



## February 2026

Dear Student Leaders,

As winter settles in across Rochester, I hope this message finds you warm, recharged, and ready for the semester ahead. Our first [Rochester Tradition](#) of the new year, Winter Fest, definitely lived up to its name, and I hope you were able to brave the cold and take part in some amazing activities including the Winter Activities Fair, Winter Wonderland, and more! Our next Rochester Tradition, Spirit Week, begins today so be on the lookout for some fun programs to celebrate URochester!

The month ahead will bring even more involvement opportunities, campus events, and collaborative programs designed to energize our community and showcase the impact of clubs and organizations. Be on the lookout for a host of events sponsored by our Student Activities Board, URochester Late Night, and more. If you want to know what's going on, check out CCC regularly!

The winter is also a great opportunity to reconnect with your members, review your goals, and plan events and programs that contribute to our active and vibrant campus. Student clubs and organizations are the heart and soul of a meaningful student experience. Encourage your members to show up, get involved, and make the most of what's ahead—we're looking forward to seeing you and your organizations in action.

Eric M. Pope, Ed.D.  
Manager of Student Programs

### **What's Inside:**

1. [Save-the-Dates](#)
  2. [Awards, Recognitions, and Highlights](#)
  3. [Leadership Appreciation Reception](#)
  4. [Yellowjacket Experience Days](#)
  5. [ARC - SOAR + Constitutions](#)
  6. [Q&A: Posters/Flyers](#)
  7. [Community Kitchen Approved User Training](#)
  8. [Advance Reservations & VEMS Contact Reminder](#)
  9. [Leadership Opportunites](#)
  10. [SAAC/SOFO Budgeting for 2026-2027](#)
  11. [Medallion Program Workshops](#)
  12. [THEN & NOW: Student Org Recreate Challenge](#)
  13. [Meliora Weekend 2026: Involvement Interest Form Loading](#)
-

## Save-the-Dates

### Leadership Appreciation Reception

Friday, February 13th from 3 - 5 pm, Feldman Ballroom

### Lunar New Year Celebration 2026 - Year of the Horse

Friday, February 20th from 6 - 7:30 pm, Feldman Ballroom

### ECM Blackout Dates

Friday, February 13th - Saturday, February 14th

Saturday, March 21st

Friday, March 27th - Sunday, March 29th

Friday, April 3rd - Sunday, April 5th

Saturday, April 11th

Saturday, April 18th

Friday, April 24th

### Last Day to submit for Supplemental

Friday, February 27th

### Meliora Weekend Student Org Proposal Form Opens

Sunday, March 1st @ 11:55 pm

### Last Supplemental (SAAC)

Tuesday, March 3rd

### Budgets Due (SAAC/SOFO)

Wednesday, March 4th @ 9 pm

### Last Day to Transact (SAAC)

Friday, May 1st

---

## Awards, Recognition, and Highlights

**Congratulations!** to **Fencing Club** for qualifying for the 2026 USACFC Club Championship in April! For the first time ever, all six teams will be competing.

Does your organization have something exciting to share? Let us know through the [Awards, Recognition, and Highlights Submission Form](#), and we will be sure to highlight it in the next edition of the Insider!

