

Service-Learning and Volunteerism
at
Parkland College

Fall 2006 - Spring 2012

Service-Learning Advisory Council

Parkland College's Definition of Service-Learning

Service-Learning at Parkland College strives for a reciprocal relationship between the college and the community, with each benefiting from the other. Service-Learning activities involve learning experiences whereby students can enhance and enrich their knowledge, while gaining an awareness of personal and civic responsibility, through the application of learned skills and critical reflective thinking directed towards the common good.

The SLAC (Service-Learning Advisory Council) meets bi-monthly in order to provide a forum for input, problem-solving, needs assessment, and to address issues as they arise. Founded in the fall of 2006.

2010-2012	Service Learning Advisory Council
Alpha Phi Omega representative	Annie McManus
Kellie Anderson	Molly Murphy
Thomas Caulfield	Montserrat Oliveras-Heras
Dennis Cockrum	Amy Penne
Lisa Costello	Niloofar Shambayati
Jonas Dees	Peggy Shaw
Charles Larenas	Ray Spencer
Pam Lau	Seamus Reilly
Patty Lehn	Lauren Smith
Melanie Lewis	Deanna Williams

Volunteer Coordinator - IICC AmeriCorps VISTA

AmeriCorps VISTA is the national service program designed specifically to fight poverty. Founded as Volunteers in Service to America in 1965, VISTA members commit to serve full time for a year creating and expanding programs designed to bring individuals and communities out of poverty.

While the specific duties of Illinois Campus Compact (ILCC) VISTAs differ based on the specific needs of their host campus, they all work under the umbrella of increasing civic engagement on college and university campuses.

Goal 1: Illinois Campus Compact VISTAs will assess the greatest needs of local veterans and the current strategies in place to address those needs. Assessment and evaluation will be used to equip campuses to participate in existing initiatives or to create new responses to local needs.

Activity 1: Assess and build awareness of veterans' needs and strategies on campus and in the local community.

Activity 2: Develop pilot capacity building and long-term sustainable program/event with community partners and internal institution offices to directly impact veterans' needs and raise awareness of veterans' issues.

Activity 3: Bolster existing and create new efforts to meet veterans' needs, integrating information from training and survey.

Goal 2: Illinois Campus Compact VISTAs will assess the greatest needs in local education for low-income and high-risk youth and the current strategies in place to address those needs. Assessment and evaluation will be used to equip campuses to participate in existing initiatives or to create new responses to local needs.

Activity 1: Assess and build awareness of educational needs and strategies in place on campus and in the local community.

Activity 2: Develop pilot capacity building and long-term sustainable program/event with community partners and internal institution offices to directly impact low-income/high-risk youth's education needs and raise awareness.

Activity 3: Bolster existing and create new efforts to meet veterans' needs, integrating information from training and survey.

Goal 3: Illinois Campus Compact VISTAs will address poverty-related human needs (e.g. homelessness, literacy, senior care, environmental, expressing diverse opinions) through developing and implementing campus strategies.

Activity 1: VISTAs will research and develop a local response to at least one human need not already addressed by the campus.

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AmeriCorps VISTA at Parkland College

2008-2009 Marsha Reardon
 2009-2010 Marsha Reardon
 2010-2011 Lauren Ritter
 2011-2012 Honey Bennett

Service-Learning

Spring 2012

- 52 Student Data Cards 546 Hours
- 88 EDU Students 987 Hours

Fall 2011

- 44 Student Data Cards 192 Hours
- 57 EDU Students 236 Hours

Fall 2010

- 64 Student Data Cards 633 Hours
- 54 EDU Students 1590 Hours

Spring 2010

- 23 Student Data Cards 255 Hours
- 45 EDU Students 1305 Hours

Fall 2009

- 96 Student Data Cards 903 Hours
- 53 EDU Students 1590 Hours

Spring 2009

- 64 Student Data Cards 668 Hours
- 55 EDU Students 1680 Hours

Fall 2008

- 73 Student Data Cards 989 Hours
- 50 EDU Students 1500 Hours

Spring 2008

- 44 Student Data Cards 382 Hours

Fall 2007

- 58 Student Data Cards 725 Hours

Service-Learning Agencies & Non-Profits

- Champaign Unit 4 Schools
- Garden Hills Homework Club
- Parkland College Child Development Center
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Habitat For Humanity ReStore
- Illinois Green Business
- Wesley Food Pantry
- TIMES Center
- Crisis Nursery
- Salt & Light
- Humane Society

