Get Connected
2021-22
Opportunities for Involvement at SAIC
One of the most exciting aspects of life at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) is the freedom to shape your academic and artistic experiences through campus involvement. With campus-wide events, leadership opportunities on campus, and more than 70 student groups and organizations, Campus Life and Residence Life offer countless ways to get involved in the SAIC community. The next few pages are an introduction to the many activities at SAIC, but we encourage you to start your own student groups and programs to create a unique SAIC experience. If you see something that interests you, contact Campus Life and Residence Life for more information.

**Campus Life**

Campus Life supports your academic and artistic experience at SAIC with co-curricular community programs, student groups, and student organizations. You have the opportunity to connect with students, faculty, and staff through campus-wide events and diverse student groups and organizations. Campus Life’s campus-wide events include the annual Holiday and Spring Art Sales, Fall Student Groups Fair, Family Weekend, and SAIC Family Dinner.

Residence Life offers on-campus housing to enhance the student experience. The residence halls, located steps from SAIC’s academic facilities, are designed to create a dynamic community of working artists. Each facility offers 24-hour security, student resident advisors, and full-time professional staff. Staff members will help you get to know the School and the city. Residence Life plans many programs throughout the year, including film screenings, gallery tours, trips throughout the city, and more.

**Leadership Opportunities**

Campus Life and Residence Life offer opportunities for roles that help you develop leadership skills, meet new people, and contribute to the SAIC community. A leadership role with Campus Life and Residence Life is a great opportunity to make a positive impact at the School.

**Campus Life Leadership Opportunities**

**New Student Orientation leaders**

Orientation leaders play a critical role in helping incoming students make the most of their time at the School. Orientation leaders welcome students and serve as a crucial resource for new students learning about SAIC. They actively participate in orientation programs and activities by leading small group discussions, answering student questions, and connecting new students to the many offices and services around campus.
The LeRoy Neiman Center Assistants

The LeRoy Neiman Center assistants serve the community by staffing the welcome desk, helping with facilitating numerous daily events, maintaining the public spaces on the first and second floors, directing students to the appropriate offices, and assisting with the advertisement and promotion of campus events. They also help maintain the bulletin boards on campus and assist the Campus Life office with various administrative tasks.

Residence Life Leadership Opportunities

Office Assistants

Office assistants help with the day-to-day tasks of Residence Life: answering phone calls, assisting students with questions, creating advertisements, and making sure mail gets to students in the residence halls. This position is a great introduction to the School and helps many students prepare to be successful at SAIC.

Resident Advisors

 Resident advisors create meaningful relationships with residents and help them adjust to community living within a diverse, urban environment. They understand and appreciate cultural and lifestyle differences, develop a sense of community responsibility, define educational and career goals, and enhance students’ artistic skills.

Residence Life Summer Staff

Similar to the role resident advisors play during the academic year, the summer staff provides summer students and guests with a comfortable living and learning environment. The summer community in the residence halls includes many art-related conference groups, continuing students, and high schools students in the Early College Program.

Nuveen Center Program Assistants

Nuveen Center program assistants plan programs designed to support the Nuveen Center for International Student Learning. The Nuveen Center provides opportunities for community interaction and professional development that promote cultural understanding and inclusion. As program assistants, students create thoughtful experiences for international and domestic students alike.

Residence Hall Exhibitions Gallery Assistants

Gallery assistants promote, curate, install, and deinstall gallery shows in the Siragusa Gallery and throughout the residence halls and learn valuable lessons about what it takes to produce gallery shows with a team of dedicated student artists.
Student Organizations

Primarily offering campus-wide programs for students, faculty, and staff, student organizations feature consistent programs and leadership each year, including dedicated budgets, paid advisors, and specific facilities.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT**  
Advisor: Patrick Spence  
312.629.6880 | pspence@saic.edu | stugov@saic.edu

Student Government works to address issues on campus and improve the overall sense of community and student satisfaction at SAIC. Student Government meets with students, allocates funding for student group events, plans informational meetings for the community, and provides guidance to SAIC administration. Student Government members are elected in the spring for the following academic year. The Student Government office is located in the LeRoy Neiman Center, 37 South Wabash Avenue, room 202.

