

Town-Gown Task Force

Activities

The activities that the task force has done so far boil down to two major events and some intermittent meetings. The first event was the local government and college student fair held here on Hartwick campus on March eleventh (3/11/25). Elected officials from the city, town, and county governments were invited here to campus along with a considerable number of students in order to allow for the students to become more acquainted with those who represent them and ask any potential questions they might have. The second event was a sidewalk chalk art competition that was held on mainstreet Oneonta on April twentieth (4/20/25). We set up a table outside of Roots Public Social Club with sidewalk chalk for people to use and signage so that people knew why we were there. In addition, prior to the event we spread word of what was happening around both of the college campuses along with posting flyers in order to ensure many students heard of the event. We also went around to the mainstreet businesses and some of them donated prizes (Gift cards) that we could use to incentivize participation in the event. Ultimately, this event was designed to bring students down to mainstreet both for the actual event and later on in order to use the prizes that were won.

Planning

Spread between, before, and after these two events were smaller meetings held to discuss what to do moving forward. Meetings have not been held in a structured manner thus far, but will be changed for the future. At this point we are about to head into the summer break for both colleges when the students head home so we will not be doing too much in the way of meeting and planning in the coming months. Having said that, we are planning on putting together over the summer a presentation to give in the fall to all of the freshmen students regarding the city of Oneonta (what there is to do in the city, who represents them/how to reach out to them, where to go/what to do in order to get involved with the city, etc.). We want to give this presentation right when these students, most of whom are likely not from the area, come to college as we feel that this is when they will be most impressionable. Any further plans will be made throughout the fall of 2025.