



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

November 2023

NEWS

Curated Resource Guide

Native American and Indigenous Heritage Month

In 1915, American Indian Day was declared. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush officially designated November as **Native American and Indigenous Heritage Month**, also known as American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. With over 5 million people who identify as American Indian in the United States, this month-long celebration highlights the rich cultures, traditions, heritages, and histories of Native people.

To recognize and celebrate this month, the **College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences** created a curated list of resources centering Native American/Indigenous voices and stories. These resources are organized into different categories to focus on the unique experiences of the broad community. Please click the Curated Resource Guide below to explore and learn more.

[Curated Resource Guide](#)

UTK Celebrates Mutually Beneficial Partnerships



As the state's flagship land-grant university, we are committed to providing access and education, to exploration and discovery, and to enhancing culture and advancing the public good. Each year, the [Office of Community Engagement and Outreach](#) produces a publication to highlight mutually beneficial partnerships that are making a difference in Knoxville and beyond. Please click on the button below to review our recent **Partnerships That Make a Difference** and stay tuned for upcoming stories showcasing these and other transformative collaborations.

[2022 Partnerships That Make A Difference](#)

UTK To Host Multiple Events Celebrating Veterans



During the month of November, the UT will host a variety of events to celebrate and show appreciation for those who have served in the **U.S. Armed Forces and those who continue to serve**. Learn more about the sessions, workshops, and events [here](#).

OCEO Welcomes New Faculty Fellow



Please join the [Office of Community Engagement and Outreach](#) team in welcoming our newest **Faculty Fellow**, [Dr. Lyndsey Hornbuckle](#). Dr. Hornbuckle is an Associate Professor for UT's Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies. After completing her Bachelor's degree in Nutrition and Master's in Exercise Physiology at the University of Tennessee, she continued her education at Florida State University to

achieve her Ph.D. in Exercise Physiology. Her research is centered on making a positive impact on health disparities in underserved groups through the promotion of physical activity and exercise.

The majority of Hornbuckle's work focuses on African-American communities, aiming to reduce cardiometabolic risk through the development and implementation of culturally relevant physical activity and exercise interventions. One of her most recent publications, *African American Couples' Experiences during an Exercise Intervention Interrupted by the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Qualitative Case Study*, discusses how COVID-19 affected middle-aged African-American couples exercise interventions to improve their cardiometabolic health.

Dr. Hornbuckle was a guest speaker at the 2023 Engagement and Outreach Conference in October. During her panel discussion, she shared how the effects of partner support during exercise contribute to African-American adult dyads. She also is a Fellow and active member of the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM). Dr. Hornbuckle has served on several national committees for ACSM and is a Registered Dietitian, while also holding certifications in group exercise, indoor cycling, and personal fitness training.

Carnegie R1 Classification Will Be Drastically Simplified in 2025



In 2025, the [American Council on Education](#) will drastically simplify the criteria for research designations. The current formula involving ten factors will be reduced to just two - spending on research and number of doctorates awarded. Read more about this change, and commentary from UTK's Dr. Robert Kelchen [here](#).

CEHHS Welcomes New Distinguished Community Lecturer



Tanisha Fitzgerald-Baker joins the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences (CEHHS) as the latest **Distinguished Community Leader Lecturer**. Fitzgerald-Baker has an extensive track record for her exceptional leadership and commitment to serving the Knoxville and surrounding communities. Her leadership journey began in her hometown of Knoxville, where she graduated as the valedictorian from Austin-East High School. To learn more about her professional career, passions, and accolades, click [here](#).

Area High School Students Celebrate Manufacturing Day with UT Students and Faculty

More than 200 area high school students learned about advanced manufacturing techniques and technology from students and faculty from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in October. The event was organized by MSC Industrial Supply Company and held at the [Tennessee Manufacturing and Design Enterprise](#) (TN-MADE) building off Pellissippi Parkway. TN-MADE is home to the Machine Tool Research Center, where students have access to the latest state-of-the-art advanced manufacturing machines, educating them to be the workforce of the future.

2023 Knox Asian Festival Impact Report



Each year, the [Knox Asian Festival](#) strives to bring together people from various cultural backgrounds, to promote peace, harmony, unity, and healthy lifestyles. In 2023, over 75,000 people participated, creating an economic impact on Knoxville in excess of 4.4 million dollars! With a modest beginning in Downtown Krutch Park with 3,000 visitors in 2014, the Knox Asian Festival is now the largest in the Southeast.

