

Parent and Family Connections Newsletter

Fall 2025, Edition 1



Dean of Students Office
West Hall 106
651-523-2421
deanofstudents@hamline.edu

Welcome to Fall 2025

Hello Hamline Parents,

Fall on our campus is an amazing time. New students were welcomed by New Student Mentors, Resident Assistants, faculty, staff and returning students and they were invited to become an integral part of the campus. Returning students rekindle friendships, and all of the students have settled into their classes and schedules as well as become active in the 66 campus organizations including 6 campus recreation clubs, 22 varsity sports teams, theater, music ensembles, internships and friendships.

We know that transitions are never easy, and if you are a parent, I'm sure you have heard the challenges as well as excitement and success for both returning and new students. To assist with this, Student Affairs staff hosted events to share the resources of the campus. I want to remind you as parents about some of the resources available:

- All students have access to our counseling and health services. They just completed hosting three flu and COVID vaccine clinics in October where faculty, staff, students, and Hamline community members received their vaccines.
- The Dean of Students office in West Hall is also a location for students to stop by with any questions or concerns to receive support and resources to assist in resolving conflicts.
- Student Activities is the home of the student organizations and the calendar for student events

Please know that the Dean of Students staff is here to support both you and your student. We hope you find helpful information in our newsletter to support you and your student.

Sincerely,
Patti Kersten



Patti Kersten

VP of Student Affairs
Dean of Students
Title IX Coordinator

I am the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dean of Students, and the Title IX Coordinator for the university. I help oversee most of the out-of-classroom experiences while being a resource for any assistance and support for all students. I oversee 13 departments to maintain campus support for our students. In my role as Title IX Coordinator, I administer all aspects of Title IX implementation, including providing accommodations and support, and assisting university members through the complaint process and university procedures regarding sexual harassment and misconduct.



Carlos Sneed

Associate VP of Student Affairs
Associate Dean of Students



Maxwell Deyo

Senior Administrative Assistant

Meet our Student Affairs Leadership Team



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CASA

Center for Academic
Success and Achievement

? Check in with curiosity, not pressure

Ask open-ended questions like, "What has been the highlight of your week?" or "What's been most challenging for you lately?" This keeps the conversation supportive rather than stressful.



Encourage Balance

Remind your student to take breaks, get enough sleep, and find time for activities that help them recharge.



Normalize asking for help

Let your student know that using campus resources is a smart strategy, not a sign of weakness.

Supporting Your Student for Success in October

As the semester moves into October, your student is likely beginning to feel the full weight of college life-balancing classes, assignments, social activities, and perhaps part-time work. This is a natural point in the semester when the excitement of the new year meets the realities of ongoing responsibilities. Parents and families can play an important role in offering support and guidance during this time.



Celebrate small wins

Acknowledge achievements - finishing a paper, completing a tough exam, joining a student club. These moments help build confidence.



Send Encouragement

A quick note, text, or care package can go a long way in reminding them they are supported and loved.

Hamline University is committed to your student's success, and we offer a range of academic support services in CASA:

Academic Advising

One-on-one guidance to help students plan courses and stay on track toward graduation.

Academic Support

Personalized strategies for time management, study skills, and test preparation.

Peer Tutoring

Peer and professional support across many subject areas both embedded in courses as well as offered at convenient times for students.

Writing & Communication Center

Assistance with papers, presentations, and projects at any stage of the process.

Encourage your student to take advantage of these resources early and often. Remind them that seeking support is a normal and expected part of thriving in college.

Looking Ahead

As midterms approach later this month, your student may be experiencing high stress levels. Your role as a cheerleader and steady presence is invaluable. With your encouragement and our campus resources, students can build the skills and resilience they need to succeed at Hamline.

HOMECOMING 2025



Homecoming at Hamline University

Hamline Pipers geared up for an incredible Homecoming week kicked off with a fair on campus. The Carnival took place right between Alumni Way and Miller Plaza, drawing in crowds with the smell of yummy food, good music and the laughter generated from fun games! Throughout the week, the Student Activities & Leadership Development team and the student lead Homecoming board put together events all around campus in preparation for the big game on Saturday, October 11th against the Concordia Cobbers. The Hamline community came together for Piper traditions from decades in the making, and participated in new and exciting events that we hope will continue for years to come.

Piper tradition stands strong for over 20 years!

One of Hamline's most beloved traditions - the annual Lip Sync Competition - brought energy, creativity, and plenty of Piper pride to the stage as students performed choreographed routines to favorite hits.



Pipers gather for Homecoming events throughout the week!



Homecoming and Alumni Week was held on the week of October 5th through the 11th, with many events on campus hosted by SALD and the students on the homecoming board.

