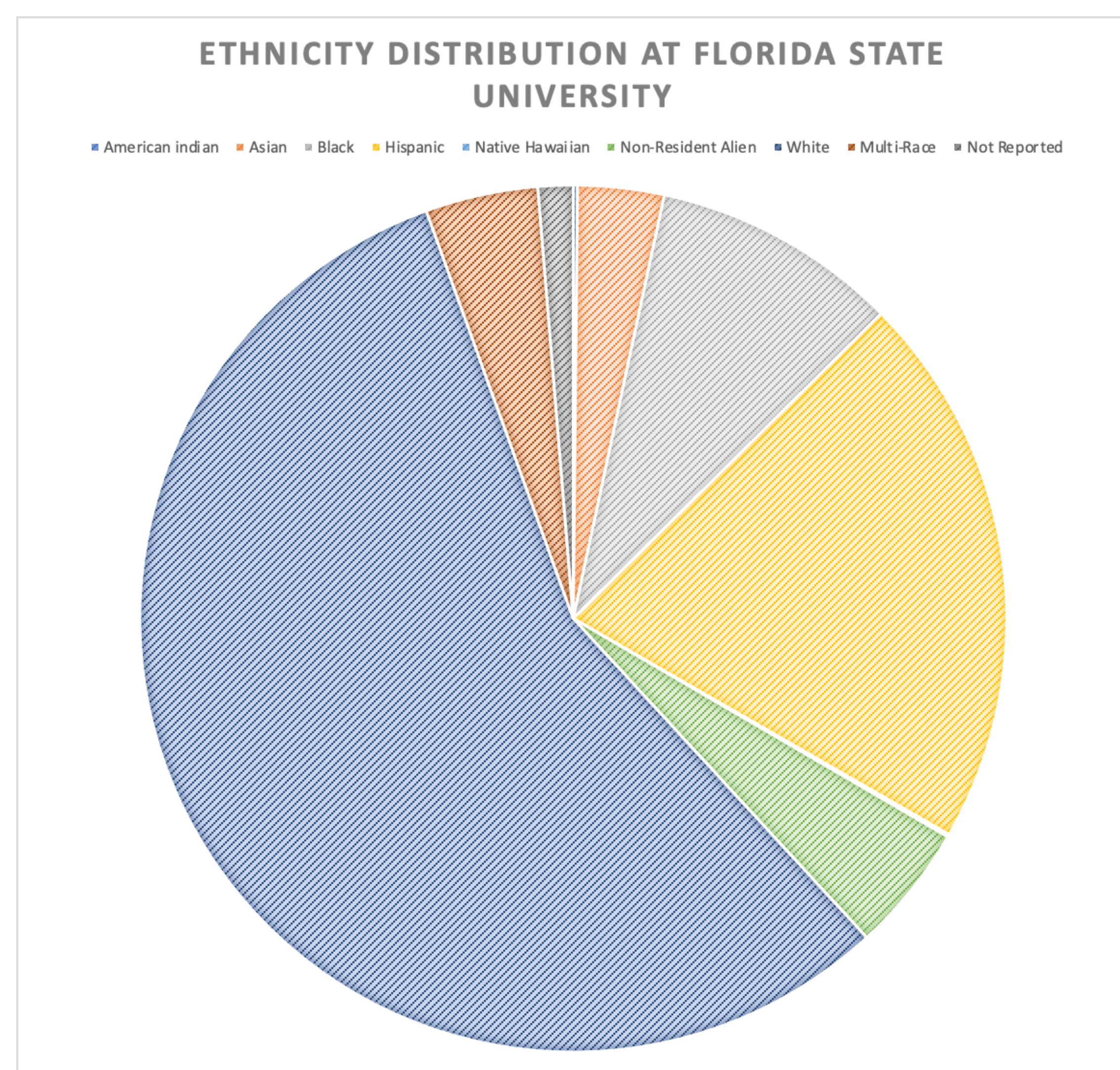




Abstract

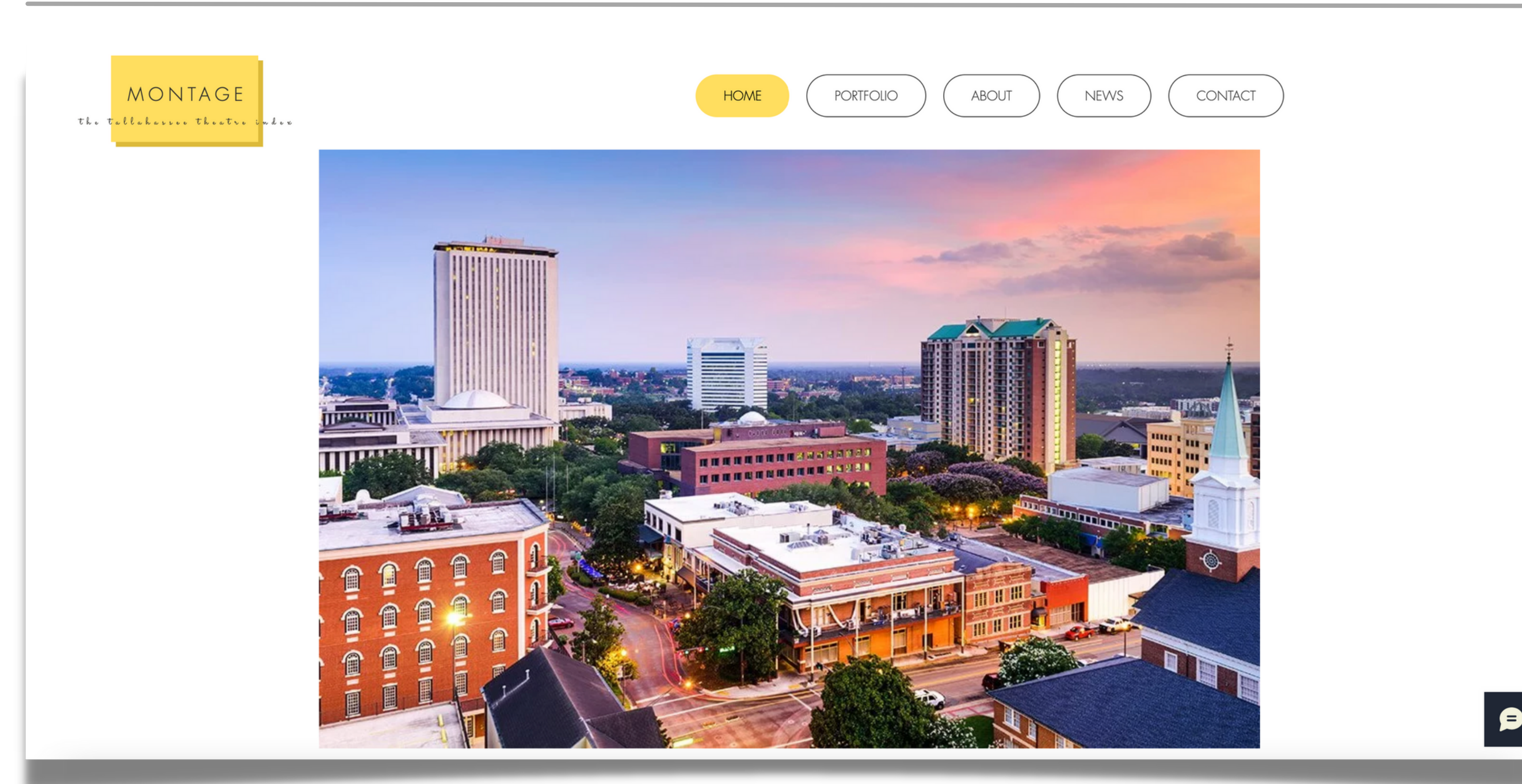
The purpose of this study is to create a collaborative platform where the production and performance art communities in the greater Tallahassee area can communicate, collaborate, and provide for the wants and needs of a growing community of artists. This platform exists in its current form as a database filled with information about local performance art and production companies, opportunities for locals, and a community-wide calendar. Furthermore, the database houses our current survey which seeks to help the greater Tallahassee community address industry wide issues related to diversity of race & ethnicity, gender & sexuality, socioeconomic class, etc. in casting and characters, administration and artistic direction, admissions, and crew work. This study seeks to learn more about diversity and inclusion with the Florida State University community with the goal of eventually encouraging open discourse around representation, equitable opportunity, accurate advertisement, appropriate authority figure interactions, and production of progressive work. Montage would like to be at the forefront of reducing and/or eliminating the disproportionate effects that current art production and performance trends have on BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, women, and socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals. This research would allow Florida State University to address growing issues related to diversity in performance art and production based on student, faculty, administrative, and community feedback. The university would be able to better serve its current and incoming students and prepare them for advocacy related work as industry professionals. Furthermore, collaborative, community work could potentially have a lasting effect on diversity trends not just in Tallahassee, but within the performance art and production industry as a whole.



