

DREXEL UNIVERSITY
COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT • 2014



Good Neighbors,
Great Partners





Rebuilding Together Philadelphia partnered with Drexel on a “block build” in Mantua, helping residents improve properties and the neighborhood. President Fry (fifth from left) led Drexel students and employees in assisting the effort.

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From the President

The term “anchor institution” has come to refer to a nonprofit that has deep ties to its geographic location and a bedrock commitment to the quality of life of those who share that location. Such organizations can take a longer view of civic engagement than corporate entities that are buffeted by the economic cycle and the dislocations of globalization. They can “anchor” a community in both good times and challenging ones.

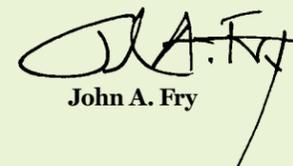
Drexel University is a model anchor institution, proud of its connection to the communities we call our own—neighborhoods, city, region and state. Our goal is to be the most civically engaged university in the nation, a force for service, shared knowledge and economic growth.

“Good Neighbors, Great Partners” highlights one important component of Drexel’s civic initiatives: grassroots outreach driven by our students, faculty, professional staff and alumni in all of our colleges and schools and administrative offices. These efforts are supported and integrated into Drexel’s curriculum by a growing University infrastructure of service including our Office of University and Community Partnerships, Lindy Center for Civic Engagement and Office of Government and Community Relations, which produced this report.

Our service programs tend to mirror our strengths as an institution: innovative approaches to education, compassionate health care and informed problem solving in the urban environment. The success of our activities is a measure of the depth of our partnerships with neighbors and leaders in the University City, Powelton Village and Mantua neighborhoods; the City of Philadelphia and Greater Philadelphia region; and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

It’s my privilege to share these stories with you, and to be part of a team that believes in making a difference in the community and has the talent and passion necessary to do so.

Sincerely,



John A. Fry





Greater Philadelphia SeaPerch Challenge



Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project

Supporting Schools

Primary and secondary education is the key to the future of our city and region. Drexel's students, faculty and professional staff strive to positively impact the education of Philadelphia's children.

Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project

The U.S. Constitution might not be first on most high school students' minds, but it's a powerful force in their lives. Through the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project, Drexel Law students teach Philadelphia high school students about the legal system and its power to resolve conflicts. Outstanding high school students can compete in regional and national moot court competitions, putting their new knowledge and critical thinking skills into practice.

GK-12 and Technological Literacy

America's global competitiveness depends on education that emphasizes technological literacy. Thanks to a five-year grant, the National Science Foundation's GK-12 program at Drexel brings graduate engineering students and local high school teachers together to design engineering- and technology-based classroom materials. GK-12 uses the National Academy of Engineering's Grand Challenges as the context for integrating engineering into high school classrooms.

Making a Difference Book Drive

Reading releases the power of the imagination—and that power is especially important to a hospitalized child. That's why Drexel's faculty and professional staff took the occasion of "Inspire a Child to Dream Day" to donate nearly 1,000 new or gently used children's and adolescents' books to St. Christopher's Hospital for its "Reach Out and Read" program.

Science in Motion

Students in poorly funded schools have just as much potential to succeed in science as those in well-funded schools, especially if they have the right equipment. Science in Motion delivers modern scientific instrumentation to local teachers in an effort to level the playing field. Supported by Drexel and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

the program served eight schools, 10 teachers, 221 classes and 6,633 students in the most recent year.

Greater Philadelphia SeaPerch Challenge

They look like what they are—home-made watercraft plying a course across a swimming pool. But the remotely operated vehicles built by young people in the Greater Philadelphia SeaPerch program have represented a window into science, technology, engineering and math for 2,500 middle and high school students since 2006. With the Navy and the American Society of Naval Engineering, Drexel hosts the culminating SeaPerch Challenge, where students show off their robots and demonstrate their knowledge to a panel of judges.

