

# 2026 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SHOWCASE

Examining Writing Partners Effects on College Students Sense of Belonging

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## Program Description

Writing Partners at Sacramento State is a service-learning initiative that provides Sac State students with opportunities to teach and learn through structured letter exchanges with K-12 school students in the Sacramento region.

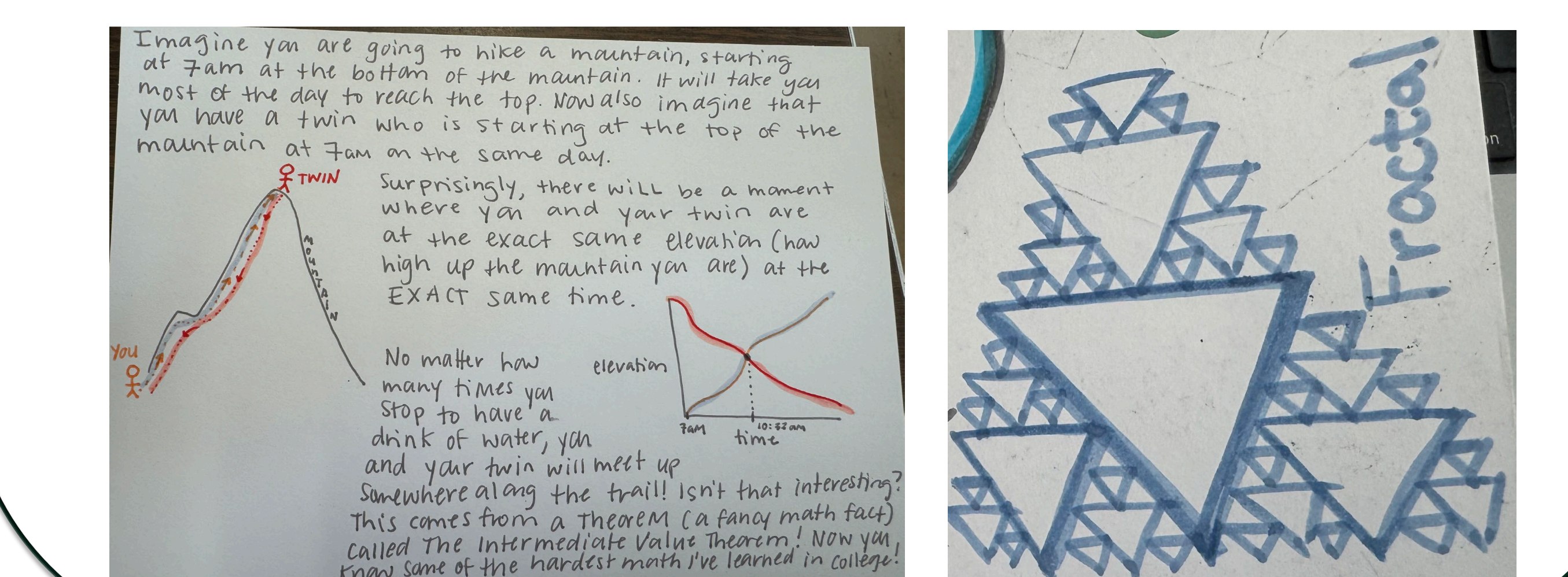
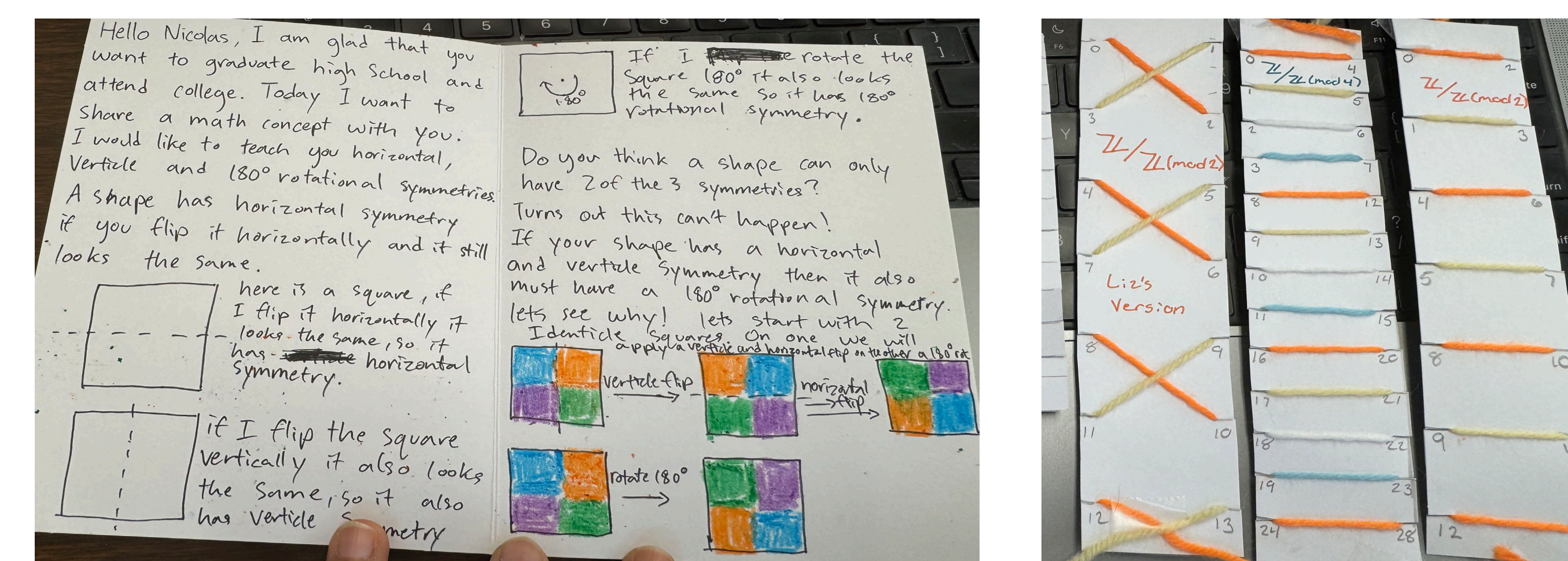
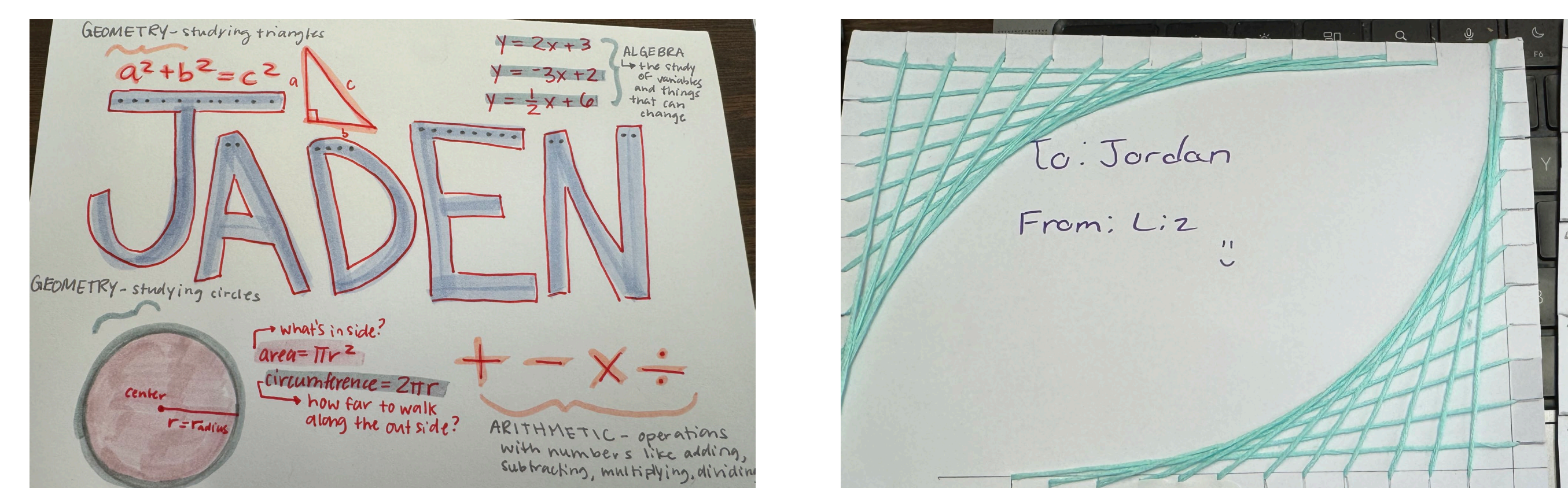
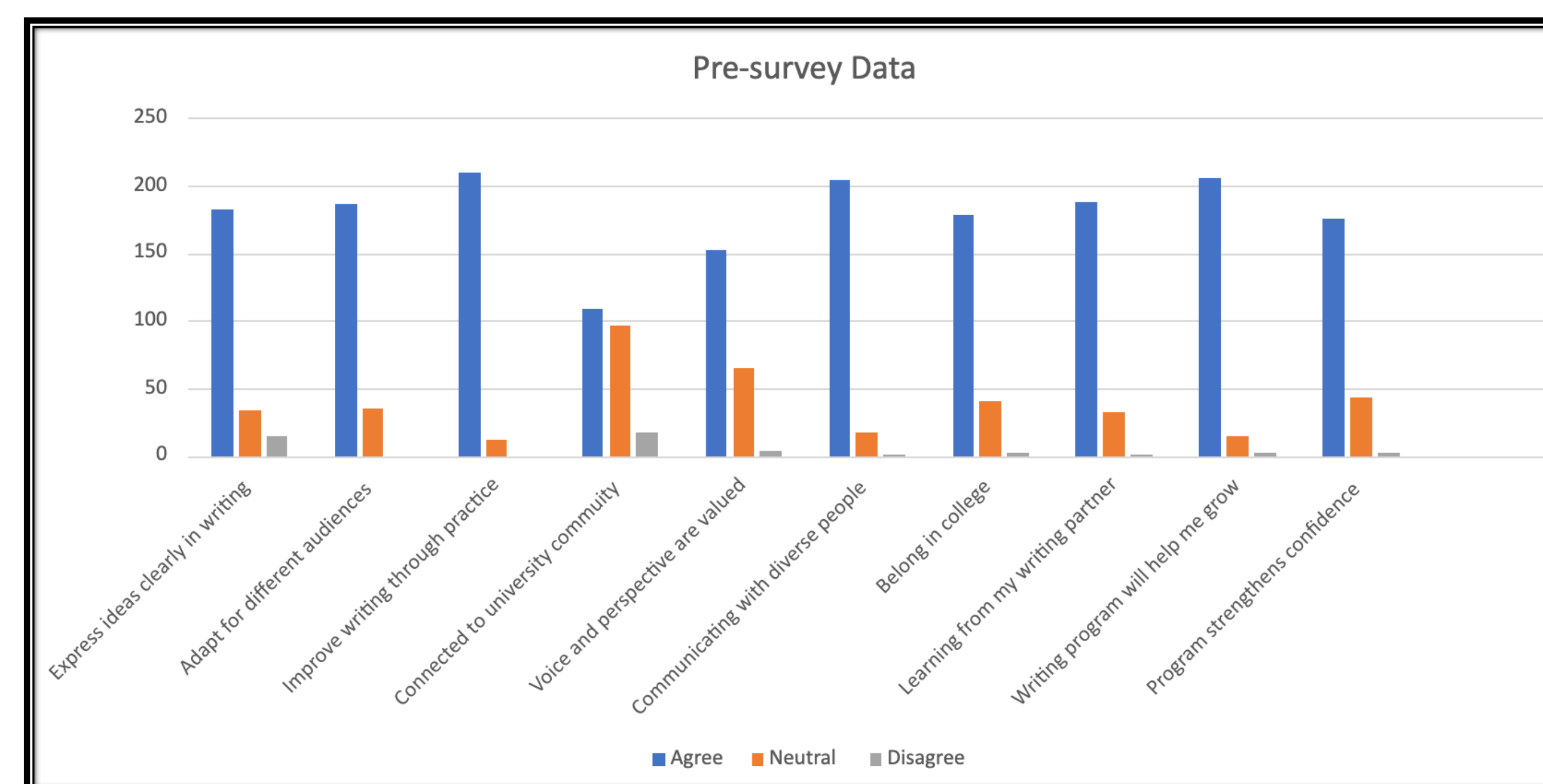
For years, faculty across multiple disciplines and departments have incorporated this high-impact practice into their courses.

