Spring 2017

University at Buffalo

Neighbors and community connect connec

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Law clinics give legal help to those in need

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Attending to the health care needs of the homeless

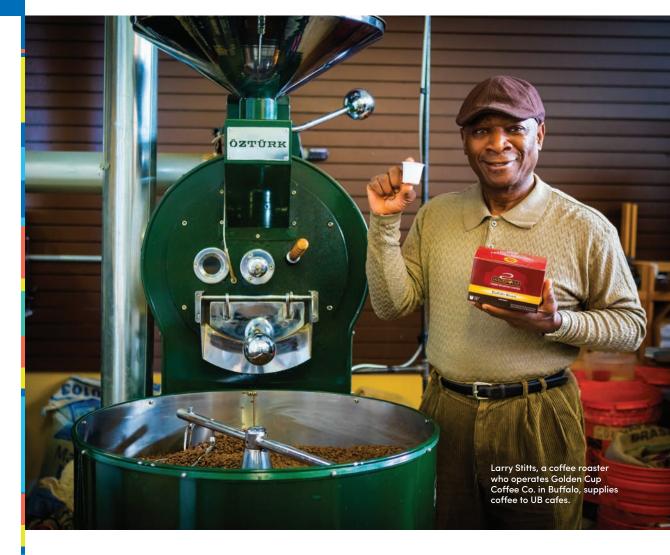
"The idea behind service learning is that there is an identifiable community need."

David Milling, faculty adviser for UB HEALS



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Action Items:
UB-related activities
for the community



Partnering Up

More and more minority- and women-owned businesses in the community are getting on board at UB

The cafes in bustling Goodyear and Harriman halls on UB's South Campus have their coffee supplied by Larry Stitts, a coffee roaster who operates Golden Cup Coffee Co. on Jefferson Avenue in Buffalo. For small, local operations like his, the prospect of securing work with the University at Buffalo has felt daunting in the past.

According to Dan Vivian, UB's assistant vice president of procurement services, businesses in the community often felt shut out. "At our first meetings, many people said it was impossible for them to get work at the university," Vivian said. "They were frustrated."

But an invigorated mission by Vivian and the buying staff to increase the amount of business the university does with minority- and women-owned business enterprise (MWBE) companies is changing that dynamic.

UB has grown the amount of business done with state-certified MWBE firms to 41 percent of the university's spending on services in the second-quarter of 2016, compared with just 7.5 percent in the same quarter of 2011. The growth of just minority-owned business contracts rocketed from 0.33 percent to 25.5 percent.

To identify minority- and women-owned firms that offer

services the university needs, Vivian and purchasing agent

Linda Deni attend community meetings and host job fairs.
Once a firm is identified, it must be certified by Empire
State Development as minority- or women-owned, or both.

Minority-owned

grew from 0.33

five years

business contracts

to 25.5 percent in

"A lot of these firms are microbusinesses without a lot of internal resources. They're one or two people, so they need to be educated on how the state system works," Deni said.

The help that Stitts received was a game-changer for his coffee venture. He was put in touch with Tom Ulrich, the director of the UB School of Management's Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (CEL), who helped him qualify for a matching grant to buy a machine that produces K-cups.

Stitts and his wife also took an entrepreneurship course at the CEL, focused on developing a business plan. He advises other minority contractors to start the process of working with UB by calling—and not to feel daunted.

"Approaching UB can be difficult," Deni admitted. Therefore, she makes a point to meet with every business interested. To date she has met with more than 200 firms, and many now have contracts with the university. •

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hnterested in doing business with UB? Contact Linda Deni at 645-4501 or lindaden@buffalo.edu for help.



Recognizing what's happening around the community

Great News!

The University District
Community Development
Association Inc. (UDCDA)
received \$300,000 in Better
Buffalo Fund grant money
to help property owners
along Bailey renovate and
rehabilitate storefronts and
restore the avenue as a
commercial hub.



