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## Office of Community Engagement Newsletter, October 2022

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# Office of Community Engagement Monthly Newsletter

**October 2022**

**In this edition:**

- UNI Engaged: Forgiveness Education Program
- Faculty Development
- Podcast
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Celebration
- Get Connected
- Events
- In Other News

## **UNI Engaged: Stories of Impact**

Dr. Suzanne Freedman has been teaching fifth grade students at Lou Henry Elementary School about forgiveness. Dr. Freedman developed her own curriculum for this program, *The Courage to Forgive: Educating Elementary School Children About Forgiveness*. The goal behind this program is that students show more kindness to others, and be less likely

to take out their anger and hurt in a violent or aggressive way as a result of their learning about forgiveness and related values. Many of the students reported the value of learning more about anger. They learned about how it is not a bad thing to express anger, but that it is in fact normal and natural. Students also benefited by learning how to express anger in a healthy way. To learn more about Dr. Freedman's Forgiveness Education Program, read our full article on the Office of Community Engagement's [website](#).



## Faculty Development

Campus Compact is hosting two workshops available to UNI faculty/staff:

- **Creating Space for Democracy: Methods for Promoting Civil Discourse in Higher Education.** Oct. 12th, 1 - 2:30 p.m.
- **Engaging Community Partners as Co-Educators, Comrades, and Co-Conspirators.** Nov. 9th 2 - 3:30 p.m.

In addition you can find resources and opportunities to dig deeper into key issues in equity-centered, civic, and community-engaged teaching, learning, and research. Learn more and register for workshops at:

[Faculty Development | Campus Compact](#)

## UNI Engaged Podcast

The Office of Community Engagement is excited to share the next installment of the UNI Engaged podcast. This episode features Dr. Thomas Larsen's environmental geography class and their work in creating a GIS map of Hartman Reserve. This mapping helps to showcase the effects of climate change on Hartman Reserve utilizing historical and current data and mapping. This month's episode "UNI Engaged: The Integrity of Our Climate" can be found on [Spotify](#). Follow us on social media for the release of additional episodes.

## Volunteer Opportunities

The Walnut Neighborhood needs volunteers to help plant 73 trees. Volunteers are needed to assist with digging holes, planting trees, and filling in dirt, etc.

- When: Thursday, October 20, 2022
  - Morning Shift: 8:30-11:45 a.m. Lunch provided from 11:45-12:45
  - Afternoon Shift: 12:45-4:00 p.m. Lunch provided from 11:45-12:45
- Where: Park cars at 715 E. 4th St., Harvest Vineyard Church. Park in the NORTH parking lot. Meet inside the church
- What to bring: Work gloves and a shovel if you have one.

Sign Up/Contact: Register at this [link](#). Questions, contact Laura Hoy at [lhoy@linkccd.org](mailto:lhoy@linkccd.org) or 319-269-7534.

**The Rotary Club of the Cedar Valley** is helping to host "A Run to Remember" 5K in downtown Waterloo on October 8th honoring Kevin Dill, former Director of Black Hawk County's Veterans Affairs. The run will benefit Dementia Friendly Cedar Valley, as well as local veterans. To volunteer, sign up [here](#).

## Celebrate

Green Iowa AmeriCorps, a State/National AmeriCorps program operating out of the University of Northern Iowa's Center for Energy and Environmental Education has received the 2022 National Outstanding Service Program Award! This award was received

from America's Service Commission and is a national award that considered programs throughout the country. Congratulations to Ashley Coffin, CNP, Green Iowa AmeriCorps Program Director and her team! If you want to learn more about Green Iowa AmeriCorps and their work visit their website [here](#).

## Get Connected

**Board Match Program-** Are you interested in learning what it means to serve as a board of director for a local organization and potentially being matched with an organization to serve? UNI Office of Community Engagement in partnership with the Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley can assist faculty, staff and students in finding a nonprofit organization for which to serve on their board of directors. For more information visit the [Office of Community Engagement website](#).

**Panther Experience-** Volunteer opportunities geared towards UNI students will now be featured in the weekly Panther Experience newsletter linking to the Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley website. The Panther Experience is a weekly newsletter all UNI students receive regarding experiences and opportunities throughout campus and the Cedar Valley. To view these opportunities visit the Volunteer Center of Cedar Valley's Panther Experience [page](#).

## Events

**Civic Action Academy** - November 11-12th, in Des Moines. This unique professional development opportunity will bring students from Iowa and Minnesota together to learn new ways of making a difference and building skills through civic and community engagement. Please share this opportunity with your students. UNI's Office of Community Engagement is sponsoring limited student attendance at this event. To register students visit this [link](#) and use the code GoPanthers. Registration is limited. The Office of Community Engagement will provide transportation coordination and support for all UNI registered students.

For more information on events, visit the [Community Engagement Website!](#)

## In Other News

Building a Better Iowa Podcast is produced by Business and Community Services (BCS) at the University of Northern Iowa. [Listen to their podcast](#) to learn more about their 13

unique outreach programs and their impact across the state of Iowa.

Read AACU's 2022 report on "**The Effects of Community-Based Engagement in Higher Education**"

### Office of Community Engagement

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