Student Project Competition
Spring 2021

Theme: **"Our crown has already been bought and paid for. All we have to do is wear it" — James Baldwin.**

Student Project Competition
Umoja is excited to announce our first annual student project competition. Students will submit their work and present their project by submitting a pre-recorded video summary.   A panel of Umoja practitioners will select various winners. Winning projects will be displayed on Umoja Community's Student Project Competition webpage!

Eligibility: The competition is open to current high-school, community college, or 4-year students. All Umoja students are encouraged to participate, but the competition is open to other students as long as you adhere to the guidelines and your projects are in alignment with the mission, vision, and practices of Umoja Community Education Foundation. [Click here for more background about Umoja.] Projects are defined as work wherein the student(s) are the primary contributor. Submissions are welcome from individuals and teams (max 3). Students can only submit one entry.

Entry Submission Due Date: April 26, 2021
Winner's Announced: May 17, 2021

Submit your entries here!
https://umojacommunity.org/StudentCompetitions2021

Your project should fall into one of the following categories.

Category 1: Data Visualization
Storytelling plays an important role in highlighting cultural values, sharing important information and lessons, as well as providing context and explanations to mysteries. For this project, identify your data and create an infographic that tells a story and presents the data visually and that is easy to understand.

> **Submission: You will be submitting 2 files**
> 1. Your Infographic: Your submission can be a PDF, JPG, or a web link to the online version
> 2. A 3-5 min Pre-recorded video (MP4 file, MOV file, or link to online video) explaining:
>   - The data and why it was chosen.
>   - The story told through the infographic.
>   - An Umoja practice and reflection on how it applies to you and your project submission.
>   - How does your submission advance Black culture or the collective knowledge of people of African descent?

> Additional information and resource for Data Visualization category

Category 2: Art
For this project, select a sub-category and artistically interpret the conference theme: "Our crown has already been bought and paid for. All we have to do is wear it" — James Baldwin
- **Traditional Visual arts (Painting, Structure, Drawing, Photography)**
- **Graphic arts (Painting, Drawing, Design)**

- **Performance (spoken word, dance, film, theatre, music)**
- **Literary arts (short stories, poem)**

Submission: You will be submitting 2 files
1. Your Work of Art: Your submission can be a PDF, JPG, Video, or a web link to your art
2. A 3-5 min Pre-recorded video (MP4 file, MOV file, or link to online video) explaining:
    - A summary of the work of art
        - No profanity in the art
        - How your art reflects the conference theme
    - An Umoja practice and reflection on how it applies to you and your project submission.
        i. How does your submission advance Black culture or the collective knowledge of people of African descent?

Category 3: Research Proposal: Discovery through ideation

We invite our Umoja scholars to submit research proposals that look critically at the complex intersections of gender, race, and culture and its impact on Black student success. Proposal can focus on local, state, national, or global issues and come from any discipline in the social sciences.

Submission: You will be submitting 2 files
1. Research Proposal Poster
2. A 3-5 min Pre-recorded video (MP4 file, MOV file, or link to online video) explaining:
    - Brief summary of research proposal
    - An Umoja practice and reflection on how it applies to you and your project submission.
        - How does your submission advance Black culture or the collective knowledge of people of African descent?

Additional information and resource for Research Proposal category

You will need the following information to enter the student project competition
1. Student's Name
2. Student's Contact information (email and telephone)
3. Umoja Coordinator or Academic Counselor/Advisors Name and contact info (email and telephone)
4. School affiliation (HS/College/UC/CSU)
5. Select Category of Entry
6. For Team entries (Name of other participants)
7. Submission Link #1: Link to or upload Created Work
8. Submission Link #2: Link to or upload 3-5 min Video Summary of Submission

Judging:

A panel of Umoja practitioners will select various winners for each category. Prizes will be awarded for winners in each category.

Internal Note: Internal 1Umoja blind judging will be conducted during spring retreat.

There will be Prizes awarded by Categories
Community Choice Award (During first two days of conference community will vote for a favorite in each category): Vote for favorite (1 vote per category)

Umoja Leadership Best of Show (across all category) – Umoja Leadership will award a best in show.

Category 1: Data Visualization - Resources

Infographics provide a way to do many things including organizing information, analyzing and interpreting data, and telling a story. Storytelling plays an important role in highlighting cultural values, sharing important information and lessons, as well as providing context and explanations to mysteries. For your submission, we want you to identify data, analyze and interpretate the data, and create a visual story that presents the information in an easy to understand and appealing way.

Creating the Infographic – What Do You Need?

