

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA  Office of
Outreach & Engagement

NOVEMBER 2017



Linda Snetselaar, Associate Provost for Outreach and Engagement

Partnership Highlights

The Office of Outreach & Engagement has enjoyed a strong partnership with the community of Maquoketa for many years. OO&E programs Arts Share and the Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities have completed several projects in the community, including a "Layers of Maquoketa" community asset mapping initiative and a marketing and re-branding project for the Maquoketa Chamber of Commerce. On October 9, OO&E welcomed members of the Maquoketa

community to campus for the final Green Room presentation of the semester, a talk featuring storyteller Peter Aguero. Maquoketa seeks to integrate storytelling into their community development efforts, and this event was a great opportunity for our community partners to experience storytelling firsthand and connect with OO&E staff and campus partners.

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.

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 hosted the annual UI Theatre Workshop and Performance Day with high school students from around the state attending. Students participated in workshops that included acting, improvisation, design, and playwriting before watching the UI's production of *The Crucible*. Students from the following Iowa communities were in attendance: Eldridge, Keota, Preston, DeWitt, West Branch, Clear Lake, Donnellson, Seymore, Iowa City, and Marengo.

Arts Share worked with the International Writing Program to



UI Actors perform *The Crucible* for Iowa high school students. Photo credit: Lisa Bergmann-Smithey

schedule readings and workshops for the writers. An event at the Figge Museum in Davenport featured readings by IWP writers, as well as a multi-media performance with Esther Dischereit from IWP, Holly Handman-Lopez (Oberlin dance faculty), and UI graduate student musicians.



Grant Wood at the University of Iowa. Photo courtesy of the Figge Art Museum Grant Wood Archive, Scrapbook #8.

The Grant Wood Art Colony will hold a staged reading of an excerpt from the [original docudrama, *The Wood Problem*, on Thursday, November 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art](#). This presentation is part of a joint celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Iowa Arts Council and 160th anniversary of the State Historical Society of Iowa. Iowa Playwrights Workshop's Scott Bradley will direct eight current Theatre MFA students in the production. The panel discussion to follow the performance includes Bradley, University of Iowa Art History Professor Joni Kinsey, and Grant Wood Art Colony founder Jim Hayes. In the docudrama's creation, Bradley used archival research about Iowa's most famous artist, Grant Wood, to create a new work of art.



The Hawkeye Lunch & Learn continues the wonderful line up of speakers. Most recently, Dan Matheson, Director of the Sports and Recreation Management Program, presented in both Iowa City and Des Moines.

The Lunch & Learn series has more fantastic speakers throughout the rest of the year. Learn more at outreach.uiowa.edu/HLL and RSVP today!



Dan Matheson presents *The Classroom as a Practice Field* to the Hawkeye Lunch & Learn audience in Des Moines.

Many student groups hit the road in the month of October to engage residents and gain more insight about



Graduate students in Urban & Regional Planning and Public Health engage Mason City residents in a unique progressive dinner event.



challenges, opportunities, and aspirations in our partnering communities. Having started the engaged-learning projects with data analysis and collaboration with local project leaders, reaching out to the public provides a deeper understanding of how best to serve these communities. Focus groups in Jackson County, photographing locals in Mason City, eight public planning meetings in Cedar County, and [a progressive dinner in Mason City's North End Neighborhood](#) are some of the ways that UI students have interacted with hundreds of Iowa citizens over the last month. The students' efforts have drawn the interest of the media, with considerable coverage about how the IISC partnerships are bringing residents together to build a more sustainable future in their communities.

Office of Outreach & Engagement staff enjoyed an evening of good food and community at the 10th Annual Iowa Valley RC&D Local Foods Banquet on November 3 at Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids. The



banquet highlights Iowa Valley RC&D's leadership in strengthening the food system of eastern Iowa and celebrated Iowa's local food and farmers.

Mercy Medical Center chef, Jason Finney, and Mercy Medical Center staff prepared the meal for the evening, showcasing Mercy's commitment to integrating local foods into their hospital

operations. The Office of Outreach & Engagement continues to partner with Iowa Valley and other RC&Ds on local foods initiatives across the state of Iowa.



Iowa Valley RC&D Executive Director, Jessica Rilling, and OO&E Director of Community Development and Outreach, Nick Benson, at the Iowa Valley RC&D Local Foods Banquet.

The Climate for Change Theme Semester event calendar is taking shape. Tentatively, beginning in mid-January, the Theme Semester calendar will include activities such as a kick-off event, a campus-wide sustainability teach-in, Darwin Day events, lectures, presentations, tours, and more. Stay tuned for more information!



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