



February 2024

Dear Student Leaders,

This semester is in full swing and the colder Rochester weather has finally hit us! Don't forget the Campus Information Center has snowshoes that can be signed out for on- or off-campus! Come sign out a pair when we have some snow. Please take full advantage of our Rochester Traditions like [Winterfest Weekend](#) - which starts today! Enjoy plenty of food, fun, and laughter with your fellow students. As a reminder, the Student Life Awards nomination [form](#) will close this Monday, February 5th at noon (12pm EST). This can be a great way to encourage a younger member to consider a higher-level position in the future.

As always, carefully read the information provided in this edition of the Insider, and ask your advisor if any clarification is needed.

Stay warm,

Brian Magee, Interim Director of Student Activities

What's Inside:

1. [Save-the-Dates](#)
 2. [You're Invited: Leadership Appreciation Reception](#)
 3. [SAAC Budget Training for Business Managers](#)
 4. [Mission Category Feedback Sessions](#)
 5. [Nominations for Student Life Awards Closing Soon](#)
 6. [Tips for Soaring through SOAR](#)
 7. [May Room Mirrors & O'Brien Dance Studio Floor](#)
 8. [Community Kitchen Training](#)
 9. [Join the Fall 2024 Welcome Week Team](#)
 10. [Awards, Recognition, and Highlights](#)
 11. [Medallion Leadership Workshops](#)
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Save-the-Dates

Winterfest Weekend

February 1 - 4

Nomination Deadline for the Student Life Awards

Monday, February 5th, 12 p.m.

Budget Training (SAAC)

Tuesday, February 6th, 7:30 p.m.

Religious/Spiritual Life Feedback Session

Friday, February 9th, 1 p.m.

Leadership Appreciation Reception

Friday, February 9th, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Welcome Week Leader Application Deadline

Wednesday, February 14th

Political, Media/Publication, and Visual Arts Feedback Session

Friday, February 16th, 11 a.m.

Hobbies & Interest Feedback Session

Friday, February 16th, 1 p.m.

Last Day for Supplementals (SAAC)

Tuesday, March 5th

Budgets Due (SAAC)

Wednesday, March 6th

Welcome Week Volunteer Application Deadline

Monday, March 11th

Last Day to Transact (SAAC)

Tuesday, April 30th

You're Invited: Leadership Appreciation Reception



Next Friday, February 9th from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. is the annual [Leadership Appreciation Reception](#) held to honor and celebrate all of you amazing student leaders! All student organization leaders and students enrolled in the Medallion Leadership Program are invited to attend. We strongly encourage those who are interested in attending to register using the link above. We look forward to celebrating all your hard work and accomplishments. P.s. there will be a mashed potato bar!

Check out last year's award winners on the [Leadership Appreciation Reception](#) website.

Please note, this does not include Fraternity and Sorority or Residential Life Groups.

SAAC Budget Training for Business Managers

SAAC Budget Training for 2024-2025 will be on Tuesday, February 6th at 7:30 p.m. This training is for Business Managers of all student organizations which receive a budget through SAAC.

The groups that **do not** need to attend the training are those that are flat-funded and do not receive an itemized budget (i.e. agency groups, academic/professional, religious/spiritual life, political, governing body, and honor society groups).

All student organizations that receive a budget through SAAC will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Gowen Room in Wilson Commons for the general session. This session will go over the basic budgeting guidelines and the process to submit budgets for the 2024-2025 academic year. Some organization that have specific budgeting guidelines based on their category will have an additional 15-minute session after the general session. Please see the email sent to all Business Managers and Presidents on Tuesday.

Mission Category Feedback Sessions

Don't forget - the remaining mission categories have upcoming feedback sessions with Wilson Commons Student Activities - and you're invited!

