



# fostering the work of University artists and scholars in public life



**IP**  
Illinois Program  
for Research  
in the Humanities

## Imagining America

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
8 – 10 November 2003



# Allerton Park

## Goals

Allerton Park and Conference Center serves as an evolving example of the bridge between human enterprise and the natural environment. With its confluence of formal gardens, 19<sup>th</sup> Century buildings, farms and a nature preserve, Allerton is a place where the public, conferees, and members of the University community can explore and engage this environment for personal growth, enjoyment, learning, research, and discovery. As a site for hands-on educational experiences in the arts, horticulture, environmental studies and agro-ecology the park and conference center provide naturally beautiful settings for strategic planning and educational retreats. Garden spaces offer venues for music, performance and cultural experiences as well as training grounds where amateur and professional horticulturalists can experiment with the art and science of design. Twenty miles of hiking trails make the park's beauty accessible to the general public while youth and adult classes encourage appreciation of the natural world.

## Overview

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Robert Allerton built one of the largest and most impressive estates in the Midwest by combining grand buildings, classical gardens, outdoor sculpture and natural habitats. The estate was given to the University of Illinois as a site for continuing study and as a public park. For centuries, the way people relate to their natural environment has affected the evolution of human social and cultural values. A large area of the park represents an undisturbed example of the original Illinois stream valley ecosystem while the park also contains prairie and riparian habitats. The National Park Service designated Allerton a National Natural Landmark in 1970 thereby recognizing it as a vital example of our nation's natural landscape.

## Partners

Collaborative partnerships between academic, community, state and professional groups develop programs that promote discovery, interpretation and expression of the natural world and its interface with human culture. The Illinois State University's Biological Science Department, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the Illinois Natural History Survey are all conducting research within the park grounds. The Heart of Sangamon River Ecosystem Partnership, with representatives from government agencies, nature groups, and private landowners explore water quality issues, watershed protection and aquatic habitat in cooperation with Allerton Park.

## Highlights

The Community String Symposium, hosted by the School of Music, conducts master classes for musicians of all ages. The University of Illinois College of Education sponsors Engaging Children's Minds, an interactive workshop for teachers to assist in developing creative and effective teaching methods. Summer environmental camps for pre-kindergarten to high school students actively demonstrate the interactions between humans and their environment.

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# American Indians of Illinois Online

## Goals

The American Indians of Illinois Online Project provides students, educators and the general public with reliable and accurate resources about American Indian peoples of Illinois, past and present. We assist users in developing a critical perspective on the assumptions that underlie much of the existing literature on Native American peoples. The project prepares current and future citizens of Illinois to live in a vibrant multiracial American society that includes the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of American Indian peoples.

## Overview

Our website features a virtual course for off-campus students, sample lessons for teachers, visual aids, timelines, discussions of issues and special topics, and links to external resources. Through the website we seek to disseminate the expert knowledge of the University of Illinois faculty in the areas of archaeology, history, contemporary cultural issues, arts, and education.

## Partners

The project's partners include faculty and researchers from many University departments as well as community partners such as the American Indian Center of Chicago. The Peoria, Miami, Kickapoo, Sac and Fox, and Potawatomi Tribes of Oklahoma are also providing input and collaborating on the project.

## Highlights

We continue to develop the website in order to meet the needs of students of all ages effectively. One of the highlights of this new project was the chance for two Native American high school students from the area to work as interns to assist in the website's development.

## For More Information

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# Arts in a Technology-Intensive World

## Goals

The Arts in a Technology-Intensive World Initiative invites participants from across the campus and the community to join us in a wide ranging exploration of the intersection of art and technology. We encourage scholarship and critical thinking and foster research in the creation and the experience of the arts. Through our work we hope to create new kinds of art and new ways of experiencing the arts.

## Overview

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, with its unique cluster of major arts and technology assets, is strongly positioned to embrace this timely, bold, comprehensive, and flexible initiative of national and international significance. The burgeoning internet, which can transmute poetry, art, music, and theater into personal, cultural, social, and scientific experiences without geographical or political boundaries, is already linking up with other technologies which have profound artistic possibilities: telepresence, Smart technologies, and high resolution mass-data visualization. This is an extraordinary moment, rich with potential for the creation of new human experience through the arts. We seek to create an environment in which researchers in the humanities might collaborate with artists and scientists in new ways to examine such critical issues as public cultural policy, artistic diversity, access, community-building, cultural appropriation, and exploitation.

## Partners

The Arts in a Technology Intensive World Initiative works in partnership with a vast array of campus units including: the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, the Krannert Art Museum, the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, the University Library, WILL AM-FM-TV, and the Spurlock Museum.

## Highlights

The Experimental Technologies Group pioneers the visualization of phenomena including colliding galaxies and complex global weather patterns. We support the Digital + Design Rehearsal Studio, a project of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, which unites researchers from diverse areas such as urban and regional planning, architecture, music, dance and art. The Digital Library Testbed for Endangered Cultural Knowledge is establishing an international digital library to address the alarming rate and scale at which cultural knowledge is being lost in today's globalizing world. We are particularly excited about VirtualMusic, which extends the notions of music performance and composition through the VirtualEnsemble.

## For More Information

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Cross Campus Initiative: Arts in a Technology Intensive World  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

[www.uiuc.edu/initiatives/artsintech.html](http://www.uiuc.edu/initiatives/artsintech.html)  
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# Center on Democracy in a Multiracial Society

## Goals

The Center on Democracy in a Multiracial Society calls for examining both political institutions and the implications of living and working together in a multiracial society. The Center believes that universities have an obligation to consider the vexed but potentially promising relationships between the multiracial and democratic, on campuses and beyond. Our major analytical focus is on the racially and ethnically diverse populations in the United States, as well as their divisions along lines of gender, class, age, sexuality, disability, religion, and citizenship status.

