

## 2023 UPTOWN TREE TRAIL



#### INTRODUCTION

The undergraduate Servant Leadership Program at Columbus State University was created on a foundation of love, compassion, and a belief that servant leadership would present the leadership needed to sustain and enrich the collaboration and growth in Columbus.

Through a widely recognized community and university collaboration, the undergraduate Servant Leadership Program provides students with learning experiences that create growing, self-aware, well-balanced, and insightful servant leaders. These leaders then enrich the community and the world while serving as a model for others to follow.

Throughout the four-year program, students develop leadership practices by participating in community service projects and much more.



#### **SENIOR PROJECT**

Each year, the senior class organizes a project that serves the community to enrich as many lives as possible. The goal of the senior project is to give the undergraduate Servant Leadership Program students an experience of applying the education they have received to a real-world problem or need. The seniors are encouraged to ask critical questions about the current state and needs of the various sectors of our community and then develop a plan to help address those needs, allowing our students to develop a sense of civic responsibility.

Through this project, our students will practice the principles of servant leadership we have taught them to transform our community and world. While working on their project, students are expected to model the principles of servant leadership by helping those in need, equipping others, and changing our community for the better.

For the upcoming year, the senior class of the Servant Leadership Program at Columbus State University is partnering with Fox Elementary to serve the various neighborhoods of the Mill District community. The Class of 2024 will spend their time, energy, and resources serving the highest priority needs of Fox Elementary. As such, Fox Elementary will be the primary benefactor of the proceeds from this year's Uptown Tree Trail.

The Seniors want to help increase access to and opportunity for the next generation of the Mill District community members by investing the funds they raise to provide programming for students and their families. The Class of 2024 plans to offer resources and workshops for the students and families of Fox Elementary in order to create a better environment for all to learn and grow in various ways.

The Class of 2024 has encompassed its goals for its year-long project with the slogan "Expand, Equip, Expose." This slogan reflects their desire to increase access to health education and services, opportunities for community engagement and participation, and awareness of the importance of education. The Seniors are committed to partnering with a variety of organizations working to serve the lives of those living in the Mill District community of Columbus, Georgia.

### **UPTOWN TREE TRAIL**

Uptown Tree Trail is a display of live Christmas trees through the heart of Uptown Columbus during the holiday season (December through the beginning of January). Uptown Tree Trail is rooted in philanthropy and community. Each tree is sponsored by a local family, business, or organization and can be decorated by its sponsor or another designated group. Proceeds from tree purchases will go to benefit non-profit organizations in the Columbus, Georgia community.

Uptown Tree Trail will begin with a kick-off celebration on the first Friday of December, following the annual tree lighting in Uptown. Throughout December, CSU Servant Leadership students, Buck Field Christmas Trees, and Uptown, Inc. will help maintain the trees. We encourage all tree owners to check on their trees throughout the month.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**



**November 6th** Last Day to Order Trees



November 29th and 30th Decorating Days

**December 1st** Trail Lighting and Uptown Holiday Kick-Off Event



**January 3rd** Un-Decorating Day

#### BENEFITS

- Advertisement for your business or organization in a high traffic area
- Opportunity to attract more consumers and families to local businesses during the holiday months
- Endless decorating possibilities tree sponsors may use any decorations (Keep it family-friendly and classy, please. No food of any kind is recommended.)
- Networking opportunity with other local businesses/nonprofits
- Team building opportunity on Decoration Day for your company or organization's team members
- Strengthen employee relationships and have some holiday fun
- CSU Servant Leadership students will be present on Decorating Days to help assist tree sponsors in any way needed
  we can even help you decorate!
- Supporting a great cause and helping serve the needs of our community!

# **SPONSORSHIP LEVELS**



Social media shout-out Donor thank you

Social media shout-out Donor thank you

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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT LAURA PATE OR CORTNEY WILSON BY EMAIL OR PHONE. PATE\_LAURA1@COLUMBUSSTATE.EDU, (706) 507-8773 WILSON\_CORTNEY@COLUMBUSSTATE.EDU, (706) 568-2286

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.UPTOWNTREETRAIL.COM.

#### The Uptown Tree Trail is organized by:





WILLIAM B. TURNER CENTER FOR SERVANT LEADERSHIP

