area is open for viewing down into the hall.



Indian Dance
Demonstration
Moorhead, MN



Sharing of
Culture

The way in which culture was shared here is not based upon person to person interaction, but by observation of the dancers combined with the culture specific music. People were free to join the audience and leave as they wished. In this way, the amount of culture one could take away from each performance was based upon how much they wanted to attempt to analyze the performance for their own personal interest.

There was a greater chance for the culture being shared to be misinterpreted, or missed since there was no person to person interaction. A speaker did take the stage to give a brief explanation of who they are and how many people in their group came to be living in the area.

However, Since the larger event is geared toward learning about and sharing cultures and heritage, those who are attending the dance performance are likely in the mind set to gain a larger understanding. They are interested in learning about new cultures, therefore they will learn something.



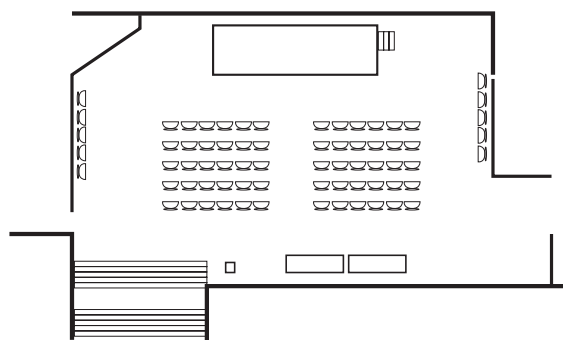
This performance was a demonstration of various versions of Bollywood style Indian dancing. It was one part of a larger event about the vast cultures in the Fargo Moorhead area. The performance was hosted in one room while other performances and booths took place elsewhere in the building.

Transcultural
Understanding
Score



Description of Space

The space was temporarily transformed into a performance area. Typically, it serves as an exhibit space for the museum, but the walls, which were temporary and movable, had been placed to the side to make room for a stage. The stage itself was located centrally in the room and had a single staircase for performers to enter and exit the stage from the right. Surrounding it is five rows of temporary seating. The area itself is sitting depressed about half a level.



This setting received a score of 34. The orientation surrounds the stage allowed for many people to view the performance from directing in the setting space, and outside of it. The depressed nature of the space allowed for sight views into the performance. The stage created a barrier for interaction other than observation between performers and audience.

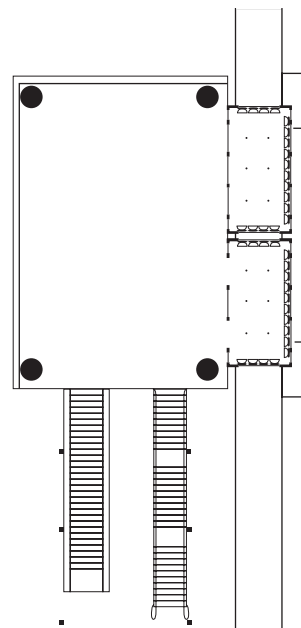
Silent Disco

Miami, FL



Photo Source: Monica McGivern

This event was an attempt through the Arts & Entertainment district of Miami to bring attention and interest to their neighborhood. A silent disco is a dance party where everyone wears headphones to isolate their music. This helps with avoiding noise restrictions of most dance parties. This silent disco was unique in that it took place on Miami public transportation.



Description of Space

Miami's Metromover is a free public transportation system elevated above street level. Each car includes two sets of sliding doors, panoramic windows, seating around the exterior, and grab rails. The stations tended to be directly off the street, with both stair and escalator options. The stops and their staircases were covered to protect against the Miami sun.

Sharing of Culture

Silent disco's attract young people of many backgrounds to join together for one reason: to have fun. They are all collectively listening to the same music but are separated from one another because of the headphones. The headphones create a barrier to communication as a person would have to convince others to take off their set to engage in conversation.

Most people in attendance had a previous interest in the music being played, so the electronic dance music being sent through each headset is not a transfer of cultural information.

While people may not be transferring information verbally, the way in which people dress for a dance party can signal information about them, however that comes with previous assumptions and biases about others. The limited space of a Metromover and their station pack many people close together breaking the typical personal space bubble.

