

# Griffs Getting Involved:

A Guide to  
Student Engagement  
at Canisius College



# Discover what

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# you can do.

## Welcome, Golden Griff's!

Welcome to the new academic year at Canisius! There are many ways to become engaged and active within the Canisius College community! This guide has been designed to help you find ways you can get involved around campus. We know that when a student is involved on campus, whether it is a club or organization or faculty-student research opportunities, that student feels more connected to their community. This guide details your options for being an engaged Griff on campus including, academic, leadership, recreational, global, and community and faith opportunities as well as the different campus clubs and organizations you can be a part of.

We look forward to seeing how you will engage with the Canisius College community to make it feel like your home! Again, welcome to the new academic year!

### **Dr. Mark Harrington**

Assistant Vice President, Student Development and Academic Success  
Chair, Student Retention Committee  
Offices of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs



# Academic Opportunities

## Academic Workshops

*Students may meet with a graduate assistant one on one for the following topics: Time Management, Note-Taking, Talking with your Professor, Preparing for Finals, Successful Online Learning, and Study Skills.*

**Program Contact:** [Sophie Brandimarte](#)

## Canisius Earning Excellence Program (CEEP)

*The Canisius Earning Excellence Program (CEEP) facilitates student collaboration with faculty mentors through highly rewarding educational experiences. These intellectually demanding collaborations create exciting opportunities for applied learning and enhance faculty scholarship. Working closely with faculty on scholarly projects, students gain readiness for a professional career or advanced graduate study.*

**Program Contact:** [Dr. Jenn Lodi-Smith](#)

## Ignatian Scholarship Day

*Ignatian Scholarship Day highlights the achievements of our undergraduate and graduate students in various forms of expression including poster sessions, oral paper and multi-media presentations and performances, exemplifying the Jesuit spirit in magis, the way we strive to do more.*

**Program Contact:** [Connie Pileri](#)

## Faculty-Student Research

*At Canisius, faculty-student collaboration comes in many forms: working side by side on academic research, co-presenting at an academic conference, sharing candid feedback during a writing workshop, going on a service immersion trip together and more.*

**Program Contact:** Individual Faculty & Departments

## Peer Tutoring

*Tutoring Center at Canisius College offer a comprehensive level of tutorial services to best support students in successfully completing their academic careers while assisting them in developing the skills to become successful lifelong learners. It provides a dedicated staff of peer tutors ready to assist students in their academic pursuits.*

**Program Contact:** [Monika McFoy](#)

## Post-Baccalaureate Fellowships and Scholarships

*Resources are available for students seeking to apply for highly competitive, prestigious merit-based national and international grants and fellowships such as:*

- [Fulbright Program](#)
- [Truman Scholarships](#)
- [Goldwater Scholarships](#)
- [Boren Awards](#)

**Program Contact:** [Dr. Jenn Lodi-Smith](#)

To view more details on engagement opportunities, click on the underlined program titles to access their website.





# Leadership Opportunities

## Leadership@Canisius

*The Leadership@Canisius program offers to all students the opportunity to attend workshops, speaker events, and activities throughout the year to explore and elevate their leadership style, regardless of what they may study.*

Program Contact: Jason Francey

## Resident Assistants (RA)

*Resident Assistants facilitate the social, academic, and personal adjustment of students to the residence hall and develops a sense of community among residents as members of a floor or area.*

Program Contact: Mark Piatkowski

## Orientation Leaders

*The Orientation Leader (OL) position is an opportunity to assist incoming freshmen, transfer students, and their families with a successful transition to Canisius College. OLs work alongside faculty and staff to implement academic and social initiatives designed to assist student transition to Canisius College.*

- *Lead Orientation Leaders:* Lead OLs help coordinate the New Griff Orientation Program.
- *Senior Orientation Leaders:* Senior OLs work as mentors to the new and returning OLs.

