

An Equiduct Thanksgiving

The Gift of Learning

EQ News – November 2023 Issue

November 24, 2023 - By The Equiduct PR Team

As the holiday season begins, Equiduct would like to express our immense appreciation for every person who helps us serve the Lansing community. Without our supporters, the organization would not be where it is today. We are eternally grateful for all the opportunities and growth we have received since our founding in 2021. No words can explain the love we feel from our community, and we are honored to give the love right back.

Tuesday, November 28, 2023, is Giving Tuesday, a widely recognized national day of giving to causes and nonprofits. Giving Tuesday is a way to express appreciation and support for organizations prioritizing humanity and love during the busy holiday season.

Equiduct exists to ensure community service is as accessible and convenient as possible for our generous college volunteers. We are immensely grateful for their time and sacrifices. Giving Tuesday is about recognizing the numerous ways we can all contribute to positive change and appreciating the time, dedication, and donations of everyone involved.

How to Give

Donate digitally

Visit our Givelify site to donate online:

<https://giv.li/rk0t3z>

Send in a check




Generously send in a check to:

325 E Grand River Ave, Suite 345
East Lansing, MI 48823

In September 2023, we became a 501(c)3 nonprofit. Founders John Henige and Jonas Padilla founded Equiduct as MSU students with a vision to eliminate educational inequity and harness the power of college student volunteers. With our new nonprofit status and our rapidly expanding member base, we are in need of start-up funds, specifically to fund transportation.

We are working closely with the Lansing School District to create new programs for their students. The most recent is an in-school accelerated course at Mt. Hope Elementary called Equiduct Accelerated College Instruction. Four days a week, a cohort of 23 sixth and seventh graders are challenged in mathematics, reading, and writing. With four to five volunteer instructors daily, our goal is to reimagine what a classroom can look like and how best to motivate students to learn and achieve.

Soon, Equiduct volunteer tutors will be at four locations. We will expand Equiduct Accelerated instruction to Attwood Elementary at the start of the 2024 semester!

After School Tutoring	In-School Accelerated College Instruction	Mentorship Program	Junior Achievement Instruction
			
-Lansing Student Development Program -Eastside Community Action Center	-Mt. Hope Elementary -Attwood Elementary *Coming Soon*	-23 college mentors connect with Lansing students outside of academics	-Various courses taught at Post Oak and Geir Elementary schools

Our goal is to ensure that participation in our programs is at no cost to our volunteers who want to give their time and positively impact the community. However, many college volunteers do not have cars. Your support, in any amount, helps provide transportation for our dedicated college volunteers and grow our volunteer base.

This Giving Tuesday and Thanksgiving, we want to shine a light on how the Lansing youth and college volunteers help us as an organization and as individuals.

Head of Human Resources at Equiduct, Katie Higgins, said, “Even though they are a fraction of my age, they have taught me a lot about different means of growing up and different family functions and dynamics...I am so lucky to meet these kids who can teach

me about different life views. It helps me understand and respect different situations more than my own.” As we grow in numbers, we are seeing the true, unmatched impact Lansing youth have on our volunteers.



“It gave me a lot of perspective, in terms of the fact that those kids are just as bright as anyone that I’ve encountered. In my experience, it’s not a question of capacity; It’s more a question of resources and opportunity.”

-Sai Ramesh, college tutor.



Service is a two-way street. Our mentors learn and grow as their mentees excel. Equiduct Co-founder Jonas Padilla says, "I have observed how mentorship leaves a positive and permanent impact on both mentees and their mentors." Our students develop relationships with each other similar to friends despite an age difference. Both are excited to learn from each other and grow their school experiences. Padilla says, “Both mentors and mentees can learn from the unique perspectives and experiences shared at each mentorship event and apply those lessons to every aspect of our daily lives as well as our long-term goals and aspirations."

“It is so important to be with fellow peers to learn and grow together in an enriching environment, like Equiduct.”

-Abby Marry, college volunteer and recruiter for EQ



“I am so lucky to meet these kids who can teach me about different life views.”

-Katie Higgins, college volunteer and head of the HR department.

Every day, Equiduct volunteers learn from the Lansing students they help. Each child inspires us with their genuineness and hunger to learn. They treat their tutors and

mentors like family and friends. The volunteer-student relationship reminds everyone involved that learning is enjoyable and exciting.

Please keep kindness in your heart during this giving season, and remember that a little love and funding go a long way. Whether you are a volunteer, supporter, tutor, student, parent, mentor, or EQ staff, we cherish you greatly and recognize your incredible impact on the lives of others and the organization.

The greatest gift of all, and what we are most grateful for year-round, is the gift of learning, and we thank all of you for helping us give it.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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