



Your monthly news & updates



Year-End Partnership Celebration

Wednesday, May 9 we look forward to hosting a year-end celebration with our campus and community partners. Interim Provost Sue Curry will join me to offer remarks. We will celebrate the culmination of Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities' (IISC) two-year partnerships with Mason City and East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA), highlight community-based learning projects occurring throughout Iowa, and announce recipients of the Outstanding Community Partner award, the Outstanding Community Engaged Faculty award, and Outstanding Community Engaged Student award. This is an opportunity for us to thank everyone who has worked on projects with the Office of Outreach & Engagement this year and to recognize the work being accomplished in communities across Iowa. We are excited to take this time to step back, celebrate, and enjoy a year that has been filled with projects and activities that make a difference for UI students, faculty, and Iowa communities.

Linda Snetselaar,
Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement



Grant Wood Art Colony Fellows' Performance and Upcoming Lecture

Grant Wood Fellow and Homunculus Mask Theater Artistic Director Joe Osheroff presented his original show, *Visual Mixtape* at the University of Iowa Theatre Building, April 6-8, to a packed theatre. "In many ways, the show is like a crazy, live music video. The masks and the characters that inhabit this special little world elevate the piece into a new form of theatre," Osheroff said about his ground-breaking exploration of masks in theatre.

The Grant Wood Art Colony hosts a theatre fellow once every three years. Grant Wood, the famed regionalist artist, made an early impact on community theatre in Cedar Rapids in 1925. Wood along with several friends produced *Cardboard Moon* in his studio, 5 Turner Alley. Thus, the "Little Theatre" movement began in Cedar Rapids and continued with performances in Wood's studio until the Community Players were organized four years later. Both Wood and Marvin Cone continued painting sets for the Community Players.



Join us tonight:

Grant Wood Fellow Brandon Coley Cox will present a talk: Process and Practice
Monday, April 9 at 7:30pm to 8:30pm
Art Building West, 240

Events, Activities, & Lectures



Dancers In Company performed at the Iowa City Public Library on March 31.



Families packed the library performance space.



Dancers In Company kicked off their tour season with an interactive family-friendly performance at the Iowa City Public Library. Their performance, *Collective Energies*, goes on tour this month to locations outside of Iowa City. They began in Davenport with a workshop for students from the Creative Arts Academy and a performance at the Figue Art Museum. Subsequent performances will take place in Marshalltown and Chicago.

Bringing Students to Campus

Four hundred high school students from DeWitt, Donnellson, and Iowa City will attend the UI's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on April 27 on the UI campus. Bettendorf Middle School students have been working with UI's Department of Cinematic Arts on a movie trailer project, with the support of Arts Share. UI cinema students traveled to Bettendorf to work with the students on their movie trailers and will critique and judge the students' final projects. UI will then host the students on campus, where they will tour the department, sit in on a class, and have lunch with UI students.



Children attended Jaquelyn Dale Whitman's *Plasticity* exhibit on Family Day and explored the exhibition space, learned about marine invertebrates and recycling, and made a collaborative artwork that will become a part of the exhibit.

Theme Semester's packed calendar has 24 events in April. Highlights include:



April 17 - [Climate Change: Keeping the Earth Green, Clean, and](#)

[Habitable](#): As the Chief Scientist for NASA, Ellen Stofan

helped demolish barriers for women in science while working at the very frontiers of tech. In talks, she argues for greater diversity in the STEM fields, demonstrates why space exploration is crucial for innovation, and shows why studying our nearby planets is key to combating climate change here on Earth. Join Ellen Stofan's FREE lecture April 17, 2018 at 7:30 pm in the Englert Theatre.



The Hawkeye Lunch & Learn program began the year with two outstanding presentations from H.S. Udaykumar, professor of mechanical engineering, and Vincent Rodgers, professor of physics and astronomy. In April, the Hawkeye Lunch & Learn series welcomes special guest Christopher Merrill, director of the International Writing Program, as he discusses his many years of service to the University of Iowa.



RSVP Iowa City: Thursday, April 12, Noon, IMU room 348.

RSVP Des Moines: Tuesday, April 17, Noon, John and Mary Pappajohn Education Center, Room 201, 1200 Grand Ave.

May 3 & 8, Teresa Mangum, Professor & Director Obermann Center for Advanced Studies

Visit our [website](#) for more details.

RSVP Today!

April 22 - [Special Edition of The Green Room: Prompt for the Planet](#): Keynote:

Avery Bang, CEO of Bridges to Prosperity. Also, music by soprano Jessica Pray, a special piece by Amanda Gorman, the first-ever Youth Poet Laureate of the United States of America, sculptures by students from the University of Iowa School of Art & Art History, and much, much more. [Act One](#) begins at MERGE, 136 S Dubuque St, downtown Iowa City at 1 pm. [Act Two](#) starts at 3 pm at the Englert Theater.

April 25 - [WorldCanvass: Climate Science and the Environment—What's](#)

[Next?](#) UI faculty members Greg Carmichael, Gabriele Villarini, Craig Just, Larry Weber, Jerry Anthony, Tyler Priest, and Jerald Schnoor—all recognized leaders in their fields—will share current research and discuss policy approaches to environmental challenges in the U.S. and globally. Free and open to the public with a pre-show catered reception from 5-5:30 pm at MERGE, 136 S Dubuque St, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.



Student Projects Make a Positive Impact in Communities Across Iowa

During the Hawkeye Caucus event at the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines on March 27, dozens of UI programs and departments were showcased, including the Office of Outreach and Engagement. Three University of Iowa students joined us at the capitol - planning student Ahnna Nanoski and College of Law students Brandon Pezley and Evan McCarthy - meeting with state

legislators and other officials about their engagement work in Iowa communities. Students working with our office often produce work that has relevance for the entire state. Although IISC projects are designed to meet the needs of a specific partnering community, we also strive to create deliverables that can be replicated by other Iowa communities.

One such project happening now involves building a strategy to decrease blighted properties and increase affordable housing in Eastern Iowa, with a team of three

law students working on behalf of ECIA in the UI College of Law's Clinical Law Program. The law students will explore land banking as a development tool new to Iowa, helping their client at ECIA understand best practices of existing land banks, if new legislation would be necessary in Iowa, and what that legislation would look like, as well as understanding other tools and advocacy strategies that could help ECIA accomplish the same goals without new legislation. Ultimately, their findings can help communities across the state dealing with similar issues of affordable housing. [Learn More](#)



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