

McMurtry College

Astronomy Week

2024





ASTRO-WEEK

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Section 1.

Introduction to

Q-Week





Welcome NEW MURTS!

We are Gale, Francesca, and Sean, your 2024 McCoordinators for AstrO-Week, and we are astronomically excited to welcome you to McMurtry and Rice this August!

Firstly, congratulations for making it here! We know that each of you journeyed your own path to get here, and we are super proud of you for everything you have accomplished and overcame to get here. We're really looking forward to seeing you begin to chart your path here at Rice and all that you will do with it. Your years ahead at Rice are as vast as the astrological sky itself, full of potential and possibilities. Here at McMurtry, the best residential college on campus, you will be equipped with all the necessary tools, help, advice, and resources you need to be your best self in these coming years. As your chief astrologers, we have delicately crafted AstrO-Week for you to feel comfortable in your new home, meet life-long friends, and get ready for your first semester. We are so excited to see where your path takes you and be a guiding light for you in whatever way you need.

In this book, you'll find lots of information to help you answer any questions or curiosities you have about move-in, O-Week, McMurtry, Rice, life post-O-Week, etc, so be sure to read it carefully. If you still find yourself having questions, don't even fret. We will be sending more information as the weeks come and of course you can always reach out to us.

“As your chief astrologers, we have delicately crafted AstrO-Week for you to feel comfortable in your new home, meet life-long friends, and get ready for your first semester.”

-Gale, Francesca & Sean

WHAT IS O-WEEK?

Orientation Week, or O-Week, is Rice's long-standing tradition of welcoming new students! During O-Week, you'll get to know your peers, pick classes during academic planning sessions, and learn about Rice and Houston. You have been randomly assigned to one of eleven residential colleges, each with its own student O-Week Coordinators who have been planning a welcoming orientation program since January. You'll join an O-Week group with fellow new students and be guided by four to five Advisors — current Rice students who will offer you academic and social advice. These groups will be your continuous support system, and you



will spend time with them during many activities throughout O-Week and beyond. Don't worry, there will also be opportunities to meet everyone outside of your O-Week group! No matter how ridiculously excited, cautiously optimistic, secretly apprehensive, or just downright ecstatic you are about coming to Rice, the transition to a college lifestyle will probably seem a little overwhelming. The purpose of O-Week is to serve as an introduction to a new world of academics, residential colleges, Rice culture, and McMurtry culture. The social ties you build, both within McMurtry and at Rice, will shape your college experience, and O-Week kickstarts these formations in a fun and meaningful way. This week is for you to explore your new home base, so relax and enjoy! While the transition may seem overwhelming, you'll have plenty of time to get connected throughout the year. Everyone's transition is different, but you'll share this experience with your entire class, so keep an open mind and get ready for a ton of fun!

MISSION STATEMENT

Welcome to McMurtry's AstrO-Week 2024, where we embark on a cosmic journey among the celestial wonders that have fascinated us for millennia. Just as stars align in the vast expanse of the universe, so too do the unique paths of our New Students converging at Rice and at McMurtry.

AstrO-Week invites New Students from all backgrounds to illuminate their perspectives and passions as diverse as the characteristics of the zodiac signs. Together, we hope to bring them in joining McMurtry's constellation full of memories as timeless as the night sky.

Throughout this cosmic week, we will be the guiding light for our new students as they embark on a journey to chart their own paths to personal and academic success, providing them with the resources and support along the way. We aspire to facilitate lifelong connections and raise New Students up to new heights as they pursue their dreams.





Section 2.

Move-In



Move-In Day Instructions

MOVE IN DAY: Sunday, August 18th

McMurtry Address

(Your Name)
McMurtry College
1605 Rice Blvd.
Houston, TX 77005

**Please only mail or ship things to arrive after August 18th.
Our space is limited and not secure, so bring important items
with you. There will be time to shop for other things after O-
Week!**

Plan to arrive in the morning on **Sunday, August 18th**. When you arrive at Rice, please enter through Entrance #1 (the main entrance), take your first right, and follow the signs for McMurtry. After you unload, you will be given directions for where to park for the remainder of the morning. As you get closer to McMurtry, Advisors will be holding signs, yelling your name, and welcoming you to the college. They are super excited to meet you!

Your Advisors, and maybe some helpful football players, will empty your car and start moving your stuff into the building (that's right - you don't have to do ANY work). In the meantime, you and your family will be introduced to our wonderful College Coordinator, Jackie, who will give you your keys and other important information. After you check that all your belongings are in your room, you will meet the McTeam (our amazing Core Team), who will welcome you to McMurtry and Rice. They are so excited to meet you and you can read more about them later in this book! You will also have some time to unpack and begin setting up your room.

Around noon, there will be lunch for you, your family, and your Advisors. Soon after lunch, it will be time to say a final goodbye to your family, and head off to join your O-Week group for the first time. While your family and loved ones stay behind for a New Families Orientation, you will be starting one of the most jam-packed and fun-filled weeks of your college career!



Important Contact Information

O-Week Coordinators

mcmurtryoweeek@gmail.com

Gale Gai

gg35@rice.edu
(413) 265 - 4938

Francesca Nemati

fn11@rice.edu
(917) 301 - 7610

Sean Nyangeri

sn68@rice.edu
(832) 839 - 1443

McMurtry College Magisters

Jenifer Bratter & Noe Perez

jbratter@rice.edu
np17@rice.edu
(713) 348-4908

McMurtry College Coordinator

Jackie Carrizales

jjc3@rice.edu
Office: (713) 348-4583
Fax: (713) 348-3135

✦ Arrival Information ✦

Arriving by Car

From the West on I-10 East:

Take 610 South to 59 North and exit at Greenbriar. Follow Greenbriar and turn left at Rice Boulevard. Follow until it becomes Sunset Blvd. Turn right on Main Street and take an immediate right into Rice campus using Entrance #1.

From the East on I-10 West:

Take the US 59 South exit. From US 59 South, take the Fannin Street exit and travel south on Fannin until you reach Sunset Boulevard. Take a right on Sunset and an immediate left onto Main Street. Turn right onto Rice campus using Entrance #1.

From the South on US-59 North:

Exit at Greenbriar, stay on the frontage road, and turn right (south) on Greenbriar. Follow Greenbriar to the light at Rice Boulevard. Turn left onto Rice Boulevard. Stay on Rice Boulevard until it becomes Sunset. Turn right on Main Street and take an immediate right into Rice campus using Entrance #1.

From the North on US-59 South:

Take the Fannin Street exit and travel south on Fannin until you reach Sunset Boulevard. Take a right on Sunset and an immediate left onto Main Street. Turn right into Rice campus using Entrance #1.

Arriving by Plane

George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) / Houston Hobby Airport (HOU):

The travel time from IAH will be around 35-40 minutes and the commute from Hobby will be about 20-25 minutes, depending on the time of day. Car rentals and Ride Share services are available at both IAH and Hobby Airport.

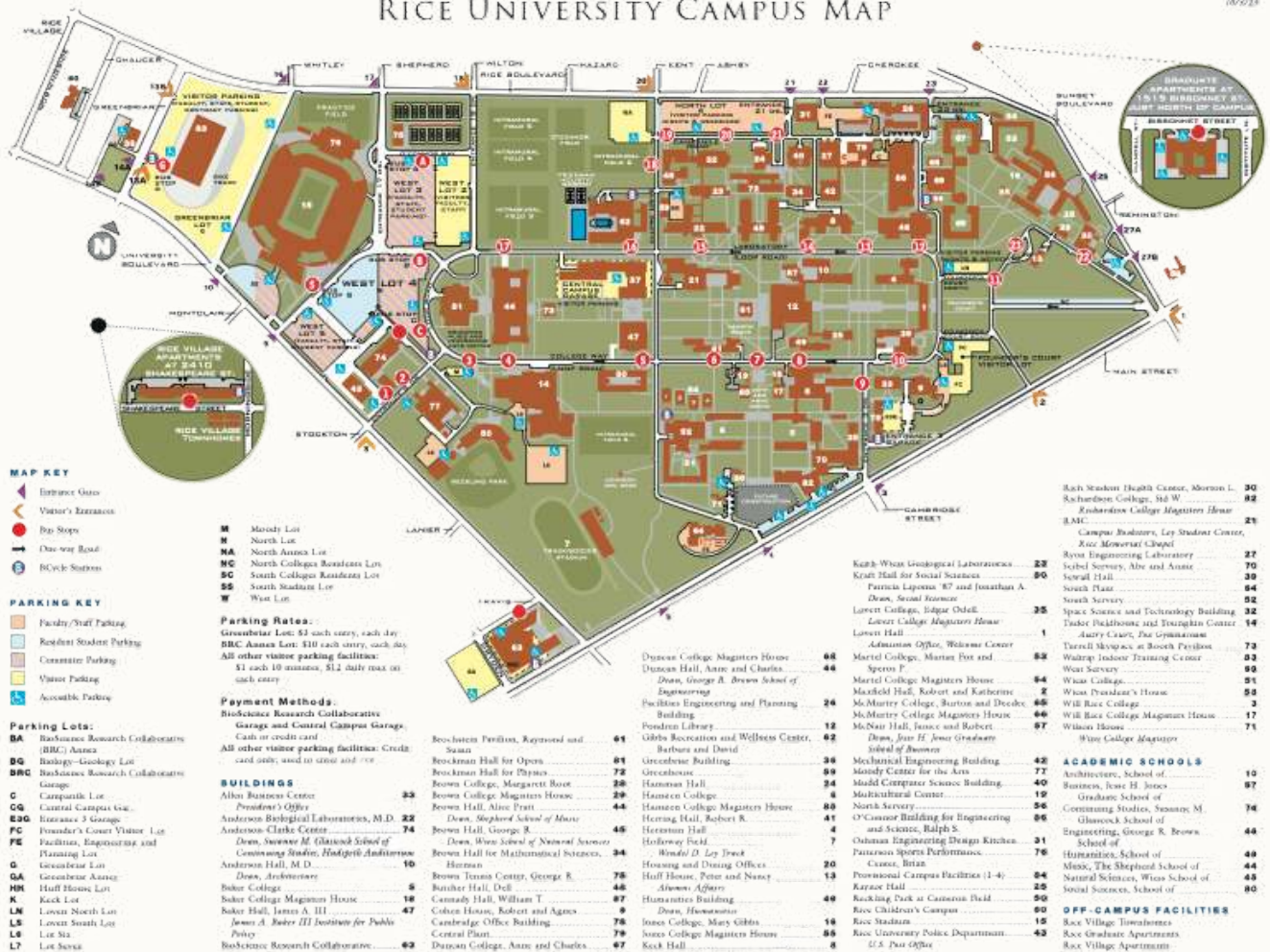
Hotels Near Rice University

There are several hotels located in the Medical Center District. Some of the options include InterContinental Houston Medical Center, Houston Marriott: Med Center, Hotel ZaZa, and more. Some of these hotels have special Rice University rates so be sure to explore the various options at this site: <https://success.rice.edu/parents-family/new-families-orientation/hotels>

Campus Map

RICE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

10/5/23

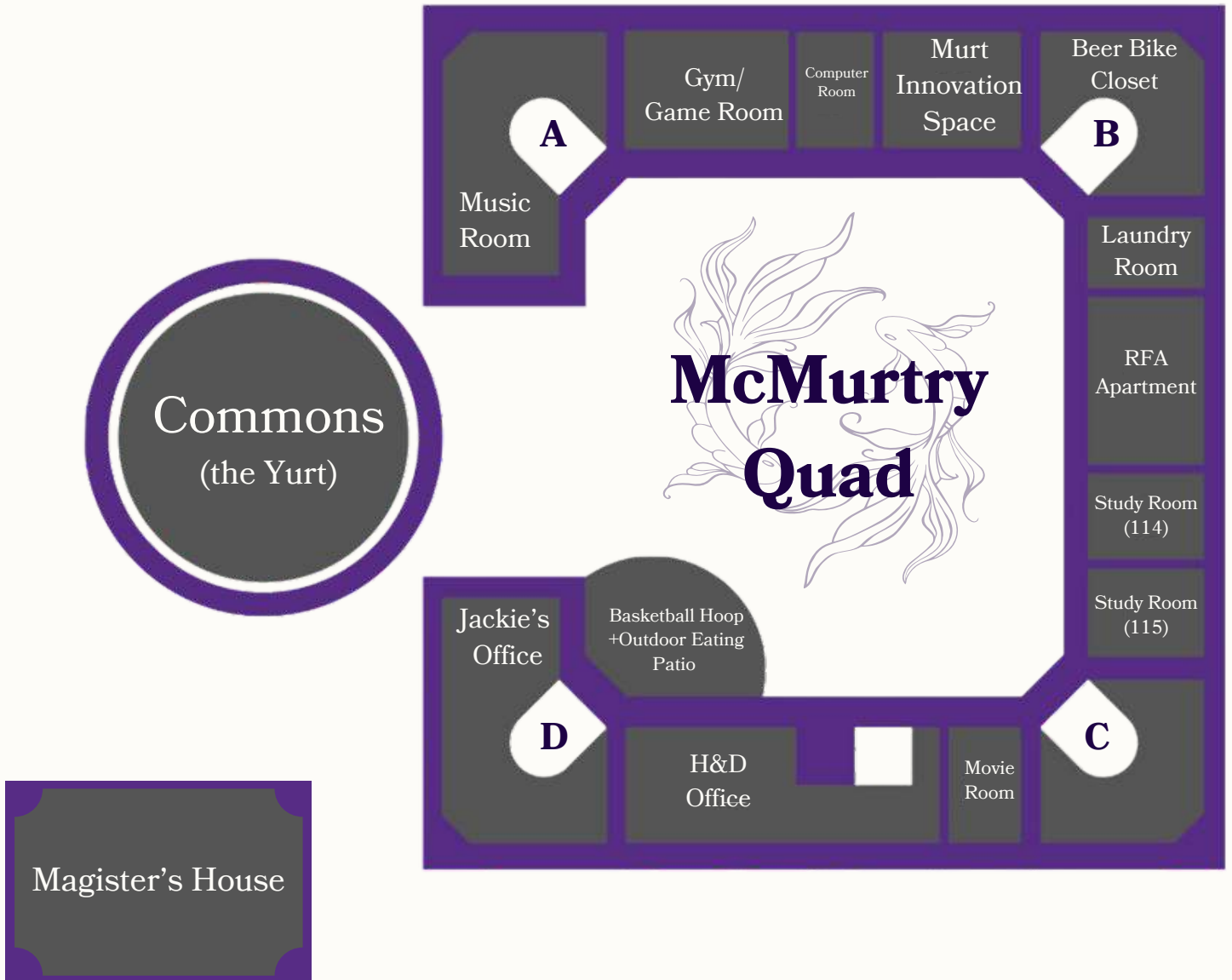


Here is a link to Rice Campus Maps, including Google Maps, a printable map, and an interactive map of campus!

<https://www.rice.edu/campus-maps>

✦ Map of McMurtry ✦

1st Floor



A,B,C, and D denote our four stairways. You will often hear Murts say things like "meet me by stair B" or "leaving from stair D."

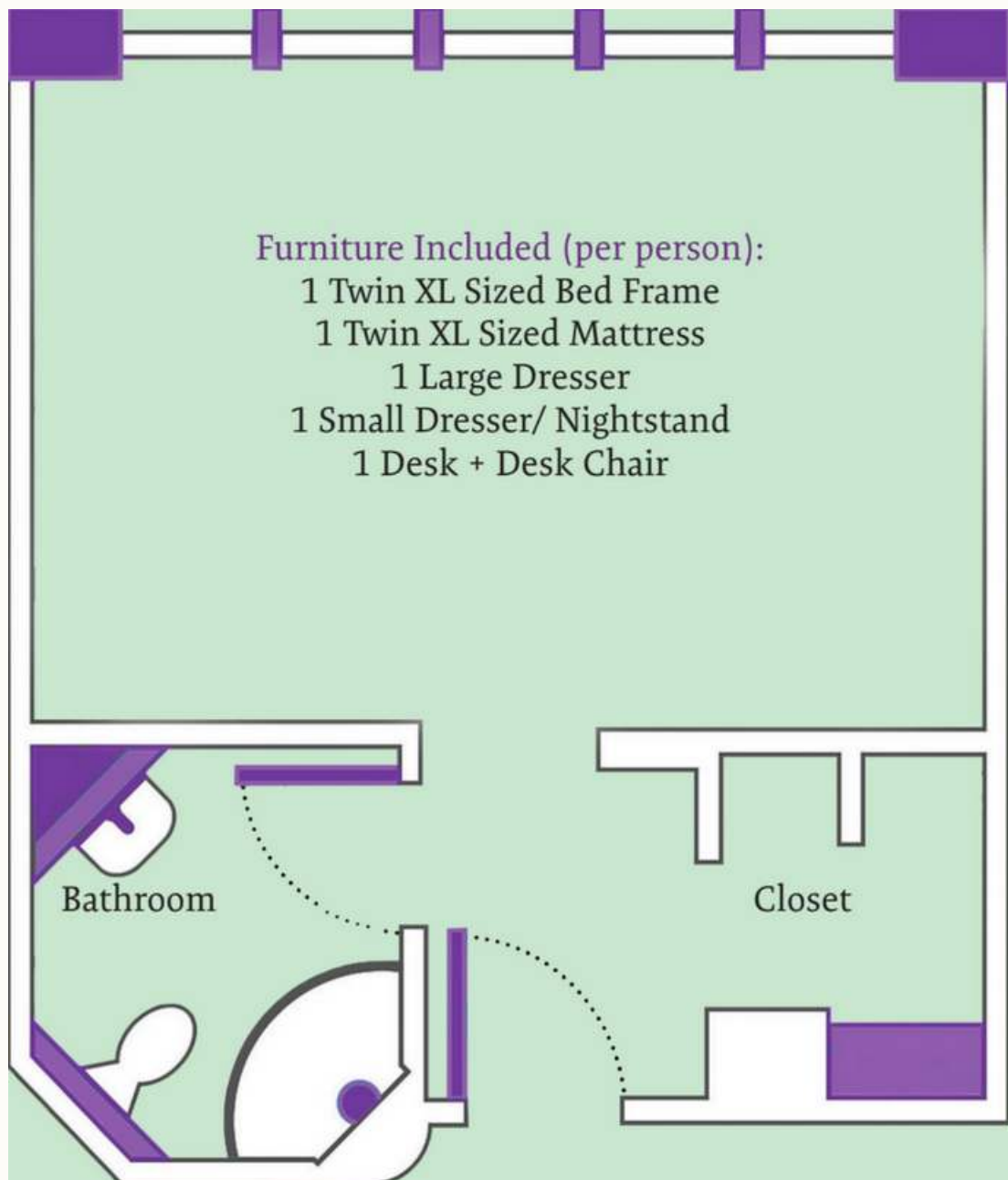
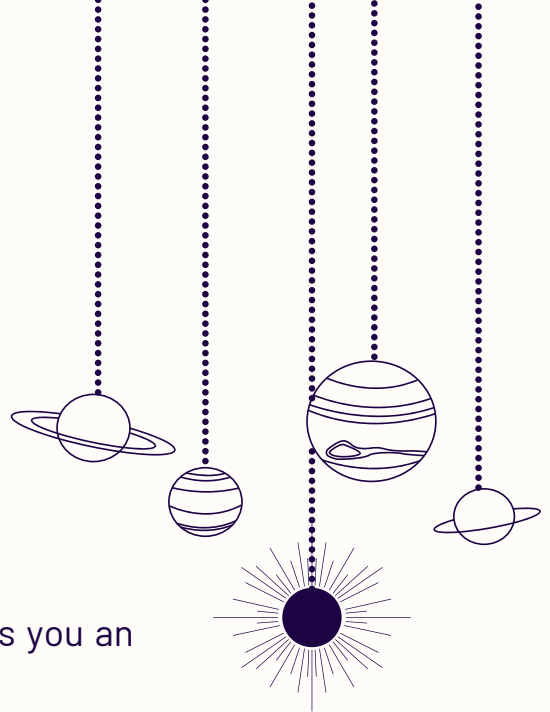
Aside from some RFAs, no one lives on the ground (or 1st) floor. You will find essentials like our Laundry Room, Study Rooms, and Jackie's Office!

A few steps from the main McMurtry building is our Commons, the Yurt, connected to West Servery. You will always find Murts eating meals, studying, and hanging out here; many Murt events also take place in the Yurt!

✦ Your Room ✦

Coming in as New Students, you will most likely be placed in a double (one room shared between two people) with your roommate.

The diagram below is a floor plan that gives you an idea of what your 18'x18' room will look like!