High School Mentoring and Pipeline Program

Can an inner-city charter school be the launch pad for future medical leaders? Members of the Student National Medical Association at Drexel's College of Medicine say yes, and they're helping by providing free tutoring and partnered mentorship at New Media Technology Charter School in Philadelphia through the Mentoring and Pipeline Program. The program stresses excellence, professionalism and integrity, and the high schoolers experience professional development workshops and tour Drexel's medical campus.



Summer Music Technology Camp



ExCITE Center

Science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM as opposed to STEM) are at the center of efforts to build 21st-century skills of collaboration and design thinking. This holistic approach provides the framework for Drexel's ExCITE Center (short for Expressive and Creative Interaction Technologies).

Summer Music Technology Camp

ExCITE's Summer Music Technology outreach program is a free one-week camp for high school students that uses the participants' interest in music to introduce them to the science and technology behind digital music. Students analyze and synthesize sounds and explore individual projects from 3D printing of musical instruments to creating their own guitar effects pedals.

STEAM at the GK-12 Summer Institute

Graduate student fellows and high school teachers in the National Science Foundation's GK-12 program (see "GK-12 and Technological Literacy," this page) develop STEAM curriculum modules at a summer institute hosted by the ExCITE Center. These modules are integrated into high school math and science classrooms throughout the academic year.



WorkReady



Music Hack Day



Drexel Athletics

Drexel's athletic programs bring together athletes, student workers and professional staff who are as committed to scholarship and service as they are to sportsmanship and performance.

SquashSmarts Kids Day at the U.S. Open

It's not every day that kids can be inspired personally by world-class athletes. But that day came in October when Drexel Athletics hosted the 2013 U.S. Open Squash Championships. "Kids Day" brought 200 high school and middle school students to the Daskalakis Athletic Center to join the touring professionals for games, prizes and world-class squash matches. The event was powered by SquashSmarts, an academic and athletic mentoring program housed at Drexel and the Lenfest Center in North Philadelphia.

Youth Sports Clinics

Drexel's student-athletes owe their love of the game to the influence of mentors, and they pay that debt forward to hundreds of Philadelphia youth each year. In South Philadelphia, kids got the chance to learn America's fastest-growing game at a clinic held by women's lacrosse players. Girls and boys at the Mantua in Action Community Center learned soccer fundamentals from the men's soccer team. Drexel wrestlers hosted the second annual Beat the Streets program, teaching wrestling to kids. And girls learning about fitness and nutrition through Philly Girls in Motion spent time working with members of the women's basketball team.

Student-Athletes Support Reading

Drexel student-athletes make an impact on the academic as well as the physical development of children in Philadelphia schools. The Dragons women's basketball squad volunteered to help Philadelphia Reads open its new book bank at Martin Luther King High School, and Drexel athletes celebrated Dr. Seuss Read to a Child Day with elementary students at Universal Vore Charter School in South Philadelphia.

WorkReady

Dozens of Philadelphia teens learned what's expected of them in professional employment—and how it feels to work for a paycheck, thanks to Drexel's participation in the WorkReady program of the Philadelphia Youth Network. Drexel responded to Mayor Michael Nutter's 10,000 Summer Jobs Challenge by committing to hire 60 interns, two thirds more than the previous year—and then beat that promise by 66 students across the University, with 60 percent coming from West Philadelphia.

High School Scholars Program

An acute budget crisis in the Philadelphia School District put the squeeze on some of the city's best students, as a number of high schools were forced to discontinue calculus classes. Last fall, two students from the nearby High School of the Future began to get back on track as they enrolled in calculus at Drexel.

Lifelong Learning

From both a professional and a civic standpoint, it's crucial for people of all ages to continue to learn, formally and informally. Drexel facilitates a wide variety of community learning.

KEYSPOT

For the city to keep pace with the information age, more Philadelphians must achieve digital literacy. Drexel helps the Freedom Rings Partnership's KEYSPOT initiative to Internet access, training and technology to neighborhoods. With the city's Office of Innovation and Technology and the Urban Affairs Coalition, Drexel has helped

launch 79 computer centers or "KEYSPOTS" across the city. KEYSPOT has provided 200,000 hours of training to more than 20,000 people and distributed 5,000 netbooks to Philadelphia Housing Authority residents.

