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Service in the Time of COVID

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Service in the Time of COVID

By Kyra Skylark and
Loren Collins

Looking back over the past year, it is incredible to think about how much uncertainty, change, and transition we have all experienced. Our way of life changed in an instant and that affected the way we live, learn, and work. The Spring 2020 semester began like any other, which meant almost a thousand students were participating in community-based learning activities such as Service Learning, Academic Internships, Clinical Placement or Teacher Education. We left the campus for Spring Break 2020, expecting to return in a few days. As it turned out, we left campus only to begin a virtual world of education and a virtual world of work, service, and internships.

Well into summer it became clear that, come fall, those signed up for community-based learning experiences were going to largely continue participating in those experiences virtually. In the spring, many of these experiences were shifted to a virtual setting while still providing meaningful connections and service. Collaborations were created for the fall semester that will long outlast this virus and an incredible number of students and community partners have found ways to work together. The response from our community, faculty, and especially our students, is a bright spot and a bit of great news. Our students, faculty, staff, and local partners are as resilient as they are committed to working together.

In addition to the many individual projects and internships set up for our students, a number of faculty and departments have come together to create two large-scale programs that allow for students to gain valuable experience and connect with members of the community. The first of these is ConnectED. ConnectED is a partnership between the Center for Community Based Learning, the Office of Admissions, Youth Educational Services, Humboldt County Office of Education and a number of faculty representing departments across HSU. This program connects students and classes across HSU's disciplines with local K-12 programs to provide penpals and virtual curriculum for local classrooms.

The second program is "Humboldt in the Time of COVID" which has connected more than a dozen faculty and has more than 75 students collecting oral histories throughout our community. These stories will be published through the library archive, featured in local news outlets, and displayed in our local museums.

The following are some highlights from these programs as well as some of the great service, internships, and other community-based learning experiences that have happened throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sydney Perata Soc 482 Organization or Project

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

-Dan Perata Training-

San Francisco, CA
Sydney Isabella
Sociology
May 13, 2020

Organizational Mission
"At Dan Perata Training our method of positive reinforcement training involves love, praise, and healthy habit building utilizing energy management. Our mission to our clients and the animals we train is to approach with compassion in everything we do, support the community and those who need us most. We care about the humans as much as we care about the dogs."

Organizational Services

- Private Sessions
- Board and Train
- Boarding/Daycare
- Housebreaking
- Separation anxiety
- Aggression problems
- Socialization with dogs and people
- Puppy 101
- Emotional/Physical Support Training
- & Working with rescue like Rocket Dog Rescue

5 year career goal

- Public Health Research and Non-Profit Work

Research Literature
Emotional support training is especially beneficial for Veterans experiencing PTSD and Elderly individuals (Quinlan and Johnson 2013) (Ruep, Hunter, and Kertz 2017).
Incorporated juveniles and students also benefit highly from socialization from special trained emotional support dogs (Krause Parry, Thomas, Ray, and Klesner 2018) (Charles and Wabnitz 2019).

Internship Experience

- Helped to train dogs of all ages and sized
- Worked alongside owners during training
- 20-70 dogs in the facility every day
- Fed, Walked, Bathed dogs
- Gave potential clients tours of the facility
- Worked with management to improve policies and procedures of business



Sovereign Bodies Institute
Eureka, CA
Gabriella Liza Balandran
Sociology
May 14, 2020

Organizational Mission:
Sovereign Bodies Institute (SBI) builds on Indigenous traditions of data gathering and knowledge transfer to create, disseminate, and put into action research on gender and sexual violence against Indigenous people.

Organizational Services:

- Virtual Art Therapy Circle
- MMIWG2 Virtual Book Club
- Virtual Support Groups
- Support Line
- Direct Service Line for Indigenous Survivors MMIWG2 families

5 Year Career Goal:
Obtain Masters in Social Work and work with Indigenous communities

Literature Review:

- Making way for Indigenous voice and leadership should not be an excuse for inaction (Janet Smylie and Megan Gwynn).
- The crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls must not be separated from the structural embeddedness of colonialism and the impacts of patriarchy (Lisa Monchalin, Olga Marques, Charles Reason, and France Anand).
- In Canada, Highway 16 which is a 400 mile road that runs through British Columbia is nicknamed the Highway of Tears because more than 3,000 Indigenous women and girls have been murdered or disappeared along this road (McIntyre).

