

2016

## Weitz CEC Building Viewbook

Weitz CEC

*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/engagementprogramsbrochures>

 Part of the [Civic and Community Engagement Commons](#), and the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

CEC, Weitz, "Weitz CEC Building Viewbook" (2016). *Programs and Brochures*. Paper 5.  
<http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/engagementprogramsbrochures/5>

This Program/Brochure is brought to you for free and open access by the Community Engagement Communications at DigitalCommons@UNO. It has been accepted for inclusion in Programs and Brochures by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UNO. For more information, please contact [unodigitalcommons@unomaha.edu](mailto:unodigitalcommons@unomaha.edu).



A network diagram background consisting of various grey nodes of different sizes connected by thin grey lines, scattered across the black background.

**BARBARA WEITZ**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**ENGAGEMENT**  
**CENTER**

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Omaha







## CHANCELLOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC), the first of its kind in the country. Since opening in April 2014, the Weitz CEC, and the programs and partnerships it houses, have made a dynamic impact on our students, campus, and community.

The Weitz CEC is an expansive concept in university-community relations. Through its Student Service and Leadership Collaborative, the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) will elevate student volunteerism initiatives by incorporating leadership, civic responsibility, and cultural competence. Our award-winning Service Learning Academy now has room to grow, providing more students with experiences that enhance learning, foster engaged citizenship, and support community partnerships. These exchanges have allowed a broader spectrum of faculty and students to conduct applied and translational research.

The Weitz CEC is home to more than 30 nonprofit, government, academic, and student-operated organizations representing a wide range of interests including the arts, environmental sustainability, early childhood education, and homelessness. The resulting unique collaborations extend far beyond UNO's physical borders. Our partner organizations share a commitment to

creating and maintaining relationships with the campus and the community. Through the Weitz CEC, we have created an environment where our community partners interact meaningfully with students and faculty.

Finally, the facility's extensive meeting spaces and common areas are an important resource to the community, state, and region. Nonprofit, government, and community groups holding qualified events can utilize these spaces for free. The Weitz CEC makes UNO campus events more accessible to the community, thus enhancing our visibility and ensuring the campus' ongoing relationship with constituents.


The Weitz CEC represents an exciting new direction for America's metropolitan universities—one where campuses actively encourage community interaction and participation. I invite you to learn more about the Weitz CEC through this publication and by visiting our website: [weitzcec.unomaha.edu](http://weitzcec.unomaha.edu).

Sincerely,

John E. Christensen  
Chancellor







THE BARBARA WEITZ COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT CENTER IS A  
MANIFESTATION OF UNO'S  
TRADITION OF ENGAGEMENT WITH  
URBAN, REGIONAL, NATIONAL,  
AND GLOBAL COMMUNITIES.

AS SUCH, WE WELCOME OUR  
COLLABORATING PARTNERS ON OUR  
CAMPUS AS EQUAL CONTRIBUTORS TO  
THE BETTERMENT OF OUR CAMPUS,  
CITY, AND THE WORLD BEYOND.



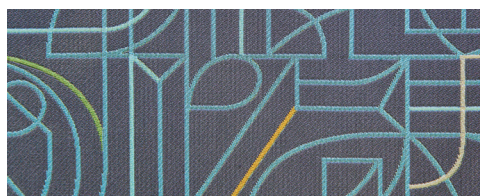
## OUR MISSION

The Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC) will contribute positively and measurably to the community's quality of life by creating, supporting, and expanding mutually beneficial partnerships, engaged scholarship, and academic and student programming that create tomorrow's leaders and agents of change.

With the Weitz CEC, UNO will provide an expanded, coordinated, and comprehensive student engagement program. The Weitz CEC will allow UNO to develop new opportunities as well as enhance, expand, and coordinate student volunteerism, service projects, academic service learning, and leadership development specific to community engagement and civic participation.

## OUR VISION

The dynamic programs, initiatives, and partnerships fostered and supported by the Weitz CEC will inspire generations of leaders, groundbreaking solutions, and synergetic collaborations that will transform our community and campus into world-class metropolitan partners.



## CORE VALUES

1

Superlative academic service learning and community-based learning experiences for our students that offer reciprocal and substantial benefits for our community partners.

2

Exciting co-curricular service opportunities that inspire students to become active citizens, change agents, and leaders in their communities.

3

Democratic ideals, such as transparency, civil and open dialogue, and diversity of thought in our operations, programming, and events.

4

A collaborative environment that values community, faculty, staff, and students as equal partners.

5

A commitment to continuous improvement, based on measurement of outcomes, that determines the impact of our efforts on our students, campus, and community.

6

Respectful reciprocity, which ensures that the motivations and needs of community and university partners are acknowledged and appropriately addressed.

7

A welcoming atmosphere that values the full breadth and scope of our community's diverse population.

8

Engaged research and scholarship opportunities that offer mutual benefits to our community.

9

A dynamic building culture that fosters camaraderie and communication.



## BARBARA WEITZ

The Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC) is named after an individual deeply committed to her community and to helping others. Barbara is an avid supporter of local and national nonprofit organizations, giving back to the Omaha community through her volunteerism and financial commitments.

Barbara, along with her husband, Wally Weitz, and their children, were the catalyst behind the development and extraordinary growth of UNO's service learning programs—now being integrated in K-12 schools throughout the Omaha community—and the university's emergence as a national leader in community engagement.

