



## Office of Outreach and Engagement

### Your monthly news & updates



**Join Us for Our Year-End Celebration April 25**  
Campus and community partners are encouraged to join us later this month when we celebrate the tremendous outreach and engagement work completed by faculty, staff, and students, and community partners during the 2018-2019 academic year. The Year-End Celebration will be Thursday, April 25, 5-6:30 pm, in Strauss Rehearsal Hall at Hancher Auditorium. We will display stories of success during the event,

showcasing the impact of the University of Iowa's engagement efforts in partnership with communities across Iowa. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

A short program will begin at 5:45 with remarks from UI administration followed by an awards presentation recognizing several individuals for excellence and service in community engagement. Be sure to add this [event](#) to your calendar!

Linda Snetselaar,  
Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement

### Student Work Makes its Way to the Iowa Legislature



For two years, University of Iowa students have been exploring the potential of land banks, which are legal entities that can stimulate redevelopment of blighted properties for affordable housing and economic development. This session, [Senate Study Bill 1247](#), was filed by Senator Michael Breitbach as an appropriations bill that could establish land banks as a tool in Iowa, making Iowa the 11th state to

do so. The efforts of our students and faculty, along with visionary community partners, exemplifies that great work being done through University of Iowa community engagement!

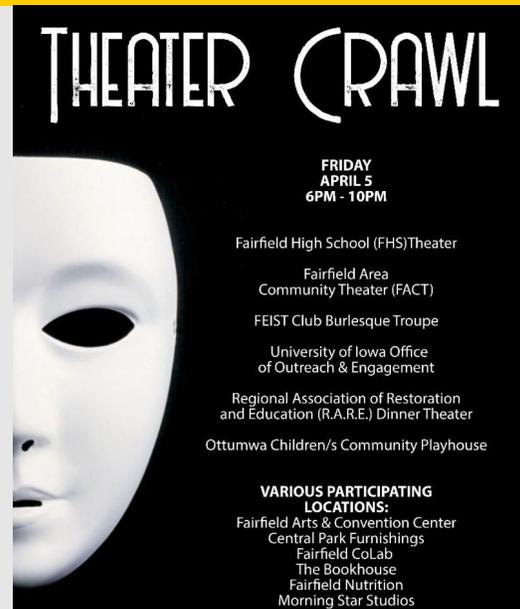
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## Upcoming Arts Activities

### Fairfield First Fridays Theater Crawl

The community of Fairfield will hold its first ever Theater Crawl on April 5 from 6-9 p.m. at a variety of Fairfield locations. Every half hour theater groups will perform a 10-12 minute vignette, and participants can stroll throughout downtown Fairfield to attend as many performances as they wish. UI student Sarah Weeks will be one of the presenters, with her play, *Every Seven Years*, performed by actors from the UI theatre department.

[This event](#) is a collaborative effort between Fairfield First Fridays, Pathfinders RC&D, Historic Hills Byway, and UI's Office of Outreach and Engagement.



**THEATER CRAWL**

FRIDAY  
APRIL 5  
6PM - 10PM

Fairfield High School (FHS) Theater  
Fairfield Area  
Community Theater (FACT)  
FEIST Club Burlesque Troupe  
University of Iowa Office  
of Outreach & Engagement  
Regional Association of Restoration  
and Education (R.A.R.E.) Dinner Theater  
Ottumwa Children's Community Playhouse

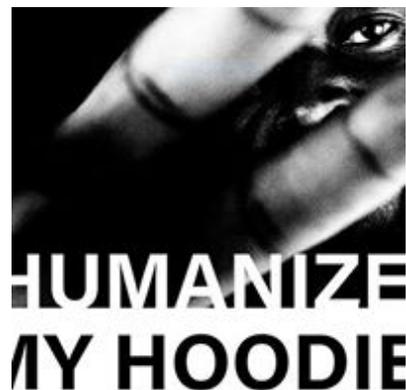
**VARIOUS PARTICIPATING  
LOCATIONS:**  
Fairfield Arts & Convention Center  
Central Park Furnishings  
Fairfield CoLab  
The Bookhouse  
Fairfield Nutrition  
Morning Star Studios

### Humanize My Hoodie

The Old Capitol Museum will be hosting an exhibit that strives to bring insight into the lives and experiences of black people and the societal biases they face. The exhibit, presented by UI alum Andre Wright, is called "Humanize My Hoodie." The exhibit will be open to the public April 2-25 and is co-sponsored by Pentacrest Museums, Stanley Museum of Art and the Office of Outreach & Engagement.

