UPDATES

**Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center**

*Community Outreach & Engagement:* On December 13, 2008 UROC hosted the “*Imagining Art & a New Landscape*” workshop, led by Robert Close of Close Landscape Architecture and Seitu Jones, artist, as part of the architectural team, Urban Design Perspectives and Charles Levin architects. Thirty people came together to share ideas and visions for the use of art in the Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center building and the surrounding landscape. Participants organized themselves into groups based on four themes: Stewardship and Ecology, Culture and Symbolism, Gardening and Sustainability, and Art and Architecture. The groups were asked to brainstorm and generate ideas about how art and landscaping could be used to respond to these three areas through the UROC building and in the surrounding landscape. A summary of the workshop ideas will be posted at [www.uroc.umn.edu](http://www.uroc.umn.edu).

*Building Renovation:* The University of Minnesota selected Stahl Construction and MN Best Enterprises, Inc. as the construction team for the renovation of the Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center (UROC) at the former Plymouth-Penn shopping center, located at 2001 Plymouth Ave. in north Minneapolis.

The team was chosen from eight proposals submitted to the UROC construction committee. In addition to other factors, the construction committee felt that CEOs Wayne Stahl (Stahl) and Hyon Kim (MN Best) had assembled a high quality, experienced work teams and had the strongest ratings in several key areas including inclusion of Targeted Group Businesses (TGB).

*Community-based Research:* UROC has been working with a large number of community partners and University researchers to understand the family and community health dimensions of the mortgage crisis. A proposal to conduct a rapid assessment is underway. For more information, contact Makeda Zulu-Gillespie ([zulug001@umn.edu](mailto:zulug001@umn.edu)).
The University of Minnesota Child & Family Center-update: The University and Dante Cichetti remain committed to delivering evidence-based research services to North Minneapolis, and are in the process of identifying alternative ways in which this might occur.

UNP Community Affairs Committee Ads in NorthNews
In an effort to increase awareness and attendance at UNP Community Affairs Committee meetings, announcements of the meetings are appearing in the January 14th, February 4th, March 4th, and April 1st issues of NorthNews. Take a look at the ad and if you have ideas and/or resources to help publicize the UNP Community Affairs Committee Meetings to a wider audience please let us know at: unp@umn.edu

Northside Seed Grants (NSG) Spring Round of Competition
The deadline for the next round is March 15, 2009. These seed grants support community organizations that operate programs serving residents of the Minneapolis Northside community by providing student research assistants and faculty researchers to carry out neighborhood-initiated and neighborhood-guided projects. The program awards grantees approximately 200 hours of student time to work on a project defined by the community organization (260 hours during the summer.) Applications are available online at the Center for Urban & Regional Affairs (CURA) website: http://www.cura.umn.edu/NSG.php. For more information, contact Kris Nelson, the University-Northside Partnership Seed Grant coordinator at 612-625-1020 or ksn@umn.edu.

Community Benefits Agreement
Northside Residents Redevelopment Council, as the facilitator of the Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) process, has secured William Mitchell law school to draft the CBA. Once the draft is completed, the UNP and FIPSE-UROC work groups will be asked to review the document and provide feedback, along with the Community Affairs Committee, and other residents of North Minneapolis. For more information, contact Sherrie Pugh Sullivan at spugh@nrrc.org or (612) 335-5924.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Studio Tobechi Photo Exhibition
Come enjoy a Sunday evening filled with images, conversations, great ice-cream, and most of all, beautiful people. This photography exhibition opening/closing and live silent auction.
Sunday, February 1, 2009
Sebastian Joe's Ice Cream Cafe, located on Hennepin and Franklin.

Patrick Henry High School’s Community Involvement Day
Friday, February 6, 2009 8:00 am - 3:30 pm
Henry High School 4320 Newton Ave North in Minneapolis

UNP Community Affairs Committee Brief – January 28, 2009
Speakers are invited to present to a group of students on your work, organization, or area of expertise. The sessions last for 45 minutes—30 minute presentation and 15 minute Q & A—and will range from 15-30 students. You can present multiple times throughout the day or just once!

For more information on how you can help, contact Yusuf Abdullah: Career & College Coordinator at (612) 668-2008, Henry High School or email Mr. Yusuf at yusuf.abdullah@mpls.k12.mn.us. You can also contact Ms. Susan Breedlove: Resource Teacher, Henry High School at (612) 588-8470.

**Capri Theater Show**
Coming up on Saturday, Feb.7, at 7 p.m. is an extraordinary show you don't want to miss: "Sanford Moore & His First Loves." Tickets are $25 or $20 for groups of 10 or more. To order tickets call Uptown Tix at 651-209-6799.

