



SPECIAL EDITION

Civic Internship

INTERN SPOTLIGHTS

Children & Youth



Pictured clockwise: Aisha Khan, Blake Mullins, Maggie Harbaugh, Alyssa Harrison

Interns in this group worked with children and youth on a daily basis, whether as camp counselors or educational leaders. They had the opportunity to develop educational programs, serve as mentors, and gain leadership skills.

Orientation

The Hagen Center Civic Internship program launched at the end of May with a three-day orientation to support students in their internship experience, learn the habits of civic professionals, meet partners in the Springfield community, and get to know their fellow interns. This year, the orientation was organized around the theme "Having Light, Be Brave."

Each day started with a self-reflection and logistics, followed by a team builder and a session focused on developing the intern's civic skills. The group also participated in community-related activities, from an art session by Lo Houser of Project Jericho and Jessimi Jones of the Springfield Museum of Art, a downtown tour by Kevin Rose, service projects at Second Harvest Food Bank and Springfield Promise Neighborhood, a Round Robin Session with community partners, and a session on public narrative by Dr. Cynthia Richards. Throughout the three days, interns tried some of the culinary delights of the community and at the end of the orientation the interns were ready to step bravely into their internships, with personal reflection and practical skills they could utilize throughout the summer.



A quick stop during orientation at the Hartman Rock Garden.

Weekly Wednesday Wisdom



Pictured clockwise: Cami Duncan, Lucas Hummel, Molly Specht, Sheccid Rivas Castillo

These interns worked with organizations whose missions are natural conservation and/or maintaining community gardens. They did everything from weeding gardens, building sustainable structures to learning about the importance of food justice in the community.

Marketing, Communications, & Outreach



Pictured Clockwise: Aloy Kamara, Zoe Hale, Davieonna Moss, Amanda Kott, Parker Hayes



This group of interns helped organizations build their social media presence, market and plan events, provide educational outreach, and develop innovative communication tools.

The Weekly Wednesday sessions allowed the the summer interns to come together and check-in on their shared experiences. They had a meals with local food trucks and restaurants and learned from wonderful speakers throughout the community.

The first week Megan Woolf from the University of Dayton spoke to the interns. They learned the difference between dialogue, discussion and debate and the host for the evening was National Trail Parks and Recreation District. Two Wittenberg alums who participated in the internship program, Jenna Hurst-Bluemlein and Kyle Farnbauch from United Senior Services, hosted and led a session the next week on activating empathy, and the interns participated in a competitive game of bingo! (pictured above) The third week Marlo Fox from Think Tank presented on *The Stories We Tell Ourselves* that challenged the truths about the stories we create to make sense of our relationships with others. During the fourth week, the group attended the Springfield Arts Festival to listen to *Queen Nation: A tribute to the music of Queen*. Community navigators, Dorian Hunter, Camille Hall and Neal Browning, shared in our fifth session how to create positive change in a community. For the final Wednesday gatherings the interns had dinner at the KORE food truck, visited the Springfield Museum of Art, and traveled to Yellow Springs to see the Little Art Theatre and listed to Luke Dennis, General Manager of WYSO, speak about the value and voices of public radio.

Dinner at the KORE 4 Soul food truck



Internship Celebration

Special Projects



Pictured clockwise: Isabel Travis, Kyngston Collins, Sydney Johnston, Madeline Diechman

These interns worked on--you guessed it! --special projects such as conducting needs assessments, developing surveys, presenting to boards, and helping improve day-to-day operations while learning about nonprofit administration.

Thank You!

We would like to thank our sponsors for helping make this year's summer internship program a huge success.

The Matevia Internship Endowment

The Springfield Foundation

Steve and Mary Alice Neely

Walter S. Quinlan Foundation

Warren Copeland

More than 30 guests joined us for our celebration of the civic internship program on Thursday July 27th in the second-floor gallery of the Heritage Center. The interns created visual displays of their experience in the form of posters, digital slides, an artistic painting, an interactive game and survey, and even produce picked from their community garden. The audience heard from Kristen Collier, Associate Director of the Hagen Center, about the ways interns were brave this summer and listened to an audio of Amanda Gorman's reading of her poem, *The Hill We Climb*, which inspired the *Having Light, Be Brave* theme for this year's internship. She also thanked our donors, campus partners, site supervisors, interns as well as Warren Copeland (and a team of others) for helping to envision the program more than 15 years ago.

To see more pictures of the fun we had this summer, please visit our online photo album.



Photo Album



Internship Sites

- Developmental Disabilities of Clark County
- Freedom School
- Hagen Center
- Heritage Center
- Little Art Theatre
- Partners in Prevention
- Project Woman
- Second Harvest Food Bank
- Springfield Ohio Urban Plantfolk
- Springfield City Youth Mission
- Springfield Family YMCA
- Springfield Promise Neighborhood
- Tecumseh Land Trust
- United Way of Clark, Champaign & Madison Counties