An opening event for the exhibit will be Friday, April 12, 2019, 4-6 pm. Co-creators Andre Wright and Jason Sole will give a brief talk about their project and their journey. The exhibit will be expanded from the gallery with extra pieces on display throughout the entire museum for that night only.

See our [Facebook event](#) for more details.



### Humanize My Hoodie: Opening Event

Art event in Iowa City, IA by The University of Iowa Pentacrest Museums and 9 others on Friday, April 12 2019 with 726 people interested and 92 people...

[Read more](#)  
[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

## Learn How it Happens: The Poetics of Hip-Hop



On April 16, Interdisciplinary Performance Fellow Brandon Alexander Williams will present, "Unlazy with Language: The Poetics of Hip-Hop" at 7:30 p.m. in 116 Art Building West.

Williams will analyze lyrics used in the art

of rapping and performance poetry. His lyrics will make your brain smile.

Born in Maywood and raised in Peoria, Illinois, Brandon Alexander Williams is a poet, MC and DJ. Williams is an alumnus of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale where he produced "The Yard: An A'Capella/Hip-Hop Musical." As an active MC and DJ, he has performed and taught throughout the country, produced eight albums, published two books, and given several guest lectures and keynotes centered around art-integrated education. Learn more on the [Stanley Museum of Art's website](#).



Grant Wood Fellow in Interdisciplinary Performance - Music, Brandon Alexander Williams

## Initiating IISC's Keokuk Partnership



The University of Iowa partnership with the southeast Iowa community of Keokuk started off with an eventful visit on March 26. Staff members from the Office of Outreach and Engagement toured the community with Shelley Oltmans and Kira Kruszynski of the Keokuk Chamber of Commerce. We presented information about the partnership and proposed projects to the local chapter of the Lion's Club, who provided great input about how the UI can support efforts to reach community goals. We also met with project leads, and local media outlets WGEM TV and Radio Keokuk covered the visit. Thanks to our new Keokuk partners for their hearty welcome! We're looking forward to a great partnership!

# Grand Wood Public Art Residency

Nine University of Iowa students opted for an alternative spring break to advance their careers; they were selected to be part of an inaugural Grant Wood Public Art Residency. Under the direction of faculty members Vero Rose Smith and Thomas Agran, the students discussed the politics of art in public spaces, dove into the nuances of materials and methods, explored six Cedar County communities, and toured the Stanley Museum of Art.

The week culminated with each student presenting their concepts to their colleagues and members of the public. These students will have the opportunity to put their lessons into practice when they complete murals in Cedar County this summer.

[READ MORE](#)



## ACTIVITIES & DEADLINES...

[Outreach and Engagement Grant Applications Open](#), April 1, for next academic year

["Humanize My Hoodie."](#) exhibit, daily April 2-25, Old Capitol Museum

**Fairfield First Fridays Theater Crawl**, Friday, April 5, 6-9 p.m, downtown Fairfield, IA

[CRUSH](#) discussion of opioid crisis in Iowa, Wednesday, April 10, 2-4 pm, Iowa Memorial Union (IMU) , 166

[Unlazy with The Language: Poetics of Hip-Hop](#) talk by Grant Wood Fellow Brandon Williams, Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 7:30-8:30 pm, Art Building West, 116

[2018-2019 Outreach and Engagement Year-End Celebration](#), Thursday, April 25, 5-6:30 pm, in Strauss Rehearsal Hall at Hancher Auditorium

[All "American Dream" Theme Semester April Events](#)

Provost's Office of Office of Outreach & Engagement | 319-335-0684 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

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