Program Contact: New Griff Orientation

## Retreat Leaders

*Retreat leaders help plan and lead Campus Ministry's retreats. Student leaders work behind the scenes to help recruit, prepare for and manage retreats. During the retreat itself, leaders give talks and serve as small group facilitators.*

Program Contact: Campus Ministry

## Tour Guides

*Tour guides provide individual and group campus tours to prospective students and their families.*

Program Contact: Rachel Massaro

## Golden Griffin Leadership Academy

*The Golden Griffin Leadership Academy is composed of three comprehensive succeeding levels of personal development. The academy was developed to provide an opportunity for student-athletes to further develop their leadership competencies while getting to know other student-athletes.*

Program Contact: Athletics

## Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

*SAAC pledges to pursue academic and athletic excellence, uphold the ideals and values of the Jesuit tradition and seeks to generate a student-athlete voice within the athletics department and institution.*

Program Contact: Athletics

# USA/Club & Organizations

## Canisius Life (USA/Clubs & Organizations)

*Canisius College has 161 Clubs & Organizations ranging from academic to recreational.*

## Undergraduate Student Association

*The Undergraduate Student Association, or USA, is an elected group of students who advocate the needs of the entire undergraduate student population to administration. Comprised of an Executive Board, Cabinet, 5 Committees, and Senate, these students are typically elected or appointed to their positions.*

## Clubs & Organizations

### **Academic Organizations**

Accounting Society  
American Chemical Society  
American Marketing Association  
Association for Women and Men in Communication  
Athletic Training Club  
Canisius Entrepreneurs Organization  
Canisius International Business Association  
Classics Club  
Canisius Ad Club  
Canisius Zoological Society  
Computer Science Society  
Digital Media Arts Club  
Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA)  
Enactus  
EuroSim Foundation  
Fashion Industry Organization  
Gender and Women's Studies Club  
History Club  
Honors Student Association  
Kinesiology Society  
Math Club  
Minority Association for Pre-Medical Students  
Philosophy Club  
Physics & Pre-Engineering Club  
Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association  
Psychology Club  
Public Relation Student Society of America  
Society of Economics and Finance  
Society of Human Resource Management  
Society of Pre-Health Professionals  
Society of Professional Journalists  
Sport Management Society

Teacher Ed Club  
Women in Business  
Women in Science

### **Communication Organizations**

The Griffin  
Griffin TV  
Quadrangle  
WCCG—The Wire

### **Cultural Organizations**

African Student Association (ASA)  
Afro-American Society  
French Club  
Global Horizons  
Latin American Students and Friends  
Unity

### **Greek Life**

Alpha Kappa Psi  
Phi Sigma Sigma  
Sigma Phi Epsilon

### **Athletic Organizations**

Bowling Club  
Canisius College Intramurals  
Canisius Equestrian Team  
Canisius Esports  
Cheerleading  
Club Field Hockey  
Dance Griffs  
Hiking Club  
Men's Club Hockey  
Men's Club Rugby  
Men's Club Soccer  
Men's Club Volleyball





### ***Athletic Organizations (Continued)***

Mixed Martial Arts Club  
Quidditch Team  
Rifle Club  
Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)  
Tennis Club  
Track and Field Club  
Ultimate Frisbee Club  
Women's Club Rugby  
Women's Club Soccer  
Women's Club Volleyball

### ***Performing Arts Organizations***

Chamber Music Ensemble  
Chamber Orchestra  
Chorale  
Contemporary Music Ensemble  
Canisius Music Scholars  
Gospel Ensemble  
Jazz Ensemble  
Little Theatre  
Pep Band  
The CrescenDON'Ts

### ***Honor Societies***

Alpha Kappa Delta  
Alpha Phi Sigma  
Alpha Sigma Nu  
Beta Beta Beta  
DiGamma Honor Society  
Kappa Delta Pi  
Lambda Pi Eta  
Nat. German Honor Society  
Phi Alpha Delta  
Phi Alpha Theta  
Pi Sigma Alpha  
Psi Chi  
Sigma Delta Pi  
Sigma Tau Delta

