



## March 2026

Hello!

As winter begins to loosen its grip here in Rochester, the gradual shift toward Spring is a welcome reminder that the semester is moving quickly toward its final stretch. The longer days, slightly warmer temperatures, and the first hints of Spring bring renewed energy to campus, and with that comes a busy and exciting period for student organizations. As always, we appreciate the work you and your organizations do make URochester such a vibrant campus.

This part of the semester is also when many organizations begin their elections and the transitioning leadership. Outgoing officers are finishing their terms, while newly elected leaders are stepping in and preparing for the year ahead. Thoughtful transitions are critical to the long-term health of student organizations, and our team is here to help support both outgoing and incoming officers as they pass along knowledge, resources, and expectations.

I hope you have a fun and safe Spring Break, and come back rested up for the home stretch of the semester!

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

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# What's Inside:

1. [Save-the-Dates](#)
  2. [Advanced Reservations 2026-2027 & VEMS Contact Reminder](#)
  3. [Virtual EMS \(VEMS\) Password Resets](#)
  4. [Supply Bag Reminder](#)
  5. [Summer & Fall Student Employment Opportunities](#)
  6. [Danforth Dining Takeover](#)
  7. [The Flourish Festival](#)
  8. [Financial Reminders](#)
  9. [Leadership Opportunities](#)
  10. [The Apeiron Project](#)
  11. [Student Employment Office Opportunities](#)
  12. [Leadership Transitions](#)
  13. [Meliora Weekend - Start Planning Now!](#)
  14. [Office of Alumni Relations & Constituent Engagement](#)
  15. [Medallion Program Workshops](#)
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## Save-the-Dates

### **ECM Blackout Dates**

Saturday, March 21st

Friday, March 27th - Sunday, March 29th

Friday, April 3rd - Sunday, April 5th

Saturday, April 11th

Saturday, April 18th

Friday, April 24th

### **Approved Budget Notifications Sent Out (SAAC/SOFO)**

Wednesday, March 25th

### **Budget Appeal Deadline (SAAC/SOFO)**

Wednesday, April 1st @ 1 p.m.

### **Budget Appeal Hearings (SAAC/SOFO)**

Friday, April 3rd & Tuesday, April 7th

### **Springfest Weekend**

Thursday, April 23rd - Sunday, April 26th

### **Dandelion Day**

April 24th

## Last Day to Transact (SAAC)

Friday, May 1st

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## Advanced 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 2026 Semester and one for the Spring 2027 semester. **The templates will be open from March 16<sup>th</sup> through May 4<sup>th</sup> at 8am**. However, reservations will be 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 in 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**. Reservation emails will be sent to all listed officers on CCC, be sure to update your CCC officer list.

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## Virtual EMS (VEMS) Password Resets

Virtual EMS contacts who have forgotten their password can now fill out the [Virtual EMS \(VEMS\) Contact/Password Change](#) form on the CCC forms page. For immediate assistance, students can stop by the Campus Information Center (2<sup>nd</sup> floor Wilson Commons) **during** Reservation Team Hours. Requests to change a VEMS account password should **not** be emailed.

### Reservation Team Hours

<b>Sunday:</b> 1 - 5 pm
<b>Monday:</b> 3:15 - 7:30 pm
<b>Tuesday:</b> 6 - 9 pm
<b>Wednesday:</b> 2:40 - 7 pm
<b>Thursday:</b> 3:30 - 5:30 pm

**Friday:** 3 – 5 pm

**Saturday:** Closed

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## Supply Bag Reminder

Student organizations that have requested a supply bag from the Supply & Resource Request form are required to return any leftover supplies to the Campus Information Center (2<sup>nd</sup> floor Wilson Commons). Student organizations found storing leftover supplies provided from this form will have the items confiscated and may lose storage privileges. Any food related items (utensils, cups, bowls, plates) that have been used should be disposed of.

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## Summer & Fall Student Employment Opportunities

Student Life Operations has a variety of on campus employment opportunities that support student organizations and campus wide services. These positions have wide hours and are designed to build transferable skills to benefit students in their long term careers.

- Campus Center Building Manager – Fall 2026
- Student Center Building Manager – Fall 2026
- Campus Information Center Attendant – Fall 2026
- Communications & Graphics Assistant – Fall 2026
- Student Life Building Manager for Campus Breaks – Summer 2026

Interested students should [apply on JobLink](#) as soon as possible. More positions may begin hiring after spring break.