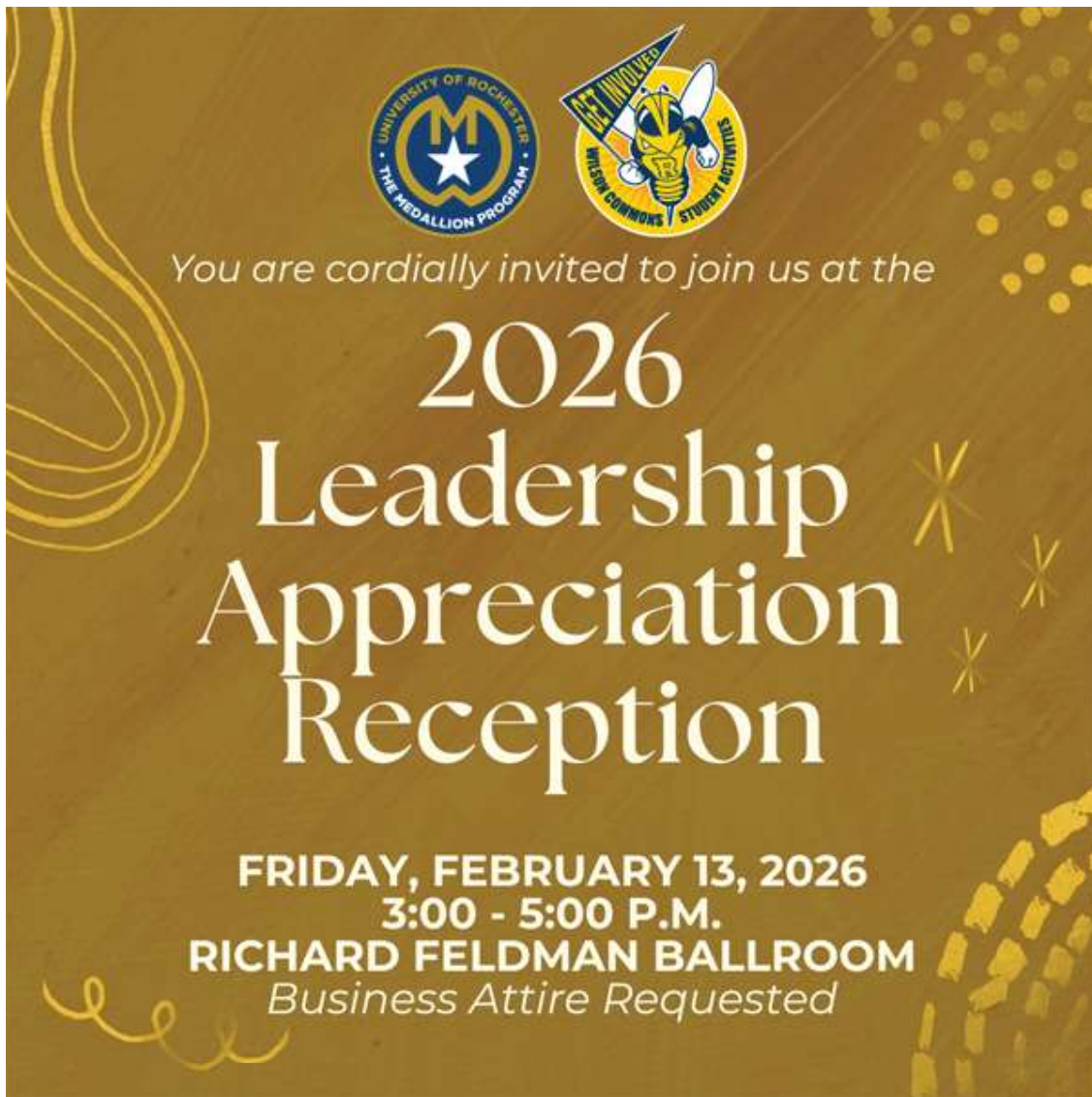
## Spirit Fridays - Show your campus spirit!

Every Friday, our campus community is encouraged to show URochester spirit by wearing our branded colors or your favorite gear. The bookstore will also feature 25% off one pre-determined

item each month.

---

## You're Invited! 2026 Leadership Appreciation Reception



The annual [Leadership Appreciation Reception](#) to celebrate the work of our incredible student leaders will be held on **Friday, February 13th** in the Feldman Ballroom! Doors open at 3 pm, and the ceremony will start at 3:15 pm. All student organization leaders, Fraternity & Sorority Life, and students enrolled in the Medallion Leadership Program are invited and encouraged to come and celebrate the winners of several student organization awards, such as the Outstanding New Student Organization award, Outstanding President award, Outstanding Business Manager award, and more! Please [register](#) for the event if you are planning on attending. We look forward to celebrating all your hard work and accomplishments this past year and hope to see you there!

---

# Yellowjacket Experience Days: Join the Student Life Expo!

This Spring, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions will once again be hosting four on-campus Yellowjacket Experience Days- **Saturday March 28th, Friday April 3rd, Saturday April 11th, and Saturday April 18th.** We invite any student club or organization to be part of the Student Expo. The Expo is designed to give newly admitted students an opportunity to connect with the University of Rochester student clubs/organizations to learn more!

If you are interested in participating, please fill out the Google Form linked here: [Student Expo Interest Form](#). If you are not able to participate in our Student Expo but are interested in collaborating on future admissions projects – please feel free to fill out the form and include information for your office's best point of contact so we can keep you in the loop with future opportunities.

