

# RIT | Honors Program

## Welcome to week 2!

We're back! You see and can feel the energy and excitement that comes with the start of a new semester! We hope everyone's first week of classes went well and that you have been enjoying this beautiful late summer weather we've been having. We encourage you to continue to get out and about to explore the many options and opportunities that the RIT community has to offer that can enrich and enliven your time at the University.

The Honors program had an active first week wrapping up with a well attended Honors Hour in the SAU and Honors Council's game day last Friday. Thanks to everyone who took part in these activities - your involvement makes such a noticeable impact in the Honors community and helps to create a sense of belonging and positive momentum for the program.

Check out the message below for important reminders, updates, and opportunities, and as always, please reach out with any questions or thoughts.

### In this week's message:

[A moment for Reflection](#)

[Honors Council and Service Committee Intro Meetings](#)

[Honors Options due Monday Sept 9th](#)

[Niagara Falls and Buffalo Trip: TWO SURVEYS - Respond if registered](#)

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## **And Now It's September,**

BY BARBARA CROOKER

and the garden diminishes: cucumber leaves ruffled and rusty, zucchini felled by borers, tomatoes sparse on the vines. But out in the perennial beds, there's one last blast of color: ignitions of goldenrod, flamboyant asters, spiraling mums, all those flashy spikes waving in the wind, conducting summer's final notes.

The ornamental grasses have gone to seed, haloed in the last light. Nights grow chilly, but the days are still warm; I wear the sun like a shawl on my neck and arms. Hundreds of blackbirds ribbon in, settle in the trees, so many black leaves, then, just as suddenly, they're gone. This is autumn's great Departure Gate, and everyone, boarding passes in hand, waits patiently in a long, long line.

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Join us

## Honors Council Meetings!

Honors Council will meet alternating Mondays 5-6PM



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**09/9**  
**Bamboo Room**

**Academic Excellence**  
Committee Meetings  
Wednesdays 5-6 PM  
LBR 1202 - Dane Gordon Room



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**9/4**

**Community & Wellness**  
Committee Meetings  
Thursdays 5-6PM  
LBR 1202 - Dane Gordon Room



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**9/5**

### Honors Council & Committees

Honors Council is off to a great start, with full council meetings taking place alternating Mondays from 5-6 PM (location changes) and committee meetings starting this week. All Honors students are invited to join full meetings and committee meetings to find ways to get involved and help inform the program. Our goal is to create an active and purposeful community of student leaders that take initiative to develop programming that supports our entire Honors community and provides value to the broader network of academic and co-curricular departments on and off campus. If you have questions check out the [Honors Council webpage](#) which contains descriptions of the three

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committees and contact information for the officers and all delegates.

See above the meeting days, times, and locations. We will continue to update this list this week to include the Service and Leadership committee so please keep an eye out for those additions.



IT'S TIME TO  
**PROPOSE  
HONORS  
OPTIONS!**

**THE SUBMISSION  
PORTAL IS OPEN!**

Submit your proposal for an  
Honors Option to enrich and  
extend your standard courses

Have questions?  
Email [honors@rit.edu](mailto:honors@rit.edu)

## Honors Options: Proposals due Sept 9th

*Honors Options* are a great way to complete Honors Points in the current semester. Build upon the curriculum of a course you are enrolled in with a project that helps you delve deeper into a given aspect of the coursework or expand on a particular topic that is of interest to you. Options provide you with the freedom to design your own project that is challenging and supports your academic development. Remember, options must include a public presentation at the end of the semester, and the Honors Research and Creativity Symposium on Sat. Dec. 7 is a great venue for those presentations.

Visit the [Honors Option page of our website](#) to learn more about and submit your proposal. **The deadline for proposals is Monday, Sept 9.**



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Did you sign up for the Honors Excursion to  
**NIAGARA FALLS + BUFFALO?**

**PLEASE FILL  
OUT THESE  
SURVEYS!**



## Niagara Falls + Buffalo Trip: Surveys for those registered

Are you attending the trip to Niagara Falls? There are **TWO** surveys that all attendees must complete. Many of you completed the initial survey sent last week, but if you have yet to do so please complete it asap to select your destination for the afternoon: **Select your afternoon activity** - [Zoo or Museum Survey](#).