✦ What to Bring ✦

Every Room Has:

- Bed
- Dresser
- AC/Heating Unit
- Desk & Chair
- Ethernet Port
- Private Bathroom
- Built-in Closet
- Cable TV Outlet
- Towel Racks
- Trash Can & Recycling Bin
- Shower Curtain

Supplies to Bring or Buy:

- School Supplies
- Desk Lamp
- Shower Accessories
- Storage/Organizers
- Power Strips/Extension Cords
- Backpack
- Computer (see OIT article in Owlmanac) & Chargers
- Clothing Hangers
- Hand Soap/Hand Towels
- Bath Mat
- Twin XL Bedding & Pillows

Personal Items:

- Medicines
- Laundry Detergent
- Toiletries
- Towels/Washcloths
- Clothes Hamper (we recommend one that's easy to carry)
- Clothing – make sure you have a week's worth of comfortable shorts and shoes for O-Week
- Identification (i.e., Driver's License, Passport, etc.)
- Up-to-Date Insurance Card

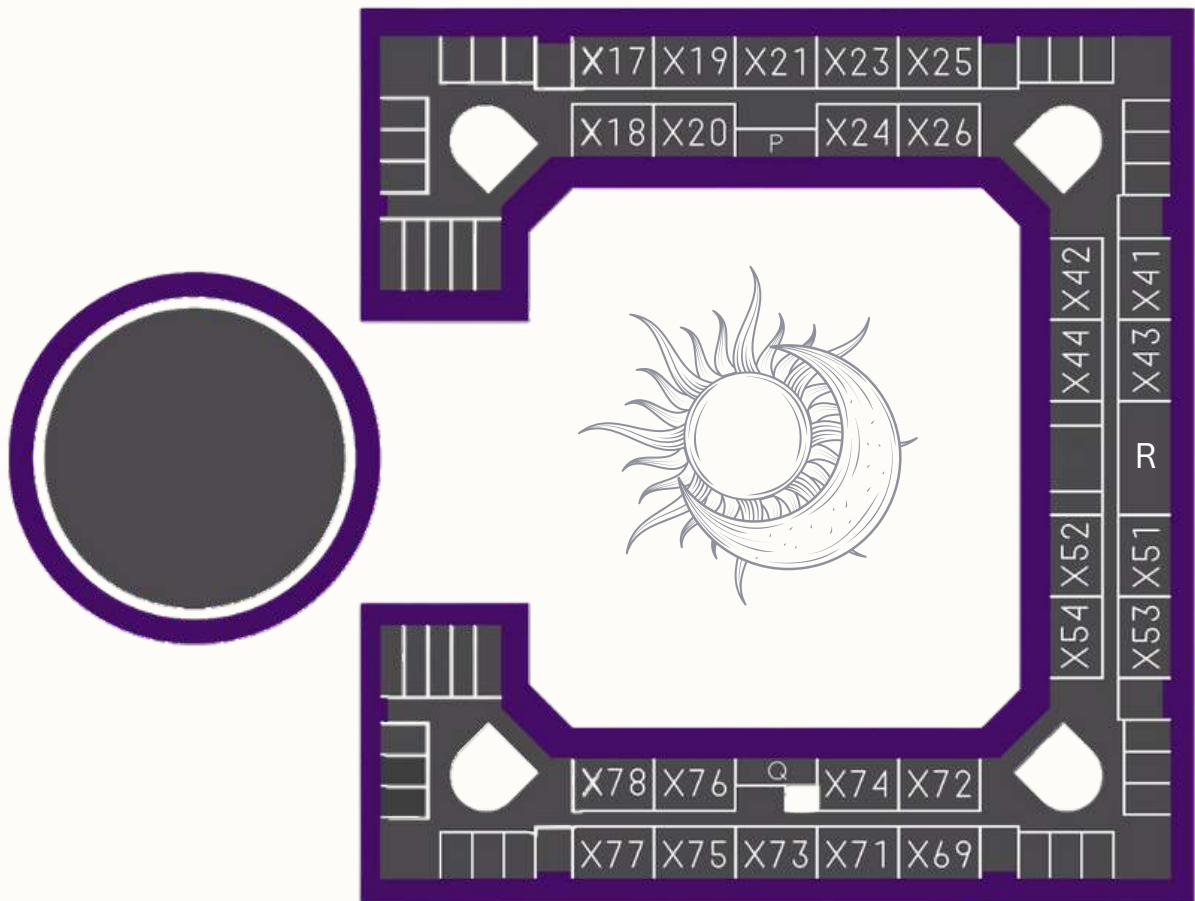
Optional Items:

- Mattress Pad
- TV
- Water Bottle
- Iron/Ironing Board
- Carpet/Rug
- Brita Filter
- Mini Refrigerator
- Wall Decorations
- Full-Length Mirror
- Furniture
- Mounting Tape / Command Strips
- Broom or Vacuum

What NOT to Bring:

- **TOO MUCH STUFF**—there will be plenty of time to buy stuff you didn't bring. We recommend starting out small with just the essentials and adjusting when you are here!
- Candles or other flammable materials

✦ McMurry Floor Plan ✦



McMurry: 2nd, 3rd, 4th Floors

Replace "X" with your floor to find your room on the map above!

All incoming Murts living on campus will be assigned to a room on the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th floor.

P - denotes a small communal study room-type space where there is a table, chairs, and a whiteboard.

Q - denotes a kitchen space containing a stove/oven, sink, microwave, and fridge!

Anyone is welcome to use these at any time as long as they clean up afterward.

R - denotes an RA apartment on the 2nd and 3rd floors (Tamara and Deirdre, respectively)

McMurry 5th is a sundeck where some upperclassmen live and are also home to 2 more communal lounge spaces, and sometimes Murt-wide events are hosted up here!

Hall Culture - Rooms above the A & B staircase (x17 - x44) are "O" halls (stands for Orange), and rooms above the C & D staircase (x51 - x78) are "Y" halls (stands for Yellow).



Section 3.

Art 9-Week Personnel



O-WEEK

Roles

YOUR McCOORDINATORS

Hopefully you all know who we are by now. We (Gale, Francesca, and Sean) are your 2024 Astro-Week Coordinators! We have been working on planning O-Week for you all since January and we are super excited for you to finally be here. We are in charge of selecting the whole advising team, placing you into an O-Week group, and planning all the events that will be happening during O-Week.

YOUR O-WEEK GROUP

Your O-Week group consists of 3-4 Murt Advisors, 1-2 Co-Advisors, and potentially another O-Week affiliate (such as a Diversity Facilitator), as well as all your O-Week 'siblings' (10-11 other New Students in your group!). These people are there to form close bonds with you and help you through anything, academically related or not. You will be spending a lot of time with your group during O-Week.

YOUR ADVISORS

Your Advisors are a group of Rice students that are enthusiastic about welcoming you to McMurtry and helping you adjust to college. They are there to support you with anything you may need. Your group will include Advisors who are from McMurtry as well as Co-Advisors, who are advisors from other colleges and may introduce you to Rice culture outside Murt.

O-WEEK Roles

Peer Academic Advisor (PAA)

Student experts on Rice academics who will help you with all your class scheduling during O-Week!

Erin Kang: edk5@rice.edu

Nathan Nguyen: nan3@rice.edu

Brianna Schulstad: bts8@rice.edu

Mira Goldstein: meg22@rice.edu

Rice Health Advisor (RHA)

They're your resource on well-being at Rice and how to be the healthiest and happiest self you can be!

Ishani Kaul: ik17@rice.edu

Chief Justice (CJ)

They're your resource on the justice system and other regulations such as the Alcohol Policy!

Jackson Harvey: jh137@rice.edu

Kile Stenoien: rs123@rice.edu

Divisional Advisors

The DAs are members of various academic schools that will be available during O-Week to answer any questions you may have regarding academics.

Christopher Jermaine (Engineering)

cmj4@rice.edu

Emily Houlik-Ritchey (Humanities)

emily.houlik-ritche@rice.edu

Laura Kabiri (Natural Sciences)

laura.kabiri@rice.edu

Ozge Gurcanli (Social Sciences)

ozge.gurcanli@rice.edu

Diversity Facilitator (DF)

They run educational diversity workshops and are here to make sure you feel comfortable being yourself!

Sohani Sandhu: sks15@rice.edu

Naya Mukul: nm70@rice.edu

Denise Lundu: dgl3@rice.edu

President

The President of McMurtry College for the upcoming school year!

Adeel Sumar: mcmurtrypresident@gmail.com

Athletic Liaison

A student-athlete Advisor who ensures our athletes' situations, both during O-Week and after, are understood and accommodated!

Sachin Shurpalekar: sss20@rice.edu

Student Maintenance Rep (SMR)

Go-to person if you need your bed lofted or have any other issues with your room.

Berny Guerra-Arthur: bgg1@rice.edu

McTeam

The McTeam is the group of adults here at McMurtry who are advisors and mentors for all students in the college.

Jenifer Bratter: jlb1@rice.edu

Noe Perez: np17@rice.edu

Jackie Carrizales: jjc3@rice.edu

Matt McCary: mm160@rice.edu

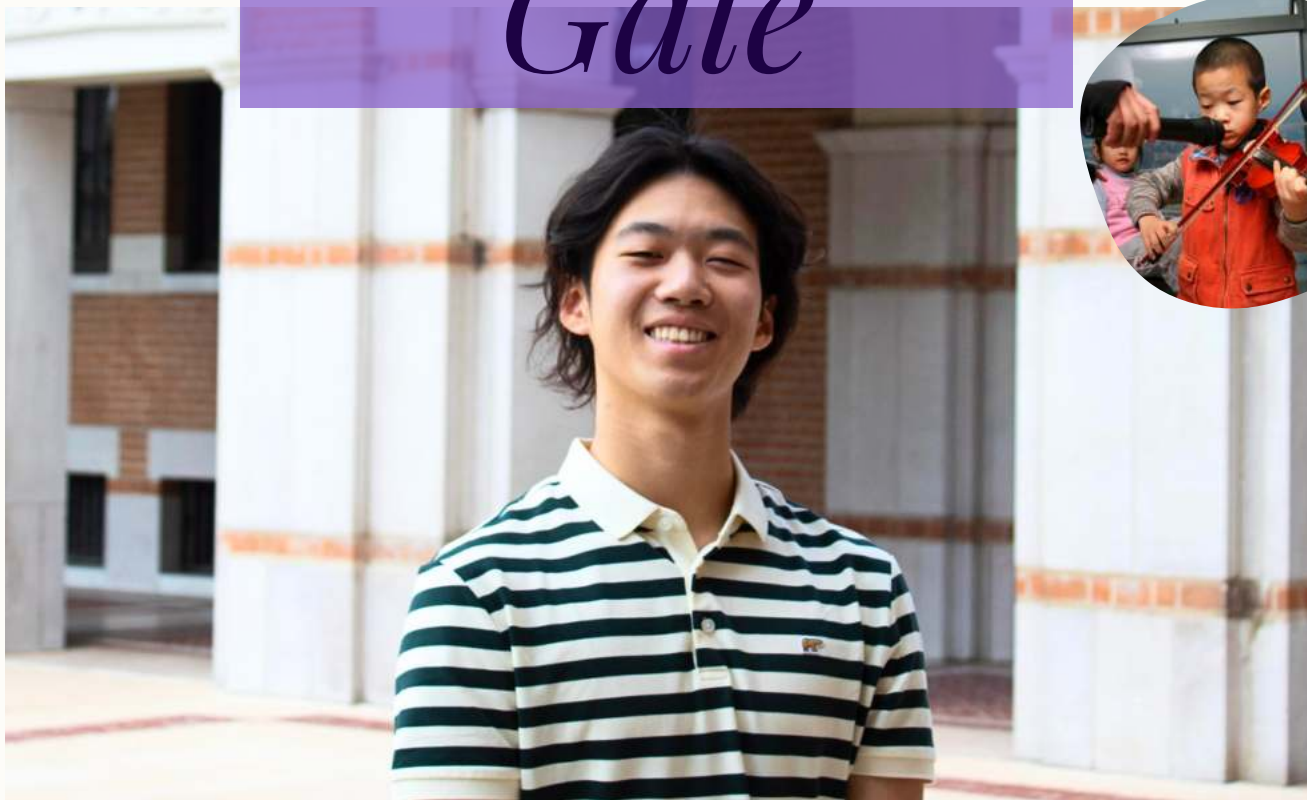
Tamara Jones: tamarajones@rice.edu

Deirdre Hunter: dnh1@rice.edu

meet the

McCoordinators

Gale



Dear New Murts,

Congratulations, you've made it to Rice! *Double congratulations*, you are joining **McMurtry College**, the **BEST** residential college on campus!

My name is Gale, and I call Shenzhen, China, my home. I left home for the US when I was fourteen, and spent my high school years in Massachusetts before Rice. Here, I study Statistics and Managerial Economics, with the hope of using them for impactful work in the future! Personally, I've struggled to find the right major for myself, so it is totally okay if you are coming in not knowing exactly what you want to study.

At Rice, I also sing in the Rice Apollos, the all-male acapella group on campus! I also helped found the Rice Chamber Music Club, where I play the violin and get campus musicians together to work some musical magic. At Murt, I am also your Prime Minister, overseeing committees that plan lots of fun events! In my spare time, I watch a lot of sports and movies, play video games (recently acquired a PS5), and love a good game of poker. You will soon find your own niche and passions at Rice!

I am so glad to be your O-Week Coordinator this year alongside Francesca and Sean! We have delicately and intentionally crafted a fun, fulfilling, and meaningful week ahead of you, making sure of a smooth transition for you into college. So, get excited to meet your advisors and other new Murts, and I can't wait to see y'all!

Sincerely,

Gale



Francesca



Hi new Murts! It's almost time to welcome you into college and into our amazing McMurtry family!

My name is Francesca and I am one of your AstrO-Week 2024 Coordinators. I am a junior studying Computer Science with a minor in Neuroscience. I am originally from New York, NY so coming to Texas was a bit of a change for me, but I fell in love with Rice and I am so happy to be here and I am honored to be representing McMurtry to all of you guys!

Academically, I am passionate about Computer Science and developing my skills as a coder. In addition, I am interested in a variety of other subjects, including natural sciences and humanities. My minor in Neuroscience has allowed me to take classes in the Neuroscience and Biology departments that fuel my love for science. Further, I am a history and art history nerd. I can talk to you all day about life in the Middle Ages, the chronology of twentieth century Europe, or the details and symbolism of Jan Van Eyke's paintings.

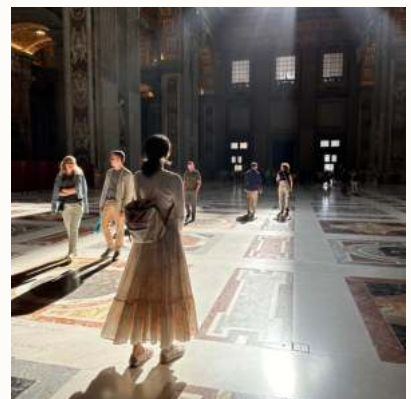
Outside of classes, I have participated in research on campus in the Computer Science department working on a project related to computational biology. This fall will also be my third semester as a teaching assistant for COMP 140, so perhaps you will catch me in class or hosting one of my office hour sessions in McMurtry commons. Another thing I do on campus is my role as Photo Editor for the Rice Thresher. Make sure to check out the paper every week, available in commons.

My hobbies include photography, baking, playing sports, going to museums, shopping, and spending time with friends. In my spare time, I enjoy watching baseball and those home renovation shows.

Gale, Sean, and I have been working hard for months to plan this week for you all and we hope to make it as fun and rewarding as possible. I am super excited to meet all of you guys and I hope your transition to college is exciting and enjoyable.

See you so soon!

Francesca



sn68@rice.edu
832-839-1443

Sean



Hello New Murtssss,

My name is Sean and I am a junior majoring in Sociology and Health Sciences, minoring in African & African American Studies. I was born and raised in Houston (h-townnnn babyyyy), so I know the area around Rice and beyond quite well and I'd be super willing to give you any recs for things to do, places to eat at, etc.

Academics-wise, I love learning about how society and the world around me is organized and Blackness in different contexts. I also am really passionate about the social dimensions of health and societal inequalities. Besides that, I'm interested in history, anthropology, and foreign languages & cultures (fun fact: I can speak 2 languages fluently, English & Spanish, and I'm learning/can get around in 2 others, French & Yoruba).

On campus, I currently serve as the Director of Community for the Rice African Student Association (RASA), as well as being in the Black Student Association and being a member of the RASA Dance team. I am one of the head RHAs for McMurry this upcoming year, so you'll definitely see me around Murt here and there. Additionally, I am involved with the Center for Civic Leadership and DEI here on campus. All that is to say that I am also here if you everrrrr have any questions about ways to get involved on campus.

In my free time, I am such a hugeeee foodieeee and loveeee spending time with friends, going to museums, watching TV and movies. I also enjoy keeping up with soccer (or football as known by true fans hehe), specifically Premier League and La Liga (loveeee Arsenal and FC Barcelona). Lastly, I adoreeeee traveling and exploring new places, ask me about my study abroad experiences in Spain, France, Italy, and Costa Rica :)))))

I hope you've enjoyed reading my cute little bio and I am beyond thrilled to meet you all in August!!!

Yours Truly,

Sean



meet the
Advisors



Ben & Jaries





Shreyan Das

Oh, how I wish I could be a freshman, just for the slight chance that I would have Shreyan Das as my father. Wow. If you're reading this and are not in his group, you might as well drop out and try again next year; it's for the best. What doesn't Shreyan do? I don't know. I once witnessed Shreyan Das code an entire website to raise money for homeless Zebras (in under an hour). He's a renowned trumpet player who played for Duke Ellington, a nationally ranked Football Manager currently being recruited by Arsenal, Chelsea, and Barca, Pub employee, ex-TA, egg connoisseur, the best animal noise imitator, and last but not least, a former spelling bee champion. Be sure to ask him about the "Drain Gang," I hear they make some fine melodies! He's also a huuuuuuuuuge fractal guy! Fractals! I mean, wow. It's hard to put into words just how much Shreybae brings to the table. He is truly so selfless and will always be willing to help you with anything. He is wise beyond his years and a great resource if you ever have any

questions about anything from COMP homework, to where to get the best food, to how to deal with a tough situation you're facing. There is no doubt that Shreyan will be the perfect companion as you enter your journey at Rice.

~ Laxmi Giri, McMurtry '25, Timmy Mansfield, McMurtry '24, Nikhil Mummaneni, McMurtry '25, Jackson Hughes, McMurtry '24, Joon Lee McMurtry '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Major: Computer Science | Minor: Statistics | Bridgewater, NJ



Iris Li

After making one too many your mom jokes, Iris has been promoted to being YOUR (O-Week) MOM. As a sophomore from Chicago majoring in biochemistry, Iris has already overcome some deep trenches at Rice by listening to her top 3 study tracks - "Karma", "Do You Want to Build a Snowman", and "Lu" - and she's ready to help you overcome any obstacles you might face in your freshman year and beyond. Although she is most commonly found synthesizing some funny-looking molecule or fueling her crippling addiction to Papa's games, Grey's Anatomy, and Haikyuu, Iris is, at heart, a D1 yapper. Whether you need to have a serious conversation or just spew some nonsense, you will always feel recognized and supported when you talk to her. It's natural to be anxious during O-Week, but you can rest assured that Iris will never hesitate to offer her help or support to someone who needs it, and she never fails to make people feel welcome and included. Your first week at Rice is in great hands!

~ Catherine Wang, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Bioscience (Biochemistry) | Minor: Data Science | Vernon Hills, IL



Caitlynn Thomas

Oh no! I broke my leg! But you know who could help splint said leg... the SNATCHED baddie (and certified EMT) Caitlynn (Catey) Thomas! You wouldn't expect this icon to be from the small town of Perryton, Texas, but if there's anyone who is Perryton's prized possession, it would be this beautiful cheese tasting, horse-back riding, glass-working woman. Majoring in Neuroscience, beauty isn't all that she's got, and boy can she CHUG. Being on McMurtry's chug team for Beer Bike, she has college pride and is the first to participate in some of our most bizarre traditions. While she is a FREAK for fun, if there's anyone that you would want to be your doctor, it should be Catey. Not only does she understand so much about others, science, and how to better the medical industry, but just know that she would put the most care into you and your comfort. So, whenever you see Catey, make sure you wish her a happy birthday while she's giving a tour for Owl Guides, or perhaps heckle her so she can chug faster and lead

Murt to victory. Helping give the class of '27 a great reputation, thank the universe everyday if Catey Thomas is your advisor, because she will be one of the best people you can ever meet on Campus <3

~ Cristian Castillo, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Neuroscience | Perryton, TX



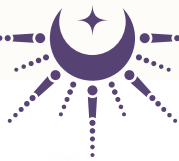
Eric Younger

Murts - get ready to meet the most handsome, charismatic, and exciting co-advisor yet. The Eric Younger! This Scorpio has only the best qualities: loyal, passionate, and with an all-around great vibe, Eric has it all. Hailing from Austin, Texas, this Junior at Sid Richardson College is an always-locked-in academic weapon, majoring in Political Science with a focus on Latin American trade, Asian Studies with a Chinese language concentration, and minoring in Politics, Law and Social Thought. He stays chasing that bag too, optioning his intellectual prowess at the Baker Institute for Public Policy. As the local Peruvian hunk, Eric's sense of style is unmatched; his infectious excitement unparalleled. When he's not repping his massive triceps at the Rec or managing projects at Rice Consulting, you can catch Eric the (basically) polyglot practicing his Mandarin or enjoying a night out. Truly one of Rice's best, Eric is such a caring force. Even if your paths don't directly cross, each and every one of y'all will have the time of your life at AstrO-Week while he's around.

