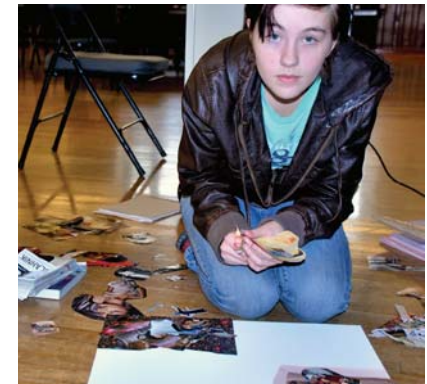


# ExperienceMosaic



life worlds feel person research future impact local school learning Mosaic work new also experience classroom projects prepare important college become help much students community program high others education quality learn taught college become help much students community program high others education quality learn taught college become help much students community program high others education quality learn

# Thank You



# MosaicSummary

**Mosaic, formerly known as Christopher Program, was founded in 1991 and has been recognized as one of Ohio's Best Practices by Ohio's Education Partnership.**

The program serves high school juniors and seniors from public schools across Franklin County. Implementing a project-based, integrated humanities curriculum, the Mosaic program challenges students to become analytic thinkers, effective communicators, successful collaborators, and responsible citizens.

Students prepare for life in the global society by pursuing in-depth research projects, examining international connections in Central Ohio, engaging with the local arts community, and making major presentations in a variety of authentic forums.



## **Our Capstone Research Project**

After successfully completing extensive, rigorous projects throughout the school year, the Mosaic first year students integrate and utilize their learning experiences to complete a Capstone Research Project. Students chose from a list of local arts, nonprofit, or political organizations with whom they spend six weeks doing original research or new program development.

We chose to do our Capstone work at Mosaic. We designed surveys for current and past students, families, and Mosaic community partners.

**We analyzed the survey results to answer the essential question:**

**What impact does Mosaic have on current and past students, families, and broader central Ohio community partners?**

**The following report will highlight survey and interview responses to demonstrate the positive contributions Mosaic has made on its students, their parents, and the broader Central Ohio community.**

Report compiled by:  
Nia Coleman of Reynoldsburg  
Maressa Decarlo of South-Western  
Erica Lyon of Columbus/Metro  
Tewana Smiley of Groveport Madison

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# MosaicCommunity

"Mosaic is an opportunity for young people to have a better understanding of where they want to go with their career, while also providing insight to the professional work field. Therefore, it has a significant impact on our community."

-Joe Garrity, Ohio House of Representatives (Rep. Michael Stinziano)

"We felt that, with the quality of these students, the future of our country looks bright. It is refreshing to know that we have wonderful youth who will become quality leaders in our community, our nation, and the world." -Cheryl Fey, Wesley Ridge Retirement Community



**"Mosaic students are independent, unflappable, critical thinkers who are comfortable in their own skin. They know what they want and are clear communicators. It's a real pleasure to work with the Mosaic youth."**

**-Jean Pitman, The Wexner Center for the Arts (OSU)**

"If the Mosaic program continues to send out the quality of students that we have at Open Door, I believe that these Capstone projects will do a great deal to improve programs across Central Ohio. The students come with a lot of motivation, and the Mosaic advisers do a great job at helping them come up with meaningful experiences."

-Sharon Dorsey, Open Door Art Studio



"Mosaic students are eager to try new things, ambitious, hard-working, and always learning."

Amanda Kepner, Columbus Museum of Art

"Mosaic students tend to be very aware of their strengths, of who they are, and of the impact they want to have in their worlds. I have always been impressed and inspired by them."

-Andy Aichele, TEDxYouth@Columbus

**100%** of the **30** community partner respondents said they want to keep working with Mosaic students in the future.

"To me, Mosaic is planting the seed for the future of education. I love how students from all different parts of Columbus come together and form relationships... something I believe will become more prevalent in all learning environments in the future."

-Ben Shinabery, The Dick & Jane Project

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# MosaicParents

"Mosaic has broadened my daughter's view of the world, other cultures, and she has become much more socially aware. I believe that she is better prepared for college and the next phases of her life, both academically and personally, as a result of attending Mosaic."

-Karen Coleman, Reynoldsburg

"Since my child has been in the Mosaic program, he has shared more with me than the 10 years before. He has been more passionate about his assignments and never wants to miss going to Mosaic. He has learned how to present and discuss his ideas with clearly and with evidence."