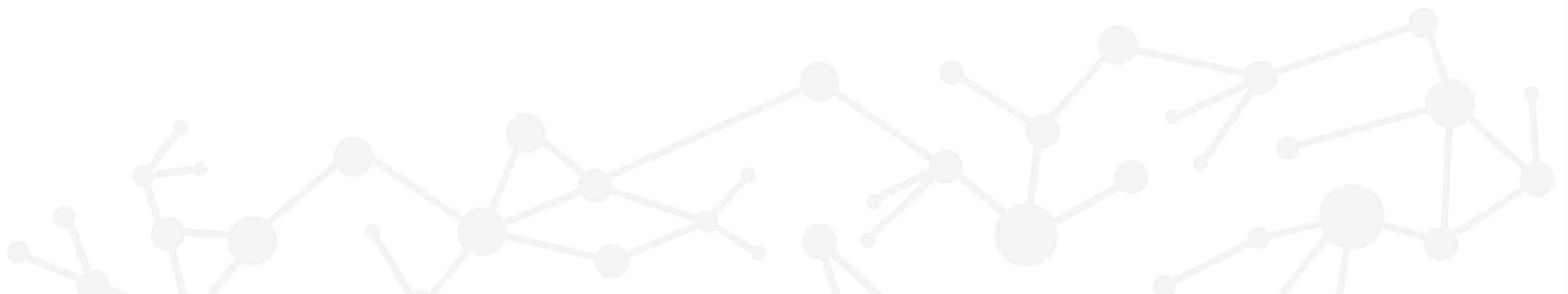
Barbara holds degrees in government, public administration, and social work from Carleton College, New York University, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She is a retired faculty member of the UNO School of Social Work and currently is involved with the Women's Fund of Greater Omaha, Building Bright Futures, the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, the Avenue Scholars Foundation, and the University of Nebraska Foundation. Barbara formerly served on the National Board of the Samaritan Institute.

The Weitz Family Foundation made the lead gift to the Weitz CEC. Their support of this transformative project at UNO continues the family's legacy of community engagement and enriching the lives of others.



*The dream for this building is for the community to become all it can be. It's for people to come together to work for the greater good of all of Omaha's citizens—*  
***not my little neighborhood,  
not your little neighborhood,  
but for the whole community.***  
*And if the dream of this building can come true, and it did, so can the dream of a community for all of its citizens come true.*

Barbara Weitz





# HISTORY

Since its inception in 1908, engagement and outreach to the Omaha community has been a cornerstone of UNO. The university uses outreach to enhance teaching and research through service learning, internships, practica, and research.



UNO is proud to be a member of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities. Organized in 1989, this international group of educational institutions includes private, public, four-year, and community colleges, large and small. Member institutions share a mission of using the power of their campus in education, research, and service to enhance the communities in which they are located.

1989

The Coalition of Metropolitan and Urban Universities is founded at Wright State University.

1993

UNO joins the Coalition of Metropolitan and Urban Universities.

1997

UNO receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to be a Community Outreach Partnership Center site.



1997

UNO Center for Faculty Development, led by Marilyn Leach, brings together a team of UNO faculty funded by the Midwest Consortium for Service Learning.

1998

UNO adopts Community Engagement as one of its three strategic goals.

1998

Seven linked service learning courses, all focused on poverty or housing, are taught by UNO faculty.

2000

UNO and the University of Nebraska Medical Center open the Collaborating Center for Public Health and Community Health on 49th Avenue and Farnam to support local nonprofit and health initiatives.



2004

UNO administration establishes the Service Learning Academy.

2005

105 service learning courses taught at UNO for the 2004/2005 academic year.

2009

Chancellor John Christensen calls for the creation of a University/Community Engagement Center to be constructed on the UNO campus in his 2009 University Convocation Address.

2009

The newly formed Community Engagement Center Advisory Committee begins meeting and makes site visits to find prototypes of engagement facilities in the U.S.



2012

Ceremonial ground breaking event drew more than 250 community and university attendees.



2014

The Weitz CEC Dedication Ceremony & Grand Opening.

2015

210 service learning courses taught at UNO during the 2014/15 academic year.





---

## AREAS OF FOCUS

The Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC), as a building on UNO's campus, ensures improved community access to the campus and its full array of services, events, and human capital. Additionally, the Weitz CEC delivers more effective engagement to UNO students, faculty, and staff with a full range of activities offered in and through the facility. The Weitz CEC serves as a visual and physical representation of UNO's ongoing commitment to be a metropolitan institution of distinction, with a sincere intention to be open to the community.

The Weitz CEC is intended to increase and improve the extensive outreach activities and applied research already occurring off-campus. The Weitz CEC enhances UNO's capacity to be more responsive and effective in its off-campus activities, as it increases the capacity of the Service Learning Academy, the Office of Civic and Social Responsibility (CSR), applied research, and other outreach activities.