Fundraisers & Grants

2011

- 3rd Annual Cupcake-A-Book Contest \$112
- Champaign West Rotary Club \$300

2010

- 2nd Annual Cupcake-A-Book Contest \$145
- DoSomething.org Growth Grant \$500
- Blind Pig Fundraiser \$318
- Lumpkin Family Foundation Grant \$5,000
- Match amount from Lumpkin Foundation \$3,318

Awards

2012

- 2011-2012 Illinois State Board of Education Those Who Excel - *Award of Excellence*
- McKinley Foundation Social Justice Award - Community Organization - *Honorable Mention*

2009

- President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll
—*1 of 29 Schools in Illinois to be on the Honor Roll*
- Community College National Center for Community Engagement
—*Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Award for Collaboration with a K-12 School*

Faculty Fellows

Thanks to a generous financial contribution from the Lumpkin Family Foundation, Kendra McClure, Ruijie Zhao, and Lauren O'Connor were selected by the Parkland College Service-Learning Advisory Council to serve in the inaugural class of the Homework Club Faculty Fellows program. The three Fellows worked with Brian Nudelman, Parkland's Service-Learning Coordinator, during the fall 2011 semester to redesign courses to incorporate service-learning. Specifically, the Fellows participated in *three* workshops over the course of the fall 2011 semester, where they learned best practices of service-learning and designed new syllabi. In the spring semester of 2012, they each "rolled out" one new service-learning-driven course, where many of their students volunteered to tutor at the Homework Club, which served as the primary community organization partnered with that particular course.

Volunteer Fair

At the start of each semester, a Volunteer Fair is hosted at Parkland College. Local agencies and non-profit organizations are invited to come and represent their agency so students, faculty, and staff have the opportunity to meet and learn about various volunteer opportunities in the community.

Fall 2011

- 24 Agencies Signed Up
- Gallery Lounge
- 200 Student Responses to Survey

Spring 2012

- 22 Agencies Signed Up (Waiting List: 10)
- Gallery Lounge

*Additional Volunteer Fairs Spring 2011, Fall 2010, Spring 2010, Fall 2009, Spring 2009, and Fall 2008

"Parkland students have been a huge asset to our organization! They are unique in that they don't always leave for the holidays and can help out over holidays. Parkland volunteers are outstanding!"

~Spring 2011 Community Partner

"Awesome way to reach community volunteers. Thanks for doing it!"

~Spring 2010 Community Partner

All 21 community partners who attended the Fair found their experience to be *Valuable*. No one found it to be *Invaluable*.

~Fall 2010 Community Partner Survey

Out of 57 student surveys, 17 said they currently volunteer anywhere from 2-10 hours a month currently.

~ Spring 2011 Student Survey

Volunteer Fair Attendees

- 4-H (FA 2011)
- American Red Cross (DP 2012)
- ACCESS Initiative of Champaign County (SP 2012)
- Alpha Phi Omega (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Big Brothers Big Sisters (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Camp Care-A-Lot (SP 2012)
- Carle Hospice / Camp Healing Heart (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- CASA (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Center for Women in Transitions (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Champaign County Audubon Society (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Champaign County Nursing Home (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Champaign Park District (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Circle of Friends Adult Day Care Center (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Colleges Against Cancer (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Community Elements (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Crisis Nursery (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- C-U Autism Network (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Daily Bread Soup Kitchen (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Down Syndrome Network (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- ECIRMAC Center (FA 2011)
- Family Services-RSVP (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Forest Preserve (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Girl Scouts (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Independent Media Center (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Mahomet Area Youth Club (SP 2011)
- Muscular Dystrophy Association (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Orpheum Kids Science Museum (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- PACE, Inc. (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Planned Parenthood of IL (FA 2011, SP 2012)
- Provena Hospital & Hospice (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Rape Advocacy Counseling and Education Services (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Swann Special Care (SP 2012)
- TAP In Academy (SP 2012)
- The I.D.E.A. Store (FA 2011)
- UCIMC / AmeriCorps (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Unit 4 Mentoring / Homework Club (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- United Way (FA 2011)
- UP Center (SP 2012, FA 2011)
- Wesley Evening Food Pantry (SP 2012)