### ***Social Organizations***

American Cancer Society on Campus  
American Product & Inventory Control Systems  
American Red Cross Club  
American Sign Language Club  
Anime Club  
ArtsCanisius  
Best Buddies  
C-Block  
Canisius College Circle K

Canisius College Republicans  
Canisius College Umbrella Club  
Canisius College Vegan/Vegetarian Club  
Commuter Student Association  
Canisius Movie Makers  
College Democrats  
Cooking Club  
Disney Club  
Donate Life Club  
FUSION Gaming Society  
Griffins Giving Back: Canisius College Lion's Club Chapter  
Habitat for Humanity  
Happiness in Progress  
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship  
Mock Trial  
Model United Nations Diplomacy Organization  
National Society of Leadership and Success  
National Society of Pershing Rifles  
New York Civil Liberties Union  
Peace Action New York State Canisius College Chapter  
Pedagogy Noir  
Project Conservation  
Residence Hall Association  
Ski Club  
Spoon University  
Step Up! Griffs  
Student Programming Board  
Students for Life  
Transfer Student Association  
Young Americans for Freedom  
Young Americans for Liberty

**To view more details on clubs & organizations, click on the Canisius Life title to access their website.**



# Campus Recreational Opportunities

## NCAA Division I Intercollegiate Athletics

*The college sponsors 20 NCAA Division I Athletic teams and is a member of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) as well as the Atlantic Hockey Conference. Sports offered include:*

- Men's: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country/Track, Golf, Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer and Swimming & Diving
- Women's: Basketball, Cross Country/Track, Lacrosse, Rowing, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving and Volleyball

Program Contact: Koessler Athletic Center

## Intramurals

*Intramural Sports are one of the most popular student activities at Canisius College. The program is designed to provide students an opportunity to participate in athletic and non-athletic recreational activities in a fun and safe environment open to all levels and abilities.*

Program Contact: Pat Clarke

## Club Sports

*Club Sports provides opportunities for students to participate in a variety of competitive, instructional and recreational sports. The concept of the program is to give students the chance to play competitively, learn and practice a particular sport activity in a non-varsity sport environment.*

Program Contact: Pat Clarke



To view more details on engagement opportunities, click on the underlined program titles to access





# Global Opportunities

## Study Abroad

*Canisius College offers diverse study abroad opportunities in 14 countries and 23 programs. Students who study abroad say it is a life-changing experience which significantly expands their personal and professional horizons.*

Program Contact: Brian Smith

## Institute for Global Engagement

*The Institute for Global Engagement (IGE) at Canisius College is a faculty-generated initiative that seeks to internationalize the culture of Canisius College, prepares students to become global citizens, extends its international programming outward to a community of Alumni and other life-long learners, and assists many different organizations in the development of international programs.*

Program Contact: Dr. Tim Wadkins

## International Service-Immersion Experiences

*Campus Ministry's international service-immersion experiences are 1-3 week trips abroad that offer students the opportunity to immerse themselves into a new culture, learn about social justice, grow in faith, and serve others.*

Program Contact: Campus Ministry

## International Student Programs

*The Office of International Student Programs (ISP) at Canisius College supports the needs and development of the global student community through advisement and cultural support, in order to assist them in achieving their academic, personal, and professional goals. Whether you are an international student who will study on an F-1 student visa, an exchange student who will be studying abroad for one semester, or an incoming student who did not grow up in the United States, the Office of International Student Programs is here to support you.*

Program Contact: Brian Smith

# Community Engagement & Faith Opportunities

## Internships

*Internships offer students an opportunity to work within an organization to gain hands on experience, providing a means to explore career fields and to gain a variety of work related, lifetime skills. Credit approval and requirements vary by major or concentration and some academic departments work with organizations directly to help place students in specific internships, if they qualify. The Griff Center for Student Success Career Development Office advertises internship opportunities for all students through Handshake, the college's online job search platform. Students and alumni can also use Handshake to sign up for on-campus interviews and register for career fairs, information sessions and more!*

