

Weekly Newsletter
Wed. February 4, 2026



Dr. Eddie Glaude Jr. speaking to RIT students at the *Expressions of King's Legacy* Small Group Discussion | Ethan Flynn

Expressions of King's Legacy

Last Thursday, a group of Honors students joined peers from across the university for a small-group discussion with the *Expressions of King's Legacy* keynote speaker, Dr. Eddie Glaude Jr. Dr. Glaude is the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor in the Department of African American Studies at Princeton University and the author of numerous books on civil rights and the historical roots and contemporary manifestations of racism in America. His works include *Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own*, *Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul*, and his most recent title, *We Are the Leaders We Have Been Looking For (The W. E. B. Du Bois Lectures)*.

Dr. Glaude shared his perspectives on the current crises in American politics, democracy, human rights, and justice with a clarity grounded in historical fact and the intellectual traditions of thinkers and leaders such as W. E. B. Du Bois, Martin Luther King Jr., and James Baldwin. Students posed thoughtful and pointed questions about their roles in the ongoing struggle for equity and equality, the influence of mass media and artificial intelligence on the body politic, and the ways in which facts are manipulated to consolidate power, wealth, and influence. When asked, "What can we do to communicate with people who hold different beliefs and ideals?" Dr. Glaude emphasized the importance of reading widely to prepare for those conversations. He encouraged students to move away from sound bites and quick news cycles and instead immerse themselves in the ideas of writers—both fiction and nonfiction—so they can develop the depth of knowledge necessary for a fuller understanding of our history and our collective potential.

Please keep an eye out for future opportunities to engage in dialogue with thought leaders across disciplines. Events like this challenge us intellectually and help shape our own ideologies, beliefs, and actions. And check out our updates and opportunities below - plenty of ways to enrich your experience in the program!

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RIT

Saunders
College of
Business

New Way to Earn Points: Leadership Academy

Earn Honors Points With The Leadership Academy @ Saunders

There is a new way to earn Honors Points! Students that participate in an complete the certificate program for the Leadership Academy @ Saunders will earn 1 Honors Point.

The Leadership Academy @ Saunders is program that provides opportunities for students to engage in personal and professional leadership skills. The Leadership Academy offers various multi-week certificate programs to prepare you for your future.

There are two programs offered in Spring 2026 that will count towards completion of 1 Honors Point.

- **Business & Technology Skills for Aspiring Leaders: Wednesdays, 2/18-4/08, 5:30-8:00pm. [Apply by Sunday, 2/08](#)**
- **Global Certificate for Career Success: Tuesdays, 2/17-4/07, 5:00-7:00pm. [Apply by Monday, 2/09](#)**

Dinner is provided at all sessions.

[Learn More & Apply](#)

2026-2027 Gibson Housing

RIT | Honors Program

2026-2027 Honors Housing

Last Call for Gibson Hall!

One of the many perks of being an Honors student is that you are guaranteed housing in the residence hall Carlton Gibson Hall throughout the duration of your time at RIT! Stay close to home with the Honors community and enjoy the Honors lounge and quick commute to campus.

If you are interested in living in Gibson Hall for the 2026-2027 academic year, complete the linked form by Sunday, 2/15 at 11:59pm.

Completion of this form does not replace the RIT housing selection process, but indicates interest for Gibson housing.

Use [this link](#) for any housing-related questions.

The interest form must be completed by 2/15 at 11:59pm.

[Honors Housing Interest Form](#)



HONORS ICE SKATING

WITH BRICK
CITY BLADES



Honors Ice Skating With Brick City Blades

Honors Ice Skating Is Back!

After such an amazing event last year, Honors is once again teaming up with Brick City Blades! Join in for some winter fun and skate the afternoon away with your Honors friends while meeting new ones.

All levels of experience are welcome! You can bring your own skates or could have never skated before. Brick City Blades members will also be assisting anyone who needs help in learning how to skate.

