

<div>PROBLEM</div> <div>The issue being addressed</div>	<p>Young people in Pittsburgh want to make a difference in their communities, but many lack access to civic education, local role models, and clear pathways into higher education (where civic engagement is often nurtured). At the same time, economically disadvantaged students face systemic barriers to post-secondary success, with 64% of Pittsburgh Public School students being classified as economically disadvantaged and only 27% earning a college degree within six years.</p> <p>Storytelling in the arts and humanities can offer a powerful foothold for civic understanding and creative skill-building. By connecting youth with university resources at Carnegie Mellon, LEAP helps students explore the intersection of creativity and community—and reimagine college as a place where they belong, grow, and lead.</p>
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