Garden Hills Homework Club

A partnership between Parkland College and Champaign Unit 4 School District.

Mission: To develop the minds of Garden Hills Elementary students in a positive, safe, and fun environment.

Purpose: To serve at-risk youth in the Champaign area.

Parkland volunteers serve as tutors and mentors to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. The Garden Hills students are nominated by their teachers to join, and volunteers come from all areas of Parkland: students, faculty, and staff.

Co-founded by Brian Nudelman of Parkland College, and Lauren Smith of the Champaign Unit 4 School District.

2007

Fall

Parkland Volunteers	17	Garden Hill Students	16
Total Hours Tutored	190	Total Days	11

2008

Spring

Parkland Volunteers	21	Garden Hill Students	21
Total Hours Tutored	259	Total Days	21

Fall

Parkland Volunteers	28	Garden Hill Students	29
Total Hours Tutored	325	Total Days	18

The Parkland students in the program have shown energetic enthusiasm and compassion for working with elementary students that have special needs. With students from a variety of backgrounds, there were often unexpected challenges. While setting limits, the Parkland students managed to respond consistently with respect and compassion. The experience has a profound effect on the participants and because of the college students exceptional skill and professionalism; the program has grown each year. Teachers at Garden Hills have commented how nice it is to send homework with students to the club and someone spends quality time going over the homework. Through their tutoring effort, the Parkland students have exhibited great compassion and understanding for children and a strong appreciation for the commitment needed to affect a child's life.

~ Cheryl O'Leary (Principal of Garden Hills Elementary School)

Garden Hills Homework Club

2009

Spring

Parkland Volunteers	35	Garden Hills Students	27
Total Hours Tutored	367	Total Days	20

Fall

Parkland Volunteers	26	Garden Hills Students	21
Total Hours Tutored	290	Total Days	22

2010

Spring

Parkland Volunteers	23	Garden Hill Students	19
Total Hours Tutored	314	Total Days	24

Fall

Parkland Volunteers	19	Garden Hill Students	21
Total Hours Tutored	283	Total Days	25

- Field Trip: Art Gallery, Art Project & Men's Basketball
- Presentations: Microeconomics & Dental Hygiene

2011

Spring

Parkland Volunteers	16	Garden Hill Students	26
Total Hours Tutored	373	Total Days	20

Field Trip: Dental Hygiene & Women's Softball

" I really learned from it myself...Simple things like the kind of books kids like reading now and how important it is to encourage them in their school work. Most of the kids really knew what they were doing they just didn't want to focus which makes it the job of the teachers and tutors to make school seem fun especially for elementary and below" ~Garden Hills Homework Club Volunteer Fall 2010

Garden Hills Homework Club

2011 cont.

Fall

Parkland Volunteers	32	Garden Hill Students	36
Total Hours Tutored	272	Total Days	25

Field Trip: Planetarium and Men's Basketball Team

2012

Spring

Parkland Volunteers	52	Garden Hill Students	45
Total Hours Tutored	602	Total Days	25

Courses & Projects

ENG 220 taught by Lauren O'Connor
(Fall 2010, Spring 2011)

- Assignment: Client Project / 100 point assignment
- Students assigned one of the following clients: Illinois Green Business Association, Habitat Restore, or Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Students research their organization, contact the client with any questions, produce two distinct documents for the client based on choice of professional documents requested by the client.

