Engagement opportunities abound with launch of Graduate Engagement Corps '22-'23 application, Community Engaged Course Workshop and more

Hawkeyes across campus are impacting Iowans in a multitude of ways this October

October is an exciting month for community engagement at the University of Iowa. The Graduate Engagement Corps (GEC) launches for the second year with ample opportunities for graduate students to advance their teaching and research and connect with communities through workshops, training, and a grant program. Our latest impact story covers the breadth and scope staff and students have in partnership with community leaders to increase equitable access to healthcare. Faculty and instructors are encouraged to attend our upcoming Community Engaged Course (CEC) best practices workshop. At the same time, an Emmy-winning alum resides at the Grant Wood Art Colony, and a new cohort of Graduate Assistants joins us with a wealth of experience across art disciplines to reach Iowa communities large and small.

The resources below feature information for faculty, staff, graduate and undergraduate students, arts and engagement events, professional development opportunities, and more for those interested in community engagement. Don’t forget to check out publishing and conference resources. Please reach out for assistance with letters of support or set up a one-on-one meeting with our office to discuss upcoming courses, research projects, and community partnerships.

In partnership,
Event Spotlight

CEC: Best Practices and First Steps

Join us Friday, October 7th, to hear about lessons from previous CEC workshops helpful to those applying for the CEC designation, along with frequently asked questions and a step-by-step breakdown of best practices for student learning and engaging with community partners.

Faculty & Instructors will:

- Learn essential best practices for creating a Community Engaged Course (CEC)
- Discuss the community-engaged course designation
- Receive feedback and guidance from instructors who have taught previous CECs.

Friday, Oct. 7th - 12:00 PM - ONLINE

CEC: First Steps and Best Practices

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Register for this workshop if you would like guidance on new or future course designs, tips for practical applications of this work, and a practical guide for moving forward.

Register Here

Voices of Community Engagement
University of Iowa students, researchers, and community partners come together to advance health equity across the state through the Equity in Health Science Practice Program (E-HSP)

Our Voices of Community Engagement series this October features UI staff Martha Carvour and Aloha Wilks, along with community partners Di Daniels and Emilia Marroquin of Salud! in Storm Lake, Iowa.

Now in its second year, this ambitious public health program aims to bring University of Iowa researchers, students, and advocates together with community leaders and partners to tackle health equity and access issues faced by marginalized and underrepresented populations.

This unique combination of cultural sensitivity, hands-on community engagement, health practice, and a direct

"These are all things we are exploring as we work directly with campus and community partners, including more than a dozen student leaders from the University involved in this effort," said Martha Carvour, a faculty member at the University of Iowa College of Medicine and principal investigator for E-HSP.

The University of Iowa has tasked E-HSP with building a solid framework for sustainable health equity research collaborations across the institution and the state, a more permanent and enduring program to advance health equity across Iowa by the end of the grant’s third year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) define Health Equity as when every person has the opportunity to "attain full health potential" and no one is "disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances." Health inequities are reflected in differences in length of life; quality of life; rates of disease, disability, and death; severity of disease; and access to treatment.

Health Equity includes many fundamentals of diversity, inclusiveness, and justice –
focus on leadership from community voices is making substantial progress toward improving the lives of Iowans with limited access to healthcare across the state.

The Equity in Health Science Practice (E-HSP) Program, funded through a three-year, $758,000 grant from the University of Iowa Strategic Initiatives Fund, is focused on campus and community engagement throughout Iowa to promote health equity, including translating research into public health and clinical practice.

The grant is funded for three years, with the potential to reach communities in any of Iowa’s 99 counties to reach those who work and live within the state.

The first phase of the grant focused on COVID-19, and the second was on diabetes. The initial community partnership formed to begin working with these issues was in Storm Lake, IA, whose immigrant, and refugee population has experienced disparately higher rates of both.

COVID-19 and diabetes are connected due to the disruption the pandemic has caused to diabetes care and discoveries that link COVID-19 and diabetes more directly. Patients who have had COVID-19 are more likely to get diabetes, and patients with diabetes are more likely to get severe COVID.

