

# UB

SOUTH CAMPUS SUMMER 2016

# Neighbor

## Hayes Days

UB celebrates the reopening of a historic campus and community landmark

IT IS NOTHING LESS THAN AMAZING to think that the building known to us as Hayes Hall—with its expansive façade and majestic tower—has stood upon its plot of land for 142 years.

Over the decades, its purpose, structure, occupants and surroundings have changed. And yet, this historic landmark has never looked better than it does today, following the completion of a five-year renovation project that has restored the building's stately exterior while reimagining its dynamic interior. A multi-day event marking the project's completion with tours, lectures, presentations, special exhibitions and other events will take place this September, and the whole community is invited.

Given that Hayes Hall is home to UB's School of Architecture and Planning, it's no surprise that the renovation has resulted in a masterwork that balances historic preservation with modern design amenities

and award-winning sustainability features.

It's the largest-ever restoration of the landmark building (and the first since the School of Architecture and Planning took occupancy in 1977). The Hayes Hall project invested nearly \$44 million into the evolving South Campus and signals other improvements to come.

It's big for Buffalo, too. The effort strengthens the community by supporting important planning efforts across the city and region, while creating a space for the school and the public to connect. The building's first-floor atrium gallery will serve as a signature event venue where scholars, practitioners, leaders and community members can come together to learn and share.

And for students, who will re-occupy Hayes Hall this fall, the renovation brings vibrant new learning spaces designed to facilitate creative thinking and collaboration. ◉

**Before and After** See more of the restoration and renewal of Hayes Hall in a photo gallery of the building before, during and after the five-year renovation effort: [ap.buffalo.edu/about-us/leading-edge-facilities/restoring-a-landmark--hayes-hall/photo-gallery.html](http://ap.buffalo.edu/about-us/leading-edge-facilities/restoring-a-landmark--hayes-hall/photo-gallery.html).

### Join us!

A grand reopening is scheduled for **Sept. 23 and 24** to share the "new" Hayes Hall with the community—and the world. To view the full schedule or to register, visit [ap.buffalo.edu/hayeshall2016](http://ap.buffalo.edu/hayeshall2016).

#### Friday, Sept. 23

Hayes Hall ribbon-cutting

10 to 11 a.m.

Open house and building tours

11 a.m. to noon

Evening reception, lecture and exhibits

5 to 8 p.m.

#### Saturday, Sept. 24

Community Conversation:

9 a.m. to noon

Presentations and discussion around the School of Architecture and Planning's

community engagement and partnerships then, now and into

the future

# Walk This Way

**H**AVE YOU VISITED Linear Park lately? If not, you may be in for a surprise when you do. Through the cooperative work of residents, community groups, public officials and students from UB and elsewhere, the once-overlooked former railway line has become a beautiful recreational green space and a valuable new community asset.

Just blocks from Main Street, the park extends about 1.5 miles from approximately Custer Street to Seattle Street and links to other portions of the converted railway that runs through Buffalo and Tonawanda. According to Cassandra Hayes, who has been at the helm of the revitalization effort since it began 10 years ago, the parcel's newest features include lighting along both sides of the path, a wheelchair ramp and four new bike racks, enabling riders to secure their bikes and walk over to connecting streets in the University District neighborhood. A community clean-up held on May 15 brought together a crew of hard-working volunteers to get the park in shape for summer strolls and bike rides.



Next on the wish list are benches and some special attention for the railway bridge abutments—Hayes sees them as the perfect spot for artists' murals. The park will also be the setting for future community events. "Someone even suggested a music festival," says Hayes. But

there's no need to wait to make a visit—the park is the perfect place right now for walkers, runners and bicyclists. Pets with responsible owners are welcome as well. "People are really enjoying the trail. I have yet to meet anyone who's not pleased with it," says Hayes. ●



## Get "Uptown Fresh"

The new Uptown Fresh Healthy Lifestyle Market brings affordable fresh fruits and vegetables to residents in the University District. A Buffalo Promise Neighborhood event, the market operates at the corner of Bailey and Dartmouth avenues from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on most Saturdays throughout the summer. September dates are Sept. 10, 17 and 24. Stop by and see what tasty offerings local growers have available. ●

# What Mentorship Means

At Highgate Heights, visits from UB staff and students are a chance to make a friend—and a difference

**C**HILDREN WHO SUCCEED in school and in life tend to do so with the help of caring adults—family, friends, teachers and neighbors. Mentoring is another way to build those meaningful connections, and it's been shown to improve participation and performance in school and contribute to higher graduation and college admission rates.

