

The AIM Advance

03/01/2024



AIM Updates

AISE-V DOMAIN KEY

Opportunities AIM creates or supports are focused on the AISE-V Domains. The events listed may fall under a variety of domain areas (A,I,S,E,V).

A - ACADEMIC

I - INDEPENDENT LIVING

S - SOCIAL

E - EMOTIONAL

V - VOCATIONAL



WEEKLY AIM ACTIVITIES

MONDAY

- Full Spectrum Fitness 11-12:30 pm - MIC
- Career Path Freshman 3 pm - Sullivan 1 - biweekly
- Career Path Juniors 3 pm - Sullivan 2
- Cooking 4:30 pm Mercy 100
- BOOST 3-5:30 pm Hirt M213

TUESDAY

- Pickleball 2 pm Rec Center

WEDNESDAY

- Full Spectrum Fitness 11-12:30 pm - MIC
- PEERS 3 pm - Sullivan 1-2
- Healthy Relationships Class for Sophomores 3 pm - Sullivan 2
- Career Path Seniors 3 pm - Main 211
- BOOST 5:30-8 pm Zum 207

THURSDAY

- BOOST 3-5:30 pm Hirt U305
- Zumba 5 pm - Rec Center

FRIDAY

- Drum Circle 3 pm Prince of Peace Chapel

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

- BOOST 5-7:30 pm Hirt M213

Director's Note

Hello everyone! Spring break is finally here, and you all have earned it! It's time to check your grades to see your progress in all your classes. It's not too late to make sure you are using your accommodations, AIM BOOST, the writing or tutoring center, professor office hours, and other campus supports to help you be successful. Please meet regularly with your student support coordinator, check in with your professors, and let us know how you are doing in your classes. Use your break to rest, relax, recharge, and have fun!



We are looking forward to hearing about your adventures when you return! - Amanda

Student Spotlight



Meet Evan Molloy

Evan is a sophomore accounting major with a minor in cybersecurity. Evan does very well academically, with a 3.4 cumulative GPA. In addition to Evan's stellar coursework, he participates in the Civic Orchestra on campus, playing the violin. This semester, Evan began practicing for his driver's exam. Evan worked very diligently with his driving instructor several times a week in all types of weather and has completed his training. Evan's driving instructor is exceptionally impressed with Evan's progress. She is confident that Evan will pass his test next month in his home state of Ohio. Excellent work, Evan!



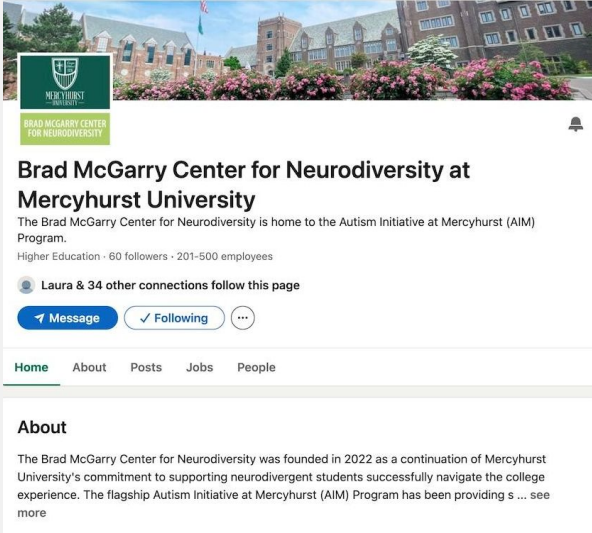
Important Dates

- Spring Break: March 3 - 11
- Easter Break: March 27 - April 1
- Summer 2024 & Fall 2024 Registration: Begins March 19
- Last Day to Withdraw from Spring Classes: April 19
- Spring Classes End: May 3
- Finals Week: May 6 - 9
- Graduation: May 11

Executive Director's Note

Upcoming Experiential Trip

We are happy to announce an experiential trip for AIM students to the Seattle, Washington, area from May 13-18, 2024. This trip is open to all current AIM students. It will



We are excited about some upcoming trip opportunities, first being our Career Path seniors heading to Washington D.C. next week! We have a few more events in store for the rest of the semester, so please make sure to keep an eye on your email!

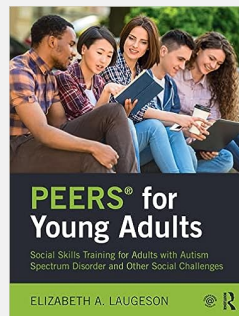
Do you have a LinkedIn profile? If not, talk with your Career Path facilitator or Autism Support Coordinator about how to go about it – and make sure to follow the **Brad McGarry Center for Neurodiversity** and connect with me (**Ryan Palm**) as well. LinkedIn is an extremely valuable tool for networking, learning about an organization/industry, and free resource for many learning opportunities!