## Overview

The Center is a unique research institute organized around a commitment to the practice of democracy and equality within a changing multiracial society. Everyday life constitutes one site for analyzing how democracy is experienced and expressed in mass and popular culture, religion, the workplace, neighborhoods, and other locations. The role of public education, especially as reflected in issues such as access, curriculum, and public policy, is another area for study. Law and citizenship comprises yet another area of inquiry into the inter-relationships of society, nation-states, communities, and individuals that affect experiences of individual rights and citizenship. Studies of how media and technology continue to impact questions of equality are a further means of developing a broader understanding of democracy.

## Partners

The Center on Democracy in a Multiracial Society works in conjunction with a variety of university based groups including: the African-American Cultural Program, the Department of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, the Asian American Studies Program, the College of Education, the departments of English and History, the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, the Jewish Studies Program, the John Henry Newman Institute of Catholic Thought, the Latina/o Studies Program, and the Women's Studies Program. Together, we seek to nurture ties beyond the university and uncover ways productive multiracial experiences occur in workplaces, schools, unions, and families. The Center and its partners consider scholarship rooted in nearby communities a major part of the mission of a land grant university.

## Highlights

The Center sponsors lectures and provides a forum for practical group discussion. We have recently issued a call for fellowship proposals in order to continue our mission.

## For More Information

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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# Department of Dance: Creative Dance for Children and Expression in Motion

## Goals

The Department of Dance's Expression in Motion and Creative Dance for Children programs inspire young viewers of dance to perceive physicality and creative vocal expression as something to be appreciated and enjoyed. The program develops physical skills and social confidence while exposing youth to the art of dance, seeking to foster a life long appreciation for the art of dance and related artistic endeavor.

## Overview

Expression in Motion combines lectures and demonstrations to teach children about expression through the body and voice. Using the creative structure and physicality of contemporary dance, along with elements of acting and the spoken word, the program teaches children about the audience experience while also encouraging them to take a more active role in the arts. The Creative Dance for Children program has been restored under the leadership of Kate Kuper after a hiatus of many years. The program benefits not only the children enrolled but also the university students who are offered practical experience in teaching dance.

## Partners

The Department of Dance sponsors the Expression in Motion and Creative Dance for Children programs. The department's faculty and students work together in sharing the joys of dance with children in the local community and who contribute original choreography and spoken word elements.

## Highlights

The 30 – 45 minute Expression in Motion program is ideal for elementary school students in grades three – five, but can be adapted for different age groups. The group looks forward to its six scheduled performances for elementary schools in the spring. The Department of Dance offers Creative Dance for Children classes for children ages four – five and six – seven. The classes introduce concepts of dance and dance making through music, poems, words, props, and stories.

## For More Information

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# Department of Theatre: Summerfest

## Goals

Summerfest seeks to provide the University of Illinois and Champaign-Urbana community with the opportunity to enjoy high quality theatre during the summer months. Area high school students and college freshmen can become involved with a semi-professional company and learn from experienced theatre practitioners. The program offers Department of Theatre students the opportunity to work on material similar to that presented by the commercial theatre, the chance to work in a rolling repertory situation, and the prospect of working with experienced actors, designers and technicians as well as directors who work in the professional theatre.

## Overview

Summerfest was created fifteen years ago with the support of the Summer Session and the Office of Continuing Education. The program reaches out to an audience comprised in equal parts of the academic and non-academic community.

## Partners

The Summerfest program is sponsored by the Department of Theatre. The program works closely with the professional staff at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Professional theatre practitioners, including directors and actors from regional venues, are an important part of the educational mission of Summerfest. The program continues to seek ways to attract highly qualified student actors and technicians and has recently expanded its recruiting to include visits to midwest universities including Illinois State and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

## Highlights

The Intern/Apprentice Program for area high school students has been more successful than imagined, more than doubling in size in the four years it has been in place. Play selection has moved from strictly comedies and mysteries to a point where more serious content, including classics and rarely seen historical pieces, can be offered. At present, Summerfest is attempting to produce the first English language production of *Parfumerie* from an original manuscript in the University of Illinois Rare Book and Special Collections Library.

## For More Information

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# Department of Urban and Regional Planning

## Goals

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning's Continuing Professional Education programs offer planning education and information opportunities to both the practicing and citizen planners within Illinois and the surrounding eight states. The department believes that practicing planners need to keep their education current to remain the best in the field. Whereas citizen planners, who are the decision makers, require a knowledge base that will enhance their understanding of community planning "Best Practices."

## Overview

Continuing Professional Education programs share new knowledge, offer a face to face learning environment and create networking opportunities for the practitioner, academic and citizen planner. The primary outreach activities include workshops and institutes, although the program is now engaged in the production of planning education videos that are distributed to planners throughout the state. Online programs are also in development

## Partners

In conjunction with Rural Partners, University of Illinois extension, and the Lieutenant Governor's Office of Rural Affairs, we have directed public engagement efforts towards educating leaders in rural Illinois communities about the need for affordable housing through onsite workshops.

## Highlights

The theme of the 2004 Planning Institute is Innovative Community Planning. This is an annual institute held on the campus for practicing and citizen planners. During the summer, the department offers Geographical Information Systems (GIS) workshops. One of them, GIS Standards is the only one offered in the world. GIS is the technical software used by planners to spatially map information.