A group of UB staff and students spent part of this past school year working with fourth-grade students at Highgate Heights as part of the New York State Mentoring Program. Once a week for one hour after school, they paired up to play, draw, create, share thoughts and share laughs—little moments that can have big impact.

"I see how beneficial and fun it can be to get one-on-one attention at that age," says Andrea Proper, a department manager in UB's School of Nursing who volunteers as a mentor. Zachery Buresch, an economics and political science major who also participated, found that the role of mentor is something different from teacher or parent, something unique. "A mentor is a friend, but a special kind of friend."

Mentors in the program are screened and trained, and careful

matching promotes positive results right from the beginning. When Katherine Hall, an exercise science major, first met her mentee, they made a list of things they had in common. "Our list was two and a half pages long," Hall recalls, "and ranged from playing with puppies, to reading books, to liking blue Jolly Ranchers."

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo launched the program in fall 2015 as part of a comprehensive focus to prevent kids from dropping out of school. UB's participation in the program will continue in the 2016-17 school year.

Even in the limited time they had together this past year, the mentorship pairs established strong bonds. "On our last session before summer break, my mentee was happy to hear I would be coming back to see her throughout her fifth-grade year," says Proper. "I asked her what she was excited to do over the summer, and she said to sleep in and help her dad work on cars. She has an interest in mechanics and her favorite subject is math—we might just have a future STEM major coming up the ranks, and I'm happy to be there to encourage her over a game of Jenga!" ●



If you would like to become a mentor, please contact Dan Kelly in the Community Relations Office at 645-4665 or dpkelly3@buffalo.edu.

## UB director of community relations named



Tess Morrissey has been named director of community relations and deputy director of state relations at UB. As part of UB's Office of Government and Community Relations, Morrissey will work to advance the university's relations and communication with civic and community-based organizations, businesses and residents within the neighbor-

hoods surrounding UB's campuses.

Prior to joining UB, Morrissey worked for Empire State Development and in the Albany office of then-Lt. Gov. Robert J. Duffy. She received a bachelor's degree in international relations and French from The College of Wooster in Ohio, and is currently enrolled in the UB School of Management's Professional MBA program. A Buffalo native and resident of Buffalo's Elmwood Village neighborhood, she is a board member for the City Honors/Fosdick-Masten Park Foundation. ●

# Partnering Up

## UB Honors College hosts Community Partners Fair



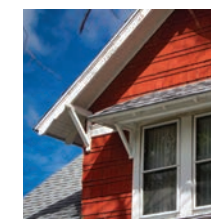
This fall, another round of UB Honors College students will meet with a variety of community organizations at the Community Partners Fair, an event designed to help connect these groups with students who are ready and willing to help out.

Honors College freshmen are required to perform 20 hours of service in the community as part

of the spring semester's Honors Colloquium course, during which they learn about and respond to some of the challenges and opportunities that face the Buffalo community. Each year, the Honors College partners with a number of organizations that are actively making Buffalo a better place to live. The list of partners has included the University Heights Tool Library, Westside Ministries, Bristol Home, Seneca Street Church's afterschool program, Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy and many others.

The Community Partners Fair is co-coordinated by the Honors College and the Student Engagement office. Groups and individuals wishing to learn more about volunteer opportunities within their communities are encouraged to visit [volunteerwny.org](http://volunteerwny.org) to learn more. ●

**Help for UB Home Buyers** To encourage home ownership and support stabilization and revitalization in and around the South Campus, the University at Buffalo established the UB H.O.M.E. (Home Ownership Made Easy) program for full-time faculty and staff. Qualified buyers can receive a combination of interest-free deferred and forgivable loans of up to \$5,000 to help cover down payments and closing costs, or for interest rate reduction. Up to \$7,500 is available for



homes in the target area east of Bailey Avenue. The program is funded by the University at Buffalo Foundation in partnership with West Side Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc., a Neighbor Works America Chartered Member with a proven track record of housing and community revitalization. If you have questions or would like to apply to the UB H.O.M.E. program, contact Megan Burns-Moran at West Side Neighborhood Housing Services at 885-2344. ●