**Program Contact:** Individual Department Chairs, Program Directors or Academic Advisors

**Handshake Contact:** Griff Center for Student Success Career Development Office

## Community Day

*Community Day is an event that happens once a semester where students, faculty, staff, clubs, teams, and alumni come together for a day of community service throughout the city of Buffalo.*

**Program Contact:** Dr. Mary Rech Rockwell

## Sandwich Ministry

*Each week Canisius students prepare sandwiches, hot chocolate, and cookies and serve them to those who are hungry or experiencing homelessness in downtown Buffalo.*

**Program Contact:** Campus Ministry

## Winter Service Week

*Campus Ministry's Winter Service Week is a domestic service-immersion experience that takes place over winter break offering students the opportunity to immerse themselves into a new community, learn about social justice, grow in faith, and serve others.*

**Program Contact:** Campus Ministry

## Retreats

*Retreats are an opportunity to get away from the busyness of the semester, pause and reflect on where you see God working in your life, and how you want to grow. Each retreat is different, but most are student-led and consist of talks, activities, prayer, and small group discussions. Students of all faith backgrounds (or no faith background) are welcome to attend!*

**Program Contact:** Campus Ministry



# Engagement Opportunities

## Community-Based Learning

*In community-based learning (CBL) students learn how to apply ideas, theories, and models on social issues they are learning about in class to a “real life” experience with a community partner in the local community. Through service and reflection on their experience, students are given the opportunity to live our Jesuit values and integrate what they’ve learned into their studies.*

Program Contact: [Dr. Mary Rech Rockwell](#)

## New Buffalo Institute

*The New Buffalo Institute (NBI) at Canisius College aligns research, service and educational programming toward the many neighborhoods on Buffalo’s East Side, including our own Hamlin Park neighborhood. The NBI affirms our commitment to social justice, provides a welcoming place for community partners to convene, voice concerns and exchange ideas. Through NBI, Canisius works with 100+ nonprofit groups, block clubs, schools and other community organizations. Projects include partnering with nonprofits to distribute food to those in need, to beautify neighborhoods by painting trash barrels and to involve the community in growing fresh vegetables in our East-West community garden.*

Program Contact: [Dr. Mary Rech Rockwell](#)

## Service and Spiritual Clubs & Organizations

The American Red Cross Club

Circle K

Colleges Against Cancer

Donate Life

Griffins Giving Back

Habitat for Humanity

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Peace Action Canisius College

To view more details on engagement opportunities, click on the underlined program titles to access their website.



# Campus Resources & Programs



## ALANA Student Center

*The ALANA (African American, Latinx American, Asian American and Native American) Student Center provides students with various services that help students to succeed at Canisius.*

**Location:** Frisch Hall 008

**Main Contact:** Bennie Williams

## Athletics

*Consistent with the Jesuit philosophy of education and the mission of the College, the Canisius College inter-collegiate athletics program strives for excellence in academics, athletics, leadership and service to others.*

**Location:** Koessler Athletic Center

**Main Contact:** William Maher

## Campus Ministry

*The Office of Campus Ministry at Canisius College strives to help students find, share, and reflect on where they see God in their lives through personal prayer, vibrant liturgies, and retreats. We walk with students as they explore the connections between faith and justice through volunteering and service-immersion experiences. We are committed to building community and welcome students of all faith traditions.*

**Location:** Old Main 207

**Main Contact:** Campus Ministry

## Counseling Center

*The Counseling Center offers mental health counseling services and wellness education to support the emotional and mental well-being of Canisius students.*

**Location:** Bosch Hall 105

**Main Contact:** Eileen Niland

## Griff Center for Student Success

*The mission of the The Griff Center for Student Success is to serve our transformative learning community in the spirit of cura personalis, care for the whole person, through opportunities and services which develop and empower students to achieve academic and career success.*

**Locations:** Academic Achievement, Old Main 013; Career Development, Horan-O'Donnell 014;  
Support Services, Old Main Third Floor

