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1. Greetings!

This is the Weekly ISSS Newsletter that we send out every Friday. It includes very important immigration updates that you must be aware of, as well as information about events happening on campus and in the area.

4. University at Albany Events

Click [Here](#) for a full list of upcoming UAlbany events!

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- Melt N'Toast: Grilled Cheese Festival
- Three Walk Nights at Capital Holiday Lights in the Park
- NYS International Film Festival
- Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer: The Musical
- The 102nd Annual Troy Turkey Trot
Are you a part of a student organization and want to see your event advertised to your fellow students? Please send the details and/or flyer to ISSS@albany.edu.

2. Important Announcements

Travel Signature Day TODAY, November 16

Every F-1 and J-1 student must have a valid travel signature on their I-20 or DS-2019 in order to re-enter the United States after travelling outside. These travel signatures are usually valid for 1 year while you are a full-time student, though we recommend getting your I-20 or DS-2019 signed every 6 months.

Usually, travel signature requests take 5-7 business days. On our special travel signature days, however, we will sign the I-20 or DS-2019 on the spot. We will be having a travel signature day today, November 16th, from 10am-12pm in Science Library G-05.
International Celebration December 6th- Registration Now Open!

The Center for International Education and Global Strategy will host a ceremony for graduating international students, study abroad students who are graduating, departing exchange students, and scholars who are returning to their home countries at the end of the semester.

If you are a graduating international student or departing scholar, please register here: [https://goo.gl/forms/SuT9zD6seUQDmDJ02](https://goo.gl/forms/SuT9zD6seUQDmDJ02)

If you are a departing exchange student or visiting student, please register here: [https://goo.gl/forms/gsQLLctR35mHYTAU2](https://goo.gl/forms/gsQLLctR35mHYTAU2)
OPT and CPT Workshops

ISSS offers weekly workshops for off-campus employment-- both for OPT and CPT. No reservation is required. If you are graduating in December, the OPT filing period opens September 20th. Students are encouraged to apply for OPT as early as possible because it can take USCIS 3-5
months (or longer) to process a request for OPT. Please view the schedule here.

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**CPT and OPT Workshops**

**Fall 2018**

**CPT Workshops**
- Tuesday, 9/11, 2:30-3:30pm, SL G05
- Thursday, 10/11, 10:30-11:30am, SL G05
- Friday 11/9, 4:00-5:00pm SL G05—for Master’s of Computer Science students
- Wednesday, 11/14, 2:00-3:00pm, SL G05
- Monday 11/26, 10:00-11:00am, SL G05
- Monday 12/3, 3:00-4:00pm, SL G05

**OPT Workshops**
- Thursday, 9/6, 3:43pm, SL G05
- Wednesday, 9/19, 12:00-1:30pm, SL G05
- Monday, 9/24, 10:00-11:30am, SL G05
- Friday 10/5, 4:00-5:30pm, SL G05
- Tuesday, 10/16, 3:00-4:30pm, SL G05
- Friday, 10/26, 10:00-11:30am, SL G05
- Thursday, 11/1, 1:00-2:30pm, SL G05
- Thursday, 11/15, 10:00-11:30am, SL G05
- Tuesday, 11/20, 11:00am-12:30pm, SL G05
- Friday, 11/30, 3:30-5:00pm, SL G05
- Wednesday, 12/5, 2:00-3:30pm, SL G05
- Friday, 12/14, 10:30am-12:00pm, SL G05

**Other Important Dates**
- Wednesday, September 12th: Job and Internship Fair, SEFCU Arena
- Thursday, September 20th: First day USCIS may receive OPT requests from December 2018 graduates
- Tuesday, December 18th: Program end date for December graduates
- Friday, February 15th, 2019: Latest OPT start date for December graduates to request. All OPT applications for December graduates must be received by USCIS before this date.

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**Writing Center International Student Peer Tutors**

Need help with your writing? Did you know the UAlbany Writing Center has three international students here to help international students on their writing? Their schedules are below. To schedule an appointment with a tutor, please call 518-442-4061 or visit the Writing
3. Other ISSS Updates and Events

Reminder: Emergency Fund Available for Students in Need
The UAlbany Emergency Fund is available for students in financial need (it cannot be used towards tuition expenses). For more information on eligibility requirements and how to apply please click here: https://albany.sef.suny.edu/

University No Smoking/Tobacco Free Policy Effective January 2019

The University will become tobacco free in January 2019, which means smoking and other tobacco use will be prohibited on campus. For additional information on this new policy, please click here: https://www.albany.edu/tobaccofree/FAQs.shtml#q12
Cessation Resources (i.e. programs to help students quit smoking) are available through the University and community. A list of resources is available here: https://www.albany.edu/tobaccofree/resources-for-students.shtml. Counseling and Psychological Services will also have a Cessation Group to help students quit smoking/other tobacco usage. For more information, please contact Dr. Brain Freidenberg at
4. University at Albany Events

Click [Here](#) for a full list of upcoming UAlbany events!

**Maximizing Student Learning**

Friday, November 16 11am-12pm  
Massry Center for Business (BB151)  
The Future Faculty Leadership Council Presents: Maximizing Student Learning. Whether you are an instructor or a grader you can be a part of the student learning process.  
Join us for Lunch & Discussion: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

**Moment of Thanks**

Friday, November 16 1-3pm  
State Quad’s Student Success Center - 2nd floor of Whitman Hall
Stop by State Quad’s Student Success Center located on the 2nd floor of Whitman Hall and enjoy fall harvest favorite snacks including apple cider donuts, trail mix, pumpkin pie and more. Plus make your own postcard to show thanks and appreciation to a loved one back home.

