

Civic Engagement at Bates

2023-2024

INTRODUCTION

Harvard Center staff appreciate the opportunity to take the lead for Bates College in community-engaged learning, research, and related work, and we are grateful to the students, faculty, community partners, donors, and other colleagues for their support and partnership. The programs outlined in this report offer Bates students extraordinary opportunities to connect their learning to real-world projects and partners, address the challenges and needs of today's world, and develop habits of civic engagement and social responsibility that will shape their lives and communities for years to come. We are pleased to share this account of civic engagement at Bates in the 2023-2024 academic year.

ACADEMIC Initiatives

Bates has long been committed to the engaged liberal arts, which includes intimate learning environments, tough intellectual challenges and the support to surmount them, and ample opportunities to put theory into practice. The college's Harvard Center offers a wide array of resources for faculty and students to connect classroom, laboratory, and studio learning to real-world contexts and partners and to bring the pressing issues of our day into on-campus learning environments.

Community-Engaged Learning Courses

The cultivation of civic awareness and informed civic action is at the heart of a Bates education. Many faculty embrace community-engaged learning as an innovative pedagogy that enhances student engagement with course content while developing important academic and life skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration across differences, and ethical reasoning, while contributing to the flourishing of communities near and far. The 50 (unduplicated count) community-engaged courses listed below were offered during the 2023-2024 school year and produced over 24,398 hours of community-engaged work. Many of these courses met a threshold of community-engaged practice that allowed them to be tagged in the course catalog as Community-Engaged Learning (CEL) courses. All contributed to the cultivation of civic awareness and informed civic action.

Africana

- Introduction to Africana, AFR 100, Professors Charles Nero and Josh Rubin

American Studies

- Art and Social Practice, AMST 303 (cross-listed with Art & Visual Culture), Professor Michel Droge

Art and Visual Culture

- Decolonizing the Museum, AVC 233, Professor Erin Hyde Nolan

- Art and Social Practice, AVC 303 (cross-listed with American Studies), Professor Michel Droge
- Silhouette to Selfie: Portraiture as a Medium, AVC 267, Professor Erin Hyde Nolan
- Textile Towns: Medieval Tuscany and Modern Lewiston, AVC S24 (cross-listed with Classical & Medieval Studies), Professor Megan Boomer

Asian Studies

- Chinese Drama and Storytelling, ASIA 287, Professor Zhenzhen Lu

Biology

- Science Communication, BIO 126, Professor Andrew Mountcastle
- Marine Science, BIO/EACS 113, Professor Kat Anderson

Classical and Medieval Studies

- Colonization and Resistance in Late Antique North Africa, CMHI 291 (cross-listed with History), Professor Mark Tizzoni
- Trans-Saharan Africa in the Middle Ages, CMHI 293 (cross-listed with History), Professor Mark Tizzoni
- Textile Towns: Medieval Tuscany and Modern Lewiston, CMS S26 (cross-listed with Art & Visual Culture), Professor Megan Boomer

Digital & Computational Studies

- Public History in the Digital Age, DCS 301C (cross-listed with History), Professor Anelise Shrouf
- PIC Math: Topics in Industrial Mathematics, DCS 316 (cross-listed with Mathematics), Professor Carrie Diaz Eaton

Economics

- Data Science for Economics, ECON 368, Professor Kyle Coombs
- Economic Statistics, ECON 250 A & B, Professor Sandra Goff

Education

- Perspectives in Education, EDUC 231, Professors Bronwyn Sale and Bill Wallace
- Teaching in the Sciences, EDUC 235, Professor Wallace
- Race and Justice in American Education, EDUC 242, Professor Mara Tieken
- Adolescent Literacy, EDUC 255, Professor Anita Charles
- Teaching Through the Arts, EDUC 265, Professor Bronwyn Sale
- Educational Psychology, EDUC 274 (cross-listed with Psychology), Professor Elena Maker Castro
- Learning and Teaching: Theories and Practice, EDUC 343, Professor Bronwyn Sale
- Special Concepts in Special Education, EDUC 362, Professor Anita Charles

- Education, Reform, and Politics, EDUC 380, Professor Mara Tieken
- Theory and Practice of Writing and Tutoring, EDUC S19, Professor Bridget Fullerton
- Interdisciplinary Curriculum and Methods, S21, Professor Bronwyn Sale
- Perspectives in Education - Redesign, EDUC S51, Professor Mara Tieken

Environmental Studies

- Practicum in Community-Engaged Research, ENVR 417, Professor Jamie Haverkamp
- Local Food: Sovereignty and Justice, ENVR S24, Professor Christine Martinez

First-Year Seminars

- Exploring Education Through Narratives, FYCS 300, Professor Mara Tieken
- The Sporting Life, FYS 395, Professor Su Langdon
- Reading Japan in Multicultural Picture Books, FYS 491, Professor Keiko Konoeda
- This Land is Whose Land,? FYS 541, Professor Joseph Hall
- The Study of Human Cooperation, FYS 544, Professor Sandra Goff
- Embodying Activism, FYS 556, Professor Brian Evans

French & Francophone Studies

- Documenting the Genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda, FRE 379, Professor Alex Dauge-Roth

Gender & Sexuality Studies

- Sociology of Gender, GSS 270 (cross-listed with Sociology), Professor Emily Kane

Hispanic Studies

- Screen and Media, HISP 228, Professor Stephanie Pridgeon

History

- Colonization and Resistance in Late Antique North Africa, CMHI 291 (cross-listed with Classical & Medieval Studies), Professor Mark Tizzoni
- Trans-Saharan Africa in the Middle Ages, CMHI 293 (cross-listed with Classical & Medieval Studies), Professor Mark Tizzoni
- Wabanaki History of Maine, HIST S28, Professor Joseph Hall
- Public History in the Digital Age, HIST 301C (cross-listed with Digital & Computational Studies), Professor Anelise Shrout

Mathematics

- Mathematics for Social Justice, MATH 233, Professor Katy Ott
- PIC Math: Topics in Industrial Mathematics, MATH 316 (cross-listed with Digital & Computational Studies), Professor Carrie Diaz Eaton

Neuroscience

- Neuroscience of Video, NRSC 255A, Professor Olivia Kim

Politics

- American Parties and Elections, PLTC 211, Professor Ryan Williams

Psychology

- Developmental Psychology, PSYC 240, Professor Elena Maker Castro
- Educational Psychology, PSYC 274 (cross-listed with Education), Professor Elena Maker Castro
- Senior Thesis/Community-Based Research, PSYC 457, Professor Su Langdon
- Women, Culture, and Health, PSYC 343, Professor Su Langdon
- Statistics in Psychology, PSYC 218 A & B, Professor Amy Douglass
- Community-Based Research Methods, PSYC 262, Professor Yun Garrison
- The Development of Youth Community Engagement, PSYC 379, Professor Elena Maker Castro
- Psychology and the Law, PSYC 317, Professor Amy Douglass

Religious Studies

- Religion, Violence, and Nonviolence, REL 133, Professor Cynthia Baker

Rhetoric, Film, & Screen Studies

- Social Advocacy and Activism, RFSS 205, Professor Sammi Rippetoe

Sociology

- Race and Justice in American Education, SOC 242 (cross-listed with Education), Professor Mara Ticken
- Sociology of Gender, SOC 270 (cross-listed with Gender & Sexuality Studies), Professor Emily Kane
- Crime, Justice, and Society, SOC 211, Professor Michael Rocque

Theater and Dance

- Devising Performance, THEA 202, Professor Amy Huang

Publicly-Engaged Research, Independent Studies, and Internships

During the 2023-2024 school year, 24 community-engaged senior theses were completed by 33 students under the direction of Bates faculty members. These projects occurred in the following departments:

- Earth & Climate Sciences (1)
- Economics (1)
- Education (1)
- Environmental Studies (5)
- Gender & Sexuality Studies (1)
- Mathematics (1)
- Psychology (13)
- Sociology (2)

Dozens more students completed independent study projects or academic internships that had significant community engaged aims and content.

Community-Engaged Research Fellows Program

Each year during the Winter semester, the Harward Center hosts the Community Engaged Research Fellowship – a program that provides funding, mentoring, and peer reflection for student projects that engage public needs through significant academic research. Participants are typically seniors who are working on a year-long Honors Thesis or a Winter semester thesis or capstone project under the guidance of a faculty member in their major field of study. Sometimes a student develops a research question based on prior work they’ve done with a community agency. In other cases, the student’s research might tie in with questions a faculty member is exploring in the community, or it might be prompted by a request from a particular community partner. In most cases, the sustained attention and detailed analysis that an individual student can provide through a focused semester or year-long project results in a product or outcome of genuine use to the community partner.

This year’s six participants in the Fellowship met together, along with Harward Center mentors Morgan Kinney and Darby Ray, every other week during the semester for a shared meal and conversation about their community-engaged work and about the distinctive values and aims of community-engaged research. They eventually presented their projects at the college’s annual Mount David Summit research symposium in a lively session entitled, “Research and the Public Good: Multidisciplinary Explorations.” Not only did each student present their own project, but they also worked as a team to delve into the vital importance and multiple dimensions of collaboration for community-engaged research. Each student’s work sought to address a community question or need. Below are the 2023-24 CER Fellows and their project titles:

- Alexa Bowerfind (Psychology) “Mental Health and Resilience among Homeless Youth”
- Caitlin Chan (Mathematics, Gender & Sexuality Studies) “Queer Data for Queer Change: Examining Substance Use Among Queer Youth in Androscoggin County, Maine”
- Isaac Levinger (Sociology), “Schooling and the Second Generation: Exploring the Student Experience of Second and 1.5-Generation African Immigrant Youth in Lewiston, Maine”
- Marisela Flores Pineda (Economics), "Thread by Thread, Brick by Brick: Impacts of Housing and Clothing Contributions on Educational Outcomes"

- Samantha Shapiro (Psychology), "Beyond the Game: Assessing the IMPACTs of a Collegiate Sports Mentorship Program on Social-Emotional Development in Children With Disabilities and Serious Illnesses"
- Emma Volkers (Psychology) "Creating Accessible Resources Through Trauma-Informed Strategies: Resource Collection, Organization, and Interaction for Women in Lewiston, Maine"