In Spring 2026, 17 courses were embedded with multiple sections, spanning fields from Design and Mathematics to Education and Psychology, engaging 568 Sac State students and collaborating with 11 partner schools across the greater Sacramento area with approximately 600 students

## Project Highlight(s)

- We administered pre-survey to Sac State students participating in the Writing Partners program. A total of 222 students completed the pre-survey.
- A few common themes emerged across the survey completers: Students look forward to
  - Improving their writing and communication skills
  - Gaining confidence in executing ideas into writing
  - Generational sharing seeing what school was or is like for others
  - Making others feel heard and understood

## Experiential Learning for Career Readiness & Civic Impact



## Community Impact

The impact of this partnership for K-12 students:

- Strengthened literacy skills through reading and writing activities
- Felt encouraged by college students to think about graduating high school and pursuing higher education
- Built confidence about college, with one student sharing that “having my partner tell me how college isn’t as scary as I thought it was” made a difference
- Supported English/ Language Arts learning, with teachers noting the program positively enhances their curriculum

## Campus Community Impact

The impact of this partnership for Sac State students:

- Strengthened their identities as college students by reflecting on and writing about their academic experiences
- Developed mentorship skills through guiding and supporting younger writing partners
- Built leadership, communication, and confidence through meaningful peer interactions
- Gained a deeper understanding of the value of community connection and collaboration
- Inspired younger students, with one Sac State student noting they enjoyed “encouraging students to join the STEM field”