UTK College of Nursing Awarded \$1.47 Million Grant

[The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Nursing](#) was recently awarded a grant of \$1.47 million from the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The grant is specifically designated for the [Workforce Opportunities for Rural Communities \(WORC\) initiative](#).

Executive Director of Academic Advising and Enrollment Management and Assistant Professor of Practice [Jada Russell](#) will lead the team, which also includes [Kimberly Brown](#), clinical assistant professor, [Phillip Moore](#), assistant dean of undergraduate programs and [Clea McNeely](#), research professor. This grant aims to increase employment prospects for registered nurses in the Delta region of Tennessee.

Titled **Bridging to Opportunity: Good Jobs for Nurses in the Delta Region**, the project will pave the way for a career pathway, contributing to the economic advancement and long-term resilience of registered nurses in the Delta region. Current RN's in the region will have the opportunity to apply for the online RN to

BSN program. If accepted into the program the grant will cover tuition. The primary focus of the project is to foster economic stability and improve the health sector within the region.

"We are dedicated to creating a sustainable, equitable, and supportive environment for nurse trainees to thrive and progress within their careers," said Russell. "This project isn't just about jobs; it's about empowering individuals and building a resilient healthcare workforce."

Bridging to Opportunity combines the resources from the College of Nursing, Dyersburg State Community College, Southwest Tennessee Community College, Baptist Memorial Hospital, United Way, Rural Health Association and American Job Center to overcome barriers that impede associate-degree nurses from developing their skills to access career advancement.

The anticipated outcomes include the enrollment of 32 trainees in the RN to BSN online program, training for nurse mentors and College of Nursing faculty members in equity-based mentoring and advising, and the establishment of workplace mentoring programs. This initiative will benefit both new nurses entering the workforce and incumbent workers in the nursing field.

The project will cover numerous counties in the Delta region, including Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardin, Haywood, Hardeman, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison, McNairy, Obion, Tipton, and Weakley.

(Note: News story written by Kara Cardwell and submitted by Jada Russell)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Tennessee's New Statewide Nonprofit Network



TENNESSEE NONPROFIT NETWORK

Nonprofits are the 6th largest industry in the state of Tennessee, and the [Tennessee Nonprofit Network](#), formerly Momentum Nonprofit Partners, is responding. Their mission is to empower nonprofit organizations across the state with resources, expertise, and advocacy at the state level. The Tennessee Nonprofit Network will forge connections, advocate for operational policies, and provide access to data and research. Free membership will be available for all 40,000+ nonprofits in Tennessee on January 1, 2024.

[More Information Here](#)

ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning Seeking Proposals



Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning

Feb. 18-20, 2024
Cool Springs Marriott,
Franklin



The [Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service-Learning](#) seeks proposals for high-caliber, innovative, and interactive workshops or panels addressing the following topics:

- * **Volunteer Management**- Demonstrate best practices and innovative new methods to grow and strengthen an organization's volunteer program.
- * **Service as a Solution**- Identify how service builds and strengthens communities, fostering growth and economic opportunity.
- * **Service-Learning and Civic Leadership**- Demonstrate how to build leadership skills of the service participants. Best practices, innovations of service-learning both in academic settings and in other volunteer programs
- * **Organizational Capacity Building**- Methods to bolster organizational effectiveness.
- * **Professional Development**

The deadline to submit proposals is **November 30, 2023**. The Conference will be held at the Cool Springs Marriott in Franklin, Tennessee, February 18-20, 2024.

[Call for Proposals](#)

Call for Nominations for Volunteer Stars Award



Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards

Feb. 18, 2024
Cool Springs Marriott,
Franklin

The [Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards \(GVSA\)](#) is an initiative from [Volunteer Tennessee](#) that seeks to recognize one outstanding youth and one outstanding adult volunteer from each of Tennessee's 95 counties. The Governor's Volunteer Stars Awards also recognizes one business and one nonprofit from each of Tennessee's three Grand Regions for their outstanding community involvement and service. Want to submit a nomination? Click the link below to find out more information. The deadline for nominations is **Friday, December 8th**.

[Nomination Information](#)

FELLOWSHIP, FUNDING, AND AWARDS

Nominate a K-12 School for the 2024 Award of Excellence

Do you know a K-12 school -- public or private -- actively promoting youth engagement in your community? Are you or someone you know helping students understand the importance of volunteerism and community service? If so, please apply for a [2024 Award of Excellence](#)! The application deadline is **Thursday, November 30**. Winners will be recognized at the [2024 Tennessee Conference on Volunteerism and Service Learning](#) in Franklin, Tennessee!