The information your organizations have shared in previous SOAR reports is very much

appreciated and will help to guide these sessions. To get a better understanding of your category's unique successes and challenges on campus, representatives from Wilson Commons Student Activities (WCSA), the Students' Association Appropriations Committee (SAAC), and the Student Organization Administration and Review Committee (ARC) will join the conversation. Each student organization can send up to two students who should come prepared for a great discussion! Various topics could include activity registration, finances, storage, travel, student life spaces, etc. Registration required. We hope to see you there!

[Religious & Spiritual Life](#): Friday, February 9th @ 1 p.m.

[Political, Media/Publication, and Visual Arts](#): Friday, February 16th @ 11 a.m.

[Hobbies & Interests](#): Friday, February 16th @ 1 p.m.

Nominations for Student Life Awards Closing Soon

The annual University Student Life Awards, otherwise known as The Rocky's, recognizes undergraduate students and Student Organizations who - through service to others, investment of talent and time, and pursuit of excellence - have significantly and positively impacted the University of Rochester and/or surrounding communities. Nominations are open through Monday, February 5th at 12 p.m. (noon) EST. Review the available awards and submit nominations [here](#).

Sponsored by the Office of the Dean of Students

Tips for Soaring through SOAR

We've heard your feedback! Each month, we will be including a helpful tip or reminder to keep you feeling prepared for the Student Organization Annual Review (SOAR).

Now that we have completed 2023, it is time to start preparing for SOAR 2024. This month, we are encouraging organizations to explore co-hosting a Medallion workshop with the Medallion Leadership Program. To do this, your organization would need to email medallion@rochester.edu to express your interest, support the Medallion Leadership Program by marketing the workshop, and send a least five of your organization's members to the workshop.

Completing these things will gain your organization 5 additional points which goes towards your SOAR evaluation.

There are many Medallion workshops happening this month! Scroll below to see the lineup, and connect with the Medallion team!

This information applies to Undergraduate College Student Organizations only.

May Room Mirrors & O'Brien Dance Studio Floor

May Room Mirrors

Don't forget there are several rolling mirrors stored in the May Room for reservations to use, totaling 8-feet wide! Mirrors can be used by any reservation in the May Room and are accessed from the prep kitchen inside the May Room. If the kitchen is locked the Campus Center Building Manager can assist you in accessing them. These mirrors are lightweight but fragile and can be easily damaged, so reservations need to be careful when using them.

O'Brien Dance Studio Floor

Over winter break Wilson Commons Student Activities partnered with University Facilities to get the O'Brien dance studio floor refinished. Reservations are asked to not wear wet shoes on the floor to prevent unnecessary damage.

Community Kitchen Training

Is your organization interested in using the [Community Kitchen](#)? The Community Kitchen is stocked with all the basic kitchen equipment you would need for the majority of recipes - you only need to provide the ingredients. Reservations are required to have an approved kitchen user present. To become an approved kitchen user, you must [register and attend an in-person training](#) hosted in the Community Kitchen. Upcoming training dates are as follows:

Tuesday, February 6th @ 1 p.m.

Thursday, February 8th @ 3 p.m.

Monday, February 12th @ 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 21st @ 2:30 p.m.

Join the Fall 2024 Welcome Week Team

Looking for leadership experience? The Office of Orientation and New Student Programs is accepting applications for Fall 2024 Welcome Week Leaders and Volunteers to help welcome new students to campus in August!

Welcome Week Leaders are responsible for helping Orientation Leaders run events throughout Welcome Week and Volunteers primarily help with staffing and setting up these events. Both roles are crucial in creating a welcoming and fun program of events for our newest Yellowjackets. Plus – both positions get to move into on-campus housing early in August.

Learn more about the [Welcome Week Leader](#) and [Volunteer](#) positions on the Orientation and New Student Programs website. Welcome Week Leader applications are due on Wednesday, February 14th and Volunteer applications are due Monday, March 11th.

