



Welcome Weekend Events

Wednesday, Aug. 21 to Sunday, Aug. 25

Hello Class of 2023 and new students! Your academic journey at Albright College begins with Welcome Weekend. These events are exciting and educational, and will keep you busy during your first few days on campus. At the end of Welcome Weekend, you will begin classes having established life-long memories, a sense of familiarity and many new friends. Best wishes for a happy, safe and successful first year at Albright College!

Wednesday, August 21

9-9:30 a.m., Fall Athletes Meet with POPs & Steering Committee – McMillan Center

Fall athletes will meet POP leaders, discover POP group assignments, receive Welcome Weekend schedules and learn how to balance the demands of fall athletic schedules during new student orientation programs. The Orientation Committee and Athletics Department work closely together on respective schedules to ensure successful adjustments in all areas for new student-athletes.

Thursday, August 22

8 a.m.-2 p.m., New Student Check-in – Main Lot, McMillan Center, Residence Halls

All students and parents should drive into the main parking lot, which is the Center for the Arts parking lot at 13th and Bern Streets, during their designated time frame. **Please do not go directly to the residence hall.** Your parents will ride with a POP to residence halls where other Albrightians will help move in your belongings. Resident students will check in with POPs in the McMillan Center where you will receive Welcome Weekend guides with schedules, and POP group information. If you submitted a picture online and it has been approved, you can pick up your student ID card. If you have not done so, you will have your picture taken and a student ID card will be processed. You will then proceed to residence halls to check in with resident assistants (RAs).

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Services Fair – McMillan Center

Along with your parents, please explore the many resources available to assist you with your transition to Albright. Various departments on campus will be represented such as Public Safety, Multicultural Programs, Academic Learning Center, Student Accessibility and Advocacy, the Writing Center, Schumo Center for Fitness and Well-Being and more! SAFE Berks, POMCO (Peace Of Mind Company), local banks, and local transportation services will also be on site.

11 a.m.-12 p.m., Commuter Student Check-in – Shirk Parking Lot

Commuter students, please go to the Shirk parking lot, next to football stadium. You will be directed to the McMillan Center to check in with POPs and receive Welcome Weekend schedules and POP group information. If you submitted a picture online and it has been approved, you can pick up your student ID card. If you have not done so, you will have your picture taken and a student ID card will be processed. You will then be directed to the Welcome Lunch on the Great Lawn.

11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Welcome Picnic with DJ – Great Lawn (Rain location – Dining Hall)

All new students and families are welcome to attend lunch and meet other new students and families, POPs, RAs, faculty and staff. There will be a DJ, music, food, and lots of excitement for everyone to enjoy.

2:15-2:45 p.m., President's Welcome – Memorial Chapel

President Jacquelyn S. Fetrow, Ph.D. '82 will welcome new students and their families to Albright.

3-4 p.m., Questions about Counseling Services – CFA Room 104

Licensed professional counselors from the Gable Health & Counseling Center will be available to assist parents and students with individual questions. Walk-ins are welcome!

3-4 p.m., Questions about Student Accessibility and Advocacy – CFA Room 206

The Student Accessibility and Advocacy staff will be available to assist parents and students with individual questions. Walk-ins are welcome!

3-4 p.m., Commuter Students: Open House – Commuter Lounge (Selwyn Hall, lower level)

Commuter students may tour the commuter lounge and will hear from other commuter students about the resources that are available. The CSA adviser and president will also be available to discuss ways to get involved with this organization, in addition to other programs, organizations and activities.

3-4 p.m., Resident Students: Meet Your RAs – Residence Halls

Resident students, you will meet with RAs to learn about your new living-learning communities, policies and programs. RAs will be a valuable resource as you navigate the residential experience.

4-5 p.m., Family Goodbyes - various locations

Spend some quality time with your parents and families before they return home and you begin your Welcome Weekend journey.

5-5:30 p.m., Meet with POP Groups - various locations

Get acquainted with your POP leaders and group peers, while learning the norms and expectations of Welcome Weekend, as well as some POP cheers! POP group information is provided at check-in.

5:30-7 p.m., Dinner & Group Time – Dining Hall, various locations

Get to know your POP leaders and peers a little better over dinner. Have fun with a few ice-breakers while discussing what to expect during Welcome Weekend.

7:15-8:15 p.m., Mike Green: Four Stages of Drinking – Memorial Chapel

Presenter Mike Green will discuss the four stages of drinking development, in his own terms: “social awareness, boozier stage, controlling consumption and developed,” as well as some popular types of rave drugs. Green will also share his personal story as he educates you on the symptoms of alcohol poisoning and ways to get help.

