

Weekly Newsletter Wed. September 10, 2025



Honors students at the Honors Council yard games event | Lilly Matis

We Are So Back!

Last Friday, September 5, Honors Council hosted a yard games event to kick off the start of the semester. Honors students had a blast enjoying the nice weather and connecting with their Honors peers over popsicles, tossing the frisbee, and taking part in some friendly games of croquet and Spikeball!

Council had a great turnout at the first meeting of the semester yesterday. The president and representatives from the three committees shared their ideas for events to engage, educate, and connect the honors community. We'll post upcoming council events here in the Wednesday message, on our Instagram - [@rithonors](#) - and in the [Council Discord](#).

Do you want to be more involved in planning events with Council? Come to the bi-weekly full Honors Council meetings and the weekly committee meetings to find your niche in council and make a real impact in the lives of your fellow Honors students. More information about Honors Council and committee meetings can be found in this email below.

In this message

- Call For Internal Admission Honors Orientation Mentors
- Register for the Small Group Discussion With 2025 Fram Lecturer

- Faculty Led Study Abroad Honors Course to Northern Ireland | Honors Hour This Friday | Honors Council and Committee Meetings
- Complementary Learning - Into the ROC Bike Tour



Internal Admission Honors Mentors Needed!

Internal Admission Honors Orientation is happening this fall!

Were you an internal admission student to the Honors Program? We are looking for internal admit students from each college to serve as mentors to support and guide the incoming students through this process during internal admission orientation.

Mentors will help to set up for orientation and be assigned a table of incoming students from their college. During the programming, mentors will lead their group through interactive activities and be there to answer questions throughout the day.

Mentor Involvement

Involvement includes a training and information session on 10/20, 6:30 - 7:30 pm via zoom, and the full orientation on 11/01 from 8:30am-12:30pm.

This is a great leadership opportunity and participants will [receive complementary learning for their involvement!](#)

Applications are due Sunday, Oct. 5 at 11:59 PM.

[Internal Admit Mentor Application](#)

Augmented Leadership: Critical Thinking in the Age of GenAI

Anshu Kak

2025 RIT Fram Lecture



Honors Small Group Discussion with 2025 Fram Lecturer Anshu Kak

There is still space to sign up!

[The Fram Lecture](#) is a yearly event focused on applied critical thinking. This year features Anshu Kak, a highly accomplished C-level executive and distinguished engineer in data, AI and cloud technologies.

Kak has 25+ years of experience at tech giants like Google IBM, and GE, consistently delivering impactful results, including leading Google Cloud's global Principal Architect community and driving strategic technical initiatives in financial markets.

Join your Honors peers in a small group setting to ask questions and engage in a dialogue with Kak. This session will focus on your interests and will allow you time to interact directly with a leader in the AI field!

9/29 from 3:00-4:00pm
SHED Bower Maker Showcase

Fram Lecture
9/30 from 3:30-5:00pm
Ingle Auditorium

Both the small group discussion and Fram Lecture count for complementary learning!

Register for
the Small Group Discussion

Updates & Announcements



Upcoming Deadline:
Honors Course
& Northern Ireland Trip

Upcoming Course Application Deadline!

Applications are open for the Spring 2026 Honors Course, "HNRS 290 - Conflict to Peace: Building Shared Narratives," (3 credits) which is followed by a faculty-led study abroad in early summer to Northern Ireland and London, England.

Marcia Byrom Hartwell, Professor of Practice, will be teaching the spring course and will be joining us at Honors Hour this Friday at 11:30 am to share information and details about the course and trip.

The deadline to apply is rapidly approaching on 10/19/2025 in RIT Compass.

Space is limited with only 15 spots total in the program.

Travel dates are May 10-25, 2026, and Honors students receive \$1,500 to help cover the cost of the trip!

[Learn More & Apply](#)



9/12 Honors Hour w/ Guest Speaker & Games!

Join us for Honors Hour this Friday! Guest speaker Marcia Byrom Hartwell from SOIS will share information and answer questions about the Northern Ireland Honors course at the beginning of Honors Hour at 11:30.

After professor Byrom Hartwell presents, students will get to have some fun with some board games and puzzles - so show up ready for some friendly competition among your Honors peers!

Take a break in your day and stop by Honors Hour. As always, there will be pizza!

9/12 from 11:30am-12:30pm
SAU 1510 (1829 room)

[Register for
Honors Hours
\(or just stop by!\)](#)



Honors Council Committee Meetings

The first full Honors Council meeting was last night and it was great to see you all there!

The days and times for committee meetings have been finalized and will occur weekly at the same time and location.

Academic Excellence:

Mondays, 10:00-11:00am, GOL-CYB 1710 Meeting Room 3

Community & Wellness:

Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00pm, LBR 3225

Service & Leadership:

Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30pm, WAL 4600

The next full Honors Council meeting will be 9/23. Students receive 1/2 hour of complementary learning!

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.

[Submit Complementary Learning](#)

Into the ROC: Bike Tour with Urbanism at RIT



Looking to explore the Rochester area?

Into the ROC and Urbanism at RIT are hosting a guided bike tour from RIT to spots around Rochester. Urbanism at RIT seeks to educate and promote sustainable transportation at RIT and the greater community.

Throughout this tour, participants will learn how to navigate to Rochester through bike-friendly routes, tips and tricks for riding a bike in the city, and meet other students who share an interest for sustainable transportation!

The tour will be departing from RIT, but bikes are not provided.

9/14 from 10:00am-2:00pm

Gracie's Field to Downtown Rochester

[Learn More & Register](#)

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"

-Eleanor Roosevelt

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