Reduced Tuition for Local Employers

The region relies on a workforce that keeps on improving its skills. Drexel Online partners with local employers to offer their employees reduced tuition plans for Drexel's online degree programs, with the typical outcome being employees who are more productive and more successful in their jobs. Partners include Boeing, Independence Blue Cross, Mercy Health System, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Hahnemann University Hospital, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and Penn Medicine.

Yellow Ribbon Program for Veterans

Once veterans have finished serving the nation, Drexel is committed to serving them. The University partners with the government to extend Post-9/11 G.I. Bill® benefits to cover the full cost of a Drexel education under the Department of Defense's Yellow Ribbon program. Qualified veterans can use this benefit for any Drexel undergraduate or graduate program, on any campus or online. More than 630 veterans studied at Drexel in the most recent year.

Great Works Symposium

One of the most powerful public services a university can perform is to facilitate community conversations on important issues. Drexel's fall 2013 Great Works Symposium on the depiction of war in media included public events that engaged the University and Philadelphians in an extended intellectual investigation featuring photojournalists, playwrights, combat artists and academic experts.



Liberty Scholars

A Pipeline of Diverse Talent

Philadelphia students deserve the opportunities offered by a Drexel education, and the city deserves a citizenry with world-class preparation for career success.

Meeting Financial Needs

A college education is too often out of reach for economically disadvantaged Philadelphians. Drexel offered more than \$15 million in institutional gift aid to more than 1,100 undergraduate students from Philadelphia admitted in 2013.

Supporting Programs that Prepare Students

Young men and women from underserved communities are more inspired to prepare for college if they know real opportunities await them. Drexel offers scholarship support through organizations dedicated to college access and success, including the Philadelphia Zoo's summer program, Exodus to Excellence, Philadelphia Futures and Women in Natural Sciences (WINS), an Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University program that encourages young Philadelphia women to study the sciences.

Liberty Scholars

Everyone loses when potential scholars are derailed because their families are unable to contribute to the cost of higher education. Drexel helps tackle the problem through the Liberty Scholars program, providing Philadelphia students in economic need with a full tuition and fees scholarship as well as mentoring and a living/learning community. This is the fifth year for the program, which means that nearly 250 Liberty Scholars are currently on campus.

The Science of Jazz

Music is not only a beautiful and inspiring art form, it's a great entry point into math and science. The annual Science of Jazz performance at Drexel during the Philadelphia Science Festival shows the audience the science behind the music, augmented with large-screen visuals and an interactive iPhone app illustrating the principles of frequency, harmony and acoustics.

Hosting "Hackathons"

When innovative minds from various fields of interest get together, groundbreaking ideas can result. That's the idea behind "hackathons," weekend-long events of intense, focused app development and creativity built around specific topics. Drexel's ExCITE Center has been the Philadelphia home for Random Hacks of Kindness, the NASA International Space Apps Challenge, Music Hack Day and National Day of Civic Hacking.

Philadelphia Science Festival

The thrill of discovery takes center stage each April during the Philadelphia Science Festival, and Drexel was proud to be a gold sponsor in 2013 as well as host several interesting events (see "The Science of Jazz" on this page). The festival is a 10-day, community-wide celebration of science featuring lectures, debates, hands-on activities, special exhibitions and other informal science education experiences for Philadelphians of all ages.

Electronic Equipment Donations

A new computer or other piece of equipment at Drexel means an opportunity for local nonprofits. The Office of Information Resources and Technology works with the Office of Government and Community Relations and Drexel student organization TechServ to refurbish and donate equipment to community centers, schools, community training programs and other nonprofit groups. Partners include Philadelphia Futures, Greenfield Elementary School, Virtual Tutoring and Mentoring, Computers4Kids and The Korean United Church of Philadelphia.



KEYSPOT

Health

Preventative and clinical care are among our city's greatest needs. Drexel's outstanding medical and health sciences programs continue to step up on behalf of healthy and safe communities.



Drexel Geriatric Home Visit Model

“If we could get rid of that trigger of second-hand smoke, that would help solve a lot of problems for these kids.”

