

Neighbor



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Connecting
innovative ideas
to action

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UB student-athletes
give back by doing
what they do best

“It’s all about
being there
for the
community.”

UB undergrad Marissa
Hamilton on interacting
with Buffalo public
school students



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You want worms
with that?



The exhibit explores Buffalo’s long history as a hub for refugees and immigration.

Finding Refuge in Buffalo

A UB faculty member brings refugees’ stories to light

Did you know?
Our city has welcomed
about 15,500 refugees
since 2002.

Albert Makila Mangapi spent a large part of his life running from war in his native Congo. To avoid being killed, he and his family walked 450 miles to Kenya, where they started over as refugees. Fourteen years later they made their way to Buffalo.

His story is one of those chronicled in “Finding Refuge in Buffalo,” a multimedia exploration of the refugee and immigrant experience in Buffalo that debuted at the studios of WNED and WBFO this past May. Jody K. Biehl, director of UB’s Journalism Certificate Program, spent two years chronicling the stories of 24 people who either came to Buffalo in the past 15 years or whose families came here between 1850 and 1960. The 144-page catalog features short profiles of each participant alongside photographs by internationally recognized photojournalist Brendan Bannon.

The opening reception drew more than 200 people, including some of the refugees and their families, Biehl’s



current and former students, local media and Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown. “These people who have had these traumatic experiences share so much,” says Biehl. “These people whose families had these experiences years ago live with these stories. They share this narrative. Yet, there is nothing in our society that brings them together—ever—to talk about them. To share these ideas. To share their experiences. To bring them together in a room

[was] really exciting.”

The exhibition also gave visitors the chance to record their own immigrant stories, forming the beginning of a digital database that Biehl intends to make available for public research. She invited people attending the opening reception to bring family photos or artifacts to share.

“It’s about bringing communities together,” says Biehl. “I believe telling our stories and listening to the stories of others will help us deepen our understanding of what it means to be a refugee and connect us to our shared humanity.”

Shout-outs & Stand-outs

Recognizing what's happening around the community



Sweet dreams

Beds for Buffalo has built 150 twin beds for children by engaging students, corporate teams and community volunteers. The **Service Collaborative of WNY** will distribute completed beds through community partners that serve families surviving poverty.

Every bit helps

The **City of Buffalo** has started a food scrap drop-off program to help cut down on waste. Bring leftover compostable food—like eggshells, coffee grounds, tea bags, and fruit and vegetable scraps—to any one of the five locations, including the **North Buffalo Farmers Market**. Visit buffalorecycles.org for more info.



UB students work with the Service Collaborative of WNY to assemble beds for children in need.

Way to roll

Slow Roll Buffalo brings the whole community together weekly to enjoy leisurely 10-mile bike rides through the city and beyond. The group meets at nearby Shoshone Park on Monday, Sept. 30, to start pedaling at 6:30 p.m., as well as other locations continuing into fall.

Fresh idea

One of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus' latest Healthy Eating Initiatives involves a group of young students, carpentry skills and a lot of fresh, organic produce. Kids from **WNY YouthBuild** worked with **The Foundry** to build two mobile market carts to bring fruits and vegetables to East Side neighborhoods where it's difficult to find fresh, healthy groceries.

How lofty

A state-sponsored competition to redesign the **Buffalo Skyway Corridor** launched last spring is set to announce a winner in September. The prize? \$100,000 for the top design and, hopefully, a more enjoyable commute for area drivers in the future.



UB Through the Years

Power to the people

Back in the day, UB was known as the "Berkeley of the East" because of its reputation as a hotbed of social justice and civil rights activities. Now, an exhibition created by UB Honors College students, and located in the Oscar A. Silverman Library, explores that tumultuous, yet impactful, era. "Revolution: Civil Rights at UB, 1960-1975" is a multimedia timeline of local events featuring oral histories of UB alumni, faculty and Buffalo community members, and audio recordings of influential civil rights leaders, including Martin Luther King Jr., Shirley Chisholm and Cesar Chavez. The exhibit runs through the end of 2019. See more at buffalo.edu/inclusion/projects/civil-rights.

← **Test of Time:** What famous activist who spoke at UB in 1972 returned to campus this past winter? Find the answer on the bottom of the back cover.



Howard Zemsky, president, CEO and commissioner of Empire State Development, speaks to those attending the official launch of the Innovation Hub.

UB launches Innovation Hub

An initiative to move university ideas and discoveries out into the world

New ideas. New partnerships. New business formations. All aimed at expanding Buffalo Niagara's economic footprint within the technology and life sciences sectors, and building the local entrepreneur ecosystem.

