



Office of Outreach & Engagement

MARCH 2017



Linda Snetselaar, Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement

Partnership Highlights

With the spring semester well underway at the University of Iowa, I am thrilled to see many of our students, faculty, and staff working with community partners across the state. Our work in the Office of Outreach & Engagement focuses on strengthening Iowa communities by leveraging UI resources. As you will read in the program updates, we are continuing our efforts by bringing the arts to numerous communities, providing engaged learning opportunities through projects with the Iowa Initiative for

Sustainable Communities and RC&D Partnership, and highlighting our faculty and staff work at monthly lectures.

Throughout the remaining spring semester, we will continue to build on the numerous projects and activities, as well as find new ways to collaborate on campus and across the state. I encourage you to share your outreach and engagement stories with us using #OutreachIowa on social media.

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 presented a Dancers In Company concert at the Iowa City Public Library on March 4.

Arts Share

[Dancers In Company](#) started their spring tour with family friendly performances in Dubuque and Iowa City. The premiere dance ensemble includes 12 undergraduate and graduate student dancers. This year their repertoire explores the theme of "home," with pieces choreographed by UI Dance faculty, Grant Wood Fellow and co-director Chris Rasheem-McMillan, and award-winning professional choreographer Jane Comfort. Their tour is coordinated through Arts Share, and includes performances in schools, libraries, and performance venues in Des Moines, Washington, Marshalltown,

Davenport, Dubuque, Iowa City, and Maquoketa.

Grant Wood Art Colony

The Colony congratulates the winners of the [Grant Wood Legacy Prize](#): Mia Ruther (Burlington), Noelle Hahn (Burlington), and Kate Goodvin (Iowa City). These three outstanding, high school visual artists were selected from a pool of nearly 700 entries for their demonstration of a Regional voice and skill. Judges reviewed entries from Iowa students in the media categories in which Grant Wood worked: jewelry, painting, drawing and illustration, printmaking, design, ceramics and glass, and mixed media.



Composite of the three winning works of art.

Grant Wood Legacy Prize winners and their educators will be recognized at the Annual Scholastic Art & Writing Awards celebration on March 11. Winners will receive a scholarship to the Belin-Blank National Scholars Institute Visual Arts Studio in the summer of 2017. [More information can be found on the Belin-Blank Center website.](#)



Professor Abdel-Malek will present The Virtual Soldier in April.

Hawkeye Lunch & Learn

Learn about the the [Virtual Soldier Research Program](#) from April's featured presenter, Karim Abdel-Malek, Senior Associate to the Provost, Director for the Center for Computer-Aided Design, and Professor of Biomedical Engineering. Santos® is a human simulator developed at the University of Iowa, which aids in the reduction of load for the U.S. Marines, tests new equipment for the U.S. Army, and helps design new vehicles for the auto manufacturing industry. Professor Abdel-Malek will discuss his experience working with Santos® on ongoing research. RSVP today!

Iowa City on Thursday, April 6: <https://bit.ly/abdelmalekIC>
Des Moines on Tuesday, April 11: <https://bit.ly/abdelmalekDSM>

View upcoming lectures at outreach.uiowa.edu/HawkeyeLL.
View the [2016-17 YouTube playlist](#) to watch past events online.

Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities (IISC)

"Community identity" emerges as a common theme as University of Iowa students work on IISC projects, particularly as they tailor their work to serve the needs of community partners. Common values, public spaces, natural features, arts and culture, business and industry, and demographics are characteristics that help define overarching identities that make each community unique.

IISC projects often begin with an analysis of available data that help establish a baseline for understanding community identity. Many student groups also reach out to residents who inherently know more about their community's identity than data might reveal. In Mason City, graduate students in the School of Urban & Regional Planning have asked [residents to share thoughts about what best defines their community](#), hoping to form a sustainable vision for the community built around top strengths and assets.



Civil and Environmental Engineering students, accompanied by faculty member Jacob Odgaard, met with officials from the City of Preston to discuss their Pocket Neighborhood design project.

Community identity also supports growth and development strategies by emphasizing competitive advantages. Students in the Tippie College of Business Marketing Institute have presented updated logos and taglines for the City of Maquoketa, designed to highlight the area's unique attractions. Peggy Stover, director of the Marketing Institute and IISC advisory board member, equates community identity and branding to traditional marketing principles; like a product, it offers a promise. Through IISC and UI outreach efforts, Iowa communities explore opportunities to refine and communicate their identity to a broad audience.

RC&D Partnership

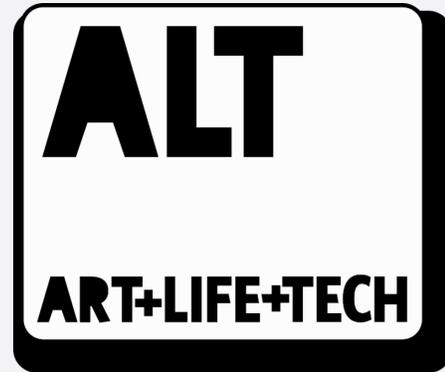


Civil and environmental engineering students, along with professor Paul Hanley and Golden Hills RC&D Executive Director Michelle Franks, survey an area for a new bridge as part of a trail development project.

The RC&D Partnership enjoyed a busy month of travel in February as students and faculty traversed the state for community partner visits. The longest trip this month involved students from civil and environmental engineering traveling to Glenwood, Iowa as part of a [trail development project](#) in collaboration with Golden Hills RC&D. Advised by professor Paul Hanley, students will be designing a new trail that will connect Glenwood with a larger regional trail system. Included in the trail design will be new bridges over nearby streams and a new trailhead that will welcome recreationalists to the new community. Students met with the Mills County Trails Board, surveyed the sites for the proposed trail location, and even visited an old bridge in rural Mills County that may be repurposed as part of the project.

Theme Semester

Our Lives Online is excited to partner with Mission Creek Festival's [Art + Life + Technology \(A+L+T\) series](#) on April 8. Through a series of presentations and community discussions, A+L+T seeks to inspire and build community creativity empowered and enabled by technology, display technology as means to creative ends, and build a broader community among art and tech cultures through inspiring content. Four presentations will be held April 8 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Iowa City Public Library. Join A+L+T for a kick-off discussion on Friday, April 7 with presenters Nick Scappaticci and Matt Arnold. [View event details](#). The events are free and open to the public.



Our Lives Online partners with Mission Creek Festival's A+L+T series for community discussions April 7-8.

University of Iowa students, faculty, and staff, and community members are encouraged to submit an idea for the spring 2019 Theme Semester. The proposal deadline is April 28. [Learn more about this opportunity](#).

For more information visit theme.uiowa.edu. Join the conversation online using #UITHEME.



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