8:30-10 p.m., Playfair – Shirk Stadium

Playfair is facilitated by an outside presenter who brings entertainment to the next level. Students will enjoy ice-breakers and other fun activities while building new friendships! Playfair is more than just an entertainment event, it is a team-building experience that creates school spirit and has a long-lasting effect on the members of our campus community.

10:15-11:30 p.m., Settle in to residential life and socialize with your RAs – Residence Halls

Socialize and unwind with other residents, POPs and RAs. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Friday, August 23

7-8:15 a.m., Breakfast with POP groups – Dining Hall

Enjoy a good, hearty breakfast in the dining hall with your POP groups and prepare for an invigorating day of academics, the Albright Advantage!

8:30-10 a.m., Convocation – Memorial Chapel

Convocation is a special academic ceremony that welcomes new Albright students into our liberal arts learning community. This gathering of new students with faculty, administration, staff and student leaders will orient you to the history and values of Albright College. This event celebrates you, our newest community members, and provides important guidance as you begin your educational journey at Albright.

10:15 a.m.-12 p.m., Academic Advising – various locations

Each student is assigned a faculty adviser who will offer guidance on shaping an academic experience that will be both challenging and rewarding. This time period is reserved for you to meet your academic adviser and get better acquainted, and to ask questions, and get oriented to the academic expectations of our college.

10:15-11 a.m., Academic Advising Session 1

- If you have chosen a major, attend the advising session hosted by your major department.
- If you have chosen a particular major with the intention of earning your teaching certification in that field, attend the education department's advising session first, then go to your major department meeting at 11:15 a.m.
- If you are unsure about a major and interested in exploring various options, attend the Alpha advising session. Report to Klein Lecture Hall first!

11:15 a.m.-12 p.m., Academic Advising Session 2

- If you have declared a co-major, will seek teaching certification in a subject area, or have an interest in another major, attend the advising sessions hosted by that major.

11:15 a.m.-1:45 p.m., Feeding Body, Mind and Spirit

At a specified time, your POP group leaders will lead your group to lunch in the Dining Hall. Get acquainted with other new students, learn to navigate the dining hall, and get first-hand advice from our POPs.

Before or after lunch, you will have a time to meet in a relaxed setting with your POP group and meet your First-Year Seminar instructor, and also time to visit one or more of these drop-in sessions to get acquainted with more of Albright's friendly faces:

- Say hello to our chaplains: Melvin Sensenig and Ibrahim Bangura will greet new students at the Multi-Faith Center.
- Meet your VP of Student and Campus Life and Chief Health Officer, and your Dean of Students: Dr. Wesner and Dean Hanincik will greet new students at Sylvan Pond.

- Visit WXAC. WXAC is Albright's student run radio station. Any student who is into music or interested in any aspect of broadcasting- whether it is for fun, or with a career in mind, is welcome to come down and join us. Training is very simple, and regardless of your major, you can host a radio show, or join us in the office working on everything from social media to writing music reviews, filing to simply hanging out. WXAC can be heard on the radio at 91.3 FM or on line at www.wxac.net.
- Total Body Express (12:45-1:15 p.m. – Schumo Group Fitness Room). Start your first year right, with healthy habits! This 30-minute total body workout utilizes hand held free-weights, resistance bands and stability balls. This class is power-packed and will leave you feeling challenged and re-charged. Space is limited to the first 30-35 students.
- Volunteer Service Project in McMillan Center: New students may participate in a local service project by organizing school supplies in backpacks with greeting notes for elementary school students at 13th and Union.

2 p.m.–3:45 p.m., Academic Success at Albright College

POPs will lead students to these two different sessions dedicated to the expectations of our liberal arts learning community and the resources available to you.

- **What You're Doing, and Why – Memorial Chapel**

You are joining a vibrant learning community, and with that comes particular responsibilities and expectations. Dr. Justin Couchman, Associate Professor of Psychology, and Dr. Rob Seesengood, Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Religious Studies, will address the values of a liberal arts education and how Albright's degree requirements are designed to instill and uphold those values. You will learn about the liberal arts philosophy that supports our curriculum, why it will help you be fulfilled in life, and how to succeed here.

- **Academic Tools for Success – Wachovia Theatre**

What resources at Albright will help you develop your learning skills and adapt to the academic rigor of the college? How do you make an effective plan for succeeding in your major and in your career? Get to know the supportive staff of the Gingrich Library, Digital Strategy and Infrastructure, Academic Learning Center, Writing Center, Student Accessibility and Advocacy Office, and the Experiential Learning and Career Development Center.