### THERE ARE FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS FOR THE BARBARA WEITZ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER

#### 1 SIGNATURE OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Service Learning Academy | Civic Engagement  
Office of Civic and Social Responsibility and The Collaborative  
Buffett Early Childhood Institute | William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies

#### 2 UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Nonprofit/Community-based Organizations and Initiatives

#### 3 SCHOLARSHIP OF ENGAGEMENT

Applied, Translational, and Evaluation Research  
Faculty Fellowships | Civic Participation Projects

#### 4 COMMUNITY & CAMPUS RELATED EVENTS

Collaboration & Community Dialogue Space | State of the Art Technology  
Community Oriented Workshops, Meetings, and Forums



# SIGNATURE OUTREACH PROGRAMS



## SERVICE LEARNING ACADEMY

**The University of Nebraska at Omaha is committed to building bridges between the campus and the community. Service learning is one of those bridges and is a method of teaching that connects academic coursework to community needs.**

The Service Learning Academy works in collaboration with nonprofit community organizations, governmental agencies, and P-12 faculty. Projects are implemented that serve the community and create valuable learning experiences for UNO students. Students' learning goes beyond the classroom as they apply their knowledge to real-life situations in the community. Reflection activities before, during, and after each project facilitate critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.

Service learning is a critical aspect in the academic and personal development of UNO students. The integration of academic knowledge with a service learning experience prepares students to work and serve in an increasingly diverse and challenging environment.

This makes students more desirable for future employment and increases their sense of civic engagement.

**Service learning is an experiential method of teaching.**

Collaborative partnerships between faculty, students, and community nonprofit organizations create projects that are tightly linked to course content and promote academic learning, while meeting the needs of the community. Community partners become "teachers of context," by sharing the perspective of constituencies in the community that they represent, thus expanding students' world views.

Service learning also benefits university and community organizations by assisting in development with various projects and providing additional resources for these organizations. While benefiting the community, service learning simultaneously helps students to become invested in their community and in particular partner organizations, as the community members learn to value youth as contributors.

# THE OFFICE OF CIVIC AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY & THE COLLABORATIVE

The Office of Civic and Social Responsibility (CSR) is dedicated to developing students as engaged community citizens and leaders for positive social change. Programs in the Office of Civic and Social Responsibility are designed to foster purpose and passion. Our office is student-centered and focuses on encouraging civic engagement to create uplifting peer to peer interactivity in the Omaha metro area and beyond. We connect the UNO community with local nonprofits and UNO students for the betterment of our society. Together, we are a force for positive social change.

The Office of Civic and Social Responsibility is home to The Collaborative, Maverick Food Pantry, Signature Service Days, SEED Projects, CGI U, SummerWorks Omaha, and the Volunteer Connection Center. The Office of Civic and Social Responsibility directly serves students, UNO and community volunteers, nonprofit and community organizations, and the greater metro area and beyond. These programs provide students with leadership, teamwork, effective communication, and critical-thinking skills, as well as social, emotional, and intercultural competencies about civic identity. Students participating in these programs have a greater sense of purpose and leadership within the community.

The Office of Civic and Social Responsibility connects the network of UNO alumni, faculty, staff, and community volunteers with meaningful and enriching service opportunities. In addition, nonprofit partners receive ongoing support from the UNO community, opportunities to post service and volunteer events, and the opportunity to utilize UNO student volunteers.



The Collaborative's inclusive programming model provides students and volunteers with great opportunities to engage with the community both locally and beyond. Thanks to this program, students and nonprofit organizations can come together to create service projects that address one or more of the current social issue areas affecting our community. **Those six areas include: Educational Support, Economic Sufficiency, Environmental Stewardship, Health and Wellness, International Service, and Social Justice.**



---

## BUFFETT EARLY CHILDHOOD INSTITUTE

The Buffett Early Childhood Institute is devoted to transforming the lives of young, at-risk children by improving their learning and development. As one of four cross-campus institutes of the University of Nebraska, the Institute draws on the interdisciplinary resources and research of the four campuses and works with schools, agencies, community partners, and policymakers to implement and support high-quality, evidence-based services, programs, and policies for young children, birth through age eight, and their families.

Two signature programs shape the Institute's efforts to serve vulnerable children and families. The Achievement Gap Challenge aspires to reduce or eliminate gaps between children raised in poverty and more advantaged children; and the Early Childhood Workforce Development program focuses on improving the quantity, quality, and skills of those who work with children at risk from birth onward.

The Buffett Institute represents the shared vision of the University of Nebraska and Omaha philanthropist Susie Buffett, a long-time champion of early childhood education and development. Early childhood education is one of the top five priorities of the University of Nebraska, the first public university in the nation to make a commitment to young children at risk in such a profound way.



## WILLIAM BRENNAN INSTITUTE FOR LABOR STUDIES

Since its founding in 1980, the William Brennan Institute for Labor Studies (WBILS) has strived to meet its statewide responsibilities to educate Nebraska's labor movement and the public about today's changing economy and workplaces.

The WBILS believes that the American labor movement has played an important role in promoting economic and social change. Labor unions are the only institutions in American society specifically charged with introducing meaningful democracy into the workplace, and they have historically used that democracy to humanize today's employment relationship.

The WBILS's statewide mission is to foster creative and critical-thinking among labor leaders, potential leaders, and interested members of the public when addressing issues facing everyday wage earners both inside and outside of the labor movement as they work to achieve a piece of the American Dream. The WBILS engages in teaching, service, and research activities including: conducting open enrollment non-credit courses for members of labor organizations that engage in collective bargaining; designing custom-designed contract courses for local unions, state associations, or central labor councils; responding to applied research and information requests from organized labor; offering public education programs for organizations inside and outside the labor movement; as well as hosting the annual *Promoting the General Welfare* labor studies conference.