- Golden Egg Hunt
- Sand Volleyball Tournament
- Homecoming Kickoff Carnival
- Homecoming Fall Fest
- Movie on the Lawn
- Pancakes with the President
- Night Festival
- Homecoming Lip Sync Competition
- Food Resource Center & Gard Tour
- Homecoming Football Game vs. Concordia
- Anderson After Dark



Family and Friends Weekend

November 7 and 8, 2025



Family and Friends Weekend is a time of exploration and fun as you reconnect with your student and meet the Hamline community! The schedule for the weekend includes academic panels, a concert by Hamline music ensembles, a wine and appetizer reception, and other family-friendly entertainment. Please use the registration link below to indicate how many people will be in your party, including any Hamline students who plan to attend with you. We look forward to seeing you at Hamline soon!

Family Weekend Dessert Reception 6:00 p.m. Friday, November 7 Anderson Center Forum	Getting from College to Career: Myths & Realities A deep dive with Career Development Services 1:00 p.m. Saturday, November 8 111 Anderson Center
Family Game Night 7:30 p.m. Friday, November 7 112 Anderson Center	Campus Quest: Family Scavenger Hunt 2:15 p.m. Saturday, November 8 Begins in Anderson Center Forum
Urinetown: The Musical 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, November 7 & 8 Anne Simley Theater	Sundin Memorial Concert 4:00 p.m. Saturday, November 8 Sundin Music Hall
Family Weekend Brunch with Leadership Members 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 8 112 Anderson Center	Family & Friends Evening Reception 5:30 p.m. Saturday, November 8 Klas Center Lobby

Register for Family and Friends Weekend

Dates to Know

11/10/2025 - 11/13/2025	Registration is Open for Spring Semester (date dependent on student status)
11/27/2025 - 11/28/2025	Thanksgiving Break - No Classes
12/12/2025	Fall Semester Classes End
12/15/2025 - 12/18/2025	Final Exams University Residential Halls close on 12/18/2025 at 5:00 p.m. More information is sent to students in November
1/23/2026	Spring Semester Classes Begin University Residential Halls re-open on 1/18/2026 at 8:00 a.m. More information is sent to students in November
3/09/2026 - 3/13/2026	Midterm Break - No Classes



Important information from the Hamline Financial Aid Office:

The 2026 2027 FAFSA application is open to complete for Fall 2026!
Hamline's returning undergraduate FAFSA priority deadline is April 20, 2026.

<https://studentaid.gov/>

Upcoming Dates in the Hamline Arts

Nov 7 - 15

Urinetown: The Musical

Nov 8

Parents Weekend Ensemble Concert

Dec 6

Wind Ensemble Concert

Dec 7

A Capella Christmas Concert

Dec 11

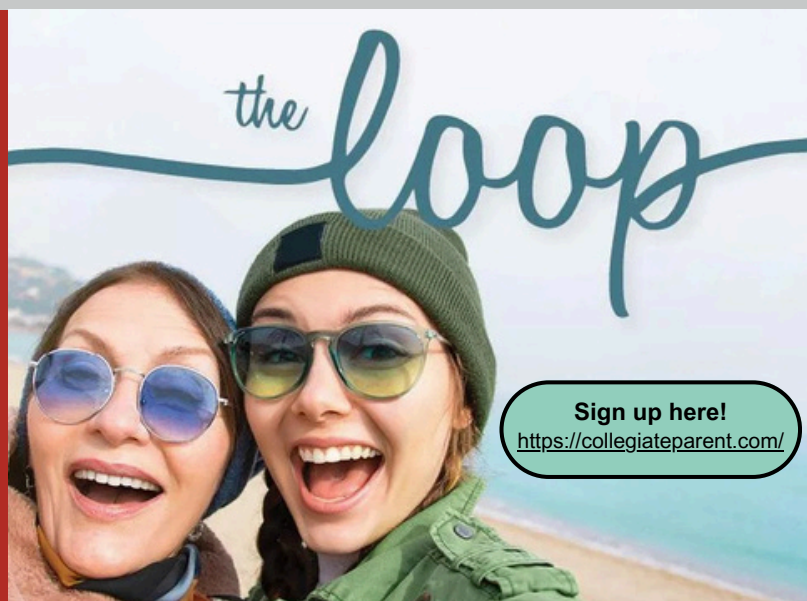
Jazz Ensemble Concert

Dec 13

Orchestra Concert



<https://www.hamline.edu/life-at-hamline/arts-at-hamline>



Sign up here!

<https://collegiateparent.com/>

Subscribe to Our Weekly Newsletter for FREE!

Every week we share fresh and relevant perspectives that you won't want to miss.

- ✓ Information about the transition to college with tips to help your student thrive
- ✓ Career prep, majors, health, finances and more
- ✓ Stories you'll love from parents and students alike
- ✓ Our advice column, Dear (Parent), where we answer YOUR questions!

Dear Parents,

What were some key challenges you faced (and overcame) as a new student?