Faculty Development

Bates faculty took advantage of numerous opportunities offered by the Harvard Center during the 2023-2024 academic year to enhance their knowledge and skills relevant to community-engaged teaching and research:

- Working with the Dean of Faculty's Office, Harvard Center staff provided new faculty with an orientation to Lewiston, past and present, and to critical community engagement.
- New faculty and their loved ones enjoyed a backyard supper party with Harvard Center staff and numerous community-engaged faculty members – a wonderful chance to meet new colleagues and learn about how faculty get involved with the off-campus community.
- PEP – a publicly-engaged pedagogy community of practice for pre-tenure faculty – provides a welcoming, supportive space for early career faculty members to learn about the ethics and effective practices of community-engaged teaching and to lay the groundwork for a Community-Engaged Learning course they will offer regularly at Bates, all while creating a community of new friends. The 2023-2024 PEP cohort, which was led by Harvard Center staff members Ellen Alcorn, Morgan Kinney, and Darby Ray, comprised thirteen faculty members from ten different academic departments:
 - Prof. Megan Boomer, Art and Visual Culture
 - Prof. Liana Brent, Classical and Medieval Studies
 - Prof. Lucy Britt, Politics
 - Prof. Kyle Coombs, Economics
 - Prof. Jennifer Hamilton, Anthropology
 - Prof. Amy Huang, Theater
 - Prof. Olivia Kim, Neuroscience
 - Prof. Eric LeFlore, Biology and Africana
 - Prof. Elena Maker-Castro, Psychology
 - Prof. Hanna McGaughey, Japanese Language and Asian Studies
 - Prof. Anamika Sen, Economics
 - Prof. Daniel Slane, Biology
 - Prof. Austin Smith, Economics
- Two semester-long Book Circles were hosted by the Harvard Center and facilitated by gifted community-engaged faculty members:
 - During the Fall semester, professor Anelise Shroul (Digital and Computational Studies) facilitated a faculty/staff book circle on *In the Shadow of the Ivory Tower: How Universities Are Plundering Our Cities* by Dr. Bavarian Baldwin.

- In the Winter semester, Harvard Center faculty fellow, professor Ian-Khara Ellasante, facilitated a book circle on *Anti-Racist Community Engagement: Principles and Practices*, edited by Christina Santana, et al.
- Joining forces with the Office of Equity and Inclusion, and with support from several departments and offices at Bates (Africana, American Studies, Digital and Computational Studies, Sociology, the Office of Intercultural Education) and the City of Lewiston, in late February the Harvard Center hosted Dr. Bavarian Baldwin, author of one of our Book Circle books, for a two-day campus visit. In addition to a lively public address, Dr. Baldwin met with students, Book Circle participants, interested faculty, and members of the Bates senior administration to discuss his research and ideas on how colleges and universities can become genuine community assets. Student perspectives on Dr. Baldwin's visit to Bates are presented in [this blog post](#).
- Across the year, Harvard Center staff members conducted individual consultations with dozens of faculty members to brainstorm ideas or deepen knowledge and skills for community-engaged learning courses and research projects, and for working well with diverse community partners.

In addition to the above, the Harvard Center supported four faculty members in their successful applications for community-engaged Course Development grants from the Bonner Foundation:

- Professor Anelise ShROUT (Digital and Computational Studies) received support for revising the course, Public History in the Digital Age, to feature a new collaboration with the Maine Museum of Innovation, Learning and Labor in which students will conduct historical archival research on people who have lived and worked on Lisbon Street, the downtown hub of Lewiston, Maine. This work will inform an upcoming exhibit at the museum.
- Professor Jennifer Hamilton (Anthropology) was awarded a grant to lay the groundwork for community-based research within the course, Ethnographic Methods, by seeding relationships with community organizations where students can embed over the course of the semester as volunteers who are also practicing their ethnographic research skills through participatory observation and other methods. By mid-semester, students will identify a small research question of interest to the community partner, which they will focus on during the second half of the semester, eventually providing a short report to the partner.
- Professor Katharine Ott (Mathematics) received grant support to work on revisions to the course, Math and Social Justice, which is a staple of the Math Department. With the goal of ensuring high-quality community-engaged student work in the course, regardless of who is teaching it, professor Ott worked with Harvard Center staff to identify community partners with recurring data projects who are interested in collaborating with Bates students from year to year.
- Professor Amy Douglass (Psychology) is using grant funds to integrate a new community-engaged project into her First Year Seminar: The Psychology of Wrongful Convictions, which introduces students to the interface of psychology and law, particularly in the context of wrongful convictions and systemic injustice. In collaboration with partners at the Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition, students will

develop research-based materials to contribute to a new Legal Literacy Library project that will provide information and guidance to incarcerated persons and their advocates.

With nominations and support from the Harvard Center, two faculty members were selected by Project Pericles to serve as Periclean Faculty Leaders during the 2023-24 academic year:

- For his Periclean project, professor Brian Evans (Dance) developed and taught a new community-engaged First Year Seminar: Embodying Activism. As a conduit to learning skills for critical thinking and college-level writing and research, students in the course learned about different forms of activism and gradually developed their own understanding of what it means to embody activism in today's world. Toward that end, each student was paired with a Maine-based activist whom they got to know and about whom they eventually wrote a profile, as one of their writing assignments in the class. Professional photographs were taken of each activist, and these photographs, along with the student-written profiles, were assembled into a gorgeous small book ([pdf version here](#)) designed to educate Bates students and others about some of the diverse activists and activism happening in the Lewiston/Auburn and Portland, Maine communities. For more, [see this blog post](#).
- Professor Joe Hall (History) used his time as a Periclean Faculty Leader to create a new version of the course, Wabanaki History in Maine, in which his students learned from Wabanaki leaders, consulted with local K-12 educators, and eventually developed materials designed to help educators engage their students on the topic of Wabanaki history. Since 2001 Maine law has required public K-12 schools to teach Wabanaki studies. As a report released in 2022 made clear, however, few schools have done this work effectively, if at all. Professor Hall's students helped connect Wabanaki educators and their resources with local public school teachers.

In addition, former Periclean Faculty Leader, Professor Seulgie Lim (Politics), shared some of her Pericles-supported CEL work at the national conference of the Association of American Colleges and Universities as a member of a panel entitled, "Creating Curricula, Empowering Communities."

Finally, Professor Emerita of Politics and Gender and Sexuality Studies Leslie Hill served once again as a Harvard Center Faculty Fellow, providing highly-valued support, wisdom, and collegiality across the year.

Faculty Community Engagement Grants

Community Engagement Grants are offered to faculty in amounts up to \$500 to support community-engaged learning activities in existing courses. Grants may enhance community-engaged learning, community-engaged research, and community engagement activities in the curriculum through the support of new materials, transportation, honoraria, and the like. Community Engagement Grants awarded for the 2023-24 academic year totaled approximately \$7,800 and included these projects:

- Kat Anderson, Biology; supplies for a Marine Science Expo with students from Lewiston Middle School
- Megan Boomer, Art & Visual Culture; for museum admission and transportation for students to Maine MILL
- Anita Charles, Education; to provide gift cards and lunch in Commons for Poland Middle School “tutees,” and refreshments for an end-of-semester community-engaged learning project celebration for families
- Kyle Coombs, Economics; meals for students participating in the City of Lewiston streetlight Hack-a-Thon
- Alexandre Dauge-Roth; French & Francophone Studies; for advertising costs and refreshments for an event on the Rwandan genocide
- Amy Douglass, Psychology; for a copy of a trial transcript for a community-engaged learning course project
- Michel Droge, Art & Visual Culture; for supplies to create stickers, buttons and posters raising awareness about gun safety legislation
- Bridget Fullerton, Humanities; for supplies and refreshments for the inaugural WriteIn!@Bates (an event for LMS students and their teachers)
- Yun Garrison, Psychology; for guest speaker honoraria, transportation to community partner locations, and supplies for focus group facilitation
- Sandra Goff, Economics; for refreshments and printing of presentation posters for an end-of-semester community-engaged learning project celebration with community partners
- Jamie Haverkamp, Environmental Studies; for refreshments and printing of presentation posters for an end-of-semester community-engaged learning project celebration with community partners
- Amy Huang, Theater; for museum admission and transportation for students to Maine MILL
- Keiko Konoeda, Japanese; for supplies for food culture presentation at Geiger Elementary School
- Zhenzhen Lu, Chinese; for guest speaker honoraria
- Christine Martinez, Environmental Studies; for guest speaker honoraria and tours of Land in Common (a community land trust) and the Damariscotta fish ladder
- Erin Nolan, Art & Visual Culture, for museum admission and transportation for students to Maine MILL
- Sammi Rippetoe, Rhetoric, Film, and Screen Studies; for guest speaker honoraria
- Josh Rubin, Africana; for community partner honoraria

CO-CURRICULAR Initiatives

The cultivation of informed and engaged citizens for a thriving democracy has long been a fundamental aim of higher education in the United States. At Bates, numerous co-curricular programs are designed to foster students’ civic awareness, inquiry, deliberation, and action. These programs run alongside curricular initiatives; they are outside of the formal academic

program and yet have student learning and development as their primary goal. The co-curricular programs below each include significant learning and leadership development dimensions. They are led by talented Harvard Center staff and include generous community partners, all of whom serve as mentors and guides for student participants. Peer reflection, collaboration, and leadership are also signature pieces of each program.

Bates Civic Action Team (BCAT)/America Reads/America Counts (ARAC)

During the 2023-2024 academic year, 12 students spent 794.25 documented hours providing remote classroom and tutoring support. Sites included: Connors, Farwell, and McMahan Elementary Schools, Lewiston Middle School, Lewiston High School. Most students worked 4-6 hours per week at their community sites, and they met monthly (on an optional basis) for skill building and reflection. Students worked an average of 4 hours per week at their community sites, and they met monthly (on an optional basis) for skill building and reflection.