# collaboration, transparency, diversity, community good, and openness to new ideas and ways of working...



## UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PARTNERS

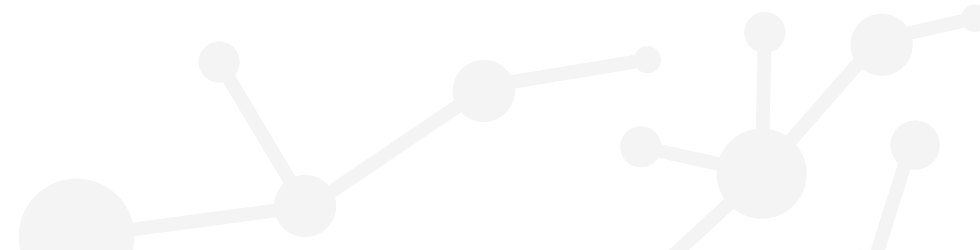
Twenty-nine organizations are currently housed in the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC). These partner organizations represent both UNO and the community. Organizations were selected based on their relationship with the core values of the Weitz CEC, including collaboration, transparency, diversity, community good, and openness to new ideas and ways of working.

All partner organizations go through a selection process that includes an application, stages of interviews, and a recommendation made by the Weitz CEC Advisory Committee to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs. These recommendations are based on the Weitz CEC's values.

## COMMUNITY & UNIVERSITY RELATIONSHIPS

Community and university organizations and initiatives are housed throughout the three community/university partner spaces in the building. Each community/university collaboration area has a mix of community and university users, co-located with a diverse group of organizations while sharing interests and missions in developing a partnership with UNO and the community.

The Weitz CEC is a centralized, two-way system of coordinating, linking, and communicating volunteerism, community service, and service learning needs with UNO's abundant campus resources. The spaces have been designed specifically to promote innovative and collaborative solutions to our community's most challenging issues. Other benefits conducive to community/university relationships include extensive community parking, new opportunities for organizational capacity building, facilitated decision making, and civic participation.







---

# SCHOLARSHIP OF ENGAGEMENT

**As a metropolitan university, UNO supports all types of faculty engagement in the community, whether through engaged research, teaching, or service.**

Through the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC), faculty, staff, and students can connect to opportunities for meaningful collaboration and engaged scholarship with individuals and organizations in the metropolitan area's nonprofit, education, government, and business sectors.

The Weitz CEC supports engaged research and service in numerous ways. The community/university partnership spaces offer competitive opportunities for faculty to have dedicated, temporary office or workspace in the building, allowing them to pursue applied and evaluation research projects in an engagement-focused environment. To date, UNO faculty have embarked on a variety of projects that enable them to collaborate with community organizations in mutually beneficial ways, propose and test solutions for emerging or

ongoing community problems, and establish new problem-focused interdisciplinary collaborations with faculty from throughout campus. These activities, and future activities, can all result in opportunities for scholarly publications, presentations, and new research agendas.

UNO faculty will have the opportunity to apply to be an *Engagement Faculty Fellow*, which will involve semester-long placements at the Weitz CEC for the development or expansion of community-based research and collaboration. Fellows will have shared office space with the Weitz CEC's partnership areas. Faculty will complete the semester with a plan and partner(s) in place to launch a collaborative research or outreach project.

By acting as a conduit for community needs, the Weitz CEC can link faculty with a broad range of individuals, leaders, and organizations to applied research needs in the community. These can range from grassroots entities to organizations with long-term, established roots in the community.



*The Weitz CEC is truly an active, supportive, and positive community. It's like all the people who were told, "You can't change the world," and who didn't believe that, decided to get together in this place. We are changing the world. Being in the Weitz CEC is transformative for each of us, for our organizations, and for our partners.*

Michele Marie Desmarais, Ph.D., Associate Professor Religious Studies  
Director of Spirituality, Public Health, Religious Studies (SPHRS)





# COMMUNITY & CAMPUS RELATED EVENTS

The Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC) offers extensive space for community and campus meetings, workshops, special events, and planning activities, as well as other key resources to help faculty connect to community needs and participate in engaged service through volunteerism, board service, or community activism. Space is available at no charge to nonprofit and community organizations.



Do you want to hold or participate in a debate or dialogue on an important community issue? Are you bringing in a major speaker? Holding a symposium with community interest?



Are you looking at holding a mid-sized (200 people) community event?



Have a community service event to promote? A service learning activity to celebrate? An educational video about an important social issue?



To view or request available spaces, learn about events and event promotion visit [weitzcec.unomaha.edu](http://weitzcec.unomaha.edu).

*It's a one-of-a-kind building where faculty, staff, students, and community organizations are all in one place. No one else does that. There's nothing like this building anywhere in the world.*

Lisa Scherer, Ph.D., Co-Director, Volunteer Program Assessment at UNO



Meeting spaces accommodate groups from **4-225 people**



**The Weitz CEC provides state-of-the-art technology and a variety of meeting rooms including a community dialogue room for forums and town hall meetings.**







“

*Frankly, there is no better place nor time to create a consolidated community-university center than Omaha. There are many longstanding partnerships, burgeoning opportunities, and unmet needs waiting to be addressed, and many willing hands throughout our community and within the campus ready to work.*

BJ Reed, Ph.D., Senior Vice Chancellor  
Academic & Student Affairs

”



# 365 DAYS OF ENGAGEMENT

Since its grand opening in April 2014, the Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC) has steadily gained momentum in its use by both the community and university. By opening its doors for events, projects, programs, and organizations large and small, the Weitz CEC extends the resources of the campus to our community and welcomes the full spectrum of the area's residents and organizations to the UNO campus.



