



Blanket Making Service Project at 2026 Honors Orientation | Photo credit to Ethan Flynn

One of the three pillars of the Honors Program is *Citizenship*. We believe that finding ways to get involved in your community is an important part of your development as a student, and that your actions contribute to a healthy, functioning, and vibrant society.

Throughout the year, we'll share opportunities for you to volunteer, engage in civic action and discourse, and immerse yourself in new communities. This week's message highlights activities and programs that provide pathways to connect with peers in service, share your talents, learn new skills, and gain a deeper understanding of diverse individuals and communities. We're confident you'll find activities that align with your interests and principles while supporting your ongoing development as a productive and engaged citizen. We hope to see you out and about at some of these upcoming events!

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A collage of past SLC events | Foodshare event photo credit to Ethan Flynn

The Service & Leadership Committee (SLC) of Honors Council plans and facilitates events throughout the semester that are focused on community and civic engagement. They have been active early this semester to set up two events that will help you connect with your peers in service to others - and these events are approved for complementary learning!

The SLC meets weekly on Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm in WAL 3530. All students are welcome to attend the weekly committee meetings. This is a great way to learn about the work of the SLC, and to get involved in researching service and leadership opportunities and have a voice in Honors council and the program.

You can learn more about the Service & Leadership committee and the other Honors Council committees by visiting the [Council webpage](#). If you have questions about these upcoming events or how you can get more involved please contact the co-chairs of the SLC, [Ryan Jackson](#) and [Lun Kong](#).

Upcoming SLC Events:

Card Making for Veterans - This Friday, 9/18, 11a-1p, The 1829 Room (SAU 1510)

We will have all the supplies you need to create cards and write personal notes that will be distributed at RIT's annual [Veterans Day Breakfast](#) on Fri. Nov. 13. Register at the link below or just stop by. We will have pizza, snacks, and drinks!

Walking for Rochester Community Cleanup - Saturday, 9/26, meet at the Sentinel for carpooling at 12:30p and return to campus by 2:30p.

The clean up will take place in downtown Rochester at North Clinton Ave. and Andrews St. Students will receive guidance and equipment from the [Walking for Rochester](#) nonprofit that has removed removed over 20,000 pounds of total litter across the city since its founding in 2020, with more than 10,000 pounds collected in 2026 alone! Register at the link below.

[Register for Card Making for Veterans](#)

[Register for Walking for Rochester](#)



Photo from the 2026 York River State Park Alternative Break trip | Photo credit to Ethan Flynn

The Alternative Break (AB) program gives students the opportunity to engage with and contribute to communities around the world. Students who participate spend a week learning about critical challenges facing communities, interacting with local leaders, and performing short-term projects with community agencies.

This information session led by the CLCE AB team will cover all questions Honors students may have about the program. All students interested in applying must attend an information session for the 2026 trips.

All trips cost \$700 and Honors students are given \$500 (this is not your honors grant) towards the cost of the trip. Students *can* use their honors grant to pay the balance remaining.

This event is part of our bi-weekly Honors Hour events, so pizza and snacks will be provided.

Honors students are given \$500 to help cover the costs of the trip!

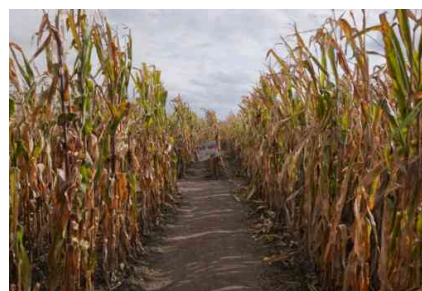
Spring 2027 Locations:

- Common Ground Relief: New Orleans
- American Hiking Society: Cloudland Canyon State Park, GA
- Habitat for Humanity: Punta Gorda, FL
- Serve901: Memphis, TN
- Project Horseshoe Farm: Greensboro, AL

Friday, September 25
11:30 - 12:30pm
Bamboo Room (CPC 2650)

**Register on
CampusGroups**

Updates & Announcements



Honors Council First Year Delegate Election

Calling all first year students!

