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Community Engagement Newsletter, March 2023

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**University of
Northern Iowa.**

Community
Engagement

Newsletter: March 2023

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Engaged UNI: Veggie Vouchers



**“Partnership with the community
provides real world learning
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engagement and relationship building
that will build students well-being,
achievement and connection.”**

Laykin Barrett

“Partnership with the community provides real world learning opportunities as well as meaningful engagement and relationship building that will build students well-being, achievement and connection.” says Laykin Barrett

[To read the rest of this story and view other UNI Engaged stories click here!](#)

Service-Learning

Service-Learning Institute (SLI)

Service-Learning is a high-impact practice that enhances student learning while contributing to the community. Please apply for this summer’s SLI if you:

- Have a project idea but not sure who would be the best partner;
- Have a partner in mind (community organization, small business, nonprofit) but not sure about a project;
- Have heard service-learning is a high impact practice that helps students learn and retain information, but not sure how to get started?

The SLI is May 22-24. Applications are due Friday, March 31st. Participants receive a stipend. Easy application process. **Space is limited, apply early.** [Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

Service-Learning Course Designation

If you are teaching a course with a community-engaged project, please apply to have the course designated as Service-Learning:

- The process assures best practices for service-learning;
- Students can identify which courses include a community project;
- You *won’t need to report* this in the Community Engagement Database

UNI is a Carnegie Classified Institution for Community Engagement and to uphold this classification we must demonstrate course based service-learning (we are preparing for re-classification).

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, however if you want your course designated for fall 2023, apply soon. [Click here to apply](#).

Faculty/Staff Engagement

Symposium on Anti-Racist Community Engagement

This event will occur physically at UMass Dartmouth and virtually throughout the world. Featuring panels and workshops led by authors from a forthcoming book on Anti-Racist Community Engagement to be published by Campus Compact in Summer 2023, and members of the New England Equity and Engagement Consortium on civic learning outcomes grounded in racial equity.

Date/time: March 31st, 10:00am - 3:00pm CST [REGISTER →](#)

NEW Arts Integration Learning Opportunity

Waterloo Schools are preparing to celebrate their 20th Anniversary of Partnerships in Education with the Kennedy Center and the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. To celebrate, they are excited to provide a new learning opportunity: [“Arts Integration: Building Awareness through Community Partnerships.”](#) This workshop on Saturday, March 25th, will provide participants with an opportunity to engage in learning around arts integration with artists such as [Quynn Johnson](#), [Christina Farrell](#), and [Akwi Nji](#).

In-Service educators and Pre-Service educators, to learn more and register, [click here](#).

Advising Corner: Info to Share With Students

Certified Nonprofit Professional (CNP) Credential at UNI

As a Campus Partner with the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, UNI offers a preferred track to prepare students for the Certified Nonprofit Professional (CNP) Credential. The CNP Credential is the only national nonprofit credential preparing students for leadership and service in the nonprofit sector. At the University of Northern Iowa students can choose to earn their CNP Credential through two pathways ([detailed at this link](#)). If you would like to earn your CNP at UNI please contact: Kristina Kofoot at kristina.kofoot@uni.edu or call (319) 273-4507.

Volunteer Iowa: Disaster Training

This two-part series is hosted by Volunteer Iowa's Disaster Program Officer, Michael Rojas. Disasters will continue to occur and citizens need to be prepared. Rojas will outline how to:

- Prepare for disasters;
- Develop contingency plans;
- Take a leadership role in helping communities during times of disaster.

Disaster management is becoming an in-demand field and Volunteer Iowa is looked upon as a leader during times of Disaster. Participants will also learn how to make disaster management a career. Attend and get started in building a more resilient Iowa.

All are welcome to attend - Tuesday April 4th & Thursday April 6th, 11:00-12:15, WRC 155. [Register here](#).

Awards/Nominations

Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact Engaged Campus Awards



UNI is a member campus and is invited to nominate an awardee in the following three categories: Alumni Leadership, Community Collaboration, and Emerging Innovation. The deadline for award submissions is Monday, March 13. Please send any suggestions for nominations to Kristina Kofoot via email. kristina.kofoot@uni.edu. [Nomination criteria can be found here.](#)

Cedar Valley Nonprofit Awards

Cedar Valley Nonprofit Awards Nominations are now open! Nominations are **due March 8th** to kristina.kofoot@uni.edu. Event information can be found on the nomination form. Award categories include:

- Board member of the year
- Business Partner of the Year
- Exceptional Nonprofit of the Year
- Keri Kulish Award for Collaboration
- New Nonprofit Employee of the Year
- Nonprofit Staff Leader of the Year
- Gordon Mack Legacy Award
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Please consider submitting a nomination today! If you have any questions or need assistance with your nomination please call (319) 273-4507.

[Award Nomination Form](#)



UNI Engaged Podcast: Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL)

This episode of the UNI Engaged Podcast features the Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) program at UNI. Find out how students work with individuals at the YWCA in Waterloo to help teach English to second language learners. These individuals are often migrants, immigrants and refugees from around the world. This month's episode "UNI Engaged: Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL)" can be found on [Spotify](#). Follow us on social media for the release of additional episodes.

Events

INSPIRE Conference

The INSPIRE Student Research and Engagement Conference is for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research projects and volunteer/internship experiences and club activities to the campus community. The conference is sponsored by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa and the Graduate College. [For more information click here.](#)

When: Monday, April 3rd-Tuesday, April 4th

Community Engagement Celebration Day

Many UNI faculty, staff, and students are involved in community engagement work through courses, research, student organizations and professional service. Community Engagement Celebration Day gives everyone an opportunity to showcase their community engagement work. Veridian Credit Union sponsors **\$200 each to projects in 8 categories**.

When: Friday, April 28th

Where: Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center Lobby

Time: 9:00-11:30 am

[Learn more about the project categories and event details.](#)

Register your project: [Click here](#)

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

In Other News

NCCE Releases Five Civic and Community Engagement Benefits Topical Briefs

As part of the Contributions of Civic and Community Engagement in Higher Education Series, North Carolina Campus Engagement just released five [Civic and Community Engagement Benefits Topical Briefs](#). These briefs make the case for the benefits and value of higher education civic and community engagement (CCE) in these areas: Civic Learning, Empathy, Faculty Flourishing, Student Success, and Sustainability and Sense of Place.

Office of Community Engagement

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