~ Brandon J. Fantine, McMurtry '26

Sid Richardson '26 | Co-Advisor | Majors: Political Science, Transnational Asian Studies | Minor: Business | Austin, TX

Quentin Taurustino: Kill Bull





Josh Posada

Meet the legend himself, Joshua Posada, hailing from the true LA (Los Alamos, not Los Angeles). With biceps bigger than his brain (jk), Josh is not just a pre-law powerhouse but also Christopher Nolan's godson (did you see him in Oppenheimer?). When he's not at the Rice Recreational Center for an ungodly amount of time or zooming around campus on his boosted board, you'll find him strumming away chords on his guitar, bass, or viola, proving he's got a way with strings that goes beyond his impressive daily 200g protein diet. His music taste ranges impressively wide, being a connoisseur of all things from the Beatles and the Smiths to Dr. Gabba and 100 geecs too. Being a great caring friend and listener, there is no doubt you will be in good hands with Josh as your advisor.

~ Joon Lee, McMurtry '25, Nikhil Mummaneni, McMurtry '25,
Christa Westheimer, McMurtry '23

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Majors: Political Science, Business | Minor: Policy, Law & Social Thought | Los Alamos, NM



Brooklyn Freeman

CONGRATULATIONS you've scored Brooklyn Freeman as your O-Week mom! Not only does Brooklyn look like an angel but if you're lucky enough to ever hear her sing you'll know that she also has the voice of one. A triple threat, some might even call her the Elle Woods of Rice because you shouldn't be fooled by this SOPA major's good looks and charm. On top of her busy schedule she's also Pre-Law. What like it's hard? Not to fret though because despite her extensive weekly schedule where she plans almost every minute of her life she will always make time for a sweet treat run with you. A caffeine fanatic make sure you ask for her recommendations at each cafe on campus or in Rice Village. Just make sure she doesn't have too much coffee as she already has about three Celsius drinks a day (it's a problem). When she's not studying at Fondren you can find her speed walking around campus dreaming of the day it finally becomes an Olympic sport,

driving her fellow Murts around to bible study and Church, or hanging at the Shepherd School of Music with friends. A lover of people and Jesus at heart you can always speak your mind with Brooklyn and it'll be sure to be a good time.

~ Olivia Gonzalez, Lovett '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Social Policy Analysis | Spring, TX



Maddy Whelley

Maddy is a Physics and Philosophy major with a French studies minor coming all the way from Westchester, New York (the COVID capital of the world in 2020!!!). She is not all work and no play; when Maddy is not studying for physics, she is typically taking extremely long walks around WestU (she can show you her favorite routes), tearing up the dance floor, or attending boba nights at the RMC. Whether she is taking straight shots of espresso before physics pledges, sending random Instagram reels, or making every breakfast conversation the highlight of your day, Maddy knows how to brighten everyone's mood. She is already a parent to her adorable black Lab, Luna, which we guarantee she will show you pictures of. After knowing Maddy for over a year, it is hard to find someone with as much dedication and passion for both her work and friendships. Despite her busy schedule, she would drop anything to help her friends, and she will make an amazing, compassionate, hilarious, and supportive O-week parent.

~ Cara Brown, McMurtry '27, Bri Schulstad, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Majors: Physics, Philosophy | Minor: French Studies | Armonk, NY



Kendrick Lounsbury

Get ready to meet Kendrick Lounsbury! This Hanszen sophomore comes to you all the way from Vancouver, Canada (aka the land of hockey and syrup), so he's always ready to embrace all the cold that Houston has to offer. When he's not hiding in his room hard at work like the studious mechanical engineer that he is (with the occasional break to play his newest mobile game obsession), catch him in Upper Commons wearing a hat and his Crocs with holes in the *bottom* (one of the like two pairs of shoes he owns), concentrating on a game of chess playing out the opening he just learned, or letting it rip with the Beyblades he convinced Hanszen to buy. This man is ultra-competitive, so if you're caught in a poker match or an intense game of Catan, beware he will aim to destroy you! But don't forget to watch his face when you beat him!! If you're into sports, Kendrick has got you covered. He does it all: baseball, football, basketball, hockey—you name it! So don't be surprised if he tries to recruit you for one of Hanszen's intramural

teams. Kendrick is one of the most genuine and interesting people you'll meet (seriously, listen to his playlist—mostly rap and hip-hop with some Beethoven and the song from Curious George sprinkled in). With him as your advisor, know you're in for an incredible O-Week!

~ Francesca Nemati, McMurtry '26

Hanszen '26 | Co-Advisor | Major: Mechanical Engineering | Minor: Philosophy | Surrey, BC

Geminight at the Murtseum





Sabrina Sun

Cheesecake searching the desert menu by day, k-drama watching by night, but goofiness surrounded by warm eternal sunshine 24/7 is the encapsulation of Sabrina Sun. Traveling all the way from Beijing, China and Toronto, Canada, Sabrina is a senior Mathematical Economic Analysis Major with double minors in Environmental Studies and Energy and Water Sustainability—lets just say she tries her best to stay green ;) When the weather becomes cooler, you'll catch her walking around campus in 1 out of 14 different beanies (at this point I lost track), taking photos around campus, or pulling up to the tennis courts with her sticker-filled, dented hydro flask ready to dominate. While she does occasionally lose stuff (rip her scooter), she'll never lose her love for Murt, MoMA ramen spork, and adventure for anything—even if it's a 4am wake up time to go to NYC. She's your go-to girl for Houston restaurant recommendations, partner in crime to grab dinner at the TMC Island, quite literally Ms. Worldwide

for travel recommendations (ask about her study abroad experience in Paris), dance twin at y2k, fantastic listener for late night talks, best giver of heart touching gifts, but more than anything, a friend who will always be there for you and happy to help in any way—even if its to accompanying you to a new coffee shop or drafting up an email. She's sweet, attentive, and full of surprises ~ she knows locking, chinese peking opera, improv, and much much more. Whether you need someone to "case" with, song recommendations, or advice when life is difficult, Sabrina is an advisor beyond O-week and ever so excited to meet you!!

~ Zoe Wang, McMurtry '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Major: Mathematical Economic Analysis | Minors: Environmental Studies; Water Energy and Sustainability; French Certificate | Beijing, China



Sai Ali

What do you know about art? About finesse? Not salsa or flamenco, my brother. Do you know De-Sai Naach? Sai is a fun-loving, dad shirt-wearing, physics-knowing BEAST! While he loves his little particles, planets, machines, and string theories, they can also talk forever about the state of the world, beliefs, and schemes. When they are not on that MECHE major (astronomy minor) grind, Sai might be (inconsistently) DECIMATING the equipment at the gym with just a hint of his full strength. Sai isn't just brains and bronze, though. This guy is always down for silly and serious adventures, so catch him playing and frolicking around campus, and perhaps even drawing or writing.

~ Honk Hixson, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Mechanical Engineering | Minor: Astronomy | Austin, TX



Charlie Friz

All hail the Delaware man, Charlie Friz! You are extremely lucky to have this man as your advisor. He is one of the most welcoming and friendly people I know, always greeting people with a smile and asking how they are. Charlie, or just Friz as we call him, also has a very outgoing personality, you'll find him hyping up every food 24/7 even when it's really just not that good at all, plugging his club lacrosse games, getting loud for all Philadelphia sports, especially his Eagles ("ma birds"), or hyping up his home state of Delaware which he is a very proud resident of. If he's not giving inspirational speeches at 2PM on a Sunday or getting concussions and sprained ankles at lacrosse, this man is hard at work. This mechanical engineering major is a frequent resident of Fondren 6th floor, fulfilling his duties as a student. Charlie is also an undeniably empathetic man. He gets along well with everyone and has an innate talent to make others feel at ease. He is very trustworthy and respectful which is a product of his

qualities as a sharp and hardworking student of many disciplines. Charlie Friz's combination of hard work and outgoing personality are a perfect blend of qualities for an advisor. You are set up for nothing but success and laughs for this upcoming year.

~ Theo Au-Yeung, McMurtry '27, Teddy Engels, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Mechanical Engineering | Minor: Business | Wilmington, DE



Joseph Pham

Just whisper "phở" three times at a mirror in a dark room and he'll appear... Joseph! As a Biosciences and Social Policy Analysis pre-med, this Will Rice junior is more than just a guy with a great smile and the energy of a thousand suns! If you're looking for him, you will likely find our boy Joseph at the Rec, gettin' his pump in on push or pull day (what's leg day, again?), on Fondy second (likely yapping more than he is actually studying, using the Pomodoro 25:5 minute technique in reverse!), or at a Vietnamese Student Association event singing his heart out. Hailing from New Orleans, Louisiana, Joseph has a southern side that comes out in his love for seafood and good party music (ask him about jiggin')! As the co-head of Will Rice's Socials Committee, Joseph is community-oriented and the main person we have to thank for the various social events at Will Rice (and occasionally McMurtry), such as the popular Poker Nights. I mean, the man literally planned Will Rice's Public, Risky Business! As you'll find out, Joseph is

very extroverted and hilarious, always bringing laughter to the table—something appreciated and needed when suffering deep in the pre-med trenches. If you're lucky enough to get Joseph as your advisor, you will definitely fall in love with him (like we three did)!

~ Maher Tharakan, Will Rice '26, Connor Nguyen, Wiess '26, Joshua Gisiger, McMurtry '26

Will Rice '26 | Co-Advisor | Majors: Social Policy Analysis, Biosciences | Minor: Politics, Law & Social Thought | New Orleans, LA



Sohani Sandhu

Introducingggggg Sohani Sandhu, a bubbly Arizona native majoring in biochemistry and philosophy on the pre-med track. On any given day, you can catch her shivering in the Houston heat (not something you'll see very often from others), destroying someone in tennis, screaming to horror movies, having her heart melt to rom-coms, crocheting, or yelling the lyrics to rap music. She also just loves yapping about literally anything, so she's always down for anything from late night rant sessions to philosophical debates. Just be warned - she has an almost too-cheesy-to-handle jokester side to her that she is not afraid to show. Although her height is small, she has infinite passion for the things she loves, and this includes her dedication to others. As her O-Week sister, I know that Sohani will put everything she has into helping other students feel like they're part of a family too. <3

~ Pearl Zhang, McMurtry '26

McMurtry '26 | Diversity Facilitator | Majors: Biosciences, Philosophy | Minor: Medical Humanities | Gilbert, AZ



*Yo Crabba
Crabba!*





Marc De Guzman

Introducing Marc "Clawmaster" De Guzman, your crab-tivating advisor from the depths of Baytown, Texas! This third-year bioengineering aficionado is as tenacious as a crab holding onto its favorite shell. Whether he's concocting support strategies in Valorant and Overwatch or whipping up mouthwatering seafood feasts in the kitchen, Marc's enthusiasm spreads like ripples in the ocean. When he's not flexing his muscles at the gym or scaling cliffs like a seasoned rock climber, you'll find him spreading positivity and laughter wherever he goes. With a heart as big as the ocean and a shell-tough resolve, Marc is always ready to lend a claw and provide a listening ear. Get ready to shell-abrate because you're in for a crab-tastic journey with Marc as your advisor!

~ Chat GPT

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Major: Bioengineering | Minor: Global Health Technologies | Baytown, TX



Lauren Verthein

Introducing Lauren Verthein, a Junior hailing from Naperville, IL, with a crab-tivating personality and a knack for making waves! When she's not diving into Political Science, you'll find Lauren studying Environmental Studies, Spanish, and Politics, Law, and Social Thought.

Lauren's role as the McMurtry Eco-Rep highlights her knack for crabbing attention to sustainable practices. She's also a fierce contender on the Mock Trial Team, always ready with sharp arguments.

Lauren can be found sipping on mango smoothies from Chaus or indulging in Canes sauce like it's the treasure of the deep. After a long day of crab-tivating adventures, Lauren enjoys kicking back and watching sitcoms. She leaves audiences shell-shocked pirouetting with Rice Dance Theater and yet can sprain her ankle falling off a sidewalk. But she will always be the last crustacean standing on the dance floor!

If you're ready for an O-Week experience that's as lively as a beachside bonfire, Lauren is your guide to all things fin-tastic! 🦀 🦎 🌊

~ Chat GPT

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Major: Political Science | Minors: Environmental Science, Politics, Law & Social Thought, Spanish | Naperville, IL



Yazmine Miles

Introducing Yazmine Miles, the towering titan of wit and wisdom in the world of bioscience!

Yazmine strides through life with a laugh that could crack even the toughest crab shell.

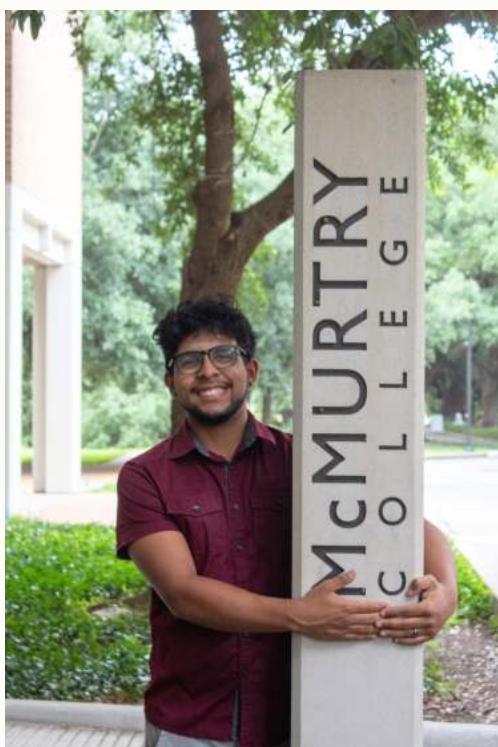
With a major in bioscience, she's as sharp as a crab's claw and has a knack for dissecting complex scientific theories as effortlessly as cracking open a crab leg. But don't let her academic prowess fool you – Yazmine's humor is the real star of the show.

Yazmine can be found indulging in her guilty pleasures: binge-watching Dance Moms and Hell's Kitchen. She's the ultimate multitasker, analyzing both the intricate footwork of dancers and the fiery drama of kitchen conflicts with equal enthusiasm. And let's not forget her other passions – Chipotle extraordinaire and a devout J. Cole listener, making her the ultimate connoisseur of good vibes.

So, if you ever find yourself in need of a good laugh or a deep dive into the world of bioscience, look no further than Yazmine Miles. With her towering presence, infectious humor, and love for all things crabby, she's a force to be reckoned with – in and out of the lab! 🦀🎉

~ Chat GPT

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Biosciences | Minors: Global Health Technologies, Business | Yuma, AZ



Steven Maradiaga

Meet Steven Maradiaga, a junior at Rice University from the sunny streets of Miami, Florida, where flip-flops are formalwear and sunscreen is a must. Steven's passions? Video games, basketball, and dogs—basically the holy trinity of awesome.

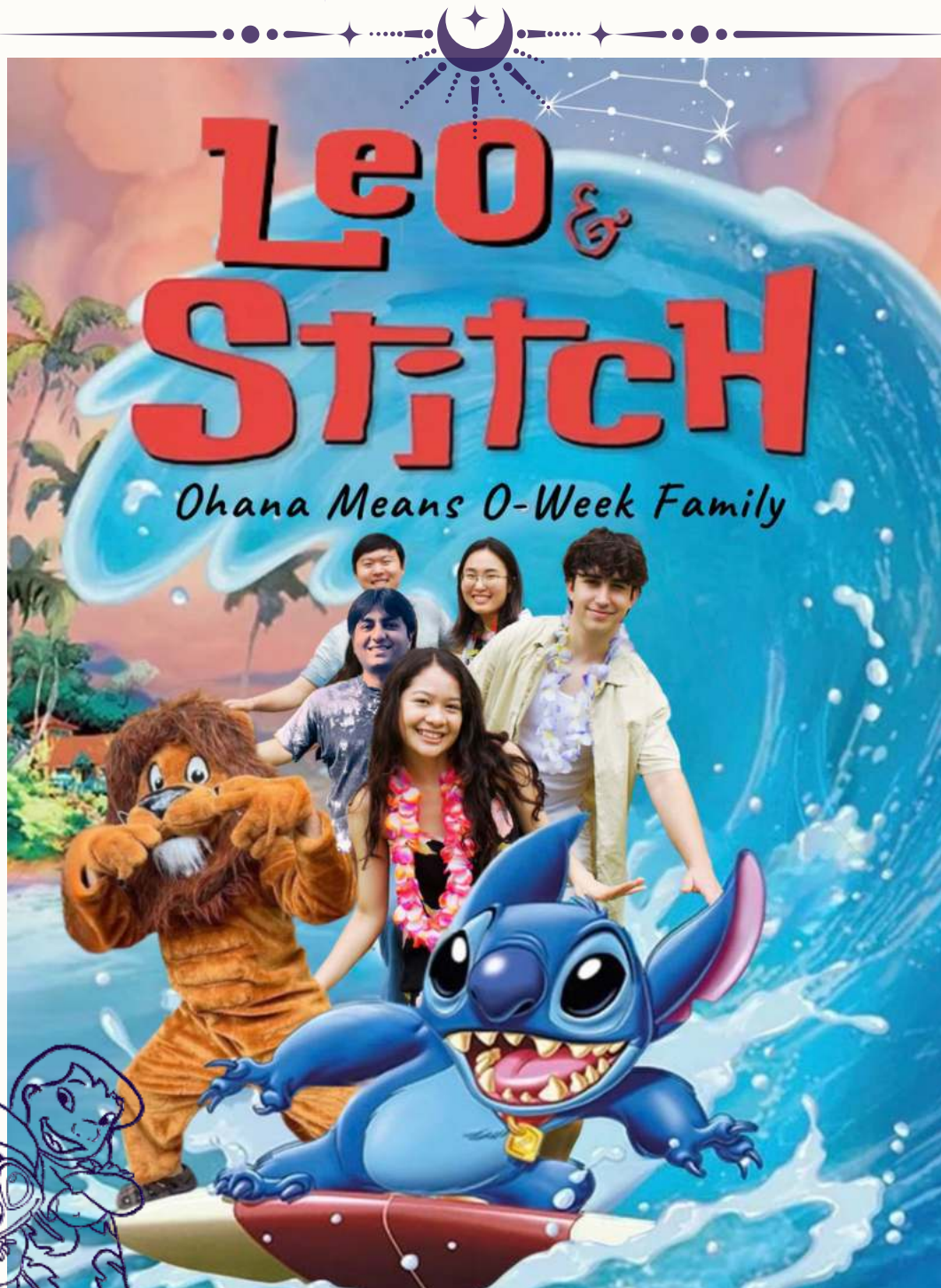
As the Internal Vice President of Hanszen College, Steven is like the friendly neighborhood superhero, making sure everyone feels welcome and at home. This Orientation Week, he's all geared up to meet new friends, talk about epic gaming marathons, show off his mad basketball skills, and swap hilarious dog stories.

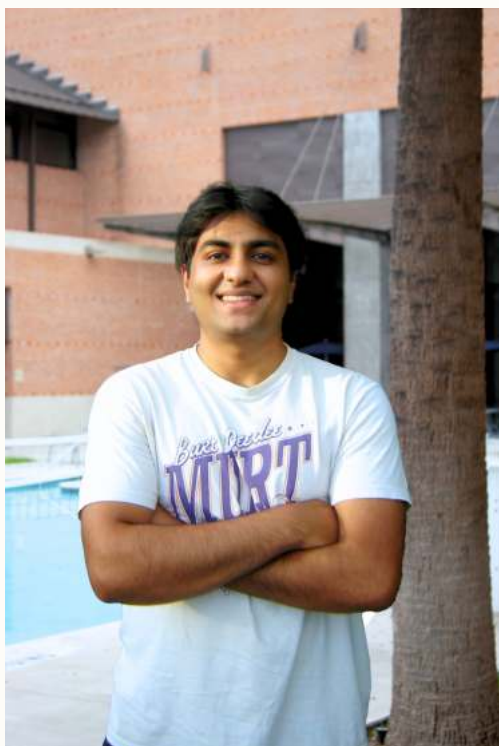
Steven is also pumped to Co-Advise at McMurry College, where he'll be guiding students through the wild ride of college life with the enthusiasm of someone who truly loves helping others. LETS GO MURT !

~ Chat GPT

Hanszen '26 | Co-Advisor | Major: Mechanical Engineering | Miami, FL

*Leo & Stitch:
Ohana Means
O-Week Family*





Akshat Shah

Known by many names: Finance bro, Dropshat, the dad of the suite, Akshat Shah means business—quite literally. Hailing from New Jersey, Akshat embodies the east coast lifestyle! When he's not violently raging while playing FIFA at 4AM, losing games of catan, or watching Jayson Tatum sell his parlay, you can find him at munch (the meal time between lunch and dinner). You might also find him fanboying in the background of literally any one of Jack Harlow's music videos! He's a unit on the soccer field for the McMurry Intramural team, and in the words of Lamine Yamal: "I hope to have half the career that Akshat has had". However, don't let his serious, corporate 5'6" demeanor fool you: he's a warm little honeybun at heart! From career advice, to life lessons, Akshat will always drop his plate in a heartbeat to help anyone (as long as there's no food on it).