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# East St. Louis Action Research Project

## Goals

The East St. Louis Action Research Project (ESLARP) establishes and nurtures mutually enhancing partnerships between community-based organizations in distressed urban areas. We promote the revitalization of these areas while advancing the University's own research and teaching. ESLARP is committed to producing tangible results in communities where residents are mobilizing to address social, economic, and environmental problems.

## Overview

ESLARP is a program of sustained engagement with distressed urban areas that combines service learning and action research. ESLARP provides technical, financial and logistical coordination to community based programs while offering university students rich learning experiences outside the classroom. In the spirit of true partnership, community residents identify and prioritize tasks while individuals from campus work on projects to help build the community. In exchange, community residents provide valuable information about their community to university researchers.

## Partners

Our most important partners are the residents of the communities we collaborate with in order to implement ESLARP's mission. On campus, ESLARP works with units from Fine and Applied Arts, Applied Life Sciences, Law, Library and Information Science, and Social Work. We invite everyone from faculty, staff and students to community member who are interested and willing to contribute their skills to our projects.

## Highlights

Over the years, ESLARP projects have expanded significantly. Weekend-long cleanup projects have grown to include ambitious house building projects, neighborhood plans, and a major affordable housing initiative. ESLARP has recently expanded its outreach from East St. Louis into four adjacent communities. Paradoxically, the success of ESLARP depends on the role of the program itself diminishing over time. Early activities involve considerable participation from University personnel, but with success the neighborhood organization will work mostly on its own.

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# East St. Louis Action Research Project: Heritage Trail Project

## Goals

The East St. Louis Action Research Project's (ESLARP) Heritage Trail Project helps the East St. Louis area develop economically through tourism development. We seek to counteract the negative preconceptions of visitors to the area and assist residents in providing visitor services and tourism related jobs. The Heritage Trail Project offers a healthful recreational activity for local residents and presents African American and Native American cultures in a positive light.

## Overview

In its two year life span, ESLARP's Heritage Trail Project has developed a growing network of supporters. The project centers around the development of a recreational trail to link with other regional trails and to run concurrently with the National Road (US 40) auto trail.

## Partners

Bruce E. Wicks' tourism development class works in conjunction with American Bottom Conservancy and the staff of the East St. Louis Neighborhood Technical Assistance Center as well as the residents of the East St. Louis area. We work with elected officials, businesses, and community leaders to make our goals into realities. ESLARP's Heritage Trail Project also works in conjunction with the Anthropology Department at Washington University in St. Louis.

## Highlights

ESLARP's Heritage Trail Project has submitted a grant for funding and planning the trail. A new class project for the spring semester will plan an African American arts festival for East St. Louis. We are also planning a Native American event at Cahokia Mounds in conjunction with the National Road Festival. We continue to help interpret the Native American heritage in East St. Louis.

## For More Information

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# I space Gallery

## Goals

I space provides a Chicago-based gallery and public forum for the visual, performing and design arts of the College of Fine and Applied Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Its mission is to encourage the exploration, experimentation and understanding of the arts as a vibrant expression of human experience and intellectual discourse through exhibitions, performances, classes, and lecture-demonstrations. The gallery also provides a means for students to interact with the professional community.

## Overview

I space opened in one of Chicago's premier art gallery districts in the fall of 1991. The gallery represents all units of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, with an emphasis on the Schools of Architecture and Art and Design. Internationally acclaimed alumni exhibit in I space and are featured alongside emerging artists. The gallery also supports mid-career artists from Chicago as well as visiting artists of regional and international status. I space is a laboratory of new ideas and a springboard for artists who often find places in exhibits outside the gallery or representation in the commercial sector.

## Partners

The gallery bridges the gap between University of Illinois students in Urbana-Champaign and alumni, art connoisseurs, and the general public in the Chicago area. Renowned artists who have exhibited at I space include William Wegman, Vernon Fisher, Lynn Foulkes, Michele Blondel, Carol Ross Barney, and the Paul Rudolph.

## Highlights

Annual MFA curated exhibits, Annual Industrial Design and Graphic Design exhibitions bring student work to a large urban audience. Exhibits are documented and evaluated in catalogues, essays and press coverage. Installations and exhibitions by alumni, faculty and students are all currently in development.

## For More Information

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# Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities

## Goals

The Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities (IPRH) promotes interdisciplinary study in the humanities, arts, and social sciences. In addition to our own programming, we share resources with other university departments and programs, serving as a major co-sponsor of numerous lectures, programs, and conferences on campus throughout the year.

## Overview

The IPRH grants fellowships to University of Illinois faculty and graduate students who work on year-long symposia on thematic topics which have included “Cities,” “The Means of Reproduction,” “South,” and the current theme “Violence.” This theme is tied to our annual conference, which is open to the public, and features presentations by IPRH Fellows, campus guests, and invited speakers. We also host a year-long film series coordinated with the annual theme.

## Partners

The IPRH works with faculty and graduate students to foster interdisciplinary research in all aspects of the humanities, arts and social sciences. We are also committed to involving the community at large in our efforts. All public programs are free of charge.

## Highlights

This academic year the IPRH is supporting 27 faculty and graduate student groups that meet regularly to discuss issues of broad interdisciplinary interest. Faculty Fellowship projects supported by the IPRH have resulted in the publication of books and articles as well as the development of new courses for graduate and undergraduate students. Graduate student fellowships provide time and support for graduate students to complete dissertations and other projects. Our reading group program has produced numerous lectures, symposia, and other public events.

## For More Information

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# Japan House

## Goals

Japan House and its gardens provide an important academic, cultural, and natural setting for promoting an appreciation of Japanese culture and related Asian cultural concepts. Through cultural courses and seminars, community outreach programs, and international visiting artists, Japan House builds bridges and generates connections that unite us in our collective humanity.

