May 2020 Updates

BTU DATA UPDATES: Engagements

Towson University faculty, staff, and students have 410 ENGAGEMENTS with 603 PARTNERS*.

*Many engagements address multiple impact areas

UPCOMING EVENTS & MILESTONES

- BTU Webinar, featuring University Advancement and the T. Rowe Price Foundation: May 27, 2020
- BTU Partnership Awards Reception: September 15, 2020

BTU PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS: March–May 2020

Through Covid-19, while some community engagement and partnership efforts have been postponed, others have found innovative ways to adapt and maintain this work.

- **Together Apart:** After the cancellation of the annual Honestly Autism Day conference and in response to the isolation of families and discontinuation of services, the Department of Special Education and the Autism Society of Baltimore-Chesapeake partnered together to facilitate virtual support groups for families that include topics such as behavior, idea sharing, and well-being and coping support.

- **G.I.V.E. Online Course for middle-school students:** Students that were previously providing an in-person workshop at the SAFE Center in Baltimore City through Grantwriting in Valued Environments (G.I.V.E), within the Department of English, are transforming the workshop for Baltimore City middle-school students into a padlet online course. Through the online workshop, students will study works by local and national artists, and develop an original piece as a way to advocate for themselves, their families, and communities.

- **TU & Baltimore City Community Schools:** Before Covid-19, TU students in the Department of Instructional Leadership and Professional Development were actively working with six different community schools. They are now focusing on making curriculum accessible by breaking down the work packets provided by Baltimore City Public Schools into simpler parts, setting up live and prerecorded sessions for families and students, tutoring high school students online, and reading to elementary school students.

- **YAAAS! Youth Allies and Artists Taking Action in Society:** Graduate students in the Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts Infusion program were originally planning to work alongside refugee youth at Patterson High School on a community engagement project. Due to Covid-19, students are shifting their focus to, instead, provide homework support and piloting an arts challenge, where supplies will be mailed to students, and the creations will be shared online.

- **City Kids Art at New Song Academy:** Each year, Art Education students partner with New Song Academy, with schools being closed, they created 15 virtual art lessons geared toward middle school learners and are looking into distributing art packets to students. Additionally, Dr. Kay Broadwater has worked with her local community association to secure several 15 computers and a financial contribution for New Song Academy to increase student accessibility.

- **Maryland History Day:** Cook Library has been working with Maryland Humanities for several years on Maryland History Day, a state-wide 6-12th grade history day competition. Due to school closings, the contest has been moved online, with several TU librarians and staff serving as competition judges.

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