



Middlebury
College



International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

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Friends of International Students (FIS) Newsletter, fall 2024

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Headline News

Recent Matchings

ISSS recently paired 38 international students with 25 hosts! We are so thankful to our community members who chose to participate this fall. Wishing each of you joy as you embark on your friendship journey together.

Our next matching event will take place during the spring term. We have some folks who have already volunteered to host, but we definitely need more! 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!

Enjoy these photos from our September 28 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/ski pants, hats, gloves, and snow/ski/rain boots that would appeal to college students, please bring them to one of our donation boxes on campus. The boxes are located in the 1st floor entryway of the Service Building, inside McCullough Student Center next to the ATM, and just inside the main level entrance to Axinn Center. Donations can be dropped off Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 5 pm, throughout the winter months. Thank you for your generosity!

Fall Student Events

Our “ISSS Express” events continue to be enjoyed by our students. Our most recent event, co-hosted with Counseling and Outdoor Programs, focused on what winter is like in Vermont and ways to stay warm, happy, and healthy during the season. We also hosted a senior planning/internship workshop as well as a session devoted to study abroad opportunities. 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 dinner and apple picking with our Exchange students & Teaching Assistants at Sunrise Orchards (pictured below).



Important Dates & Reminders

Thanksgiving Recess

The holiday break begins at 2 pm on Friday, November 22, and lasts through Sunday, December 1. Residence halls will remain open, and students planning to stay are required to complete the “Thanksgiving Break Application” in the Student Housing Portal. The application will close on November 17 for those students seeking extra dining support during the break; the deadline for all other students is November 22nd at Noon. If your student has questions about housing during the winter break, they should contact Residential Life immediately at reslife@middlebury.edu.

Ross Dining will close after dinner on Monday, November 25, and will reopen for lunch on Sunday, December 1. Students are responsible for their own meals when the dining halls are closed. Students remaining on campus will have access to a kitchen stocked with basic provisions so they can prepare simple 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 for those on campus so they may experience this traditional American holiday with friends.

Winter Recess

Residence halls close at 12 pm on Tuesday, December 17, and will reopen at 9 am on Saturday, January 4. 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 17, and Proctor Dining will re-open for lunch on Saturday, January 4. Students are responsible for their own meals when the dining halls are closed. Students remaining on campus will have access to a kitchen stocked with basic provisions so they can prepare simple 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 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 you happen to be going to Burlington or another Vermont locale at that time, you may want to invite 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 Saturday, January 4. Winter Term classes run from Monday, January 6 through Friday, January 31. 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. Please send your submissions anytime to iss@middlebury.edu so we can proudly share them in future newsletters.

Host Sas Carey recently had a reunion with her former host student, Annie Tong. Sas sent us this message: "Annie Tong came to visit from Boston and wanted to see Norm and me. She said she had a new boyfriend. I told her Norm and I have new partners, too. There were six of us treated to dinner by Annie! It was a great visit!"



Michelle and Ted Shambo invited their host student, Munira, along with her friend, Nawale, to their home for some pumpkin decorating in October. Looks like a couple of pumpkin masterpieces were the result!



Students Yahya and Esdras captured a lovely Mother's Day photo last spring with their host, Amy Holbrook.



Wishing you a peaceful & healthy holiday season.



ISSS Staff

Carolyn Dahm	Administrative Program Coordinator
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