Bonner Leader Program

This year, 25 Bonner Leaders spent 3,645 hours participating in a range of significant community-engaged activities:

- **Asha Abdimasad '27** taught Arabic at a local mosque and helped out in a high school chemistry classroom.
- **Maggie Amann '25** as a “Big Sister,” she provided mentoring to a “little” at Connors Elementary School. She was an active member of Bates Students Demand Action, a new student club focused on preventing gun violence. Finally, she worked closely with our AmeriCorps VISTA member to provide “Aspiration Days” to all graduating 8th graders at Lewiston Middle School.
- **Sivani Arvapalli '26** focused primarily on organizing a highly successful series of Red Cross blood drives on the Bates campus.
- **Lucy Batres Rodriguez '26** was a digital youth organizer for the Boston-based organization City Life Vida Urbana, focused on tenants' rights. She also worked with young adults learning how to repurpose furniture, and helped to make a podcast intended for students in a high school Biology class.
- **Leith Chikh Rouhou '26** focused primarily on the Trinity Jubilee Center where he helped with food sorting, meal prep, and serving. He also provided back office support with data entry and French translation.
- **Nayeli Cortes-Tzompantzi '24** helped out in a high school chemistry classroom, volunteered in the soup kitchen at the Trinity Jubilee Center, and helped to organize donated medical supplies for Partners for World Health.
- **Marisela Flores Pineda '24** conducted community-engaged research for the Store Next Store, an organization that provides tangible resources for youth who are unhoused. She also connected Bates students to volunteer opportunities with the

Lewiston Housing Authority, and served as the Bonner senior intern. In that role, she helped to plan and lead workshop sessions, and mentored younger Bonner Leaders.

- **Emily Gonzalez '25** interned with the Lewiston District Court, where she recorded and transcribed court sessions, and assisted the Court Clerk with a variety of tasks.
- **Anzal Isaak '26** provided Arabic tutoring in reading and writing at a local mosque.
- **Daisy Kettle '24** worked with a local elementary teacher to plan and implement a renewable energy curriculum developed by the EPA. She also conducted research about the tradeoffs of carbon credit programs for an agriculture working group in the city of Auburn.
- **Chidera Kalu-Uka '27** provided mentoring and tutoring to students at Next Step High School and the Root Cellar.
- **Rashad King '25** worked with Habitat for Humanity to develop building opportunities for Bates students.
- **Isaac Levinger '24** supported students currently displaced from school through Tree Street Youth's Rooted program. He also conducted a year-long thesis project exploring the educational experiences of second-generation K-12 students.
- **Eduardo Mazariegos Mancia '27** volunteered as a judge and mentor with the Boston Debate League, an organization that provides debate-inspired learning opportunities for student in Boston's public schools.
- **Aleisha Martinez Sandoval '26** worked with AK Health and Human Services to translate documents into English and French as well as create brochures and educational videos. She also redesigned the organization's website.
- **Cassidy Meyer '25** taught skiing to a group of 20 elementary school students through the Maine Wellness Outdoor Center.
- **Lily Miller '25** volunteered with the Center for Wisdom's Women and assisted the coaches for Lewiston High School's Track and Field team.
- **Tammy Namangale '27** conducted research on alternatives to incarceration for the local district attorney. She also helped with voter engagement efforts.
- **Faith Nwando '24** volunteered with the Pleasant Street Drop-In Center, a low-barrier resource center for people who are unhoused as well as with Tree Street youth.
- **Hana Roggendorf '27** participated as a Book Buddy at Montello Elementary School; helped organize brunches at Blake Street Towers; and was an active member of the new Bates Students Demand Action in the wake of the local October 2023 mass shooting.
- **Axelle Tougouma '27** tutored and mentored students at Tree Street Youth; conducted research the better understand the business needs of new Mainers; served as a mentor for a student at Lewiston High School; and volunteered during Aspiration Days for 8th graders graduating from Lewiston Middle School.
- **Vyshnavi Viju '26** conducted research and developed educational materials on reproductive healthcare at Maine Family Planning. She was also involved in advocating for legislation that enhances access to reproductive healthcare and reduces the stigma associated with these services.
- **Hadley Ward '27** partnered with the Stanton Bird Club, where she updated trail maps to include new trails at the Thorncrag Nature Sanctuary; staffed an educational table each Saturday at the park; and assisted with trail maintenance.

- **Alex Wheelock '24** provided mentoring and soccer coaching for youth at the Rosati Leadership Academy.
- **Robbie Washburne '26** interned with the Lewiston District Court, where he recorded and transcribed court sessions, and assisted the Court Clerk with a variety of tasks.

Bonner Racial Justice Fellows Program

The Bonner Racial Justice Fellowship is a collaboration between the Harvard Center and the Office of Intercultural Education at Bates with the goal of expanding community engagement opportunities for BIPOC students in partnership with BIPOC-serving, racial justice-focused organizations in the local community. Four students served as Fellows for the year, working individually and as a cohort to support the re-energizing of the college's partnership with Tree Street Youth (TSY) – once a major partner for Bates, especially in the CEL realm. Each of the four Fellows spent six hours per week working at TSY in one capacity or another, and all four participated in capacity-building workshops in youth development with TSY staff. The fellows, in turn, shared their experiences and connections with their peers, with a special emphasis on students who frequent the college's Office of Intercultural Education. These efforts resulted in an 18% increase in the number of Bates students who volunteered with TSY. Notably, most of these students shared significant life experiences with TSY youth and so were especially appreciated as role models.

Community Outreach Fellows Program

The Community Outreach Fellows Program engages Bates students in significant leadership development as they work to recruit, train, and oversee their fellow students in targeted community partnership work. During the 2024-2025 school year, 11 Fellows worked together to lead key volunteer programs at Bates. The Fellows each took responsibility in different areas, working as a team to expand volunteer programming at Bates and to explore leadership issues. Fellows ran site-based programs, working with volunteers, community work-study students, and community-engaged learning students to meet community needs by facilitating student work at the agency. The 2024-2025 Community Outreach Fellows, and their community partners were:

- **Emily Walsh '24** organized Sunday brunches for low-income residents for elderly and younger disabled people living at Blake Street Towers and Meadowview Park. 85 students spent 255 hours preparing, serving, and eating brunch with residents.
- **Sam Skinner '26** found placements and led workshops for 12 students participating in America Reads/America Counts (ARAC), as members either of the Bates Civic Action Team or Community Workstudy. ARAC is a federal program that provides work-study funding for college students to provide literacy and math tutoring in K-12 settings. Students spent 794.25 hours tutoring youth in Lewiston schools.
- **Trinity Monstwillio '26** led the Friday mentoring lunch program at Lewiston Middle School. During the school year, 8 Bates students spent 82 hours participating in the program.

- **Anna Sarrazin '24** led the Book Buddies program at Montello and Connors Elementary Schools. 39 Bates students spent 466 hours reading children's books with K-3 students.
- **Kai Harris '26** supported ArtVan, a mobile arts therapy program with regular activities at several local non-profits. Kai recruited volunteers to help with art projects at the weekly Lewiston Public Library program as well as at sites in Auburn. 20 Bates students spent 109 working with ArtVan. Kai also organized Puddle Arts, an arts-based program on the Bates campus for approximately 50 youth from The Boys and Girls Club, the Root Cellar, and the PAL Center. Seven Bates student groups, as well as Art Van, set up activities for the youth.
- **Nimco Jama '25** recruited 13 Bates students who provided 126 hours helping with a variety of projects for the St. Mary's Nutrition Center's Lots to Gardens program and the Trinity Jubilee Center.
- **Aaliyah Moore '24** worked with the Maine Department of Corrections to lay the groundwork for a new tutoring program at the Maine Women's Prison.
- **Annie Robinson '26** led the Playground Pals program at Farwell and Geiger Elementary Schools. Over the course of the year, 45 students spent 95 hours playing with children during school recess.
- **Leslie Jimenez '26** oversaw recruitment and training for 45 Bates students to spend 600 hours helping out with a variety of programs at Tree Street Youth.
- **Ava Petrin '24** recruited and trained 12 students who spent 240 hours over the course of the year as mentors at Montello Elementary School.

International Student Experiential Learning Fellows Program

This year, four international students spent 426 hours engaging with a variety of community partners:

- **Mariam Almzainy '27**, Jordan (by way of Palestine). Mariam tutors Arabic-speaking students at the local high school and is developing a student club focused on providing Bates students with the opportunity to connect with state legislators.
- **Halima Guliye '27**, Dadaab Refugee Camp in Kenya. Halima has helped provide weekly brunches to low income senior citizens at the Lewiston Housing Authority's Blake Street Towers, and participated in programming for elementary children who attend the after-school program at Tree Street Youth. (Many who attend the program have parents or other relatives who lived in Dadaab.)
- **Ruhan Sardar '26**, Bangladesh. Ruhan has been using the skills he is developing as an economics major on behalf of the City of Lewiston's Economic and Community Development Department. This semester, he is helping with a variety of projects, including a presentation about street lighting and research on lead. Recently, Ruhan won the Davis Project for Peace to help raise awareness about the prevention and treatment of the Dengue virus in Bangladesh.
- **Anotida Viazhero '25**, Zimbabwe. Throughout his Bates career, Anotida has served as a Big Brother and has also mentored youth at the PAL Center in Auburn. While

continuing his mentoring focus, Anotida, who hopes to become a physician, has also been providing patient transport at St Mary's Hospital.

Student Athlete Community Engagement Fellows Program

This program provides access to the college's Community Work Study program for qualified student-athletes. By offering one-semester work options, athletes can earn their work study dollars by working in local nonprofit settings during their off-season – an opportunity usually available only in full-year increments. This year's participants and placements:

- Julia Brophy '25, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Kayla Burnham '26, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Walter Joachim-DelPoio '24, Lewiston Public Library, Lewiston, ME
- Isabel May '24, Her Safety Net, Lewiston, ME

Short Term Community Engagement Program

During the college's May term, students who already have significant experience collaborating with off-campus partners may apply to participate, along with a willing community partner, in the Short Term Community Engagement Program. Students in the program spend at least 80 hours during the 3.5 week term working on a project identified and supervised by their community partner, with additional guidance from Harward Center staff. In May 2024, the 16 participating students and partners were:

- Maggie Amann '25, Harward Center for Community Partnerships
- Nick Brown '25, Riverside Cemetery
- Aldair Desiderio '24, SHARECenter
- Mamadou Diallo '25, New Mainers Public Health Initiative
- Chidera Kalu-Uka '27, First4ME
- Margaret Kornfeind '25, Maine Community Integration
- Danny Liu '24, Robinson Players
- Eleanor Lynch '25, Tree Street Youth
- Miguel Pacheco Gonzalez '24, Celebration Barn
- Marcos Pacheco Soto '24, Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)
- Nicole Rossilli '27, Robinson Players
- Christina Salazar Gutiérrez '24, Lewiston High School
- Evan Skufca '26, Riverside Cemetery
- David Walker '24, Robinson Players
- Marco Willen '25, Healthy Androscoggin
- Anise Williams '25, MaineMILL

CIVIC Capacity-Building Initiatives

The Harvard Center takes the lead for the college in cultivating civic sensibilities and skills -- that is, habits of mind and grounded practices for engaging with others across differences of experience, background, identity, worldview, and ability in order to work toward collective goals. The college's location in Lewiston, Maine provides manifold opportunities for Bates students to develop civic sensibilities and skills as they engage with diverse individuals and groups in the off-campus community. Through community-engaged learning courses, civic leadership programs, community work study positions, sustained volunteer activities, and electoral engagement pursuits, Bates students learn to listen deeply to those whose lives and perspectives are different than their own, broadening their understanding of both self and world and cultivating empathy, self-awareness, and confidence in their ability to engage humanely and constructively across differences. By joining diverse off-campus partners in addressing community needs, Bates students build civic skills like cultural humility, collaborative problem-solving, cross-cultural communication, and asset-based thinking, and they experience the challenges and joys of working with diverse others to identify and achieve collective goals.