Sweet! The restoration of the iconic Parkside
Candy shop on Main Street is looking good, also thanks in part to a \$125,000 chunk of the Better Buffalo Fund grant award.

Welcome! Congratulations to the first participants in the UB H.O.M.E. program, which offers interest-free deferred loans to University at Buffalo employees who buy homes in the neighborhoods around the South Campus.



Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology Main Street mural



Allen Street NFTA Metro Rail station sculpture rendering

Nice Work! New public artworks are emerging all around the community as part of an Albright-Knox Art Gallery initiative. An outdoor mural on the side of the Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology on Main Street, a series of portrait murals appearing along the Michigan

Street African-American
Heritage Corridor, a mural
series on Jewett Avenue,
and a sculpture inside
the new Allen Street NFTA
Metro Rail station at the
Jacobs School of Medicine
and Biomedical Sciences
are bringing new presence
and interest to these public

Hooray! The Fruit Belt **Neighborhood Solar Part**nership, a demonstration project of National Grid in collaboration with the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, has been installing solar energy systems on homes in the Fruit Belt neighborhood. The plan to install 150 rooftop systems will generate energy for the local grid and bill credits for participants, while serving as a test for expanding renewable energy in urban reaions.

Happy Spring! It's a great time to say thanks to the many volunteers from the University Heights
Collaborative, the University Heights neighborhood and UB who planted hundreds of tulip and daffodil bulbs in Minnesota Linear Park last fall, and to the UB engineering students who designed and built an automated watering system in the Tyler Street Community Garden.







UB Through the Years

MLK Speech in Buffalo

Decades ago, at the invitation of the University at Buffalo Graduate Student Association, Martin Luther King Jr. made a brief but memorable appearance in Buffalo. The illustrious civil rights leader addressed the progress made toward racial justice in our country—and warned of the forces that were holding it back. One of them was the belief that things naturally get better with time.

"Human progress never rolls in on the wheels of inevitability," he said, speaking to an audience of more than 2,000 students, faculty, staff and community members. "It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of dedicated individuals, and without this hard work, time itself is an ally of the primitive forces of social stagnation." •

Test of Time: Do you know what year King delivered his speech at Kleinhans Music Hall? Find the answer on the bottom of the back cover.

Justice for All

Providing legal help to those with nowhere else to turn



hen a new UB law clinic was established this past fall with the goal of responding to the legal needs of low-income and immigrant communities in Western New York, a few of those needs immediately became apparent.

In October, raids at four Buffalo restaurants led to the apprehension of 25 undocumented workers. Then,

in January, an executive order restricting travel from seven predominantly Muslim countries impacted many individuals in the greater Buffalo community. In both instances, the clinic was there to serve.

Under the direction of Assistant Clinical Professor of Law Nicole Hallett, participating students represented the "Buffalo 25," as the restaurant workers became known. And they took on a case of someone affected by the executive order. Hallett also helped university officials in assisting the 112 UB students caught up in the confusion.

A law clinic is an experiential learning project that puts law students to work handling real-life cases. Often, clinics are centered on a single social or legal matter. This new Community Justice Clinic responds to a variety of issues as they emerge, whether they relate to worker rights, tenant rights or other civil rights matters.

"We've stayed really busy," reported Hallett as the clinic kicked off the spring semester, which saw an increase in enrollment from fall. She said what the participating students gain from their participation is invaluable. As opposed to an internship, in which students are generally assigned to assistive roles, a law clinic empowers them to act as real lawyers. "They are the ones who are actually accomplishing the client goals—it becomes their responsibility," she said. "They go to court, work on public policy and conduct community education."

The clinic will continue to reach out to low-income and immigrant communities in the region, seeking to identify cases. "We're really grounded in serving their needs, and we're always looking to take on new matters," said Hallett. She welcomes inquiries from the community, from both individuals and organizations, and can be reached at 645-3193. •

A Look into UB's Law Clinics

Law clinics give law students real-world experience under the supervision of professors who hold law licenses. At the same time, they provide valuable access to justice to the community, addressing important social issues and providing legal advocacy to vulnerable populations.