Methods & Materials

Database:

- Montage: The Tallahassee Theatre Index was created using Wix.
- Performance art and production companies were found through White Mouse Productions resources and general preliminary knowledge. Said companies were contacted via email and asked for information regarding background, biography, location, opportunities, and production photos.
- Company information was compiled to create a brief biography which is displayed with production photos on individual profiles featured within the directory.
- Other tabs include a home page, an about page, a new page which will eventually house a community calendar, and a contact form for new companies to be featured.



Survey:

- Montage: The Tallahassee Theatre Index seeks to be a platform for change within the performing arts and production industry.
- The survey was created using Qualtrics and informed using information from similar surveys, FSU demographics, etc.
- The survey is broken down into five sections: demographics, diversity & inclusion, race & ethnicity, gender & sexuality, and socioeconomic status.
- All responses are completely anonymous.
- Information will be analyzed as a whole and broken down into several subcategories including institutional affiliation.
- There will be a two week collection period following IRB approval.

Results & Conclusions

As of now, Montage: The Tallahassee Theatre Index is live and functioning as a database and directory. The survey has not yet gone live, but we expect to see a couple of things once we are able to analyze results; we hypothesize that BIPOC, women, LGBTQIA+, socioeconomically disadvantaged, and/or disabled individuals, especially those at the intersection of one or more of the aforementioned categories, to have lower rates of satisfaction with diversity and inclusion within their institution. We further hypothesize that there will be statistically significant differences between student and faculty scores within the College of Music, College of Motion Picture Arts, and College of Fine Arts. Following the survey and analysis of its data, results could be used to inform policy changes within Florida State University, create further, more in-depth studies of diversity and inclusion at FSU or in the greater Tallahassee area, promote appropriate discourse on aforementioned subjects, etc. Montage hopes to use this information in an equitable manner to share with our audience how they can help create change within the industry and display our findings.

Works Cited

"22 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Survey Questions to Get You off the Mark." WorkTango Inc, 16 Nov. 2021, <https://worktango.com/2021/02/03/22-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-survey-questions-to-help-you-get-off-the-mark/>.

Meena Toor // December 11. "Demographic Survey Questions That Yield Valuable Insights." Qualtrics, 6 Jan. 2021, <https://www.qualtrics.com/blog/demographic-survey-questions/>.

"Race and Ethnicity Survey." Race and Ethnicity Survey - Institutional Planning and Research - University of Florida, <https://ir.ua.ufl.edu/surveys/race-and-ethnicity-survey/>.

Research, Office of Institutional. "Office of Institutional Research." Office of Institutional Research - Florida State University, <https://ir.fsu.edu/facts.aspx>.