**3,000+**

The number of events hosted for the university, students, partners, nonprofits, and government organizations within its first year.



**29**

The number of university and community-based nonprofit partners that reside in the Weitz CEC.



**11,000**

The number of hours the Weitz CEC has been used for events benefiting the community and campus.



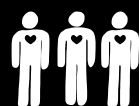
**20,000+**

The number of parking stalls that have been reserved for the community within its first year.



**\$700,000**

The estimated value of contributed space and IT services saved by organizations using the Weitz CEC for workshops, trainings, conferences, open houses, dialogues, and other events.



**195**

The estimated number of community-based organizations outside of the university that have utilized space at the Weitz CEC.

## UNO HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR THE FOLLOWING ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS:

UNO has been listed on the **Presidential Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll** every year since its inception in 2006, and has been recognized *With Distinction* three times.

2006

Among the first group of higher education institutions in the United States to receive the **Carnegie Elective Community Engagement Classification for Curricular Engagement and Outreach & Partnerships** and has maintained that classification since 2006.

UNO's Service Learning Program recognized as an *Academic Program to Look For* among 42 programs listed nationally by U.S. News and World Report

2007

*Honorable Mention*, **Washington Center's Higher Education Civic Engagement Award.**

2009

Top 25: *Best Neighbor* colleges and universities among 125 institutions who participated in the survey *Saviors of Our Cities: A Survey of Best College and University Civic Partnerships*

Finalists for the **President's Award**, a top award in the general service category of the **Presidential Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.**

2010

Since 2010, UNO's **P-16 Initiative** engages higher education faculty, P-12 educators and local nonprofits to collaborate in service learning projects that meet community needs and enhance course relevance for students.

2011

The Carnegie Foundation once again names UNO as one of the nation's leaders in engagement and outreach with a **2015 Community Engagement Classification.**

2014

Recipient of the **Presidential Award for the Economic Opportunity** category of the **Presidential Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.**





## JESS'S RESOURCE CENTER

*"'Aim high and work hard.'* I think that's what Jess might tell you if she had the chance." –Liz Lange

Jessica Lutton Bedient was known for her passion for helping others in her community and around the world. In the Weitz CEC, the Union Pacific Atrium is a special place to honor the legacy of Jessica Lutton Bedient.

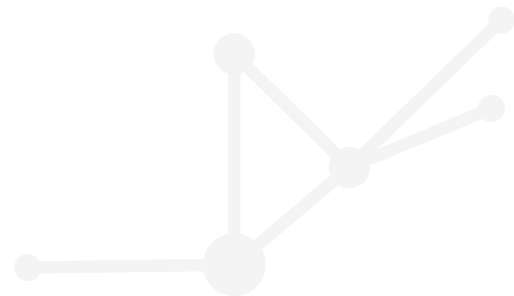
Originally from Ashland, Nebraska, Jess attended University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), where she graduated in 2006 from the College of Journalism and Mass Communications. She volunteered for a variety of causes, was a member of Alpha Phi sorority, a counselor for Nebraska Human Resource Institute, and a member of the Innocents Society, an elite UNL organization chosen for their scholarship, leadership, and community service.

In 2008, she joined the University of Nebraska Foundation, and was the director of development for the College of Public Affairs and Community Service and the College of Information Science & Technology. She married her husband Tony Bedient in September 2010. Five weeks later their car was hit by an intoxicated 18-year-old driver who ran a red light, taking Jess's life.

Jess's Resource Center will help students connect with volunteer opportunities.

Enabling students to give their time and energy to helping others honors Jess's spirit of community service and philanthropy. The poster that hung in her office was symbolic of the life Jess led. The poster read "A whole bunch of people decided to not just sit there, including you."

Jess touched many lives in a short time and her legacy lives on through the good deeds of others.



## THE UNO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER (CEC) EXCELLENCE FUND

The UNO Community Engagement Center (CEC) Excellence Fund supports innovative student programming, scholarships and internships, faculty fellowships and engaged research, and nonprofit outreach. Please consider an outright or planned gift that will enable the Weitz CEC to broaden its impact throughout the campus and community for many years to come!

For more information contact the University of Nebraska Foundation  
402.502.0300 | [nufoundation.org/uno/areas/community-engagement-center](http://nufoundation.org/uno/areas/community-engagement-center)



# BARBARA WEITZ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CENTER ART COLLECTION

## SELECTION PROCESS

In the spirit of community engagement, the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center (Weitz CEC) recognizes the value of local artistic talent in contributing to the Weitz CEC's visual environment. Selecting from an array of work by local talented artists as well as many existing collections the Weitz CEC Art Committee was formed to administer a Request For Proposal (RFP) selection process.

The Weitz CEC Art Committee established an RFP process that sought works of art and artists with a relation to Nebraska who encompassed the purpose and values of community, civic engagement, social responsibility, and university/community partnership.

In 2013, three RFP's were released for local community member artists, UNO student artists, and UNO faculty/staff artists. Artists interested in this opportunity were each required to complete a detailed proposal that outlined a relationship with community engagement.