In May, New York State and UB announced the official launch of the Innovation Hub, designed to help connect ideas to action and move research from the lab to the marketplace.

The Innovation Hub is funded through a \$32 million Buffalo Billion II grant commitment from New York State and supports innovation at UB and its leading research partners, including Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, The Jacobs Institute, Hauptmann-Woodward Medical Research Institute and Kaleida Health.

"From our historic grain elevators to the invention of electric cars and air conditioning, Buffalo is well known as a robust center of innovation," Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul said at an event held on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus to announce the new initiative.

"The new University at Buffalo Innovation Hub will build upon this legacy as part of our continuing efforts to grow the tech economy and create good-paying jobs in Buffalo and across Western New York."

"The Innovation Hub is a natural extension of our university's work to showcase and expand the type of collaboration that is constantly on display between our faculty experts, students, research partners and the surrounding startup community," said UB President Satish K. Tripathi.

"The new University at Buffalo Innovation Hub will build upon this legacy as part of our continuing efforts to grow the tech economy and create good-paying jobs in Buffalo and across Western New York."

Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul

The Innovation Hub will make it easier for business and technology leaders to collaborate with student entrepreneurs and faculty researchers. UB and its partners collectively bring more than \$412 million in annual research outflows, 30,000 students and more than 3,000 faculty who are focused on making new discoveries and advances in medical device technology, diagnostics, health care delivery, software applications, materials, imaging, sustainability and other diverse innovative developments.

"By leveraging the diverse portfolio of ideas, research, technologies and innovations from UB and its partners, and coupling them with funding, incubation and support services, we have the necessary pieces to create a globally recognized hub for startup business formation and commercialization," added Howard Zemsky, president, CEO and commissioner of Empire State Development.

"When you think of the most successful startup communities from Boston to Silicon Valley to Boulder, they all have strong ties to research institutions and universities as central sources of innovation," says UB Associate Vice President for Economic Development Christina Orsi. "They also have early stage venture capital and connections with successful entrepreneurs and market expertise.

"The hub brings all of this together to help accelerate the number of new inventions spinning out of our institutions into startups that grow in Western New York." ●

COMMUNITY Matters

A note from UB's Office of Government and Community Relations

UB touches thousands of lives within the community and helps to guide our region—and our world—toward a brighter future. Our office sees proof of this every day, and we're glad to share the news of what's happening.

For the past several years, **"Operation Doorhanger"** has kicked off the new school year by providing residents with a directory of helpful information delivered right to their doors. The program is part of our continuing commitment to work together with students, residents and community groups to improve the safety and the overall quality of life in the University Heights neighborhood. The university envisions a community of students and year-round residents who are respectful of and committed to each other, living free from crime and fear, and making their neighborhood a better place to live as great citizens.

We encourage everyone to play a role in improving our neighborhood. This begins with providing your home with proper upkeep and security measures, and extends to reporting suspicious activities or violations you witness within the neighborhood. In the case of emergency, call 911. To report a crime,



please contact the Buffalo Police at 851-4444. To report a situation pertaining to city services, such as street sanitation or housing code violations, please dial 311 from a landline or call 851-4890 from your cell to contact Buffalo's Resolution Center. They will provide you with a tracking number to follow the progress of your complaint. To discuss concerns or opportunities related to UB students, please contact UB's Office of Community Relations at 829-3099 or by email at communityrelations@buffalo.edu.

We look forward to continuing our work together, taking advantage of our unique position amidst a great city and a great university. Please join us by taking an active role in your block club and by getting to know your neighbors, as the University Heights can only be as strong as the people living within it. ●

Tess says:

"Visit buffalo.edu/community for more information and resources."



Tess Morrissey, director of community relations and deputy director of state relations

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Research Round-up

What UB's inquiring minds want to know

1 Do video games lead to real-life violence?

When it comes to the question of whether video games cause violent behavior, it's not a simple yes-no answer. UB research suggests that it's a very complex combination of social, emotional and biological factors that could cause games to trigger violent actions in certain individuals. By focusing on this correlation, researchers hope to develop interventions and policies to help vulnerable players control their aggression.

2 Can communities take a role in curbing postpartum depression?

Community organizations may be the key to helping low-income women of color suffering from postpartum depression. UB researchers found that it does "take a village" to raise children, and that something as simple as getting a ride to the pediatrician (a service a church might offer) or expanded hours at a local clinic could alleviate some of the daily pressures these women feel.

