

May 1, 2009

Dear Member of the Class of 2013 and Parents:

Welcome to Skidmore College!

Skidmore's Pre-Orientation offers a rich and diverse set of opportunities for you, and I encourage you to participate in this year's exciting program. Previous participants have noted that these programs helped them become acquainted with Skidmore and their peers, helping to create a sense of community before classes begin. Approximately half of the incoming class participates in these programs each year. The enclosed brochure lists the various programs, and more details can be found at our website:

<http://cms.skidmore.edu/campuslife/pop/index.cfm>

All of the programs are offered just prior to Skidmore's required New Student Orientation.

All pre-orientation programs run from September 3rd to the 6th. If you register for any of these programs, you should plan to arrive on campus the morning of September 3rd with all of your belongings. You will sign in, move into your assigned residence hall room, and join the rest of the day's activities. Students participating in off campus programs such as SCOOP, Rock and River, Take Me to the River and the Sustainable Farming and Forestry Service Project, will leave campus at 2:00 p.m. All other students will meet in their pre-orientation group while parents attend a parent orientation program.

Sunday, September 6th, is the official opening day for the Class of 2013. This is an exciting moment for our entering class, and we have planned a full day for you and your families: an orientation for parents, New Student Convocation, and a reception for parents at the home of President Phil Glotzbach and his wife Marie. You will hear more about Opening Day from the Office of the First-Year Experience. Parents who brought their students to campus on September 3rd are welcome to return to campus on September 6th, though this is not obligatory. The programs on both days are quite similar, but the crowds are larger and the tone of Opening Day is more festive. The Convocation, particularly, celebrates the arrival of the Class of 2013 in grand tradition with a processional of our new students led by bagpipers and a program of welcome comments from President Glotzbach and other College officials.

Please note that all International Students are expected to arrive on Sunday, August 30th for an international student orientation. This orientation will run until noon September 3rd. They will then join a pre-orientation program of their choice on September 3rd. International students will receive further communication about their arrival from the Office of Student Academic Services.

New students who are invited to participate in fall sports pre-season practice will hear from the Athletic Department regarding their arrival date. These student-athletes will not be able to participate in pre-orientation programs since they will be practicing with their respective teams during the pre-orientation period.

If you have any questions about your pre-orientation options, please don't hesitate to call our pre-orientation program coordinator, Jessica Kane, during business hours (518-580-8335) or email (jkane@skidmore.edu). Good luck with your summer planning!

Sincerely,

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