## Overview

At Japan House, university and local students have a chance to experience Japanese culture in an authentic setting. They are able to acquire knowledge of Japanese arts and culture and to develop mutual understanding along with a shared appreciation of difference. In 1964, Shozo Sato, artist in residence at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, now Professor Emeritus in the School of Art and Design, began an initiative dedicated to the study of Japanese culture. His dream of a permanent campus home for the initiative was fulfilled with the dedication of a new Japan House in June 1998. Japan House has had over 15,000 visitors since its dedication.

## Partners

Japan House is proud of its continuing collaborations with the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, the Spurlock Museum, and the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. We work closely with *Tomonokai*, our Friends organization.

## Highlights

One of our most exciting recent projects was “Kimono Fantasy,” a multi-faceted event including performances at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts and exhibits at the Spurlock Museum. The autumn Taste of Japan lecture, seminar, and workshop series is a highlight of the Center’s year. We hold open houses each semester and a special Children’s Day in the spring. University credit and non-credit courses include: *Chado*, the Way of Tea; and *Ikebana*, Japanese Flower Arranging. We offer annual newsletters and a website to help keep our academic and local communities informed about our work.

## For More Information

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# Krannert Art Museum: Art-to-Go

## Goals

Art-to-Go strives to provide engaging art educational experiences to all children, particularly those who may not be familiar with Krannert Art Museum. The program works to connect the community with the museum as a resource and invites children from within Champaign-Urbana as well as outlying rural communities to take an interest in *their* art museum.

## Overview

The Art-to-Go program was developed in response to community requests for museum programming outside the facility. The program has been well received and continues to be in great demand. A dynamic museum staff and outgoing volunteer docents engage with children and children's groups through fliers, hands-on creative activities and slide presentations.

## Partners

Requested by a wide range of groups and institutions, Art-to-Go is a regular feature at the Champaign Public Library and the Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club. The program serves many area scouting troops, park districts, after school programs childcare facilities and churches.

## Highlights

On campus, attendance at Krannert Art Museum events for children, including the biannual Family Festival and quarterly Kids for Krannert, has increased dramatically as a result of Art-to-Go engagement efforts. This academic year, Art-to-Go has implemented two new incarnations that take the program out of the museum and into the community. Art-to-Go Schools teaches basic art concepts in order to enhance impending museum visits. Art-to-Go Seniors offers informational visits by museum docents to senior groups within a variety of settings.

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# Krannert Art Museum: Giertz Education Center

## Goals

The Krannert Art Museum's Giertz Education Center helps teachers integrate art appreciation and art history into humanities and science instruction at all levels, from preschool through college. Its loan collection is based on the conviction that art from different periods and cultural settings can help students better understand the human experience.

## Overview

Founded as a response to the alarming elimination of art programs from schools, the Giertz Education Center currently houses a collection of over 3,000 education resources and serves over 800 educators. Through loan materials and learning space we support local educators and teachers in training by connecting the classroom to the museum in innovative ways.

## Partners

The Giertz Education Center was established in the early 1990s through the collaborative efforts of the Junior League of Champaign-Urbana and the staff at Krannert Art Museum. A Resource Center Advisory Board of teachers, librarians, and school administrators meet regularly to discuss plans and programs. While our primary aim is to serve teachers and students at the elementary and secondary levels, the Giertz Education Center also serves community institutions including early childhood centers, retirement communities, park districts, libraries, and private teachers.

## Highlights

Through the efforts of the Giertz Education Center, many local teachers are committed to using more non-textbook materials in their classrooms. We offer art and cultural objects, poster prints and videos to support creative teaching and a stimulating environment for students. These materials are offered at no expense to educators or their districts. Cooperative ventures with the Champaign-Urbana Community Schools Foundation have included "Power and Beauty: A Learning Module on African Art and Culture" and "Japanese Culture, as seen through Ukiyo-e."

## For More Information

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# Krannert Art Museum: Here and Now: Art from Greater C-U

## Goals

In Here and Now: Art from Greater C-U, the Krannert Art Museum highlights the breadth and diversity of the local art community. Through the exhibit, the Museum hopes to support local artists and encourage attendance from the local community.

## Overview

The Here and Now premier exhibition is considered to be an outstanding success that broadens the diversity of the Museum's artists and audiences. This type of exhibition makes the Krannert Art Museum a common ground for the local and academic art communities. Related projects included Kids@Krannert, highlighting artists who share their artmaking with children and Artists@Krannert, which bring exhibiting artists to the gallery to discuss their work.

## Partners

In planning the exhibit, the Krannert Art Museum partners with the Champaign Park District as well as local galleries in efforts to contact local artists. While we utilize the local press, the exhibition sparks a great deal of word of mouth interest thus demonstrating the positive and electric value of university/community partnerships.

## Highlights

The opening of the premier Here and Now: Art from Greater C-U exhibit saw one of the largest and most diverse crowds in museum history. The exhibition and attendant programs were well attended and succeeded in drawing entirely new audiences to our Museum as well as heightening awareness of the arts in general. The exhibit is a landmark for establishing bridges between the arts communities, offering local artists, some of whom have never visited their local museum, a chance to exhibit in the Krannert Art Museum. The planning for the Here and Now exhibit was intense and time consuming with Krannert Art Museum Director Josef Helfenstein making close to 75 studio visits to choose artists and works. These visits were a great aid in fostering links between the local and academic arts communities, but were also extremely challenging in terms of scheduling.

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# Krannert Center for the Performing Arts: Creative Intersections

## Goals

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' Creative Intersections events offer audiences new ways to explore the arts and to interact with the artists they see on Krannert Center stages. The events offer different points of connection to creativity and add new levels of meaning for our diverse audiences.