**STUDENT PROGRAMMING BOARD**  
Advisor: Laura Lamb  
312.629.6884 | llamb@saic.edu | spb@saic.edu

The Student Programming Board (SPB) plans activities and events on and off campus for all SAIC students. Events occur throughout campus during the academic year for students to engage socially, academically, and culturally. SPB also works with other SAIC offices to host programs and provides access to events in the Chicagoland area. Annual events include the Welcome Back BBQ, Halloween Ball, Drag & Burlesque Show, and De-Stress Week. Additional programming has included artist talks, movie nights, and sporting event trips.

**FREE RADIO SAIC**  
Advisor: Carrie Ruckel  
312.345.3609 | cruckel@saic.edu | freeradiosaic.org

Free Radio SAIC is SAIC’s student-run internet radio station, broadcasting daily to a global audience. The station uses an open format in which individual DJs, performers, and sound artists program the content for their shows according to their own interests. The station provides an unconventional and engaging radio station that airs live shows and keeps a streaming archive of shows available online.

**STUDENT GALLERIES**  
Advisor: Lindsey Barlag Thornton  
312.899.1459 | lbarla@saic.edu | sitegalleries@saic.edu

SAIC’s student-run SITE Galleries (formerly Student Union Galleries) provide the public with experimental exhibitions of student work in two locations on campus: the LeRoy Neiman Center Gallery and a newly renovated gallery space in the 280 Building. Students produce every facet of the gallery’s operation from program design to curating, advertising, and installation.

**F NEWSMAGAZINE**  
Advisor: Paul Elitzik  
312.345.3756 | pelitz@saic.edu  
Design Advisor: Michael Miner  
fnewsmagazine.com

F Newsmagazine is SAIC’s award-winning student publication that is published monthly during the academic year and read all over the city. SAIC students design and edit the publication and make every editorial decision. F News editors are always looking for writing, illustration, and photography from students for both print and web editions. Queries and submissions can be sent to editors@fnewsmagazine.com.
Student Groups

Student groups offer the chance to share passions and interests beyond the classroom. These groups contribute to a thriving campus community and create common space for students to explore what it means to be an artist and a student at the School. Student groups are led by current SAIC students and are advised by faculty and staff from a variety of departments on campus.

Joining a Student Group

Student groups are open to all SAIC students. Visit engage.saic.edu to search our numerous student groups and learn which student groups are available and how to join them. Log on to the site or visit the Campus Life office in the LeRoy Neiman Center, room 201.

Starting a Student Group

If you don't find the group you're looking for, you can start a new one. To start an officially recognized student group, you will need at least two student leaders and an SAIC faculty or staff advisor to begin the process. When you have identified the leaders and advisor, log on to engage.saic.edu to complete the registration forms. For more information, or to discuss your student group registration, email kkivar@saic.edu or stop by the Campus Life office in the LeRoy Neiman Center, room 201.

Below are examples of currently registered student groups for the upcoming academic year, but new student groups are created all the time. Read more about the activities of all currently registered groups by visiting engage.saic.edu.

AFFINITY & IDENTITY-BASED
• Black @ SAIC
• Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA)
• Native American Student Association (NASA)
• Korean Student Association (KSA)
• The League of Extraordinary Genders
• Namaste SAIC
• LATINXS UNIDXS
• Student Advocacy Alliance on Health and Diversity (SAAHD)
• Intervarsity Christian Fellowship & Queerspace

FAITH-BASED
• Intervarsity Christian Fellowship
• SAIC Hillel

PROFESSIONAL
• American Institute of Architecture Students, SAIC Chapter (AIAS)
• American Institute of Graphic Artists, SAIC Chapter (AIGA)
• National Organization for Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS)

ACADEMIC
• Eye + Ear Clinic (Film)
• Parlor Room (Photography)
• Platypus (Marxist Reading Group)
• Artists Need Art Historians
• Fashion Student Chapter

HEALTH & WELLNESS
• Student Advocacy Alliance for Health and Disability
• Yoga Club

INTEREST-BASED
• Ani(mate)Club
• Board Gamers
• Horror Movietgoing and Discourse
• Xerox Candy Bar
For More Information

SAIC Campus Life
The LeRoy Neiman Center
37 S. Wabash Ave., room 201
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SAIC Residence Life
Sullivan Center
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