

Bard College

June 2010

Dean of Students Office

Dear Bardian:

Greetings, and welcome to the Bard College community! I look forward to your arrival in Annandale in just two short months and to getting to know you over the course of the next four years.

As you may know, the first-year program begins with your arrival on campus on Saturday, August 7. First-Year Orientation will begin that night, and the three-week Language and Thinking Program will begin on Monday, August 9. We will send you more information about this later this summer; for now, the following should be helpful.

First-Year Orientation is a time for you to meet your fellow classmates, get to know faculty and staff, and familiarize yourself with the campus and its resources. There will also be opportunities to explore and learn about the Hudson Valley. When you are not in class or preparing for it, you will find a wide variety of activities planned to provide you and your classmates with opportunities to get to know one another and to get to know the campus. I encourage you to get involved and make the most of this experience.

Enclosed you will find a schedule for opening day, an academic calendar, information about your Bard e-mail address, and a summer to-do checklist. I want, in particular, to draw your attention to the academic calendar, which includes the Matriculation Days on August 26 and 27, when you will meet with an academic advisor and register for courses. You will be required to stay on campus through the 27th of August to complete your registration. While you may choose to get off campus for the weekend, you should know that most students choose to stay on campus; we have a full weekend of events and programs planned. Classes begin on Monday, August 30.

In the weeks to come, you will receive information via your Bard College e-mail account about the Language and Thinking Program, your roommate and housing assignment, details about arrival day and other important announcements. This will be the only paper mailing you receive this summer – all other communication will be sent to you through your new Bard e-mail address so be sure to log in and check it regularly. Until then, I encourage you to explore the College's incoming student website (<http://www.bard.edu/admission/accepted/>) and to get in touch with me when you have questions.

More than anything else, I want you to think about what it means to join this community. Bard is continually evolving and each individual has the power to affect the place and the people who live and work here. What do you want to give to it? What do you want to get from it? How do you see yourself developing over the next four years? What is community and how will you help (re)create it at Bard? I encourage you to use the summer to think about what it means to be a student at Bard, and I look forward to talking with you about it.

All of us at Bard are excited about your arrival in August.

With best wishes,



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