Dr. Hernando Perez



Could Public Housing Go Smoke Free?

“There are quite a few asthmatic kids in public housing,” says Dr. Hernando Perez, associate professor in Drexel’s School of Public Health. “And when you think about how much of a public health issue this is, if we could get rid of that trigger of secondhand smoke, that would help solve a lot of problems for these kids.”

Philadelphia is one of the largest housing authorities in the country to begin to implement comprehensive smoke-free policies, which are essential to protect the health of residents, including vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly. Two research projects led by faculty and students in the School of Public Health evaluated barriers to such policies and found significant support for them and motivation to quit smoking among residents in multi-unit housing, where secondhand smoke travels between units.

Perez, who researched the attitude surrounding the implementation of smoke-free policies, found that half of the residents who responded to a city-sponsored survey support a smoke-free policy, and two-thirds believe it would improve their health.

Perez made recommendations to the city on how to implement smoke-free policies, as did Dr. Ann Klassen, a professor and associate dean for research in the School of Public Health who called for cessation services that build on the existing awareness of the health impacts of second hand smoke. Klassen evaluated smoke-free policies



in the public housing communities in partnership with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health and the Philadelphia Housing Authority.

The evaluation approach drew on multiple research methods, including air nicotine monitoring in homes and public spaces, and interviews with residents, staff and other stakeholders, to monitor the implementation of this important policy initiative.

“When we collect nicotine samples from the air in communities, including inside homes where no one smokes, we give residents important information about how secondhand smoke travels through their communities, and contaminates air they and their families breathe every day,” Klassen says.

For both Perez and Klassen, the goal is to help all residents live healthier lives while maintaining healthful homes and communities. Now that the positive health effects of nonsmoking environments are more prominently understood within the communities, the next step is for public housing in Philadelphia to go completely smoke-free.

Community

A web of deep connections holds us together as a community, and we're all responsible for maintaining them. Drexel students, faculty and professional staff provide services and events that strengthen those bonds.



Mantua in Action is a rich academic- and sports-based afterschool program for middle school youth offered by Drexel in partnership with community groups, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation and Philadelphia Youth Sports Collaborative with support from the Aberdeen Asset Management Charitable Foundation.

“Drexel’s project inspired us because of its potential to serve as a model for urban outreach by universities nationwide.”

Dana Dornsife

A Home for New Urban Ideas *The Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships*

The first urban extension center run by a private university, Drexel’s Dana and David Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships is a place to apply and deepen University expertise in collaboration with neighbors. The center’s mission is akin to the extension centers through which land-grant universities brought services and partnership to rural areas.

“The Dornsife Center has become an integral part of Mantua by offering services in close proximity to the community,” says Vanessa Pembleton, a member of the board of the Mantua Civic Association.

The Center focuses on Drexel’s commitment to community service and offers opportunities in experiential learning, service learning, research and neighborhood investments.

“Drexel’s project inspired us because of its potential to serve as a model for urban outreach by universities nationwide,” says alumna and benefactor Dana Dornsife. “I’m proud of my alma mater, and I look forward to seeing Drexel’s impact on the Powelton Village and Mantua neighborhoods.”

The University’s purchase of 3509-13 Spring Garden Street, comprising two historical properties and a school totaling more



than 29,000 square feet of space, was made possible by a \$10 million gift from Dana and her husband David. The three buildings on the site will provide a range of flexible spaces appropriate for individual counseling, small group meetings and workshops, large gatherings and hands-on innovation.

Ultimately, programming at the Dornsife Center is expected to include computer training and access, legal services, healthy living, homework help, arts collaborations, architectural design-build studios and environmental engineering demonstrations (see “A Sampling of Dornsife Center Programs,” page 14).