3 Could laundry be a lifesaver?

UB researchers measured the movement of more than 5,500 women aged 63-97 for five years. They found that light physical activity, including gardening and folding clothes, can reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease events, like stroke or heart failure, by up to 22%, and the risk of heart attack or coronary death by as much as 42%.

Learn more about UB research initiatives that affect your life at buffalo.edu/community/outreach/research.



Zandra Cunningham (MWEE '14), Zandra Lewis (MWEE '07) and Tamara Lewis-Cunningham (MWEE '07) in their Pierce Arrow Commerce Park production facility.

The Beauty of Family

Three generations of entrepreneurs take a business from mom's kitchen to the shelves of Target

"My fascination with entrepreneurship was a result of my dad's refusal to buy my beloved lip balm," says Zandra Cunningham, founder/owner of Zandra Beauty. "His 'no' forced me to do the work and make my own."

At just nine years old, she began selling her products at area farmers markets and in a store with her grandmother at the West Side Bazaar. But after a few years, Cunningham wanted to learn more about running her own business, so her mother, Tamara Lewis-Cunningham, recommended the Allstate Minority and Women Emerging Entrepreneurs (MWEE) program. (Lewis-Cunningham and her mother, Zandra Lewis, each participated in MWEE years earlier.)

"My mom and I researched what was out there and found that there really weren't any programs to teach kids about business," says Cunningham. "She suggested I try the MWEE program since she had done it."

At just 13 years old, Cunningham enrolled in the MWEE program and became the youngest person to ever complete it.

MWEE is a joint venture by the UB School of Management's Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (CEL) and the UB Center for Urban Studies that is partially funded by a grant from The Allstate Foundation. Since 2005, the program has helped more than 300 minority and women entrepreneurs move their companies to the next stage of development by forging relationships with successful business owners, setting objectives and outcomes for business plans and more.

After MWEE, business boomed. They quickly outgrew their business incubation space at The Foundry and moved production to the Pierce Arrow Commerce Park where they've established a production facility, showroom and classroom space. Cunningham's specialty was product development, while mom focused on operations and grandma put the finishing touch on products in production, packaging and fulfillment.

Following a big break that put Zandra products in 110 Paper Source stores, Cunningham appeared on Good Morning America with her line of products for the show's "Steals and Deals" segment, resulting in orders from Costco, Wegmans and Whole Foods.

Earlier this year, the company landed a deal with Target for a limited-release gift box that was sold in 707 stores nationwide and online for the retailer's "Black History Month assortment." The order was so big it was more than double what the company had ever produced. In addition, the company just signed a deal with health and beauty marketplace Pharmapacks, which will open the door to e-commerce sales on the company's storefront and on Amazon.com.

Through it all, they say that the key to making the family dynamic work in a successful business has been communication.

"We've always been able to meet in the middle once everyone understands the direction we need to go in and why," says Lewis-Cunningham.

"It's really amazing for us to be able to work together and still learn from each other," says Cunningham. "The best part about it is just being able to feed that energy off of family members who know you so well." •



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Bulls in the Community

UB student-athletes give back to Buffalo area schools

This past April, elementary students raced inside the gymnasium of the Marva J. Daniel Futures Preparatory School in Buffalo. Following them were members of UB's women's basketball team, who recently played in their third NCAA Tournament in four years.

They were all at the school for Saturday Academies, a Buffalo Public Schools program that offers activities for its students at select schools every week. The UB student-athletes were involved thanks to the UB Student-Athlete Advisory Committee's (SAAC) Bulls in the Community program.

After spending some time playing ball on the court, the UB student-athletes headed to the classrooms where they read storybooks to younger Futures students, accompanied by a person in costume who represented the hero or main character of the story being read.

"It's fun for us to see the kids and interact with them," says Marissa Hamilton, a forward on the women's basketball team. "I like showing them all the things that sports can do for you and show them a part of our lives."



The mission of UB SAAC (as well as every other NCAA-sponsored campus SAAC) is to give student-athletes a voice in creating athletic department policies and procedures. SAACs also act as a sort of community center that brings together all of the athletes within an institution's athletic department.

But the UB group wanted to do more with its platform, and over the years has built a community engagement program. Organizers of community service projects and events throughout the Buffalo area can now request that UB student-athletes and coaches make an appearance or roll up their sleeves and help out with volunteer work.

When they're out in the community, the student-athletes say, they are conscious of the platform they have and how they can share their experiences and make an impact.