It's time to vote for the Honors Council First Year Delegate. Read about each of the candidates for the position and cast your vote today by clicking the link below! Please note - only first year students can vote in this election.

This delegate will represent the cohort of first year students on Honors Council.

Voting will end on 9/22 and the newly elected delegate will be announced in the 9/23 Wednesday Message.

[Vote for Honors Council First Year Delegate](#)

New Delegates Selected

We also have new delegates to announce!

The College of Science Delegate election resulted in a tie! We would like to welcome both students to serve as co-delegates for the 2026-27 academic year:

Congratulations **Samuel Isakov** and **Colin Iwaszczuk**!

We also had a nominee run unopposed for the Internal Admit Delegate position and have appointed **Ciara Berhel** as our new delegate representing students who entered the program through the internal admission process. Congratulations Ciara!

Thank you to all the students who are taking on these leadership roles this year!

Moonlight Corn Maze at Long Acre Farms

Join us for a fun fall evening at Long Acre Farms! This special event will feature the Moonlight Corn Maze, treats by the fire, and great company with your Honors friends!

Transportation to and from Long Acre Farms will be provided. We will load the bus at 4:45p at Gleason Cir. and will depart RIT at 5:00 for a 5:45 arrival time at the farm. Students will return to campus around 9:45. Students will receive a food voucher where they can get burgers and dogs at the grill, and wood fired pizza. There are also fall treats and ice cream available!

Enjoy time with fellow Honors students, explore the maze under the moonlight, and make some great fall memories!

Registration is open today through Sunday, 9/27 at 11:55 PM. Cancellations after 9/27 will not be reimbursed.

Please email honors@rit.edu for interpreting requests.

Friday, October 2
4:45 - 9:45p
Long Acre Farms

[Register on CampusGroups](#)

Apply to be an Internal Admit Mentor

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. During the programming, mentors will lead their group through interactive activities and be there to answer questions throughout the day.

This is a great leadership opportunity and participants will receive complementary learning.

Involvement includes a training and information session on **Wed. Oct. 14, 6:30-7:30 pm via zoom**, and the full orientation on **Sat. Oct. 24, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm**.

[IA Mentor Application](#)

Complementary Learning

Friendly reminder that the 2025-26 submission cycle ended on Aug. 31. We are currently conducting a full review of each student in Honors looking at complementary learning completion for the 2025-26 cycle starting this week. If you are below the required number of hours for your year in the program you will be placed into *conditional standing* and you'll have the remainder of the fall semester to make up your deficit.

You can find other opportunities 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. 1-Aug. 31) 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 *Student Portal* tab of the Honors website.

[Submit Complementary Learning](#)



Explore unique challenges and cultural treasures in the greater Rochester community through the Into the ROC events. Transportation is provided for all of these events. Space is limited, so interested students must register in advance.

Into the ROC: Community Dinner

Cultural grocery stores are so much more than just places to buy food, they are vital pillars of our communities, bringing people together and preserving rich traditions through the

Into the ROC: St. Mark's and St. John's Community Gardens

Join Into the ROC as we work in [St. Mark's and St. John's](#) Community Gardens. These gardens produce food to be distributed to community members at St. Mark's and St. John's on-site.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

The event will start on campus with a screening of two episodes from WXXI's "The Grocery List Show," highlighting local Afro-Caribbean and Hispanic cultural grocery stores. Afterward, you'll head over to Carmen's Cooking for a delicious dinner and conversation with two Rochester cultural grocery store owners. Connect, eat good food, and celebrate the local spots that keep our cultures thriving!

Friday, September 18

4:30 pm - 8:00 pm

PRISM (CPC-2050) and Carmen's Cooking

[Register now!](#)

Free transportation will be provided. The bus will depart from the Sentinel Statue promptly at 9:30 am! Please be sure to dress appropriately for the weather (comfortable clothes that can get dirty and closed-toed shoes!) and bring a water bottle. Work gloves will be provided.

Saturday, September 19

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Departure from the Sentinel

St. Mark's and St. John's

[Register now!](#)

Stay up-to-date on all upcoming events, opportunities, and deadlines!

Be sure to follow us on [Instagram](#), and make sure to join the [Honors Discord](#).

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" — MLK

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