Work was selected and placed to enhance the feeling of a dynamic, vibrant space to imagine and dream.

## BUILDING WORKS OF ART

### SIGNATURE WORKS OF ART

Four signature pieces were commissioned through the Weitz CEC Art Committee. Each piece represents the Weitz CEC in an innovative and diverse way.

#### THE REFLECTIONS OF US

by Ying Zhu  
*1st Floor Atrium*

#### ATOMICITY

by Ron Parks  
*Outside NW Corner of the Weitz CEC*

#### COMMUNITY

by Joslyn Art Museum's Kent Bellows Mentoring Program  
*Weitz CEC Parking Garage*

#### RED TAPESTRY WALL

by Mary Zicafoose  
*2nd Floor Atrium*



THE REFLECTIONS OF US  
BY YING ZHU



ATOMICITY  
BY RON PARKS



COMMUNITY  
BY JOSLYN ART MUSEUM'S KENT  
BELLOW'S MENTORING PROGRAM



RED TAPESTRY WALL  
BY MARY ZICAFOOSE





## 1ST FLOOR WORKS OF ART:

The following is a list of the artwork located on the first floor and according to the major spaces.

## THE LOWER COMMONS LOUNGE

- 1 NOTES IMAGE COLLECTION by Laura Burke
- 2 WINTER PACT by Robert Cook

## THE COLLABORATIVE

- 3 RICKSHAW by Shweta Sengupta

## SHARED RESOURCE CENTER

- 4 MICROSCOPIUM/TELESCOPIUM by David Helm

## PARTNER SPACE

- 5 CONFLUENCES by Bart Vargas
- 6 WOMAN AT PEACE by Andrew Gustafson

## WEST HALLWAY

- 7 ELMWOOD PLAINS by Zachary Nutt
- 8 REFLECTING ON THE OGALLALA AQUIFER by Jessica Benjamin
- 9 CABEZA PURPURA by Gerard Pefund
- 10 HEART AT CENTER by Heather Johanson
- 11 NOCTURNE (#81-48) by Tom Bartek
- 12 SMALL EARTHSCAPE-ORANGE SKY by Tom Bartek
- 13 EARTHMASK (#83-58) by Tom Bartek
- 14 EARTHSCAPE-SPIRITUAL PROGRESS (#90-5) by Tom Bartek
- 15 IT WAS ALL THERE, IN PLAIN SIGHT by Xuan Pham
- 16 UNAWARE by Xuan Pham
- 17 OLD ALMSHOUSE - WEEKLY by Lenard Thiessen

## EAST HALLWAY

- 18 SCARLET ECHO by Hope Dendinger
- 19 INTERSTATE 80 by Kristine Hansen-Cain
- 20 DRIVE THRU by Katrina Methot

- 21 JOIN THE CONVERSATION by Iris Ramirez-Kewin
- 22 NOT WHAT SHE HOPED FOR by Victoria Hoyt
- 23 BIG BOY STONES by Victoria Hoyt
- 24 YOU'RE HERE/WE'RE HERE by Victoria Hoyt
- 25 GANYMEDE by Watie White

## 2ND FLOOR WORKS OF ART:

The following is a list of the artwork located on the second floor and according to the major spaces.

## SHARED RESOURCE CENTER

- 26 FAVORS by Kim Reid-Kuhn
- 27 COLLABORATION by Jamie Burmeister

## PARTNER SPACE

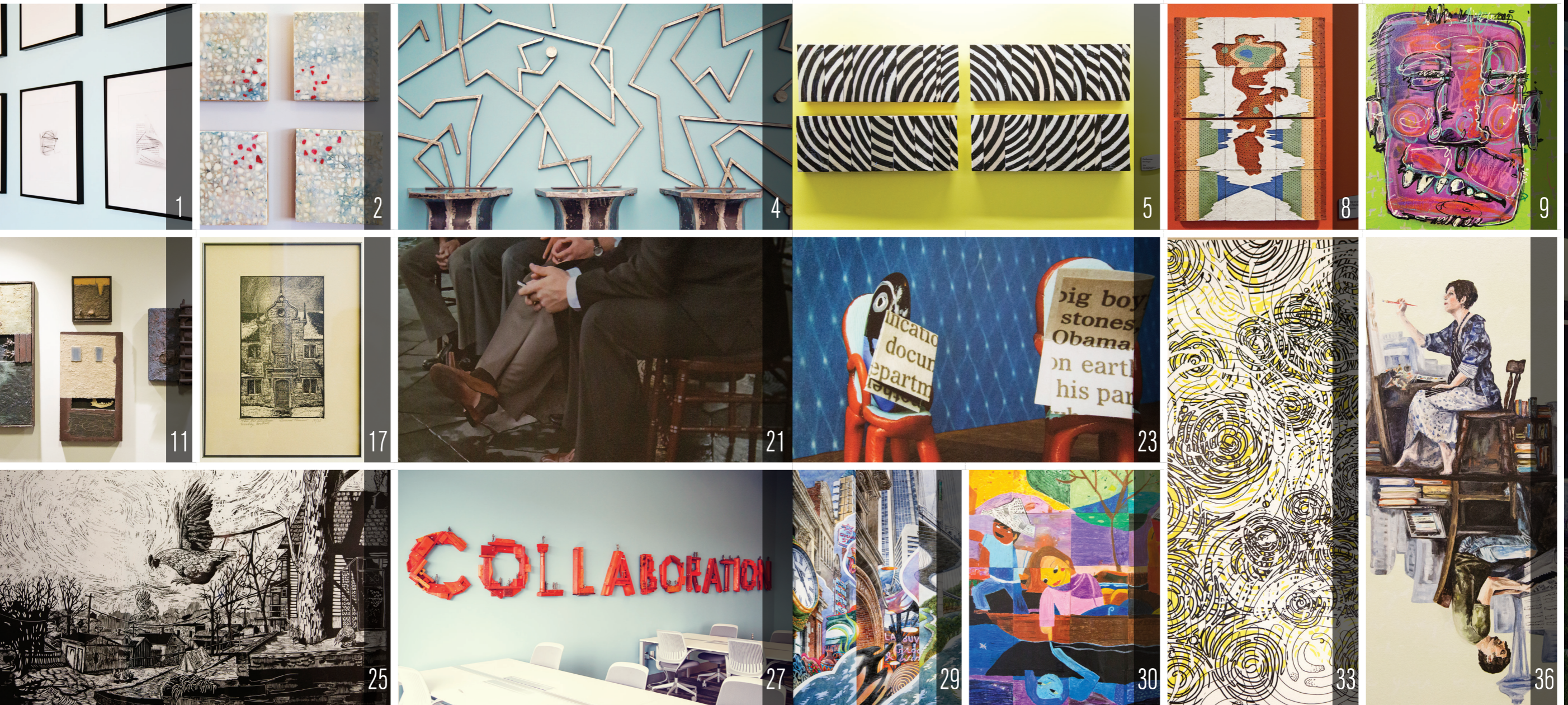
- 28 SELF-PORTRAIT by Angela Drakeford
- 29 OMAHA STRATERA by Allen Tubach  
*Artwork on loan.*

