Q: Who attends Undergraduate Research & Artistry Day, and is there a cost?
A: Everyone is welcome! Faculty, undergraduate students, graduate students, alumni, family, friends, and the NIU and DeKalb communities! Undergraduate Research & Artistry Day may be particularly useful for students interested in applying to graduate school, especially for students who have never attended an undergraduate research and artistry symposium. This event is open to the public and free for all attendants.

Q: What are the benefits to undergraduate student attendees?
A: Students will be able to see what a research and/or artistry conference entails without having to spend the money to get there. Students will also learn about what a poster presentation might include, research and artistry projects happening in various departments, and network with undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty in a variety of disciplines. Representatives from different colleges will be in attendance to answer questions and provide information.

Q: Who can participate?
A: Any currently enrolled undergraduate student who has participated in a faculty-mentored creative or research project is eligible to showcase his/her work at this event. This includes, but is not limited to students who have completed independent study, capstone projects, URAP, EURA, UARAP, USOAR, Research Rookies, or other related research/artistry projects. All students are welcome to attend the event.

Q: What do I need to do to participate?
A: If you are interested in participating in this event, please register via the URAD website. The deadline to register is Friday, March 4, 2016.

TO REGISTER & PARTICIPATE

Step 1: Submit your 2016 URAD Registration by Friday, March 4. Students wishing to present two projects must complete the registration survey twice (once for each project). Space is limited but students will be guaranteed one presentation at URAD.

Step 2: Submit your abstract (250 words or less) by Friday, March 4. Students wishing to present two projects must complete the abstract submission survey twice (once for each project). Space is limited but students will be guaranteed one presentation at URAD.

Step 3: Review your abstract when you receive "Abstract Confirmation" email

Step 4: Nominate your Faculty Mentor by Friday, March 18 to receive the "Faculty Mentor of the Year" award.

Step 5: Complete your poster (32” x 40") and submit to Creative Services by Monday, April 11, 2016 if printing through Media Services.

Step 6: Present on Tuesday, April 19, 2016.

Q: What projects are eligible?
A: Any independent study, capstone projects, SEF, EURA, USOAR, SROP, Research Rookies or any other related research/artistry projects that have occurred under the guidance of a faculty mentor are eligible to be presented.

Q: What types of presentations are accepted?
A: Posters, exhibits, 15-minute oral presentations, pre-recorded performances, and digital media are accepted. Poster guidelines and suggestions can be downloaded here. If you choose to display your work with digital media, you are responsible for your own laptop to stream your video.
• **Posters** should be **no larger than 32” x 40”**. The poster will hang by pushpins on a show wall. **No foam boards will be allowed.** Poster presenters should be prepared to stand next to their poster for the entire duration of their scheduled presentation time and should prepare a 3 minute overview of their project. The poster will be displayed for the entire event.

• **Oral Presentations** should be no longer than 15 minutes (10-12 minutes for speaking; 3 minutes for questions). Students should be prepared to speak in front of an audience and answer questions. Students have the option to use a laptop and projector for their presentation.

• **Digital Media** should be prerecorded and **no longer than 15 minutes**. Students should be prepared to stand next to their table for the duration of their scheduled presentation to answer questions.

• **Exhibits** should be **no larger than 3 feet wide** and will be in the same room with all other projects. Students should be prepared to stand next to their exhibit for the duration of their scheduled presentation to share about their project and answer questions.

Q: **Why should I present at NIU’s Undergraduate Research & Artistry Day?**
A: Benefits of participating in Undergraduate Research & Artistry Day include working one-on-one with a faculty mentor, while giving you a chance to apply what you are learning in classes. You also have the opportunity to practice presenting ideas to others (communication skills), develop your resume/vita, and explore more about a career in research.

Q: **May a student be a presenter on more than one poster?**
A: A student may not be a primary presenter on more than one poster.

Q: **Must I be a major in a subject to present on that topic?**
A: No, but you must have worked under the guidance of a faculty member.

Q: **Will I receive academic credit?**
A: No, you will be recognized as participant in this campus-wide event. There are some departments that are offering participation in this event in lieu of other assignments.

Q: **Will there be awards?**
A: Yes. There will be first, second, third, and honorable mention in two categories 1) science, technology, engineering and math and 2) arts, education, health, humanities, and social sciences. In addition, the audience will vote on their favorite poster/exhibit in the “People’s Choice” Award.

Q: **How are student winners determined?**
A: Judges will use a standardized rubric to evaluate the posters, digital media, and exhibits. They will look at the overall organization and clarity of your poster and brief presentation, as well as the quality of your research project.

Q: **How is the ‘Faculty Mentor of the Year’ award determined?**
A: The Undergraduate Research & Artistry Advisory Committee – Undergraduate Research & Artistry Day subcommittee will review and determine the recipient.

A: These programs allow faculty to engage undergraduates in their research and artistry agendas. They allows students to closely work with faculty on expanding their domain of knowledge and skills and are designed to support mentorships that involve faculty members with qualified, highly motivated students.