Family Violence and Women's Rights Clinic

Here, students advocate on behalf of victims of intimate partner violence in court and through community outreach and education.

Civil Liberties and Transparency Clinic

Government accountability and civil liberties are key in this clinic that aims to work on behalf of individuals, grassroots groups, journalists and regional/national advocacy organizations.

Law and Social Work Clinic

Students in UB's dual program in law and social work employ their knowledge in a range of local agencies that serve the community.



Animal Law Pro Bono Clinic

From local laws dealing with stray cat populations, to protections for retired racehorses, to investigations of animal abuse, many kinds of animal welfare issues get attention here.

Environmental Law and Policy Clinic

A focus on how environmental policy whether state, national or international—affects Western New York brings issues such as climate change and waterfront development to the fore.

Health Justice Clinic

LegalCare, a partnership with Roswell Park Cancer Institute, provides counsel on legal problems that arise after a cancer diagnosis. Another effort applies the same model of medical and legal experts working together to the addiction treatment setting.

Mediation Clinic

Using the increasingly vital craft of conflict resolution, students help resolve disputes in family law, small claims and federal cases. They also assist others in the community with alternative dispute resolution.

COMMUNITY

Matters

Notes 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.



UB welcomed **Gov.**

Andrew Cuomo to campus at the start of the year for his first regional State of the State address. He announced a round of investments in greater Buffalo that would positively impact both UB and its surrounding community, including proposals to fund

an environmental study

Tess says:

"Let us know what's on your mind. Comments and questions from community members are always welcome. Call us at 829–3099, email communityrelations@buffalo.edu or visit our new website at buffalo.edu/community."

for the expansion of the Metro Rail from the UB South Campus station to the town of Amherst; to create a new Innovation Hub to spur entrepreneurial activity in and around the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus; and to expand the class size of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

In other news, the City of Buffalo recently received a grant to secure 13 Ameri– Corps VISTA members, and we're thrilled to have two of them working for us and for you.

The VISTA members in our office are both recent UB graduates (Madisen Hughes studied political science and Dylan Steed majored in environmental studies) putting their education to great use in service to our city, its neighborhoods and its residents. They are already busy at work developing volunteer recruitment plans for the University Heights Tool Library, amona other thinas. Going forward, they'll act as community organizers to help block clubs, business associations and community groups in planning their efforts and getting things done.

As our office and our community partners well understand, the goals are big: to expand opportunities and to combat urban blight. But so, we know, are the possibilities. •





What UB's inquiring minds want to know

How can cancer treatment be made more effective?

UB's School of Pharmacy and 1 **Pharmaceutical Sciences** received a \$1.8 million grant from the National Cancer Institute to support research into an untested method of delivering antibodies to target colon cancer cells. If effective, the approach could be applied to nearly any type of cancer.

What are the effects of a polluting plant on area residents?

A team of UB researchers is conducting a multiyear analvsis to determine how emissions from the Tongwanda Coke facilities have affected the health of area residents and employees. A judge ordered the Tonawanda Coke Corporation to fund the \$11.4 million study after the company was convicted of violatina federal environmental laws in 2013.

How can we help municipalities ao areen?

A team of UB researchers is investigating ways to improve green infrastructure planning through the use of mathematical computations. The goal is to help reduce sewage overflows, improve the health of nearby lakes and rivers, beautify neighborhoods and increase property values.

Are e-ciaarettes bad for your lungs?

As more people use e-cigarettes, a pilot study awarded to a UB epidemiologist, funded by a \$100,000 grant from the Prevent Cancer Foundation, seeks to determine how the lungs of e-cigarette users compare to those of nonsmokers and tobacco smokers.

How can we counteract the escalating nursing shortage?