Gates Foundation Grand Challenges

Empowering Women's Health Through Innovation is an exciting platform that invites visionaries, researchers, and changemakers to collaborate on groundbreaking projects that address critical health challenges affecting women worldwide. Follow the link below to learn more and be a part of this transformative movement. The deadline for this opportunity is **Wednesday, December 6**.

[Read More Here](#)[Apply Here](#)

Terra Foundation for American Art - Convening Grant

The **Terra Foundation for American Art** is extending a helping hand to artists, scholars, and institutions passionate about American art and culture. Their Convening Grants program is a golden opportunity for creative minds and organizations to receive funding for conferences, symposia, and other gatherings that foster dialogue and exploration of American art. Whether you are an artist looking to share your work, a scholar eager to disseminate your research, or an institution keen to promote American art, this program offers the financial support to make it happen. Grants range from \$10,000 - \$25,000. Grant support will be offered in Summer 2024 with a LOI deadline of **Friday, December 8th**. Click below to find out more.

[Read More Here](#)[Apply Here](#)

ACLS Digital Justice Grants

The **American Council of Learned Societies** (ACLS) has launched the **ACLS Digital Justice Grants**, offering a fantastic opportunity for scholars and researchers to make a meaningful impact in the digital realm. These grants support innovative projects that address the urgent issues of digital inequality, surveillance, and data privacy, fostering equitable access and justice in the digital age. Whether you are an academic, activist, or technology enthusiast, this initiative presents a chance to tackle pressing challenges at the intersection of technology, society, and justice. If you are passionate about advancing digital equity, please visit the links below to learn more. The deadline to apply for both opportunities is **Friday, December 15**.

[ACLS Digital Justice Seed Grants Application](#)

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Offers Grants for Art Projects

Through project-based funding, the **NEA Grants for Arts** program supports opportunities for public engagement with the arts and arts education, for the integration of the arts with strategies promoting the health and well-being of people and communities, and for the improvement of overall capacity and capabilities within the arts sector. Applications are welcome from a variety of [eligible organizations](#), including first-time applicants; from organizations serving communities of all sizes, including rural and urban areas; and from organizations with small, medium, or large operating budgets.

[Read More Here](#)

Global Sustainable Scholars Development Fellowship

The **Global Sustainable Scholars** (GSS) Fellows program offers a 10-week paid immersive training and mentoring with a global sustainability organization. Fellows will gain professional work experience, receive professional mentorship and professional development training, and build an international professional network in sustainability science. Each year, 5 -10 fellows are accepted to join the GSS community, receive advanced professional development training, and build professional connections that foster opportunities for employment and/or graduate school opportunities.

GSS Fellows must:

- Have completed a bachelor's degree within the past four years
- Be enrolled in a graduate school
- Be able to demonstrate their interest in working on global sustainability solutions

[More Information Here](#)

William T. Grant Foundation

The **William T. Grant Foundation** funds research that increases understanding in one of two focus areas:

- Programs, policies, and practices that [reduce inequality](#) in youth outcomes
- Strategies to [improve the use of research evidence](#) in ways that benefit youth

The Foundation seeks research that builds stronger theory and empirical evidence in these two areas. Research should inform change and contribute to a body of useful knowledge to improve the lives of young people. There is no preference for a particular research design or method. Strongest proposals incorporate data from multiple sources and often involve multi-disciplinary teams. More information can be founded at the link provided below.

[More Information Here](#)

Office of Research Innovation and Economic Development Proposal Request

The [Office of Research Innovation and Economic Development \(ORIED\)](#) is soliciting requests for proposals that advance knowledge and support areas of fundamental and applied research in human health and wellness. This research funding opportunity aligns with the UT Strategic Plan which envisions a university that embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion across all areas of research, scholarship, education, and outreach.

Human Health & Wellness Team Building Activities is available until **Sunday, June 30, 2024**.

[Human Health & Wellness Team Building Activities](#)

Brady Education Foundation Funding Opportunity

The [Brady Education Foundation](#) is currently accepting Research Project (RP) proposals and Existing Program Evaluation (EPE) proposals that have the potential to provide data that will inform how to address disparities in educational opportunities associated with race, ethnicity, and family income. The foundation is looking for sustainable, accessible, and strength based projects.

[More Information Here](#)

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