In addition to the programs already highlighted in this report, two additional programs take explicit aim at the development of civic sensibilities and skills:

Civic Agency Fellows Program

Starting in the 2023-2024 academic year, the Civic Agency Fellowship is a new cross-sector program of civic and electoral engagement that provides students with an overview of pathways for social change, and opportunities for students to apply their learnings to student-led civic agency projects during the school year. Facilitated by the Harvard Center for Community Partnerships, and developed as part of the [Bates Leads framework](#), the Fellows consist of student leaders who are selected by participating campus partners/offices. Civic Agency Fellows spend their time on projects to support students' full participation in the decisions, systems, and processes that impact their lives and communities. The 2023-24 Civic Agency Fellows and their campus partners were:

- Helena Raddock '24, Center for Purposeful Work
- Alan Wang '24 and Carly Baker '27, Harvard Center for Community Partnerships
- Whitney Miller '26, Multifaith Chaplaincy
- Sakina Saidi '26, Office of Intercultural Education
- Fatima Nunez '26, Office of Sustainability
- Emma Upton '24 and Rosina Makwabe '26, Residence Life

Learning Outcomes for Students

- Civic Identity: Explore strengths, values, and passions to form their civic identity and agency in working towards social change.
- Awareness of Community Context: Develop a deeper understanding of how issues inform the experience of Bates students and the Lewiston community.

- Analysis: Develop a big-picture, structural understanding of the power dynamics that organize a society, as well as the relational analysis of how structures can shift and change. Understand and differentiate between advocacy, mobilizing, and organizing strategies for social change.
- Skill Development: Learn tactics and strategies to effectively engage in advocacy, mobilizing, or organizing on campus.
- Build Social Capital & Coalitions: Engage with peers from a diverse cross-section of campus programs to identify opportunities to educate student collective action.
- Democratic Engagement: Support nonpartisan student voting and participation in processes for electoral or legislative change.

Program Description

The first semester of the Fellowship provides a foundation for students to explore their own civic identity and to learn about the history of social change organizing at Bates and in the Lewiston community. Fellows learned skills related to base-building, outreach, one-on-one conversations, and leadership identification in order to conduct nonpartisan voter registration and mobilize the student vote in the November 2023 elections. The second semester of the Fellowship focuses on theories of power, strategies, and pathways in social change. Students identified challenges impacting students at Bates, and developed advocacy proposals for the Winter '24 semester.

Electoral Engagement Program

In 2023, the Harvard Center sustained its support for nonpartisan voter education and student engagement on the municipal elections. For students voting in Lewiston, all 16 municipal seats were up for election: Mayor, City Council, and School Committee. Additionally, voters were asked to weigh in on 8 statewide ballot initiatives on the creation of an independent, consumer-owned utility company, banning foreign influence in elections, right to repair, and more.

The Harvard Center partnered with faculty in the Politics program and campus programs including Center for Purposeful Work, Residence Life, Office of Intercultural Education, the Ladd Library, to host informational displays on voter registration. Students from the Civic Agency Fellowship led discussions about the impact on voting in local races, and identified areas of support for students wanting to vote in their home town elections. Campus activities in 2023 include:

- **Orientation & Club Tabling**: Bates Votes was prominent in tabling for voter registration. Maine requires voters to re-register every time they move, and the majority of students voting in Lewiston had to re-register.
- **Civic Holidays**: We participated in National Voter Registration Day on October 4th. Civic Agency Fellows and student volunteers tabled for nearly 12 hours, asking every student who passed by if they were registered and sharing information about voting in Maine.

- What’s on the Ballot? Making Sense of Maine’s Referendum Questions– The Harvard Center for Community Partnerships and the Muskie Archives hosted a panel discussion about Maine’s referendum questions featuring Secretary of State Shenna Bellows, Kate Cough from the Maine Monitor, and moderated by Rep. Kristen Cloutier, to inform students and the greater community about understanding the ballot questions and what a “Yes” and a “No” vote means.
- Who’s on my Ballot? Lewiston Candidate Forum - Students from the Harvard Center, Community Organizing Alliance, Maine Students Vote, and Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition organized a municipal candidate forum, inviting candidates in competitive races to share information about who they are and their stance on a variety of issues impacting Lewiston youth.
- 2023 Bates Voter Guide: The Harvard Center developed and released a nonpartisan voting guide to help the campus community navigate the 8 ballot questions, what a yes and a no vote means, and profiled candidates running in wards where students live.
- Election Day: Our student leaders and volunteers tabled from 7am – 8pm when the polls were open. While the majority of students voted at the Armory, a 3 minute walk from campus, students living at John Bertram Hall are now redistricted to vote at Montello School, a 25 minute walk away. The Harvard Center rented a van to support J.B. students wanting to vote at Montello.

Our electoral engagement efforts benefited from local, regional, and national partners including Community Organizing Alliance, Maine Students Vote, NESAC Votes, Civic Nation, Students Learn Students Vote, and NSLVE. Students from Bates Votes and Professor Elena Maker-Castro’s psychology and civic engagement class participated in the Maine Student Voting Summit. Looking into the future, we look to amplify our commitment to informed civic action, and support electoral engagement in cross-campus collaborations.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR Initiatives

In addition to the community-engaged work Bates students undertake within the formal academic program or as part of a co-curricular program that includes intentional learning goals and activities, most also participate in community work through various extracurricular pathways. In these instances, civic learning still occurs, and often to great effect, but it is typically not the result of formal or systematic learning activities. When it comes to extra-curricular civic engagement, individual students sometimes connect on their own to a community agency or project; in other cases, they connect informally as a friend or interest group. Oftentimes, students participate in extra-curricular civic engagement activities organized by the college. College-sponsored extra-curricular activities for the 2023-2024 academic year that were reported to or supported by the Harvard Center are presented below.

Adopt-A-School

Our Adopt-A-School partnership with Lewiston Middle School supports a variety of academic community-engaged learning and volunteer projects. Some highlights from 2023-2024 include:

- 17 education students contributed 510 hours in classrooms.
- 8 Bates students contributed 82 hours to a Friday lunch/mentor program.
- We hosted all staff for lunch in the Bates Dining Commons as a part of Teacher Celebration Week.
- A group of students from a course called *Decolonizing the Museum* curated an art show in two different spaces for middle school students from an art class. The show included ten photographs chosen from the Bates permanent art collection, and Bates students created a series of learning tools designed to help middle schoolers engage with the exhibit.
- In the spring, 39 Bates students staff hosted all 327 8th grade students on three consecutive days for aspirations-related activities, including a trade/career fair; field games; lunch and conversation; and a session on college access.
- Bates students from a course called *Theory and Practice of Writing and Tutoring* developed a “Write-In” on the Bates campus for over one hundred 7th graders. The middle schoolers rotated through a variety of workshops, such as haiku-writing, charades, group storytelling, and Scribblish (a game where players draw pictures and others write captions for them).
- The Robinson Players hosted 368 students from the middle school for their Stages for All Ages performances of *Seussical!*

AESOP

AESOP (Annual Entering Student Outdoor Program) is a student-run orientation program that takes place during the first days of a student’s Bates experience. Through small-group experiences in a variety of locations and activities, AESOP trips aim to foster inclusivity, enduring friendships, and a strong connection to place. This year, the Harvard Center supported two community-engaged AESOP trips by identifying community partners and projects and providing an orientation for participating students to critical community engagement and the Lewiston Auburn community. These are the projects students undertook:

- Indoor games and visitation with residents at Montello Heights (aging populations)
- Beautification work at the site of the Lewiston Farmers' Market
- Field work at New Roots Cooperative Farm
- Volunteering at Habitat ReStore in Bath
- Painting at Auburn Middle School

Clean Sweep

The annual Bates Clean Sweep, now in its 23rd year, is a community-facing sale filled with items donated by students at the end of the year. Every spring, volunteers from local non-profit organizations collect truckloads of donated items from student residences. They clean, organize, and organize the sale. 100% of the earnings go to the participating local nonprofits. For the 2023 Clean Sweep, John F Murphy Homes was the primary organizer and beneficiary, with Pink Feather, the Humane Society, and the Root Cellar as additional community partners. Over \$22,000 was netted.

College Access Programming

The 2023-2024 academic year was a significant expansion year for college access initiatives at the Harward Center. Building off the energy from last year, the Aspirations Program began running college access programs throughout the year.

This year, four groups were hosted on campus for Aspirations Programming. This included Lewiston Middle School (LMS), Auburn Middle School (AMS), The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) Bonner STEM Exploration Program, and the SteppingStone Foundation. Both LMS and AMS participated in Aspirations Days, with AMS 8th grade students coming during September-October and LMS 8th grade students coming during May. This meant a total of 617 8th-11th grade students participated in an Aspirations Program this year. Similar to last year, Aspirations Days invited 8th graders onto the Bates campus to learn about college, careers, and trades opportunities. The days began with three morning sessions: One focused on college access which facilitated different activities to inform students about the opportunities to access and afford college; the next focused on career and trade school access which was led by local career and trades focused community organizations; and the last one focused on touring a STEM building and learning about the expectations of the college classroom. After a quick lunch, students then got to choose one of five afternoon activities including soccer facilitated by the women's and men's soccer team; basketball facilitated by the women's basketball team; arts and crafts; field games; and board games. The Aspirations Days proved very successful, with students in the post visit survey identifying a greater understanding in how to achieve their college, career, or trade aspirations. Additionally, students had a generally positive rating towards their time at Bates College, scoring their visit at an average of 3.75/5.