ENG 101 taught by Dr. Umeeta Sadarangani
(Fall 2010, Spring 2011)

- Students must write a persuasive essay encouraging other students to take advantage of activities they are already personally involved in outside of the classroom or take part in in order to use support for the paper.
- Activities students can use as examples: include volunteering in the community, participating in a student organization on campus, attending or participating in theatre productions on campus, attended exhibits and events sponsored by the Art Gallery or participating in a sport at Parkland
- People involved with these activities have also spoken to the students before starting the paper to help promote interest and insight

Assignment: Education Outside the Classroom

PSY 101 taught by Freda DeCerbo

- 5% extra credit for 15 hours of volunteering and a 800-word paper about the experience
- Fill out student-data form, document hours and dates of service and have supervisor sign it, and fill out surveys including community partner, self, and the teacher.

Courses & Projects — Cont.

EDU 101 taught by
Charles Larenas

- Students required to complete 30 hours of practicum/service-learning
- Encourages students to volunteer with Homework Club, count towards practicum hours

PSY 101 & 209 taught by Annie
McManus

- Offers Homework Club experience as a page requirement reducer

Other Service-Learning over the
years:

CIT 230 Construction Field
Experience with Greg Walburg

CSC 159 MS Network Manage-
ment with Jeff Cox

NUR 257 Nursing with Carmen
Zych

SPE 180 Speech with Nancy Sut-
ton

SOC 101 Sociology with Suzanne
Reilly

ART 228 Advanced Digital Pho-
tography with Peggy Shaw

OTA 113 Health & Occupations I
with Michelle Roberts

SPA 104 Spanish with Montserrat
Oliveras-Heras

ENG 102 taught by Brian Nudelman

- Paper reduction for Homework Club / Unit 4 tutoring
- Reads *Soul of a Citizen* by Paul Rogat Loeb

CHD 105 taught by Connie Brown
(Fall 2010, Spring 2011)

ENG 102 taught by Patti Verstrat

- Reduction in paper length for Homework Club participation

ECO 102 taught by Lewis Metcalf

- Group project to present microeconom-
ics to Garden Hills Homework Club

CHE 100 taught by Christina Beatty

- Students present at Garden Hills
Homework Club

SOC 101 taught by Gina Walls

- Students read two-thirds of *Garbage
Land* by Elizabeth Royte
- Discussion about the culture of con-
sumption, social issues, and social
change
- Some students for service-learning
points also participated in two different
clean-ups around Parkland and Bone
Yard Creek

Program Spotlight - Dental Hygiene

Dental Trip to Tennessee, from the 2009 President's Honor Roll

This particular project was a service-learning trip by students and faculty in the college's Dental Hygiene program to Tennessee to perform free dental work for clients in need. 37 people were involved in the entire trip, including a group of dental professionals from the local community. The group traveled to Tennessee because they are the only state that allows licensed professionals from other states to volunteer in their state. Parkland students and faculty provided a variety of services: assistance with a triage of patient needs, oral hygiene instruction to those waiting in long lines, sterilization, direct assistance to the 45 dentists that were there volunteering, and set up their own dental hygiene stations where patients' teeth were cleaned in folding chairs, without light and suction. Ultimately, this trip was very well-received, and the group was able to do dental work on 911 patients. The Dental Hygiene department takes trips such as this one every year and has been to New Orleans and even to India to do field work.

Prior to the trip, Parkland students raised money to pay for their bus, hotel and food. They also collected supplies such as toothbrushes, floss, clinician gowns, and oral hygiene instruction materials for personal use and distribution at the event.

The Dental Hygiene program has also presented at the Garden Hills Homework Club (Fall 2010) and during a Homework Club trip to Parkland (Spring 2011).

Program Spotlight - Computer Science and Information Technology

Parkland College Computer Science and Information Technology (CSIT) students use their education, skills, and hands-on training to provide IT support for non-profit organizations, community projects, senior citizens, and disabled persons. Students work closely with community clients to manage projects with real-world specifications and timeframes.

The CSIT Service Learning Center offers the following types of support and services including digital media, database development, pc repair and support, Microsoft office solutions, and network administrations.

