

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA  Office of
Outreach & Engagement

OCTOBER 2016



Linda Snetselaar, Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement

Partnership Highlights

The Office of Outreach & Engagement is excited to release its 2015-16 annual report, *Growing Community Partnerships: The Value of Working Together*. This report showcases stories from our featured programs and highlights of campus-wide outreach and engagement activities.

Over the past year, our office and featured programs impacted 68 Iowa counties and nine additional states. We have had the fortune of working with the University of

Iowa's 11 colleges, our students, faculty, and staff, and dozens of community partners across the state. I want to recognize and thank everyone involved with these efforts as we continue to create a better future for Iowans and beyond.

[View our 2015-16 annual report.](#)

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 received a grant from the [Community Foundation of Johnson County](#) for their project Community Stories Workshop at the Veterans Affairs. This is a series of weekly art and writing workshops for veterans, facilitated by UI graduate students from the Writers' Workshop and School of Art & Art History, and co-facilitated by Dr. Rossina Liu, the office's Faculty Fellow. Participants work in both traditional written forms (e.g. narratives and poetry) and multi-modal forms such as audio and visual graphics. The Community Stories Workshop at the Shelter House began in September, and the UI Veterans writing workshop will begin this month.



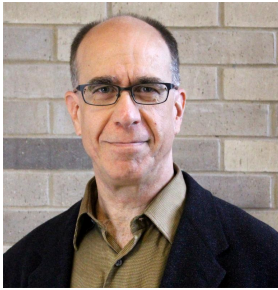
Community writers gather at Shelter House in Iowa City with facilitator Anca Roncea (right).

Grant Wood Art Colony

The fifth biennial Grant Wood Symposium will take place on Oct. 28-29 on the University of Iowa

campus. To honor Wood's 125th birthday, this year's theme is, "Myth, Memories, and the Midwest: Grant Wood and Beyond." Scholars from across the country will convene at Art Building West to address topics from humor to camouflage. The symposium will culminate with a special showing of the new documentary, [1142](#), at the historic Englert Theatre on Saturday night.

More information, including speakers and paper abstracts, can be found online. This event is free and open to the public, but participants are encouraged to register. [Learn more](#) about the 2016 Grant Wood Symposium.



October's presenter, Glenn Ehrstine, will present on Oct. 20 in Iowa City.

Hawkeye Lunch & Learn

This month, the Hawkeye Lunch & Learn lecture series will present German Iowans and the Politics of Brewing with Professor Glenn Ehrstine from the Department of German and International Studies. Professor Ehrstine will discuss Iowa's contested brewing culture and the corresponding political choices faced by German Iowans from the Civil War through World War I. Visit outreach.uiowa.edu/HawkeyeLL for more information.

October: Glenn Ehrstine, *German Iowans and the Politics of Brewing*
Iowa City on Thursday, October 20: <http://bit.ly/ehrstineIC>

Make plans to attend November's lectures with Donald E. Letendre, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, for his lecture titled *The Global Impact of Drugs*.
Iowa City on Thursday, November 3: <http://bit.ly/letendrelC>
Des Moines on Tuesday, November 8: <http://bit.ly/letendreDSM>

Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities (IISC)

How do museums contribute to sustainability in communities? IISC's partnership this semester with the community of Edgewood and Dr. Heidi Lung's class *Museums in a Digital Age* has enlightened staff about the significant role of museums in community development. Successful museums offer more than an opportunity to view artifacts in a display case- they engage their community through storytelling and education, help define community identity, offer space for social gathering, and can even drive economic development. Particularly in small rural Iowa communities, effective museums connect the community's heritage to its future, with an increasingly important focus on inclusivity that incorporates the stories of new residents and families into an ever-evolving community narrative. We also learned this fun fact: there are more museums in the US than there are McDonalds and Starbucks combined!



Partnership Highlight: Plans for the Edgewood Museum include permanent and traveling displays, public meeting spaces, a children's learning area, and much more!
Credit: [Edgewood Museum Facebook Page](#).

RC&D Partnership

Project development for the spring semester was in full swing last month for the RC&D Partnership. Staff from Prairie Rivers of Iowa RC&D in Ames traveled to Iowa City for meetings with staff and other on-campus partners, including the Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio (DSPS.) DSPS, Prairie Rivers, and the Office of Outreach & Engagement are working on an upcoming oral histories project that will document stories about the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway. Additional projects in collaboration with Prairie Rivers includes a potential "Parks to People" project in and around the Boone community, and a museum preservation project. Work continues on developing projects with other RC&Ds for the spring, including a collaboration between the Office of Outreach & Engagement, the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies, and Iowa Valley RC&D at the Johnson County Poor Farm.

Theme Semester

Theme Semester is excited to introduce this year's Student Ambassadors! Four undergraduate students joined the efforts of the planning committee to represent the student voice and create dynamic campus and community activities. Liz is a



Student Ambassadors (left to right): Ricki, Shewin, Liz, Jade (course instructor), and Kat.

junior majoring in Microbiology, Ricki is a junior majoring in Computer Science and Mathematics, Kat is a junior majoring in Communication Studies, and Shewin is a junior majoring in Psychology Communication Studies. The Theme Semester Student Ambassadors are enrolled in a seminar course during the fall and spring semesters where they will learn how to effectively communicate information about the Theme Semester program to faculty, staff, students, and community members

For more information on all the fall previews visit theme.uiowa.edu.



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