Says Pembleton, “I believe the Dornsife Center will be a focal point in bringing the community together”

Community



A Sampling of Dornsife Center Programs

Drexel's Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships (see feature on page 13) has been rolling out services in anticipation of the completion of its physical home in 2014. Drexel's colleges and schools are preparing programs from job skills to digital literacy to energy efficiency, with Drexel Law among the first to launch a suite of programs:

Campaign for Working Families Tax Clinic

Careful tax preparation is critical to the economic well-being of low- and moderate-income people and communities. In partnership with The Campaign for Working Families, Drexel students provide free tax service at the Dornsife Center and several other sites throughout Philadelphia. Along with tax preparation, the project strives to build a movement to dramatically increase access to tax credits and benefits and asset-building opportunities for its clients.

Estate Planning Clinic

No one likes to plan for the worst, and people of modest means may not see the value of estate planning, but it's critical for families of any economic status to be prepared. Drexel students staff a monthly estate planning clinic at the Dornsife Center as well as on-site at 11th Street Family Health Services, where they draft powers of attorney, advanced medical directives and wills for clients.

Criminal Record Expungement Project

An arrest record, even if it never led to a conviction, can impact a person's ability to build a life and career. The Criminal Record Expungement Project provides free direct legal services to individuals seeking to expunge nonconviction records in Philadelphia County. Students host monthly clinics at the Dornsife Center and offer legal counsel through all stages of the expungement process.

10,000 toys in the past two years. The Office of Government and Community Relations coordinates toy distribution with more than 60 organizations, primarily in West and North Philadelphia.

Adopt-a-Family at the Holidays

For families struggling to make ends meet, the holidays can be just one more obstacle. The one-to-one kindness of Drexel's student-athletes has made a difference for dozens of West Philadelphia families over the past five years, as Drexel Athletics spearheaded an outreach program that sees each Drexel team adopt a needy family and provide them with both wish-list items and necessities through the West Philadelphia Community Center.

Serving Society Broadly

In Philadelphia and beyond, Drexel students and employees are leaders in initiatives that help broad sections of society meet shared challenges in a wide variety of ways.

CAA Food Drive

Hunger is a crisis that affects cities and suburbs in every state and every region, which is why the Colonial Athletic Association launched the 2013 CAA Food Drive Challenge among all its member schools. The Drexel community responded to the challenge, winning the friendly competition handily by collecting more than 3,324 pounds of food in partnership with Philabundance, the Delaware Valley's largest hunger relief organization.



Drexel Law

In the legal profession's tradition of *pro bono* work, the students and faculty of Drexel's School of Law offer assistance to a variety of people in need, from domestic violence victims to rural seniors to the homeless.

Domestic Violence Victims Assistance

Domestic violence leaves victims feeling helpless, but Drexel Law students are there to help. Through partnerships with Philadelphia Legal Assistance and the Domestic Violence Unit of Family Court, they provide legal advocacy to victims seeking Protection from Abuse Orders.

Medical Legal Partnership

When health issues and legal issues go hand-in-hand for low-income patients, the latter can sometimes be neglected. Drexel Law's Medical Legal Partnership integrates legal staff into the health setting to meet complex and critical needs. Working with Philadelphia Legal Assistance and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, students interview clients, provide information and simple services and educate patients on the law at Health Center #3, a high-volume facility in West Philadelphia.

SeniorLaw Help Line

Seniors often need help navigating legal challenges. In partnership with the SeniorLaw Center, Drexel Law students help provide free and confidential legal counseling, information and referrals to older Pennsylvanians in diverse communities, including rural areas where there are few if any legal resources. The Helpline handles a range of civil issues including real estate and housing, consumer protection, family law, estate and advance planning, public benefits, elder abuse and neighbor disputes.

SOAR: Rapid Access to Benefits

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits can be difficult to get for those who need them the most: people living on the streets, in hospitals for psychiatric treatment or in emergency housing. Drexel Law students work with the Homeless Advocacy Project through the federal SOAR program (SSI Outreach Access and Recovery) to help homeless individuals, many of whom have been denied SSI numerous times, gain rapid access to benefits. They interview clients, obtain medical records, complete applications and write letters of support.

Engineers and Hurricane Sandy Recovery

Seen from the ground, the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy was overwhelming and heartbreaking. But aerial images produced by a team of Drexel engineers helped recovery workers to respond more effectively. Using satellites as well as remotely controlled aircraft with infrared and ultraviolet cameras, the engineers identified damage to power lines and other infrastructure that might not be visible to the naked eye. The data collected could also help minimize the impact of future disasters.