~ Shashank Aitha, McMurry '26, Adarsh Gadepalli, McMurry '26

McMurry '26 | Advisor | Majors: Computational and Applied Mathematics, Business (Finance) | Minor: Financial Computation and Modeling | Princeton, NJ

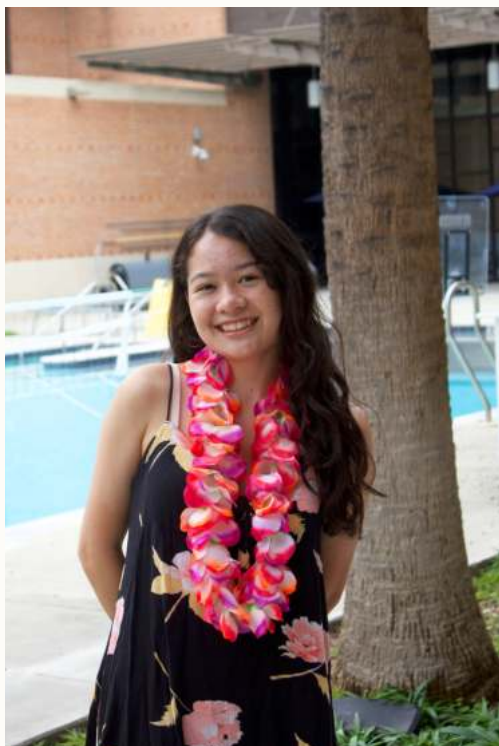


Grace Park

LUCKY KID! You have THE Grace Park as your O-Week mom. Coming from the beautiful cities of DAEGU, KOREA, and BELLEVUE, WA, Grace will be the most genuine, smart, and funny (seriously, her sarcasm level is god-tier) advisor you'll ever have. As a Neuroscience major and Asian Studies minor on the pre-med track, Grace is always slaying her way through the Rice campus and the TMC, so you know where to go if you ever want to talk to her (or to surprise/prank her)! Her main personality traits include having the rarest MBTI personality type, INFJ, and having nostrils that enlarge whenever she gets excited :) In her free time, you can find her practicing her violin for Campanile, taking naps at "ungodly hours," and having deep conversations with her innate therapist skills :))) GET READY to have the BEST AstrO-Week with the BEST advisor ever!

~ Miki Law, McMurry '26

McMurry '26 | Advisor | Major: Neuroscience | Minor: Asian Studies | Seattle, WA



Carmine Steiner

Introducing Carmine Steiner, the sophomore extraordinaire hailing from the island of Guam! This energetic whirlwind is fueled by two things: Mountain Dew and a carnivorous appetite that could rival a T-Rex. A master organizer of Beer Bike, a newly minted Owl Guide, and the second best McMurtry secretary, Carmine knows how to juggle a zillion responsibilities, all while whipping up eye-catching designs on Canva like it's second nature. Standing small in stature but towering in determination, this powerhouse of passion, work ethic, and empathy is majoring in political science and social policy analysis, determined to make waves in international and humanitarian law. Don't get her started on her Gender and Politics class; she might just end up teaching you the whole course.

Despite her small size, Carmine's a force to be reckoned with when it comes to partying and belting out Taylor Swift tunes. But she knows when to kick back and relax

with a good binge session of one of her favorite C-dramas, if that's more your speed. Carmine Steiner is not just your O-Week advisor; she's a stellar friend, student, and Murt, and she'll make sure you know everything there is to know about Rice, all while walking backwards.

~ Aishwarya Nigalye, McMurtry '27, Bennett Reddig, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Majors: Political Science, Social Policy Analysis | Minor: Politics, Law & Social Thought | Dededo, Guam



Daniel Kardhashi

Introducing Danny Kardhashi, a rising computer science and finance sophomore hailing from Martel college. Although born in a small town in Central New Jersey, he is very proud of his Albanian heritage. In his free time he'll most likely be powerlifting at the gym, playing various IM sports, or eating 3 gourmet hand-made panini sandwiches at North servery. He is also a long time Arsenal fan and recent Houston Rockets and Texans follower. Be sure to hit him up for a conversation about any music genre or his Clash Royale stats. This outgoing, high spirited individual is ready for any adventure that Co-Advising at McMurtry comes with.

~ Fiona Guo, Sid Richardson '27, Lucas Osborn, Martel '27

Martel '27 | Co-Advisor | Majors: Computer Science, Business | Hightstown, NJ



Micheal Tsao

What's that in the night sky - a jet, or a plane? No - it's the shining star Michael Tsao, the most ASTRONOMICAL O-Week Advisor! Michael is a junior from Duncan College, and the cosmos all agree that he is the sweetest Duncaroo you'll ever meet - you'll see it yourself with that warm and welcoming DuncLove smile of his! Coming from Sugar Land, TX, this avid foodie will share all the deets on the most DELECTABLE Houston food spots and hidden gems to explore! You better make sure to save room for boba too, since he knows the best Tea's and Cha's around. Oh, and the car ride there will have even more taste than your dessert, thanks to Michael's impeccable listening including NewJeans, Beyoncé, SZA, and so many more! That's not all though, because as a Neuroscience major on the Pre-Med Track, Michael's kind, supportive and reassuring demeanor coupled with his natural academic weaponry will comfort you in the face of any STEM

obstacles you find - really, what more could you ask for?! He knows the Rice campus like the back of his hand, especially as an RMC Building Manager and Owl Guide, so you will never be lost with Michael at your side! Michael is also a member of Rice EMS, so you are sure to always be in the safest, most protective hands that a father could provide with his EMT expertise! When he's not on shift, you can find Michael seeking out the next best study spots on and off-campus, including O'Connor, any local boba shop, or the BRC after doing some research in his Neuroscience lab (he definitely understands the inner workings of your brain btw). He's a true adventurer-at-heart though, so don't be surprised to find him in another country practicing his Spanish skills either! Michael is the most caring, fatherly Advisor you could ask for, so look forward to the most positive and STELLAR energy with him during McMurtry AstrO-Week and beyond!

~ Brandon Nunez, McMurtry '26

Duncan '26 | Co-Advisor | Major: Neuroscience | Minor: Data Science | Houston, TX

Vincent Vir-gogh: McStarry Night





Nishita Prasad

Heyyy besties! Meet Nishita Prasad, the coolest person you'll probably ever meet from Carmel, Indiana. This bio and business double major is a knowledge powerhouse for all things peer academic advising (PAA) and drag race #slay. You can find her at work in lab, at Chaus with her signature iced chai latte, or on the dance floor lip-synching Super Bass better than Nicki Minaj herself. Her quick wit, humor, and nishita-isms (common nishita sayings) will keep you entertained. When you see her be sure to thank her for her service since she's an O-Week veteran (3x mother)! But seriously, she's the most dedicated O-Week advisor and the best hype woman of all time! Buckle up...with Nishita as your advisor, you're in store for an iconic O-Week experience!!

~ Ishani Kaul, McMurtry '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Majors: Biosciences, Business | Carmel, IN



Tina Huang

As Tina Huang's #1 fan, I guarantee that you are going to be in good hands during O-week and long after. A junior at Murt and a true Texan, Tina hails from the Woodlands, just north of Houston. Studying both Business and Biosciences, you can always count on Tina to answer both your orgo AND accounting questions. PSA, that's cracked behavior. In addition to her rigorous academic aspirations, Tina is also minoring in Asian studies and is a top tier Mandarin tutor. At Rice, Tina's favorite ritual is getting her double shot iced americano at Chaus before heading to fondy to absolutely lock in. While focused and dedicated, Tina is always ready for a quick yap while taking breaks from intense study sessions. Although a true yapper at heart, Tina is always ready to rush to your side and listen when you need it. If you're looking for a friend that will show up for you no matter what, Tina is your new bestie. All that's pretty impressive, but to focus on the important things, Tina is always down for a

good meal. Even though she may be the most indecisive person ever, she does have consistently good dinner recs and knows the restaurant scene like the back of her hand. And she definitely knows the true value of an outing: that you can never go home without an obligatory sweet treat. To add on that, she's an avid shopper and trend follower. Look forward to O-week because Tina is about to make it a blast (trust). If Tina and I's friendship is any indication of her ability to welcome you all to campus, there's no doubt in my mind she'll be your #1 fan this year ;)

~ Will Marsden, McMurtry '26

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Majors: Biosciences, Business | Minor: Asian Studies | Houston, TX



Theo Au-Yeung

His favorite Taylor Swift Album is Speak Now, and not just because it features Murt colors! I hope you like singing because this swiftie loves to karaoke! Theo is originally from the Bay Area, but he now spends his summers in Seattle. He is a sports management & analytics major who loves to calculate anything to do with baseball! If you haven't picked up on it by now, Theo is a huge sports fan, and he moonlights as a star player on Murt's intramural flag football team. I'm sure he'll begin recruiting for both the squash and flag football teams as soon as you meet him, and if you don't know how to play, he'll happily teach you! Theo is a great word of reason, is very good at grounding someone when they're overwhelmed, and is quick-witted to come up with solutions to problems someone's experiencing. Theo is a very easy person to talk to and a great friend to hang out with, and he especially loves watching Arsenal games & hosting marathons of Curb Your

Enthusiasm while "superbly whistling" (his words) the theme song. Theo has a great sense of humor and is always a fantastic person to share a good laugh with. He always brings super fun energy to every occasion, and he will most definitely bring that same energy during O-Week. Furthermore, he always has a way of bringing people together, and there's no doubt he will do the same with your O-Week family!

~ Connor Gibbons, McMurtry '27, Nate Dominitz, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Majors: Sports Management, Sports Analytics | Burlingame, CA



Valerie Heckel

You might think the greatest thing that ever came out of Washington state was Nirvana or Twilight. Wrong, it's Valerie Heckel! You might find her downing London fogs and bobas at the coffeehouse during the day, and if you cannot find her there, she is probably mid-nap. If you wish to hear her thrilling tales of adventure, she will tell you about climbing the highest points of several US states or skiing down a mountain at 50mph. So you wouldn't have to work hard to convince her to plan an O-Week group hiking trip with you. Valerie is the sweetest and kindest person of all time (no hyperbole, I mean it) and you can talk to her about anything you want, even though she will probably be quoting some line from New Girl every other sentence. Double majoring in statistics and sociology, she is one of the rare people who can do math AND write complex sentences, so she will be your guide through scary Rice academics. Valerie's singular flaw is how she eats a burger (she starts around the

edges and works towards the center, I don't get it either.) In any case, you are extremely lucky that you will have Valerie as your O-Week mother. You are in safe hands during your upcoming days at Rice :)

~ Bora Göbekli, Baker '24

Jones '26 | Co-Advisor | Majors: Sociology, Statistics | Minor: Women, Gender & Sexuality | Seattle, WA

Liberally Blonde





Jamie Stewart-Aday

What's up squad. Meet Jamie Stewart-Aday, the most hype guy from Washington DC!! This Sagittarius superstar knows everything about sports and politics! You can find him flexing his PoliSci skills on the campaign trail for local politicians or at Chaus grinding away at a Sociology paper. Despite his interesting taste in food, Jamie can cook any steak to perfection! Need a Chill Indie Roadtrip Vibe playlist? Jamie's got you covered with the coolest music!!

~ Ishani Kaul, McMurtry '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Majors: Political Science, Social Policy Analysis | Minor: Sociology | Washington, DC



Karina Manrique

GET READY...for one of the biggest sweetie pies you'll see on campus! Don't let her smile fool you, even though she's the jolliest girl you'll know, she's a hardworking Mech-E who has three assignments due by midnight. Hailing from Laredo, Texas, she's practically a local. She knows the best pan dulce in Houston which you can try since she's Mcmurtry's own Latine Affinity Group representative (we love a woman in power). As your resident girl boss, she's also the secretary for the Society of Women Engineers, an ~elected~ official. She serves variety with the best dance moves but also the best hugs, she'll be able to cheer you up no matter the occasion. Karina loves yapping with her friends, going to BlackPink concerts and using multicolored markers in her notes, I know, very brave. You'll find her in the wild either frolicking or running late to class, but she will always make time for a conversation. She's not good at limbo because she's always going above the bar and you'll see it with her chaotic humor and dedication to everything she does! Live love Karina.

~ Cynthia Diaz, McMurtry '24

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Major: Mechanical Engineering | Laredo, TX



Aishwarya Nigalye

Meet Aishwar-yuh, the only highlighting feature of Brownwood, Texas! Not only can she rock cowboy boots like no other, she's the most bio BIO biosciences major you'll ever meet. A loyal friend, follower of vegetarianism, and devoted to the desolate pre-med track, she's sure to always shower you with her endless compassion and kindness. Besides dating a League of Legends player and her hate for chocolate, she's got it all! Well-versed in music for ALL age categories, with songs from roblox, minecraft, raves, and other assortments on her spotify playlists, she's sure to always have a music recommendation for you. You'll usually find Aishwarya at West Served's allergen-free stir fry station awaiting her daily fill of all things veggie friendly, or munching on blue Sour Patch Kids after slaying her Bhangra dance practice. Maybe you'll even find her at Chaus, but only if you go during the first 2 weeks (she can't budget tetra to save her life).

Aishwarya can teach you a thing or two about basically anything, especially if you wanna learn Spanish or play tennis! Overall, Aishwarya is a true Ace that will help you swing at anything that may come your way!

~ Carmine Steiner, McMurtry '27, Ashley Zhang, McMurtry '27, Aisha Khemani, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Biosciences | Brownwood, TX



Dolapo Ogunyemi

She's cute. She's fierce. She's funny, silly and a little goofy. And She's your O-week mom!!!!!! Woohooo! And she's about to be the best O-week parent you've ever had (but shhhh! don't tell the others) Dolapo Ogunyemi is Pre-med, Health Sciences major from (Dallas?, Nigeria?, both I guess) and makes it look easy. She always has a huge smile on her face that can't make you help but smile too. She loves all her friends to the fullest (and we love her too) and never fails to let us know cuz she WILL go above and beyond for you no matter what it is. That's how I know she's going to be such an awesome O-week parent. You can usually find her in Lovett commons, losing badly at Wii bowling (L), or out and about on some new adventure, or losing even more badly at pool. Days are never dull with Dolapo by your side. She reminds me there's always something to smile about :D

~ Tomi Kuye, Lovett '26

Lovett '25 | Co-Advisor | Major: Health Sciences | Dallas, TX

McScorpi-Old Town Road





Essence Ratliff

CONGRATULATIONS! Essence is your O-Week mom!!! She's the coolest person you'll meet from Memphis, Tennessee. This English major and Sociology and Anthropology double minor is a woman of many talents! In need of a SZA song rec or searching for the next book to read? Essence has got you covered! You can find her organizing fun events for Murt's Black Caucus or compiling the best of undergraduate literature for The Wild Grain. Ask to see her tattoo or her huge collection of Crocs if you want to be impressed. But seriously, this O-Week veteran is the best mother you could ask for! You're in for a hilarious time with Essence as your O-Week advisor.

~ Ishani Kaul, McMurtry '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Major: English | Minors: Sociology, Anthropology | Memphis, TN



Mikeal Graham

Mikeal Graham a rising Junior, from Lubbock, Texas, is currently pursuing a Bachelors of Science Astrophysics with the possibility of adding a double major in general physics. In his freetime, Mikeal enjoys playing Roblox, pickleball, and his cello in the Campanile Orchestra. And speaking of playing, Mikeal does not PLAY about his love for Bob's Burgers, a show he has been heavily invested in for four years running. The only thing that comes close to his obsession for Bob's Burgers is his unwavering loyalty to Yerba Mate. Mikeal's biggest flex is that he randomly met Lil Nas X at Walmart during his freshman year. If you're looking for someone to make you laugh with a unique and vibrant personality, then look no further than Mr. Mikeal Graham!

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Major: Astrophysics | Lubbock, TX



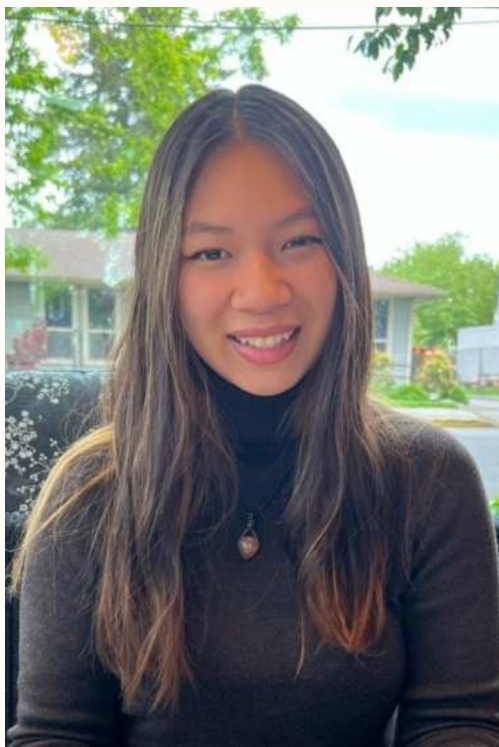
Carlos Cruz

I know you don't know Carlos, but trust me you WILL know Carlos. With a friendly, devilishly handsome face and a smile that can light up your world, Carlos Cruz (of McMurtry class of '27!) will always be doing something. Research, volleyball, studying, and some random activity he somehow found himself in will keep him occupied, yet he will always be someone that you can rely on. A Biosciences and Pre-Med BADDIE, Carlos is already used to making people feel better, with his easy-to-give-into jokes and amazing delivery, he will ensure that there is never a dull moment in his presence. His help extends beyond just making your day better too, helping me (and many others) with their schedules while also telling you about all the amazing things Rice has to offer. I swear, he knows more about this school than most people who work here. Ever need advice about Houston? Give this native Houstonian (well, Sugar Land Dweller, but you know the vibe) a call! Count your blessings if this is your Advisor, because he

will make your time at Rice so much better even if he just says hello to you, and will always make sure you keep on going. I could go on and on about how Carlos will be one of the best people you will ever meet at Rice, but instead just get to O-Week and see how amazing he is for yourself, and don't say I didn't tell you.

~ Cristian Castillo, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Biosciences | Sugar Land, TX



Spring Chenjp

If you've ever met her, you probably know how she introduces herself: Spring, like the season. This Wiess College senior truly does embody her name: with a bright and energetic personality, Spring is like a breath of fresh air from her hometown of Seattle, Washington. She is one of the most fun and adventurous people you will ever meet. Propose anything to her – a party, a walk, a hike, a camping trip, an epic journey across all of Europe – and she will be down. Spring is also the definition of a girlboss. Even though she's a business and English double major, she took COMP 140 as her D3 (just for fun). No matter what kind of Saturday night she had, you can catch her at the gym on Sunday morning. Spring really does it all – writing for the Thresher, playing powderpuff, and making big moves in banking. Spring is also an incredibly kind, loyal, and friendly person and anyone would be lucky to have her as their O-Week mom!

~ Sarah Davidson, Hanszen '25

Wiess '25 | Co-Advisor | Majors: Business, English | Seattle, WA



Denise Lundu

Are you searching for the best O-Week Advisor? Someone who can match your vibe? Well, look no further because Denise is here! Denise is the sweetest BROWNie (aka best residential college at Rice). You can find her at Fondy glued to her laptop or scrolling through tiktok (she's chronically online :/). She is a MAJOR Drake fan, but also loves country music (versatile queen). She loves thrifting, watching movies, music, perfecting her British accent, and going to the gym (when she's not missing her alarm).

But besides all that stuff, Denise is a Neuroscience major from MIAMI!!!!, but she spent a large fraction of her life in DR Congo (the big one not the little one LOL). And even if you are not a part of the best O-week family, Denise is very down to earth, funny, and would love to chat about anything <3! You're super lucky to have her as your advisor and diversity facilitator.

~ Taofeekat Lamina, Brown '27

Brown '27 | Diversity Facilitator | Major: Neuroscience | Miami, FL



Teenage Mutant Ninja Centaurs





Joon Lee

The man, the myth, the legend, “CJoon” himself. This psychology major from New Jersey is one of Rice’s finest chess players as the vice president of THE Rice University Chess Club and Murt’s biggest boxing enthusiast. When he’s not at Sammy’s (his favorite study spot on campus) cooking up new psychology tricks to improve his gaslighting skills, you can find him serenading others with his violin or admiring the sunrise at the top of the O’Connor Engineering building. Need to improve your posture? Forgot which teams played the 1974 NBA finals at pub sports trivia? Learning Korean and Duolingo isn’t helping? Joon is your man. Joon is as kind and caring as they come, plus he can psychoanalyze you upon request. You are truly lucky to have Joon as your advisor.

