

September 2020 Updates

BTU

Partnerships
at Work for
Greater
Baltimore

BTU DATA UPDATES: Engagements

Towson University faculty, staff, and students have

333 ENGAGEMENTS with **531** PARTNERS*

*Many engagements address multiple impact areas



166

High-Quality &
Equitable Education
Engagements



165

Strong Neighborhoods &
Sustainable Communities
Engagements



72

Lifelong Health
& Well-Being
Engagements



46

Vibrant Arts &
Cultural Community
Engagements



90

Thriving &
Competitive Economy
Engagements

BTU PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS: June–September 2020

Although the Covid-19 pandemic has changed how community engagement is accomplished in many ways, these and many other important collaborations are still taking place between TU and our community partners.

- ▶ **SAFE Webinar:** The BTU Team hosted a webinar with Van Brooks, Towson University alumnus, Baltimore City native, and founder and executive director of Safe Alternative Foundation for Education, Inc. (SAFE) to discuss SAFE's current work, the development of their new workforce development center, and how community members can create the change needed to end racism, discrimination, and injustice
- ▶ **Operation Gratitude:** In honor of 9/11, the Office of Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility partnered with Operation Gratitude to send 175 nationwide letters of appreciation written by faculty, staff, and students to deployed troops, first responders, and healthcare providers.
- ▶ **King Gimp Exhibit:** The Department of Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science, the College of Fine Arts and Communication, and Towson Town Center have partnered to create an art exhibit featuring the work of Daniel Keplinger "King Gimp", a Towson University MFA alumnus and accomplished artist who was born with cerebral palsy. The project was originally scheduled to take place in-person, but due to Covid-19, has shifted to a storefront window installation, which will be open to the general public, including those with disabilities, to engage with art in an accessible environment.
- ▶ **Empowering Secure Elections:** With the ultimate goal of examining and reducing potential physical, cyber, and human vulnerabilities in the voting process, the Department of Business Analytics and Technology Management, Department of Computer and Information Sciences, and the Harford and Anne Arundel County Board of Elections collaborated over the summer to conduct research on how poll workers use computers to improve cybersecurity of elections.
- ▶ **Empowering Communities Project:** Led out of the Department of Political Science, faculty connected with black and minority-led nonprofit organizations in Baltimore City to better understand and communicate their needs and impact, due to Covid-19. The results will continue to help guide TU's collaborative work with nonprofits in Greater Baltimore and beyond.
- ▶ **AileyCamp Baltimore:** Traditionally held in person, in collaboration with AileyCamp, Towson University shifted its programming to offer Virtual AileyCamp Baltimore, a four-week curriculum for approximately 50 campers from Baltimore City Public Schools, ranging from 11 to 16 years old. Baltimore City Public Schools provided devices and hot spots to students needing them, and a virtual end of camp performance was held to celebrate the campers accomplishments.

CONTACT US

towson.edu/BTU

partnerships@towson.edu

410-704-2678

@TUpartnerships

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