E-HSP helps support patients affected by one or both of those conditions and identifies ways to improve access to care and bring new treatments into communities.

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Wilks and Carvour have worked together to address gaps and create medical interventions for Iowa communities with significant numbers of underserved populations with the greatest need in accessing healthcare amid the ongoing pandemic.

In Storm Lake, those interventions began with a diabetic foot study, a COVID-19 survey, and a series of health fairs designed to address the most pressing health issues shared by community leaders.

"When we went to Storm Lake, we focused on immigrant and refugee populations and employees of the Tyson Foods plant," Wilks said. "We gathered information from the community from a cultural perspective and focused on meeting them where they were."

In response to feedback from the Tyson Corporation, E-HSP conducted a health fair in partnership with Salud!, a multicultural health coalition in Storm Lake, to address chronic medical conditions and illnesses impacting employees, potentially keeping them from work. Diabetes, hypertension, and obesity were the top three.

When doing this kind of work, you must have a lens of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) to ensure health equity," said Aloha Wilks, program coordinator for E-HSP. “You should never turn that off, regardless of your working space.”
Graduate Engagement Corps (GEC) Applications Now Open

The Office of Community Engagement supports University of Iowa graduate students through the Graduate Engagement Corps (GEC). The GEC provides graduate students interested in community engagement with training, networking, and funding opportunities to elevate their research and increase their impact in local communities. Publishing, conferences, and professional development workshops further enhance the graduate student experience.

GEC applications due by November 18th, 2022 at 5:00 pm

Apply Here

The Arts

Arts Share

Meet the 2022 - 23 Graduate Assistants

Every semester talented, passionate Graduate Assistants (GA) from across disciplines and fields support programming in the Office of Community Engagement, Arts Share, and the Grant Wood Art Colony to elevate impact across the University of Iowa and communities across the state.

Issac Addai

"Community engagement is essential to
maintaining a healthy communal environment. If we only make decisions from the comfort of our offices without continually seeking out problems in the community, we are not doing our jobs to the best of our ability. I believe we provide the best solutions when we have folks actively speaking with members of the greater community."

Arianna Edvenson

"Community Engagement means reaching out and sharing music with those around us by making it accessible to people of all different backgrounds! While being a Graduate Research Assistant for Arts Share, I've been able to help coordinate and perform in several chamber music tours in Eastern Iowa, and it is always great to see the joy that music can bring to those communities."

Keegan Hockett

"I believe that community engagement can help us view ourselves in a healthier and more holistic way. It is rewarding to connect with others through a common goal or interest and feel valued!"

Amiya Moretta

"Community engagement to me means helping cultivate spaces where everyone feels safe, seen, and celebrated. I believe healthy community engagement can draw out each other's gifts and also, hold space for each other's sorrows."

Mariana Tejada
I believe that community engagement is the best way to find and form new audiences. Making aesthetic experiences accessible in non-conventional (or traditional) venues removes in part the aura of elitism that sometimes surrounds the arts.

Gallery Walk Downtown Iowa City

Join the University of Iowa School of Art and Art History at MERGE – Ivy Jewell, Avrill Gratton, Eliza Link, Alyson Holevoet, Jessie Hambrick, Madelynne Langridge, Sheridan Klingensmith, Lilly Keuter, Olivia Ahrens, Nikita Bailey.

“University of Iowa Ceramics Students – The New Era” – Installation of works by BFA majors in Ceramics at The University of Iowa School of Art and Art History.

Grant Wood Art Colony Fellow Kieron Sargeant’s Evening of Research and Talk.

Graduate students are invited to join Grant Wood Art Colony Fellow Kieron Sargeant for a second evening social at the Grant Wood Main House to learn about research projects within the UI Dance Department, meet and mix with faculty and staff, and explore new partnerships in multi/interdisciplinary collaborations.

Event is open to graduate students from outside Dance and Theatre Arts who are interested in learning about partnership opportunities.