**Main Contacts:** Dr. Mark Harrington, Jennifer Herrmann



### Graduate Admissions

*Canisius College offers 35 graduate programs, along with the flexibility to choose your optimal, personalized academic path. Plus, online graduate programs enable you advance your career on your schedule.*

**Location:** Lyons Hall First Floor

**Main Contact:** Lauren Kicak

### Student Health Services

*Staffed by physicians and registered nurses, Student Health offers services that are easy to access, individualized and targeted to treating illnesses and injuries common to college students. All students have access to MyCanisiusHealth, a web based health portal. The portal offers information on afterhours care providers, off campus specialists, self-care tips and a secure message feature for our providers to communicate directly with each student.*

**Location:** Frisch Hall Lower Level

**Main Contact:** Patricia Creahan

### Higher Education Opportunity Program

*For students involved in the HEOP Program, a New York State program for students who meet academic and financial guidelines.*

**Location:** Horan-O'Donnell 001

**Main Contact:** Cavina James

### Information Technology Services Help Desk

*Information Technology Services (ITS) provide Canisius College with the core technology resources and support services for teaching, learning and research. The ITS Help Desk provides services for students and their computers on establishing wireless network connections, network registration, setting up Gmail on mobile devices, removing spyware, adware and viruses, setting up Papercut Printing on personal computers and resetting passwords.*

**Location:** Horan-O'Donnell 016

**Main Contact:** Grant Guzda



# Campus Resource & Programs

## Institute for Global Engagement

*The Institute for Global Engagement is a centralized resource for students and faculty to access information regarding the various faculty-led academic trips, excursions, and courses abroad.*

**Main Contact:** Dr. Tim Wadkins

## International Student Programs & Study Abroad

*Canisius College students who study abroad say it is a life-changing experience which significantly expands their personal and professional horizons. The college offers diverse study abroad opportunities in 14 countries and 23 programs.*

**Location:** Student Center 003

**Main Contact:** Brian Smith

## Living-Learning Communities

*Living-Learning Communities give students an opportunity to live and study together, and build relationships. They help students meet others with similar interests, get involved easier, and maximize student's experiences at Canisius.*

## New Griff Orientation

*Welcome to Canisius College! New Griff Orientation provides you with a solid beginning to your undergraduate education.*

**Location:** Frisch Hall 008

**Main Contact:** New Griff Orientation

## Office of Event Services

*The Office of Event Services is responsible for the scheduling, planning, and execution of all events held on campus.*

**Location:** Frisch Hall 005

**Main Contact:** Connie Pileri

## Public Safety

*The Department of Public Safety is established to protect and serve the educational environment of Canisius College, protecting the campus and the surrounding neighborhood from the threat of physical harm, property damage and disruptive activity.*

**Location:** Bosch Hall Lower Level

**Main Contact:** Kim Beaty



### Student Life

*The Office of Student Life houses student involvement, housing, and event services. Student Life provides students with the opportunities and environment to extend their educational experience beyond the classroom. Through on-campus programming, clubs and activities, and our residential communities, Student Life's goal is to help students connect to the campus and to learn to live responsible, full, and purposeful lives in their time here at Canisius and beyond.*

**Location:** Dugan Hall Lower Level

**Main Contact:** Matt Mulville

### Student Records and Financial Resources Center

*The Student Records & Financial Services Center administers the college's financial aid programs and is the central hub for student accounts and records. The Office's mission is to provide exceptional customer service that will enhance the overall experience for our students, enabling them to achieve their educational goals.*

**Location:** Bagen Hall 106

**Main Contact:** Kevin Smith

### Writing Center

*The Writing Center aims to help students, faculty, and staff with writing at any stage of the writing process through one-on-one peer tutoring. We work with writers in any field, including the humanities, the social sciences, and the hard sciences.*

**Location:** Andrew L. Bouwhuis Library, Room 127

**Main Contact:** Graham Stowe