## Overview

Creative Intersections is a relatively new addition to Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' long history of education and outreach programs. The project features interactive events connecting audiences to the vibrancy of classical music, the excitement of creative movement and dance, and the important history and future of jazz music in the local community.

## Partners

Our current Jazz Threads project invigorates the local jazz community, particularly through the work of nationally recognized trumpeter Cecil Bridgewater and his brother, University of Illinois faculty member Ron Bridgewater. Their work uniquely highlights the potential of university/community collaboration.

## Highlights

Residency work is an important facet of the Creative Intersections program. Groups as varied as the Alexander String Quartet and the Mark Morris Dance Group have made extended visits to campus offering concerts and working directly with university and local groups. We are continuing to develop Concert Prep, a series of beginner friendly preshow talks, as well as other discussion forums. Traffic Jams, our casual concerts in the Krannert Center lobby, are being offered with increased frequency and bringing in new audiences.

## For More Information

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# Krannert Center for the Performing Arts: Jazz Threads

## Goals

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' Jazz Threads provides entry points to engage the broadest possible array of audiences with the art form of jazz. We are particularly interested in connecting contemporary audiences and performers with the vibrant jazz history in the local community.

## Overview

Jazz Threads cultivates intense jazz experiences that encourage audiences to explore the musical, social and cultural history of jazz as well as various facets of the music itself, including composition, improvisation and jazz styles. In our centerpiece program, internationally renowned jazz trumpeter, composer, and educator Cecil Bridgewater returns to his native Champaign for extended residences throughout this academic year. During his residency, Mr. Bridgewater will collaborate with his brother, University of Illinois faculty member Ron Bridgewater, in a series of unique events that bring community/university partnerships to a new level.

## Partners

Virtually all Jazz Threads activities were planned by a committee comprised of community jazz artists and enthusiasts. Additionally, we work in partnership with a variety of organizations to foster the jazz community in Champaign-Urbana. Partners include 40° North/88° West and Two Main, a local jazz club. The Champaign and Urbana Park Districts are strongly committed to the goals of the project. Jazz Threads is working in conjunction with the University's own radio and television stations (WILL AM, FM and TV) as well as WEFT, a diverse community radio station for East Central Illinois. Through these unique partnerships we hope to become a national model for community collaboration.

## Highlights

Through our quarterly newsletter and new website we have created resources for local performers and audiences. Jazz Crawl will lead audiences to various venues to hear artists and learn more about the many styles of jazz. Jazz Vespers will offer performances in venues outside the traditional smoky bar, including houses of worship, libraries and even on rooftops.

## For More Information

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Krannert Center for the Performing Arts  
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# Krannert Center for the Performing Arts: Youth Series

## Goals

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' Youth Series offers East Central Illinois students the opportunity to experience a variety of art forms that represent diverse cultures. We provide tangible experiences to assist teachers in meeting state requirements for education in the fine arts. Through our efforts we hope to foster a lifelong appreciation for the performing arts.

## Overview

The Youth Series brings students of all ages to Krannert Center to experience a wide variety of arts offerings. Performances are offered during the school day, thus offering teachers a unique opportunity to integrate the performing arts into their curriculum. In a typical school year, the Youth Series offers approximately 25 – 30 performances for up to 8 different organizations. We educate and entertain close to 15,000 local students every year.

## Partners

The Youth Series values its partnerships with public, private, and home schools within Champaign-Urbana and surrounding communities. We work directly with teachers on specific projects relating to each performance that are featured in *StagePages*, a written compliment to the performances, and Teacher's Guides, a plan for incorporating the performance experience into the curriculum.

## Highlights

This season the Youth Series is proud to present the world premiere of *Hangin' with the Giants*, a multi-media performance incorporating live jazz and three dimensional animation for elementary school students. Working with Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' Creative Intersections Program, we are now presenting Arts for Kids sessions on Saturdays for elementary school students and their parents.

## For More Information

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# Office of Continuing Education: Humanities in the Classroom and Community Holocaust Curriculum

## Goals

The Humanities in the Classroom and Community Interdisciplinary Holocaust Curriculum program provides Illinois educators the opportunity for more in-depth learning about the Holocaust (including European Jewish life and culture; the history of anti-Semitism; the rise of Nazism; concentration camps and resistance activities) and its relative place in world history, government and culture. We identify and discuss methodologies for teaching the Holocaust in middle and high school curriculums, meet professional development needs for addressing state mandated learning standards, and offer exposure to a wide range of age appropriate print, audio-visual, internet and fine arts materials. Our program allows school and community educators a setting in which to explore complex content and approaches in a cooperative, interdisciplinary manner.

## Overview

The major facet of our program is a highly interactive weeklong summer institute featuring lectures by University scholars, demonstrations of curriculum activities, displays of resource materials, and performances from throughout the state of Illinois. Important aspects of the program are the small group discussions and curriculum planning sessions. A website is maintained where updated Holocaust education weblinks are posted. Also, the participants are encouraged to maintain email contact during the school year following their institute attendance – both among and between the attendees and several of the scholar presenters who have indicated willingness to maintain ongoing communication and idea-sharing.

## Partners

Our primary partners are the teachers, library media specialists, curriculum coordinators, administrators and community partners who attend our institute.

## Highlights

Speakers at the 2003 institute included University of Illinois faculty, Holocaust survivors and U.S. Holocaust Museum Mandel Scholars. Our program featured free public lectures: Dr. Alex Grobman spoke on Holocaust denial, while Holocaust survivor Eva Kor's offered a personal story of strength and courage.