~ Nikhil Mummaneni, McMurtry '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Major: Psychology | Minor: Neuroscience | Cresskill, NJ



Cara Brown

Coming in hot from the hottest city in the US, let us introduce you to Cara Brown! Battling through chemistry, biology, and art history degrees all at once, Cara is like a real-life ninja (turtle) centaur. She is more than ready to dedicate her time not only to fighting evil, but also to her O-Week family! The smallest O-Lineman in existence, she still has a hefty block and is willing to protect her kids like she protects the quarterback of the Powderpuff team. If you’re ever unsure about a decision, Cara is the go-to person, as she is an amazing listener and offers unmatched support. When Cara is not busy running reactions in the chemistry lab or reading Emma by Jane Austen, she is probably scooping ice cream at Sunday Sundae’s, eating Trader Joe’s snacks, or at the RMC next to Sammy’s. If you weren’t already set on Cara, she’ll surely rope you in with a batch of homemade cookies, a curated spotify playlist, or an invitation to movie night. You’ve got an advisor full of McMurtry spirit and smiles!

~Brianna Schulstad, McMurtry '27, and Maddy Whelley, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Chemistry | Minor: Art History | Phoenix, AZ

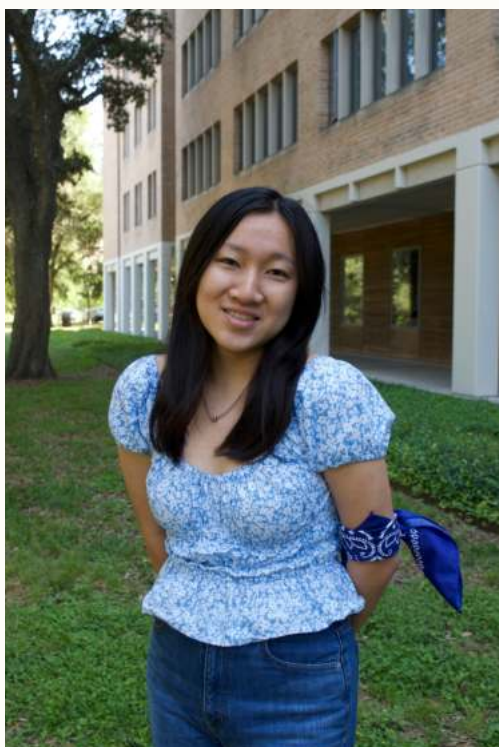


Santosh Areti

Santosh Areti? More like Santosh A-Ready to make your O-Week the best experience of your life! Hailing all the way from San Jose, CA, Santosh is the funniest, kindest, most down-to-earth guy you'll ever meet. If he's not grinding for his next midterm or having a coffee-chat every other day as a dedicated sophomore Business major, you'll catch him at the rec putting in the work to carry all of McMurtry O-Week on his back. Apart from working on his sleeper build, Santosh also plays for the Murt Men's Basketball and Flag Football teams and loves listening to music (he would die for Mitski and Lana Del Ray.) Santosh is always down to try new things, but is especially hyped to be your advisor! Don't be afraid to reach out to him when you need someone, as he's the most dependable, level-headed, and supportive person I know, and he's willing to do whatever it takes to make sure your O-Week is as amazing as it can be!

~ Catey Thomas, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Major: Business (Finance) | Minors: Sociology, Political Science | San Jose, CA



Hanna Zhang

HANNA BANANA: With a name like that, she truly is THE perfect co-advisor for McMurtry College! Coming all the way from Dallas, TX, Hanna is a rising junior from Duncan College double majoring in Computer Science and Economics and acquiring a certificate in Japanese (yes, that's three schools of study— she's an overachiever!). One thing about Hanna: she has a Pavlovian response to "boba." Try saying "boba" around her, and she will start frothing at the mouth. But that means she is ALWAYS down for a quick (or not so quick) boba run, and she will most definitely order some type of matcha drink (or a classic milk tea)! Besides boba, Hanna also loves gaming, anime, and dancing, especially to K-pop songs. In fact, she dances for BASYK, Rice's K-pop club! Ask her about her experience in BASYK, or about K-pop in general. She's always down to give you song recs or to discuss the latest K-pop happenings (she's always up-to-date with the latest news and comebacks). And you can also ask her about

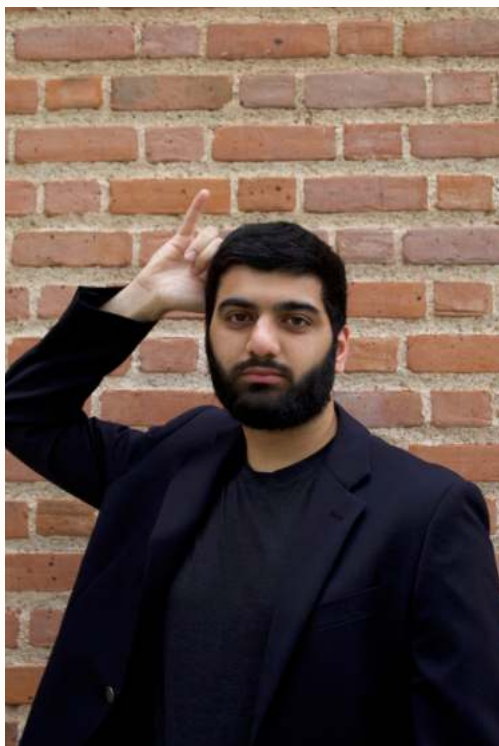
her experience in Rice CSA (Chinese Student Association), where she serves as IVP! Hanna can always be found planning, advertising, and running fun CSA events, from dumpling making sessions to donut and boba sales, and she would LOVE you to join CSA this upcoming year. With all that being said, you are in for a treat with HANNA BANANA as your co-advisor. Get ready to spend the most BANANAS O-WEEK with her!!!

~ Kelvin Phung, Duncan '26

Duncan '26 | Co-Advisor | Majors: Economics, Computer Science | Dallas, TX

Goatbusters





Mustafa Latif

Introducing the one and only, Mustafa Latif! A true Renaissance man, “Muz” is not your average Rice student. He’s a world-class pianist, an iron wall of a goalkeeper, and Texas’ best potter (have you seen his ceramic work?). Beyond his artistic and athletic talents, Mustafa has all of the latest deals and coupons, making him the go-to guy for saving on your next big food adventure. Need a pen, screwdriver, hammock, or even a whole chair? Just ask Mustafa, McMurtry’s very own Eagle Scout, and he’ll have it ready from his backpack. Need a new show/movie/anime to watch? He has the best recommendations. Whether you need advice, a helping hand, or just want someone to get late night munch with, Mustafa is your reliable advisor and friend, ready to support you at all times.

~ Joon Lee, McMurtry ‘25

McMurtry ‘25 | Advisor | Major: Biosciences (Cell Biology & Genetics) | Minor: Neuroscience | Dallas, TX



Adarsh Gadepalli

Standing at a vicious 5’2.5”, Adarsh Gadepalli, a sophomore Computer Science Major, hails from Maryland, boasting tremendous basketball skills: In his first year, Adarsh took Murt’s Freshman IM Basketball team to a championship, putting up a vicious 0 points, 1 rebound, and 2 assists in the finals. Adarsh has recently relocated to Austin, Texas, where he doesn’t have many friends so please hit him up if you also happen to be from rural Austin. In all seriousness, if you ever need someone to talk to, Adarsh might be there for you! And when he is there he’s the epitome of trustworthiness. His calm-headed and surprisingly wise demeanor will make him a great mentor for most of you! Sincerely, he is our GOAT, and he’ll be yours too.

~ Akshat Shah, McMurtry ‘26, Shashank Aitha, McMurtry ‘26

McMurtry ‘26 | Advisor | Majors: Computer Science, Operations Research | Bastrop, TX



Melissa Geng

If you walk around McMurtry commons and happen to see a walking rainbow, DON'T BE ALARMED! It's just Melissa, decked out in all neon lululemon and holding her venti starbucks drink. Be careful not to startle her and approach carefully, lest she pull out one of her boxing moves on you. As a 6-foot, 200-ton jimbrow, Melissa is a walking powerhouse of pure muscle, the biggest brain you'll ever see, and a "Kill 'em with kindness" mindset. If you see her zoom past you on her bike, be wary of the flames rising from her tracks – she's just practicing for Beer Bike. Melissa has a tendency to dance violently to kpop songs and played piano for 14 years, so hit her up if you ever need lessons in either! On top of everything, she is a kind-hearted and always-available-to-help friend, and we're jealous of you for having her as an O-Week Mom!!

~ Amy Park, McMurtry '27, Tristen Flores, McMurtry '27,
Joy Kim, Will Rice '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Majors: Neuroscience, Sports Medicine | Houston, TX



Melanie Vazquez

Wait, Melanie is your O-Week mom??? You are so lucky. Melanie is the most passionate and caring human. She also has the best hair skills of all time. Like, her hair is always in a beautiful intricate style that she does herself. Talent. I make her do mine sometimes because I want to be cool like her (it is impossible she is too cool). Melanie is a brilliant SOPA and Poli Sci girl and she will fight for you (literally. be advised, she is a cinnamon roll that could kill you). You can find her sitting outside, enjoying the beautiful campus, occasionally saving baby birds (disney princess vibes???), and always radiating sunshine and warm energy. Mel always has your back, just like she always has her Owala water bottle. And also her plants. She leaves her windows open so they can see the sun. Plus she adopted mine because that is just who she is. I love Melanie, Melanie loves you, and everyone loves McMurtry.

~ Elsa Koenig, McMurtry '27

McMurtry '27 | Advisor | Majors: Political Science, Social Policy Analysis | Houston, TX



Faith Zhang

Hey Murt! Meet Faith- your amazing co-advisor from Wiess! Hailing from Potomac, MD, this sophomore Operations Research major is one of the busiest people you'll meet- you can find her grinding out computer science homework for 10 hours straight, at Rice Coffeehouse (go visit her on shift!), or on the way to one of her many clubs. On top of that, she is also an amazing artist (peep Wiess chalkboard) and violinist- maybe she'll serenade you if you get lucky. In her free time, she enjoys listening to music (primarily New Jeans), drawing, and simply not laboring. She is one of the funniest people you'll meet, and if you ever need someone to watch anime or do Just Dance at 2am with (she can't actually dance), she's your girl. All in all, just know she's got your back, and you are so so lucky to have her as your O-week mom!

~ Aden Pugsley, Wiess '27

Wiess '27 | Co-Advisor | Major: Operations Research | Potomac, MD



Aquatar the Last Airbender





Zachary Woodley

Zach is a senior from McMurtry College, known for clinching the victory in the annual chicken wings eating contest. When he's not using his formidable appetite to devour wings, he enjoys spending time with friends, playing basketball, and hitting the weights at the rec center. However, don't be fooled—Zachary Vierre Woodley is not a gym bro. With an extensive collection of shoes and a passion for fashion, he loves wearing adorable, color-coordinated outfits. Although Zach is from the Bronx, New York, he is a genuine sweetheart, always ready to lift your spirits when you're feeling low and offer support in all your endeavors.

~ Ona Isiofia, Will Rice '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Major: Mechanical Engineering | Minor: Engineering Design | Bronx, NY



Nevaeh Jammer

Nevaeh (in verse):

Let me introduce you to Nevaeh Jammer, the mythic plant queen,
In their garden, they're the ruler, like from a folklore scene.

They're a scholar of stories, flipping through the pages,
Lost in myths and legends from all different ages. From Greek gods to Norse tales, they know them all,
Their mind's a library, where imagination sprawls.
But when they're not lost in books, they're chilling with their cat,

Sunny's their companion, always down to chat.
In the garden of friendship, they bloom ever true,
Nevaeh's reliability shines through and through.

Nevaeh (in emojis): 🌻 🦋 🌱 📖 🌸 🌟 🍵 ☀️ 🧴 🎀 😊 ❤️

Nevaeh (in short): someone you can count on during O-Week and beyond!

~ Cal Mascardo, McMurtry '26

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Majors: Biosciences, Psychology | Minors: Neuroscience, Classical Civilizations | Houston, TX



Anna Nguyen

Anna is a rising junior double majoring in computer science and statistics with a minor in data science. She's originally from Redmond, Washington, where she's a ray of sunshine in the midst of constant clouds and rainy weather. When she's not on the academic grind, Anna can usually be found crocheting, dancing with BASYK, reading, watching TikToks, or exploring beyond the hedges. She's also a biker for McMurtry's Beer Bike team, so you might spot her biking around the inner loop. Anna loves Kpop—you might hear her humming to BTS, Seventeen, or NCT, and if you play "Sticker" for her during O-Week she will think you're the coolest, most iconic person ever.

Need help with your 4-year plan, want to vent, or have a presentation or performance? She will be there no matter what to support you 😊 (Mbappé who? We only know Anna Nguyen). Genuinely, Anna is one of the sweetest people we know, and you're going to be in great hands!

~ Mana Vale, Will Rice '26, Erin Kang, McMurtry '26

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Majors: Computer Science, Statistics | Minor: Data Science | Redmond, WA



Keshav Shah

HEY GUYS! Keshav Shah is a rising junior from Baker College studying Computer Science! He's so excited to get to know all of you and become involved in Murt culture alongside you! As someone who is not from Murt, he too is very new to this amazing college and he cannot wait to have so much fun learning about the culture here alongside all of you guys! He's a huge sports fan, especially of F1, NFL, and the NBA, and he also loves trying out new restaurants in the downtown Houston area! He is very excited about AstrO-Week and cannot wait to meet all of you guys soon!

~ Adarsh Gadepalli, McMurtry '26

Baker '26 | Co-Advisor | Major: Computer Science | Minor: Statistics | Sugar Land, TX

Ice Pisces: McMunch





Ariah Richards

Introducing the one and only Ariah – the ultimate embodiment of girlboss! With her charm and unwavering kindness, Ariah will make you feel like you have known her for a thousand lifetimes. Seriously, she's like a friendship magician, and not a day goes by when I am not in awe of her! Whether it's with her thoughtful actions, infectious laughter, or insane dance moves, Ariah has the ability to light up any room she walks into. She is from out of this world, and has been around the world studying abroad (I bet you can't guess what 3 countries). Somehow Ariah does all this while making pre-med look easy (it's not lol)! So, prepare yourself to fall madly in love with Ariah because once you meet her, you'll wonder how you ever survived without her in your life!

~ Anadaysi Lopez, McMurtry '25

McMurtry '25 | Advisor | Majors: Kinesiology, Sports Medicine | Minor: Biochemistry | Houston, TX



Miki Law

Girl-bossing her way to H-Town all the way from the Bay Area AND Tokyo, Miki is the most kind-hearted, charismatic, AND funniest junior you will ever meet! Whether this absolute trilingual business queen is power-walking through McNair Hall (her home), or on her way to the airport for her monthly travel to NYC (her third home), her radiating friendliness and contagious laugh (averaging about 79 decibels) will immediately brighten up your day. Miki not only slays her elevator pitches and coffee chats, but also every dance floor she ever walks onto, especially if Drake is playing. Despite her most frequently spoken phrase being "OMGGGGGGGG" with 5 exclamation points, Miki also has the best shoulder to cry on and the most genuine heart that will make you instantly feel at home. Brace yourselves as you will be walking out of O-Week with the cutest and wildest 0.5x selfies, a LinkedIn/Cover Letter/Resume profile-building tutorial, the most comprehensive list of top-tier Tokyo restaurants, the

smoothest pickup lines you can put into use, 10 million lectures on "how to break into consulting," and most importantly, the greatest friend and O-Week mom you can ever ask for!

~ Grace Park, McMurtry '26

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Major: Managerial Economics and Organizational Sciences | Minors: Financial Computation Analysis, Chinese Certificate | Tokyo, Japan



Brandon Nunez

Meet the one and only Brandon Nunez - seriously, a person like him only comes once in a lifetime! This South Carolina star is a Psychology plus Sports Medicine & Exercise Physiology major on the Pre-OT (Occupational Therapy) track, and besides being a school nerd, Brandon is a musical genius; throw any pop girlie album at him, from RENAISSANCE to eternal sunshine, and Brandon will sing his heart out. Not only does he know most pop music & culture news, he can also bust a K-pop move - ask him about his favorite K-pop artists like TWICE and LE SSERAFIM and he'll tell you his favorite moments dancing to them as a proud director of BASYK, a K-Pop and Hip-Hop Dance Club (try singing some lyrics to this K-Pop king, and you'll be filled with that glowing love)! Outside of McMurtry, you'll see Brandon going BANANAS as the Food Manager of Rice's finest coffeehouse, CHAUS - this Murt will serve you the best coffee you'll ever taste with a side of his radiant smile, and he will never fail to also serve you

happiness, comfort, and warm hugs. It is beyond an honor to know Brandon, one of the purest souls at Rice University!

~ Samy Martinez, Jones '26

McMurtry '26 | Advisor | Majors: Psychology, Sports Medicine & Exercise Physiology | Minor: Korean | Spartanburg, SC



Jonathan Hinojosa

Introducing Jon Hinojosa, the lifeguard-turned-electrical engineer hailing all the way from the bustling streets of suburban New York! With his iconic curly hair, glasses, and loud voice, Jon is impossible to miss in Murt commons (where he always is... is he even actually from Sid?), where he's usually informing his friends about the random thoughts streaming through his head or cracking jokes. When he's not immersed in physics or math homework, you'll likely find him struggling to rank up from bronze in League of Legends or finding his new favorite J-rock song. Semi-competent in Chinese and a master-ish of origami, Jon also adds a touch of cultural flair to everything he does, even though he dresses like he's going to the country club. And when it comes to food, he's not shy about indulging in his love for all things strawberry related, eating an entire plate of steamed broccoli with no seasoning for dinner, or outright stealing his girlfriend's popcorn (she doesn't approve). As your O-Week parent, Jon will always give it

to you straight to ensure your success. He's great at lending an ear and will be there for you when you need him - even if you have no idea what you're doing. You're truly lucky to have Jon be on your side!

~ Aishwarya Nigalye, McMurtry '27

Sid Richardson '27 | Co-Advisor | Major: Electrical Engineering | North Bellmore, NY



Naya Mukul

Hailing from the friendly skies of Queens, this New York native is ready to give you the best week of your life. Naya is a junior SOPA and Health Sciences major who you can find at the Baker Institute helping run events twice a week. In her free time, Naya enjoys her work with Period@Rice, making slime, and taking occasional trips to Chaus on someone else's dime. You will often hear her referring to her home college (Wiess) as Wiessington University, but don't worry, it's all a part of her charm. Make sure to ask her about her time in Spain this summer, where to find the best bagels in New York and the yummiest kombucha flavours. If you have Naya as your advisor, consider yourself lucky because she is a true friend and someone you can always count on. Need to run an errand, go for a drive or pick something up? She'll be your passenger princess. Missed lunch and don't want to eat munch alone? She'll be there, but she might eat some of the food off your plate. Need a study

buddy at McNair (THE best study spot on campus!!)? She'll keep you company and get some online shopping done. If you also just want to yap, she'll be there too. Naya is truly an amazing person, she is selfless, kind and will always be there for you. So never forget that you have the most epic advisor!!!

~ Kofo Thomas, Wiess '25, Neyida Michel, Wiess '26, Natalie Burnham, Wiess '26

Wiess '26 | Diversity Facilitator | Majors: Health Sciences, Social Policy Analysis | Minor: Biochemistry | Queens, NY

Introducing our PAAs...

PA Andromeda





Nathan Nguyen

Meet Nathan - the senior Neuroscience student from Spring, Texas. As a high-energy guy, you'll probably catch him biking around campus rushing to class. You might find him by stairwell C preparing for the Beer Bike team practice, jogging around the Outer Loop, or throwing down with the Rice Lions Dance Team. If you are lucky enough to have him as your OWeek Peer Academic Advisor, you will soon discover that he not only loves moving but also knows the ins-and-outs of the premed track. When Nathan does sit down, he loves to discuss hot takes, fall asleep during movies, or have a good heart-to-heart conversation. Nathan is a great guy who will make your time here at McMurry better. Never be afraid to reach out! Ask him questions. You already have a buddy :)

~ Lucas Dovalina, McMurry '25

McMurry '25 | Peer Academic Advisor | Major: Neuroscience | Minor: Medical Humanities | Spring, TX



Erin Kang

Hi everyone, and welcome to Rice! My name is Erin, and as someone who has always enjoyed helping other students with academic advising, I am super excited to be serving as one of your O-Week PAAs this year. I'm a junior studying sociology with a minor in art history, and I'm originally from Katy, Texas. I'm currently on the pre-law track, but I'm also interested in business as well! In my freetime, I love to bake, crochet, and play the violin. I also spend a lot of my time singing and dancing along to K-Pop, or watching the latest feel-good romcom K-drama on Netflix (my all-time favorite is Business Proposal!). Feel free to come talk to me about anything, especially if you have any questions related to academic planning or the social sciences at Rice! I know that the first semester of college can be really daunting at times, especially when you're still figuring a lot of things out, but please know that the Murt advisors and PAAs are here for you.