2009 President's Higher Education Service Roll Report:

87 Students providing 870 hours of service and 2 faculty members providing 120 hours of service.

Several examples of projects that illustrate the breadth regular semester-long projects taken on by the CSIT Service-Learning Center include students in a Web Design I course were asked to create a website for BETHS Place, a Women's Domestic Violence Shelter in Tuscola, Illinois. Similarly, students in a Computer Graphics class worked on an augmented reality research project for the University of Illinois National Center for Supercomputing Applications. The students created an interactive media application for iPhones which will be used for education purposes on iPhones and other portable devices.

Course Spotlight - Advanced Photography

2009 President's Service-Learning Honor Roll Report:

20 Students volunteered for 300 hours and 1 faculty member served 10 hours.

For the previous two regular semesters, students in Parkland College's Advanced Photography class have taken part in a photographic service-learning project. For this particular assignment, students used their growing photographic skills to provide a service to various community organizations in Parkland College's District 505. Whether it was documenting an event, creating portraits, recording accomplishments, or educating about a particular community issue, many non-for-profit organizations and clubs had a need for commercial photography, but may not have had the budget to support that particular need. Thus, the students worked to create successful photographic projects that not only created strong images, but that also helped these various community organizations achieve their own goals. Ultimately, the twenty students in the class during the fall and spring semesters partnered with fourteen important organizations in the College's community that provide needed services and support to some of our community's most at-risk children and adults.

For instance, a student in the class partnered with the Don Moyers Boys and Girls Club of Champaign, Illinois, and took photos for an inspirational poster that the organization wanted to hang in their students' study space. In another instance, a student worked with the Champaign County Nursing Home, and documented several of their residents' and their activities there, providing important empowering images of aging and community.

Alternative Spring Breaks

2011

Where: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis Tennessee. Stayed at the Crown Plaza in Memphis

What: Healing Garden build on the grounds of St. Jude inspired by former student and patient Jeremiah, designed by Kaizad Irani.

When: Sunday March 20– Friday March 25

Participants: 35 Parkland Students, Staff, & Faculty + 5 External Volunteers

Partners: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, G & C Landscape, and Parkland community

Traveled by Parkland 30 passenger, 2 cars, and a truck. Fundraising in student center included, popcorn sales, valentine flower sales, bags in the flag lounge, donate \$1/\$5 name on a card flower up on display, jars at cafeteria. Donations also received through the Foundation.

"I had a sense of giving back that I never experienced before." ~Lainey McNichol (2011 ASB Student Volunteer, *Prospectus News* 5/4/2011)

2009

Where: Parkland College

What: Latino Family Day / Parkland College abre las puertas a tu familia

When: Thursday, March 26 3:00-7:00 pm.

Participants: 40 Student Volunteers (280 hours) and about 40 staff and faculty (720 hours) planning and implementing the event & about 300 guests

Partners: El Toro Mexican Restaurant, Champaign-Urbana's mass transit district bus service, Hispanic Advocate at the Urbana School district and the Parkland community.

Tailored to the local Latino community, the event was a great opportunity for Latino families to visit Parkland College in a relaxed and fun environment. Volunteers helped to give college tours, document the day, and run events including free dental cleaning and educational materials for adults, professional family photos, art projects, career interest assessment assistance, interactive soccer demonstrations, child care services, tours of the greenhouses and automotive facility, and planetarium shows. There was a complimentary dinner and bus transportation provided.

MLK Jr. Service Days — “A Day ON Not A Day Off”

2011

Where: Restoration Urban Ministries

When: Monday, January 17th

What: Sorted clothing, reorganized clothing distribution, packed food for distribution, painted three apartments, sorted and hung dress clothing