4-5 p.m., Celebrating our Learning Community – Library Plaza

Join faculty and staff for conversation at a summertime reception, where you can tour the library, the Writing Center, the Academic Learning Center and the Student Accessibility and Advocacy Office. The Reading Samba School will provide music, and fun snacks and cool refreshments will be available. A videographer will be onsite to capture your thoughts on being an Albright Lion!

5:15-7:30 p.m., Dining, Networking and Building Relations with POPs

At a specified time, your POPs will lead your group to dinner in the Dining Hall. Before or after dinner, POPs will lead students to these two sessions facilitated by peers.

- **Networking – Roop Hall**

Curious about upcoming events, how to join an organization, and other exciting news on campus? Join us for a brief introduction to aLink, followed by POPs review of student eDocs system, Self-Service, e-2 Campus and more. New students will learn how to: follow student organizations on aLink, navigate the LionPay student account system, review course registration and schedules in Self-Service, and sign up for e2 Campus emergency text message alerts (FREE for all students).

- **Building Relations and SC talk-back sessions – various locations**

POPs facilitate ice-breakers, build connections among new students, and rehearse unique group “roll calls.” Steering Committee will engage various POP groups for informal talk-back sessions about *their* new student experience.

7:45-8:45 p.m., Mykee Fowlin: You Don’t Know Me – Memorial Chapel

Presenter Mykee Fowlin deals with the issues of race, violence prevention, personal identity, suicide, gender equity, homophobia, and the emotional pain felt by special education students. In a gripping, fast-paced performance, Fowlin slips in and out of nine characters, both male and female, who “share their stories.”

9-11:30 p.m., Lights, Camera, Action – various locations listed below

*New students will have an opportunity to earn their first of 16 required Experience credits by attending either one of these **events in the theatre**.

9 p.m., and 10 p.m. *Domino Nightcap – Theatre

Celebrate theatre, improv comedy, and social awkwardness with performers from Albright Improv and the Domino Players, Albright’s award-winning theatre company.

- **New Student VIP Night – Bookstore**

Explore the Bookstore on your own with discounts, free goodies, & raffle prizes!

- **Karaoke and DJ Dance Party – McMillan Center**

Choose a favorite song, sing along with karaoke and dance with your POP groups.

Saturday, August 24

8:00-9 a.m., Breakfast with POP Groups – Dining Hall

9:15-10:30 a.m., Lean, Mean and Going Green – Science Field

Engage in activities and games designed to highlight the offerings of the Schumo Center for Fitness and Well-Being and the importance of environmental sustainability. Fifteen to 20 small group events such as kickball, dodgeball, tug-a-war, volleyball, wiffle ball and some relay events involving campus sustainability will be held on Science Field. Information tables will be set up around the perimeter with additional information about the Schumo hours, classes, incentive challenges, intramural sports and clubs. There will also be giveaways!

10:30 a.m.-11:45 p.m., Dude, Where's My Classroom? – Academic and Campus Buildings

The Steering Committee has planned a fun and exciting tour that will take you on an adventure around campus to locate academic buildings, classrooms and department resources before the first day of classes. No excuses for being late or missing appointments on Monday!

12-3 p.m., Lunch, and Community, Civility, Student Rights and Responsibilities

At a specified time, your POPs will lead your group to lunch in the Dining Hall. Before or after lunch, POPs will lead students to these two federally mandated sessions dedicated to the Campus SaVE (Sexual Violence Elimination) Act, Bystander Intervention, and social expectations of our residential learning community.

- **Sex & the Law: Campus SaVE Act – Wachovia Theatre (Females) and McMillan Center, South Lounge (Males)**

To promote a safe and sensitive atmosphere for this difficult topic, female students and male students will be separated. The VP of Student and Campus Life and Chief Health Officer and the Director of Public Safety, along with help from student actors and department administrators, will raise awareness about sexual assault and rape, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and consent. They will discuss campus regulations and bystander intervention, how to prevent questionable situations and how to get help if victimized.

- **Bystander Intervention – Who Will You Be? – Roop Hall**

Your Dean of Students and a representative from Safe Berks will teach you safe strategies to interrupt, intervene, and object to unhealthy and abusive behaviors of others. You will learn more about resources on and off campus, community standards, the student code of conduct, our values and how to be responsible members in our community.

3:15-4:30 p.m., Mark Sterner – DUI: A Powerful Lesson – Memorial Chapel

Presenter Mark Sterner will share his personal story about a Spring Break trip with his college friends that ended in tragedy after drinking and driving.