**West Broadway Revitalization at Community Development Expo**
The City of Minneapolis, the West Broadway Coalition, and the Northside Arts Collective are hosting a Community Development Expo on Saturday, February 7, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Plymouth Christian Youth Center High School, 2210 Oliver Avenue North, across from the Capri Theater at West Broadway and Oliver. Attendees will gain a clearer understanding of how, despite troubled economic times, community organizations, developers and the City of Minneapolis are working to forge ahead on transformative projects for West Broadway Avenue. Projects on display will include: public plaza, a new look for the avenue, development projects, and more. Public input will be solicited.

**27th Annual Konopka Lecture: The Panic Over Girls**
On February 11, at 10:00 am at the Neighborhood House at the Wellstone Center, 179 Robie Street East- St. Paul, Mike Males will challenge these media myths and show how today's generation of young women and girls are succeeding in their education and careers; are remarkably happy, well connected to others, optimistic; are civically engaged and eager to become leaders.

To continue the conversation, we are pleased to host a small lunch gathering with Mr. Males immediately following the reception. A limited number of seats are available and lunch-goers must RSVP in order to reserve their place. To RSVP for lunch (no RSVP is needed to attend the lecture or reception), send an email to boche001@umn.edu or call 612-626-1980 as soon as possible—space is limited and reservations are first come, first served.

**Take 6 Headlines Free Concert**
The University of Minnesota’s Office for Equity and Diversity and the School of Music will host "From Every Voice," an annual concert in honor of the life and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., on Sunday, February 22, 2009, at 4 p.m. at Ted Mann Concert Hall. The concert is free and open to the public; no tickets or reservations are required.

For more information about the concert, visit [http://www.academic.umn.edu/equity/MLK2009.html](http://www.academic.umn.edu/equity/MLK2009.html) or call the Office for Equity and Diversity at 612-624-0594.
CURA Northside Seed Grants (NSG) Workshop
On Monday, February 23 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the Plymouth Christian Youth Center, 2210 Oliver Avenue North, community members, students and faculty will be sharing what they learned from participating in Northside Seed Grants and how the research has affected their community. With funds provided by the U of M office of the Senior Vice-President for System Academic Administration, and most recently the Urban Research and Outreach/Engagement Center (UROC), CURA has facilitated 15 ‘Northside Seed Grant’ community based research projects since 2007. Attend this workshop to hear more about NSG, CURA’s grants and other funding for Community Applied Research. RSVP by February 18, 2009. For more information or to register visit: http://cehd.umn.edu/events/cura/

Public Meetings on Public Bicycle System Proposal
Please join representatives from Transportation Services and Nice Ride Minnesota for an open forum to discuss a public bike system on campus and throughout the City of Minneapolis on one of the following dates: Wednesday, February 4 at 7 pm at the Calhoun Square Atrium, Thursday, February 10 at 7 pm in the Whole (basement level of Coffman Memorial Union at the University of Minnesota, and Thursday, February 12 at 7 pm at the Minneapolis Central Library 300 Nicolett Mall. RSVP to Andrea Peterson at andrea.petersen@ci.minneapolis.mn.us (include which meeting attending)

Free Participatory Action Research Workshop
The Office for Public Engagement is pleased to sponsor a three-hour introductory workshop designed to engage University faculty, community members, students, and staff in exploring the principles and practice of Participatory Action Research (PAR.) Organized by Professor Darlyne Bailey, Assistant to the President, the workshops will be facilitated by Kelly McNally Koney, an Organization and Community Development Consultant.

Participatory Action Research (PAR) engages university researchers and community stakeholders in collaborative investigations that rely on mutual expertise to derive solutions and actions steps that can effectively address real life, complex issues in the local community. In recent years, community-based participatory action research has gained prominence in multiple disciplines and areas of study.

The workshop will be offered twice during the spring semester at various locations:
- Tuesday, March 24, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, President’s Room (3rd floor), Coffman Union
- Wednesday, April 22, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Minneapolis Urban League, Laura Scott Williams Room 2100 Plymouth Avenue

There is no cost to attend this workshop; however, in order to make sure we have adequate materials, please RSVP to Anna Bates at public@umn.edu at least seven days prior to the respective workshop session. Please contact the Office for Public Engagement at 612-624-1562 if you have any questions or need further information.

Employment Opportunity

UNP Community Affairs Committee Brief – January 28, 2009
Program Director, The Whole Village Project, University of Minnesota

Applications are invited for a Program Director position for the Whole Village Project (WVP) at the University of Minnesota. The position begins March 15, 2009 or as soon as possible thereafter. The priority application deadline is February 19, but applications may be accepted after that date. The Program Director is responsible for the day-to-day operations and the ongoing development of the Whole Village Project (WVP) at the University of Minnesota, a new interdisciplinary approach to research and education programs related to public health, economic development, education, natural resource conservation, and food security and nutrition projects in rural Tanzania.

For more information, log onto the University’s Online Employment Page at employment.umn.edu. The requisition number is 159772. If you have questions about the application process, please contact Kathy Yaeger at 612-624-5841 or yaeger@umn.edu.