

Northern Illinois University
2017 Undergraduate Research & Artistry Day
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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 24, 2017**.

TO REGISTER & PARTICIPATE

1. Submit your 2017 URAD Registration by Friday, March 24, 2017. Students wishing to present two projects must complete a separate presentation for each project. Space is limited but students will be guaranteed one presentation at URAD. Preview the URAD registration information (PDF).
2. Review your registration information when you receive "Registration Confirmation" email.
*Please note that when you submit your registration, you are also submitting your abstract as well. There will be no separate abstract submission process for URAD.
3. Complete your poster (32" x 40"). If you are using NIU's [Creative Services](#) to print your poster, submit it to Creative Services by Monday, April 10, 2017.
4. Present at URAD on Tuesday, April 25, 2017.

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, table talks, performances, and exhibits 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.

- **Poster Presentation** - 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. Presenters should be prepared to stand next to their

poster for the entire duration of their scheduled presentation time and should prepare a 3-5 minute overview of their project. The poster will be displayed for the entire event.

- **Table Talk** - Table talks are an informal spin on the traditional oral presentation. Table Talks occur around a table with a Moderator and 3 student presenters. A small audience may also be present. Each presenter will have up to 10 minutes for a concise presentation and time to have participants ask questions. The presentation should present an idea, summarize a project, discuss an inquiry and seek feedback. Presenters should work from notes or a paper.
- **Performance** - Musical, dance, or theatrical performance should no longer than 7 minutes. This presentation will be extremely competitive, as we will only have 3 performance slots available for the event.
- **STEM or Artistry Exhibit** - 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. In addition, you may be eligible to submit your research or artistry experience through [Engage PLUS](#).

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. View last year's winners [here](#).

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 Day Committee will review and determine the recipient.

Q: What is [SEF](#)? [EURA](#)? [USOAR](#)? [SROP](#)? [Research Rookies](#)?

A: These programs allow faculty to engage undergraduates in their research and artistry agendas. They allow 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.