Transcultural Understanding Score



Photo Source: Monica McGivern

This setting received a score of 32. The tight spaces of the Metromover created intimate links between participants. Personal space bubbles became non-existent. People become both more connected to those around them when being confined to such a tight space with other and they become one in a mass in the context as well. There is high visibility of the setting as the track takes people around downtown Miami and other densely populated neighborhoods.

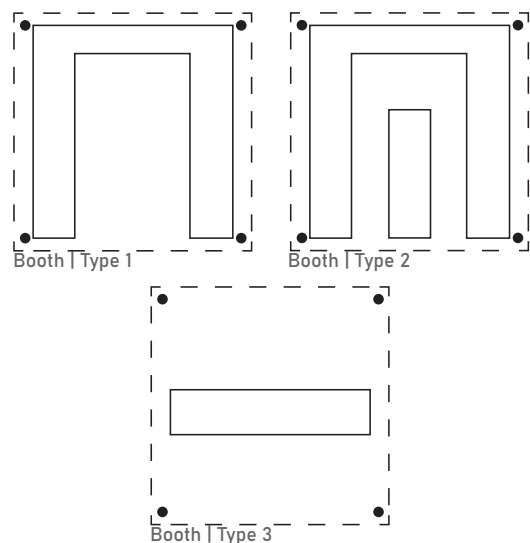
Market Place

Marketplace is any setting where goods and services are exchanged for profit. Several example settings will be from a culture-specific market, but that is not necessary for transcultural interactions to take place.

Red River Farmer's Market Fargo, ND



The Red River Farmers market is a community event in which locals are able promote and sell products for their small businesses. The focus is on farmed goods but has spread to other local business types as well. Community members get the chance to interact with other locals through shared interest of the products.



Description of Space

Typically, farmers markets are temporary settings which get set up and removed in a day. This one is no different as it takes up residence each weekend in a parking lot. Temporary tents are set up signifying the separate booths from one another. Several aisles of booths form the market scene. Tents are ordered regarding what sort of goods they are selling, so similar businesses are near one another. Another area of the market includes a stage with surround seating over AstroTurf.

While there was ample opportunity for shoppers to engage with one another, there did not seem to be a desire for those interactions, instead, the interactions happened largely between the shoppers and the sellers. Each booth provided a slightly different experience due to the booth set up and what was being sold.

There were three basic layout of the booths which impacted the amount of interaction between the buyer and the seller. The first was a U-shaped formation of tables beneath the tent. This organization allowed the most amount of people in the booth at once and increased visual and auditory access to everyone present, and therefore, fostered the most amount of interaction. The second type was U-shaped with an additional table in between. Interactions were slightly less common, and less people were able to join due to the restriction of the middle table. The third type was a table stretching length wise

Transcultural Understanding Score



in the tent. Sometimes it was placed in the middle allowing people to enter the tent, and other time it was placed at the front of the tent excluding shoppers from entering, only allowing the formation of a line. The line created quicker interaction between seller and buyer with less meaningful implications.

Sharing of Culture



Photo Source: Monica McGivern

This setting received a score of 42. The chosen sight of the market is in the heart of downtown and easily visible from Broadway. The temporary quality of the market gives a sense of urgency to visit the setting and participate in it. The booths themselves are small creating intimate spaces for interactions between shop owners and shoppers. The aisles of the market give a clear sense of direction of how to navigate the setting and where to find certain goods.

Asian & American Market
 Fargo, ND



Sharing of Culture

Grocery shopping can be a solitary act by one's self, only interacting with others when needed for checking out and finding certain products. Other times, it can be a social activity with family tagging along, or running into people you know, or even meeting strangers within the aisle. The aisles of this grocery store are narrow, forcing people to interact in small way like excusing themselves as they try to pass by. Small interactions like this are not sharing culture, but they do open up the chance for continued conversation.

There were some instances where store employees initiated and carried on conversation with customers shopping. It seemed there were store regulars who had come to know employees over the course of shopping here often. Culture is shared here by exposure to products and product design of the goods being sold.