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## Danforth Dining Takeover

On Thursday, April 9th, the Paul J Burgett Intercultural Center is hosting a Danforth Dining takeover during their lunch hours, where the chefs will be preparing street foods. We are looking for 6 to 8 student organizations to partner and 3 to 5 student leaders from each organization to meet with their chefs to determine recipes and identify ingredients for Dining to purchase and prepare. The sky is the limit for this collaboration, and we'd love to see your culture's famous street foods highlighted at our dining hall!

Organizations who are interested in participating should submit our interest form [HERE](#) to suggest recipes. **The deadline to apply is Friday, March 6th at 5pm.** Our team will meet during the week of spring break to select the final organizations for the takeover and outline what the next steps will be for coordinating with dining staff to prepare the recipes.

If you have any questions about this event or the interest form, please don't hesitate to reach out to [nicholas.morales@rochester.edu](mailto:nicholas.morales@rochester.edu).



# Health Promotion presents **THE FLOURISH FESTIVAL**



TRY SOMETHING THAT HELPS YOU THRIVE.

Join us for an array of inspiring programming centered on well-being rooted in the PERMA framework—cultivating Positive Emotion, Engagement, Relationships, Meaning, and Accomplishment. Through interactive experiences and community connection, participants are invited to build skills that support flourishing both personally and collectively.



Tools to Take With You

Giveaways



**2 Weeks**  
MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> & 23<sup>RD</sup> WEEKS



**River Campus**  
University of Rochester

## Finanace Reminders

## Hotel/Lodging Accommodations

For groups that book hotel accommodations through SOFO, please remember: SOFO will cover the up-front costs of the hotel stay, including any taxes, fees, and parking. The reserved amount does not include incidental charges from the hotel during the stay. Each group must provide a credit card at the time of check-in for any potential incidental charges during the stay. If no incidental charges occur, the amount will be refunded back to the credit card that was provided at check-in. Please reach out to your SOFO student accountant if you have any questions about this.

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## Missing Receipts

Please remember to return all receipts for any and all transactions (e.g., credit cards, Sunoco gas cards, enterprise rentals, etc.). Receipts are the only way SOFO can verify the expense. Failure to return receipts will have a negative impact on your organization's SOAR evaluation.

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## Shops @ WilCo

Please ensure that ALL CASH from your Shops @ WilCo sales is deposited at SOFO as soon as your event ends. The total event settlement cannot be finalized until the cash is accounted for.

Please take a look at the complete [Shops @ WilCo policy](#). Failure to turn in the cash from your fundraiser will have a negative impact on your organization's ability to transact in the future.

**The final week for Shops @ Wilco will be from March 30 to April 4.** This is to give SOFO the opportunity to reconcile the Shops Fundraising Event before the last day of classes.

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## Leadership Opportunities

### Participate in Fall Welcome Week with Your Student Organization

Help welcome new students to campus this August with an event or performance! The Office of Orientation and New Student Programs (ONSP) is now accepting proposals from student organizations and performance groups to participate in Fall Welcome Week **through Wednesday, April 15**. Is your group interested in performing? Want to host an event? Learn more about available opportunities and how to apply on [the ONSP website](#). Questions? Contact [orientation@rochester.edu](mailto:orientation@rochester.edu).

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### Apply to be a 2026 First-Year Orientation Outing Treks (FOOT) Trek Leader

The Office of Orientation and New Student Programs is now accepting applications for 2026 FOOT Trek Leaders! Mentor and lead small groups of incoming first-year students in this multi-day, pre-Welcome Week outdoor trek program that includes hiking, kayaking, and indoor rock climbing. **No prior outdoor expertise is required** – comprehensive training in leadership, facilitation, risk management, and emergency response are all provided. Trek Leader perks include early move-in, covered meals throughout the program, and free program merch and gear. Learn more on the [Orientation and New Student Programs website](#) and **[apply for the position by Friday, March 13 at 5 p.m.](#)**

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## **Apply to Be a Fall 2026 Welcome Week Volunteer**

Want to help welcome new students to campus in August? The Office of Orientation and New Student Programs is still accepting applications for Fall 2026 Welcome Week Volunteers to help staff and set up events throughout Welcome Week. This role is crucial to creating a fun, welcoming atmosphere for our newest Yellowjackets. **Volunteer perks include a free Welcome Week t-shirt, comprehensive training, limited complimentary meals, and early move-in.** Learn more on the [Orientation and New Student Programs website](#) and **[apply for the position](#) by Monday, March 23 at 5 p.m.**

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University  
of Rochester  
Student Life

BOUNDLESS. LIMITLESS. INFINITE.

# The Apeiron Project

Shaping the Future of Student Life at the University of Rochester. Are you passionate about making a difference in campus life? The Apeiron Project is your opportunity to create meaningful change and leave a lasting impact on the University of Rochester community.

