Letter from the Chancellor

Greetings,

UMSL has so many wonderful partnerships with organizations and residents throughout the area, and every month I am reminded of the great work and activity taking place in our communities. UMSL has a number of black history month events taking place in February that are free and open to the public. A new clinic offering free psychiatric care recently opened in Ferguson. In January, we recommissioned a literacy clinic with our close partner, the Normandy Schools Collaborative (NSC). And, on February 29, NSC will host a job fair.

In recognition of all the work the University and community does together, we are pleased to share that UMSL has again been recognized as a Community Engaged University by the Carnegie Foundation. This honor would not be possible without deep partnership with the communities in our region. While this classification is bestowed on universities, we share
Kristin Sobolik
Interim Chancellor, University of Missouri - St. Louis

Carnegie Foundation reaffirms UMSL’s Carnegie Community Engagement Classification

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching affirmed UMSL’s success toward that end, naming it as one of the 119 U.S. colleges and universities in 2020 to receive the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, an elective designation that indicates institutional commitment to community engagement.

UMSL first received the classification in 2010. “UMSL is entwined in the community in so many ways,” Interim Chancellor and Provost Kristin Sobolik said. “We educate St. Louis and are the largest workforce driver in the region. Our faculty engage in research and knowledge generation that helps our community meet today’s challenges. And we collaborate with other community partners to maximize our collective impact for the good of all of the region and Missouri.”

“The Carnegie Community Engagement Classification is validation of the work that we are doing,” said Patricia Zahn, UMSL’s director of community outreach and engagement. “It’s also an opportunity and challenge for us to continue to think about who we are in our community, and how we serve our community and make a better place to live for all of us.”

The application spoke to new community-connected initiatives the university has undertaken in the past decade, including the construction of the UMSL Patient Care Center, the Great Streets Project to redevelop Natural Bridge Road near campus, the work of the Missouri Institute of Mental Health focused on health and well-being statewide, economic development efforts focused on north St. Louis County and work with area school districts such as Jennings and Normandy. That’s in addition to the long-standing work of community-focused endowed faculty members who are part of the Des Lee Collaborative Vision. To read more, click here.

Upcoming Events

Normandy Schools Collaborative Job Fair
February 29, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Looking for a new job? Stop by the Normandy Schools Collaborative Job Fair on February 29. Come to Barack Obama School (3883 Jennings Sta. Road, St. Louis, MO 63121) to explore possible jobs from administrative positions to teachers to food service and more. Click here for more information and to register.

UMSL Black History Month Events

The University of Missouri-St. Louis has a series of events for Black History Month that are free and open to the public. From speakers to documentaries, we hope you will join us for one of the remaining events. Check the
Salam Clinic To Begin Providing Free Psychiatric Care In Ferguson

Every Saturday, a cohort of physicians carves time out of busy schedules in an effort to fill a gap for health care for people in the St. Louis region. Started by members of the Muslim Community Services of St. Louis in 2008, the Salam Clinic is a model of interfaith charity. The initiative was simple: provide free medical care to the uninsured and underinsured. Doctors of various religious backgrounds gladly signed on, including the Deaconess Nurse Ministry.

The first clinic opened in north St. Louis at Lane Tabernacle Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. The second opened its doors in 2013 in Ferguson at St. Peter’s United Church of Christ. Last November, Salam opened its third location at Epiphany United Church of Christ in St. Louis’ Benton Park neighborhood. And in January, the nonprofit’s Salam Psychiatry Clinic opened in Ferguson (1425 Stein Road, Ferguson, MO 63135).

To read the full article, click here.

2020 Census is Around the Corner

George on My Mind: A Celebration of the Music of Ray Charles
February 27, 2020
7:30 p.m.
UMSL Touhill Performing Arts

Ray Charles became a music legend with his honest, soulful sound and infectious melodies. As a native son of Georgia, he remained true to his roots throughout his career. Join an all-star cast to honor one of the most influential voices in both music and pop culture. Click here for more information and to purchase tickets.

“WAR-TOYS: Israel, West Bank, and Gaza Strip” and “Unnatural States”

UMSL Gallery 210
Spring 2020

“WAR-TOYS” features photographic work interpreting children’s therapeutic drawings and offers a rare yet fascinating insight into the contemporary experiences of Palestinian and Israeli boys and girls. Together, they provide a striking portrait of war from the eyes of the innocent. “Unnatural States” addresses issues of social justice, and explores the social constructs around education with an installation of institutional floor tiles, chalkboard, several dozen soft-sculpture student desks and a two-channel video. For more information on the exhibitions, click here.
The Census is a count of every person who lives in the United States and its territories. It happens every 10 years. In early 2020, everyone will be asked to count all the people who live in their homes as of April 1. Responding to the 2020 Census is a chance to shape the community's future. For every adult and every child that is counted, Missouri will receive $1,300 in federal dollars every year that go to support roads and bridges, hospitals, schools, etc. Be sure to complete the Census and encourage your neighbors and friends to do so as well.

For more information visit 2020census.gov.

Share with us: Take the community feedback questionnaire and share input on this newsletter

UMSL is interested to know more about your thoughts regarding the university and how we might better support surrounding communities. Take a short survey by clicking here to share your thoughts!

We'd love to hear from you about how we can improve our communication with the community and hear your questions and comments about UMSL and neighboring communities. We also welcome stories about great things happening in our communities. Your thoughts will help shape content covered in future newsletters to be pertinent to you and your neighbors. Leave any suggestions, questions, or stories here. Thank you!

UMSL Community Engagement Office
One University Blvd, 426 Woods Hall | St. Louis, MO 63121
314-516-5267 | www.umsl.edu/collaborations

Ferguson Twilight Run
10M/5K/10K

May 16, 2020

Enjoy a USATF-certified course through Ferguson’s beautiful historic neighborhoods in the annual Ferguson Twilight Run managed under Live Well Events. The 2020 event includes a 10-mile course in addition to a 5K, 10K, and 1-mile race options. All races begin and end at the Plaza at 501 (501 S. Florissant Rd., Ferguson MO 63135) with professional timing by Big River Running. The race begins with pre-race entertainment along with cheer stations and bands along the course. Post-race entertainment includes live music and beer tastings. To learn more about the Twilight Run, click here.