The Fall Gallery Walk
Friday, October 7th from 5:00 – 8:00pm
Downtown Iowa City

Sunday October 2nd, 2022
Grant Wood Main House
1142 East Court Street
The Department of Theatre Arts invites you to attend "A Conversation with Rick Cleveland."

Thursday, October 6, 2022
5:00pm to 6:15pm

Theatre Building
Alan MacVey Theatre

Emmy Winning Alum Rick Cleveland in Residence this month

The Grant Wood Art Colony will host Rick Cleveland, Emmy-winning writer, playwright, monologuist, and graduate (1995 MFA) of the University of Iowa Department of Theatre Arts, October 4 – 8.

Inspired by Grant Wood’s passion for gathering writers, artists, performers, and intellectuals at his own home on Court Street, the Colony frequently welcomes visiting artists to the site, serving as the year-long residence of three Grant Wood Fellows. Cleveland's stay is the second of three at the Colony's Oaks House during the Fall ’22 semester.

Research
Grant Opportunities

Research Supply Grant

The Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates and the Office of the Vice President for Research provide small grants to facilitate undergraduate research and creative scholarship. Grants of up to $1,000 are available for currently unfunded supplies related to research and creative work.

The applicant must be enrolled as a degree-seeking undergraduate in good standing at the University of Iowa at the time of application and at the time of the award payment. The proposed research, scholarship or creative activity must be completed prior to graduation.

University of Iowa Grant Writing Seminar and Workshop 2022-2023

The Research Development Office in the Office of the Vice President for Research is pleased to announce that Dr. John Robertson from Grant Writer's Seminars & Workshops...
(GWSW) will conduct the *Write Winning Grant Proposals* seminar on Thursday, October 6, 2022. The deadline to register is 11:59 PM on Sunday, September 18. In person and virtual options are available.

Register Here

### Getting Published

**Community Works Journal**

Founded in 1995, the Community Works Journal is the digital magazine of the Community Works Institute. The mission of the Community Works Institute is to build educators’ capacity to design and guide experiential learning projects to address the needs of their community, and the Community Works Journal focuses on material related to service-learning, place based education, education for sustainability, and social and emotional learning.

Learn More

### Conferences and Workshops

**Imagining America: National Gathering - Rituals of Repair and Renewal**

Organized in partnership with Tulane University, the Ashé Cultural Arts Center, and a local steering committee, the 2022 National Gathering will be held in-person on:

October 14-16, 2022

Register Here

The Imagining America National Gathering is an annual convening of public scholars, artists, designers, students, and cultural organizers who are "addressing the most pressing issues of our time."

The gathering offers participants a three-day immersive experience in which to connect, dialogue, learn, and strategize around the ways to build new knowledge and inspire collective imagination towards transformative education and action.

The Office of Community Engagement is here to help with letters of support and one-on-one meetings with our office to discuss upcoming courses, research projects, and community partnerships.

Submit an Inquiry
Professional Development

Ensuring Reciprocity and Sustainability in Community Engagement

Loyce Arthur, Associate Professor, Theatre Arts and Travis Kraus, Associate Professor of Practice, School of Planning and Public Affairs, and Director of IISC discuss best practices for creating mutually beneficial and reciprocal community partnerships and how to sustain them over time.

Workshop Series

Upcoming Events and Activities

Evening of Research and Talk
October 2nd, 2022, 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Grant Wood Main House, 1142 East Court Street

University of Iowa Grant Writing Seminar and Workshop 2022-2023
October 6, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
IMU Second Floor Ballroom (Virtual option available)

Community Engaged Courses (CEC): First Steps and Best Practices
October 7th, 12:00PM - 1:00PM
Virtual

Gallery Walk Downtown Iowa City
October 7th from 5:00 – 8:00pm
Downtown Iowa City, MERGE

Imagining America: National Gathering
October 14-16, 2022
New Orleans, LA

Building Confidence And Making Sense Of Fundraising For Community & Civic Engagement
October 20th, 2022, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Virtual

More Events

Office of Community Engagement | Website | Contact Us

STAY CONNECTED