## FOR CURRENT STUDENTS

- ✓ Join the University Student Life Advisory Committee.
- ✓ For undergraduate and graduate students.
- ✓ Now accepting applications for fall 2026.



## FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

Are you a senior interested in a career in student affairs or higher education? Apply for a **one-year, full-time position** in the Office of the Vice President of Student Life! This unique opportunity allows you to work closely with Student Life leadership, gain hands-on experience in higher education administration, and contribute to initiatives that enhance the student experience for future generations. To apply, visit [rochester.edu/working](https://rochester.edu/working) and search Program Experience Specialist.



[USL.rochester.edu/news-events](https://usl.rochester.edu/news-events)



Amy McDonald, USL Chief of Staff  
[amcdonald@ur.rochester.edu](mailto:amcdonald@ur.rochester.edu)

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## Leadership Transitions

With leadership transitions approaching for many, it's time to review your organization's transition documents and create a transition plan. Even if your organization is not going through a leadership transition this semester, this is a good time to review and update the transition documents you do have – or, begin the process of creating transition documents. Not sure where to start? Check out this

[leadership transition checklist](#) which outlines responsibilities for both outgoing and incoming officers. Transition documents are also reviewed during your organization's SOAR review.


Don't forget - a successful executive board is not only the glue that holds your organization together but also the fuel that propels it in a forward direction. A successful officer transition is neither difficult nor very time-consuming; however, if you don't do it or do it wrong, your organization will struggle in the upcoming semester. Visit the [Leadership Transition](#) site to review a checklist you can use as an outgoing or incoming officer.

If your organization does not already have transition documents, review the [Transition Document Tips for SOAR](#), created by the Student Organization Administration and Review Committee. This document provides helpful tips and examples of organization transition documents. Having transition documents and a shadow period for leadership transitions can greatly increase your organization's SOAR evaluation.

Lastly, when removing officers in CCC, we encourage folks to use the "Active Officer" checkbox next to the officer's name rather than deleting the officer entirely. This helps your organization to see the history of positions.

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## Office of Alumni Relations & Constituent Engagement Spotlight

 **Reminder:** Spring 2026 Get Connected Alumni Newsletter requests are due **March 20 via CCC**.

Want to engage your organization's alumni this semester? Create a newsletter using a user-friendly Canva template – we'll handle the distribution. Share semester highlights, member spotlights, donations, or crowdfunding links, and more – all in one place.

Ready to get started? Complete the [Alumni Involvement, Crowdfunding, & Donation Receipts Request](#) form by Friday, March 20.

Still need convincing? Get Connected newsletters average a **7.4% click-through rate** – nearly **2x higher** than general Alumni Relations communications. Alumni love seeing what you're up to!

**CCC submission window for Spring 2026 newsletters: January 1 - March 20.**

(Forms submitted outside this window will not be accepted.)

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### Register now for Rochester Connects 2026 on March 23!

Rochester Connects kicks off in Rochester and brings together alumni, current students, and industry leaders for an evening of meaningful networking and career exploration. Students will have the opportunity to build connections across industries and life stages and grow your

professional circle. Local industry experts will be on site to share insight, answer questions, and help you form professional relationships that extend beyond the event.

**Monday, March 23**

**6–8 p.m.**

**The Mercantile**

240 E Main St, Rochester, NY 14604

**Tickets:** \$10 – Current students

Your ticket includes admission, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and two drink tickets (alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverages).

Rochester Connects is a nationwide series. If you're unable to attend the Rochester event, visit [the website](#) to explore additional dates and locations this summer. Don't miss this opportunity to expand your network and strengthen your Rochester connections!

Questions? Contact [hannah.ramsey@rochester.edu](mailto:hannah.ramsey@rochester.edu).

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### [URochester Entrepreneurs Break Down AI](#)

Learn how **University alumni are using artificial intelligence and data-driven decision-making to launch and build globally competitive businesses**. Listen, learn, and network (reception to follow panel).

**Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 12-1 p.m. in Sands-Constellation Auditorium**

**Alumni Panelists include:**

- Karla George '21S (MBA), CEO of FLX AI, Inc.
- Rami Katz '03S (MBA), CEO of Excell Partners
- Daphne Pariser '17M (MS), '21M (PhD), CEO of HeronAI
- James Senall '99S (MBA), President of NextCorps


 [RSVP Today](#)


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## Meliora Weekend - Start Planning Now!

**Student organizations – this is your time to shine!** ✨


Meliora Weekend 2026 is packed with exciting ways for your organization to engage with alumni, showcase your talents, and show your Yellowjacket pride!