If you have any questions about the Student Expo event, please contact [Pat Trivison](#) or [Caroline Honsberger](#).

---

## Updates from the Administration & Review Committee (SOAR + Constitutions)

### SOAR 2025

Thank you to all the organizations for submitting a self-report for 2025. Our committee has begun reviewing your submissions, and we hope to have evaluation letters ready and uploaded to your organization's CCC site mid-March. If you have questions or need support in the meantime, reach out to us at [sa\\_arc@u.rochester.edu](mailto:sa_arc@u.rochester.edu).

### Constitution and Resource Agreement Request Form

The [Constitution and Resource Agreement Update Interest Form](#) will close at 11:55 pm on March 1st, and will not re-open until the start of the Fall Semester. If your organization has constitution or resource agreement updates you would like approved before the end of the Spring Semester, please submit your request now. We also encourage organizations who do not have a constitution listed on the [Constitutions & Resource Agreements](#) page to submit an interest form.

*This information applies to Undergraduate recognized student organizations only.*

---

## Q&A: Posters/Flyers

**Q:** Where can we hang our posters and flyers to promote our events?

**A:** There are various bulletin boards throughout Wilson, Douglas, Genesee, and Spurrier for

advertising opportunities. Flyers cannot be posted anywhere else within these buildings, only on the bulletin boards.

Six boards are reserved for flyers submitted to the Campus Information Center, which are reviewed and then put up by staff. These boards are restricted to flyers from recognized student organizations and departments. To submit flyers, the hosting organization can drop off seven 8.5 x 11" flyers or four 11 x 17" flyers to the CIC.

Four additional boards are available for the general public to post on themselves. These boards are located in the Tunnel System by the 2nd floor entrance to Morey Hall and between the 3rd floor exit of Wilson Commons and the bridge to Douglas Commons; in Wilson Commons outside of the Ruth Merrill Center; in Douglas Commons on the 3rd floor behind the fire place (right board) and 4th floor by the staircase (right board).

Do not remove existing posters. Flyers cannot be hung or left on tables in Rush Rhees Library or the Libray hallways. **Do not use tape or adhesive to hang posters.** Additional information can be found [here](#). As always, check with your Advisor if you still have questions.

---

## Community Kitchen Approved User 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 and an approved kitchen user must be present the entire time.* To become an approved kitchen user, you must [register](#) and attend an in-person training hosted in the Community Kitchen. Training is good for one year from the date of training. Upcoming training dates for February are:

Tuesday, February 10th @ 3pm  
Wednesday, February 11th @ 3:30 pm  
Thursday, February 19th @ 10:30 am  
Friday, February 20th @ 12:30 pm  
Monday, February 23rd @ 2:30 pm  
Thursday, February 26th @ 1 pm

---

## Advance Reservations for 2026-2027 & VEMS Contact Reminder

Two templates will open for Major Event Requests on **March 16<sup>th</sup> at 12pm**. One for the Fall 2025 Semester and one for the Spring 2026 semester. **The templates will be open from March 16<sup>th</sup> through May 4<sup>th</sup> at 8am.** However, *reservations are reviewed for best fit* - it does not matter when the request is submitted within the period, as long as all requests are submitted **by 8am on May 4<sup>th</sup>**. Organizations should take their time and schedule a meeting with their advisor to discuss as needed. More information will be included in the advance

reservation emails sent to all listed officers on CCC.

Organizations should start to generate a plan for major events including the following details:

1. Top 3 date preference
2. Top 3 location preferences
3. Any organizations you cannot be scheduled on the same date as
4. Any additional information that the reservation team needs to know in order to find a date that works for you

As a reminder, please verify that your organization's officers are up to date and that your VEMS contact is an officer that will be active over the summer and in the Fall 2026 semester. [Submit this form](#) to update your organization's VEMS Contact. Advance Reservation emails will be sent to all listed officers on CCC, be sure to update your CCC officer list.

---

## Leadership Opportunities

### Orientation Leader applications due February 15

Hone your leadership skills and mentor new students next year as an [Orientation Leader \(OL\)](#)! The Office of Orientation and New Student Programs is still accepting applications for this important leadership role through Sunday, February 15 at 5 p.m. The OL position offers up to 40 paid hours each week during Summer 2026 (with on-campus housing included), as well as up to 10 hours of paid work each month throughout the academic year (subject to programming needs). Already have summer plans? You can still help welcome new students and families to campus next fall as a [Welcome Week Leader](#) or [Welcome Week Volunteer](#). Time commitments and specific responsibilities vary by position, so be sure to [review the website](#) for full details on each role.

