



Middlebury
College



International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

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Friends of International Students (FIS) Newsletter, fall 2023

Headline News; Important Dates & Reminders; Campus & Local Events; Story Corner

Headline News

Recent Matchings

ISSS recently paired 33 international students with 30 hosts. A huge thank you to our hosts for welcoming our students into their lives! We wish you all the best as you get to know each other.

Our next matching event will take place during the spring term. If you are interested in hosting a student, please email us at iss@middlebury.edu and we'll add you to the list!

Enjoy these photos from our September 30 matching event...





Winter Clothing Closet

ISSS and Equity Initiatives continue to operate a winter clothing closet for students. If you have gently used/washed/odor-free winter jackets, vests, sweaters, thermals, snow pants, hats, gloves, and rain or snow boots that would appeal to college students, please drop them into our winter clothing collection box located in the 1st-floor entryway of the Service Building (entrance across the path from McCullough Student Center). Donations can be dropped off Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 5 pm, throughout the winter months.

Fall Student Events

Our monthly “ISSS Express” events are proving to be very popular with students. This fall we have focused on what winter is like in Vermont and ways to stay warm, happy, and healthy during this long season. We have also hosted internship and employment workshops so students can learn about work authorization options during and after their time at Middlebury. Of course, ISSS always makes time for fun as well and this fall has been no exception. We enjoyed an evening with new students at our Pre-orientation Reunion, apple picking with our Exchange students at Sunrise Orchards (pictured below), and a Halloween Trick-or-Treat event with sweet treats and games.



Important Dates & Reminders

Thanksgiving Break

The holiday break begins at 2 pm on Friday, November 17, and lasts through Sunday, November 26. Students can request permission to stay on campus in the Student Housing Portal through November 17. Ross Dining will remain open from Saturday, November 18 through Monday, November 20. All dining halls will be closed Tuesday, November 21 through Saturday, November 25. Middlebury College’s annual Thanksgiving meal is free for all students remaining on campus so they may experience this traditional (and yummy!) American holiday with friends. Find out what your student has planned during the break and if they are on campus, why not get together?

Winter Break

Residence halls close at 12 pm on Tuesday, December 19, and will reopen at 9 am on Tuesday, January 2 (no early arrivals permitted). The College and most offices officially close during this time. Students can apply to remain on campus during the break by completing the winter break application in the Student Housing Portal before midnight on December 3. If your student has questions about housing during the winter break, they should contact Residential Life immediately at reslife@middlebury.edu.

Dining services in Ross Dining will close after lunch on Tuesday, December 19, and Atwater Dining will re-open for lunch on Wednesday, January 3. Students who remain on campus will have access to kitchens stocked with basic provisions and/or some support from Dining Services. Winter Recess is a quiet and sometimes lonely time for those who remain on campus. This is another great time to meet up with your student for a meal, local event, or outdoor activity if they are on campus.

If your student needs a reminder about transportation options during the break, you can direct them to the ISSS website at <https://www.middlebury.edu/international-student-and-scholar-services/living-us/living-middlebury#transportation>. If you happen to be going to Burlington or another Vermont locale during the break, you may want to bring your student along for the ride, so they have an opportunity to join you or do some shopping or sightseeing of their own.



January Term

For those students who have not been on campus during the Winter Recess, residence halls open at 9 am on Tuesday, January 2. Winter Term classes run from Thursday, January 4 until Thursday, February 1. Students take one course during Winter Term, so they may have more time available for activities with their hosts.

Campus & Local Events

Find exhibitions, performances, and events in our local area by clicking on the following links:

- **Middlebury College events:** <https://www.middlebury.edu/events/?trumbaEmbed=date%3D20140116>
- **Addison County Chamber of Commerce:** <https://www.addisoncounty.com/events/calendar/>
- **Burlington happenings:** <https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/EventSearch?v=d>

Story Corner

The FIS Story Corner is a chance to share the adventures you have with your students in words and/or pictures that would be of interest to the FIS Community. Please send your submissions anytime to iss@middlebury.edu so we can proudly share them in future newsletters.

Wendy & Glenn Goodwin enjoyed an evening of Caribbean music at Shelburne Vineyards with their student, Arthur Martins (top), and the Marrowbone production in Lincoln, VT with Arthur and friend, Priya (bottom).



France and Spence Putnam enjoyed a hike up Mt. Philo with Noe Vyizigiro last summer.



Carolyn and Paul Dahm got together for a farewell dinner with their student, Joly Reyes- Collovati, who is studying in Florence, Italy this academic year.



Barbara Pelton & Lloyd Raymond shared via email.... "Yingcheng Zhuang came to our house to help dig up purple sweet potatoes (photo below). Since she grew up in a city driving a tractor and gardening are activities that are new to her. She had fun and we appreciated her help. We have also taught her to drive a tractor and then gave her driving lessons to get her drivers license."



Hillary and David Hamilton celebrated Commencement in May 2023 with Steven Shi and friend, Christina.



More photos from our September 30 matching event in McCardell Bicentennial Hall...





Sincere thanks to Comboni Tutu '26 who was the photographer in residence for our event!
(pictured below, left to right: Carolyn, Kathy, Tutu, Kas, and Tracy)



Wishing you peace & all things cozy...



ISSS Staff

Tracy Cone' - Muccini	International Services Specialist
Carolyn Dahm	Administrative Coordinator
Tabitha Fleming	Assistant Director of ISSS in Monterey, California
Kathy Foley	Associate Dean and Director of ISSS
Christy Fry	Assistant Director of ISSS in Middlebury, Vermont
Janet Hulnick	Immigration Specialist
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Kas Singh	International Student and Scholar Advisor