

Engagement at Iowa Updates



April 2022

Telling the story of community engagement through fundraising, new courses, and conversations with the legislature



Last month brought many excellent opportunities to advance the vital community engaged work that we are doing at the University of Iowa. Our One Day For Iowa fundraising campaign helped bring new funding to support graduate students doing independent community engagement work through our Graduate Engagement Corps. The Community Engaged Courses (CEC) registration brought new learning and teaching experiences to students registering for the Fall 2022 semester. The Hawkeye Caucus gave our office the chance to share the outstanding work that students, instructors, and community partners are doing to impact and elevate communities in Iowa and beyond.

Now that the spring weather is finally peeking from over the horizon, many of the challenges of the past two years are now becoming opportunities for more in-person events and workshops, and the Office of Community Engagement is excited by the prospects of the coming year. As April begins, our office is focused on finishing the semester strong, as students in community engaged classes work on their final projects to present to community partners and new partnerships are formed with an eye on the next school year.

Thank you to all of our students, instructors, and community partners who have been working together to expand the reach of community engaged teaching, learning, and research. Together we are making a difference and meaningful impact in our communities.

In partnership,

Nick

Nick Benson
Executive Director

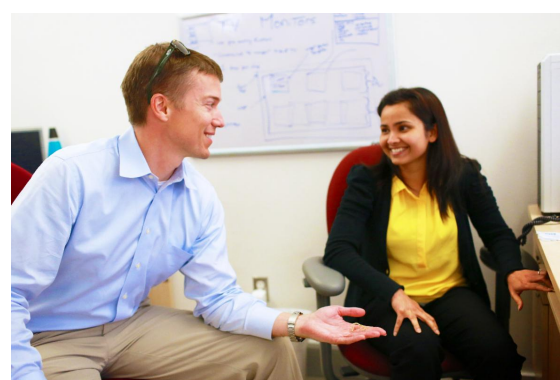
2022 Engagement Scholarship Consortium Submission Deadline Extended

The 2022 Engagement Scholarship Consortium: *The Impact of Engaged Scholarship: People, Purpose, and Passion* will be held September 21 and 22, 2022.

The consortium is seeking proposal applications from undergraduate and graduate students involved in community and university engagement and/or who are studying the impacts of service-learning and community engagement.

The deadline for submission is April 7th.

The conference will not only highlight the positive impacts of engaged work but also explore ideas around how to define and evaluate the success of this work and the



[Register Here](#)

Proposals will be considered on any topic clearly connected to the advancement of community engagement.

resulting scholarship.

Workshop Spotlight

Office of Community Engagement Workshop Series



Did you know that previous workshops are recorded and kept on our website for later viewing? We have workshops on community engagement best practices, equity, accessibility, reciprocity, sustainability, course design and more.

[Learn More](#)

Voices of Community Engagement



Service Learning and Community Engagement connect students with opportunities to make a difference in the Coralville community

Our Voices of Community Engagement series this April features Associate Professor Frank Durham, who is connecting service learning with community engagement to bring students to Houses into Homes in Coralville through a partnership with the Coralville Media Collaborative.

Frank Durham, associate professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, says service-learning courses are his favorite classes to teach. Service-learning classes require students to move beyond the passive role they experience in a traditional classroom as they engage real-life clients.

"Putting solutions together takes real cooperation. That is how my students get to experience the look and feel of professional communications management. We typically invite our clients to attend class whenever they wish."

"Integrating perspectives into the students' understanding of the project gives the class the opportunity to make sense of the client's experience versus the principles of communication management I will teach them."

"In the end, the students become conversant in the client's business and related needs, the client learns about the student's formal thought processes, and I get to enjoy seeing the dynamic develop. It's a kick every time," Durham said.

It takes him a semester to plan for classes that incorporate community engagement. He began planning his spring 2020 community-engaged learning course in mid-August.

"Basically, I will build the philosophy of community engagement into the nuts and bolts of the course to make sure that my students work hand-in-hand with our 'live' clients. For the course I will teach, which focuses on public relations management strategy development, real-time problem-solving tops any traditional lecture-and-discussion course I can imagine," he said."

Durham attended the Engaged Faculty Institute conducted by the Office of Community Engagement in May 2019.