Honors will be covering the costs for tickets and skate rentals for the first 25 registrants on CampusGroups, so make sure to register using the button to secure your spot! Tickets and rentals will also be available to purchase at the event if it is full.

2/15 from 1:00-3:00pm (arrive at 12:30pm to check-in)
Gene Polisseni Center

Spots are limited! Register now to secure a free ticket.

[Register for Honors Ice Skating](#)

Updates & Announcements



Office Chats 2/06



2/06 Office Chats: Winter Warm Up

The first Office Chats event of the semester is [this Friday!](#) Come drop by the Honors Office to hang out with the Office staff and other Honors students.

Office Chats are once a month, but you are welcome to drop by any time! This month we will have hot cocoa to keep you warm and toasty and breakfast pastries from Panera.

2/06 from 10:00-11:00am

Honors Office

[Register for 2/06 Office Chats \(or just stop by!\)](#)

MAKE A MEAL

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP



2/21 Make A Meal With SLC

The Service and Leadership Committee is hosting an event in collaboration with the Ronald McDonald House of Rochester. Give back to the community and make a meal that will be donated to a family whose children are in the hospital.

Supplies will be provided and you may meet at the RIT Sentinel statue to carpool. You may also drive yourself if preferred.

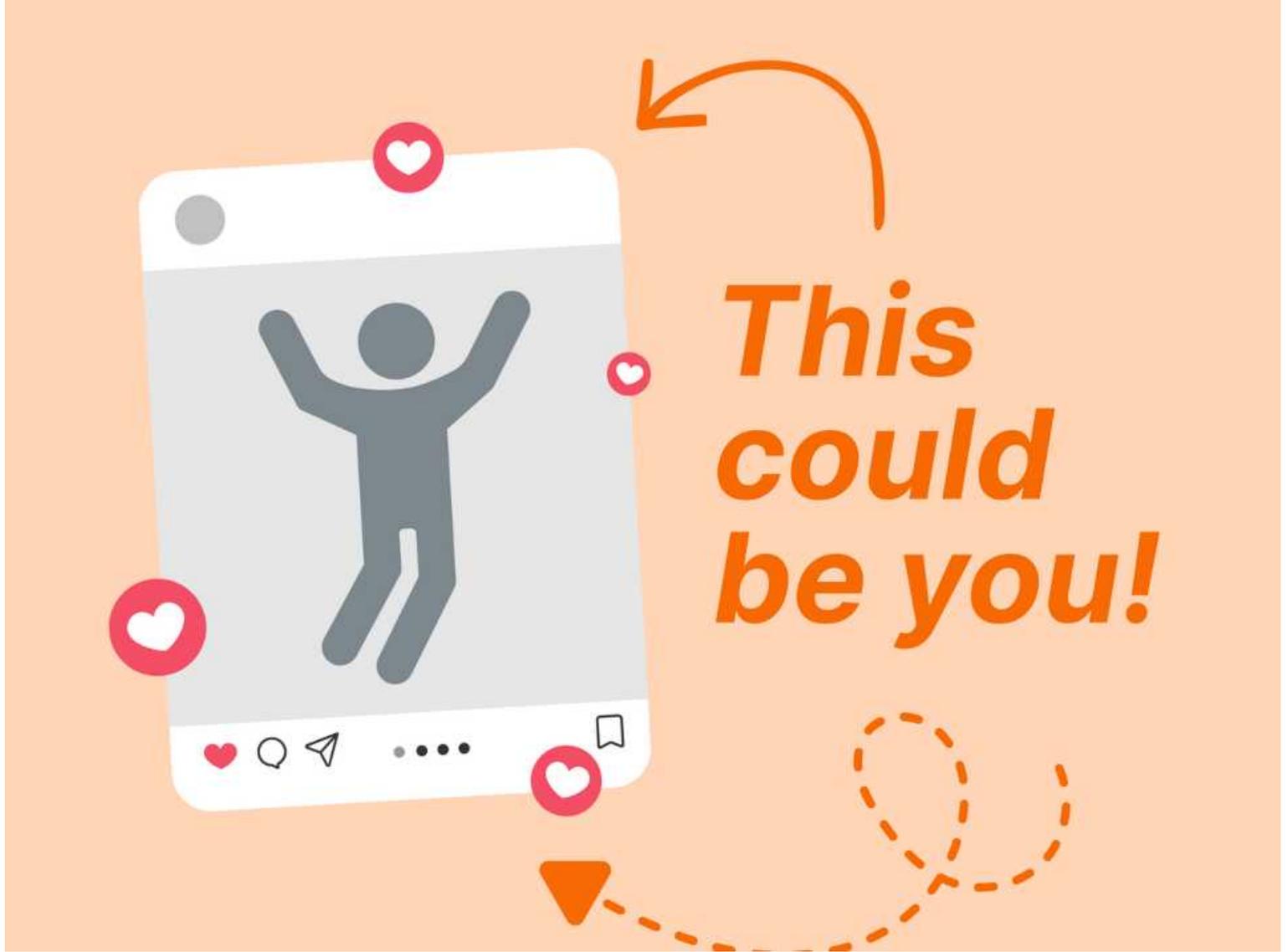
[This event is approved for complementary learning.](#)

