



We believe in diversity, equity and inclusion

There are many challenges facing the fields that comprise Applied Arts. Among them are systemic structural racism, underrepresentation of minorities and discrepancies in gender among professionals. These historical legacies have created exclusion, biases, and inequality in traditional and in-demand Applied Arts careers in-regards to creativity, innovation, leadership, perspectives, hiring, wages and advancement. In the Applied Arts department at New Trier we must help develop student awareness of identities and teach our students to generate future solutions that are explicitly intended to improve inequalities.

As a department, we share the global responsibility of forging an inclusive, diverse and equitable culture where every student, no matter their race, gender, religion, identity or culture, will be able to see themselves as a professional in the discipline in which they are enrolled. Beyond seeing oneself as a professional (*i.e. Chef, Architect, Engineer, Fashion Designer, Educator, Mechanic, Health Care Professional, Tradesperson, Computer Scientist and Hospitality*), students will be prepared to work collaboratively with future colleagues and peers of different backgrounds and experiences.

We believe that outcomes and solutions in our project-based, problem-solving focused curriculum are best achieved through inclusivity and diverse perspectives. This reduces biases and expands thinking regarding the solving of real-world problems, working with others and innovating. We are committed to being change agents and have set deliberate intentions to increase racial and gender awareness and diversity amongst our students and staff by fostering a community that has a shared goal of equity and excellence in our programs. Through a collaborative process that constantly examines our curriculum, pedagogy, professional development, articulation and hiring practices we will ensure advancement of our marginalized and underrepresented inclusion initiative.

As an Applied Arts community, we will keep finding ways to stretch and expand our own development, implementation, empowerment and reflection; creating a culture in our spaces where students and staff of all races, genders, religions, identities and cultures can participate and flourish as their authentic selves.



"Solving problems to make the world better."