**CDO: Introduction to Cloud Services and Security**

Friday, November 16 3-4pm  
Massry Center for Business (BB121)

This week we focus on one of the most fundamental changes to technology (at least in our lifetime) the shift from on Prem to Off-Prem. We will be using and Introducing Amazon Web Services (AWS) to show how you can create a lab, and get comfortable with it’s language.

This is our most ambitious workshops to date!

**Pups & Brunch**

100% of the profits will go towards our local humane society

Saturday, November 17th  
12:00PM-3:00PM

$15 entry  
Cash, Venmo, Cashapp
UAlbany Football vs Stony Brook
Saturday, November 17 @ 3:30pm
Tom & Mary Casey Stadium

The University at Albany football team and rival Stony Brook, ranked No. 10 in the country, will meet in the regular-season finale Saturday at Tom & Mary Casey Stadium. Kickoff is at 3:30 p.m. on an afternoon when the Great Danes will honor 16 seniors before the game.

Well-Being Lunch Series
Sponsored by CAPS, this lunchtime well-being series is designed to help students manage stress and promote their personal well-being.

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10/2</td>
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<td>Reducing Stress</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>11am-12:30pm</td>
<td>Better Sleep, Better Lives</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10/18</td>
<td>11am-12pm</td>
<td>Mindful Moments</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>11/13</td>
<td>11am-12:30pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12/4</td>
<td>11am-12pm</td>
<td>Reducing Stress</td>
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Location
Campus Center Student Success Center — located on 1st floor of CC adjacent to staircase leading down to Nick’s Café and Star Gazer

5. Capital District Events

Melt N'Toast: Grilled Cheese Festival
Saturday, November 17 @ 11am
Cost: $35
Takk House, 55 3rd Street Troy, NY 12180

Melt N'Toast showcases the Capital Region's culinary and craft beverage landscape, featuring the creativity of local food vendors paired with regional craft beverage producers. Whether it's stacked with classic or artisan ingredients, the combinations are endless, and everyone has their own way of enjoying a grilled cheese sandwich.
Come taste delicious chefs’ choice grilled cheese creations, paired with a featured local craft beverage selection, and vote for your best Melt N’ Toast combo. Also be ready to Melt N’ Groove with music by DJ Trumastr and photos by Snappy Booth. There will be two sessions: 11am to 2pm, and 3pm to 6pm. Click here for more info: [https://www.albany.com/event/melt ntoast-155961/](https://www.albany.com/event/melt ntoast-155961/)

### Three Walk Nights at Capital Holiday Lights in the Park
**Saturday, November 17 - Monday November 19**
Washington Park
Come out for the three Walk the Night events at the Price Chopper/Market 32 Capital Holiday Lights in the Park!
November 18th: [Chili, Chowder, and SoupFest](#)
November 19th: [Pet Walk Night](#)

### NYS International Film Festival
**Monday, November 19 @ 6pm**
The Linda, 339 Central Ave
Albany, NY 12206
The New York State International Film Festival was created to celebrate the art with filmmakers and their audience. We strive to educate, support, entertain, and connect local and international artists through movies. NYSIFF is determined to help and offer opportunities to artists and also the public. We hope to encourage you to think, learn, write, educate, shoot, edit and screen your own short movie! NYSIFF offers free workshops for all film festival participators. These workshops encourage participants to explore their imagination and skills of media arts. They will be taught by professionals in the media field. These instructors will present knowledgeable information through our workshops: certain film techniques such as camera, script writing, cinema history, and editing.
NYSIFF will hold a conference featuring a local/international film director, producer and/or actor/actress who will discuss their experiences. They will be open to answering any questions the attendees may have and provide advice. Conferences are open to the public as well.

### Rudolph The Red-Nose Reindeer: The Musical
**Tuesday, November 20 @ 6pm**
Palace Theatre, 19 Clinton Ave
Albany, NY 12207
Cost: $63, $45.50, $38.50, $28.50
[BUY TICKETS](#)
The beloved TV classic *Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer* soars off the screen and onto the stage this holiday season. Come see all of your favorite characters from the special including Santa and Mrs. Claus, Hermey the Elf, Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster, Clarice, Yukon Cornelius and, of course, Rudolph, as they come to life in *Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical*. It’s an adventure that teaches us that what makes you different can be what makes you special.
Don’t miss this wonderful holiday tradition that speaks to the misfit in all of us. Based on the animated
television special *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* and the stage production directed and conceived by Jeff Frank and First Stage. Script adaptation by Robert Penola. Arrangements and orchestrations by Timothy Splain.

**The 102nd Annual Troy Turkey Trot**

*Thursday, November 22 @8am*

*Troy Atrium, 4 3rd St Troy, NY 12180*

Cost: $10 - $35 | Phone: 518.221.3051 | [VISIT WEBSITE](#)

Register to run in the annual Troy Turkey Trot started in 1916 with just six runners entered. Now, it's one of the largest The!TurkeyTrot, or wake up early Thanksgiving morning to cheer from the sidelines. This year brings four feature events: the competitive 5K run, the 10K run, the one-mile Turkey Walk, and the Grade School Mile. Join the thousands of Capital Region participants in this proud tradition!