Engineering Projects in Community Service

Rarely has service learning been as impactful as Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS), originally developed at Purdue and now led by Drexel and leveraged by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers globally. EPICS pairs university and high school students with nongovernmental organizations for projects like alternative energy installations for schools in rural Uruguay; specialized hand-held devices for schools for the blind in India; mobile engineering labs in Uganda; and air pollution research in South Philadelphia. Since 2009, the program has mobilized more than 1,000 students and helped more than 90,000 individuals.

Community-Based Learning

Civic engagement can only be made integral to Drexel's mission if it's integral to how we teach. In community-based learning, students engage community partners while gaining an academic foundation in social justice and the human condition. Through Drexel's Lindy Center for Civic Engagement, the College of Arts and Sciences works with partners like Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility, the Enterprise Center, the Patients' Home, Freire Charter School and Mantua Senior Residents and offers courses including Service Learning in Sociology, Culture of Poverty, Prison Society and You, Urban Life and Healthy Green Spaces.

Drexel Edits

For Greater Philadelphia's nonprofits, communications needs can be critical but also critically underfunded. That's why a College of Arts and Sciences faculty member launched Drexel Edits, a center for support of nonprofit communication. Its mission is to connect Drexel students and employees who have certified editorial competence with nonprofits in need of support for grant, report and technical writing, social media and web design.



Dragon Drive

Drexel's quest for excellence carries across our core priorities of education, research and economic development, and extends to the philanthropy of our University community. Our annual workplace giving campaign in 2013 raised a record \$158,500 to support the AIDS Fund, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Bread & Roses Community Fund, Delaware Valley Legacy Fund, Earth Share Pennsylvania, Women's Way and United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

Alternative Spring Break

For a growing number of Drexel students, Spring Break is an opportunity to impact lives while learning about themselves via Alternative Spring Break. The Office of Campus Activities and Pennoni Honors College each spearheaded service-oriented trips in 2013, and approximately 100 undergraduates visited diverse communities including Appalachia, Ky.; Burlington, Goldsboro and Rocky Mount, N.C.; Cleveland; Tupelo, Miss.; the New Jersey shore and San Isidro de El General, Costa Rica, as well two trips focusing on Philadelphia.

International Immersion Program and Global Brigades

Prioritizing and protecting the environment can be a challenge for indigenous communities that may be more focused on subsistence than sustainability. A group of Drexel honors students seeking a global perspective joined Global Brigades to work with a community in eastern Panama on an environmental program including community education. They traveled under the auspices of the International Immersion Program, a collaboration between the Honors Program in Pennoni Honors College and the Lindy Center for Civic Engagement.



Dance Africa

Drexel shares our neighbors' vision for a thriving cultural life in University City and West Philadelphia. That vision was realized when Dance Africa attracted more than 1,500 attendees to the University's Main Auditorium. Drexel's Office of Government and Community Relations and Westphal College of Media Arts & Design partnered with the Community Education Center, headquartered on Lancaster Avenue, and its executive director Terri Shockley to present two days of dazzling performances and workshops at Dance Africa, created by artistic director Dr. Chuck Davis more than 35 years ago.



Affecting Lives One at a Time

Families and individuals in Philadelphia face a variety of challenges that Drexel helps them meet through expert assistance or simple caring and commitment. These efforts are spearheaded by Drexel offices and individuals, students, faculty and professional staff.

Fraternity and Sorority Life Community Service

The young men and women who bond through Greek life at Drexel form a powerful force for grassroots service to Philadelphians. The 25 chapters in the system performed more than 15,540 hours of community service, or 10-plus per member, in just the first half of 2013. Service projects in University City included 110 hours in neighborhood clean-ups and more than 125 hours delivering food to the needy through the Jewish Relief Agency.

