



Office of
**Outreach &
Engagement**

SEPTEMBER 2017



Linda Snetselaar, Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement

Partnership Highlights

As the university campus quiets down during the summer, the Office of Outreach & Engagement spends June, July, and August traveling the state to visit community partners and learn about new opportunities for collaboration. This summer was no exception, as staff traveled to communities including Belle Plaine, Keosauqua, Manning, Maquoketa, and Mason City. Most, if not all, of our staff will tell you this is their favorite part of the job; listening to communities tell us their stories and

learning about ways the University of Iowa can partner to enhance the quality of life in Iowa's communities.

We are excited with the start of the fall semester and the new projects and initiatives that are already underway. I encourage you to visit our website at outreach.uiowa.edu or follow us on social media to learn about the important community engagement work occurring at Iowa. We also welcome a new staff member to Outreach & Engagement, Jordan Brown. Jordan is our new Program Coordinator for Theme Semester, the Green Room, Hawkeye Lunch & Learns, and Speakers Bureau. Jordan and all of our staff look forward to working with campus and community partners to ensure we continue to create meaningful, mutually beneficial partnerships this year.

Stay connected with us on social media! You can [like us](#) on Facebook, [follow us](#) on Twitter, and [view us](#) on Instagram.

PROGRAM UPDATES



In celebration of Juneteenth, Arts Share sponsored performances of *Cross-Examined*, a new play by Arts Share artist Margot Connolly based on research by UI Professor Leslie Schwalm. The play tells the true story of two African American mothers who took their cases to integrate Keokuk schools to the Iowa Supreme Court. The play was performed at both the Coralville and Keokuk public libraries by UI theatre graduate students. It will be performed for the YesterBoone festival in Boone, Iowa, on September 30, and additional performances are currently being scheduled.

UI MFA student Ali Hval, assisted by Marina

Ross, designed and painted a mural in downtown Clinton as a first step in the community's revitalization efforts. The project was sponsored by UI's Office of Outreach & Engagement in collaboration with the Downtown Clinton Alliance. Clinton is part of the East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA), which is partnering with UI's Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities.



Staff from UI's Office of Outreach & Engagement and city officials from Clinton participate in the mural ribbon cutting with artists Ali Hval and Marina Ross.

The Grant Wood Art Colony announces the recipients of the 2017-18 Grant Wood Fellowship. Each year, three fellows are selected from an international search to become artists-in-residence and visiting assistant professors at the University of Iowa. Through a competitive process, the following talented artists have joined the university faculty: [Joe Osheroff](#) (Interdisciplinary Performance-Theater), [Joe DeVera](#) (Painting & Drawing), and [Brandon Coley Cox](#) (Printmaking). The university also welcomes three former Fellows back to campus as assistant professors. Terry Conrad (Grant Wood Fellow 2015-16) has joined Printmaking; Tameka J. Norris (Grant Wood Fellow 2016-17) has joined Painting & Drawing; and Christopher-Rasheem McMillan (Grant Wood Fellow 2016-17) received a joint appointment in Dance and Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies.



The Hawkeye Lunch & Learn lecture series kicks off the fall semester line-up this month. This semester will highlight the diverse work of yet another group of passionate experts through monthly lectures held in both Des Moines and Iowa City. The lecture series aims to bring the University of Iowa out into communities, with faculty, staff, and alumni presenting their areas of expertise to Iowa citizens over the noon hour.

Learn more at outreach.uiowa.edu/HLL and RSVP today!



Dean Lyn Redington presented on life lessons from Iowa students in December 2016.

During the summer break, when activity around campus seems to slow down a bit, Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities shifts gears from collaborating with students and faculty on community-based projects to two primary objectives: enhancing our relationships with community partners across Iowa and developing a new list of projects for the upcoming year. In June, all final deliverables from the 2016-17 academic year were shared with partnering communities and published on the IISC website, reflecting roughly 20,000 student hours of hard-work, creativity, collaboration, research, and public engagement. Community-based projects continued over the summer with the installation of murals in Clinton and Mason City by MFA student Ali Hval. For the 2017-18 academic year, IISC has extended our partnerships with Mason City and ECIA, with a new round of projects already off to a great start. Follow us on social media for updates and information about current projects that enhance learning for University of Iowa students and help Iowa communities reach economic, social, and environmental sustainability goals. [Visit the IISC website](#) to view all the 2016-17 final deliverables.



Summertime is grant-writing time for the RC&D Partnership, and this summer the Partnership submitted two federal grant applications and partnered on a



third. One grant is a re-submission of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) public health project that seeks to work with minority school children across Iowa to improve healthy eating habits. This project is statewide and includes hundreds of children from school districts ranging in size from the Des Moines Public School District to rural Iowa districts. It includes junior and mid-career faculty from four colleges. The second application submitted this summer is for a US Department of Agriculture Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) grant that aims to enhance community engagement and deliberative dialogue in rural community and economic development efforts. The project will be piloted in eastern Iowa in collaboration with Northeast Iowa RC&D, Iowa Valley RC&D, and Pathfinders RC&D, and Professor David Supp-Montgomerie in the Department of Mass Communications, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Finally, the Office of Outreach & Engagement was pleased to partner with Prairie Rivers of Iowa RC&D on an ArtPlace America grant that has reached the final round of funding. This grant seeks to integrate creative placemaking into the Lincoln Highway Heritage Byway by restoring old gas stations, integrating renewable energy into the stations, and installing interpretative panels and public art.

Planning for the spring 2018 theme, **Climate for Change**, saw lots of progress this the summer. The Theme Semester Planning Committee created seven areas to pursue: speakers, fieldwork, tours, curricular initiatives, campus/city-wide initiatives, arts and sustainability, and environmental justice. From there, sub-committees were formed, and a series of programs, activities, and events brainstormed and prioritized. Timelines are now being created for each venture, with the goal of laying the groundwork in the fall, in order to activate the campus and state toward meaningful change in the spring.



Learn more about the 2018 Climate for Change theme at theme.uiowa.edu.

IN OTHER NEWS



The Green Room is a University of Iowa honors course that combines experiential learning with community engagement to explore a new pedagogy in higher education. The first public Green Room class took place on August 28th, at the Englert Theatre, and attracted 478 people, including students and residents. The class meets every Monday night through October 16th.

The Green Room is sponsored by the Office of Outreach & Engagement.

OFFICE OF OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT GRANTS

The Office of Outreach & Engagement awarded the Fall 2017 Cycle of the Community Impact Grants and Micro Grants to the following:

- Community Impact: Kate Gfeller, School of Music; Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders/CLAS; Engagement of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Stakeholders in the Development of a Web-Based Resource for Complex Listening; \$10,000
- Community Impact: Carol Ives, School of Library and Information Science/Graduate College; Kalona Community Heritage Project; \$10,000
- Community Impact: Kathrina Litchfield, Language, Literacy, & Culture/College of Education; The UI Speaker Series at Oakdale; \$10,000
- Micro: Cardyn Colvin, Department of Teaching and Learning/College of Education; International Association for Research in Service Learning and Community Engagement Conference; \$1,000

- Micro: Dr. Jill K. Smith, Tippie College of Business Management & Organization; 2017 Grant Professionals Association (GPA) Annual Conference; \$1,057



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