



WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Environment

Kalamazoo College

Community & Economic Development, Education, Environment, Health/Nutrition, Service Learning

Farms2K

Farms2K combines service-learning courses and student-led projects to link Kalamazoo College students (“K”), staff, and faculty with individuals and organizations in the community to promote local agriculture and implement a local foods policy at the College. The program grew from a service-learning course in which students work with the non-profit Fair Food Matters and Tillers International to conduct research, develop marketing materials and design programs promoting sustainable agriculture. Through this grassroots initiative, “K” students have worked directly with over 150 Kalamazoo residents to promote sustainable local agriculture. Farms2K meets regularly with Sodexo (dining service), farmers, nutritionists, economists and others to plan a strategy to buy more local foods at “K”. They also work with KPS to improve community nutrition. The program raises awareness of related public health and social justice issues: globalization; immigration and farm labor; child labor; obesity; environmental health; and world and local hunger -- amplifying what many students learn on study abroad programs focusing on sustainable agriculture. Last year students organized local food tastings to build campus-wide commitment to “buying local,” attracting over 500 students.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Environment

Portland State University

Education, Environment, Mentoring

Lewis Elementary Community Service Project

In Academic Year 2005-06, over 200 Portland State University (PSU) students and alumni utilized their expertise in construction, project management, sustainable systems, and education to implement service projects at Lewis Elementary School in Southeast Portland. As a result, 325 elementary students and hundreds of college students have benefited from a new outdoor classroom.

The \$15,000 greenhouse and outdoor classroom were constructed and developed by students from PSU and funded by a grant from the FEED project. Currently, the project activities include maintaining the school's greenhouse and garden for planting and ecology projects for the students, weeding and cleaning up around the fence that surrounds the school, and helping the students install their art projects on the fence.

As an ongoing project, supported by PSU's institutional commitment to Community-Based Learning curricula, PSU students will continue to work with students from Lewis Elementary to clean up the school grounds, make the school more attractive and artistically inviting, improve the school's library system, and manage the outdoor classroom and greenhouse.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Environment

The University of Alabama

Education, Environment, Service Learning

Alabama Environmental Council

Students from New College and Biological Sciences, local parents and University of Alabama Arboretum's staff and volunteers share their commitment to the environment through the Alabama Environmental Council. The Arboretum's environmental program has grown from a single person attempting to teach forty-five elementary students along a woodland trail into a well-coordinated program led by almost twenty-five student docents highlighting Alabama's biodiversity.

During the 2005 field trip season (March – May and August –September), the team served as environmental educators for an estimated 800 elementary school students, teachers, and chaperones. With customized lesson plans on topics ranging from "Biodiversity" to "Soil: the Dirty Facts," the program consistently engages the imaginations and curiosity of a whole spectrum of students. This is an ongoing project and an estimated number of volunteer hours by student docents are 3,600.

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WITH DISTINCTION FOR GENERAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

Environment

The University of Texas – Pan American

Community & Economic Development, Environment, Day of Service

Adopt a Beach Clean Up

The Adopt a Beach Clean Up has become a tradition at The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA). Last year a total of 86 students from UTPA participated for one day cleaning up South Padre Island. These students consisted of many different student leadership and Greek organizations working towards a more beautiful and healthy community for all.

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