More than a million nurses will be needed in the U.S. by 2022. With grants totaling \$2.2 million, UB's School of Nursing aims to fill shortages in the workforce by supporting students who pursue a doctor of nursing practice degree and by hiring primary care nurse practitioners to serve in rural and underserved areas within Western New York

UB Neighbor Spring 2017



UB physician Christian DeFazio (in plaid shirt) checks out a homeless man's feet. (Below) Moudi Hubeishy (left), Amanda Gotsch and DeFazio try to convince a woman to move into a shelter.

Street Healers

UB medical students make house calls to the homeless

or more than a year now, small groups of UB physicians and medical students, accompanied by social workers from the community, have been setting out into the night in search of the homeless.

When they find someone, their first order of business is to make sure the person is receptive to their help. If so, they try to find out what the individual needs, whether that is medical attention, basic supplies (the team carries snacks, blankets and other necessities with them) or just someone to listen. They look for an opening to persuade the person to take

advantage of available social services. The main goal, always, is to help get people off the street. It's all part of UB HEALS (Homeless health, Education, Awareness and Leadership in Street medicine), an innovative street medicine and outreach program that brings health care to the city's homeless while simultaneously giving UB medical students real-life experience in community medicine. Since its inception in 2016, about 150 UB medical

students have participated, gaining an experience and education they would never have if they were restricted to the classroom.

One of fewer than 10 of its kind in the country, the program was founded and is managed by Moudi Hubeishy, a second-year student in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, David Milling, senior associate dean of student and academic affairs in the medical school and the faculty adviser for UB HEALS, says it fits with the Jacobs School's recent focus on service learning.

"Our students have always been volunteers," Milling explained. "But over the past two years, we have tried to develop service learning

programs, which are different. If you're volunteering, you get on your bike and go on a 5K ride. The idea behind service learning is that there is an identifiable community need. Students committed to service learning undergo training, go through the activity and then reflect on it."

For this particular program, Milling said, "The students have to understand what homelessness means, the backgrounds of the types of individuals who end up in this predicament and how it relates to health care." As future doctors, they also need to learn to cope with what they encounter. "When I go out with them, some of what I see is pretty raw, even after 20 years of practicing," he said. "It's a lifelong skill to be able to process what you have seen and not become cynical about it."

Though the people they help often disappear into the night, never to be seen again, occasionally the students see their efforts result in a life-changing outcome. Hubeishy told of a man in his 50s whom the team first met sleeping on a park bench in Lafayette Square. He had partially amputated feet from frostbite, both infected and in need of new bandages, but he refused help.

He slept on that same bench every night, so the UB HEALS team continued to visit him. After several weeks, he allowed them to change the dressings on his feet and provide some basic medical care. Eventually he allowed them to be the point of contact with the health care staff at the hospital when things would get so bad he'd go to the emergency room.

But he was still homeless, and still sleeping in the park, in the cold, every night,

"We were really afraid he was going to die," Hubeishy said. "Every time we saw him we would wrap his whole body with blankets and tarps to keep the rain off."

He made it through the winter and was later accepted into housing. Now he has an apartment with the accommodations he needs and is being seen by a physician.

"A lot of us connected with him and we really felt the limitations of the health care system," Hubeishy said. "But to know we kept him alive during this very vulnerable time, when he was so susceptible to the dangers of homelessness ... we felt like UB HEALS had a reason to exist." •



Inspiring Minds

UB-led partnership lands \$1.2 million to extend transformative Buffalo Public Schools science program



hat happens when the students become the teachers? In a popular Buffalo Public Schools science and engineering program led by the University at Buffalo, magic happened.

The Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Program (ISEP)—a collaboration between the Buffalo Public Schools and UB, Buffalo State College and the Buffalo Museum of Science—

sought to transform the teaching and learning of this critical branch of knowledge for middle- and high-school students.

As it nears the end of its five-year funding, the program has served nearly 6,000 students in classrooms, after-school programs and summer camps, as well as hundreds of teachers in

professional development. And it has earned high praise for increasing interest in science and math during the pivot from middle to high school, a time when many students lose interest.

