

One book, sixteen stops. How many can you hit?

Explore new and beloved local businesses from September 6-19, 2026 and redeem exclusive deals along the way.

Pick up a coupon sheet at participating businesses and in-person Welcoming Week events, or go paperless by scanning the QR code to access digital coupons. **Don't forget to share your experiences on social media using #WelcomingWeek2026** and help us celebrate and support our local immigrant-owned businesses!



About *Stories We Share*

Each of us brings unique experiences, cultures, and stories. By sharing stories, we build understanding. Through that understanding, we shape what's next. During Welcoming Week, we bring our community together around the stories we share: stories that connect us and make us stronger. Instead of seeing our differences as something that divides us, let's view them as the source of new possibilities.

Join the conversation and show how it inspires you!

Post your experiences and connect with others using:

#WelcomingWeek2026

#StoriesWeShare

#NAWC

#ChampaignUrbana



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Hosts:

Asian American Cultural Center • Campaña de Salud • Champaign Co. Christian Health Center • Champaign Public Library • City of Champaign • Clark-Lindsey Inclusion & Belonging Committee • Community Collaborative led by The Refugee Center (TRC) • CU Immigration Forum • Family & Graduate Housing • First Presbyterian Church • I-CAUSE • IL Dept. of Commerce • Illinois International • JPMorgan Chase • Krannert Art Museum • Krannert Center for the Performing Arts • Mortenson Center • Museum of the Grand Prairie • Pixan Q'anej • The City of Urbana • The Refugee Center • The Urbana Free Library • UIUC Access, Civil Rights & Community • University YMCA • Urbana Park District • Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center



WELCOMING WEEK 2026

STORIES we SHARE

The Courage to Connect

Pocket Guide



September 9-19

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

This year's Welcoming Week theme, "Stories We Share: The Courage to Connect," invites us to listen with curiosity, share our stories, and recognize the connections that remind us we are not alone.

Welcoming others, being seen, and showing up for one another takes courage—and together, our stories can help build stronger, more connected communities.

Throughout All Welcoming Week

 **Krannert Art Museum**
A Week of Exhibits & Programming

Tue–Fri: 10am–5pm
Thur: Until 8pm
(while classes are in session)

Sat: 10am–4pm
500 E Peabody Dr, Champaign

 **Not Mine, Only Held**
(इदं न मम — Idam Nh Mamah): Kuhu Shukla
On display Sep 11–Dec 11, 2026

Mon–Fri: 9am–5pm
Asian American Cultural Center
1210 W Nevada St, Urbana

 **Bienvenidos: The Murals and Work of Jose Vazquez**
On display Sep 9–19
Mon–Thur: 9am–9pm
Fri: 9am–5pm
University YMCA
1001 S Wright Street, Champaign

Wednesday, September 9
 **5:30pm**
Welcoming Voices: Rights, Resources & Resilience
Cityview Events and Meeting Center, Illinois Terminal, 4th Floor, 45 East University Avenue, Champaign

Thursday, September 10
5:30pm–7pm
Exploración Artística para Familias
Krannert Art Museum, 500 E. Peabody Dr, Champaign

7pm–8pm
An Evening with Sonali Dev
Champaign Public Library,
200 W Green St, Champaign

5pm–7pm
Bienvenidos: The Murals and Work of Jose Vazquez
Opening celebration
University YMCA, 1001 S Wright Street, Champaign

Friday, September 11
12pm–1pm
Noontime Gallery Talk & Tour
Krannert Art Museum, 500 E. Peabody Dr, Champaign

 **5pm–7pm**
Welcoming Week Kickoff Celebration
Lincoln Square Mall
300 S. Broadway, Urbana

Saturday, September 12
11am–12pm
Conversation Café
The Urbana Free Library, 210 W. Green St, Urbana
1:00pm
Grounded Together: Finding Calm, Support & Community in Uncertain Times
New Covenant Fellowship Church, 124 W. White St, Champaign

Sunday, September 13
11am–3pm
Feria de Salud (Community Health Fair)
The Romero Center, 612 E Park St, Champaign

2pm–4:30pm
Global CU: Neighbors Connecting Through Cultures and Stories
The Urbana Free Library, 210 W. Green St, Urbana

5pm–7pm
Traditional Maya Dress Fashion Show
Urbana–Champaign Independent Media Center (IMC), 202 S. Broadway Ave, Urbana

Monday, September 14
10:30am–12pm
Meet the City of Urbana - Let's Connect!
Urbana City Hall South Lawn, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana

1pm–4pm
Undocumented Ally Training
614 E Daniel St, Third Floor, Room 3080, Champaign

5pm–6pm
Higher Education for Immigrant Students
I-CAUSE, 614 E Daniel St, Third Floor, Room 3070, Champaign

Tuesday, September 15
1pm–3pm
How to Bring Quality Health Services to Underserved Communities at Low Cost
Clark-Lindsey, 101 W. Windsor Rd, Urbana

4pm–5pm
From Questions to Confidence: Understanding Credit Together
University YMCA, Latzer Hall, 1001 S Wright Street, Champaign

4:30pm–6pm
International Family Game Night
First Presbyterian Church, 302 W. Church St, Champaign

Tuesday, September 15 (cont.)
5:30pm–7:30pm
Community Job Fair
Champaign Public Library, 200 W Green St, Champaign

Wednesday, September 16
6pm–8pm
The Art of Making
Museum of the Grand Prairie, 950 N Lombard St, Mahomet

6pm–8pm
Together, We Will Be Stronger
The Refugee Center, 201 W. Kenyon Rd, Suite 4D, Champaign

7pm–8:30pm
Cultura Pesá in concert
Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Stage 5 - Lobby, 500 S Goodwin Ave, Urbana

6pm–7:50pm
State Funding & Business Resources for IL Business Owners: Business Resources for Minority and Underserved Entrepreneurs
The Urbana Free Library, 210 W. Green St, Urbana

Thursday, September 17
9:30am–11am
Toddler Art Morning Playgroup
Phillips Recreation Center, 505 W. Stoughton St, Urbana

Thursday, September 17 (cont.)
6pm–7pm
Scoops and Smiles
Orchard Downs Community Center, 510 W. George Huff Dr., Urbana

Friday, September 18
6pm–8pm
The Mosaic: A Welcoming Week Concert
Neil Street Plaza (Downtown Champaign Plaza), Neil St & Washington St, Champaign

Saturday, September 19
10:30am–11:30am
Artist Talk & Tour — Catherine Weisener
Krannert Art Museum, 500 E. Peabody Dr, Champaign

1:30pm–5pm
2026 Immigrant Welcome Awards (13th annual)
The Urbana Free Library, Lewis Auditorium, 210 W. Green St, Urbana



WELCOMING WEEK



NEW AMERICAN WELCOME CENTER UNIVERSITY YMCA

STORIES we SHARE

The Courage to Connect