Welcome to the Provost's Office of Outreach & Engagement first monthly newsletter! Each month we will share updates from our office, programs, and partnerships across the state.

We have had a busy and exciting summer. In July, we welcomed Arts Share to our office. We are eager to continue to grow and strengthen arts outreach across the state. Additionally, our programs were busy wrapping the 2014-15 academic year and planning for the next one. Read more from our programs!

Stay connected with us on social media! Don't miss the opportunities and announcements we have in Fall 2015. You can like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and view us on Instagram.

Celebrate Outreach & Engagement at Iowa

On Tuesday, September 1, we invite campus and community members to the Iowa Memorial Union Main Lounge, from 6-8 p.m., to Celebrate Outreach & Engagement at Iowa. This event will honor the long tradition of community and university partnerships and highlight the initiatives for the academic year from our office. Remarks from Provost P. Barry Butler and Associate Provost Linda Snetselaar begin at 6:30 p.m. Keynote speaker, Barbara Holland, will give remarks at 7 p.m. and will discuss the importance of community engagement in higher education. This event is free and open to the public. In addition, the University of Iowa’s Mobile Museum will be open from 3 - 8:30 p.m. on the south side of the Iowa Memorial Union.

View the event details for more information.

Announcing 2015-16 Grant Opportunities

We are excited to announce grant opportunities for the 2015-16 fiscal year. There are three opportunities for grants: Community Impact Grants, Micro Grants, and Theme Semester Supplemental Grants. All three grants are available to university faculty and staff working to make a difference in communities across the state of Iowa.

There are two cycles of funding per fiscal year. Proposals seeking funding under the first cycle are due September 10, 2015. For questions or comments, please email us at outreach-engagement@uiowa.edu.

Learn more about the grants and apply today!
Arts Share

There has been a lot of programming this summer with Arts Share, even though this is generally our "quiet" time! We are wrapping up three public art projects: the Washington library’s mural will be completed soon, the Nisse sculptures for Decorah’s Nordic Fest were delivered in July, and the Muscatine Hawk sculpture, made out of 10,000 pop can tabs, should be finished later this month. Additionally, we’ve hosted over a dozen other workshops and performances across the state!

Arts Share strives to strengthen the arts in underserved areas, reaching out to provide access to life-enriching art experiences throughout the state. Learn more about Arts Share and find out how to bring their programming to your community!

Grant Wood Art Colony

Summer at the Colony includes wrapping up the previous year’s Fellowships while looking forward to the arrival of the 2015-16 Grant Wood Art Colony Fellows. Michele Lauriat, Careena Melia, and Serhat Tanyolacar have continued their pursuits after leaving Iowa, from residencies to sold-out shows in Central Park. Neal Rock (Painting and Drawing), Terry Conrad (Printmaking), and Christopher Jette (Music) arrive at the Colony this month to begin their Fellowships. The Director has worked with myriad educators and organizations to schedule the Fellows’ outreach and engagement activities, including LOUi performances, UI MA artist talks, and college campus visits. Look for more information on the new Fellows in September!

Grant Wood Art Colony celebrates the life and legacy of Iowa’s most famous artist, Grant Wood. Each year, the Colony provides three Fellowships in Painting, Printmaking, and Interdisciplinary Performance. Fellows teach courses, engage Iowans, and pursue their artistic endeavors.

Hawkeye Lunch & Learn

The Hawkeye Lunch & Learn lecture series returns to Iowa City and Des Moines for Fall 2015! The lecture series is offered monthly and highlights ways the university is working with partners across the state. Since the debut in January 2014, it has received great support from the community. You can view some of the 2014-15 lectures on YouTube.

All lectures are noon - 1 p.m. at the Iowa Memorial Union in Iowa City and the John and Mary Pappajohn Education Center in downtown Des Moines.

Fall 2015 Schedule

September: Mark McDermott
September 17 in Iowa City - RSVP today
September 22 in Des Moines - RSVP today

October: Helena Laroche
October 15 in Iowa City
October 20 in Des Moines

November: Nate Kaeding
November 5 in Iowa City
November 10 in Des Moines

December: Chuck Swanson
December 3 in Iowa City
December 8 in Des Moines
**Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities**

This summer, the IISC has been busy working with University of Iowa faculty and community partners to develop Fall 2015 projects for our second year of our partnership with the City of Decorah/Winneshiek County, the City of Iowa City, and the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council. In total, 16 projects have been developed across the three communities!

Four new faculty and courses have joined our initiative, and we will be partnering with the Departments of English and Health & Human Physiology for the first time. This is part of the IISC's ongoing effort to be inclusive of all disciplines and approach sustainability from a holistic perspective. Several returning faculty are also continuing to partner with us, and we benefit greatly from their experience and commitment to our program.

The IISC is a campus-wide effort to enhance the capacity of Iowa’s communities. Find out more about the IISC and view past partnerships. In case you missed it, read about the 2014-15 projects completed in our three communities. Make sure to follow our progress this year on social media using #IISCDecorah, #IISCIowaCity, and #IISCSiouxCity!

**RC&D Partnership**

The RC&D Partnership has been busy the past month planning and developing projects and workshops for the Fall semester. Currently 12 community engagement projects are planned for the fall semester, with 8 different UI departments and units as campus partners. One community engagement project will consist of UI faculty Jill Smith’s Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness working with all nine RC&D regions on evaluating and identifying key grant opportunities for the region’s to obtain additional funding. This will consist of 50-60 graduate and advanced undergraduate students in the Tippie College of Business working in teams with each RC&D council.

The RC&D Partnership is designed to provide assistance for economic development, arts and culture development, environmental conservation and public health initiatives in communities within nine RC&D regions across the state of Iowa. University of Iowa faculty, staff, and students collaborate with RC&D staff and community partners on projects, workshops, and trainings. Follow the Office of Outreach & Engagement’s social media accounts to stay up-to-date on project developments throughout the semester!

**Theme Semester**

The university’s second annual theme semester, Just Living, will focus on social justice. Each year, the Theme Semester program provides opportunities for teaching, engagement, and learning on campus and throughout the state of Iowa surrounding a different topic.

This summer, the planning committee has been busy coordinating marquee events and collaborating with campus and community partners. The theme will officially kick-off with the academic year with a Town Hall inviting partners to join the conversation and planning. While a majority of the academics, activities, and events will occur in Spring 2016, there are opportunities to have discussions throughout the fall.

Visit justliving.uiowa.edu for more information about news, academics, collaborators, and how to get involved!