Through ISEP, science and math teachers at a number of middle and high schools in the Buffalo school district received a wealth of new professional development opportunities. Chief among them was the chance to spend a summer conducting interdisciplinary research with local scientists. Overall, the experiences encouraged educators to add interdisciplinary content to lessons and to devote more class time to activities like experiments that emphasize problem-solving. This approach to teaching makes science more exciting for students, challenging them to think broadly and arrive at answers on their own.



One portion of the program, in which teachers and students mapped invasive species at Tifft Nature Preserve using smartphones with GPS capability, led to an unexpected finding. "The teachers realized the students could do more on the programming side than they could," said ISEP project lead Joseph A. Gardella Jr., a SUNY Distinguished Professor and the John and Frances Larkin Professor of Chemistry at UB. "The teachers were depending on the students to get things set up, and it had a synergistic effect."

The federal government liked that synergy and the ability to measure its impact on learning. So the National Science Foundation just granted an additional \$1.2 million to continue this part of the program for three more years.

The benefits of having students and teachers in the same training programs could prove to be significant. "This is a focused, small piece, but it's unique. If you bring teachers in the class along with students, it's more complicated but the outcomes are way better," Gardella said.

The focus on geospatial information systems, or GIS, has multiple implications. First, it increases the students' interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), the overall goal of the ISEP program. And second, it responds to a fast-growing job market for people trained in GIS technology.

"In addition to software companies, environmental companies have huge GIS sections. Urban planners, planning and environmental offices—they all need people in GIS because they don't use paper maps anymore," Gardella said. "And medical researchers use GIS to track diseases."

Former UB PhD student Meghan Kern (left) works in a lab with a Buffalo Public Schools teacher in 2012 as part of the ISEP program. (Above) Joseph Gardalla Gardella said the goal is to bring the program to all 58 Buffalo public schools, and grants are being sought to make that happen. He sees the success of the program as part of the region's economic transformation, preparing residents for the occupations that will be in demand. "I think everybody in this community wants to have a chance for those jobs," he said. •





Cood news worm shari

Well-served

For the second consecutive year, Military Times newspaper has ranked UB as one of the nation's best universities for military veterans and service members.

Birds are on the rise

More than two dozen peregrine falcon chicks have fledged at the MacKay Heating Plant on the South Campus since 2009, the year a nesting box was installed at the top of the facility.

It's in the genes

The third annual Genome Day, held this past March, welcomed 400 eighth-grade students from the Buffalo Public Schools to UB's Center of Excellence and Roswell Park for hands-on activities in

formatics.

Caring for those

in crisis

genomics and bioin-

UB's Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion led a successful drive to fill and donate 300 comfort bags for Crisis Services of Erie County. The bags offer an assortment of necessary personal care items—and a bit of comfort—to victims following a forensic exam.

Open opportunity

A group of UB representatives, led by President Satish K. Tripathi, has pledged to help build a culture of inclusiveness and equity by signing the City of Buffalo "Opportunity Pledge." More than 5,400 individuals from 223 businesses and organizations have signed the pledge since it was initiated in 2015 by Mayor Byron W. Brown to foster equity and inclusion as key to the city's economic prosperity.

UB NeighborSpring 2017

ACTION ITEMS

UB offers a wealth of opportunities to learn, play, grow and connect. Here are a few of our picks

Hear from health experts.

UB's Mini Med School gives the community a taste of the medical school experience through public lessons on a variety of medical subjects geared toward the layperson. Lectures take place in 150 Farber Hall, on the UB South campus. Visit medicine.buffalo. edu/alumni/events-and-programs/alumni/discovery-series/mini-medical-school.html to learn more.



Get ready for Green. Summer is just around the corner, and so is UB on the Green, the annual free outdoor performance series and community fair. This year's fun is scheduled for Wednesday, July 19, and Wednesday, July 26.

