

Bates | Harvard Center for Community Partnerships

2022 STA/RT Program *Final Project Descriptions*

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR 2022:

- Work in a team to organize and implement a major non-partisan voter registration campaign during Short Term, with the goal of getting 100% of Short Term students and 50% of students not on campus during Short Term registered to vote in either their hometown or their college hometown. (Note: Because students must re-register anytime their physical address changes, this campaign is occurring after housing assignments have been made for Fall.) Skills/capacities important to this work: creativity, ambition, teamwork, organization, enthusiasm for voting as a pillar of democracy.
- Inventory the Harvard Center's current K-12 resources and make recommendations for additional resources and future use based on community needs. Will involve organizing resources (board games, etc); interviewing community partners to identify resources they want Bates students to use in their volunteer work; developing recommendations for additional resources the Harvard Center should consider purchasing; and making recommendations for the future use of resources to maximize community benefit.
- Help develop an effective, research-based playground mentor program. Building on work already undertaken this year, conduct research to identify best practices and strategies for mentorship and social/emotional support of elementary youth during recess; create materials (such as booklets, handouts, a website) to help Bates mentors work effectively with elementary youth during recess; Identify places in the program where Bates mentors can introduce "college-positive" approaches; and make recommendations and create materials aimed at increasing Bates student volunteers for the program
- Help identify opportunities to promote recreation and ecological improvements on the Little Androscoggin River in Auburn. This might include collaborating with others to develop recreational events on the river; creating materials promoting the river as a community resource; mapping opportunities for connecting trail networks along the river; and identifying possible boat launch and portage locations. The ideal candidate will have experience with GIS mapping, or knowledge of geology and aquatic ecosystems. An interest in outdoor, water-based recreation is a plus.
- Support a local workforce development initiative by conducting interviews with BIPOC youth and young adults to invite and record their workforce experiences, aspirations, and suggestions and then analyze/summarize the data for the partner. Applicants should have successfully completed a research methods course at Bates and have experience analyzing qualitative data. This project will be undertaken in partnership with a coalition of leaders from community-based organizations, including several BIPOC-led organizations.