How Long: 3 Hours

How Many: 18 Parkland Volunteers including students, staff, and administrators

2010

Where: Salt and Light

When: Monday, January 18th

What: Bag over 300 bags of groceries, sorted bins of clothing and goods

How Many: 20 Parkland Volunteers

A with Honors Projects

1. Students with a 3.0 GPA are eligible to join the Honors Program. Applications are available on my.parkland.edu. There is no fee required to join the Honors Program. In order to graduate from the Honors Program, students must have a 3.5 GPA.
2. Honors students will use SPARK (Parkland's online academic repository) to create, preserve and showcase their Honors Portfolios. The Honors Portfolios will contain A with Honors projects, essays or journals referencing Honors Seminars students have attended, overviews and outcomes of service learning and Honors projects they have completed as well as recognition and accomplishments within the college and community. Projects and activities that students wish to enter into their portfolios by the end of a semester must be approved by the Honors Director; a Portfolio Project Form will be available for student submission. The deadline for Portfolio Project Proposals will be one week after semester midterm.
3. Portfolios of continuing students will be reviewed at the end of the spring semester. Those who have completed at least two satisfactory portfolio projects, will be eligible for a \$200 scholarship (if funds are available).
4. In the semester that they will graduate, students will participate in an Honors Symposium where they will highlight their honors achievements. To Graduate from the Honors Program, students must have a 3.5 GPA, must have three acceptable portfolio projects (two must be A with Honors, **one must be a service learning project**), must participate in the Honors Program Symposium, and must participate in the Honors Convocation. Those graduates whose work is of a high academic standard will receive Honors Scholarships; the amount of these will be determined by the number of graduates and availability of funds, but it is hoped that students could receive up to \$1000 each.
5. In conjunction with the further improvement of the Program, a Parkland Scholars Student Organization has been formed. This club will be available to all students who are in the Honors Program, members of Phi Theta Kappa, or on the Parkland Deans List. The club will help facilitate a community of honors students, allow students to participate in service learning, and sponsor college wide events.

Marsh Wilkinson Jones, PH.D.
Associate Professor of History
Honors Program Director

Spring 2011

- Renee Payne rpayne1@stu.parkland.edu

Alpha Phi Omega

Leadership

Friendship

Service

Alpha Zeta Omega is the chapter at Parkland College and Chartered on February 5, 2011.

Alpha Phi Omega is an organization fulfilling two roles:

- It provides service to the campus, the community, the nation, and the Fraternity through college students.
- It is part of the educational opportunity that provides practical skills and leadership development.

Alpha Phi Omega is a national service fraternity with active chapters at more than 365 universities and colleges nationwide. Membership is open to all enrolled students and is as diverse as the college population itself. Each chapter, operating under the National Bylaws and Standard Chapter Articles of Association, recruits its own membership, selects its leadership and develops its service program. University or college approval is required for each chapter to be in good standing with the Fraternity.

Service to the College, Community, & Fraternity

January 1 to July 31, 2011: (as of 5/09/2011)

Hours	387	APO Brothers	22
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August 1 to December 31, 2010:

Hours	451	APO Brothers	15
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January 1 to July 31, 2010:

Hours	128	APO Brothers	7
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August 1 to December 31, 2009:

Hours	25	APO Brothers	2
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IL Campus Compact

Illinois Campus Compact is a coalition of colleges and universities that bond together to actively engage presidents, faculty, staff and students to promote a renewed vision of higher education – one that supports not only the civic development of students, but also the campus as an active and engaged member of its community. Campus Compact member presidents are joined together in their commitment to the development of personal and social responsibility as integral to the educational mission of their campuses. Currently Illinois Campus Compact has 43 member campuses. Illinois members are part of national Campus Compact, a coalition of nearly 1,100 college and university presidents, representing some 6 million students.

IL Campus Compact Mission:

To support Presidents and their institutional leadership, to actively promote the civic mission of higher education and to engage students, faculty and campuses in collaborative partnerships that promotes civic engagement.

Illinois Campus Compact will:

Continue to strategically plan and achieve maximum impact of service and civic learning on higher education's institutional commitment to responsible citizenship and community building.

Sustain an invigorated commitment to providing resources, training and support to institutions of higher education that are developing sustainable partnerships with P-12 schools.

Impact the lives of students long beyond their college experience through the training, resources and service that develops citizenship skills, value for democracy and a sense of civic engagement in community.