McMurry '26 | Peer Academic Advisor | Major: Sociology | Minor: Art History | Houston, TX



Brianna Schulstad

Coming all the way from Saddle River, New Jersey, Brianna Schulstad is a Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences double major with a bagel addiction (a consequence of her Tri-State upbringing). Bri is a sophomore passionate about powderpuff, feeding the chickens in the Rice Garden, taking photos for McMurry's Historian Committee, and eating Trader Joe's chocolate-covered almonds. Despite her busy schedule, Bri always makes time to see her friends and listen to their problems. You can find Bri on the inner loop in a campus golf cart (with proper certification!), on one of the IM fields representing McMurry, in O'Connor studying, or mourning the loss of her water bottle (she averages 2 broken water bottles per semester). No matter where she is, though, Bri will always run to help a friend in need (about academics or life) with a coffee in hand. You are so lucky to have Bri on your side this O-Week!

McMurry '27 | Peer Academic Advisor | Majors: Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Earth, Environmental & Planetary Sciences | Saddle River, NJ



Mira Goldstein

Hailing from the mean streets of Evanston, IL, Mira Goldstein is a sophomore from McMurry studying chemical engineering. Equipped with a cheerful attitude, a funny personality and fluency in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Arabic, there isn't anyone better equipped to be a PAA. Got questions about scheduling? She's got you. Curious about studying abroad? She's an expert (Ask her about her summer in Taiwan)! Want to learn some interesting food combos involving peanut butter? She's your girl. If you've got questions, she's got answers. Just don't ask her about possums, unless you want to scare her and get on her bad side. Don't worry though, a couple of apples and some peanut butter and she'll forgive you. Did I mention that she really likes peanut butter? She's not just an academic weapon though, that's right she's not like the other girls. Go to the sport's games to catch her incredible stunting as part of the Rice Cheer Team. Be careful though, the amount of flips she does might make you dizzy.

McMurry '27 | Peer Academic Advisor | Major: Chemical Engineering | Evanston, IL

✦ Affinity Letters ✦

These letters are written by our Advisors & Co-Advisors who hold certain marginalized identities and are focused on helping ease any worries you may have about how it is being at Rice while holding those identities!

To Black Students:

Dear New Black Students,

Welcome to Rice! We are so happy to extend a heartfelt welcome to you as you begin your journey here at Rice. Your presence here speaks volumes about your hard work and your ambition, and we are so excited to see how you will enrich Rice's community.

Starting college can bring a mix of emotions, especially when navigating new environments and experiences. As you settle in, please know that Rice is committed to supporting you every step of the way. We recognize the unique challenges that come with being a Black student on campus, and we are dedicated to ensuring that you feel valued, heard, and supported.

Rice is home to a vibrant community of Black students, faculty, and staff who are here to celebrate your achievements and to provide guidance when you need it. Whether you are looking for academic resources, cultural organizations, mentorship opportunities, or spaces to connect with people who share similar experiences, there are a variety of resources to meet your needs. The Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Black Student Association, and the Rice African Student Association as well as other student groups are here to support your personal growth and academic success.

Also, McMurtry is home to the BEST Black Caucus on campus! We have fun events twice a month so our Black Murt community can always feel connected and have each other to rely on while navigating through college. Some events that we've had in the past have been off campus dinners and going to arcades, game nights, movie nights, Sunset Soirees and more. Essence is one of the Black Caucus Heads so if you ever have any suggestions or ideas for events you want to see, don't hesitate to let her know!

Remember, your voice matters. Your perspectives and contributions are what make you who you are and are vital to Rice's diversity and richness. Embrace your coming journey with confidence, and know that you are part of a community that values your identity and believes in your potential to succeed.

If you ever have questions, concerns, or just want to talk to someone who understands this experience, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are here to help you thrive academically, socially, and personally during your time at Rice.

Once again, welcome to Rice! We look forward to celebrating you and witnessing the positive impact that you will make on our campus and beyond.

Warmly,
Dolapo, Lovett '25 and Essence, McMurtry '25

To Latinx Students:

Hola Incoming Student!

Welcome to Rice (or Arroz haha)! Lucky for you, Rice's Latino/Latinx/Latine population is a sprawling and diverse community that is well-represented, loving and welcoming of all types of people, nationalities, and backgrounds. Regardless of your country of origin or even how "Latine" you may act, look, or talk, I can guarantee you there is a passionate community that would love for you to get involved here at Rice. I can distinctly remember interacting with clubs like HACER (Hispanic Association for Cultural Enrichment at Rice) and SHPE (Society of Hispanic Engineers), to name a few, and witnessing firsthand how Latine people aren't just welcome at Rice, but they are embraced and celebrated as well. One of the most exciting events of the year is RITMO, an extraordinary showcase of Latine history, culture, and heritage coordinated by students and faculty.

Transitioning to Rice is no easy task, whether that be from out of the country, state, or county, but I promise you that you'll have the love and support to succeed. Rice helped me find a second familia, one that genuinely cared about my background and culture, and with all the Latine resources on campus, I'm confident you can find yours as well!

Hasta pronto!

Your Co-Advisor,
Steven Maradiaga (Hanszen '26)

To East Asian & Pacific Islander Students:

Dear East Asian and Pacific Islander Students,

Congratulations and welcome to Rice! We are so excited to welcome you and hope you can cherish your time here as much as we have.

Rice is truly a special place to celebrate your EAPI identity in so many different ways. For example, even though Anna grew up in a predominantly Asian city, she's been able to explore and learn so much about her EAPI identity in new ways through Rice's community. She highly encourages you to be adventurous and put yourself out there to experience everything Rice has to offer, as she's found that some of her most meaningful and treasured experiences have been through trying out new things! Joseph, however, grew up in a city that had a small Asian population, so he was not exposed to Asian culture as much. But during his time at Rice, he was able to reconnect with his cultural identity and celebrate his culture with others!

There are countless ways to connect with your identity both on campus and off campus. On campus, there are many cultural clubs such as Chinese Student Association (CSA), Vietnamese Student Association (VSA), Korean Student Association (KSA), and various cultural performance clubs such as Rice Lions (a lion dancing club!), BASYK, and Chimes (a cultural a capella group). One of the best things about these clubs is that they're very welcoming to all students regardless of your identity, so they're also a fun way to share

your culture with your friends! These clubs host a wide variety of events, ranging from a huge Lunar New Year celebration and performance, to potlucks, Chinatown/Bellaire visits, and off campus volunteering, so there is sure to be something for everyone. Most of these clubs also collaborate with each other, creating events like KSA-VSA Karaoke Night, so you will also be able to meet and work with people from other cultural clubs that you may not identify with.

Another unique and incredibly valuable way to learn about your culture is through Rice's classes in a variety of departments. These classes cover a plethora of topics ranging from the sociology of Asians and Asian Americans, Asian literature, Asian music, and Asian language classes. Engaging with your culture and identity academically can offer many new, insightful perspectives, and we highly encourage you to take advantage of these classes if you are interested.

Finally, outside of Rice there are many different organizations (Vietnamese Cultural and Science Association, OCA Greater Houston, and HOPE Clinic, to name a few) dedicated to helping the greater Houston EAPI community and addressing issues within the EAPI community. These organizations offer many volunteer opportunities, so anyone can easily get involved!

If you're feeling homesick, there are numerous authentic and delicious Asian restaurants throughout Houston with many different Asian cuisines. Visiting these restaurants has always been a special way for us to take some time off school and reconnect with familiar comfort foods with friends and family.

As you can see, there are so many people at Rice who will celebrate your identity and heritage, no matter what that may be. While students with varying prior cultural experiences and knowledge might be nervous about finding a place at Rice, we promise that Rice has so many opportunities to cultivate a true sense of belonging regardless of your background. Everyone connects with their culture in different ways and each person's diverse upbringing and experiences is what makes Rice's EAPI community so special and valuable. Once again, welcome to Rice and we're so excited to see everything that you'll do here!

Your advisor, Anna Nguyen (McMurtry '26) and co-advisors Spring Chenjp (Wiess '25) and Joseph Pham (Will Rice '26)

To South Asian Students:

Dear South Asian Murts,

Congratulations and welcome to the Rice family! My name is Adarsh and I'm going into my junior year. I'm from Baltimore, but I moved to Austin 2 years ago. I want to be one of the first people to tell y'all that we are all so excited to meet every one of you in the fall! You'll soon find that there are so many opportunities to meet new students, and one of the best ways is through the South Asian Society. In high school, I didn't have any South Asian friends and was 1 of 3 South Asians in my graduating class of 200 or so students, so it was really cool to witness a prevalent South Asian community when I came here.

The South Asian Society hosts some fun events, some of them being Holi, Dhamaka, and one of my personal favorites, Mango Lassi mixer. These events are a great way to meet a variety of people with a similar background as you. These bonds can be beneficial, whether it's joining one of the many awesome cultural dance teams like Bhangra, Riyaaz, or Rasikas, or simply connecting with someone who shares a perspective with you no one else does.

Stay open to things and have fun! See y'all during O-Week!
Adarsh Gadepalli (McMurtry '26)

Dear South Asian Murts,

First of all, congratulations and welcome to our AMAZING Murt family!! We are so excited to have you! My name is Sohani, and I am an incoming junior from Gilbert, Arizona. Just two years ago, I was where you currently are. I was unsure of what my experience at Rice was going to be like, but I immediately found such an amazing and comforting community at McMurtry. I especially found a lot of camaraderie among my fellow South Asian Murts, since I come from a predominantly white city and did not have many South Asian friends back home.

In fact, being a part of McMurtry's very own South Asian Affinity group has been a great way for me to connect with my culture and my fellow Murts this past year. We have hosted a wide variety of events for all of Murt to attend, such as Chai and Chaat Nights at the Magisters' House, Kulfi Nights, and South Asian FITQs. These events can be a great way to get to know fellow Murts with a similar cultural background, while also getting a small taste of home. I highly recommend y'all to come out for affinity events this year!

I hope y'all have a great O-Week and I look forward to meeting each and every one of you!

Warm wishes,
Sohani Sandhu (McMurtry '26)

To FGLI Students:

Hey FGLI Murts!

We would like to be one of the first people to welcome you to Rice! The FGLI community at Rice is very big, welcoming, and caring! You will encounter many FGLI students who are excited to help you transition into Rice, give advice on succeeding in classes, and be with you during any financial, social, or academic issues you may face. A reminder that the FGLI community is not limited to just Questies! There are many people who are not QuestBridge but are first-generation or low-income or both, so don't feel scared to ask for help or tell others about your struggles. Rice also offers a plethora of resources and opportunities for FGLI students, ranging from the Student Success Initiatives Office to FGLI Ambassadors to the SER Scholars Program. There are also events where you can connect with other FGLI students, learn about opportunities geared towards FGLI students, or have a safe space to talk about your story. Remember that you are not the only one afraid about transitioning to college. Every incoming student is also afraid, thus do not be scared to ask for help when you need it! There are many FGLI upperclassmen who have probably gone through the same emotions and transition during the first few weeks at Rice, and they are more than happy to guide and support you along the way! One last piece of advice: remember that college is also a time to explore and have fun! Don't be scared to take some time off from academics to explore Houston, hang with friends, or enjoy weekend nights. The college experience is for everyone regardless of socioeconomic background!

We really hope you find solace in the fact that you are welcomed and accepted not only within the FGLI community, but at Rice as a whole. It's so easy to fall into the mental trap of imposter syndrome, but we hope you know that the plethora of resources available here (including us!!) will help you with your transition into a potentially scary new journey. The SSI, the Murt FGLI Affinity Group, and other FGLI student body members are all amazing places to reach out to if you're having a hard time with absolutely anything. You may sometimes feel lost and without guidance, but trust that the goal of these resources is for you to succeed! As for potential monetary needs, there is the Magister's Fund (through McMurtry for non-emergency purchases), the Access and Opportunity Portal (through Rice for non-emergency purchases), and funding through the Dean of Undergraduates (emergency funding). The Financial Aid Office is also so helpful if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Rice Investment and amount of aid you are receiving. If all of this seems a little overwhelming, don't worry. It did to me too. But I promise you will figure things out. You belong here! You have accomplished so much and we are so proud of you! And you are absolutely not alone. Welcome to Rice and welcome to McMurtry!

Sincerely,

Catey Thomas (McMurtry '27) & Joseph Pham (Will Rice '26)

To LGBTQ+ Students:

Hello New Students!

Welcome to Rice, and welcome to McMurtry, the place I have found home, and a place that you will find a home in too! Regardless of where you are in your own journey—if you're questioning, if you're comfortable (or uncomfortable) with a label, or if you know yourself but haven't yet found a space to express yourself—be aware of Rice's several levels of support systems for you, and my own (and many others) personal support for you. Last year, when I came to Rice, I was incredibly unsure of what to expect. My high school was a pretty unaccepting place, particularly for queer individuals of color. I had a lot of worry in terms of where I would find community, and if I would even find any at Rice. This worry was almost immediately placated, my advisors all welcomed me with such open arms and such kindness, my peers were wonderful and incredibly supportive, and actively desiring to offer empathy. I found my best friend on my first day of O-week (which is not to say that is everyone's experience, or give a timeline of when you "should" find friends, it works out differently for everyone, just to say that for queer and trans folks, it's definitely a possibility). As I entered Rice, all public universities in Texas lost funding for queer support services due to Senate Bill 17. Rice has remained a wonderful support system for even other Houston public schools, and retains both funding, and a safe space. I've found such a wonderful community here at Rice, alongside my peers. I've had the time of my life, truly. Even in my moments of hardship or isolation, I've found wonderful people (both in, and out of the LGBTQ+ community) who have helped me heal. My success and happiness at Rice has been built from so many wonderful people, all of them expressing this warmth to me and my identity as a butch nonbinary lesbian.

The Rice community values diversity in thought. I believe one of the essay prompts itself inquired about this. Your experiences as a queer student at Rice will be heard, and will be appreciated, should you choose to share them. No matter your background—whether it be differences in diversity of race, gender, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic status—there are many people at Rice who want you to succeed and thrive. McMurtry specifically supports queer students especially (even in regards to infrastructure), with gender-neutral bathrooms at the end of each hallway in the dorms and in commons, personal bathrooms in each double, and a Murt specific queer group that holds activities pretty frequently, along with a myriad of queer students that are more than willing to offer help in so many areas. Rice supports queer students primarily through the QRC and Rice PRIDE. The QRC (located in the Rice Memorial Center) is a space open pretty much every day (including weekends) for students in the community and allies to hang out, seek advice on personal issues, find resources (like binders/transtape, endogenous tea, sexual health supplies, menstrual health supplies, general health supplies) or connect with external resources, explore queer literature, or even just find flags/stickers. Rice PRIDE as a whole organizes frequent events to connect with other members of the community, engage with activism, and push for inclusion from administrators so students don't have to themselves. All information regarding these organizations will be easily accessible starting in O-week, and you will have time to engage with the community early on through affinity groups (time slots scheduled during O-week for you to meet people within communities you belong in (for example, I am queer and south asian, and was able to connect with both of those groups during scheduled affinity group time).

During your time at McMurtry and beyond, I hope that Murt gives you a space to thrive and experience the world through your own lens of identity. There's no rush, no "right" way, and wherever you go, you have so many supports. You are seen and loved, and I am so excited to meet y'all!

Also, to incoming transgender and nonbinary students, if you would like to ensure your preferred name is explicitly used and shared, feel free to contact me or the coordinators. Generally, for any incoming students, feel free to contact me about anything (questions, etc) at sma7@rice.edu.

Best,

Sai Ali (they/he) class of 2027

To Students with Disabilities:

Hello, new Murts!

When I first came to Rice, I was nervous about entering such an academically rigorous environment knowing that my learning disability put me at a disadvantage from other students. In high school, I experienced interactions in which both other students and teachers invalidated my experience and questioned my need for academic accommodations. I felt very self conscious having to get up and go to a separate room during exams or show up late to my next class because it took me twice as long to finish the exam.

However, when I got to Rice, and started reaching out for assistance with my learning disability, I found my advisors to be very open to helping me figure out how things worked at Rice, and staff at the disability resource center were also very quick to respond to my emails. My peers have never judged me or questioned the validity of my disability, and my professors have always been very receptive to my needs. It also helps to know if you face any issues with professors, the disability resource center is there to help back you up.

That being said, I still found it challenging to adjust to the rigor of college while having a learning disability, but don't give up if you find it challenging as well. Rice has so many amazing resources and a fantastic community here to support you and help you advocate for yourself. Culture of care is huge here, so remember there are always people in the Rice community who are willing to help you out in whatever way you need.

Valerie Heckel, Jones '26

To Student Athletes:

Dear New Student-Athletes,

Congratulations on committing to Rice University, and welcome to McMurtry, the best residential college! This is a significant milestone, and you should be immensely proud of yourself. Rice offers a unique blend of top-tier education and the opportunity to excel in your sport, and I hope you'll come to love and appreciate this place as much as I do.

Rice is rich with opportunities and networks waiting to be explored. Take advantage of everything available to you. The resources here are unparalleled, and they extend far beyond the athletic field. Engage with your professors, join clubs, and attend events. These experiences will shape your future in ways you might not yet imagine.

Your successful athletic careers are a testament to your resilience, discipline, and ability to thrive under pressure. These attributes will be invaluable as you navigate the challenges of balancing rigorous academics with your athletic commitments. Remember, you were selected for Rice not only for your athletic talent but also for your potential to excel in the classroom and contribute to the Rice community.

O-Week is a fantastic time to immerse yourself in the McMurtry community. Embrace the college culture, make new friends, and dive into the activities. Along with your teammates, the bonds you form during this week can turn into lifelong friendships, which was the case for me! These are the people who will be your biggest supporters, whom you can have cheering you on at your competitions, and standing by you through thick and thin.

I'm excited to meet each of you and witness the amazing things you'll achieve here at Rice. Know that I, along with many others, will be there cheering you on. If you ever need anything, don't hesitate to reach out—I'm here for you.

Hoot 'em!

Sachin Shurpalekar, McMurtry '26

To International Students:

Hello International Students, welcome to Rice University, and most importantly, welcome to Murt! ❤️

My name is Kendrick, and I'm a junior from British Columbia, Canada, and my name is Sabrina, a senior from Beijing, China. As international students ourselves, we were excited for the new experiences that Rice would bring, but were still incredibly nervous to be living so far from home because we had never traveled that far before, let alone be away from our families and friends for that long. Luckily for us, O-Week helped us make the transition into Rice more smoothly. However, we understand that the transition from not only high school to college, but also the adjustments necessary to acclimate to another country can require more than just a week, which is why we want to give you the support you need, from filing taxes to building a community of people you can trust.

Here are some valuable resources we recommend you explore if you need assistance, and of course, feel free to reach out to us with any questions you may have. The Office of International Students and Scholars ([OISS](#)) is a crucial resource, providing travel signatures, support, and advice on a variety of topics. They can also connect you with alumni and other Rice community members who share similar backgrounds. OISS offers numerous fun events and activities, from international student lunches to a course on American slang. In addition to your O-Week advisors from Murt (that's us!), you'll also be in contact with your UIO (Undergraduate International Orientation) advisors who will help you along the way. The [MultiCultural Center](#) (MCC) is also a great support system and organizes several cultural showcases and other events. It's also a great study space where you can meet awesome fellow international/other students!

One of our favourite parts of Rice is the huge variety of clubs and organizations on campus. RISA or the Rice International Student Association is a great resource and they host heaps of fun events to meet other international students and connect you with resources. There are also a lot of cultural clubs - whether it's the Rice African Student Association (RASA), Rice HACER which promotes Latine culture, the [Rice Chinese Students and Scholars Association](#) (RCSSA), and so many more! These clubs can be a great place to find community.

In addition to all these campus-wide resources, get ready for some awesome murt-specific celebrations for cultural festivals like Diwali and Lunar New Year! Our amazing coordinator Jackie and the Magisters always bring out the best snacks, unique ideas, and cool decorations to make these celebrations extra special. Plus, you'll get to hang out with faculty, alumni, and Rice community members from many different cultures through the [Associates Program](#). Houston is known for its hospitality, so the people here will do their best to engage in conversation with you and are typically open to help if you need anything!

Always remember, there are people here cheering for you, whether for big or little 'wins' that might not hit the same for everyone else. Getting your Social Security Number and becoming a campus tour guide is worth celebrating. Passing your road test in Texas can be a huge step too. Not to mention traveling with a stack of documents, experiencing cultural shocks while absorbing new things every single day, and becoming friends with people from totally different backgrounds. We are so proud of you for embarking on your college journey abroad, and we hope that every moment over the next four years at Rice will feel like home. While your experience will be uniquely yours, there are so many other international students who have faced similar challenges and are always willing to help.

It's an immense joy and true thrill to welcome you to this community of care, love, and support at McMurtry College and Rice University. We can't wait to welcome you home and kick off the best Murt O-Week ever with you!