### Apply by 2/9 for the Student Alumni Ambassador (SAA) Program!

Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAAs) are a select group of undergraduate students who serve as a bridge between the student body and the University's alumni community by representing current student culture and sharing their Rochester experience. Members gain opportunities for networking, leadership, professional development, and shaping student and alumni programs.

Applications close at midnight on Monday, February 9. Learn more and apply on the [SAA website](#) and by following [@urochester.saa](#) on Instagram.

Questions? Contact [Karen.Carhart@rochester.edu](mailto:Karen.Carhart@rochester.edu). Applicants must be enrolled during the 2026–2027 academic year; students studying abroad this spring are welcome to apply.

---



## SAAC/SOFO Budgeting for 2026-2027

Budgeting for the next school year has started! If you missed the Budget Training session on Tuesday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, you can access the Training Slides and Category Guidelines [here](#). If you have any questions regarding the budgeting process, please reach out to your SOFO

accountant. Their names and contact information can be found [here](#). Budgets are due in CCC by 9 pm on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Groups that do not need to submit budgets are those that are flat-funded and/or do not receive an itemized budget (i.e. Agency groups, Academic/Professional, Religious/Spiritual, Political, Governing Body, and Honor Societies). Please reach out if you have any questions!

---

## THEN & NOW: Student Org Recreate Challenge

**Bring your org's history to life — and win funding!** Student organizations are invited to recreate a historic yearbook or archival photo connected to their organization and submit it for voting during Forever Rochester Week, March 23-26  .

### How to participate:

1. [Sign up via CCC](#) by 11:59 p.m. on February 18
2. Receive 2-3 archival photos from Alumni Relations by February 25
3. Recreate one photo with current members and submit for voting via CCC by 11:59 p.m. on March 22
4. Encourage students and alumni to vote for your photo during Forever Rochester Week, March 23-26

The three organizations with the most votes will be announced on March 27 and **win up to \$300 in funding** for their organization towards events, club bonding, membership meetings, and more!

No professional photos needed – creativity encouraged!

[Sign Up Today!](#)

---

## Meliora Weekend 2026: Involvement Interest Form Loading...

Does your organization want to be involved with Meliora Weekend 2026? Check out next month's issue for everything you need to know to participate!

---

## Medallion Program 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!

<b>Workshop</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Domain</b>
<a href="#"><u>Finding Success through Delegation &amp; Accountability</u></a>	2/9/26	5:00 PM	Interpersonal Competence
<a href="#"><u>Toward A More Perfect Union: Social Responsibility &amp; Justice</u></a>	2/10/26	6:00 PM	Civic Engagement
<a href="#"><u>Disparities of the Deaf Community in Healthcare</u></a>	2/11/26	6:00 PM	Civic Engagement
<a href="#"><u>I Love Female Orgasm</u></a>	2/12/26	8:00 PM	Practical Competence
<a href="#"><u>Conflict Without Contempt</u></a>	2/16/26	4:00 PM	Interpersonal Competence x 2
<a href="#"><u>LGBTQ Leadership Lecture &amp; Dinner</u></a>	2/18/26	6:00 PM	Civic Engagement
<a href="#"><u>Communication in Leadership</u></a>	2/23/26	5:00 PM	Interpersonal Competence
<a href="#"><u>The Gift of You:How Students Power Philanthropy</u></a>	2/24/26	4:00 PM	Knowledge Acquisition
<a href="#"><u>Behind the Buzz: Alcohol Education Seminar</u></a>	2/27/26	12:30 PM	Practical Competence

---

This publication is brought to you by Student Activities: The Student Organization Insider is Student Activities' monthly e-newsletter for student organization executive boards and advisors. The Student Organization Insider (SOI) is intended to keep student leaders informed about opportunities and updates from their areas of advisement: Students' Association, Athletics, the Interfaith Chapel, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Residential Life, Center for Community Engagement, the Hajim School, and Student Centers & Services. 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.

---

**Student Activities**

University of Rochester

---

Email sent by Student Activities <studentactivities@rochester.edu> to kmill88@ur.rochester.edu

[Unsubscribe](#)

---