1. **Data**
   Identify a topic that interest you and research it! Consider what message or information you want to share. Identify 3-4 credible resources that will help you tell your story. Remember, data includes both qualitative and quantitative information. So consider many types of resources such as public databases, reports, research, and surveys. Use your college's and community libraries to find research articles. Identify organizations that may align to your topic and search their websites for reports and research.   Gather and analyze your own data using publicly available open datasets. Open Datasets can be searched on the internet using a search of **"Open Datasets".** Examples of open datasets
   - HealthData.gov – public U.S. health data that covers a wide range of topics, including environmental health, medical devices, Medicare & Medicaid, social services, community health, mental health, and substance abuse
   - World Health Organization – Research and data about world health topics
   - UNICEF – reports and research about children of the world
   - Pew Research Center – Research and dataset about U.S. based issues, attitudes, and trends
   - Data.gov – Dataset for U.S. and state governments, including data for health, census, environment, and economy
   - California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Datamart – data for the community colleges including demographics, student services, and student outcomes
   - Ed-Data – data for California K-12 including demographics, fiscal, and performance outcomes

2. **Analysis and Interpretation**
   Once you have identified your resources, you then need to analyze and interpret. Consider:
   - What does each resource tell you about your topic? What are the 3-4 main points you understand about the data and research?
   - How does each resource relate to the other sources?
   - Is there anything missing from data story? What is it?
   - What are the implications from the data? How will it effect and impact individuals, communities, and the world?

3. **Visual Storytelling**
   Check out other infographics to examine how others have designed them. It will give you a clearer sense of what they do, look like, and how you may want to share your story. An internet search for **"infographics"** will yield many examples, so good and some not so good. Take a look and see what you like and don't like about the examples you find. Here are some examples to get you started.
   - https://southerncoalition.org/resources/counselorsnotcops-infographics-wake-county/
   - http://schottfoundation.org/infographic/shining-spotlight-black-girls

4. **Explore Tools to create an infographic**.
   There are different tools *(for both your phone and computer)* you can use to create. There is not one size fit all. Find something that you are comfortable with to create your story. Examples of tools include:
   - PowerPoint
   - Google Slides
   - Canva (free account)
   - Adobe Spark (free account)
   - Easel.ly (free account)
   - Piktochart (free starter plan)
   - Infogr.am (free basic plan)

5. **Sources/Citation**
   Make sure you include a space on your infographic for citations of all the resources used!

Category 3: Research Proposal: Discovery through Ideation - Resources
We invite our Umoja scholars to submit research proposals that look critically at the complex intersections of gender, race, and culture and its impact on Black student success. Proposal can focus on local, state, national, or global issues and come from any discipline in the social sciences.

Creating Your Research Proposal Poster – What Do You Need?

1. **Tool to create your Poster:**
   There are different tools *(for both your phone and computer)* you can use to create. There is not one size fit all. Find something that you are comfortable with to create your poster. Make sure you make the dimension of your poster 48 in (width) x 36 inches (height). We have provided a template for you to use but feel free to use a different tool. Examples of tools include:
   - PowerPoint
   - Google Slides
   - Canva (free account)
   - Adobe Spark (free account)
   - Easel.ly (free account)
   - Piktochart (free starter plan)
   - Infogr.am (free basic plan)

2. **Proposal Elements:**
   A research proposal is a way for a researcher to present an identified problem and justify the need for research. The proposal also presents a way that the research could be conducted. There are key elements that are required for a proposal. For your submission, we want you to identify an area of interest, read current and past research, identify a gap in understanding, propose a study, the appropriate methodology, and anticipate outcomes and benefits that may be realized from the research. You will include the following elements on your poster.

   - **Title of Proposed Research**
     Include a title (15 words or less)
   - **Problem Statement**
     Summarize the identified problem. This is the <u>WHAT</u> of the research proposal.

- **Purpose Statement**

  What does the researcher plan to research or what have they currently doing. Consider
  - **WHY** are you choosing to investigate this problem?
  - **HOW** will you go about investigating this problem?
  - **WHEN** will you be investigating this problem?
- **Literature Review**

  Identify 3-5 scholarly works, and critically analyze and interpret. Summarize your findings. Consider the following:
  - What does each research tell you about your topic and identified problem? What are the 3-4 main points you understand from each research article?
  - How does each research article relate to the other research?
  - Is there anything missing from the research you found? What is it?
  - Make sure to cite your resources appropriately. For social sciences research, APA format is appropriate. [Purdue OWL Formatting and Style Guide](#)
- **Research Questions**

  Based on your literature review, develop 2-3 questions that can guide your research. These questions should be based on and seek to answer the problem and purpose statement.
- **Research and Methods**

  Propose and justify the way in which the research should be conducted. Consider the following
  - What type of methodological approach will you take? Why?
    Approaches can be qualitative, quantitative, or mixed (both qualitative and quantitative) Examples of research methods include, but are not limited to : Analyzing observations , interviews with research participants, analyzing evaluation data (i.e., surveys or assessments) document analysis, etc.
  - How will you collect data? What type of data will you collect (i.e. demographics, attitudes, narratives, outcomes, etc.)? Why is this data appropriate to addressing the research problem?
  - Are there potential limitations to your proposed method? What are they?
- **Setting and Sample**

  Provide information about WHERE the proposed research would be conducted (i.e., a specific school campus, a city/county/region/state) and WHO (i.e., Students, Community Members, Faculty, Staff) you would be collecting information from.
- **Summary**

  Summarize the key points that are most important in the research study and how you believe the study can have an impact on the greater community researched.
  - What are the implications from the research? How will it effect and impact individuals, communities, and the world?
- **Research Team**

  Include the following information for each research team member
  - Name
  - Current Major
  - Year
  - Desired Professional or Personal Goal