## For More Information

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# Project RiverWeb

## Goals

RiverWeb is a collaborative, historical, web-based, multimedia education project about the Mississippi River and its interaction with people over time. Focusing on one stretch of the river, the American Bottom Region of East Saint Louis, RiverWeb provides access to rich, multimedia databases on the Internet, as well as educational programs to explore and share data, insight and knowledge. Project RiverWeb aims to meet the challenge of integrating information technology into teaching by developing web-based educational materials that can be used to teach American History using the RiverWeb site and can be repeated easily to teach other fields.

## Overview

Project RiverWeb is a joint effort between faculty in the Department of History and researchers with diverse interests at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) focusing on scientific information about the East St. Louis area (river patterns, weather conditions, etc).

Three major areas are focused upon: (1) a creation of a public digital library with documents from East. St Louis, (2) a set of modular education tools that teachers can use to create lessons for students to learn about East St. Louis, and (3) a set of sophisticated data linkage tools historians can use to better understand the historical documents.

## Partners

RiverWeb is establishing partnerships with science museums, science and technology centers, community watershed conservation programs, resource management agencies, primary and secondary educators and schools, institutions of higher learning and research, and environmental groups. We have joined with three major Midwestern museums to found the Mississippi RiverWeb Consortium. With partners throughout the Midwest in place, we are currently seeking international links with other communities facing similar watershed resource challenges.

## Highlights

Project RiverWeb has been successfully used in classrooms to teach the history of East St. Louis. The use of RiverWeb is focused upon three classes: both of the major survey history classes, History 151 and History 152, and the Illinois history class, History 263, titled "Chicago, the City; Illinois, the State". Aside from RiverWeb classroom use, hundreds of students and community members access the online RiverWeb materials every day.

Project RiverWeb is focusing its energies on two unique projects that are designed to benefit the community at large. First, establish relationships with local high schools in both East St. Louis and Champaign-Urbana to use RiverWeb's educational tools in the K-12 classroom. Second, to develop a set of sophisticated data linkage tools that will automatically draw historical connections between documents and will present those connections to historical researchers.

## For More Information

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# School of Architecture: Building Research Council

## Goals

The mission of the School of Architecture's Building Research Council is to improve the quality of the built environment in the United States through housing, research, public service, education and publications. We identify emerging issues in building and housing research and serve as a source of comprehensive scientific information on important building and housing issues. Some of the issues of concern to the Building Research Council include: social and behavioral factors for design, gender and racial issues in contemporary architecture, materials research, and research methods in designed environments.

## Overview

For over 50 years, the Building Research Council has conducted its important building research and public service programs. The Building Research Council involves faculty, staff, and students in analyzing building materials, construction, design and performance. Our publications, multi-media presentations and other products use the latest developments in information technology to document and disseminate state-of-the-art information on housing and buildings to the public, industry, and government agencies. We offer a variety of courses and seminars.

## Partners

The Building Research Council cooperates with home owners, builders, contractors, engineers, architects and many others in the housing industry. The Building Research Council partners with the Illinois Department of Public Health, the city of Urbana, and Habitat for Humanity on projects that benefit the local and regional community.

## Highlights

The Building Research Council has a long history of innovation in the field – we were deeply involved in the invention of air conditioning and our energy efficient houses were models of achievement in the 1970s. Recent projects include the Illinois Lead-based Paint Hazard Reduction Program and the publication of the Tornado Damage-Manual that shows how to strengthen buildings in areas of extreme wind conditions. Professional development courses include: The Architecture of Sustainability and Basics of Architectural Lighting. We offer *Council Notes*, a publication for home owners and other specialized publications.

## For More Information

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# School of Architecture: Discovering Architecture

## Goals

The School of Architecture's Discovering Architecture program provides high school students considering a career in architecture an opportunity to learn about the roles and responsibilities of architects, the place of architecture education in preparing students for their career, and exposes them to the fundamental skills and design methods of architecture.

## Overview

Discovering Architecture was founded after University of Illinois professors perceived that first year architecture students were often unsure of the function of the architect in contemporary practice. They created an intense, two week summer "camp" for 20 – 25 students on the University of Illinois campus to foster understanding of architecture as a practice and career. Studio experience, seminars by visiting practitioners, and social activities combine to make Discover Architecture an enjoyable and educational experience. Students come from all over the United States, and more than half choose to study architecture at the University of Illinois.

## Partners

We work consistently with high school counselors and administrations to foster interest in the Discover Architecture program. A special session of Discover Architecture was subsidized by the East St. Louis Action Research Project (ESLARP) in the past, but resources were quickly exhausted. We are working with ESLARP to reinstate the program by summer 2005.

## Highlights

Successful students are our greatest highlight. Students who participate in the Discovering Architecture program leave better prepared to enter a studio intensive curriculum in architecture, landscape architecture or art and design. At the conclusion of the program, students present design projects that require artistic talent and personal discipline to complete. Parents are consistently proud and often surprised by the work their children produce.

## For More Information

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# School of Art and Design: Saturday Art School

## Goals

The School of Art and Design's Saturday Art School works on many levels to meet the goals of the Art Education program. We are a community outreach program, enrolling a unique mixture of children from throughout East Central Illinois. As a teacher training center we support the work of college level teachers in training from Bachelor's to Doctoral candidates. We are a research lab for curriculum development, artistic development, and innovations in instructional methods and design.

## Overview

Conceived in the 1960s as a site where art educators in training could gain vital experience, the Saturday Art School provides an environment where research on early artistic learning and innovative curriculum design flourishes. The program is valuable to both university and local community in that both teachers and students benefit from our unique combination of experience, research and innovation.