Sign up your kids for summer. A variety of summer camps, programs and opportunities are available at UB this summer for children and teens. Check out the options at ubthissummer. buffalo.edu/camps/index.html.

Go digital. UB's Center for **Industrial Effectiveness has** launched a series of massive open online courses (MOOCs) that delve into digital advances within manufacturing. The Digital Manufacturing & Design Technology Specialization is hosted on Coursera, an open online education provider, and is available to all. Course content, including videos and readings, can be accessed at no cost; the fee to enroll and earn a specialization completion certificate is \$49 per month. Learn more at tcie.buffalo.edu.

UB Neighbor Spring 2017



Cherie Williams, human resources officer for the University Libraries, about UB's extraordinary spirit of giving

The Campaign for the Community provides an opportunity for all UB employees to make donations to charitable community organizations. Since it began in 1976, participants have donated more than \$17 million to various causes, and most of the money raised each year stays right here in Western New York. It's the largest employee giving campaign in New York State and consistently ranked as one of the top five campaigns in the nation.

UB donors can choose to contribute to any of more than 2,800 health, human service, educational, environmental and cultural organizations. These donations help tens of thousands of our fellow community members through services in health and wellness, neighborhood revitalization, economic development and more.

Cherie Williams, human resources officer for the University Libraries, serves as her department's liaison, helping to administer the campaign within the Libraries and to plan fundraising events to support a local agency chosen by departmental faculty and staff. She has also worked on the campus-wide steering committee and participated on the liaison subcommittee. Here, she talks about what this effort means to her.

Why are you involved with the campaign?

Participating in the campaign is one way I can make a positive contribution to my community and those who are in need. This campaign is successful due in large part to the number of people who volunteer their time and effort to help raise these dollars. The generosity of my university colleagues always amazes me. I feel very fortunate to live and work in a community where people help and support each other.

What impact does the campaign have on the community?

Over the years, we've had representatives from the United Way and other community organizations speak at meetings of University Libraries faculty and staff. It is encouraging and enlightening for all of us to hear about the services these agencies offer to those who need assistance. Contributing to this effort helps to raise up our entire community.

How do you inspire others to give?

Charitable giving is a personal matter, so it's important to share facts and figures about the impact a single gift can make. We have many critical needs in our community, and receiving assistance from one of these agencies supported by the campaign can be life-changing for an individual or family.

Is there a specific organization that you like to support?

I'm an ardent supporter of Habitat for Humanity/Buffalo. I support it through the campaign, and my family and I also volunteer on-site on a monthly basis, working on new construction projects or rehabbing older houses. We believe people should have access to affordable housing.







Sweet Sounds UB students play an instrumental role with Buffalo String Works, a nonprofit organization that offers free violin lessons to refugee children. The students frequently volunteer as teaching assistants and also participate in outreach performances. Recently, they captivated youngsters at Buffalo P.S. 18 with the lilting sounds of a string quartet. Linnea Cremean, pictured above left, played viola.



'Old-school' Meets New School

UB BUILD GETS A HIGH-PERFORMANCE EXTERIOR

If you've been watching the new facility for the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences take shape, you've probably noticed the distinctive, clay-colored siding. Clad in thousands of terra-cotta panels, the building's façade pays visual homage to our area's rich architectural history; numerous Buffalo landmarks, including the Peace Bridge, feature the age-old earthenware material. Another benefit beyond its beauty is its durability—the tiles are expected to last for hundreds of years.

Western New York is home to one of the world's most prolific terracotta manufacturers: Boston Valley Terra Cotta, which also is working with the UB School of Architecture and Planning on some installations in Hayes Hall. A family-owned business since 1889, it beat out two German firms to win the Jacobs School contract. The raw clay used to produce its custom products is sourced from within 500 miles of the company's Orchard Park facility.