-Susan Javery, New Albany

"It has renewed her sense of purpose with school. The desire to succeed in order to achieve her goals is finally back!"

-Toby Whitehead, Dublin

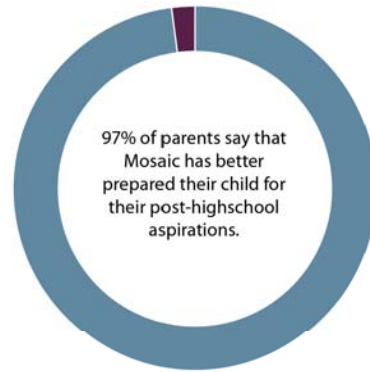
"Mosaic teaches to my child's learning style and demands high standards. She has blossomed at Mosaic. She loves going to school. She is expected to work hard and she does. I attribute her overall high school success to the short time she spends at Mosaic."

-Candace Allegra, Metro

**29% of parents say that their child felt bullied or emotionally unsafe at their home school but have found a safe place where they can express themselves at Mosaic.**

Mosaic offers what most school districts cannot: working with students from other schools, learning about Columbus's art, history, culture, and local and state politics in-depth, collaborative learning, and team-based projects. There is less emphasis on tests and grades that, in the working world, doesn't really exist anyway."

-Lori Fireman, Bexley



"One of the biggest indicators of the change in my child as a result of Mosaic is seen in her work ethic and total commitment to the Mosaic program and any Mosaic assignments. Even though my daughter works tirelessly to create Mosaic projects, she seems to truly enjoy the process and is very much connected to the assignment on an intellectual and emotional level. Mosaic's educational model should be the future of education in the US."

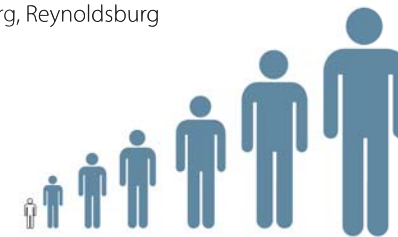
-Greg Cini, Bexley

The Mosaic approach really seems to really engage the students. The learning is much more applied. I also appreciate that the standards are high, and real, quality work is expected from the students."

-Leah Ann Kangas, Metro

"Mosaic provides intelligent, self-motivated students an environment in which they learn to share and tolerate diverse opinions and views of the world. My daughter has grown as a person and a knowledge seeker and this has fueled her drive to continue her education."

-Chris Fredenburg, Reynoldsburg



"It is a community that is more like family, a close knit environment that makes a child feel safe to explore all the possibilities of life and what they learn at the program. She is more interested and willing to continue to learn and accept the challenge at hand. I honestly feel that Mosaic will always be a major part of her life and she will always reflect back to the year she spent with them."

-Chrystal VanGundy, South-Western

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# MosaicStudents

"Mosaic has taught me to be my own advocate. I now understand that I am responsible for my own grades and work. It has also made me a much more understanding and open-minded person, which helps me not only in the classroom but outside of it as well. The skills and traits I have acquired through Mosaic are more valuable than anyone could imagine."

- Metro Student

"This program has re-ignited my curiosity and love for learning, and it prepared me for life as an independent person in a diverse society."

- Reynoldsburg Student

**"Mosaic helps a person grow not only in knowledge but as an individual as well. Along with developing our education, developing a sense of self is equally important. With Mosaic comes great responsibility and trust; it teaches us to grow up to be able to handle the real world outside school walls. Come to me in a few years and I would still be able to tell you what I've learned from Mosaic and how it's helped me in life."**

- Gahanna Student

"I think it is important that people realize that not everyone learns the same. Mosaic has taught me more than I have ever learned, and taught it to me in a memorable way that I will not forget. For the first time, I value my education not just for the grades."

- New Albany Student

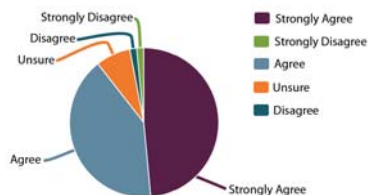
"I feel as though I've grown a lot as a person, because I've become more responsible and passionate about my education as well as the education of others."