The TCNJ Bonner STEM Exploration Program, and the SteppingStone Foundation also visited campus during the Winter Semester to participate in modified Aspirations Programs. The TCNJ Bonner STEM Exploration Program met with our Junior and Senior Bonners to have dinner and learn about what college is like and how to incorporate community engagement into their college education. The SteppingStone Foundation's students spent two hours on campus learning from our Bonner students and Bobcat First Students about what college is like at Bates over lunch and then led a tour for students around campus. Both these programs proved to be well received and were a blast!

Having now run successfully for two years, the Aspirations Program continues to be an effective model for exposing middle and high school students to the higher education environment and the benefits of pursuing education post high school. The Harward Center looks forward to building this momentum by continuing to run the Aspirations Days and finding ways to offer additional aspirations programming to interested institutions, schools, and organizations.

Community Liaison Program

The Community Liaison program, which is a collaboration between the Harward Center, Bates Athletics, and the Office of Campus Life, provides Bates students with the infrastructure, encouragement, and support to join with fellow team or club members in one-time or ongoing

activities that address community needs. Community Liaisons are students who lead their club or team in community-engaged activities in collaboration with off-campus partners and with support from the Harvard Center. During the 2023-2024 school year, Bates teams contributed 2,484 documented hours, while student clubs contributed 2,499 documented hours. Among the community-engaged projects undertaken by student clubs or teams were these:

- The second annual Puddle Arts event, which brought youth from several after-school programs to campus during the college's May "Short Term" for an afternoon of arts-based exploration and learning led by student clubs and teams.
- The first ever Fiber Arts Fest, organized by the Knit Wits club, which brought local senior citizens to the Bates Commons Fireplace Lounge for a morning of knitting, tea, and cross-generational conversation and learning.
- The Bates Outing Club's Winter Crafts and Activities Fair – a new event incorporated into the club's annual Winter Fest, which is traditionally only for Bates students but this year had a community component that brought local youth to campus for an afternoon of winter crafts and outdoor activities.
- Numerous community performances by Bates a cappella groups, including a moving number at the community-wide One Lewiston vigil at the Basilica after the mass shootings, theme-based sets at the City of Lewiston's annual Holiday at the Plaza event, and performances at several senior citizen communities.
- The Cycling Club's twice-weekly hosting of activities at Montello Elementary School's After School Program.
- The Aspiration Club's weekly mentoring program at both Lewiston High School and Edward Little High School in Auburn, with 39 local youth mentored weekly.
- The Aspirations Club and multiple sports teams supporting multiple on-campus Aspirations Days for Lewiston and Auburn middle schoolers. Partners included the Women's Basketball Team, Men's and Women's Soccer Team, and Club Soccer. The Men's Lacrosse Team also worked to support the college, career/trade, and building tour sessions.
- The College Guild Club's 440 hours worth of reading and feedback on continuing education assignments for incarcerated individuals across the country.
- Raices Unidas's collaboration with local high school students to allow their participation in the college's P'al Mundo performance.
- Model U.N.'s organizing of a conference for high school teams from across the state.
- The Tennis Team's statewide fundraiser for the October 25th Fund, which featured clinics and competition among high school teams from across Maine.
- The on-campus Trick or Treat Event, featuring 45 different clubs and teams.
- A massive river clean-up by the Bates Swim Team in partnership with the Androscoggin Land Trust.
- A continuation of the partnership between the Bates Cross Country Team and Lewiston's Department of Public Works, which this year advanced several community safety and beautification projects.
- The Nordic Ski team's teaching of community ski lessons and doing trail maintenance at Lost Valley through the Auburn Nordic Ski Association.

- The Women's Lacrosse team's support of the Bulky Waste clean-up efforts in downtown Lewiston, which help renters in the downtown remove fire hazards and public health risks like old mattresses and furniture from hallways and balconies.
- The collection by the Men's Lacrosse team of donations of gift cards, toiletries, and other items for unhoused and hospitalized youth – an annual tradition that makes the winter holiday season a little brighter for these youth. The team also volunteered weekly with the senior citizen brunch program at Blake Street Towers, a public housing community.
- Field Hockey's "learn to play" clinics at the Boys and Girls Club, their dedicated volunteering at the Store Next Door, which benefits unhoused youth, and their hosting of the Lewiston Strong Game, attended by ~700 people in support of those affected by the 10/25 mass shooting in Lewiston.
- Volleyball's hosting of numerous free clinics for local youth.
- Track and Field's clean-up day at Riverside Cemetery, and their support of the Lewiston Middle School Lunch Mentor Program and the Playground Pals Program.
- The Tennis Team's event with local Maine high schools to raise money for those impacted by the 10/25 shooting.
- The five a cappella groups, who sang at multiple locations and events, including the One Lewiston Vigil, Clover HealthCare, Center for Wisdom's Women, and Holiday at the Plaza.
- Many sports teams, such as the Football Team, led voter registration efforts for their teammates.
- Robinson Players' fabulous performance of Shrek Jr as part of the Stages For All Ages program for local elementary and middle school students

This year, we particularly wanted to highlight the Bates Field Hockey Team, who after a decade of sustained, high level community engaged work won the Maine Campus Compact President's Campus Leadership Award. This state-wide award recognized the Field Hockey Team "for its contributions to community service, service-learning, and/or civic engagement efforts on their campus." We are incredibly proud of the Field Hockey Team and congratulate them on this immense honor.

EcoService Day

Bates EcoReps organized and implemented two days of community service focused on environmental well-being. Activities included outdoor work with Lots to Gardens, trash pickup at local parks, Mt. David Cleanup, physical support for local nonprofits, and moving leaf-litter to the Bates Garden.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

The following community-engaged sessions were offered as part of a full day of on-campus learning, debate, and performance focused on food justice:

- **Working for Food and Land Justice**

Panel discussion: A roundtable discussion aimed at foregrounding organizations working towards food and land justice in Lewiston/Auburn and southern Maine. Representatives from the Somali Bantu Community Association, St. Mary's Nutrition Center, Presente!, and Land in Common share their expertise about the challenges in reaching food sovereignty in the region, particularly for people historically with limited access to land.

Moderators: Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Christine Martinez, Professor of Environmental Studies and Christian A. Johnson Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies Holly Ewing

Sponsor: Program in Environmental Studies

- **Young Mainers' Efforts for Food and Climate Justice**

Presentation: Beginning with presentation of Youth Food Champion Awards to five contributors to a healthier food system in Lewiston-Auburn, followed by Scarlet Labbe-Watson discussing Maine's food sovereignty and climate justice connections.

Presenter: Scarlet Labbe-Watson, Maine Youth for Climate Justice

Sponsor: Good Food Council of Lewiston-Auburn

Mentoring

Mentorship programming saw sustained success during the 2023-2024 academic year. The Harward Center ran three mentorship programs at the following schools: Lewiston High School (LHS), Auburn Middle School (AMS), and Montello Elementary School. The LHS and AMS mentorship programs continued to be run by the Aspirations Club, who recruited, trained, and managed 39 student mentors placed at one of the schools on an at least biweekly basis. Each mentor went through an hour-long training with the Aspirations Club and had to have a 1-on-1 meeting with school staff to ensure they understood the obligations and best practices of working with our local students. Additionally, mentors were offered monthly training regarding topics which they had questions about, such as, techniques for motivating students and how to discuss future aspirations effectively with middle and high school aged students.

The program has continued to see success, with the Bates mentors finding much enjoyment in the program; the mentees connecting well with their Bates students; and LHS and AMS staff reporting a positive impact from the program. This was affirmed by a Senior Thesis project by Jingyi Yang '24 who found evidence that participation in the program led to AMS and LHS students having more confidence in their aspirations, along with, increased specificity in how to achieve their career and education goals.

The Montello elementary school program was run by Community Outreach Fellow Ava Petrin '24, who recruited, trained, and oversaw the mentorship of 12 Bates students who as a cohort mentored for 240 hours this year. Though not overseen by the Harward Center, 48 Bates students spent 100s of hours over the course of the year as Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Mid-Maine at Connors Elementary School.

Montello Book Buddies

This program is designed to increase the literacy skills of younger elementary children. Volunteers are trained to read to children one-on-one, and then to engage the students in discussions and retelling activities that are meant to boost an understanding of basic story language and architecture critical to literacy. Anna Sarrazin '24 led the Book Buddies program, which pairs a Bates student with a K-3 student for twice-weekly one-on-one reading sessions at Montello and Connors Elementary Schools.

Mount David Summit

Mount David Summit, which happens each spring, is the annual college-wide celebration of Bates students' academic and artistic achievement. Among the hundreds of student presentations at the 2024 Summit were dozens of posters and individual presentations highlighting community-engaged research projects. In addition, one session featured a shared presentation by this year's Community-Engaged Research Fellows. Entitled "Research and the Public Good: Multi-Disciplinary Explorations," the session addressed the question: How can undergraduate research contribute to community well-being and social justice? The Fellows hailed from diverse disciplines, but they shared an interest in the public purposes of higher education and the potential of research to address community needs. In their interactive session, the Fellows educated their audience about the distinctive characteristics, joys, and challenges of community-engaged research; then they hosted a mini-poster session during which audience members could dive more deeply into the individual projects students undertook in collaboration with community partners.

