August 21st, 2023 - August 23rd, 2023

At Canisius, we say “go forth and set the world on fire.” This program will be the first SPARK to ignite the flame for academic success and student engagement. New students will learn more about academic supports, discover the countless opportunities to engage in our community, and explore our neighborhood and Buffalo.
DAY ONE: MOVE IN
August 21st, 2023

1:00pm-4:00pm: Move-In with Student Life
**Fall Residents Only
Student Life, located in the lower level of Dugan Residence Hall, is the designated office responsible for facilitating housing assignments, distributing keys and swipe access to students.

Dr. Mark Harrington, AVP for Student Success
Katara Willis, SPARK Program Coordinator

5:00pm: Welcome Banquet
Students and their families are invited to have dinner in Grupp Fireside lounge, on the second floor of Student Center, and learn more about the program.

7:00pm: Icebreakers & Campus Tour
Introduce incoming freshmen to our campus community, help them connect with fellow students, and give you a comprehensive tour of our campus facilities.
DAY TWO: COLLEGE DEMANDS
August 22nd, 2023

8:00am-9:00am: Breakfast | Tim Hortons
Tim Horton vouchers are available.

9:00am-9:15am: Welcome to Canisius University | Introduction to SPARK Program

9:15 am-10:00am: College Level Expectations
Students will have the opportunity to develop an understanding of college-level demands, such as communicating with professors via email, scheduling office visits and understanding the role of professors in higher education.

10:00am-12:00pm: Hamlin Park Tour
Shana Richardson, Director of New Buffalo Institute, will be leading a guided tour of the neighborhood surrounding the campus.

12:00pm: Lunch
Lunch is available in the Dining Hall, on the first floor of the Student Center

1:00pm-1:45pm: Leveraging Technology
Students will learn to use campus-wide technology resources, including platforms like D2L (Desire2Learn), email systems, MyCanisius, and AppsAnywhere software.

2:00pm-3:00pm: Student Support Services Speed Dating

3:00pm-5:30pm: Break
Students can use this time to rest, set up their dorm and walk through their schedule.

5:30pm: Dinner
Dinner is available in the dining hall, on the first floor of the Student Center

7:00pm: Cake Pop Decorating
Grupp Fireside Lounge, on the second floor of the Student Center.
DAY THREE: GET ACTIVE ON CAMPUS
August 23rd, 2023

8:00am-9:00am: Breakfast at Tim Hortons
Tim Hortons vouchers are available.

9:00am: Balancing A Social Life

9:15am-9:45am: Clubs, E-boards & Student Leadership
Jason Francey, Director of Student Engagement and Leadership Development

10:00am: Introduction to ALANA Center
African American, Latinx American, Asian American and Native American Center
Bennie D. Williams, Assistant Dean of Students

11:00am-11:45am: Tour of Campus Resources

12:00pm-1:00pm: Lunch
Lunch is available in the Dining Hall, on the first floor of the Student Center

1:00pm-2:00pm: Student Panel Discussion

2:00pm-2:30pm: Program Reflections

3:00pm-3:30pm: Ice Cream Social

3:30pm-6:30pm: Break
Students can use this time to rest, set up their dorm and walk through their class schedule.

6:30pm: Bowling
Students will use NFTA transportation to Spare Lanes. Dinner will be provided.