**University Heights Arts Association** Congratulations to the University Heights Arts Association (UHAA) for winning a "Rising Star" Spark Cultural Award from the Arts Services Initiative of Western New York, which commemorates an arts organization that's making big strides early on. Founded in 2013 by Mary Ouimette-Kinney and her husband, UB alumnus Lawrence Kinney, UHAA provides low-to-no-cost art activities for artists and enthusiasts, including 3,100 children and families per year. "We were honored to be placed among Western New

York's finest arts and cultural organizations because of our efforts in the University District," says Ouimette-Kinney. "This award sheds positive light on the University Heights neighborhood including the businesses, artists, neighbors and students who support us through their time and resources." ●



# Universitree Heights

## Neighborhood replanting project gets close to goal

When ReTree the District was launched two years ago, its ambitious goal was to plant 1,000 trees to help reforest the University District. Following a big planting in the spring, the tree tally now stands tall at 785, and the last round of trees are expected to go into the ground this fall.

The initiative requires a lot of work and money—not to mention trees and shovels—all generously supplied by a contingent of supporters from local organizations, community groups and businesses, along with neighborhood residents. In addition to the plantings, an ongoing tree stewardship program helps educate people about how to properly care for the trees as they grow. With a total of 1,150 project volunteers logging more than 4,850 service hours so far, the overall effort is truly cooperative. Beyond strengthening the tree canopy, the project is strengthening community ties.

"When you walk or drive down a street that has dozens of newly planted trees, you get the sense that this is a community that cares, is actively engaged, and is investing in its future," says Darren Cotton, director of community development and planning for the University District Community

Development Association, who's a leader of the re-tree initiative as well as a UB alumnus. "Through the planting process, as well as stewardship and maintenance days, people from all walks of life have come together with a common goal of improving their neighborhood. I've talked with longtime homeowners who have grown up with the neighborhood and have seen decades of change. They see a newly planted tree as a sign of renewal, a sign that this place still matters."

UB is a proud sponsor of ReTree the District, providing financial and organizational support to the project. More than 150 student leaders from the UB Honors College and UB Academies have helped with both planning and planting.

For more information, visit [ourheights.org/retree](http://ourheights.org/retree). ●

"They see a newly planted tree as a sign of renewal, a sign that this place still matters." Darren Cotton



## UB on the Green Turns 10

The annual UB on the Green performance series drew happy crowds to the lawn of Hayes Hall on July 20, 27 and Aug. 3 for music, dance and fun. For 10 years running, this free, family-friendly festival has celebrated summer in the South Campus neighborhood by bringing together residents for live entertainment, as well as activities, demonstrations and workshops that focus on a different theme each night. ●



## University at Buffalo

Office of Government and Community Relations

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## Howdy Neighbor!

UB Neighbors Day Block Party and Safety Fair brings students and residents together

Caring for the community starts with getting to know the community. That's the premise of the UB Neighbors Day Block Party and Safety Fair, which gives UB students who live off campus and those who live and work in the University District the chance to get acquainted and to learn about all that the neighborhood has to offer.

This year's event is scheduled for **Friday, Sept. 9 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.** outdoors on the South Campus. Students and community residents alike are invited to visit information tables staffed by local businesses and organizations, meet neighbors and community representatives, and enjoy live music and refreshments. The festivities kick off with a parade—the popular “Running of the Bulls,” which features UB’s Thunder of the East marching band along with student athletes making their way through



neighborhood streets to the lawn of Hayes Hall to get the party started.

Now in its eighth year, the UB Neighbors Day Block Party and Safety Fair encourages UB students to contribute to making the University District neighborhood a safe and satisfying place to live. ●

STOP BY AND  
SAY HELLO!

Reach UB's Office of Government and Community Relations at 829-3099 or [communityrelations@buffalo.edu](mailto:communityrelations@buffalo.edu), or visit us at 109 Allen Hall, Buffalo, NY 14214.

The University at Buffalo is the largest and most comprehensive campus in the State University of New York system. If you live in the South Campus neighborhood and 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 email to [communityrelations@buffalo.edu](mailto:communityrelations@buffalo.edu). Produced by the Division of University Communications, University at Buffalo. Edited by Sally Jarzab. August 2016 16-GCR-003