(V)

Ryan

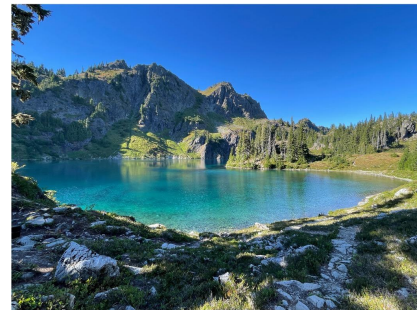
PEERS

The PEERS for Young Adults course has reached its half-way point. Students in the program have been learning new skills weekly and practicing these skills with their social coaches. Students enrolled in the program are learning how to start and maintain conversations, find common interests, find sources of friends, communicate effectively using electronics, use humor appropriately, and to use feedback from others to ascertain their interest. The AIM Program is working with 10 students each semester matched with a social coach in this 16-week social skills training program. (ISE)



include a vocational and sightseeing day in Seattle, a visit to a lavender farm, hiking in Olympic National Park, and hiking in Crescent Lake Temperate Rainforest. It is a custom trip designed for our group and will include two professional hiking guides. The trip will cost \$3250 per person, including flights, hotels, meals, hiking guides, and transportation. Please contact **Amanda Mulder** or **Ryan Palm** to learn more about the trip. (AISE-V)

Click Here for More Information



Snow Tubing

On Friday, February 23rd we took a group of students snow tubing at Peek'n Peak Resort in Clymer, New York, followed by dinner at a local restaurant in Clymer. We had a lot of fun and the students enjoyed tubing, some were tubing for the first time ever! (IS)

Cooking & Camaraderie

Two weeks ago, we made chicken burritos, rice, beans, and brownies. This week we made ramen noodles with chicken and veggies. For dessert we made chocolate chip cookie sundaes! (IS)



MU + OSU = Friendship



Apply for
CREATE 2024
Staff



Galaxy S23 Ultra

AIM students had the incredible opportunity to participate in an experiential trip and social networking experience with AIM, Mercyhurst Neurodiverse Community Alliance (MNCA), and The Society for Creative Anachronism Medieval and Renaissance Appreciation RSCO to Ohio State University last weekend. A mixture of sixteen Mercyhurst students from these three groups attended this trip. On Friday night, students from AIM and MNCA met up with the Ohio State Autistic Students Union at the TableTop Gaming Cafe for games, fellowship, and fun! This was the first time both groups reconnected since the last College Autism Summit, and many students were elated to see each other again!



CREATE 2024

Are you looking for a summer job that is a GREAT resume builder?

CREATE is a summer program for prospective college students on the Autism Spectrum. The CREATE staff's role is to monitor the daily progress of each CREATE participant, collect data on their college readiness, and engage socially with students. There are two positions available: CREATE Support Staff and CREATE Team Manager. Qualifications and more information for each position can be found on Handshake.



Details

- Staff must be available May 13th - May 14th for training
- Staff must live on campus during the entirety of CREATE
- Staff move-in on July 6th and out on July 28th
- Staff must be available to work 37.5 hours per week, including evening and weekend hours



To apply, visit mercyhurst.joinhandshake.com and search for "Mercyhurst University Autism Initiative". Priority deadlines for applications is March 15, 2024.

For more information:

Drop by the AIM Hallway (3rd floor of Egan Hall) on Thursday, March 29th from 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM for any questions and to learn more



Amanda Mulder
Director, Autism Initiative at Mercyhurst
Egan 310
amulder@mercyhurst.edu



Chinese Lantern Festival

Students enjoyed celebrating the Chinese New Year by decorating lanterns. (IS)

Informational Video with AIM Student Brady Esham

When AIM staff and students were in Nashville for the College Autism Network (CAN) Conference, Mercyhurst student, Brady Esham was interviewed for their informational video highlighting CAN and the conference. Brady did an excellent job speaking about connection, collaboration, and acceptance. Way to go Brady!!!

[Watch Video Here](#)



Galaxy S23 Ultra



On Saturday, many of our AIM students, history majors, and members of The Society for Creative Anachronism Medieval and Renaissance Appreciation RSCO enjoyed the OSU Renaissance and gaming conference: [Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies](#).

This was a great opportunity to talk about history with college professors from the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and participate in many interactive demonstrations. Students also enjoyed meeting the OSU robots, exploring the student union, and learning more about Columbus, Ohio. We also learned about traveling, staying in a Drury Hotel, and enjoying Fukuryu Ramen and Crumbl cookies.

As you can tell from the photos, everyone had much fun!

Career Path

We would like to give a special shoutout to Mercyhurst alumnus Steve Seymour, director of personnel training and development at Country Fair. Steve visited our seniors in their Career Path class last week and gave some incredible insight from his years as a human resource executive with one of Erie's largest employers. Steve discussed tips and tricks on resumes, cover letters, job searching, the interview process, and so much more. Our students asked engaging questions, and left with some actionable items on how to improve their job search. Steve is also a recently published author - having published "100 Ideas to Improve the Workplace" last year - pick up a copy at Werner Books & Coffee in Erie or on Amazon! Thanks again Steve!



Want to Be a Laker Leader?

The Campus Involvement Center is excited to provide the Laker Leader program as an opportunity for current students to give back to the University, show their school spirit, and welcome a new class of Lakers

to MU!

