



SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
Associate Director for Campus Life
Office for Campus Life

March 2019

Dear Parents and Families,

In the [Office for Campus Life](#), we're heading into our busiest season! Spring Semester is always full of excitement and speed as we support all [student organization events](#), execute our largest annual events, and get ready for the next incoming class! It may seem early, but our Pre-Orientation and Orientation team has already been hard at work for the Class of 2023.

One of Campus Life's key roles is to support the events and operations of [over 330 student organizations](#). We had a variety of events this past Fall Semester that served all our students in unique and meaningful ways. For example, [The Leonard Carmichael Society \(LCS\)](#), our umbrella organization for community service, hosted a fundraiser with support from Tisch College that helped secure a new van that now supports their 34 subgroups. LCS is one of our largest student organizations, with upwards of 700 members participating in thousands of hours of community service in the Greater Boston Area. One of our other largest organizations, the [Tufts Mountain Club \(TMC\)](#), hosts weekly adventure trips to local climbing gyms, hiking trails, and trips to their cabin in New Hampshire, The Loj (pronounced "lodge"!). TMC has close to 900 members who utilize free equipment rentals, engage in peer-led trips, and spend time getting active outdoors each semester.

Some other event highlights from Fall 2018 include our Fall Gala, hosted by the [Tufts University Social Collective \(TUSC\)](#). This annual event brought together close to 3,000 undergraduates this year for a welcome-back formal on the academic quad under the stars. TUSC also hosted close to 100 other events in the fall and is on track to bring [100 more events to campus](#) in the spring! With support from [Alumni Relations](#), they bring events like "100 Days to Graduation," "Sophomore Half Way There," and all-new "Senior Nights" to campus. One of TUSC's most popular programs is their Film Series, which provides students with free weekly film screenings every Friday and Saturday night. This fall, students enjoyed hits like *Lady Bird*, *Get Out*, *Moana*, and *Jaws*, the last of which was screened in the Hamilton Pool in the Athletics complex!

Many of our student organizations have planned other incredible events this year:

- Trivia nights like “Break the Stigma” with [Active Minds](#), “GlobeMed” trivia, and the [Women in Computer Science](#) trivia night
- Unique events like creating edible water bottles with [Tufts Culinary Society](#), a lettering workshop with the [Calligraphy Club](#), or a juggling session with [Jumbo Jugglers](#)
- Student performances like the winter show for [Enchanted](#), our Disney a capella group, the annual step competition, “Break the Stage,” with the [African Student Organization](#), and a cabaret night with one of our theater groups, [Torn Ticket II](#)
- Cultural events like “Matsuri” with the [Japanese Culture Club](#), “The Art of Armenia” with the Armenian Club, “Latinx Heritage Xtravangnza” with the [Association of Latin American Students](#), and “Hot Pot Night” with the [Chinese Student Association](#)
- Career and academic events, including the “Startup Challenge” with the [Entrepreneurs Society](#), “Sustainability Roundtable” with [Tufts Climate Action](#), “Polyhack” with the [Computer Science Exchange](#), and multiple career and graduate school panel events like “Math Career Night” with the [Math Society](#), a graduate school panel with the [Psychology Society](#), and the [Art History Society](#)’s “Career Night”

This fall, over 250 student organization events were registered with our office, which **averages to about 2.5 events per day** that span all interests, purposes, and levels of engagement. As the spring rolls on, remind your student to check out the [Student Organization Events Calendar](#) to catch the next fun, engaging social event on campus. In April alone, there is an **average of 4.5 student-coordinated events per day**, and as you can see – there is something for everyone!

Another key component of the Office for Campus Life is the management and operation of the [Mayer Campus Center](#), which our students call “the hub of student life.” The Campus Center had **85,000+ visitors** in Fall 2018 alone. Open for **117 hours each week**, we house dining facilities, campus department offices, student organization meeting rooms, student offices, and the Information Booth. The Information Booth is home to the **40+ student employees** we hire each year, including Campus Center Managers and Information Booth Attendants. We provide students the opportunity to work on campus and serve their fellow Jumbos with flexible hours. Each semester, we receive between 60-80 applications for Information Booth

attendants alone. Services at the Information Booth include discount AMC movie tickets, CharlieCards, stamps, and ping pong, pool, and board-game rentals. The Information Booth also acts as our general box office for student organization and department events, [TuftsTickets](#).

You might assume that once the academic year ends, our office slows down, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Campus Life turns to Pre-Orientation and Orientation season! Tufts [Pre-Orientation](#) ("Pre-O") encompasses 8 optional programs for all incoming students, both first years and transfers. While Pre-O focuses on the acclimation of first year and transfer students, it also engages hundreds of returning students in leadership opportunities ranging from planning their specific Pre-Orientation program to leading a group of incoming students and supporting programs in various capacities. Pre-Orientation precedes full [Undergraduate Orientation](#), which engages almost all Medford/Somerville and SMFA campus departments and offices in planning, programming, and advising to welcome the new year's first-year class.

We're excited to continue to support students through our office's [mission](#) of leadership, education, programming, and customer service. Our motto is "The Key to Life is Balance," and we hope that student organization events, opportunities for social engagement, leadership positions, and physical spaces offer and support that for your student. If your student has questions or is looking for ways to get involved, please have them stop by our office in the Mayer Campus Center or email us at OCL@tufts.edu.

Wishing you and your family the best for spring,

Ashely Austin
Associate Director of Campus Life