## Partners

In conjunction with the Krannert Art Museum, the Saturday Art School hosts an Open House/Family Festival. Through a recently awarded College of Education grant, we are training our education majors involved in the Saturday Art School to work with digital video filming and editing. The grant supports training and funding for new equipment which will be used to document successful teaching practices.

## Highlights

Advanced masters and doctoral students serving as mentors for younger teachers in training have produced numerous publications that have grown out of research at the Saturday Art School. The Open House/Family Festival programs bring over 1000 visitors to Krannert Art Museum each semester to inspect student work completed during the Saturday Art School. Music, theatre, storytelling, demonstrations, and hands on activities, complement the visual art.

## For More Information

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# School of Music: Outreach and Public Engagement in Music

## Goals

The School of Music's Office of Outreach and Public Engagement in Music engages the public by extending the resources of the University of Illinois to the local, regional and national communities.

## Overview

The largest program offered by the Office of Outreach and Public Engagement in Music is the Illinois Summer Youth Music program, which has hosted more than 52,000 students. In addition to the Summer Youth Music program, we offer a variety of education programs for junior and senior high school students. We cater to all types of performing ensembles, from large band and orchestras to chamber music groups and wind instrument ensembles. Workshops, festivals and symposia are all aspects of our program.

## Partners

Founded over 60 years ago, the Office of Outreach and Public Engagement in Music is a joint venture between the School of Music and the Office of Continuing Education. Our office works in conjunction with School of Music faculty members to develop programs complementing their specialties and interests.

## Highlights

The Office of Outreach and Public Engagement in Music has developed opera outreach programs at all levels for public schools. Jazz, piano and trombone laboratory programs have proven successful. We recently coordinated a lucrative Chamber Music Symposia at the Allerton House Conference Center.

## For More Information

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# Spurlock Museum

## Goals

The Spurlock Museum documents the history of our earth by collecting, preserving, and studying objects from the natural environment and our human cultural heritage. The Museum's primary aim is education in service to scientific, scholarly, and cultural communities. It is the goal of the Spurlock Museum Educational Section to develop educational programming, in the gallery and in the community, that fosters an appreciation for cultural and natural history and addresses the topics of identification and heritage within a multicultural society.

## Overview

Neither time nor geography are limitations on the Museum's concerns. Our collections constitute a public trust to be responsibly maintained for future generations as a permanent record of the natural and cultural world. The Museum holds approximately 45,000 artifacts including one of the world's most complete casts of the Parthenon Frieze and a seminal collection of Plains Indian cultural materials. We create tours, programs and special events for Museum visitors of all ages and backgrounds. The Museum is free and open to the public and our website extends our audience to "visitors" from around the world.

## Partners

Museum staff, faculty curators, and student and community volunteers work together in the development and presentation of programs that support learning within a creative environment of open discussion. We coordinate exhibits with other University units and serve as consultants to other museums. Partnerships with local schools and libraries, the Museums at the Crossroads Consortium, and the Champaign County Cultural Consortium assist in spreading the word about the work of the Museum and expand that work through collaborative programs and events.

## Highlights

As part of the process of moving to a new facility (opened September 2002), we developed state of the art methods for tracking artifacts, recording artifact information, and packing our collections for safety and security. Our information technology section has created an artifact database holding over 150 fields of information, including a digital image, for each object in the collections. Recent exhibits have included "Beethoven and the Creative Process" mounted in conjunction with an international conference and "Luxurious Layers: Kimonos of the Heian Court," in partnership with the Japan House and the Hakubi Kyoto Kimono School of Japan.

## For More Information

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# University Library: Mortenson Center for International Library Programs

## Goals

The Mortenson Center for International Library Programs focuses on international library programs for the promotion of international education, understanding, and peace. We seek to strengthen international ties among libraries and librarians, regardless of geographic location or access to technology. We provide visitors with a broad knowledge of, and exposure to, the theory and practice of librarianship in America.

## Overview

The Mortenson Center offers unique, individualized programs for librarians and information science professionals from outside the United States. Over 500 librarians from 76 countries have already taken advantage of our programming. Seminars on current trends in the field, a training program for visiting librarians, introductions to library technology, tours and conferences are all important features of the Center's work.

## Partners

Our most important partners are the librarians and information science professionals who work in conjunction with the Center to improve the assets and outreach of libraries throughout the world. We work with the Illinois State Library, the Council on Library and Information Resources, and the Queens Borough Public Library in the United States. International partners include: the Center for Professional Development of Librarians in Central America, the Foundation Connaissance and Liberté in Haiti, the Association of Information Specialists in Georgia, and the Library and Information Association of South Africa.

## Highlights

The South African Library Leadership Program offers a continuing education project for librarians in South Africa that focuses on leadership and management skills. A Professional Development Program for Haitian Librarians works to expose Haitian colleagues to library management and technologies of librarianship. The Russia Small Towns Project featured exchange that strengthened ties between cities and libraries in Russia and Illinois.

## For More Information

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# The University Library: The Rare Book and Special Collections Library

## Goals

The Rare Book and Special Collections library serves local students, as well as international scholars and researchers as they use the unit's original publications and manuscripts for the study of American and English literature and history; emblem books; the history of science; early printed books; and early children's literature. At the same time, many other visitors come to view the numerous exhibits which feature the Library's outstanding collections. Materials from the Library have also been showcased on several major television productions.

## Overview

Among the approximately 250,000 items in the collection are such significant rare items as the four Shakespeare folios, Audubon's Birds of America, and the largest collection of the works of the poet John Milton in the United States. The manuscript collections contain well-known novels by H. G. Wells, letters of Marcel Proust, the papers of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet W. S. Merwin, as well as extensive special collections in a wide variety of fields.