Awards, Recognition, and Highlights

- Congratulations to **Club Field Hockey** for winning state championships for the first time in club history in November 2023!
- Congratulations to **Table Tennis** for placing 2nd at divisionals in November 2023!
- Special shout out to **Meliora Figure Skating Club's** skaters **Qiuwan Zhao** and **Helen Jackson** for earning medals during the Violet Ice Classic. Congratulations!
- **Women's Rugby** would like to recognize **Shahzoda Nasimjonova** for earning the Under 30 Award through the U.S. Women's Rugby Foundation (USWRF). The Under 30 Award Recognizing the complexity of the women's rugby experience, the USWRF has created the annual 15 Under 30 Award, highlighting those who exemplify the best qualities of rugby and bring those qualities to the field, to their teams, to the sport and to the communities in which they live.

- Congratulations to **Alpine Skiing's** member, **Cara Gagliardi**, who placed 3rd in the Giant Slalom event at Greek Peak Mountain.

Does your organization have something exciting to share? Submit an [Awards, Recognition, and Highlights form](#) to have your exciting news shared in the next edition of the Insider!

Medallion Leadership Workshops

The Medallion Program provides workshops, interactive activities, and personal reflection to develop leadership capabilities through a flexible three-tiered journey. Register on CCC for access to attend. You do not need to be enrolled in the Medallion Program to attend.

Student organizations can request any workshop for their organization [here](#). Email the [Medallion Program](#) if your organization is interested in co-sponsoring one of these workshops!

Workshop	Date	Time	Domain
Qigong: The Mindful Way to Well-Being with Donna	Mon. 2/5	4-5 p.m.	Practical Competence
Consent: The Black, White, and Gray Areas	Mon. 2/5	5-6 p.m.	Knowledge Acquisition
Identifying Your Values	Tues. 2/6	6-7 p.m.	Intrapersonal Development
Calming U with Laura	Thurs. 2/8	9-10:15 a.m.	Practical Competence
SWARM: Risk Reduction Training	Thurs. 2/8	2:30-4 p.m.	Practical Competence
The Importance of Storytelling	Sat. 2/10	4-5 p.m.	Intrapersonal Development
Climate Resilient Leadership and Engagement	Mon. 2/12	4-5 p.m.	Civic Engagement
Calming U with Laura	Thurs. 2/15	9-10:15 a.m.	Practical Competence
Understanding Leadership	Sat. 2/17	2-3 p.m.	Level 1 Opener
Building Time Management Habits & Strategies	Mon. 2/19	5-6 p.m.	Practical Competence
Partnership and Reciprocity: How to do Effective and Equitable Community Engagement	Tues. 2/20	6-7 p.m.	Civic Engagement
Examining the Past: The Struggle for Racial Equity at URM	Weds. 2/21	5:30-8 p.m.	Knowledge Acquisition

Calming U with Laura	Thurs. 2/22	9-10:15 a.m.	Practical Competence
Communication In Leadership	Mon. 2/26	4-5 p.m.	Interpersonal Competence
Revisit Your Organization's Mission & Vision	Tues. 2/27	7-8 p.m.	Cognitive Complexity
Calming U with Laura	Thurs. 2/29	9-10:15 a.m.	Practical Competence
Designing Social & Environmental Change	Thurs. 2/29	5:30- 7:30 p.m.	Knowledge Acquisition & Interpersonal Competence

This publication is brought to you by Wilson Commons Student Activities: The Student Organization Insider is WCSA's monthly e-newsletter for student organization executive boards and advisors. The Student Organization Insider (SOI) is intended to keep student leaders informed on opportunities and updates from their areas of advisement: Students' Association, Athletics, the Interfaith Chapel, Fraternity and Sorority Affairs, Residential Life, Center for Community Engagement, the Hajim School, and Wilson Commons Student Activities. The SOI will not focus on information available to students through the Weekend Highlights, and it will not be used to advertise student organization events. Instead, this newsletter is a unique and specialized publication with information and opportunities that are relevant to you as student leaders.

Wilson Commons Student Activities

University of Rochester