I feel like the biggest challenge for me was staying on top of all the work I had to do. In college, there's a lot more writing and reading that you'll need to do compared to high school. I believe that since post-college life is all about existing in the "real world", the classes are much more hyper focused on truly understanding a concept or subject. When that's the case, a person's ability to focus and take in information is going to be crucial and potentially something a freshman in college isn't used to. I know that's kind of how it was for me. I flew right through high school. In college, I had a couple roadblocks here and there. After the first month of college, I would say I got my groove back.

What are some resources you used to help you in your transition into the Hamline community?

The absolute best resource that I used at Hamline University were the people! I have always said that Hamline has a unique ability to attract just the right people to the school and many people here just click with other people here. I personally experienced this within the first couple days at Hamline. The people are kind, insightful, and helpful. The best thing you can do for yourself at Hamline is to make a couple friends. That doesn't even go for just the students here. The staff are just as worthy of this compliment. If you don't make any connections while being at Hamline, you'll only be hurting yourself.

Who am I?

Justin Antwi

Political Science Major
Class of 2026
Farmington, MN



Activities that I am involved in:

Global Scholars Society (President) and Hamline Undergraduate Student Congress (Senior Class Representative)

What were some of the biggest differences between high school and college?

The biggest difference between college and high school for me is the workload. Back in high school I definitely had homework and things to worry about, but it's not the same as college. Reading, researching and writing are taken much more seriously in college.

What are some things that parents and family members might do to offer support to their students? (Or, what advice would you give parents and family members for supporting their students?)

The biggest advice I would say parents should give to their kids about heading off to college would be to simply be open. When you leave your small town or community that you've known your whole life, you're going to get hit with a crazy wave of unfamiliarity once you get to college. Everyone has their own stories, experiences, and ways of life. So many different people exist on campus, and you'll interact with a ton of them. If you stay in your own conceited bubble, you won't be able to get anywhere, and it'll be especially hard in college. They have teachers whose background could be in a different field like anthropology and have them teach a philosophy class just to have that person give a different perspective on some subjects. You need to be open-minded to different things. No one's saying that you have to do or agree with everything, but you have to be able to actively listen to something and understand how different everyone is. Trying new foods, trying a new activity, taking a class that you aren't familiar with, and even making new friends is a new adventure for a freshman in college and they should take it all on with a brave heart.



HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

THE INAUGURATION OF President Mayme K. Hostetter

The Board of Trustees of Hamline University invites you to save the date for the inauguration of

Mayme K. Hostetter

as the 22nd President of the University on **Thursday, November 6, 2025**

Please hold this date in your calendar and use our website to watch the live inauguration online.

Inauguration Website

hamline.edu/inauguration

PUBLIC SAFETY'S SERVICES

ACCESS REQUESTS • AFTER HOURS ACCESS TO ON CAMPUS SPACES WITH PRIOR PERMISSION

CARD ACCESS • ACCESS TO AUTHORIZED DOOR SCANNERS VIA HAMLINE ID CARD

JUMP STARTS • FREE JUMPSTARTS FOR HAMLINE AFFILIATES PARKED ON CAMPUS

VEHICLE UNLOCKS • FREE VEHICLE UNLOCKS FOR HAMLINE AFFILIATES PARKED ON CAMPUS

UBER ESCORTS • FREE UBER RIDE TO & FROM MEDICAL CENTERS FOR NON- EMERGENT CASES

HAMLINE IDS • PRINT NEW HAMLINE ID CARDS IF LOST OR STOLEN

PHYSICAL KEYS • FACILITATE PHYSICAL KEY REQUESTS FROM SUPERVISORS

LOST AND FOUND • LOG AND RETURN LOST PROPERTY



OUR MISSION

HAMLINE PUBLIC SAFETY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING A SAFE ACADEMIC, WORKING, AND LIVING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE HAMLINE COMMUNITY AND ITS VISITORS.

WHO WE ARE

HAMLINE PUBLIC SAFETY IS MADE UP OF PART TIME AND FULL TIME STAFF AS WELL AS STUDENT WORKERS WHO TOGETHER MAKE UP ADMIN, OFFICERS, AND DISPATCH. STUDENT WORKERS ARE HEAVILY RELIED UPON FOR THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND ARE FREQUENTLY CALLED UPON TO WORK VARIOUS SHIFTS, INCLUDING OVERNIGHTS, WEEKENDS, AND HOLIDAYS/BREAKS.

WHEN TO CALL

HAMLINE PUBLIC SAFETY IS STAFFED 24/7 YEARROUND. THIS MEANS THAT DISPATCH WILL ALWAYS BE JUST A CALL AWAY IF YOU EVER NEED HELP OR SEE SOMETHING YOU THINK WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF. IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO ERR ON THE SIDE OF CAUTION BY GIVING US A CALL.