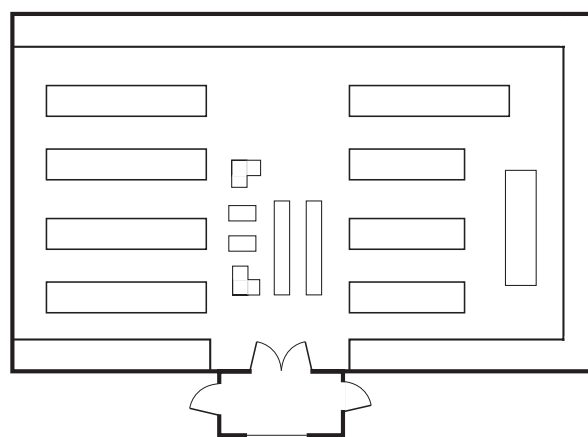


This is a market intended for goods from Asian and American cultures not typically found in most grocery stores. It is one of a few similar international markets in the city. It is found on a busy street to make it easily accessible to residents of both Fargo and Moorhead. The store features a variety of product from produce to meats to canned goods and much more.

Transcultural Understanding Score

Description of Space

The store is typical of most locally own grocery stores: it has limited space, narrow aisles, and a wide variety of products. One aisle is candy, another noodles, then the next is bowls and plates. There is an order to how it is organized however, keeping produce near to the refrigerated section on one side of the store, and dry goods such as rice and packaged chips on the other side.



This setting received a score of 36. The narrow aisle creates situations where shoppers must interact with each other, but these instances are quick and without substance. The shelves display a multitude of culture specific goods. The Market is located on a busy street, with clear signage. There was a lack of opportunity and location to discuss products unfamiliar to shoppers.

Hmong Village:
Shops
St. Paul, MN

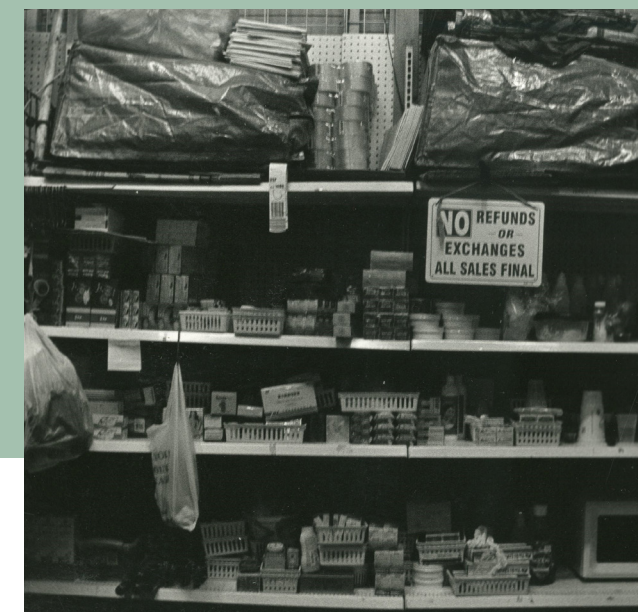


Sharing of
Culture

Here, culture is shared through both interactions with shop owners and exposure to the goods being sold. Much of the material goods are specific items to the Hmong culture, like clothing. Viewing traditional garb on display in some shop's sparks wonder of the purpose and context in which it would be used, sometimes causing shoppers to ask about them. Of course, material goods can be experiences by more senses than just visually. The shops are filled with unfamiliar textures and smells.

Some shop owners try to incise possible customers into visiting, and hopefully busying from, their store by giving demonstration of products and discussing them to those passing by. Interestingly, this was most prevalent from the workers of a toy shop.