"It's just something I can't explain really," Hamilton says. "Being able to put smiles on people's faces just by your presence is something not a lot of people get to experience at our age. I don't even view it as being a role model, but just as being someone older who can help out or tell them that they're going to make it. It's all about being there for the community."

Max Glazowski, a member of UB's track and field and cross-country teams, as well as UB's SAAC community outreach coordinator, believes it's the duty of UB's student-athletes to give back because of the good fortune they have received in the form of a college scholarship.

"I think we're blessed with beautiful facilities and an amazing community supporting us," he says. "It's almost out of necessity that we show how grateful we are because a very important aspect of community is that it's a two-way street."

Glazowski has been thinking about the future of the SAAC community engagement program. With the continued success of UB's athletic programs, the number of requests from the community is quickly increasing.

"I want to set up a system where we can do as many appearance requests as possible," he adds. "I know that there's a limit to what we can physically do, but I think whatever it takes to do as much as we can would be ideal." ●



Spiderman listens as freshman forward Alexis Adams reads a story to students attending the Saturday Academy at the Marva J. Daniel Futures Preparatory School in Buffalo.



Have You Heard...

Good news worth sharing

Our climate-action efforts get high marks.

→ Out of 250 institutions worldwide, UB ranked No. 3 in climate action, according to the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings revealed last spring. The ranking, based on one of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, measures universities' research on climate change, their use of energy and their measures for dealing with the consequences of climate change.

Dental care is on the move.

→ More than 800 area school-children boarded Colgate's mobile dental van this May to receive free dental screenings through the Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures program. Students and staff members from the UB School of Dental Medicine assisted and provided each child with a "report card" with recommended follow-up treatment and referrals to area dentists.

We're making health care more careful.

→ Team Alice, a research and advocacy initiative at UB's Center for Successful Aging, was formed after students and faculty heard the story of Mary Brennan-Taylor's mother Alice, who died as a result of medical mistakes. The team plans to develop a partnership in Western New York focused on protecting the elderly from one major misstep—overmedication—across the spectrum of care.

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ACTION ITEMS

Opportunities to connect with UB

Be a successful quitter.

If you are a habitual smoker who wants to quit, UB's EvarQuit program may help. Participants in the EvarQuit clinical research program will receive the smoking medication Chantix (varenicline) and one-on-one support at no cost to them. Visit quitforgoodwny.com for more details.

Go on a power trip.

Learn about renewable energy at UB's Solar Strand, a collection of 3,200 photovoltaic panels designed by world-renowned landscape architect Walter Hood. Students of all ages, as well as the general public, are welcome to walk around and through the installation that provides 750,000 watts to the North Campus. Find more info and a dedicated app at buffalo.edu/sustainability.

Expand your musical horizons.

From Beethoven string quartets to avant-garde ensembles, UB's Department of Music hosts over 150 public concerts and events in Lipps Concert Hall in Slee Hall and in Baird Recital Hall throughout the year; many are low- or no-cost. Go to slee.buffalo.edu for more info.



Numu team members Anish Ajay Kirtane, Olivia Burgner and Abdulrahman Hassaballah after winning bronze at the World's Challenge Challenge finals.

WESTERN UNIVERSITY



Questions for

Olivia Burgner, business administration major at UB and cofounder of Numu

UB students Olivia Burgner, Abdulrahman Hassaballah and Anish Ajay Kirtane never imagined mealworms would change their lives. In 2018, the trio came together to develop an idea for UB's World's Challenge Challenge (WCC), a campuswide competition that feeds into the WCC Global Final in Canada, where student teams from around the world present entrepreneurial ideas addressing the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

When Kirtane mentioned something he had noticed during his travels—that people all over the world, outside of the U.S., eat insects, a profoundly more sustainable protein source than the all-American beef hamburger—the idea was hatched. The students figured that Americans' reluctance to eat insects was likely because of how they looked, and that if they took away the “form” of a bug and made it look more familiar, like a burger, it might catch on here as well.

The thought was a good one. The Numu burger won first place in UB's competition and third at the finals. The team is now working on a food truck and with a food manufacturer in hopes of getting their product into supermarkets across the country.



Why mealworms?

1 We needed to use federally approved insects, and Anish said that mealworms are kind of “juicy,” like a burger. So we found a supplier in Colorado and started playing around with the precooked worms in our own kitchens.

Could you describe the taste and texture?

2 Our ultimate product right now is similar to falafel. That's the comment we get from a lot of people who try them. And that's partly because my partners are from India and Egypt, so that's their palate.