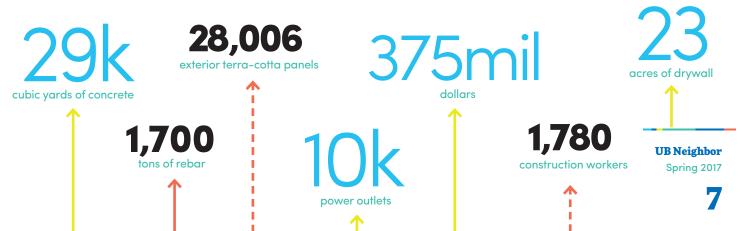


1 A detail of a Boston Valley rain screen panel. 2 Raw clay arrives from within 500 miles of the plant and is then mixed to create specific colors. 3 Each "supersack" of clay weighs about 2,200 pounds. 4 The formed clay panels are baked at 2,100 degrees Fahrenheit for more than 24 hours. 5 Each panel is checked for color accuracy with a spectrophotometer. 6 Finished panels are packed into protective crates and shipped to the job site.

GO FIGURE!

What it takes to build a modern medical school building

The downtown Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences building—the biggest construction project in UB's 170-year history—is nearing completion, with classes scheduled to start in the new 8-story facility in January 2018. Approximately 2,000 students, faculty and staff are expected to populate the new site, and that's not the only big sum associated with this massive undertaking. Here's a selection of others.



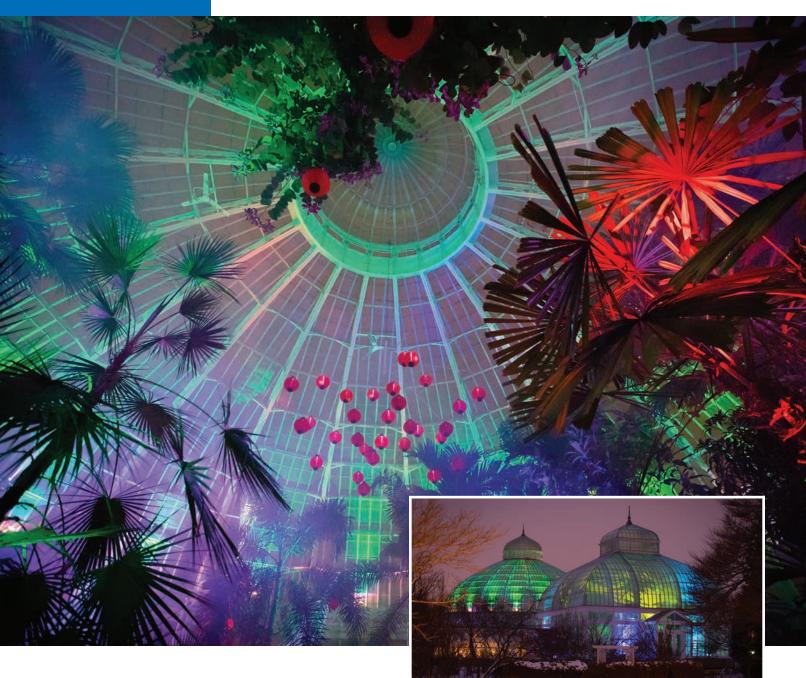


Office of Government and Community Relations 109 Allen Hall Buffalo, NY 14214 Nonprofit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Buffalo, NY Permit # 311



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

On with the Glow The recent Lumagination show at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens wowed visitors, transforming the site into a spectacle for the senses.
This year, students from UB's Department of Theatre and Dance contributed several projects to the light and sound display. Outside, their illuminated sculptures lit up the lawn. Inside, as pictured here, their installations in the glass-domed Panama Cloud Forest evoked the multihued haze of the rainforest, while technicolor orbs added flash and fantasy.
The work was designed and constructed as part of two experiential learning classes in the department's design and technology program last fall. Participating students gained valuable hands-on experience in site-specific design principles—and got to share a bit of their creativity with the world.

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 109 Allen 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 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, Lauren Newkirk Maynard and Grove Potter. August 2016 16-GCR-003