Many of the shops are clearly family owned and have a child or children present with as they work. Other times, people passing through arrive in groups of friends or family. The visible interactions between these people can give signs to values and importance in social structure of a culture

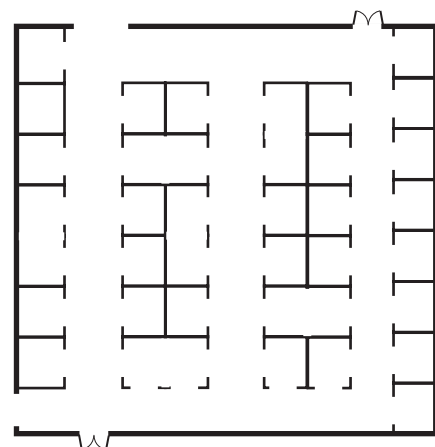


Transcultural
Understanding
Score

The Hmong Village is a marketplace intended Hmong people to buy and sell goods and services. The niche market has picked up interest from those not a part of the culture. The largest portion of the market is the shops. Each shop provides space for a small business to sell a large variety of goods and services from clothing to haircuts to tax services and more.

Description of Space

The shops are permanent to the space with the ability to be closed at night and leave inventory behind. There are several isles within the market. The shops are modular squares which can be added on to make shops bigger or smaller depending on need. The shops close like a storage unit with garage style doors. All permanent surfaces are hard and cold, only to be livened up by the store's inventory.



This setting received a score of 38. Open shops are overflowing with the goods they are selling often with bright colors and interesting texture. Cash register was often located in a back corner, causing shoppers to have to go through the entire shop to find it, experiencing more of the goods available. When some of the shops are closed, aisles start to feel like a cold storage unit facility instead of the vibrant market it is when open.

Artifacts

Artifacts can include the making, creating or use of culture specific paraphernalia.

Ukrainian Egg Decorating

Fargo, ND



The singular table create an intimate meeting between the craft demonstrator and audience. The audience had a maximum amount of about 3 people and were free to come and go as long as there was an appropriate break in conversation. That is what the demonstration was: and conversation about the crafting of Ukrainian decorative eggs. The demonstrator had an informal script she went through with each audience grouping to give a basic explanation of the craft. The scale of the table lead into easier conversation, so much of culture being shared happened as a back and forth rapport diving deeper into the craft than the initial explanation.

Outside of the table, others were in close enough proximity to overhear the demonstration, and likely gather much of their information about the craft this way. If people have learned a base of information about the demonstration, they might not have been compelled to visit the table to learn more because they felt enough information had been gathered.

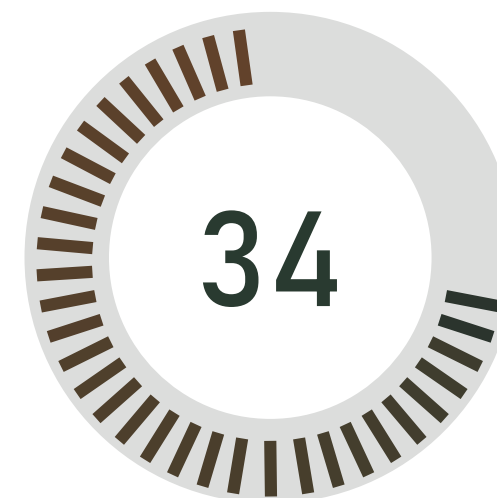
The decorated eggs themselves also had imagery on them to tell their own stories. The morning star was a common motif on the eggs and was an extremely old theme used on the eggs. This shows audience members information about the culture of the past as well as present.

Sharing of Culture



Each culture has craft which is unique to their culture. Ukrainian culture decorates eggs as a signifier of luck. The decorator uses wax to cover the egg in various traditional imagery. This demonstration of the craft was a part of a Christmas market as they are often gifted to loved ones.