- Dublin Student

"Mosaic has allowed me to enjoy learning new things ranging from history to new writing styles. It has given me an "out-in-the-world" learning experience where I invest myself into knowing about something and becoming knowledgeable because I want to know about the topic rather than for the grade."

-South-Western Student

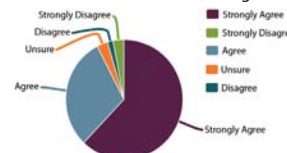
I feel more prepared to be successful in a college environment after participating in Mosaic



"I used to cry some days before going to school because I hated it so much. I wasn't really bullied, but I had no friends. Mosaic made me excited to learn, and excited to go to school. It has motivated me to learn about things I am normally too lazy to research, and has exponentially developed my writing skills."

-Bexley Student

Participating in Mosaic has made me more enthusiastic about learning



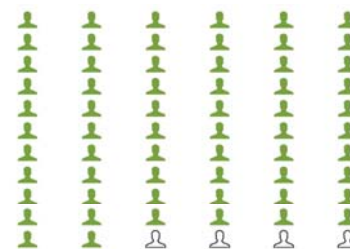
"Mosaic offers a new kind of learning for students who feel that they have different needs than their peers at school. Mosaic enables people who don't fit into a traditional mold to thrive and become more engaged with their learning."

- Hilliard Student

"Interdisciplinary cultural learning is often left out of regular school curriculums. I think it's very important that students experience Mosaic's way of teaching so that they may better appreciate the world, its cultures, and the arts and humanities."

- Metro Student

Mosaic has provided me with more clarity on my strengths, talents, and aspirations for the future.



"Mosaic generates quality students who will not only be successful in college, but also go on to make a positive impact on the world at large."

- Groveport Madison Student

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# MosaicAlumni

"The curriculum at Mosaic was VERY much in line with college style learning. Whether it was the open and honest communication, being accountable for your own work, having a tentative schedule a month in advance, I had very little trouble transitioning to college."

-Hilliard Alum '06

Mosaic gave me confidence to go out in the world and make my own experiences, to form my own opinions. The two greatest things I gained from Mosaic were genuine friends with whom I will have relationships with for life and confidence in my voice. Mosaic helped me find my voice not only in terms of speaking up and advocating for myself but also for others. That is invaluable and I would not trade the two years I spent in Mosaic for anything.

-Dublin Alum '10

"Mosaic gave me the skills and courage to go out into the world by myself and find my own opportunities. Without it I wouldn't have had confidence to fully invest myself in what I do and would've picked a "normal" career instead of finding success in one I love.

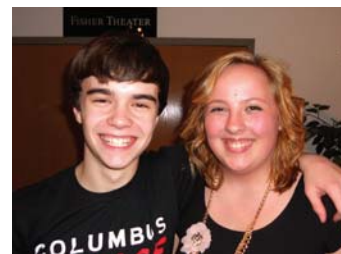
-New Albany Alum '13



"Almost six years and plenty of travel later, I still find myself sharing experiences I only had in Mosaic. I came across perspectives I never knew existed and learned that each human has his or her own powerful, unique and beautiful experience. In short, I learned to appreciate my own humanity and the humanity of those around me."

-Gahanna Alum '05

**87%** of Mosaic students have attained or are working towards a bachelor's degree or higher compared to **38.5%** in Ohio.



"Mosaic gave me the chance to experience hands on the things that cannot just simply be read in a textbook, and it offered me a chance to finally put myself out there to experience life outside of the bubble of my suburban school! It not only gave me the confidence to go to college but the knowledge I needed to feel like I could conquer the world! Thanks Mosaic!"

-Gahanna Alum '05

"Mosaic provided me a safe, comfortable space to engage with other young people. The cultural experiences and hands-on, open-ended products nourished my creativity and helped me grow as a human being. I wish young people everywhere had access to programs like Mosaic. One day I hope to become an educator so that I can pass along the wonderful experiences I had."

-Reynoldsburg Alum '05

**96%** of alumni agree they became better learners through Mosaic and **82%** believed Mosaic prepared them to succeed in college.

"Mosaic was a new milestone in my life, and a program that educated me outside the standardized mold of "education". The experiences I've had in this program changed my view of not only the world but humanity itself. I can honestly say that I have truly learned more in one year of Mosaic than my entire primary education combined. Through this community, I created networks and friendships for a lifetime."

-Groveport Madison Alum '03

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