

FOLLOWING A DREAM: THE POWER OF PASSION, PERSISTENCE, AND INTERDISCIPLINARITY

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Presentation Summary (limited to 200 words)

This presentation will describe the experiences of Dr. Suzanne Burgoyne that led her to develop and teach a course in creativity for the non-arts major. Dr. Burgoyne had a passion for theatre and a desire to impact the world, so she set out to prove that theatre can contribute to making the world better. She applied for a Kellogg National Fellowship program for leadership training and interdisciplinary research. (The program's vision is societal overspecialization must be balanced by leaders who can see the "big picture" and communicate across disciplinary boundaries.) The Kellogg experience helped Suzanne pursue her dream of theatre as active-learning pedagogy for other fields (an approach now called Applied Theatre).

In *Ungifted: Intelligence Redefined* (2013), cognitive psychologist Scott Barry Kaufman reviews studies of eminent creators and concludes that "drive, persistence and love for the domain" are the only things "distinguishing the highest creative achievers from everyone else" (188). On the path to interdisciplinary collaboration, Suzanne has discovered that curiosity, courage and respect for other people's passions also light the way.