Partnership Highlights

As noted in recent communication, the Office of Outreach & Engagement opened grant applications for funds to be used during the 2016-17 academic year. While the first application deadline has passed, I encourage you to use this time to start planning for the fall deadline. Our three grant opportunities, Community Impact Grants, Micro Grants, and Theme Semester Supplemental Grants, are available to UI faculty, staff, and graduate students for initiatives that shape teaching and learning on campus and build upon community programs throughout the state. Last academic year, our office supported 33 projects through grants, each one meeting the needs of our campus and Iowans across the state. I welcome your creative ideas on ways to engage our communities. More information on the grant application process can be found at http://bit.ly/OOEgrants.

Stay connected with us on social media! You can like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and view us on Instagram.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Arts Share

Arts Share and the Grant Wood Art Colony partnered for the first time on the Arts Share Summer Arts Camp in June. Over 60 children ages 5-12 participated in workshops in theatre, music, dance, visual arts, and creative writing. Some highlights included the children learning how to conduct music and getting to practice on a live chamber group, working on screenplays (and typing them on an "old-fashioned" typewriter), creating collage pieces that incorporated an image of Grant Wood’s house, and attending a live theatre improvisation performance. Children attended from Iowa City, Coralville, North Liberty, Solon, West Branch, and West Liberty.

Two UI graduate students in painting, Lee White (MFA ’17) and Halle Siepman (MFA ’15) spent three days in Newton at the end of June and beginning of July assessing murals in the community. The goal of this
Grant Wood Art Colony

The Grant Wood Art Colony is excited to announce its three fellows for the 2016-17 academic year: Colin Lyons in Printmaking, Christopher-Rasheem McMillan in Interdisciplinary Performance (Dance), and Tameka Norris in Painting and Drawing. Each fellow was selected from hundreds of applications from around the world by a committee of faculty members. As the reputation of the Grant Wood Art Colony grows, so does the caliber of the application pool. The School of Art & Art History, the Division of Performing Arts, and the Colony are thrilled to welcome these artists to campus in August.

The Grant Wood Fellowship program currently provides three one-year fellowships in painting, printmaking, and interdisciplinary performance. The interdisciplinary performance fellowship rotates between dance, theater, and music. During the academic year, each fellow will teach a total of two courses at the university, leaving the rest of the time for the artist's own work and research. Learn more about current and past fellows.

Hawkeye Lunch & Learn

The Hawkeye Lunch & Learn lecture series will return with new topics and presenters in September. Stay tuned for the fall lecture announcement coming later this summer! All lecture information will be available online at outreach.uiowa.edu/HawkeyeLL. View past lectures this summer on the YouTube playlist.

Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities

As the IISC wraps up the final details of their partnerships with Winneshiek County, Iowa City, and the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council, they have had the opportunity to reflect on the value of the program for faculty, staff, students, and community partners. IISC affiliated faculty and staff have found that the program not only impacts their teaching, but also provides additional research opportunities. Professor Heather Sander in the Department of Geographical and Sustainability Sciences says, "I'm pleased to say that through the IISC's connections, we have just submitted a grant proposal to support a research partnership with [Iowa City] that, if funded, would not only help build our understanding of how urban ecosystems benefit humans, but also would connect our findings directly to local planning and policy making. Without the connection established through IISC, I doubt that this proposal would have been possible." The IISC looks forward to continuing to develop meaningful projects for the 2016-17 academic year with their new community partners, Mason City and East Central Intergovernmental Association.

RC&D Partnership

Staff working with the RC&D Partnership program spent the first part of summer finalizing student projects, sending project deliverables to community partners, and distributing a survey to students, faculty, staff, and community partners for feedback on how to strengthen the program for next academic year. One quote from the survey from community partners included this: "Working with the Outreach & Engagement staff was a smooth experience. All interaction was extremely positive. I can't think of any way to improve the experience."

A few projects have continued this summer, including a local project is to determine an appropriate maintenance and rehabilitation strategy before the murals fall into disrepair. Once Halle and Lee's report is complete, Arts Share hopes to assist in the rehabilitation process.

Project Highlight: Non-fiction film students interview farmers in Van Buren County. Watch the films created by the students.
**Theme Semester**

Staff in the Office of Outreach & Engagement are exhilarated to be moving into planning for the third annual Theme Semester, Our Lives Online, which will focus on the Internet and technology. This theme will explore the global system of connectedness, networks, and collaboration discovered in the past and emerging in the present and future. Partners are beginning plans for academics, community events, and campus activities.

The Internet is a source of information, promoting attention to the development, access, interdisciplinary work, and cultural participation both on campus, across the state of Iowa, and beyond. Taking into consideration the technological advancements and many perspectives in this topic, individuals can make intentional choices on how to connect to others and communicate in the online community.

Learn how to get involved at [theme.uiowa.edu](http://theme.uiowa.edu).

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