Adopt-a-Shelter

Homeless families living in a West Philadelphia shelter may be surprised to find out they have great attorneys and paralegals on their side: the professional staff of Drexel's Office of General Counsel, who participate in the "Adopt-a-Shelter" program of the Homeless Advocacy Project (HAP). Through HAP, Drexel attorneys provide *pro bono* legal services and advice to shelter residents on a quarterly basis.

Holiday Toy Drive

Community organizations across the city go into overdrive to help families in need experience holiday cheer, and Drexel is proud to help. In one of the University's most enduring traditions, the annual Holiday Toy Drive has distributed more than



New Retail for University City

Building Neighborhoods

As an urban university, Drexel takes pride in helping to build strong, vibrant neighborhoods, in ways great and small. Our students, faculty and professional staff are leading the way.

Employee Home Purchase Assistance

As the neighborhoods around campus become less student-centric and more family-friendly, Drexel employees are proud to be part of the change, assisted by the enhanced Employee Home Purchase Assistance program. More than 25 homes in West Powelton and Mantua have been purchased by faculty and professional staff through the program, representing approximately \$5 million of investment.

Community Vendor Fair

Buying local can help revitalize neighborhoods, so Drexel Procurement launched the Community Meet-and-Greet Vendor Fair where vendors from five ZIP codes surrounding campus showcase their products and services for buyers from Drexel and other colleges and universities participating in the Philadelphia Area Collegiate Cooperative. More than two dozen vendors participated in the first fair, held in partnership with Philadelphia's Office of Equal Opportunity and the Minority Business Development Center in West Philadelphia.

Diversity Construction Contractor Development

Everyone benefits when the region's businesses become more diverse. Drexel's Diversity Construction Contractor Business Development Program helps leaders of diversity construction companies improve back office operations, gain mentorship from larger construction companies and expand their opportunities by becoming prequalified Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) contractors. The program is a collaboration of the Minority Business Enterprise Center and Drexel's Goodwin College Customized Learning Center, funded by PennDOT.

Drexel Community Flea Market

Reduce, reuse and recycle—that's the sustainability mantra at the root of the first Drexel Community Flea Market, where Drexel students who were leaving University City or just wanted to simplify had the opportunity to sell, recycle or donate items they no longer wished to keep. The goal was to reduce the sometimes copious trash produced in the neighborhood by students. More than 300 students, faculty and professional staff participated, with donations going to the Salvation Army.

Basketball and Lacrosse Tickets

The best price for exciting sports entertainment in Mantua is "free," as Drexel Athletics makes several dozen free tickets for every home basketball or lacrosse game available to residents of the Powelton Village and Mantua communities adjacent to campus. It's a great chance for kids



Reimagining Urban Living

The popularity of urban living is growing once again, and as a proudly urban university Drexel has a responsibility to help reimagine urban life for the modern age. The University and its people are doing just that along a number of dimensions.

Drexel Smart House

New ideas for sustainable urban living are coming out of a 19th-century Powelton Village home—as are the leaders who will develop future innovations. Drexel Smart House is a student-led multidisciplinary effort to create a cutting-edge platform for urban design and technology. The building's exterior and walls have been renovated and stabilized, and research on interior design elements is underway.

New Urban Mechanics Co-op

Student Adam Starr is part of Drexel's Custom-Designed Major program, and the creativity of his academic program extended to a six-month co-op position through Drexel's ExCITE Center working with the Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics. The office is a research and development lab for city government with a focus on innovation and civic involvement in government projects including art- and design-based initiatives, app development and experiments in finding new ways to engage citizens.

New Retail for University City

A strong urban neighborhood is bolstered by opportunities to shop, eat and socialize, and Drexel is adding 45,000 square feet of retail space to University City in two landmark residential-retail projects with American Campus Communities. Chestnut Square opened in 2013 featuring amenities like Shake Shack, Joe Coffee, Japanese restaurant coZara, Zavino pizzeria and wine bar, vegetarian eatery Vegetate and Yagorino frozen yogurt, as well as the renovated Barnes & Noble Bookstore, Plaza Artist Materials and Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union. Weeks later, ground was broken for the development at Lancaster Avenue and 34th Street, which will anchor a revitalized Lancaster Avenue commercial corridor.

and their families to experience the dedication of Drexel student-athletes and the thrill of watching Division I collegiate sports.