 **Volunteer with Your Organization** – Not sure where to start? Sign up to volunteer and make a meaningful impact as a team in the Meliora Village, at help kiosks, and more.


 **Meliora Village Performance** – Got talent? Take the stage and wow the crowd with your group's performance!

 **Golf Cart Spirit Contest** – Show off your Yellowjacket pride by decorating a golf cart for a chance to win funds for your organization. Attendees will vote for their favorite, and the top 3

orgs will win up to \$500!

 **Student Organization Reunion Fair** – Connect with alumni over food, drinks, and great conversation. We provide the setup – you bring the energy!

 **Milestone Reunion Events** – [Celebrating an anniversary in 2026?](#) Host a reception or networking event to reconnect and strengthen alumni bonds.

 **How to Apply:** Review the [involvement guide](#) and submit the [Meliora Weekend 2026 Student Organization Involvement Interest Form](#) by **April 15**. Organizations are welcome to sign up for one or more of the opportunities above.

**Questions?** Contact Kelsey Michener, associate director of student experience affinity programs, at [kelsey.michener@rochester.edu](mailto:kelsey.michener@rochester.edu).

Ready to get involved? Let's make this Meliora Weekend the best one yet! 🚀❤️

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### **Join the Meliora Weekend 2026 Student Volunteer Team!**

It might seem far away, but Meliora Weekend 2026 (October 1-4) is one of the biggest and most high-energy weekends of the year, and we're building our volunteer team now! We're looking for students to assist with events on River Campus throughout the weekend.

Volunteers enjoy perks such as an exclusive T-shirt, food truck credits, access to staff space, and opportunities to win tickets to major events.

**Find the full volunteer description and sign-up details [here](#).**

Curious about how your student organization can participate — and potentially receive funding support? Check out our [Student Organization Involvement Guide](#) for details.

Questions? Contact Melissa Waughtel, Associate Director of Student Engagement, at [melissa.waughtel@rochester.edu](mailto:melissa.waughtel@rochester.edu).

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## **Student Employment Office Opportunities**

The Student Employment Office is excited to share some upcoming events and networking opportunities.

### **Spring Job Fair – RSVP Now!**

The annual Spring Job Fair will be held Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 1pm in Hirst Lounge. Advanced registration is required, use [this link](#) to reserve your spot by Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Supervisor Series – Register Now!**

The next session of our spring [Supervisor Series](#) will be held on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 11am via Zoom. This session will focus on writing job descriptions, and best practices for employee hiring and onboarding. [Register here!](#)

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## Student Employment Network

To foster peer-to-peer collaboration within URochester's student employment community, we are launching the Student Employment Network! This new virtual space is a great place for managers to engage with each other by asking questions, and sharing tips, tricks, and best practices for managing student employees. [Click here](#) to join the Team!

As always, feel free to contact [seo@rochester.edu](mailto:seo@rochester.edu) with any questions!

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## 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!

Workshop	Date	Time	Domain
<a href="#">The Practices of Leadership</a>	3/14/26	3:00 PM	Level 2 Opener
<a href="#">Sway It Your Way: Persuasion 101</a>	3/16/26	6:00 PM	Interpersonal Competence
<a href="#">Navigating Conflict w/Confidence</a>	3/16/26	7:00 PM	Interpersonal Competence
<a href="#">An evening with Henry Friedman, MD '73 Q&amp;A</a>	3/17/26	4:00 PM	Knowledge Acquisition
<a href="#">Credit Education 101</a>	3/19/26	5:30 PM	Practical Competence
<a href="#">The Practices of Leadership</a>	3/21/26	3:00 PM	Level 2 Opener
<a href="#">Practical Stress Reduction Workshop</a>	3/21/26	4:00 PM	Practical Competence
<a href="#">The Psychology of Well-Being</a>	3/24/26	5:00 PM	Practical Competence
<a href="#">Behind the Buzz: Alcohol Education Seminar</a>	3/27/26	12:30 PM	Practical Competence
<a href="#">Real Colors</a>	3/24/26	5:00 PM	Intrapersonal Development & Interpersonal Competence

<a href="#">Understanding Leadership</a>	3/28/26	3:00 PM	Level 1 Opener
<a href="#">Imposter Syndrome: Know It, Name It, Tame It</a>	3/30/26	6:00 PM	Cognitive Complexity
<a href="#">Be A Climate Advocate: Facilitating Discussions Around Climate Change</a>	3/31/26	4:00 PM	Civic Engagement

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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 on 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 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.

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**Student Activities**

University of Rochester

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

[Unsubscribe](#)

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