



# Interactive Theater Sketch



# Motivation

- Can we declare victory for women in their participation in science? Not yet. (Shanahan, Marie-Claire, and Zahra Hazari):
  - “There was only one classroom experience that had a uniquely strong impact on female students: the explicit discussion of underrepresentation of women in science.”
- Using Interactive Theater to Promote Inclusive Behaviors in Teams for First-year Engineering Students: A Sustainable Approach (Rambo-Hernandez et al.)
  - “In the interactive theatre sketch, students in watch a scene of a three-person engineering team that demonstrates some dysfunctionality... After the scene, students from the audience volunteer to be the fourth person on the team to try to intervene to help the team to function better.”



# Problem Statement

- Current outreach at UW CoE doesn't talk about diversity in engineering
  - Mostly focused on STEM subjects
- Some programs are not accessible to everyone (location, cost)
  - Unintentionally excluding students
- Diversity in Engineering is not a popular topic
  - People don't think or talk about it



# Intervention

## Who:

- Teaching: CoE students from all backgrounds, allies included
- Learning: Elementary and middle school students
  - Not exclusive to “honor roll” students or students interested in STEM.
  - Everyone should be included

## What:

- An outreach program led by CoE students
- CoE students do an interactive play talk
- Little facts kids can take away from the program
- Diversity credit offered

## Where:

- Middle schools & elementary schools statewide
- Schools with a lot of low income students



# Expected Results

- Increased discussion of Diversity in Engineering
  - In CoE, as well as in the schools that the program takes place
  - Results will take a long time to become apparent in CoE demographics
- Give underrepresented students an Engineering role model
- Boost confidence in student's ability to pursue Engineering careers
- Rise in number of applicants for CoE that belong to minority groups