Awesome Movie Fest

Summer is a great time for neighbors to gather and enjoy the weather, which is why the University hosted a free, family-friendly summer film series presented by The Awesome Fest at Drexel Park. The eight-week event was a partnership of the Office of Government and Community Relations, University City District and The Awesome Fest, a Philadelphia-based organization promoting screenings in nontraditional venues. More than 400 Drexel and neighborhood attendees made up the audience for each film.

Philly Spring Clean-up

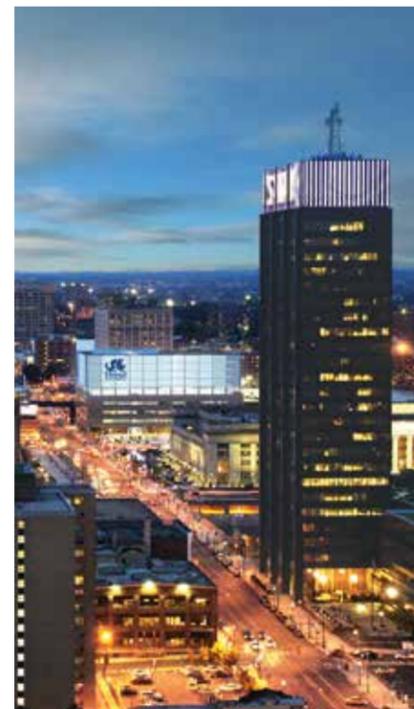
Each April, Philadelphians across the city gather for a symbolic day of cleaning and renewal, the Streets Department's Philly Spring Clean-up.

Drexel is an enthusiastic supporter, and last year sent 150 volunteers to four different locations in Powelton Village and Mantua, along the Schuylkill River and at a site coordinated by the Enterprise Center and Walnut Community Center.

Campus Philly

Philadelphia is a great college town, and students bring vibrancy and economic strength to the region—especially if they stay after graduation. Drexel partners with Campus Philly, a nonprofit organization that encourages college students to study, explore, live and work in Greater Philadelphia. The organization hosts events, help students navigate Philadelphia, provides job opportunities through area job fairs and helps students engage with the local community. President John Fry is an honorary board chair, while Drexel's vice president for government and community relations, David Wilson, serves on the board of directors.

Anchor institutions like Drexel have both the ability and the responsibility to drive economic growth for the region. The University is doing so not only as a major purchaser and employer, but as part of an intellectual ecosystem in University City that drives innovation and new jobs.



A Foundation for Jobs and Economic Stability

Translational Research

Drexel augments our civic engagement mission with an institution-wide commitment to serve as an economic engine, built on our excellence in translational research. Our students and faculty translate scientific discovery into technologies with immediate impact on the market, the clinic and on quality of life. Translational research results in new intellectual property, new products and ultimately new companies and new jobs.

Greater Philadelphia is home to a network of nationally prominent universities and hospitals and outstanding technology businesses and non-profit organizations. A simple spark is all that's needed to transform the region into a global innovation center every bit the equal of Research Triangle Park in North Carolina; Cambridge, Mass.; or Silicon Valley. Drexel is ideally positioned to provide that spark.

The Innovation Neighborhood®

Drexel's research expertise and network of partnerships are complemented by a once-in-a-lifetime collection of real estate advantages. The University has assembled 12 acres of underdeveloped property linking our campus to America's second-busiest train station, Amtrak 30th Street Station. Drexel will build a series of mixed-use



projects with private developers geared towards research and development, technology transfer and collaboration with business.

The Innovation Neighborhood will bring together Drexel researchers, other universities in the region, national and global research partners and established technology companies and entrepreneurs. It's the sort of project that transforms a city. And it could be the gateway to even more transformative opportunities.

Drexel is the lead partner with Amtrak and Brandywine Realty Trust on a study of a long-term development of the 30th Street Station District, including the air rights over 75-plus acres of rail yards behind the station. It's a once-in-a-generation chance to build a new center of gravity for the city, and Drexel is proud to be part of the process.





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