Where did the name Numu come from?

3 We wanted something that meant nothing because this is a first-to-market product and we wanted brand identity right away—kind of like how Pringles means chips now. Also, it sounds like “moo moo.”

What do you hope to achieve with Numu burgers?

4 We want to help make the world a more sustainable place. Because of problems like overpopulation and climate change, people's habits need to change soon. We think Numu burgers are a step in the right direction.



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Alfred Price, associate professor of urban planning who is retiring after 42 years at UB, delivered his farewell lecture to a packed auditorium in Hayes Hall on May 10.

PRICE-LESS

BELOVED PROFESSOR, ASTUTE URBAN PLANNER AND DEVOTED BUFFALONIAN AL PRICE SAYS FAREWELL TO UB

A gifted teacher who captivated students with his 5,000-year history of cities, and decoded for others the complexities of community development finance, Alfred Price could always fill a lecture hall. The beloved professor of urban planning did so one last time this past June when hundreds of colleagues, former students and community members packed Hayes Hall to hear Price reflect upon his 42-year career at UB.

Price, who received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2000, dedicated his "farewell lecture" to his own teachers and mentors, from grammar school to graduate school and into professional life. He said: "They altered my life with a set of values that have served as the nourishment for my intellect, as well as my spirit."

Hired in 1977, Price was brought on as both a faculty member and associate dean to help the fledgling school—then just barely a decade old—establish professional degrees, grow its faculty and bring in external funding. He deftly balanced teaching with administration and community outreach, in particular, working with the city of Buffalo on low-income housing and public service projects.

At the June event, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning Robert Shibley explained there is a generosity to Price's service. "In an institution where faculty are rewarded for their own research, Al was devoted to the collective learning enterprise," Shibley said. "We are grateful for his astute leadership, inspirational teaching, dedicated community service and great friendship." ◉



Ouida Clapp

Clapp, Prices' seventh grade English teacher from Buffalo Public School #53, recognized his oratory potential and set aside personal time to coach him on his elocution, enunciation, pronunciation and pace. "No one went farther than the job description or proverbial call of duty than Mrs. Clapp. It has been an inspiration to me all my life," Price said.



Enjoli Hall, UB alumna

"Professor Price exemplifies what this program and this profession is at its best: We're visionary but pragmatic ... We can articulate the challenges and opportunities of a community in numbers and prose, fluent in the language of project finance as well as power and privilege—all underlined by a commitment to the poor and marginal in our society. If that seems like a tall order for one person, Professor Price shows that it can and must be done, and with style and wit at that."



Dan Hess, chair of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at UB

"Al Price excels in the classroom. This is where he really comes alive. He teaches with his heart ... and knows just what to say to students to bring out their best work."

Price's Mentors and Mentees





A new web resource for the community!

Now find events, news, volunteer and learning opportunities, contacts, and much more at buffalo.edu/community.



The Big Picture

Bees are a-buzzin' at UB Over the summer, hundreds of thousands of bees began buzzing on UB's North Campus. Housed inside special boxes set up in a grassy space near Bizer Creek, the six hives came about through the work of a faculty member and a bee-loving student. → David Hoekstra, clinical assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, first suggested bringing honeybee hives to campus for workshops and classes and to promote UB's mission of sustainability. Alex Dombrowski, a biological sciences major who's had a lifelong interest in bees, helped turn the idea into a reality with project funding from the University Honors College and UB Sustainability. She and Hoekstra hope their initiative will provide opportunities to conduct research on honeybees or, as Dombrowski likes to call it, "bee-search." It will also offer members of the UB community, and perhaps people outside UB, the chance to learn about beekeeping. → Hoekstra says they plan to partner with Campus Dining and Shops to eventually provide honey to students, and to donate honey to local food pantries for those in need. ●

STOP BY AND SAY HELLO!

Reach UB's Office of Government and Community Relations at 829-3099 or communityrelations@buffalo.edu, or visit us at 124 Parker Hall on the South Campus.

The University at Buffalo is the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York system. If you have questions about UB's programs or wish to be added to the mailing list for this publication, please call 716-829-3099, or send an email to communityrelations@buffalo.edu. Produced by the Division of University Communications, University at Buffalo. Editor: Sally Jarzab. Creative Director: Rebecca Farnham. Contributors: Charles Anzalone, Robby Johnson, Richard Klingensmith, Kevin Manne, Cory Nealon, Rebecca Rudell and Rachel Teaman. August 2019 19-GCR-005.

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