## WEST HALLWAY

- 30 WE IMAGINE WHILE READING  
remake by Service Learning Academy P-16 Students  
*Original by Rafael Lopez*
- 31 AFTERWARDS by Hugo Zamorano

## EAST HALLWAY

- 32 BLITZ by Colin Smith
- 33 PASSAGE 7 by Mary Day
- 34 A STRANGE FORM OF LIFE by Matthew Carlson  
*Room 206*
- 35 SEEDS OF THE SEPIK by Bethany Kalk
- 36 SIMULTANEOUS by Kelli McDanal





TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

# TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT

The capacity of community engagement is far beyond basic. Through the terms of engagement, individuals and organizations can think outside the box to contribute to their community and become engaged.

R S T E C A E O P L C I P I H S R E D A E L T  
 A U U R S C H O L A R S H I P N O U R L N S I  
 O E E C N E T S I S R E P A H G H N E E M A E  
 O L S L C C O N N E C T I O N S I A S N I G C  
 E C R O F K R O W C O C I I Y P R E P A N I N  
 R U C S L L R I A L O R V C I N S E O I T N R  
 B N R V C R I T I C A L T H I N K I N G N N E  
 P R E S E N T A T I O N L N N P O N S T A O C  
 L I A I L P I S R S H M G A T P A R I R R V O  
 R A T T A S A R M I N G P U B L T T B E B A M  
 O R I T N E M E G A G N E R P O N G I C I T P  
 H T V C D R L V E I R T T N E T R E L O V I E  
 E R I I O B R N E G I P V L O H T A I G N O T  
 E R T C O S S O D E V E L O P M E N T N V N E  
 N A Y R A L U C I R R U C A P N T N Y I P P N  
 I I P T L N I I N G P E C T O E E C S T O I C  
 C A I I I M N O N C V U F E R M K I S I S N Y  
 T L K C E N E P R E P A R A T I O N E O V I E  
 G S O D O N U U G L N D C S U N N P C N R E T  
 L T A B O I O M Q A U T E S N R E I C S I E T  
 E C A S M N T P M I I V P A I P E L U T R P G  
 A I T H A Y G O L O N H C E T T O G S O H O T  
 B L T O O O S L N I C U G C Y N O O U M M P S

- |               |                   |               |                 |            |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|
| Academic      | Critical Thinking | Leadership    | Preparation     | Society    |
| Collaboration | Curricular        | Learning      | Presentation    | Success    |
| Community     | Development       | Nucleus       | Problem Solving | Symbol     |
| Competency    | Engagement        | Opportunity   | Recognition     | Technology |
| Comprehensive | Ideas             | Participation | Responsibility  | Unique     |
| Connections   | Innovation        | Partnership   | Scholarship     | Vibrant    |
| Conversation  | Interaction       | Persistence   | Skills          | Vision     |
| Creativity    | Investment        | Planning      | Social          | Workforce  |

**Metropolitan University** – An institution that accepts all of higher education’s traditional values in teaching, research, and service, but takes upon itself the additional responsibility of providing engaged leadership within the metropolitan region by using its human and financial resources as partners to improve the region’s quality of life. – *Adapted from Paige E. Mulhollan*

**Applied Research** – Unlike basic research, applied research aims to address and answer real-world problems.

**Capstones** – A capstone project is a multifaceted assignment that serves as a culminating academic and intellectual experience for students, typically at the end of an academic program – also called a capstone experience, senior exhibition, or senior project. Capstone projects are designed to encourage students to think critically, solve challenging problems, and develop skills such as oral communication, public speaking, research skills, media literacy, teamwork, planning, self-sufficiency, or goal setting. In a community engaged environment, capstones can be directed to the needs of a specific nonprofit, government, or business entity or group of entities with the intention of offering a tangible benefit to that organization(s).

