

Weekly Newsletter Wed. August 20, 2025



Honors students at YMCA Camp Arrowhead during day two of 2025 Honors Orientation | Ethan Flynn

Welcome Back to School!

The Honors Office welcomes you back for the fall semester! We hope your first week of classes is going well!

We are coming off a busy week of Honors Orientation where the office staff, student employees, three lead mentors, and thirty mentors welcomed our incoming class of students to the Honors Program at RIT. Students connected with their peers, volunteered with the CLCE's Hunger Project event, heard from program director Dr. Lutzer about how to thrive as an Honors student, met with their colleges Advocates, and had a blast challenging themselves with games and activities at YMCA Camp Arrowhead.

Check out some of the cool events we have coming up and important reminders below, and stay tuned each Wednesday for updates and announcements from the Honors Program to stay informed and engaged as a member of the program!

As always, please reach out to honors@rit.edu with any questions, concerns or thoughts, or stop by the Honors Office at GV 400-2030 (above the Global Cantina & Grille) open 8:30am-4:30pm M-F.

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Niagara Falls & Buffalo

Honors Trip



Honors Trip to Niagara Falls & Buffalo

Honors is taking a trip!

The Honors program is taking a trip to Niagara Falls and Buffalo, NY on **Sunday, September 14.**

We will travel via charter bus to Niagara Falls and view the falls from the [Maid of The Mist](#) - a boat ride to the bottom of the falls (you will get wet!) We'll eat lunch at the Rainforest Cafe and then will travel to Buffalo where you will have a choice of visiting the [Buffalo AKG Art Museum](#), or taking part in an immersive escape room experience at [5 Wits](#), where you will team up to solve problems and complete the interactive story. We'll wrap up the day touring the Canalside neighborhood with some free-time for dinner and sightseeing.

Make sure to bring plenty of water, snacks, a raincoat or change of dry clothes, and a sense of adventure!

9/14 from 8:00am-9:30pm

Buses will depart behind the Honors Office in between the office and the Cybersecurity Building

Arrive by 8:00am to board - buses will be depart **promptly** at 8:30am.

**Spots are limited so be sure to sign up
by Sunday, Sept. 7 at 11:55pm**

Register for Trip to Niagara/Buffalo

Honors Council Is Back!



Looking for more leadership on campus?

The Honors Council is a student-oriented, student-run part of the Honors Program that exists to promote the pillars of the Honors Program and to represent the interests of the Honors Students to the faculty and administration. Honors Council is also involved in planning many events for the Honors community.

Honors Council meets bi-weekly and is comprised of four committees: Executive (comprised of the President and chairs of the following three committees), Academic Excellence, Community & Wellness, and Service & Leadership with delegates from each college as well as the following community delegates: BIPOC, Internal Admit, International Student, First Year (message the Honors office if you are interested!),

Fall 2025 Meetings & Locations

The first Honors Council Meeting of the semester is on Tues. 9/9 in WAL 4600, 5:30 - 6:30 pm.

Meetings will follow on alternating Tuesdays, same time and location.

Committee Meetings days and times will be communicated next week and will be posted on the Honors website.

All Honors students are invited to both the full council and committee meetings!

Students attending meetings receive 1/2 an hour of Complementary Learning!

Join the Honors Council Discord - All Honors students are encouraged to join!

JOIN OUR TEAM!

RIT | Honors
Program



The Honors Office Is Hiring

We're looking for a new student employee!

The Honors Office is looking to hire a new Student Office Assistant. This role requires 8-20 hours of availability between M-F 9:00am-4:30pm and as needed on evenings and weekends for special events.

This role will work as part of the team to support the work of the Director, Assistant Director, and Senior Staff Assistant with tasks necessary for smooth operation of the office. Responsibilities may include tracking and monitoring student progress in the program, monitoring the email and responding to student questions, supporting the planning of program events, creating website and social media content, and supporting your fellow students in the program.

Skills (we will train as needed)

- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Microsoft Suite (i.e., Word, Excel)
- Google Suite
- Administrative & office assistance
- Data management
- Event management & support
- Willingness to learn and collaborate to innovate programming

Apply to work in the Honors Office

Please reach out to Garth with any questions - gafhp@rit.edu

Updates & Announcements



8/29 Welcome Back Honors Hour

Honors Hour is back!

Honors Hour is held every-other week with different themes and activities. It is a great way to see your friends in the program or meet new ones, and there is always pizza!

This Friday, enjoy catching up with your Honors peers after your summer break, hear from Dir. Dr. Lutzer and AD Garth Freeman, as well as representatives from Honors council, about the events and opportunities we have planned this semester.

Please use the link below to pre-register, or just show up the day of the event. We hope to see you there!

8/29 from 11:30am-12:30pm
SAU 1510 (1829 Room)

[Register for Honors Hour](#)



Honors Option Proposals Are Due!

If you are planning to engage in an Honors Option or Independent Study for Honors points the deadline to submit is Sunday, September 7 at 11:59pm.

Honors Options are a great way to create an honors-level course by enriching a standard course. If you are thinking about an option or independent study now is the time to work with your faculty member to develop your proposal.

Independent study courses must be approved by your college and then are submitted to Honors using the same proposal form as Honors Options.

Read more about applying for an option/independent study, examples, previously "optioned" courses, and the proposal submission form below.

[Information & Submission Form](#)



9/05 Yard Games With Honors Council

Join Honors Council for a back to school party with yard games and popsicles! Council President and delegates will be there to welcome you all back to campus and to have some outdoor fun.

This is a great opportunity to connect with Honors Council in a casual setting, and you'll get a sneak peak on some of the events and activities Council has in store for the semester!

9/05 from 4:30-6:00pm
North Quad

Register for
Yard Games

Complementary Learning

Please see below our highlight opportunities this week. There are many other's listed on the [complementary learning webpage](#) that can fit almost anyone's busy schedule and diverse set of interests.

Students are expected to engage in at least 20 hours of complementary each cycle (Sept.-Aug.) to remain in good standing in the program.

All complementary learning hours should be submitted contemporaneously, within 30 days of the event or activity, using the submission form linked below or located within the *User Tools* tab of the Honors website.

The 2024-25 complementary learning cycle ends on Sunday, 8/31. If you have hours to submit to complete the required number for your year in the program please submit them by the deadline to be counted for last year's cycle.

Submit Complementary Learning

Together RIT Volunteering

A graphic in the top right corner shows several hands of different skin tones reaching up to hold the word "TOGETHER" in large, white, capital letters. The background of the entire top section is a vibrant orange with diagonal stripes in yellow, blue, and purple.

Together RIT: a Day of Dialogue

Together RIT 2025: A Day of Dialogue

Together RIT is an annual event that allows members of the RIT community to share their ideas and projects while engaging in dialogue about race, ethnicity, and racism.

The theme for this year is "Case, Rank and Socioeconomic Diversity" and there are volunteer opportunities both in preparation for and on the day of the event on Friday, October 24 from 10:00am-4:00pm.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Campus marketing team (mid-September-October 23)
- Day of event greeters, guides, and traffic control (October 24)
- Day of event set-up and breakdown team (October 24 from 8:30-10:30am, 12:00-2:00pm, and 3:00-5:30pm)

Reach out to Taj Smith, the Executive Director for Community and Education (tpsddi@rit.edu) with any questions.

**10/24 at various times
and locations**

Learn More About
The Event

Volunteer Application

"A new school year means new beginnings, new adventures, new friendships, and new challenges. The slate is clean and anything can happen"

-Denise Witmer

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