Internship Experience:

- Cleaned and sorted through data
- Managed social media sites
- Input data entries to database
- Completed research for publications
- Created letters of support for campaign
- Transcribed testimonies




Gabriella Balandran Soc 482 Organization or Project

Psychology 438 United Indian Health Services Community Gardens

UIHS Garden Team Project
Community Gardens

Abby Miller, Abigail Clark, Andrea Powers, Drew Olin, Jarod Quiring, Jesse Pike, Jordan De La Cruz, Meagan Achay, Rachel Barnett, Shelby Fowler, Shelley Magallanes

Psyc 438
Dr. Graham



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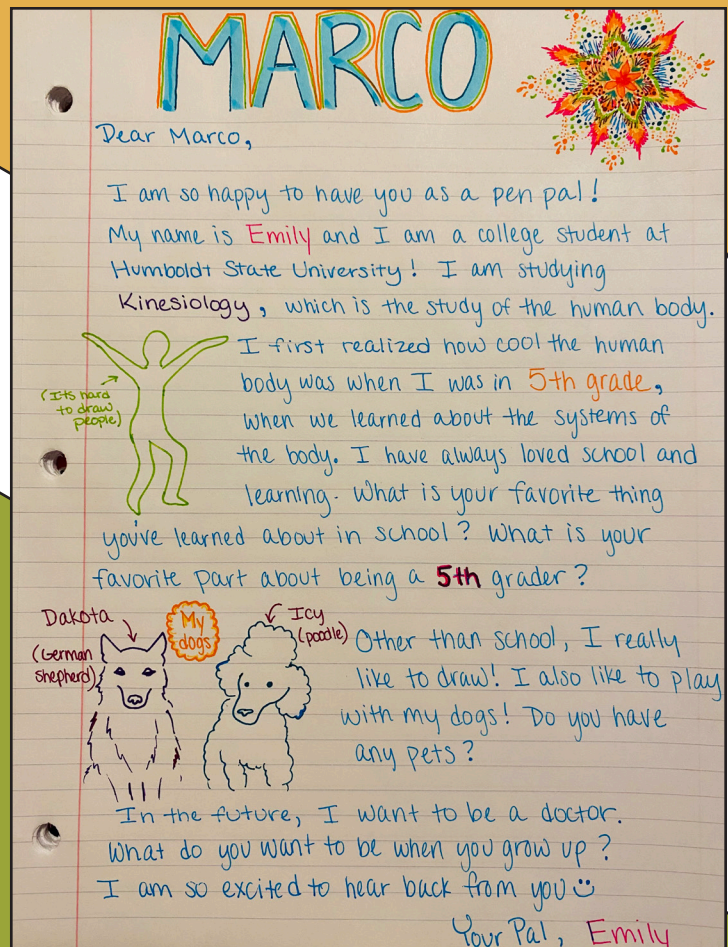
Art 497S Fall
Mural Project

Zayne Nordberg
Humboldt in the Time of
COVID



Valetta Molofsky
HC Black Music and Arts
Harambee Youth
(HCBMAA) Programs

Emily Eib
YES Program Director (YMP)
YES PenPal Program



Dear Amara,

That sounds like a really fun summer! I got to see my friends in July too when I went home to Palo Alto for a couple weeks. Even though my family is in Palo Alto, my mom's mom is from Hawaii and her dad's family moved over here during the gold rush. My mom is both Japanese and Chinese. My dad is Dutch, so his family is from Holland or the Netherlands and they moved over to America just before he was born. I also have a twin sister! We don't look alike though, she's always been so much taller than me :(.

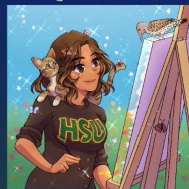
Hmm well, I originally chose to go to HSU because they had a diverse path for my degree in Biology, but I changed my mind once I got here. I really missed art classes and HSU's art program is so welcoming!

I like to draw people! These are some pieces I made of my friends and below them is an abstract painting I made for one of my classes. What's your favorite thing to paint?

I sort of like online school. I miss getting to meet new people and connect with them, but I still made a few new friends. I also like being able to stay home with my cat, she likes to block my camera when I'm in class. Plus, waking up later is really nice. Is your class online too? How is it for you?

Finally, I'm doing well. How are you? :)

Sincerely,
Vanessa



Vanessa Ebbing
YES Volunteer (EE)
YES PenPal Program