New Student Orientation

Harvard Center staff and student leaders helped welcome and orient new Bates students in many ways, including:

- A video, "Community-Engaged Learning: Connecting Classroom and Community," which was required viewing for incoming students during the summer as part of the "Exploring Liberal Arts & Academic Opportunities" module
- Individualized responses to incoming students' submissions on a First Year Form that asked them to share their interest in a range of possible forms of community engagement
- A 90-minute program at the Harvard Center for first generation to college, Kessler Initiative students, including information about Harvard Center programs, small-group discussions of "community cultural wealth" (Yosso), and a picnic lunch in our backyard with a special appearance from several community partners, who welcomed the students to Lewiston and invited them to get involved off-campus during their time at Bates
- Presentation of two "Welcome to Your New Hometown" programs for first-year students, which included a brief overview of Lewiston history and culture, an introduction to Bates-style community engagement, a taste of the different ways students can access community engagement opportunities during their time at Bates, and information about voter engagement

- Hosting of a Harward Center Open House event, which featured opportunities to meet Harward Center staff, including student staff members, meet other first-year students interested in community engagement, and learn about several volunteer programs, the Community Work Study program, and more
- Participation in the New Student Orientation Academic and Resource Fair
- Participation in the Students Clubs and Orgs Fair
- Several opportunities to register to vote and/or receive information about voter registration, education, and mobilization opportunities
- We also participated in several Admissions events during the year, including two Admitted Students Day Keynotes (Ellen started the keynote and then handed it over to community partner, Rachel Ferrante of the Maine Museum of Innovation, Learning and Labor).

Puddle Arts

The 3rd annual Puddle Arts was a rousing success this year! Organized by Community Outreach Fellow Kai Harris '26, the event provided a plethora of arts-focused activities for approximately 60 students from four local after-school programs. Activities included juggling and stilts walking with the Circus Club; freeze dance and creative movement with 2BEATs; face painting with the sunshine society; and field games with the Club Volleyball Team. The event also partnered with Art Van, which facilitated painting activities for the 3rd-8th grade students in attendance. Given all the fun and laughs we had during this art-focused event, we cannot wait to host it once again next May!

Residence Life Programming

A reimagining of the community engaged program requirement for JAs in Residence Life occurred this year, helping to build the framework for a new approach to First Year Center (FYC) engagement. This reframing focused on ensuring every FYC had an opportunity to explore the LA area; whether that be through an educational event or a community engagement activity. This led to the reintroduction of Walkabouts in the downtown where FYCs could take a guided tour from engaged Bates students to learn about the local area, finishing off by getting bubble tea from a local store. Overall, this pilot was a good start to this new approach which the center hopes to expand upon with the support of the Residence Life Office.

Other Volunteer Activities

Bates students, as individuals and in groups, volunteered throughout the year in diverse ways and places, both domestically and internationally. Some of that activity is recorded elsewhere in this report, and some of it was not captured at all. Some of the highlights follow.

The annual Volunteer Fair took place in mid-September, with community partner organizations present to share their work with students – primarily first-year students – and talk to them about ways they could connect to that work during their time at Bates. In addition to community partners, other tables were hosted by the Harward Center's Community Outreach Fellows, who

informed students about still more volunteer opportunities. Attendees enjoyed learning about a rich array of local community work, signing up with organizations of interest, and trying to win one of many raffle items, including gift cards to local restaurants.

Dozens of students, faculty, and staff participated in the 2023 Dempsey Challenge to raise funds and share enthusiasm for the work of the Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing, located in Lewiston. Bates community members participated as bikers, runners, fundraisers, and event volunteers, and they once again won the annual Colby-Bates-Bowdoin fundraising contest. Bates student athletes were especially active in this year's event.

Many individual students also answered one volunteer call or another. Some became regular and relied-upon volunteers for local organizations like the Lewiston High School Track program, where local students from mostly newly-arrived African immigrant families learned about the sport of Track & Field and grew as student athletes. Other students responded to community requests for one-time assistance - for example, helping out the New Mainers Public Health Initiative's annual Community Giveback Day, a community event focused on providing resources, information, health screenings, free produce and a fun family environment for L-A residents.

As ever, the Harward Center sponsored a holiday gift drive and collected items from wish lists for youth at St. Mary's Medical Center and the Lewiston High School Store Next Door homeless liaison program.

Co-Sponsorships

The Harward Center is pleased to join with colleagues from on and off campus in providing opportunities for the infusion of fresh voices and ideas into the civic reflection and action practices at Bates and in the wider community. During the 2023-24 school year, the Harward Center was pleased to support the following campus and/or community programs:

- The Bates Film Festival
- Healthy Neighborhoods' Bulky Waste events
- Summer Fun & Films with L-A Metro Chamber of Commerce and the Lewiston Police Department
- Maine Inside Out's Juneteenth Celebration
- The Great Falls Forum at the Lewiston Public Library
- Maine Immigrant and Refugee Services (MEIRS) 15th Anniversary Gala
- A lunchtime presentation and discussion at Trinity Commons with Philosophy Prof. Paul Schofield entitled, "Homelessness and the Lewiston-Auburn Community: Can We Move Forward Together?"
- A financial literacy series hosted by Community Credit Union for low-income New Mainers entitled, "Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World"
- A series of events hosted by Generational Noor celebrating Black History Month

- A campus and community visit by Davarian Baldwin, Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of American Studies at Trinity College and author of *In the Shadow of the Ivory Tower: How Universities are Plundering Our Cities*

OTHER Programs, Initiatives, & Activities

Office of Admission Events

To help articulate the college's strong commitment to civic learning and action, Harward Center staff and students participated in and presented at various summer visit days hosted during 2023-24 by the Office of Admission.

Davis Projects for Peace

The Harward Center was delighted to award one \$10,000 grant to two Bates students to carry out a project that helps ameliorate root causes of conflict. Bates' affiliation with Davis Projects for Peace provided this opportunity. The Harward Center coordinated a competitive proposal and selection process on campus and then submitted the top two Bates proposals to the Davis program for further consideration. Two students received a \$10,000 award for work that was scheduled to take place during the summer of 2024.

However, due to political unrest in Bangladesh, Sardar Mohammad Ruhan '26 and Sreenidhi Kamal '26 were forced to defer their project, *Amelioration of Life-Threatening Dengue in the Slums of Dhaka: Tackling Health Disparity* to the summer of 2025, when they will partner with Share the Privilege, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping distressed communities in Dhaka, to tackle the spike in dengue cases, especially in underprivileged areas like Korail. Their project proposes a three-pronged approach to prevention through the distribution of sustainable mosquito-fighting equipment, implementation of innovative awareness campaigns, and increased treatment through the provision of life-saving medical equipment to low-functioning hospitals.

Justice for Women

The Justice for Women Lecture Series, typically held in the Spring semester, will now be held in the Fall semester of the 2024-25 academic year.

Planetarium

Under the direction of Nicole Hastings, the planetarium was grateful to once again offer private planetarium shows. Approximately 320 community members visited the planetarium this year, including school-aged (elementary to middle school), public, private, and homeschool groups; adult day programs; girl and boy scout troops; and summer camps. Visitors came from Lewiston/Auburn and surrounding towns.

Purposeful Work

The Center for Purposeful Work's internship program supports students as they explore interests, deepen skills, and build networks. Students gain unique access to a network of Bates-specific internships with core employers, the opportunity to apply for Bates financial support for other internships, and goal-setting and reflection resources to help them maximize their learning. Many of these internships take place at non-profit organizations. In the summer of 2024, sixty-five students completed Purposeful Work internships at these non-profit agencies:

- Aclymate, Inc., Denver, CO
- Advanced Advocacy, Washington, DC
- AfriKera Arts Trust, Harare, Zimbabwe
- Angus King for Maine, Brunswick, ME
- Asian American Arts Alliance, Manhattan, NY
- Aurora Picture Show, Houston, TX
- Bellas Mentoring, Inc., Richmond, VA
- Campaign Brain (remote)
- Casa de Paz, Aurora, CO
- Center for Molecular Oncology, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, CT
- Charlotte Lab School, Charlotte, NC
- City of Lewiston, Economic and Community Development Department, Lewiston, ME
- Clubbed Thumb, New York, NY
- College Guild, Brunswick, ME
- Congressman Jared Golden, Portland, ME and Washington, DC
- Connecticut Sports Management Group, Middletown, CT
- Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District, Portland, ME
- Dirigo Solar, Portland, ME
- Education Above All Foundation, Al-Rayyan, Qatar
- Falmouth Land Trust, Falmouth/Freeport, ME
- Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Seattle, WA
- Freedom School Partners, Charlotte, NC
- Habitat for Humanity, Charlotte, NC
- Harpswell Heritage Land Trust, Harpswell, ME
- Hudsonia, Annandale, NY
- Immigration Institute of the Bay Area, Petaluma, CA
- LA Arts, Lewiston, ME
- League of United Latin American Citizens, Washington, DC
- Maine Health, Portland, ME
- Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition, Portland, ME
- Maine Outdoor Brands, Portland, ME
- Maine Trust for Local News, Lewiston, ME
- Markopolo.ai, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- MOFGA, Unity, ME
- Momentum Conservation, Portland, ME
- MSPAS, Jalapa, Guatemala
- National Partnership for New Americans, Chicago, IL
- Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, Portland, ME and Washington, DC
- Old Bristol Historical Society & Colonial Pemaquid, Pemaquid, ME
- Resilient Sisterhood Project, Boston, MA
- Rijk Zwaan Afrisem, Arusha, Tanzania
- Roof Above, Charlotte, NC
- SPACE Gallery, Portland, ME
- St. Mary's Nutrition Center, Lewiston, ME
- Supportive Living, Inc., Lexington, MA
- Sustainable Leaders Investment Management, LLC, Boston, MA
- Teton Science Schools, Jackson, WY
- The Trustees of Reservations, Boston, MA
- Tree Street Youth, Lewiston, ME
- U.S. Commercial Service, Boston, MA
- United Youth Empowerment Services, Lewiston, ME
- Volunteer Maine, Augusta, ME
- Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association, Madison, WI

Robinson Players

The Robinson Players, a student-led musical theater club, presents an annual musical aimed at K-12 audiences during the college's May term. In the spring of 2024, The Rob Players hosted students from several local elementary schools for performances of *Seussical the Musical*. The kids were enthralled!