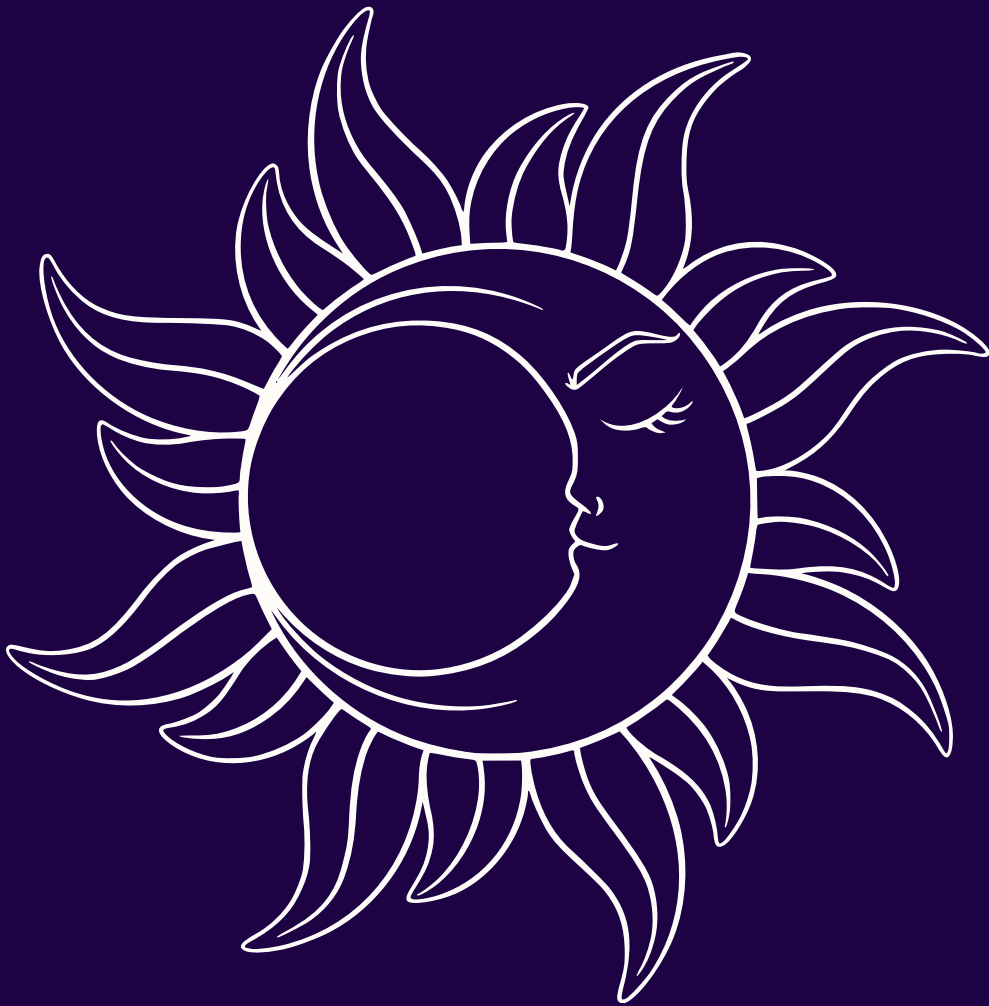
❤️ Murt Love, ❤️

Sabrina Sun & Kendrick Lounsbury



Section 4.

McMurry College



History & Traditions

WE BLEED PURPLE.

Mc Murtry's history reaches surprisingly far back to the very beginning of the residential college system. Our founders, Burt and Deedee McMurtry, served together on the student-faculty committee that created the original residential college system. The McMurtrys graduated with the Class of 1956, got married, and went on to become successful in venture capitalism in California. The founding couple's efforts towards establishing the college system came full circle on August 16, 2009, with the successful opening of Burton and Deedee McMurtry College — your new home! Ever since then, each and every incoming class has worked to create traditions and culture that will last for years to come. Though there are many traditions in place already, you are all an essential part of creating even more throughout your time at McMurtry.



Conch

The conch shell appears on our crest and refers to the fact that the McMurtry name derives from the Scottish "Son of the Sea Navigator". When this instrument of glory is blown, all Murts let out the ear-piercing scream of "MURRRRRRRRRRT!" that embodies the intensity and strong bond of McMurtry.

Bananas

We cheer on Murts with loud screams of "McMurtry is bananas!" Murts in banana suits have fondly been adopted as our unofficial mascot, and if you ever see people in banana suits at music festivals or events, don't be surprised if you recognize their faces.

Y2K

Each college hosts a public party at least once a year, where free food, drinks for

people of age, music, and dancing are provided in the Commons. McMurtry's party is Y2K, a throwback 2000's themed party held in February!

McRice

The first O-Week Coords of McMurtry prefixed every imaginable sign and placard on campus with the letters "Mc" to officially mark Rice with Murt spirit. The possibilities are endless as we venture across Rice to proclaim Murt pride.



History & Traditions

CONTINUED

Birthday Gong

At McMurtry, we like to celebrate birthdays by hitting our Birthday Gong. Usually during mealtimes, your friend will stand on a table in Commons and yell "Hey McMurtry! It's [insert name]'s birthday!" followed by Murts cheering "Birthday Gong!" repeatedly as you go hit the gong.

Sundae Sundays

Every Sunday in Deedee's Lounge on 5th floor, we have a tradition of serving sundaes to anyone and everyone who'd like one! The ice cream comes in a variety of flavors with tons of toppings to choose from. If you want one, you better bring your bowl (you'll get an extra scoop!) and join the line early because this event is super popular!

McScottish Night

A uniquely McMurtry night dedicated to celebrating our Scottish heritage. The night has historically featured Scottish delicacies, student-led kilt-making, a bagpipe procession, the burning of a homemade Wickerman, and more!

Fridays in the Quad (FITQs)

When you walk back to McMurtry after class on Friday, you will be greeted by the mass of Murts in the quad playing volleyball, talking, or having some great snacks. There's nothing like finishing the week off with some good food, games, music, and friends in the Murt quad!



Cookie Defense

Our spirit of inclusivity extends farther than our own college. As part of our Baker 13 defense, we bake and pass out cookies for the runners and get a peaceful truce in return.

Powderpuff

Combined with Will Rice, our college reigned victorious in our first-ever appearance in the Powderpuff championship. Since then, we've already won the Fall 2016, Fall 2017, and Spring 2022 championships, making Powderpuff a common gathering for Murts to show their college pride.



History & Traditions

CONTINUED

Murt Olympics

To honor our competitive, sporting nature, and our strong floor culture, McMurtry hosts hall bonding events known as Murt Olympics to show which floor will reign supreme. Events have included trivia, tug-of-war, video game tournaments, and other competitions.

Burt's Teahouse

The kitchen on 5th floor is named 'Burt's Teahouse' after one of McMurtry college's founders, Burt McMurtry. You can find Burt's Teahouse fully stocked with various different kinds of teas available for any Murt who'd like a cup.

Super Bowl Party

Every Super Bowl, McMurtry holds a watch party in commons, complete with pizzas and nachos! Everyone comes out to watch the game for a night of fun, food, and friends.



Beer Bike

McMurtry goes all out in the great tradition of Rice. Murts proudly wear banana suits and blast music throughout the week, making us the most hype college in Beer Bike. We also enjoy winning, most recently the 2020 Men's Beer Run and the 2021 Women's Beer Bike.

Cultivating New Traditions

This is a great freedom of our college, as the time is ripe for new traditions to be created, both during O-Week and beyond. As part of the fourteenth matriculating class, you have the incredible opportunity to help shape our ever-expanding, ever-changing college. Be ready, for you will be an unforgettable part of McMurtry's history.



The McTeam

Each college has its own Core Team. Here at McMurtry, we have our own special name for them: the *McTeam*. The *McTeam* is one of our most visible and helpful groups of mentors. It consists of 7 people, who, all except one, our College Coordinator, live in the college. In addition to being members of the *McTeam*, many also work for Rice in some capacity. There is 1 Residential Associate (RA), 3 Resident Faculty Associate (RFA), 2 Magisters, and a College Coordinator. Among the *McTeam* there are professors, administrators, advisors, and our favorites: dogs and children! The *McTeam* is a great resource to go to for personal or academic advice. They are also a group of great people to become friends with! You can find them down the hall in the college, at the Magisters' house, in classrooms and offices around campus, and even in West Servery for most meals. To become part of the *McTeam*, each member had to apply to the program and must be reevaluated every few years at the end of each of their terms. You will get to meet them early on during O-Week, and they love it when you say hello to them around campus or at other McMurtry events! They have helped many of us in unimaginable ways, and they are truly invested in your well-being.



Magisters

Welcome to McMurtry!! We are Jenifer Bratter and Noe Perez, the Magisters of McMurtry College!! Let's start with a basic question: what does it mean to be successful in college? The answer can take many shapes but an important piece is finding your people!! Our mission as Magisters is to help students find connections to others, engage their interests, and see this place as home. We are entering our fifth year as Magisters and we love getting to know students, having you all over our home for food and fun, but also just chatting to get to know your hopes and dreams. To get that started, here's a little about us: Jenifer is a Professor in the Sociology Department who is a scholar of race and ethnicity and its impact on identity, interpersonal relationships, and life chances. She has been working at Rice since 2006, enjoying the creative and intellectually dazzling graduate and undergraduate students. Noe is a freelance researcher.



Jenifer Bratter & Noe Perez



He loves biking as a way to exercise and getting to know the Rice community (ask him about the Bike paths in Houston!), carpentry, cooking, especially dishes that remind folks of home, and farmer's markets. We are a couple from all over – Jenifer was born in Brooklyn and Noe hails from south Texas, “the Valley” and we met at University of Texas at Austin in the graduate program in Sociology during a conflict about a desk – yes, please ask. We have two boys, Ricardo, 19 is entering his sophomore year at Trinity University, and Sam, 14, is starting high school. Lastly, our dog, Sunshine Charlie, who loves people (and belly rubs!) enjoys getting to know students! Sam is a guitar player, video gamer (his favorite is chess), and creating music. Ricardo's passions are Parkour, weight lifting, climbing, and his goal is to study architecture and urban studies. We can't wait to meet you all – Welcome to McMurtry!

College Coordinator



There are some very comfortable couches and chairs in my office, along with Squishmallows if you need a hug, and puzzles to challenge your brain. I'm always ready to talk about Asian dramas, Korean music, Astros baseball, or whatever interests you!



✦ Jackie Carrizales ✦

My name is Jackie Carrizales and I am the McMurtry College Coordinator. I have been the Coordinator here since the week before O-Week in 2015, but I have been an associate at McMurtry since it opened in the Summer of 2009. I was so excited to be able to be a part of a college from the beginning and see the start of all of the traditions that make each college unique. I can't believe that I'm lucky enough to spend every day here now and get paid for it!

I have worked at Rice for 14 years. Away from McMurtry, I am married to my husband, Marc, and we have three adult sons, Max, Luke, and Leo. We also have three dogs, Azura, Shorty and Dagon, who think that they control the house (and they really do). My office is on the ground floor right outside the door to the commons. I love when students visit and tell me about what is going on with their lives, so please stop by any time to say "Hi." Grab some candy or a cup of coffee or tea.

THINGS YOU CAN DO IN JACKIE'S OFFICE

- Pick up mail and packages
- Buy stamps & get envelopes
- Catch up with Jackie!
- Borrow an extra room key
- Do homework
- Use the staplers, packing tape, scissors, shredder, etc
- Take a study break
- Relax with other Murts
- Solve puzzles

Resident Faculty Associates



We are so happy to welcome you to McMurtry College! We are Priscilla Martinez and Matt McCary, the new RFAs joining the Murt team this year. To say that we are excited is an understatement! One big reason to be excited is that we get to know you better and cultivate new connections that will enrich experiences for the entire McMurtry family. Matt is an Assistant Professor in Biosciences specializing in soil ecology with a particular focus on insects. Priscilla is a Marketing Manager for a biopharmaceutical company and loves harnessing customer insights to create impactful marketing strategies. Fun fact: The two of us go way back—we first met in the library of our college (North Central College, Illinois), where Matt awkwardly asked Priscilla on a date during our senior year [thankfully, she said yes :)].

**Matt McCary
&
Priscilla Martinez**



Our interests are varied, spanning hobbies in beauty/lifestyle (Priscilla), running (Priscilla), chess (Matt), and together, we enjoy nature walks, reading, coffee, live music, art shows, and all things fitness. Rituals in our household include listening and dancing to music (Latin, hip-hop, Afrobeats, pop, etc.) and following sports. In addition to our hobbies, we have two important family members to highlight: our two friendly pet spiders, Regal [jumping spider] and Wolfé [wolf spider]. We would love to introduce them if you are interested. We know the year ahead will be great, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to meet you!

Residential Associate

✦ Tamara Jones ✦

Hiii new Murts! My name is Tamara (pronounced with emphasis on the Tam), and I am entering my seventh year as Resident Associate at the best college. I am the Student Services Administrator in the Dean's Office here at Rice which entails helping students navigate their way through college life – some paths are more arduous than others and that's where I can step in and help. I was born and raised here in Houston. I have a Master's degree in Sociology and love learning about human variation in every form – cultural, familial, personality, life choices, etc. This means I will want to learn all about your life story, from the mundane to the deep! I have many hot takes on food. I hate the 5 C's: chocolate, cinnamon, caramel, coconut, and coffee (it's just an elevated palate thing; only the real ones would understand) and love strawberry, guava, passionfruit, vanilla, and Funfetti. My hobbies include curating music playlists (ask me about my playlists for each day of the week),



birdwatching, nature photography, color consulting, consuming pastries, and games of all sorts – bowling, board games, video games, trivia, you name it. I enjoy reading, listening to dark-sided podcasts, exploring new cities, and finding new Netflix series to watch.

I live here with my daughters Seraphina, Aura, and Lila. Seraphina is a rising 6th grader who enjoys slime, dance performances, swimming, spicy noodles, and unhinged what-if scenarios. Aura is a rising 4th grader who enjoys building things, jiu jitsu, Pokemon, shopping, and being literal. Lila is a rising 2nd grader who enjoys sing-alongs, marble runs, using people as furniture, taking Murts hands and running off with them every time they pass by in the hallway, and pizza bagels. I look forward to getting to know all of you and The Gems (the shorthand collective name for my daughters) can't wait to play with you!

Residential Faculty Associate

Welcome to the Murt family! My name is Deirdre Hunter and this will be my sixth year at McMurtry. I am an Assistant Teaching Professor at the Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen (OEDK). In addition to teaching engineering design courses at the OEDK, over the summers I teach in the Rice Emerging Scholars Program (RESP), and teach a study abroad course in Mexico. As an undergrad I studied Mechanical Engineering at Syracuse University then earned a PhD in Engineering Education from Virginia Tech. My research has focused on developing learner-centered environments in engineering classrooms, and teaching and learning metacognitive skills. I love thinking deeply and philosophizing about higher education systems and learning more broadly. Some of my hobbies include: playing games (from cards and board games, to organized sports and wacky ompetitions, I am game!), cheering for the Houston Astros (I have season tickets and love attending games), drinking coffee (totally addicted, and no shame!), hosting Dogs & Donuts on 5th, and finding great conversations. But most of all, I'm passionate about people. For me, it has always been more about who I am sharing moments with, than what I am doing in that moment.



✦ Deirdre Hunter ✦



My personal life vision is "to build inclusive community" and I think every person has a deep desire to be known. Knowing someone starts with listening, and when we are truly known we begin to feel like we belong to a shared experience. So, let's sit together over a meal or a cup of coffee; I am eager to hear your story!! I live on 3rd floor with my daughter, Frankie and our two pups. Frankie will turn 1 year in September. She enjoys people watching and exploring new foods. Sandy is a dachshund-beagle mix. She was born on the streets in Mexico, crazy story you should ask me about sometime! She loves naps, belly rubs, and doesn't miss a meal!! Nexus is an Australian shepherd mix. He struggles with anxiety, but loves spending time with students, giving hugs, and long walks. If you ever need some puppy time you can find us in 347, just knock!

McMurtry President

Adeel Sumar



What's up, New Murts!! I'm Adeel Sumar, and I have the pleasure of being your College President. First of all, congrats on making it here and getting into the best college. You should be very proud of yourself for all the hours of hard work you put in leading you to go to a place like this. I'm a rising senior studying Mechanical Engineering and minoring in CAAM (the full name is too long lol), and I'm so excited to know you all!

My job is to help give you guys the best college experience possible by keeping McMurtry amazing, which includes fun events, great memories, important conversations, and an overall sense of community. I also act as your representative between the McTeam, other colleges, and the larger Rice administration, where I work with the other College Presidents to advocate for larger initiatives beyond just McMurtry.

However, what's most important to me is to make our college even better than it already is, and I'm ready to do whatever I can to make that happen. The entire McMinistry and I will be

working hard to make our college feel like a home, and don't forget that there are so many ways for YOU to get involved as well. When I was a new student, I thought that the student government was intimidating and wasn't initially interested at all, and I want to tell you that ANYTHING can happen. You'll never know what opportunities will come up in your time here, and you'd be surprised at what path you end up taking.

For a bit more about me, I love spending time with my friends (doing anything or nothing), trying new foods, going to new places, and meeting new people. I honestly believe that anything I do can either be a good experience or a good story, and I try to live by that sentiment. I also love playing music for fun on my clarinet, and while I used to be in the Campanile Orchestra at Rice (one of the many music groups for non-music majors), I'm looking for another group to play in. As for my relationship with Murt, the road to becoming president all started from me liking ice cream. I'm serious. Ask me about it! My favorite Murt spot to hang out is Burt's kitchen on the 5th floor because I can eat, do work, relax, or play some card games with friends. My favorite thing to do in the Yurt is play on our foosball table (and you should totally ask me to play). Also, I have an alter ego that goes by the name McDeel™ (not related to McMurtry at all whatsoever).

Most of all, please don't hesitate to reach out about literally whatever you want, even during this summer. Whether it's questions, ideas to make the college better, or just wanting to get to know me, know that I'll always be available to hear what you have to say. Once you're here, feel free to say hi when you see me around!

- With Murt Love, Adeel, McMurtry '25

Chief Justices

Kile Stenoien

Often found grinding out CivE or Japanese in Fondren library or Martel Commons, this Khaki-wearing, bespectacled behemoth of a Chief lives, sleeps, eats, and dreams safety. An enjoyer of the finer things in life, Kile is an avid reader, bouldering stud, professional Letterboxd review writer, and theater kid at heart (he played the little boy in Marie Poppins in a Broadway caliber production and loves talking about it, seriously just ask him).

In closing, music means alot to Kile (Alex G, Neutral Milk Hotel, The Beatles, and Car Seat Headrest to name a few) and this dude absolutely shreds on the acoustic guitar.

~ Jackson Harvey, McMurtry '26

Jackson Harvey

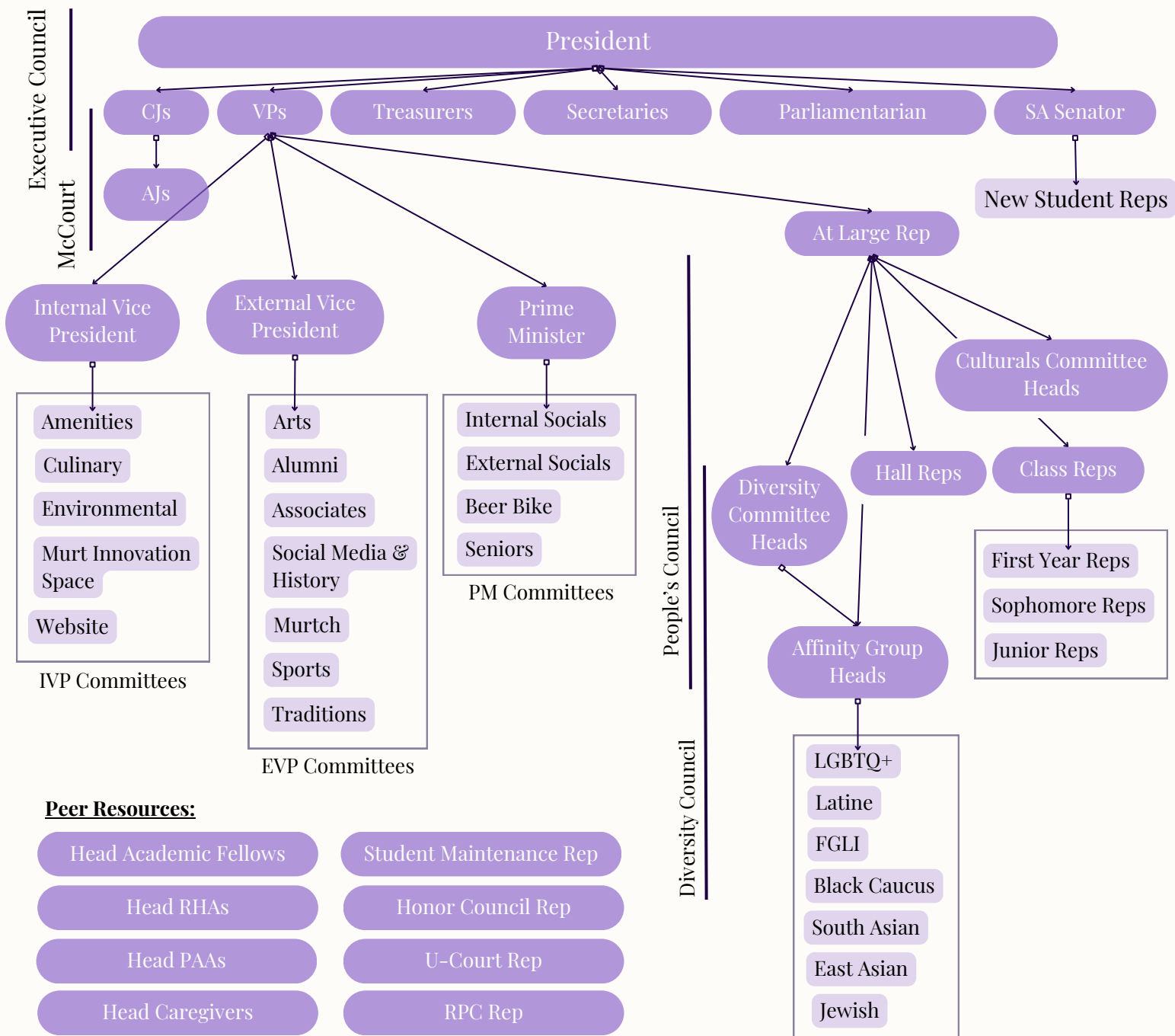
Jackson "Justice" Harvey: he's a Political Science major (socially conscious ?!?!), Spanish minor (bilingual king jajaja), and majorly handsome (meow!). Hailing from the distant land of Houston, TX, he can be spotted in the wild primarily looking out for the safety of McMurtry college, or brushing up on the latest edition of the alcohol policy. However, if you take a peak past his peacekeeping persona, you can find him dancing salsa and bachata, watching foreign films polyglottally (if this is a word, he'd know), or playing soccer (ole!). The justice of McMurtry is firmly grasped in his loving hands!

