



ANNA MARIA COLLEGE

PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER / September 2025



Email: families@annamaria.edu | Call: 508.849.3388 | Visit: annamaria.edu/families

We are excited to share the 2025-26 year with you and your students! Our family newsletter has information about upcoming events, important dates, and topics of interest for college families. We hope that you enjoy this issue - please reach out if you have any questions or comments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNA MARIA
COLLEGE

SAVE THE DATE!
FALL FEST 2025
HOMECOMING, REUNION,
FAMILY WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 26-27

All families, friends, and alumni are invited to join us at Fall Fest, September 26-

27, 2025! Events will include:

- Volleyball, Men's Soccer, and Football
- Family Bingo
- 5K Run/Walk
- Beer Garden
- Food Trucks
- Family Fun Zone with inflatable games, face painting & more!

[Click here for the Fall Fest schedule!](#)



October 3 - November 5

#AMCATChallenge2025

#ThriveTogether

[Click here to donate](#)

The AMCAT Challenge

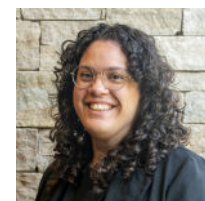
is the Anna Maria College Athletics Department's annual fundraising campaign when our athletics programs compete against each other to raise funds for their specific programs.

We look to enhance the student-athlete experience, whether it is investing in new competition opportunities, increased support staff, or new training equipment. Your support helps our teams address their need and pursue championships!!

We need YOU to consider making a gift to the 3rd Annual AMCAT Challenge, and to help us reach our goal of \$50,000!

NOTES FROM "DEAN DREW"

Dean of Students, Drew Melendez



Parents and Families,

It's hard to believe that we're already a few weeks into the Fall semester, and our students are setting into their academic schedules, athletic seasons, and into the daily routine of an AMCAT!

Just a few months ago, our first-year students were attending Orientation, unsure of what the future held, and now they are AMCATS through and through. It's so wonderful to see how quickly students have taken to such an exciting transition.

Our returning students have quickly found their routines again, showing up to classes, at events, and supporting their peers on the field, at club events, and more. It's been great to see them return with more confidence and familiarity with the campus, guiding many of our first-year students on their journey as they share classes, practices and more. Many of them have stepped into new roles as resident assistants, peer mentors, and team captains and it's been great to see them grow there!

Campus really does come alive in the Fall, and the energy our students bring with them is incomparable to anything else! Thank you for all the support you've given your students as they make AMC their home during the academic year. As a reminder, there are countless offices on campus to connect with students and we encourage them to connect early.

As your student continues to navigate the ins and outs of campus life, please encourage them to stop by any of these and other offices and make those connections!

I am excited to see many of you during Fall Fest and to be alongside you as we continue to cheer on all AMCATs—and those playing the field on Homecoming Day!

Reach me at 508-849-3305 or at dmelendez@annamaria.edu.

STUDENT LIFE EVENTS



ROOTED IN SUCCESS SERIES
Hosted by Student Affairs

Participants will be entered into raffles to win bookstore gift cards, flex cash, & AMC swag!

SEPTEMBER EVENTS


Settling into the Fall Semester
with Dennis Vanasse, Director of ADA Accommodations & Advising Initiatives
Wednesday, September 10 at 6 p.m., Madonna Hall Lobby
with Insomnia Cookies

Mental Health Matters
with Kelly Sullivan, Director of Counseling Services
Thursday, September 18 at 5 p.m., Madonna Hall Lobby
with Philly Pretzel Factory

Preparing for Midterms
with Dana Sheehan, Director of the Writing Center
Thursday, September 25 at 3:30 p.m., Madonna Hall Lobby
with Little Havana

Contact Drew Melendez, Dean of Students, at dmelendez@annamaria.edu with questions.

ANNA MARIA COLLEGE



ROOTED IN SUCCESS SERIES
Hosted by Student Affairs

Participants will be entered into raffles to win bookstore gift cards, flex cash, & AMC swag!

OCTOBER EVENTS

Financial Wellness
with Natalia Vargas, Graduate Assistant, Financial Aid
Thursday, October 2 at 1 p.m., Madonna Hall Lobby

AMC Mission & Pride
with Fr. Stephen Lundrigan, Dean of Mission
Tuesday, October 7 at 6:30 p.m., Madonna Hall Lobby

Building Healthy Relationships
with Shea Lawrie, Director of the Office of Violence Prevention & Education
Monday, October 20 at 11:30 a.m., Madonna Hall Lobby

Contact Drew Melendez, Dean of Students, at dmelendez@annamaria.edu with questions.

ANNA MARIA COLLEGE



LATINOS UNIDOS PRESENTS

SALSA competition

ENTER TO WIN PRIZES

OCT 15 FREE ADMISSION WEDNESDAY
ZECCO AUDITORIUM 7:30PM



STUDENT ACTIVITIES PRESENTS

TRIP TO SIX FLAGS
SAT. OCT. 18TH

Bus departs from Zecco at 3pm

\$10 fee includes admission to park and haunted house & meal voucher



YOU'RE INVITED!

CLASS OF 2029 WOMEN'S DINNER

Join us for a catered dinner to discuss your experiences at AMC! RSVP Using QR Code by 9/29 Limited Seats Available

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025
6:30PM. AMCAT ALE HOUSE

As a part of Hispanic Heritage Month, Latinos Unidos and the Office of Community, Culture, and Engagement are hosting a Salsa dance competition.