**Change Agents** – Anything that acts as a catalyst for change. Change agents are embodied by a clear vision, patience, and persistence, continuous inquiry, field related or purpose related knowledge, and the creation of trust.

**Civic Participation** – Involves working with other individuals or groups of people to deal with an issue facing the community (at any level) or school, which increases love and critical-thinking about society, and increases patriotism of all levels.

**Collective Impact** – Individuals that work together to move and improve outcomes, and advocate for what actually works. Collective impact, commonly confused with collaboration, strives to improve outcomes consistently over time, whereas collaboration is historically based on implementing a new program or an idea.

**Community Based Learning** – Delivers a diverse range of learning opportunities in community venues to all sections of society. Community based learning generally takes place outside of institutions and responds to the notion of community priorities and needs.

**Community Engagement** – Effective, mutually beneficial collaboration of students, faculty, staff, and our community. An engaged individual is someone who is involved (beyond minimal responsibilities), has an understanding of responsibilities related to the organization’s mission, and an overall feeling of well-being that relates either directly or indirectly to work satisfaction (i.e. faculty engagement and satisfaction).

**Community Stewardship** – A principle that embodies the planning and management of ALL resources (environmental, economic, civic, community, educational, etc.). Community stewardship is achieved through specific duties as a member of the community, which ultimately contributes to effective community. Community stewardship collectively recognizes community, engagement, service, and civic participation as integral parts to creating and sustaining a successful community-at-large.

**Critical Reasoning** – Supports people to engage in thinking for themselves, which in any area allows individuals to evolve in content based knowledge, societal and ethical consideration, and life skills.

**Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU)** – Over two decades ago, leaders of metropolitan and urban universities realized the unique challenges and opportunities of their types of institutions as they looked to the future of higher education.

In 1990, these leaders created CUMU in recognition of their shared mission to use the power of their campuses in education, research, and service to enhance the communities in which they are located.

Members of the CUMU are focused on fully understanding the distinctiveness of their mission through conferences, a journal, research projects, creation of a policy agenda, and regular networking opportunities.

**Democratic Ideals** – The qualities or standards of government, also applies to university government, which advocates for greater equality, opportunity, public support, human rights, beliefs, and attitudes.

**Experiential Learning** – A learning process of making meaning from direct experience and reflection. Experiential learning is not synonymous to service learning because it is an individual form of learning, rather than a group or community form of learning through experience.

**Leadership** – A skill that provides any area with guidance, direction, and progressive construction. Individuals, businesses, organizations, schools, etc., can all be defined as leaders according to their individual standards.

**Practicum** – A course of study that is supervised and devoted to practical experience and application within a specialized field, often supervised by a licensed professional. Practica are generally offered for academic credit, with the student, faculty supervisor, and workplace supervisor agreeing on job responsibilities that will yield meaningful experiences for students while providing quality employment for the employer. Students are evaluated with input from the employer and are often required to submit reflections, journals, and/or other documentation that connects the work experience to coursework learned in the classroom.

**Respectful Reciprocity** – A polite mutual or cooperative interchange of favors or privileges.

**Scholarship of Engagement** – “Connecting the rich resources of the university to our most pressing social, civic, and ethical problems, to our children, to our schools, to our teachers, and to our cities. Scholarship of engagement regards service as scholarship when it requires the use of knowledge that results from one’s role as a faculty member.”  
 — Ernest Boyer, *The Scholarship of Engagement*

**Service Learning** – Service learning is an experiential method of teaching. Collaborative partnerships between faculty, students, and community nonprofit organizations create projects that are tightly linked to course content and promote academic learning, while meeting the needs of the community. Reflection activities before, during, and after each experience (project) facilitate critical-thinking and problem-solving. Community partners become “teachers of context,” by sharing the perspective of constituencies in the community that they represent, thus expanding students’ world views.

**Synergy** – The interaction of two or more agents or forces so that their combined effect is greater than the sum of their individual effects.

**Volunteer or Community Service (non-academic)** – A non-curriculum, non-fee based community involvement that creates positive social change; ultimately aiming towards community/societal improvement. Generally, students receive no college credit for these activities although exemplary efforts may be recognized through scholarships, awards, recognition, and other rewards.

For more information visit [weitzcec.unomaha.edu](http://weitzcec.unomaha.edu)



## CONTACT US

### **Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center**

Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, 115  
6001 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68182

402.554.2056 | [unocec@unomaha.edu](mailto:unocec@unomaha.edu)  
[unomaha.edu/community-engagement-center](http://unomaha.edu/community-engagement-center)

### **The Office of Civic and Social Responsibility (The Collaborative)**

Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, 130  
6001 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68182

402.554.4083 | [unoserve@unomaha.edu](mailto:unoserve@unomaha.edu)  
[unomaha.edu/student-life/civic-and-social-responsibility](http://unomaha.edu/student-life/civic-and-social-responsibility)

### **The Service Learning Academy**

Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, 216  
6001 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68182

402.554.6019 | [unosla@unomaha.edu](mailto:unosla@unomaha.edu)  
[unomaha.edu/service-learning-academy](http://unomaha.edu/service-learning-academy)