2/21 from 2:30-5:30pm

Meet at the RIT Sentinel to carpool

Ronald McDonald House: 333 Westmoreland Dr., Rochester, NY 14620

[Register for 2/21 Make A Meal With SLC](#)



Be Featured With Honors!

Do you have an exceptional complementary learning experience? Are you involved in or a leader of a super cool club on campus? Did you recently win an award or competition? Do you just want to share about how much you love RIT Honors?

Great news, we want to hear from you! The Honors community is full of so many incredible students and we want to show it to the world. Fill out the quick form below to share your complementary learning, campus involvement, academic achievements, or testimonial for a chance to be featured by Honors.

Have an experience that doesn't quite fit? Please email honors@rit.edu.

[Student Submission Form!](#)

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.

Complementary Learning is an annual requirement based on the year you entered the Honors program. The submission cycle runs from September to August each year. Please check the [Honors Handbook](#) for details about

what counts for complementary learning and how to fulfill your annual requirement and 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](#)

Breaking Bread Events

BREAKING BREAD

The logo for RIT (Rochester Institute of Technology) is displayed in a large, orange, serif font. To the left of the letters is a black geometric shape consisting of a triangle and a square. To the right is a vertical line.

Division of Access, Engagement, and Success
**Community
and Education**

Get Involved in the New Breaking Bread Program!

The Breaking Bread Program is facilitated By Dr. Taj Smith, Executive Director for Community and Education, Division of Access, Engagement, and Success. This is a new campus opportunity to practice dialogue and engagement in current events.

The *Circles* programs are each a three-week commitment on the following topics:

- What does healing, repair, and accountability look like post-war, post-genocide, and after fascism? **Starts 2/09, weekly 3:00-4:00pm**
- Being a "Bad Bunny": Where is the critical, protest, and resistance music? **Starts 2/12, weekly from 5:00-6:00pm**

Special Edition programs are a one-time commitment on the following topics:

- Do sports really bring us together? **2/02, 2:30-4:00pm**
- What is the common good? **2/25, 11:30am-1:00pm**
- Is it time to end the two-party political system? **3/02, 2:30-4:00p,**
- Is the university too liberal, too conservative, or too moderate? **2/25, 11:30am-1:00pm**
- Has higher ed reached its peak? **4/06, 2:30-4:00pm**

Registration is strongly encouraged, but drop-ins are allowed for special edition programming.

Register for Breaking Bread Events

"How, what, and who we celebrate reflects what and who we value, and how we celebrate our past reflects ultimately who we take ourselves to be today."

-Eddie Glaude Jr, Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own

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