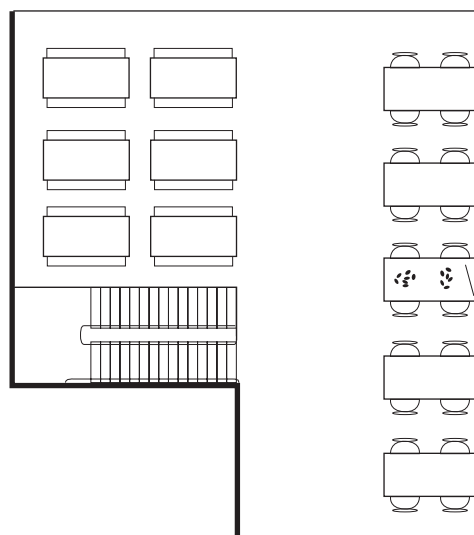
Transcultural Understanding Score



This setting received a score of 34. The intimacy of a single table for the setting created meaningful conversation about the artifact and how/why it is created. A limited number of people can surround the table at once, so it was not widely shared, but was deeply understood once visited. It included a small sign to indicate the demonstration taking place but was not obvious especially when people were already at the table.

Description of Space

The space for the demonstration took up a single table in a loft area. A staircase led up to the loft with the option to go to two or three tables to the left or six or so larger tables. The demonstration was at the edge of the latter. The tables four seats around it. The person performing the demonstration sat at one side, leaving enough room for two to three people to view it at a time.



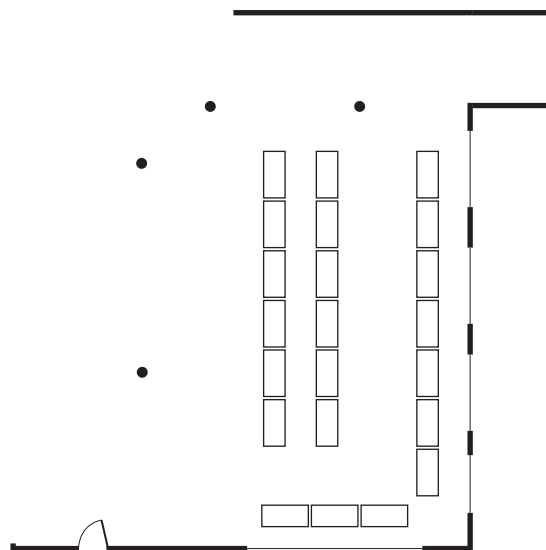
Craft Fair

Fargo, ND



Photo Source: [instagram.com/ungluedmarket](https://www.instagram.com/ungluedmarket)

This fair housed many examples of ways in which individuals express themselves through craft. The unique offering of goods often sparks conversation into the crafts and the person crafting. The event helped small businesses in the area thrive while introducing others to interests already practiced in the community.



Description of Space

The fair consisted of tables serving as booths for each individual seller. The way in which the booths were set up varied depending on the most efficient way to showcase the crafts being sold. The booths were mostly set up in two long aisles, but a few additional booths were scattered around the remainder of the building. The market was located inside of a large gathering hall.

Sharing of Culture

The booths were dynamic and eye catching, so people were drawn into them by their initial visual interest. There were connections to be drawn between the presented crafts and the person behind the booth who presumably created them. One can make their own assumptions about the people through the initial impression.

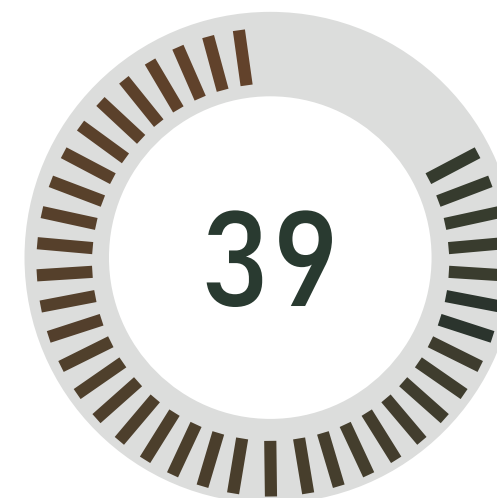
The scale of the booths allowed for immediate connection between shoppers and booth workers. Any questions about the presented crafts were easily discussed over the folding table booths. Many people packed into the space and created a line they followed to view booths, so while conversation came easily, it had to be fair quick to keep the line going.

The booths also made access to the crafts being sold easy as potential customers were about to look at, pick up and handle the crafts they are interested in.