~ Kile Stenoien, McMurtry '26



McMurtry Government

At Rice, all 11 colleges have an internal, student-run government designed to deal with various aspects of the college. At McMurtry, our student government is known as the McMinistry. The McMinistry contains the Executive Council (EC), which includes the President, Chief Justice(s), Internal and External VPs, Prime Minister, At-Large Representative, Secretaries, Treasurers, Parliamentarian, and SA Senator. The EC conducts various functions, including overseeing the committee system, advocating for ideas and initiatives, creating and managing the budget, and much more. In addition to the EC, the At-Large Rep serves as the head of the People's Council (PC) and represents the interests of McMurtry College as a whole. The PC includes 9 Hall Reps, 9 Class Reps, and the Diversity and Culturals committee heads. The Class Reps include three First Year Reps who are elected in the fall (and you can be one!). Many of the events that are planned for McMurtry students are organized through the various committees. Getting involved in a committee is a great (and easy) way to get involved with the McGovernment. Additionally, the McMinistry meets bi-weekly for Town Hall, which are meetings to discuss current Murt news, hold voting sessions, and are an open forum for any Murt to voice their opinion (free snacks too!). These meetings are where you can learn what is going on at McMurtry, so make sure to attend!



Murt Spaces



The Yurt

The Yurt is what we call McMurtry commons! It's a circular building that is fully surrounded by windows, offering lots of natural light. Come to eat, work, play games, or just chill!



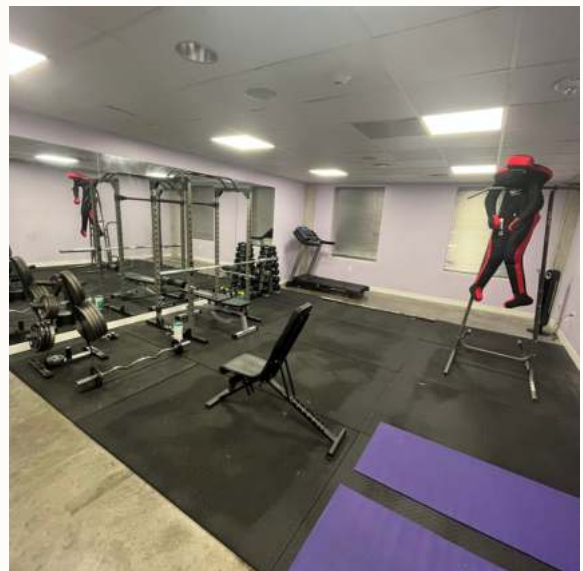
Quad

The Quad is McMurtry's central outdoor space. Here, you'll find benches, a basketball hoop, and more. It's a great place to hang out after class!



Movie Room

"Study Room 120" is actually our very own movie room! The room comes with couches and a TV available for hosting fun movie nights with friends.



Gym

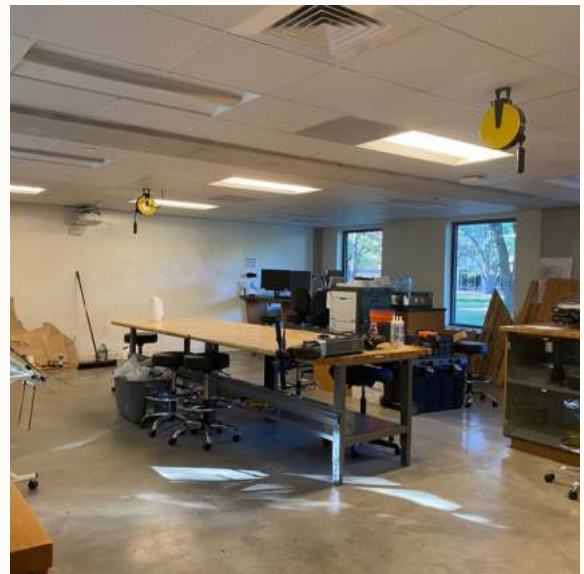
Don't feel like going all the way to the Rec to get a quick workout in? McMurtry's got you covered with our very own gym, equipped with weights, a squat rack, a treadmill, and yoga mats!

Murt Spaces



Game Room

The newly renovated Game Room is home to McMurtry's pool table and air hockey table. The yellow and orange walls pay homage to the former hallway colors of McMurtry college.



Murt Innovation Space

For all you creative Murts, take a short safety quiz and you'll have access to equipment including hand tools, art + electronic prototyping supplies, computers, 3D printers, and more!



Laundry Room

McMurtry's laundry room is located on the ground floor. Here you'll find plenty of washers and dryers, all free, although it does tend to get busy so you might be waiting to catch a free one!



Mailroom / Jackie's Office

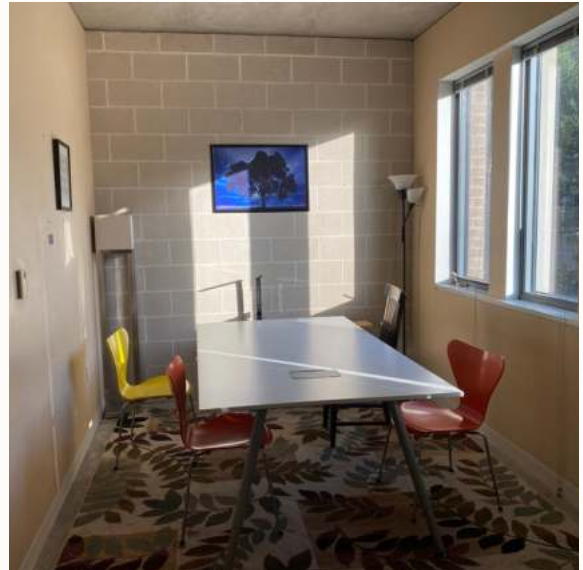
The mail room is where you'll receive all of your letters and packages. Come by to pick up your mail or just to say hi to Jackie :)

Murt Spaces



Library & Private Dining Room

The McMurtry Library and Private Dining Room (PDR) are spaces located above West Servery, often used for quiet studying or club events.



Study Rooms

McMurtry has two study rooms on the ground floor and one on each of the higher floors. Each study room offers a table and whiteboard for Murts to catch up on some work.

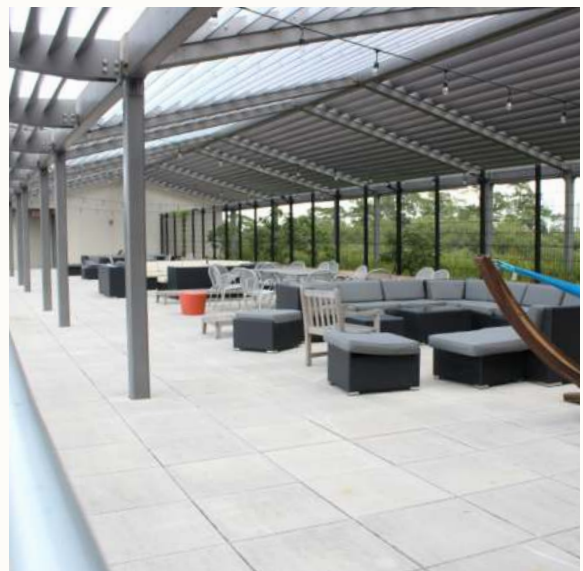


Kitchens

McMurtry has kitchens on each 2nd-5th floor, equipped with a fridge, stove, oven, microwave, and essential cooking supplies. Just make sure to clean up after yourself when you're done.

5th Floor

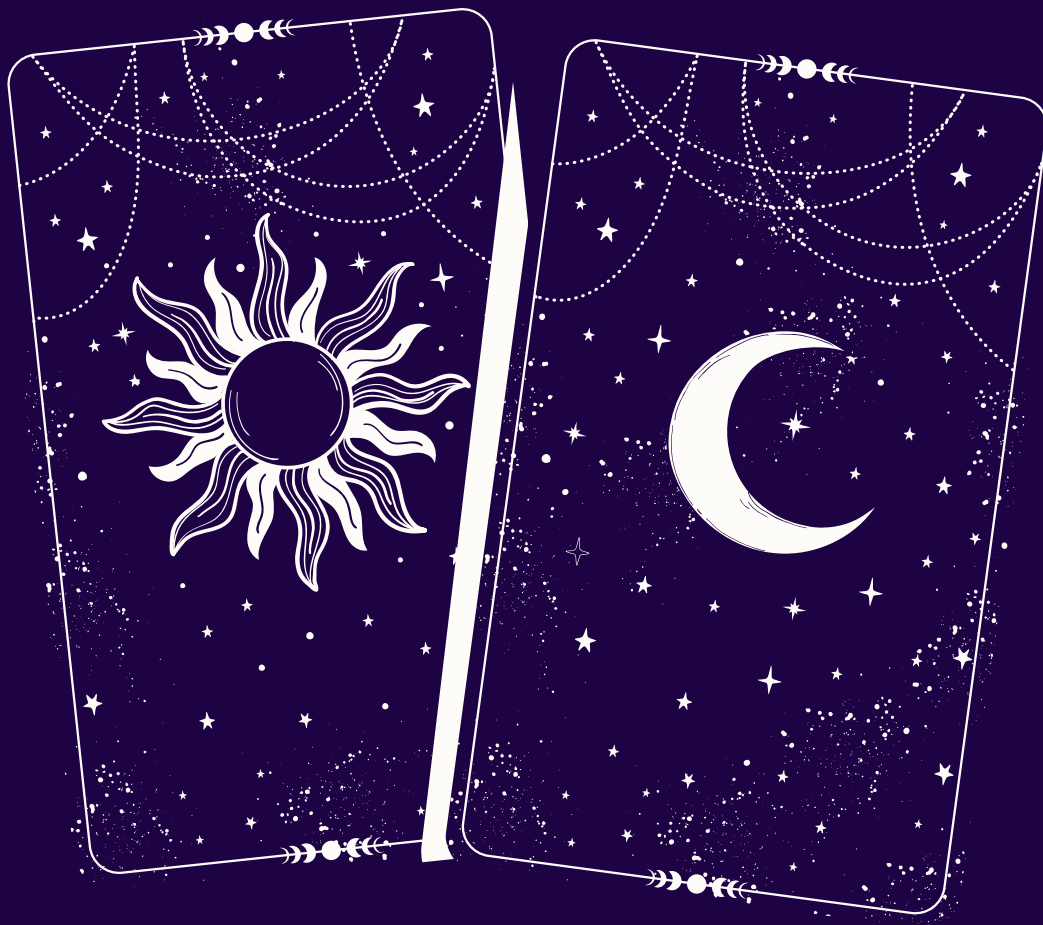
The rooms on 5th floor are reserved for upperclassmen, but the top floor sundeck offers a nice space for all Murts to hang out outside.





Section 5.

Greater Rice



McM & Rice Lingo

Associate Justice (AJ): They help out with the justice system and alcohol policy regulations; are under the CJs.

Associates Night: A formal dinner held in your college's commons once a semester to connect with the Associates.

Beer Bike: A very competitive, inter-college race/event held every spring, in which ten bikers and ten chuggers from each college compete for personal and college pride.

Birthday Gong: A beautiful, golden gong located in the Yurt and carved with the McM crest that people ring on their birthday.

Burt's Teahouse (Burt's): A McMurtry communal kitchen on 5th Floor, with free tea and mugs available for all Murts.

Chaus: A nickname for Rice Coffeehouse, a student-run business located in the RMC.

Chug: One-half of the Beer Bike race, often preceded by one of Rice's most sacred chants: "They're forty yards out, they're thirty yards out, ready, set chug chug chug chug...!"

Chief Justice (CJ): They're in charge of making sure Murts stay safe, so they're experts on the justice system and alcohol policy. They're who you go to for registering your parties!

College Night: Not just a night, but actually a full day of themed celebration and partying held every semester, each college celebrating their own College Night.

Conch: Whenever you hear this beautiful instrument trumpeted, know that it is time to rally and show the other colleges our Murt pride!

Deedee's Lounge: Located on 5th floor, this room is a common space for people to watch TV or play video games. It is also home of our biweekly Sunday Sundaes event.

Fellow: Murts who are dedicated to helping other Murts academically in various subjects.

FITQ: Friday in the Quad is a gathering for Murts every other Friday, typically with free food, good music, and amazing friends.

Fondy: Fondren Library is a great place to study, conduct meetings, rent out media equipment, and many other things.

H&D: Housing and Dining is in charge of all food services and residential buildings on campus.

IM: Intramural: informal, low-stress sports played among students.

Jack: To pull a prank, usually on another college.



McM & Rice Lingo

KTRU: Rice's on-campus, student-run radio station.

Matriculation: Ceremony held during O-Week to officially welcome you to Rice.

McTriculation: Ceremony held during O-Week to officially welcome you to McMurtry.

McTeam: McM Core Team (Magisters, Resident Faculty Associates, Resident Associates, College Coordinator).

Murt: A resident of McMurtry College (YOU)!

OC (Off-Campus): People who live off-campus are referred to as "being OC." People who live far away from Rice, or seem to spend a lot of time outside the hedges are referred to as "deep OC."

Private: A party thrown by a group of people in a residential college, rather than the whole college. The rules and regulations are outlined by the Alcohol Policy.

Pub: Located in the basement of the RMC, Pub hosts sports nights, trivia nights, and Thursday night themed parties.

Public: Themed party thrown by a residential college open to any Rice undergrad. Most colleges throw one per semester, some throw one per year.

Quad: McMurtry Quad is a gathering place for Murts to eat at the picnic tables, play soccer in the grass, or just hang out.

RMC: Rice Memorial Center is the home of Chaus, Student Success Initiatives, the Office of Academic Advising, and many other great resources.

Room Draw (Jack): The process we use to assign rooms for the next school year.

Sallyport: The huge archway in Lovett Hall. Once you pass through during Matriculation, you are not to step foot through here until graduation.

Sammy's: Located in the RMC, it's a multi-purpose area that is regularly used as a study space or dining area for food stations located there, or repurposed as an event space.

Servery: The kitchen where your everyday food is made. Every college either has its own servery or shares one with nearby colleges (McMurtry's is West Servery).

Student Association (SA): Campus-wide student government.

Suite: The common rooms that are shared by 6 Murts found near each of the stairwells.

Tea Nook: Student-run boba shop located in Sammy's in the RMC, open Tues-Thurs nights.

Town Hall: Biweekly meetings used to discuss various Murt events and policies, open to all Murts and their voices.

The Hoot: Located in the RMC, this is a great place to stop by for some late-night food or snacks.

Beer Bike Week: The week preceding Beer Bike, filled with college activities, alumni, and plenty of jacks!

Y2K: The best 2000s-themed public party of the year held every February in McM Commons!

Yurt: McMurtry Commons named after its resemblance to the Mongol dwelling.

What to call people from other colleges?

Baker - Bakerite | Brown - Brownie | Duncan - Duncaroo | Hanszen - Hanszenite

Jones - Jonesian | Lovett - Lovetteer | Martel - Martelian | Sid Rich - Sidizen

Wiess - Wiessman | Will Rice - Will Ricer

On Campus Resources

Rice Police (RUPD) | 713-348-6000 (24/7)

Rice Emergency Medical Service (REMS) | 713-348-6000 (24/7)

Rice Housing and Dining | 713-348-5445

Rice Counseling Center | wellbeing.rice.edu | 713-348-3311 (24/7)

Rice Wellbeing Center | wellbeing.rice.edu | wellbeing@rice.edu | 713-348-3311

Student Health | health.rice.edu | (713) 348-4966

Disability Resource Center | drc.rice.edu | adarice@rice.edu | 713-348-5841

Women's Resource Center | women.rice.edu

Queer Resource Center | pride.rice.edu

Rice Health Advisors | rha.rice.edu | mcmurtry.rice.edu/people/RHAs

Office of the Registrar | registrar.rice.edu | registrar@rice.edu | 713-348-4999

Office of Financial Aid | financialaid.rice.edu | fina@rice.edu | 713-348-4958

Access, Equity & Equal Opportunity | aeeo.rice.edu | aeeo@rice.edu

Student Success Initiatives | success.rice.edu | success@rice.edu | 713-348-2924

Office of International Students and Scholars | oiss.rice.edu

Office of Academic Advising | oaa.rice.edu | aadv@rice.edu | 713-348-4060

Center for Career Development | ccd.rice.edu | ccd@rice.edu | 713-348-4055

Multicultural Center | mcc.rice.edu | mino@rice.edu | 713-348-5124

Center for Civic Leadership | ccl.rice.edu | ccl@rice.edu | 713-348-2223

Fondren Library | library.rice.edu | 713-348-5698

Student Judicial Programs | sjp.rice.edu | sjp@rice.edu | 713-348-4786

Student Association | sa.rice.edu



Beyond the Hedges

As the nation's fourth largest and most culturally diverse city, Houston offers endless opportunities for exploration. As a Rice student, you will have close access to the Texas Medical Center, the Houston Museum District, Rice Village, Hermann Park, and lots more!

Texas Medical Center (TMC): A 15 minute walk from Murt, the TMC is the world's largest medical center. A variety of biomedical and life science-focused labs host Rice undergraduates to conduct independent research, and there are many opportunities for hospital volunteering as well. The TMC is also home to many food establishments such as Starbucks, Chipotle, MOD Pizza, and many more!



Rice Village: Located immediately west of campus, Rice Village is a 16-block bundle of boutique and chain stores, along with bars, coffee shops, and a variety of restaurants. Students frequently walk (about 20 minutes from Murt) or drive to this area to grab food, boba, drinks, etc. off-campus.

Hermann Park: One of Houston's oldest public spaces, Hermann Park is across the street from the North Colleges and consists of over 450 acres to host any outdoor activity you can imagine, including picnics, scenic runs, and sports! Some of the most popular points of interest are the Houston Zoo, the Japanese Garden, and McGovern Centennial Gardens-- all of which you can get in for free with your Rice ID!



Museum District: About a 20-minute walk or short metro ride from Murt, the Museum District is home to 19 museums, galleries, cultural centers and community organizations, including the Museum of Natural Science and Museum of Fine Arts. The Museum District is a popular destination for Murts looking for a relaxing but fun weekend activity!

See You Soon!

Hello there again, fellow astrologer!

We are over the moon that you are going to get to be apart of the best residential colleges on campus! We hope that this book was filled with lots of useful information that gave you an astronomical sneak peak of the culture you will experience here at Rice and McMurtry College. Shoutout to our AstrO-Week Advisors, Co-Advisors, Affiliates, and our McTeam for helping us put this book together and all other aspects of O-Week! Also a special thanks to one of our amazing Advisors, Mikeal Graham, who designed the O-Week shirt and some of the graphics in the book. Finally, We would like to leave you with some more encouraging words:

Your impending journey at Rice will be full of various twists and turns. But at the end of the day, we hope you know that at McMurtry, you always have access to the tools you need to continue charting your way through. Don't be scared to reach out for help: even the most experienced of astrologers still discover new things as they go. During AstrO-Week, we want to encourage vulnerability and authenticity at every step of the path. No matter how many challenges you may encounter along your journey, you won't be alone, as Rice has so many helpful resources available at your disposal.

Welcome to MURRRRRRRRRRT!

Gale, Francesca, and Sean

Your 2024 AstrO-Week McCoordinators





