

Feliz Pearson

Professor Stamant

LDR 101

18 December 2024

Podcast Reflection Narrative

I created a podcast interview featuring my mother, Yvonne Pearson, for my Leadership Prologue course at Agnes Scott College. Creating a podcast about my mom's leadership journey was both a rewarding and interesting experience. I knew this project would challenge me to step out of my comfort zone, as I am not great conversationally (especially while being recorded), however I am glad that I navigated the process of creating questions, writing a biography and recording and editing the interview successfully. I chose to interview my mom because she has a remarkable life story and she has always been an inspiration in my life. Developing the podcast had its challenges, but it was fulfilling in the end. Throughout this process, I learned more about my mom's life journey and I realized the importance of storytelling as it relates to leadership.

In preparation for the interview, I found it challenging to develop the questions I would ask my mom. I wanted them to be meaningful while allowing her to share her story naturally. Eventually, I created a list of general questions and allowed her to choose which ones she felt most comfortable answering before the interview. While creating her biographical profile I did not need to conduct extensive research, but I clarified certain details to ensure her story was portrayed accurately and authentically. After completing the biography, I asked her to review it and confirm or edit the content. The most challenging part of this process was deciding which details to include because her story is so dense and interesting; I wanted to include almost everything but I had to focus on the most significant parts to create a concise and simultaneously detailed overview of her life.

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Recording the interview went smoothly overall, but I did encounter a few obstacles along the way. One of the main issues was that my mom provided very detailed and extensive answers which took up a large amount of time considering our conversation could only be around five minutes. As a result I had to edit out a significant portion of the conversation, but I believe that I captured the main ideas in the final version of the podcast. To edit I used iMovie on my MacBook as I was already familiar and comfortable with that software. In retrospect, I wish the conversation with my mom would have been more natural. I felt as if she was being overly professional, which is not how she usually speaks to me. However, I can say the same about myself. I was nervous about the interview sounding too robotic and I struggled to ask the questions in a way that would help create an organic and relaxed conversation.

Overall, this project allowed me to reflect on my mom's leadership journey and develop new skills throughout the process. Although there were challenges, such as narrowing down her story and creating a natural conversation, I was able to overcome them and produce a podcast that captured her experiences and what defines her as a leader. Through preparing questions, writing a biography, and editing the interview, I gained a better understanding of her story and the importance of storytelling in leadership.