COMMUNITY Partners

Bates students, faculty, and staff are fortunate to work with approximately 150 community agencies and institutions that provide generous opportunities for shared learning, research, volunteering, fellowships, and creative work. A list of some of the organizations with whom the college partnered during 2023-24 is below:

Aclymate, Inc.
 Advanced Advocacy
 AfriKera Arts Trust
 AK Health and Human Services
 America Reads/America Counts
 An Angel's Wing
 Androscoggin Land Trust
 Art Van

Asian American Arts Alliance
Auburn Middle School
Auburn PAL Center
Auburn Public Health
Auburn Public Library
Aurora Picture Show
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Blake Street Towers
Boston Debate League
Boys and Girls Club of Southern Maine Auburn/Lewiston Clubhouse
Campaign Brain
Casa de Paz
Celebration Barn
Center for Wisdom's Women
Charlotte Lab School
Civic Nation
Clubbed Thumb
College Guild
Community Organizing Alliance
Connecticut Sports Management Group
Connors Elementary School
Cooperative Development Institute
Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District
Dirigo Solar
Education Above All Foundation
Falmouth Land Trust
Farwell Elementary School
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center
Freedom School Partners
Gateway Community Services
Generational Noor
Greater Androscoggin Humane Society
Guatemala Ministry of Public Health and Welfare
Habitat for Humanity
Harpwell Heritage Land Trust
Healthy Androscoggin
Healthy Neighborhoods
Hebron Academy
Her Safety Net
Hillview Housing Development
Hope House
Hudsonia
Immigration Institute of the Bay Area
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project
LA Arts

L/A Metro Chamber of Commerce
League of United Latin American Citizens
Lewiston District Court
Lewiston Economic and Community Development Department
Lewiston Farmers' Market
Lewiston High School
Lewiston Housing Authority
Lewiston Middle School
Lewiston Police Department
Lewiston Public Library
Lewiston Public Works Department
Lewiston Recreation Department
Lisbon Area Christian Outreach (LACO) Food Pantry
Loaves and Fishes Ministries
Maine Department of Corrections
Maine Family Planning
Maine Health
Maine Immigrant and Refugee Services
Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition
Maine Inside Out
Maine Museum of Innovation, Learning and Labor (MILL)
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Maine Outdoor Brands
Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition
Maine Prisoner Re-Entry Network
Maine Sports Commission
Maine State Legislature
Maine State Prison
Maine Students Vote
Maine Trust for Local News
Maine Wellness Outdoor Center
Maine Women's Prison
Markopolo.ai
McMahon Elementary School
Meadowview Park
Momentum Conservation
Montello Elementary School
Montello Heights
National Partnership for New Americans
NESCAC Votes
New Mainers Public Health Initiative
New Roots Cooperative Farm
Next Step High School
Old Bristol Historical Society & Colonial Pemaquid
Partners for World Health

Pleasant Street Drop-In Center
Promise Early Education Center
Resilient Sisterhood Project
Rian Immigrant Center
Rijk Zwaan Afrisem
Riverside Cemetery
Roof Above
Root Cellar
Rosati Leadership Academy
Schooner Estates
SHARECenter
Social Learning Center
SPACE Gallery
Stanton Bird Club
SteppingStone Foundation
St. Mary's Nutrition Center
St. Mary's Regional Medical Center
Store Next Store
Supportive Living, Inc.
Sustainable Leaders Investment Management
Teton Science Schools
Tri-County Mental Health Services
Trinity Jubilee Center
Tree Street Youth
Trustees of Reservations
United States Commercial Service
United Youth Empowerment Services
University of Connecticut, Center for Molecular Oncology
VALO
Volunteer Maine
Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association

The Carignan Fund for Community Programs

The Harvard Center invited applications from nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies for the Carignan Fund, which grants up to \$2,000 to support projects/programs that fosters new or strengthens existing connections between Bates and the Lewiston Auburn community. The selection committee is composed of Bates students who have diverse experiences in community engagement: Isaac Levinger '24, Dionne Chen '26, Sophia Rumsey '26, Carly Baker '27, and Paul Adutwum '27. The Harvard Center held two trainings for the student selection committee to understand philanthropy and power, learn about how foundations are dismantling hierarchies through the grantmaking process, and how to evaluate grant applications with equity in mind. Harvard Center staff held two outreach meetings with prospective applicants to answer questions or help brainstorm proposals. In the end, the Carignan Fund received 17 applications and distributed \$10,862 to eight organizations:

- ArtVan: \$1,000 grant to sustain its no-cost arts programming to youth living in Lewiston and Auburn.
- Center for Wisdom’s Women: \$1,405 grant to support the development of an Operations Manual to provide continuity in programs and practices for its clients and volunteers.
- Community Concepts, Inc.: \$2,000 grant to expand its Lewiston Auburn Playgroup, a program for families with children ages 0-5 in the Tree Street Neighborhoods, with opportunities to connect and support early childhood enrichment through play.
- Community Organizing Alliance: \$1,000 grant to support its Leadership, Education, and Organizing program for Lewiston youth.
- Early Math and Literacy Initiative: \$1,018 grant to continue their evidence-based intervention programs in math and language for children and caregivers in Lewiston Housing.
- Lewiston Farmers’ Market Association: \$2,000 grant to strengthen its Kids Club program, expanding access to fresh, local foods for youth.
- Maine Community Integration: \$1,200 grant to strengthen their youth advocacy program “We Matter” to support youth civic engagement.
- Trinity Jubilee Center: \$1,200 grant to partner with Mano en Mano and multilingual students to engage local immigrants who worked during the COVID-19 pandemic, and did not realize they were eligible to apply for COVID relief benefits.

FELLOWSHIPS & Grants

The Harward Center is delighted to support students’ academic, leadership, and vocational development by facilitating a number of grants and fellowship programs. In 2023-2024, the Harward Center was pleased to award the following grants and fellowships, totaling \$66,173:

Community-Engaged Learning/Transportation Grants

Community-Engaged Learning/Transportation Grants, supported by the Arthur Crafts and Helen A. Papaioanou funds, provide financial support for students who design an academic community-engaged learning project. CEL Grants are intended to cover such expenses as transportation, supplies, fees, or research expenses. Awards are competitive and are available to students in all disciplines and classes. Community-Engaged Learning/Transportation Grant recipients for 2023-24, along with their community partners, were:

- Sivani Arvapalli ’26, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Trinity Jubilee Center, American Red Cross, Lewiston, ME
- Alexa Bowerfind ’24, New Beginnings, Lewiston, ME
- Ro Emerson ’26, Hope House, Lewiston, ME
- Lydia Frew ’25, Hebron Academy, Hebron, ME
- Molly Harmon ’24, Meadowview Park, Lewiston, ME
- Aaliyah Moore ’24, Tree Street Youth, Lewiston, ME
- Marcos Pacheco Soto ’24, Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, Portland, ME

- Hana Roggendorf '27, Meadowview Park, Lewiston, ME
- Emily Walsh '24, Blake Street Towers and Meadowview Park, Lewiston, ME
- Edward Ye '27, Partners for World Health, Portland, ME

Community-Engaged Research Grants

Community-Engaged Research Grants support material costs related to promising research projects undertaken by Bates students in collaboration with local or statewide community partners. Awards are competitive, are granted without regard to financial need, and are available to students in all disciplines and classes, with preference given to projects likely to produce the most community benefit. Community-Engaged Research Grant recipients for 2023-24, along with their community partners, were:

- Alexa Bowerfind '24, New Beginnings, Lewiston, ME
- Kay Cochran '24, Maine Sports Commission, Portland, ME
- Lauren Farrell '24, VALO, Yarmouth, ME
- Jermiah Germain '24, Auburn Public Library, Auburn, ME
- Isaac Levinger '24, Tree Street Youth, Lewiston, ME
- Juan Martinez '24, ReMo, Lewiston, ME
- Jacqueline Samuels '24, McMahon Elementary School, Lewiston, ME
- Jingyi Yang '24, Aspirations Mentorship Program, Bates College, Lewiston, ME

Community Work-Study Awards

Community Work-Study Awards provide work-study funds for community-based work with non-profit and governmental agencies. Students may apply for existing positions or work with an agency to develop their own positions. Host organizations agree to reimburse Bates College for a percentage of the student's total earnings. Community Work-Study Award recipients in 2023-2024, along with the community organizations for whom they worked, include:

Fall 2023

- Adrian Madanes '25, L/A Arts, Lewiston, ME
- Deven Thapaliya '25, St. Mary's Nutrition Center, Lewiston, ME

Fall 2023 and Winter 2024

- Blessing Ajayi '26, Maine Museum of Innovation, Learning and Labor, Lewiston, ME
- Aldair Desiderio '24, Rosati Leadership Academy, Lewiston, ME
- Ro Emerson '26, Lewiston Housing Authority, Lewiston, ME
- Zain Erakky '26, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Rosanny Estrella '26, Lewiston Housing Authority, Lewiston, ME
- Ainsley Fiske '25, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Marisela Flores Pineda '24, Lewiston Housing Authority, Lewiston, ME

- Kyra Friederich '26, Trinity Jubilee Center, Lewiston, ME
- Elizabeth Gallegos Rodriguez '26, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Hazel Handy '27, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Joy Huang '27, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Sophie Leight '26, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Poppy Marsh '26, Auburn Public Library, Auburn, ME
- Drew McClutchy '27, Lewiston Middle School, Lewiston, ME
- Norland Ramirez '27, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Tristan Seavey '26, Maine Museum of Innovation, Learning and Labor, Lewiston, ME
- Ava Singh '26, Trinity Jubilee Center, Lewiston, ME
- Lia Traficonte '27, Trinity Jubilee Center Community Organizing Alliance, Lewiston, ME
- Henry Welch '25, Boys and Girls Club of Southern Maine, Lewiston, ME

Winter 2024

- Mimi Bois '27, Rosati Leadership Academy, Lewiston, ME
- Ganga Corsaro '26, Trinity Jubilee Center, Lewiston, ME
- Miranda Eisenman '25, PAL Center, Auburn, ME
- Emma Gillespie '26, L/A Arts, Lewiston, ME
- McKayla Kendall '26, Immigrant Resource Center, Lewiston, ME
- Naomi Lynch '25, St. Mary's Nutrition Center, Lewiston, ME
- Mo McGuire '26, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Catalina Passino '26, Lewiston Housing Authority, Lewiston, ME
- Amanda Power '26, tutor at Lewiston Public Schools, Lewiston, ME
- Nur Rajaie '27, Boys and Girls Club of Southern Maine, Lewiston, ME

Summer 2024

- Ganga Corsaro '26, St. Mary's Nutrition Center, Lewiston, ME
- Peace Ekechukwu '26, Maine Museum of Innovation, Learning and Labor, Lewiston, ME
- Ro Emerson '26, Lewiston Housing Authority, Lewiston, ME
- Joy Huang '27, Trinity Jubilee Center, Lewiston, ME
- Leslie Jimenez '26, Generational Noor, Lewiston, ME
- Chidera Kalu-Uka '27, Tree Street Youth, Lewiston, ME
- Jake Pepe '26, City of Auburn, Auburn, ME
- Sam Skinner '26, Trinity Jubilee Center, Lewiston, ME

Grants Administered by the Harward Center

The Leland and Claudina Bechtel Award recognizes the outstanding community work of Psychology majors. This year the award was given to Ally Friedman '24 and Julia Jeong '24.