Photo Source: [instagram.com/ungluedmarket](https://www.instagram.com/ungluedmarket)

Transcultural Understanding Score



This setting received a score of 39. Similar to the Red River Farmer's Market, this setting thrives due to its temporary status. More people are visiting the setting before the event is over. The booths of each craft display the cultural artifacts which sparks interest to attendees. The booths are only large enough a few people to surround it at once, so more meaningful interactions can take place over the artifacts. The space for the Craft Fair was well defined while being open to the remainder of the building, so visitors present for the venue rather than the event automatically engage with the artifacts.

Art Gallery

Fargo, ND



Sharing of Culture

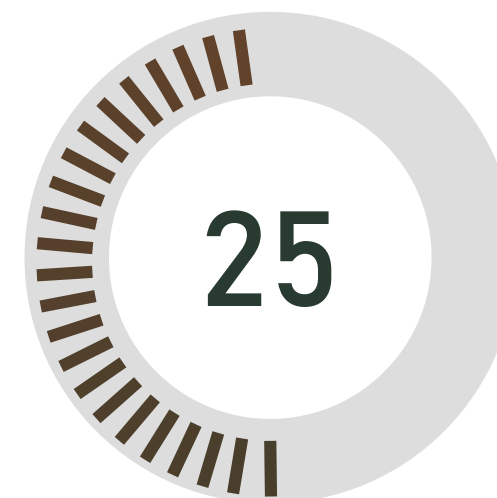
There was quite a bit of opportunity of culture sharing in the space, but it happened minimally. Interaction did not take place between people as they created a solitude zone around themselves as they viewed a piece of art. Additionally, when more than one person viewed the art together, they did not discuss it in any context with one another.

The art itself had interesting compositions since there was not an over arching theme of idea supporting the content other than the artists interpretation of "bad art." Everything from drawings, to paintings, to photographs, to sculptures were present. None of the pieces had any context about who created them or why or what they mean, so it was difficult to deduct culture from them.



The gallery is located in the campus' student union and is intended to display student work. This particular exhibit is a sampling of students "bad art," relying on willing student participants to donate art to the display. The exhibition was short, only last a single day and allowed visitors to take home an art piece as the end.

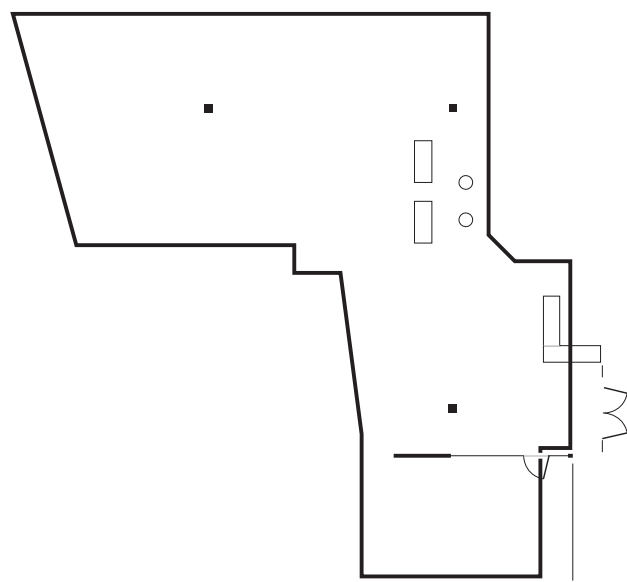
Transcultural Understanding Score



This setting received a score of 25. There were vast sight lines into the space, as well as a transparent entry space allowing people to preview the space before entering. The large amounts of space allow for gathering, but the purpose of the setting negated the gesture. Each art piece created micro-spaces for viewing which allowed people to isolate their experiences from one another.

Description of Space

The gallery was a large open room of two rectangular spaces meshing together. This exhibit utilized only the front rectangular area. The room was bare except of the art which stood hung on blank white walls. The entrance had large glass doors and windows creating transparency between the gallery and lounge space next-door. A information desk sat adjacent to the entrance an was configured to tuck into the corner of the wall without intruding into the gallery space.



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