5-8 p.m., Dinner, and Being an Albrightian: Who will you be?

At a specified time, your POPs will lead your group to dinner in the Dining Hall. Before or after dinner, POPs will lead students to these two sessions facilitated by peers. Resident Assistants will introduce new students to community living, and Steering Committee members will advise new students how to embrace Albright's values, including appropriate use of social media.

- **Residence Life skits – Wachovia Theatre**

RAs will act out exciting and informative scenes regarding community living, roommate relationships, residence life policies, fire safety and security, and programming initiatives for resident and commuter students.

- **Albrightian Values: Integrity, Curiosity, Connection and Resilience – Roop Hall**

New students will converse with a panel of steering committee members who will discuss the core values of being an Albrightian: integrity, curiosity, connection and resilience. Steering committee will further engage new students in conversations as to how our values align with anti-bullying and appropriate use of social media.

8:15-10 p.m., Meet Your SGA representatives and Roll Call – Memorial Chapel

Student Government Association (SGA) president and other representatives will tell you about their role on campus and how you might get involved. Then, POP groups will take center stage as they represent their group with a unique roll call. Afterwards, POPs will share a surprise Welcome Weekend video that highlights your new student experience.

10-11 p.m., Way Off Broadway – McMillan Center

POPs and new students will be entertained by an array of skits, songs, dances and creative monologues.

11 p.m.-12 a.m., Late Night Fun – Residence Halls

RAs will plan games, activities and show movies for interested students. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Sunday, August 25

9-9:50 a.m., Navigating the Transition to College Athletics (*Student-Athletes Only) – Roop Hall

Julie Amato, Ph.D., a sports psychologist from Elite Mindset, will speak to student-athletes about how to successfully navigate the transition to college athletics. Light breakfast snacks and refreshments will be provided.

10 a.m.-10:45 a.m., Class of 2023 Picture – Shirk Stadium

All freshmen will gather together in Shirk Stadium for a Class of 2023 picture to be included in the yearbook. Wear your favorite Albright shirt, or red and white!

11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Uniquely Albright: Thinking, Acting, Respecting and Learning like an Albrightian – Memorial Chapel

Each member of the Albright community (also known as an Albrightian) is a unique individual. Once on campus, that uniqueness continues in the way Albrightians think, learn, live and speak. Being an Albrightian means actively pursuing truth and justice as we honor, nurture and celebrate human diversity in all its forms. We also call into question whatever negates or endangers the dignity and worth of the human spirit. Listen as seniors present the pride we take in living, thinking and acting the Albrightian way. Following the presentation, you will have the chance to discuss civility, respect and diversity in our community with your POP groups.

12:30-1:30 p.m., Brunch & Final Evaluations – Dining Hall

Enjoy brunch with your POP groups and complete evaluations for the Welcome Weekend events to help improve next year's program.

1:45-2:30 p.m., Celebrating Spirituality – Sylvan Pond (rain location – Kachel Chapel)

Join Albright's chaplains for a brief worship service, sermon and discussion with music and student representatives from ACF (Albright Christian Fellowship).

5-7 p.m., SGA Welcome Back Picnic – Great Lawn (Rain location – Dining Hall)

Join your POP groups and other new students while meeting the upperclassmen as you enjoy good food and music on the Great Lawn.

Friday, August 23 and Saturday, August 24

12-6 p.m., Meditation and Mindfulness – Multifaith Center (1811 Linden St.)

If you are feeling a bit overwhelmed and need a quiet space to mentally unwind, visit the Multifaith Center and Zen Room. New students can listen to the soothing sounds of running waters, enjoy the

scent and sight of fresh flowers, and taste some fresh fruits and tea. You may visit during open hours, but please be sure to let your POPs know!

September 27-29 – Homecoming and Family Weekend – Save the Date!

Learning Outcomes

Throughout Welcome Weekend, you will not only experience Convocation, receive an academic overview, discover the Experience Event program, explore numerous academic support services and meet advisers, but you will also be provided with valuable information relative to student life. You will learn about service learning and leadership, how to get involved in student organizations and other activities, how to balance academics and athletics, the student code of conduct, healthy relationships, staying safe, responsible decisions, respecting diversity and inclusivity within a residential learning community, alcohol awareness and many other aspects of student life. While academics are an important focus of college life, the social aspect is also highlighted during orientation. You will have time in your POP groups to socialize with new people and build networks that will help you to feel grounded in the campus community. The goal of our new student orientation program is for you to feel comfortable in your new surroundings with peers who are also experiencing their first-year transition at Albright.