



Middlebury College

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

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Friends of International Students (FIS) Newsletter, fall 2025

**Headline News; Important Dates & Reminders; Campus & Local Events;
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Headline News

Recent Matchings

ISSS recently paired 36 international students with 27 hosts. We are so thankful to each of you for welcoming a student into your life. Wishing each of you joy as you embark on your friendship journey together.

Our next matching event will take place during the spring term. If you are interested in being matched at that time, email us at iss@middlebury.edu and we'll add you to our list. Please spread the word to family and friends who may be interested and have them contact us.

Enjoy these photos from our October 18 matching event.







Winter Clothing Closet

ISSS & Equity Initiatives coordinate Middlebury College's Winter Clothing Closet. If you have gently used/washed/odor-free winter jackets, vests, sweaters, thermals, snow/ski pants, hats, gloves, and snow/ski/rain boots that would appeal to college students, please bring them to our donation box located in the 1st floor lobby of the Service Building via the entrance closest to McCullough Student Center, **NOT** the entrance next to the glass-fronted biomass plant. Donations can be dropped off Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 5 pm. Thank you for your generosity!

Fall Student Events

It's definitely been a term filled with events and workshops! Students attended our "Study Abroad and International Status" event as well as our "Winter Workshop". We also hosted senior planning sessions and internship workshops for sophomores and juniors. Of course, ISSS makes time for fun as well, and this fall has been no exception. We hosted 2 successful FIS matching events, our office was an official Trick or Treat stop on Halloween, and we enjoyed an afternoon with Exchange students & Teaching Assistants at Sunrise Orchards (pictured below).



Important Dates & Reminders

Thanksgiving Recess

Thanksgiving recess will take place from Friday, November 21 to Sunday, November 30. Students planning to stay are required to complete a form in the Student Housing Portal. If your student has questions about housing during the Thanksgiving break, they should contact Residential Life immediately at reslife@middlebury.edu.

Students staying on campus will have access to a kitchen stocked with basic food staples and easy to prepare meals. Those who qualify will also receive extra dining support from the College. All students staying on campus are invited to attend Middlebury College's annual Thanksgiving meal in Atwater on Thursday, November 28. The meal is free so they may experience this traditional American holiday with any friends, staff, or faculty who attend.

Winter Recess

For winter recess, residence halls will close at 12 pm on Wednesday, December 17, and will reopen at 9 am on Saturday, January 3, 2026. The College and most offices officially close during this time. Students must obtain approval to remain on campus by completing the "Winter Break Application" in the Student Housing Portal. If your student has questions about housing during the winter break, they should contact Residential Life immediately at reslife@middlebury.edu.

Dining services will close in Ross Dining after breakfast on Wednesday, December 17, and Proctor Dining will re-open for lunch on Saturday, January 3. Students are responsible for their own meals when the dining halls are closed. Students approved to stay on campus will have access to a kitchen stocked with basic food staples and easy to prepare meals. Those who qualify will also receive extra dining support from the College.

If your student needs a reminder about transportation options during either of the breaks, you can direct them to the ISSS website at <https://www.middlebury.edu/international-student-and-scholar-services/living-us/living-middlebury#transportation>. Discounted bus tickets, organized by the Student Government Association, are also available for purchase by students through the Box Office. Buses travel to Burlington Airport, New Hampshire/Boston, and New Jersey/New York.

Winter Recess is quiet, and sometimes lonely time for those staying on campus. If your student plans to stay, this is a great opportunity to make plans for a meal, local event, or outdoor activity. If you happen to be going to Burlington or another Vermont locale, you may want to invite your student along for the ride, so they have an opportunity to 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 Saturday, January 3, 2026. Winter Term classes run from Monday, January 5 through Friday, January 30. Students take one course during Winter Term, so they usually have some extra time in their schedule. Take advantage of this opportunity to get together for some winter fun!

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. You can submit photos anytime via this link [here](#).

Andrew Sun shared photos of the hike he enjoyed with his hosts, the Kin family. Andrew said, "Thank you for matching me to this lovely, interesting, and caring family."



The Brown family enjoyed a fall feast, including delicious pies, with their host students, Chisake Kishino and Noaki Beppu.



Dutton and Kathleen Smith shared photos of a fun get together with host student, Jorge Lope, and their grandchildren.



Heather Lovejoy, her sons, and host student, Zsofi Kuzsma-Boros shared a picnic this fall at Weybridge House on campus.



Best wishes from ISSS for a peaceful & healthy holiday season,
Carolyn, Christy, Janet, Jess, Kas, Loren, Tabitha, & Tracy