## Partners

Our most important partners are the faculty and students of the campus who are the prime recipients and users of this special collection. Among recent formal partners, the library has acquired new material jointly with The Newberry Library of Chicago, and through the efforts of campus faculty has worked closely with the University of Munich on the digitization of German emblem books.

## Highlights

In addition to the German Emblem Book Project, the Rare Book and Special Collections Library recently welcomed the 10 millionth volume of the library to its collection. During the summer of 2003 the library provided the materials to support instruction for the Special Collections Institute of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science. The classes supported were "Special Collections in the Sciences" and "History of the Book."

## For More Information

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## WILL AM-FM-TV

### Goals

WILL is committed to using the unique qualities of the electronic media to help the University of Illinois in its educational mission both on campus and beyond. We illuminate past, present, and future issues confronting society, thereby contributing to the development of an electorate capable of dealing with them. Through innovative programming we convey the diverse cultural past and present of humanity. WILL seeks to enrich the lives of those we serve by providing new insights and to entertain the public by presenting arts and ideas in an appealing way. We stimulate discussion of public issues by providing forums for the exchange of ideas. We want to satisfy the needs of the audience we serve rather than our own needs as broadcasters—our stations are operated as a public trust. WILL hopes to reflect credit upon the University of Illinois through a policy of continued growth, programming of excellence, and public engagement.

### Overview

Signing on for the first time in 1922, WILL has become a valuable asset to more than half the households in our 18,000 square mile coverage area. Our PBS television station provides the finest in educational and arts related programming to viewers in East Central Illinois. WILL FM programs classical music as well as unconventional and local fare. Our AM station offers discussion forums and news from sources including the British and Canadian Broadcasting Corporations. Our community outreach projects benefit those who take advantage of the services as well as the volunteers who donate their time to make the programs successful.

### Partners

Our most important partner is the University of Illinois, but we work closely with National Public Radio and the Public Broadcasting Service. On engagement and community outreach projects, we work with a vast array of local and regional partners.

### Highlights

WILL Radio and TV are collaborating on the “Beyond Brown Project,” a look at the legacy of Brown vs. the Board of Education. WILL TV’s “A Day in Our Hometown” series offers stories about the people and places of central Illinois. The Vintage Vinyl Sale gathers used records, tapes, CDs, and stereo equipment for a popular annual event. Studio X presents local bands from all genres on WILL TV. Black Perspectives is a studio based talk program highlighting the diversity of local African-American communities. One of our most important assets is our weather team—a local, highly trained and experienced staff keeps audiences in tune with the unpredictable weather in Central Illinois.

### For More Information

WILL AM-FM (217) 333-0850

WILL TV

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WILL  
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# WILL TV: Ready to Learn!

## Goals

WILL TV's Ready to Learn is designed to help children achieve success in school by offering reading resources to the adults—parents, childcare providers and teachers—who nurture, motivate, and educate young children.

## Overview

Ready to Learn is a nationwide project launched by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) in 1994 as a response to the national education goal that all American children begin school ready to learn. Each PBS station develops its own Ready to Learn service, based on community needs.

## Partners

At WILL, we distribute 400 free books a month to at-risk children. This distribution is accomplished with the support and partnership of Head Start, Even Start, Crisis Nursery in Champaign County, the Danville Community College, the East Central Illinois Action Agency, The Illinois Department of Human Services, Baby TALK, and the Illinois Department of Corrections. Working with these agencies as well as with libraries, schools, and other educational organizations, we also present workshops and offer publications, monthly programming schedules and themed literary kits designed to help families inspire a love of learning.

## Highlights

Responding to a need expressed by our partners, we recently began distributing free Spanish language children's books and developing multi-lingual family fun nights. WILL TV encourages self-expression and creativity by sponsoring an annual Reading Rainbow Young Author and Illustrator contest. A new national initiative, Share a Story, encourages adults to use simple everyday activities to help children develop language skills.

## For More Information

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# 40° North/88° West

## Goals

40° North/88° West acts as a bridge for the University to connect to and support artists of all disciplines in Champaign County. A central resource for all things arts related, 40° North/88° West seeks to serve families, businesses, concert goers and art collectors throughout the region. 40° North brings together various segments of the community to exchange ideas, identify issues and create practical plans of action. We are dedicated to cultivating a vibrant and thriving environment for the arts in order to stimulate the growth of Champaign County and to enrich the quality of life for community residents. 40° North aims to put “Champaign County’s culture on the map.”

## Overview

Born from community effort and nurtured through community input, 40° North was officially launched in October 2002 after more than two years of planning. We are distinct from other arts councils throughout the nation in our unique focus on *all* of the arts in Champaign County. The 40° North artist database connects artists, arts organizations and the community at large in an effort to develop collaborative partnerships between disciplines.

## Partners

40° North works actively with its partners to foster interest in and support for the arts in and of the local community. Our partners include: the Champaign County Convention and Visitors Bureau, The Paper, The News Gazette, the Illinois Arts Council and the following University of Illinois units: Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Krannert Art Museum and Spurlock Museum.

## Highlights

The recent Urbana-Champaign Improviser’s Summit brought together innovative musicians from throughout the local area, and was coordinated in part by local percussionist Jason Finkelman. The Third Annual Creative Expressions Art Show highlighted the talents of artists with mental illnesses as a focus on strength as vital component of recovery. The annual Boneyard Arts Festival demonstrates our commitment to all the arts by featuring musicians, dancers, street theatre and performance, and visual art displays.

## For More Information

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40° North/88° West  
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