[Read More Impact Stories](#)

Engagement and the Arts

University of Iowa Latin Jazz Ensemble having final Arts Share performance April 9th



Jim Dreier, the director of UI’s Latin Jazz Ensemble, is retiring this year. The LJE has performed dozens of times all over the state through Arts Share during its 20 year existence and their final Arts Share performance will be April 9th in Harlan, IA.

Since its inception in 2002, the UI Latin/jazz Ensemble continued to evolve and progress, performing in major UI concerts, public schools (through the UI Arts Share program), and performance venues throughout Iowa. The ensemble also hosted the bi-annual UI Latin/jazz Festival at the University of Iowa.

In 2004 the group recorded their first CD “Latin High Life” and its second “La Esencia” in 2006. Jim Musser of the Iowa City Press Citizen wrote: “La Esencia fairly bursts with savvy chops, inventive arrangements and sky high potential.” The group has since released three more CDs “Frontera” (2008), “Esso” (2011) and “Todo Entaya” (2016).

The UI LJE performed with many acclaimed Latin Jazz Artists, including Victor Mendoza, Ray Vega, Michael Mossman, Wayne Wallace, Michael Spiro, Felipe Salles Mark Walker and Brian Lynch. The ensemble was made up of both undergraduate and graduate students.

Boston’s Latin/jazz legend Victor Mendoza says of the UI Latin/jazz Ensemble “...they perform it (the style of Latin/jazz) with as much integrity as any other groups I hear or work with, around the world.”

[Learn More](#)

7th Biennial Grant Wood Symposium



April 8 - 10, 2022

All are invited to the UI campus and the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

The Grant Wood Art Colony is hosting a compelling series of presentations investigating 20th-21st-century artists who, like Grant Wood, extended their practice to creating distinctive homes and studios.

They will explore how these environments reflect or shape an artist’s output and how they can be considered independent works in their own right. This three-day-long symposium will explore the intersections of home, creativity, and identity. Our prototype is Grant Wood, who renovated a hayloft into a studio and home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and restored and furnished a significant mid-nineteenth-century historic home in Iowa City where he lived and worked.

Papers will be presented on myriad artists, including Georgia O’Keefe, Jackson Pollack, Lee Krasner, Maxfield Parrish, and Al Held. This event is free and open to the public.

[Learn More](#)

2022 Iowa Student Poet Ambassador Named

On Friday, April 22, Cedar Rapids Prairie junior Johnnie Each will be inaugurated in Des Moines as the 2022 Iowa Student Poet Ambassador

“The Poet Ambassador program

recognizes an outstanding, young writer and celebrates poetry and the literary arts in Iowa,” said Jan Warren, Assistant Director for Student Services at the Belin-Blank Center and Coordinator of the Iowa Scholastic Writing Awards. “We are so pleased that Ms. Each will continue in what is now an impressive tradition set by our inaugural Student Poet Ambassador, Shreya Khullar.”



The Ambassador was chosen from a select group of students who participated in either the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards or the Iowa Poetry Association.

[Learn More](#)

Thank You!



One Day For Iowa raises funds to empower students to impact communities

Thank you to everyone who participated in One Day for Iowa this year. With your help, we were able to raise funds to help fund grants for student who are doing independent community engagement work in Iowa communities and beyond.

In addition, donors supported Arts Share and the Grant Wood Art Colony, and their support will help expand art programs and outreach.

Upcoming Events and Activities

Grant Woods Fellow Performance: Josh Henderson & Friends

Monday, April 4, 2022 7:30pm
Voxman Music Building

Partitions - Jon Greene MFA Exhibition - School of Art and Art History

Monday, April 4, 2022 8:00am to 8:00pm
Visual Arts Building

GETTUH GRIP - Noah Neal BFA Exhibition - School of Art and Art History

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:00am to 8:00pm
Visual Arts Building

Queerscapes - Kaitlyn Winders BFA Exhibition - School of Art and Art History

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:00am to 8:00pm
Visual Arts Building

7th Biennial Grant Wood Symposium

April 8th - 10th
Various Locations

UI Dance Company Performances:

Figge Museum in Davenport,
Thursday April 7th, 6:30
FREE

Iowa City Public Library
Saturday April 9th, 10:30
FREE, kids welcome

Washington Area Performing Arts & Event Center
Tuesday April 26th, 7:30
(tickets \$5 - \$18)

[Learn more about these and future events](#)

Office of Community Engagement | [Website](#) | [Contact Us](#)

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