AND - We have **one more survey** for all registrants to complete! This one is to select your meal at the Rainforest Cafe. Follow this link to let us know what you'd like: **Select you** [Dinner at the Rainforest Cafe](#).

COME BY GV 400-2030 FOR

# COFFEE AND CHAT

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6th FROM 10-11AM  
PASTRIES, COFFEE, TEA, GOOD COMPANY



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## Coffee and Chat this Friday!

Come by the Honors Office for Coffee + Chat! We'll have pastries, tea, coffee and good company -- as well as answers to any questions about your Honors academic planning, complementary learning, or other program events or requirements.

**Coffee & Chat - September 6th from 10am-11am  
GV 400-2030 (Honors Office)**

[Register for the event here!](#)



## Honors Hockey Night!

Let's go TIGERS! Join us on the Gene Polisseni Center's South Mezzanine to cheer on RIT and share school spirit with fellow Honors Students! Food will be provided, as well as free tickets for Honors Students! Register through the link below to save your spot.

**October 25th at 7:05pm  
Gene Polisseni Center South Mezzanine  
[Register for Hockey Night here! \(REQUIRED\)](#)**

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**DID YOU DO  
SOMETHING  
COOL THIS  
SUMMER?**



## **Summer Student Spotlight Submissions**

Did you do something cool this summer? Have an awesome project you've been working on and would love to share? The Honors Program will be highlighting the activities of our community this semester, and would love to share your story! Please send any pictures and details to [honors@rit.edu](mailto:honors@rit.edu) to be featured.

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Fram Signature Lecture Series  
Featuring Sean R. H. Bratches



## 2024-25 COMPLEMENTARY LEARNING CYCLE

### Complementary Learning - A New Cycle Begins

The annual cycle for complementary learning runs from Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 each year. All complementary learning hours submitted after 9/1 will be applied to the '24-'25 cycle.

Beginning next week we will undergo our **continuation review** of all students to assess whether they have earned the required 20 hours of complementary learning for the 2023-24 cycle. If your total falls short of the required 20 hours, you will receive an email alerting you to the deficit and your standing will be moved to "conditional" for complementary learning. You will then have the remainder of the fall semester to make up your deficit. We will reassess during the winter recess and students' standing will be updated at that time.

As a reminder, students are required to take part in at least 20 hours of Complementary Learning activities each year. These can include engaging in service on campus, in the community, or online, taking on a leadership role like being an RA or holding a named position on the board of a student org, or attending cultural events on campus like the MLK Legacy presentation or Fram Lecture.

When engaging in complementary learning, submit your hours contemporaneously, within 30 days of the event. The maximum number of hours you can submit for one activity (like being an RA, or volunteering for one nonprofit) is 15. The submission cycle runs from Sept. 1 - Aug. 31 each year - so we are heading into the 2024-25 cycle.

Keep track of new events and opportunities on our Complementary Learning Webpage: [Complementary Learning | Honors Program | RIT](#).

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**New Complementary Learning Opportunities:**



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- [Walking for Rochester](#) - Join a community cleanup in the City of Rochester
- [RIT Foodshare](#) - Volunteer with our on-campus food pantry
- [Mary Place Refugee Outreach](#) - Do you speak Nepali, Karen, Karenni, Burmese, Kachin, and Swahili, Arabic, Somali, or French? Utilize your foreign language skills to support Rochester's refugee population
- [Cameron Community Ministries](#) - Volunteer your time tutoring and connecting with Rochester youth
- We are offering complementary learning for students to attend the FRAM signature lecture: **Critical Thinking: Is AI Nothing More than Machine Learning or Existential Threat?** with Kerrie Holley - Ingle Auditorium (SAU) - September 24, 2024, 3:30 - 5:00 pm speaking on the topic of Artificial Intelligence. Register here: [2024 Fram Lecture](#)
- Were you an **Orientation Leader** this fall? Your time as an OL counts towards complementary learning! You can submit up to 15 hours for taking part in this leadership role on campus.

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"Intelligence plus character -- that is the goal of true education." - *Martin Luther King Jr.*