They assist in implementing Summer Orientation, Welcome Week, the iMU program, and other programs sponsored by the Division of Student Life.

Applications are due March 1st.

Application Form
Student Hub Information

HOW TO STUDY EFFECTIVELY

COME TO BOOST

Sunday: 5pm-7:30 - Hirt M213
Monday: 3pm-5:30- Hirt M213
Wed: 5:30-8:00 pm - Zurn 207
Thursdays 3:00-5:30pm- Hirt U305

We have BOOST monitors Jordan and Soren to help you with the following:

- Study strategies and note-taking
- Reading for comprehension
- Organizing ideas for writing assignments
- Prioritizing and study planning for the weekends

REMEMBER YOUR GOALS

On the journey of studying, there will be a time when you get bored or feel lazy. Always remember your goals and what you want to achieve.

MAKE A STUDY SCHEDULE

The first thing you can try is to make a study schedule. Decide a perfect time and study at the same time every day. It will preface your brain as well.

GET MOTIVATED AT THE
STUDY STUDIO

CAE 311
4:00PM - 8:00PM

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS

- COLLABORATE WITH PEERS
- LEARN MORE STUDY SKILLS
- STUDY INDEPENDENTLY
- EARN ANCHOR POINTS

Trying to find something to do on campus?

LAKER LAUNCHPAD
MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY

Go to: mercyhurst.presence.io

Login with your Mercyhurst credentials

Download "Modern Campus Presence" on the App Store

PICKLEBALL
Open Class

TUESDAY
2 PM

@ THE REC CENTER

ZUMBA

LET IT MOVE YOU™

Amanda Mulder
Zumba Dance Fitness Class
REC Center
5:00 - 6:00 PM
Thursdays starting January 25, 2024!

My Zumba classes are the hottest music to lighten your feet and spirit. Please join me for various salsa, merengue, pop, Afro-punk, hip-hop, belly dance-inspired routines, and more! No experience is necessary, the class is taught as a progressive workout for all! Join the party! You won't regret it!

For class details Contact your assigned Zumba® instructor
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ZUMBA.COM

free alternative **SPRING BREAK 2024**

SCAN QR CODE OR SIGN UP AT
<https://bit.ly/ASBsp24>

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DEONTE AT
DCOLEY@MERCYHURST.EDU

Spring 2024 Semester At-a-Glance Calendar							
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January	14	Spring and Mini 3 begins	15	16	17	18	19
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
February	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
March	25	26	27	28	29	1	2
	SPRING BREAK - Monday, March 4 - Sunday, March 10						
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
April	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
May	Easter Break - No Classes March 27-April 1						
	Easter Break-like Classes						
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
May	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
May	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	FINALS WEEK - Monday, May 6- Thursday, May 9						
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
May	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Mercyhurst University | Office of Academic Support | 1st Floor Egan Hall | (814) 824-2291

Drum Circle

TUNE INTO HEALING: GROUP MUSIC THERAPY SESSIONS

FRIDAYS • 3:00PM-3:50PM • PRINCE OF PEACE CHAPEL

EVERYONE IS WELCOME, NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED.

* PRINCE OF PEACE CHAPEL IS LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE STUDENT UNION

EMAIL BECKY AT RFERGU94@LAKERS.MERCYHURST.EDU FOR MORE INFORMATION

Deadline Extended to March 11th!

2024 Internship Programs



BroadFutures serves young people who:

- Are between the ages of 18 and 26
- Have diagnosed learning disabilities and/or ADHD
- Have a high school diploma and are either headed to college, in college, or taking a break from academics
- Are highly motivated
- Are vaccinated against COVID-19

Program Details:

- **Initial Training:** 1 week of training. Curriculum incorporates workforce preparedness, professionalism and effective communication, and stress reduction tools. We incorporate the arts and wellness.
- **Paid Internships:**
 - 7 weeks of paid internships
 - 20 hours a week, Monday through Thursday
- **Friday Trainings:** Guided peer-to-peer reinforcement of initial training skills and discussion of areas of success/opportunities for growth. Game based learning, speakers & more!!!

PROGRAM DATES:
Winter: Jan. 29 - April 19
Application Deadline: Nov. 15, 2023
Summer: June 10-Aug. 9
Application Deadline: March 1st, 2024

COST:
Winter: \$7,820
Summer: \$6,325
Full & Partial Need-Based Scholarships

HOW TO SIGN UP:
Fill out application & reference release form on our website [here](#).

Apply now to our holistic training, mentoring, and paid internship program!

www.broadfutures.org | (202) 521-4312 | info@broadfutures.org

Featured Employers

- County of Erie
- City Year
- American Red Cross

MARCH 14TH

12pm - 3pm

MERCY HERITAGE ROOM



HUMAN SERVICES CAREER EXPO

PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND OTHER MAJORS ARE WELCOME



MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY

AUTISM INITIATIVE AT MERCYHURST

Phone: (814) 824-2000
Address: 501 East 38th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16546

Autism Initiative at Mercyhurst University | 501 E 38th Street, Erie, ERIE, PA 16546-0001

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