The Robert S. Moyer Award for the Prevention of Domestic Violence recognizes a Bates student for exceptional work related to the prevention of domestic violence. This year's award was given to Leah Ruck '24.

RECOGNITIONS & Celebrations

Campus Compact Awards

- **Marisela Flores Pineda '24** and **Emily Walsh '24** received the Maine Campus Compact **Heart and Soul Student Award** in recognition of exemplary civic engagement.
- **Leith Chikh Rouhou '26** received the national Campus Compact **Newman Civic Fellows Award**, presented annually to undergraduates who have demonstrated an invested interest in service, research, and advocacy throughout their college experiences and beyond.
- The **Bates Field Hockey Team** received the Maine Campus Compact **President's Campus Leadership Award** in recognition of a student organization or campus department that integrates service into the college experience and addresses community issues.

Harvard Center Awards

In May, the Harvard Center hosted its Annual Awards Celebration to recognize students, faculty, staff, and community partners for their dedication to connecting the college with the larger community through collaboration, research, and service. This year's award recipients were:

- Julia Harper, recipient of the 2024 James and Sally Carignan Career Achievement Award
- Alexa Bowerfind '24, Caitlin Chan '24, and Samantha Shapiro '24, recipients of the 2024 Award for Outstanding Academic Community Engagement
- Inez Johnson '25 and Anna Sarrazin '24, recipients of the 2024 Award for Outstanding Community Volunteerism and Student Leadership
- Isaac Levinger '24 and Aaliyah Moore '24, recipients of the 2024 Civic Leadership Award
- Gun Safety Activists from AVC303/AMST303: Art & Social Practice and Bates Students Demand Action, recipients of the 2024 Student Activism Award
- Alan Wang '24, recipient of the 2024 Peggy Rotundo Award for Excellence in Democratic Engagement
- Paul Adutwum '27 and Hana Roggendorf '27, recipients of the 2024 Award for Outstanding Community Engagement by a First Year Student ("Rookie of the Year" Award)
- The Aspirations Club, recipient of the 2024 Award for Outstanding Community Engagement by a Club/Team

- Sandra Goff (Economics) and Su Langdon (Psychology), recipients of the 2024 Faculty Award for Outstanding Community-Engaged Work
- Daphne Comeau (Academic Support Services) & Sylvia Gnieser-Castonguay (Student Affairs) and Kevin Michaud (Campus Safety), recipients of the 2024 Staff Award for Community Volunteerism, Leadership, or Engagement
- Lewiston High School Literacy Tutoring Program, recipient of the 2024 Community Partner Award for Outstanding New Initiative
- Organizers of the Bates Trick or Treat Event, recipients of the 2024 Award for Outstanding Community Project/Partnership
- City of Lewiston’s Community and Economic Development, Recreation, and Public Works Departments, recipients of the 2024 Maine Campus Compact Community Partner of the Year Award

Senior Civic Leaders Celebration

On April 29, in the Benjamin Mays Center, Harward Center staff and other invited faculty and partners gathered with our graduating Bonners and Outreach Fellows to celebrate them as they reflected on their civic journeys across their four years at Bates.

Harward Center Staff Civic Leadership & Recognitions

Harward Center staff members model civically-engaged lives by committing themselves to diverse forms of civic participation and leadership in the local and statewide communities. In the past year Harward Center staff members served the community in these diverse roles:

Service on Boards of Directors and Advisory Boards: Community Concepts Board of Directors; Lewiston-Auburn Railroad Board of Directors; Healthy Neighborhoods Board of Directors and Executive Committee; L/A Arts Board of Directors and Executive Committee; Lewiston Auburn Working Communities Challenge Core Team; New Beginnings Advisory Board; Maine State Library Commission; Maine Library Advisory Council; City of Lewiston Public Art Committee; Great Falls Forum Program Committee; Constructive Theology Workgroup Steering Committee; National Advisory Board of Imagining America; Holocaust and Human Rights Center Board of Directors; Advisory Committee for Portland Education Foundation; Maine Community Foundation’s BIPOC Fund (Advisor); Early Childhood Coalition; Center for Wisdom’s Women; Middle School Leadership Team; Lewiston Middle School Emergency Team; Lewiston 21st Century Advisory Committee; Maine Inside Out Festival Coalition; Tree Street Youth Board of Directors; Trinity Jubilee Center Board of Directors; Center for Wisdom’s Women Board of Directors; City of Lewiston Transformation Action Group

Elected Office and Municipal Bodies: State Representative, House District 94 (Assistant House Majority Leader)

Campus Committees and Boards: Sexual Misconduct Review Board; Presidential Inauguration Program Committee; Physical Education Personnel Committee; Bates Arts Collaborative; Kessler Initiative Advisory Committee

Presentations & Publications:

- Darby Ray presented "Community Engagement: Ethics, Integration, and Institutionalization," a two-day workshop for faculty at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, PA.
- Darby Ray presented "Preflection and Reflection in Community-Engaged Learning," a workshop for faculty at Kenyon College in Gambier, OH.
- Darby Ray presented "Hunger, Hubris, and Community Engagement: Slowing Down, Going Deeper, Doing Better" – keynote address at the National Conference of the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education in Atlanta, GA.
- Darby Ray presented "Becoming A Global Changemaker: Lofty Ambitions and Grounded Practices," a keynote address for the Vocation Across the Academy Initiative at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI.
- Darby Ray presented "Would You Work If You Didn't Have To?: Reflections on Work and (De-)Humanization," a keynote address for the Grappone Humanities Institute's "Big Thought Series: Labor and Leisure" at St. Anselm College in Manchester, NH.
- Darby Ray presented "We Love LA: Youth Leadership and the Future of Our Hometown" – a workshop for the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council in Lewiston ME.

AFFILIATIONS

The Harvard Center and Bates College work with a wide range of national consortia, project networks, and organizations in order to advance civic engagement in higher education and to improve our own work. Some of our most important affiliations include:

- The Bonner Foundation Network, a group of 80+ colleges and universities convened and supported by the Bonner Foundation, to support more than 3,000 students in a four-year service-based scholarship program;
- Imagining America, a national consortium of higher education institutions that bring scholars and practitioners in the arts, humanities, and design fields together in critical yet hopeful spaces to imagine better ways of living, learning and working together;
- Maine Campus Compact, a state-wide consortium of colleges and universities (an affiliate of the national Campus Compact) engaged in public work, service, and scholarship;
- Project Pericles, a national consortium of thirty colleges and universities committed to the role of liberal arts education in citizenship.

THE NUMBERS September 2023-August 2024

Academic Community-Engaged Work

24,398 documented hours of academically-based community work were provided by Bates students through courses, theses, and independent studies.

11,619 of these hours were provided in connection with public schools and other youth-serving organizations.

732 students participated in academic community-engaged learning from the fall of 2023 through the summer of 2024.

50 courses included a community-engaged learning component.

24 community-engaged senior theses were completed.

23 of the College's 38 departments and programs included at least one community-engaged learning course in their curricula.

34 faculty members were involved in community-engaged teaching.

Volunteer Work during the Academic Year

8,914 documented hours of volunteer service (work not undertaken within a community-engaged learning/research context or civic leadership program) were provided by Bates students during the academic year. Another 2,658 hours were contributed by Bates students through residence life programs, student clubs and athletic teams.

Summer Work

Over 1,550 hours of documented community-engaged work were provided by Bates students over the summer. This work was supported through community work-study funds.

Student Leadership Development Programs

Twenty-five Bonner Leaders spent 3,645 hours participating in a range of significant community-engaged activities during the academic year. Eleven Community Outreach Fellows facilitated 2,258 hours of volunteering in the local community. Twelve students tutored in local schools for 794.25 hours through America Reads/America Counts and the Bates Civic Action Team. Four International Community Engagement fellows spent 426 hours engaging with a variety of community partners.

Community Work Study Program

Thirty-one students worked 2,666 hours in the community through the federal community work-study program during the academic year. Of these hours, over 800 hours were dedicated to the America Reads/America Counts program.

Student Positions

12 students served as tutors through America Reads/America Counts and the Bates Civic Action Team.

25 students served as Bonner Leaders.

4 students served as Bonner Racial Justice Fellows.

8 students served as Civic Agency Fellows.

10 students served as Community Outreach Fellows.

4 students served as International Student Experiential Learning Fellows.

4 students served as Student Athlete Community Engagement Fellows.

31 students served as Academic Year Community Work-Study Fellows.

8 students served as Summer Community Work-Study Fellows.

2 students served as Harward Center Student Assistants.

1 student served as a Harward Center Communications Coordinator.

Grants & Fellowships

In 2023-2024, the Harward Center for Community Partnerships awarded the following grants and fellowships:

\$2,400 in Community-Engaged Research Fellowships to students

\$9,509 in Faculty Community Engagement and Research Grants

\$1,400 in Community Liaison Grants to student clubs and organizations

\$10,863 in Carignan Fund for Community Programs Grants to community partners

\$1,728 in Community-Engaged Learning/Transportation Grants to students

\$4,115 in Community-Engaged Research Grants to students

\$11,525 in America Reads/America Counts and Bates Civic Action Team payments to students

\$39,350 in Bonner Leader Fellowships to students

\$6,000 in Bonner Racial Justice Fellowships to students

\$4,900 in Civic Agency Fellowships to students

\$23,300 in Community Outreach Fellowships to students

\$7,400 in International Student Experiential Learning Fellowships to students

\$5,183 in Student Athlete Community Engagement Fellowships to students

\$38,006 in Academic Year Community Work-Study Fellowships to students

\$22,324 in Summer Community Work-Study Fellowships to students