Our Student Activities staff plan a variety of fun events for students. One of the most popular events is the trip to Six Flags New England, happening in

Dean of Students, Drew Melendez, and Vice President for Student Affairs, Jessica Eckstrom, are excited to host a dinner series focused on women at

Competitors will have the chance to learn a Salsa routine over 4 weeks and then compete against others using the routine they learned. The dance lessons will be conducted by a professional dance instructor and are free!

October!

A trip to the Eastern States Exposition (known locally as the "Big E") is also being offered this weekend!

There are plenty of on-campus activities too, such as First Friday Bingo and Intramural Nights!

Anna Maria.

The first event gives women in the Class of 2029 the chance to share their experience at Anna Maria so far, connect with each other, and engage with staff members who can support them.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



Emergency Management Summit

Our **First Annual Emergency Management Summit: Katrina's Lessons and Legacy**, was held on August 27th in Zecco auditorium. An estimated 100 participants attended as we honored the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

It was an inspiring day that brought together **Anna Maria College faculty and students, public safety leaders, and emergency management professionals** from across the region to reflect on Katrina's impact, share lessons learned, and strengthen our collective approach to emergency preparedness and response.

If you'd like to learn more about the emergency management department or events, including how to participate in the campus Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), please feel free to **email Dr. Jennifer Carlson**.

Pictured in photo above, left to right: Cristine McCombs, Regional Client Services Director at Hagerty Consulting, Dr. Sean Ryan, President of Anna Maria College, Brigadier General Lisa Ahaesy, Asst. Adjutant Gen. MA Air National Guard at Hanscom Air Force Base.



[Watch the full story here!](#)



Campus Fest was held on August 24th as part of Welcome Weekend.

Students had the opportunity to learn more about getting involved in student clubs and organizations. Great food and fun were also on hand!

IMPORTANT DATES



- **Winter Session and Spring registration:** October 14-31
- **Thanksgiving Break:** Residence halls close November 25 at 5 pm and reopen November 30 at 10 am
- **Winter Break:** Residence halls close December 12 at 5 pm and reopen January 11 at 10 am

RESOURCES



Airport Shuttle

Our airport shuttle is available to students for Thanksgiving and Winter Breaks. Students will receive information by email about the shuttle, including the reservation form, in October.

- Tuesday, November 25th 8am - depart campus for Boston Logan
- Sunday, November 30th 7pm - pick up at Boston Logan
- Thursday, December 11th 8am - depart campus for Boston Logan
- Friday, December 12th 8am - depart campus for Boston Logan
- Sunday, January 11th 7pm - pick up at Boston Logan

The Pantry at Anna Maria



ANNA MARIA COLLEGE

THE PANTRY

The Pantry provides food & hygiene products for Anna Maria students in need

LOOKING TO HELP?

Mac & Cheese cups
Grab & Go snacks
Personal care items

Amazon Wish List QR code

Donation bins can be found in the Student Life Office and Campus Ministry Lounge

KNOW A STUDENT IN NEED?

Share this QR code or link below

<http://tinyurl.com/AMCpantry>

Did you know we have a food pantry available for both commuter and resident students?

We stock non-perishable meals, grab & go snacks, and hygiene items. Students may request a pantry bag as needed, up to once per week.

Flyers are posted around campus with the link to the request form, or students may reach out to the **Student Life Office** for assistance.

If you would like to donate to the pantry, please click the link below to view our wish list.

[Click here to donate pantry items](#)

CLASS OF 2025



COMMENCEMENT 2026

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026
ANNA MARIA COLLEGE CAMPUS
PAXTON MA

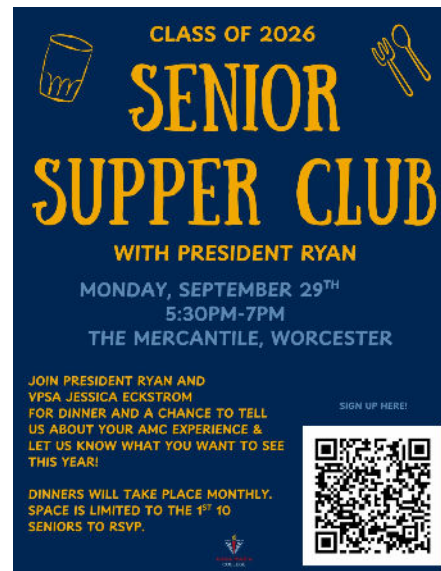
#AMCATS2026

ANNA MARIA COLLEGE
WWW.ANNAMARIA.EDU/COMMENCEMENT

Our 77th Commencement Exercises will be held on Saturday, May 9th, 2026, on our beautiful Anna Maria College campus!

Graduating students will receive details by email at the end of the Fall semester. Intent to Graduate forms are due **December 1** for students completing their studies in May. Students should reach out to their advisor with any questions about their eligibility to graduate.

Our commencement website will have important information and updates for families at the link below.



CLASS OF 2026

SENIOR SUPPER CLUB

WITH PRESIDENT RYAN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH
5:30PM-7PM
THE MERCANTILE, WORCESTER

JOIN PRESIDENT RYAN AND VPSA JESSICA ECKSTROM FOR DINNER AND A CHANCE TO TELL US ABOUT YOUR AMC EXPERIENCE & LET US KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE THIS YEAR!

SIGN UP HERE!

DINNERS WILL TAKE PLACE MONTHLY. SPACE IS LIMITED TO THE 1ST 10 SENIORS TO RSVP.

Seniors will have the opportunity to connect with President Ryan and Vice President for Student Affairs Jessica Eckstrom while enjoying some great food at our monthly Senior Supper Club events.

We welcome your student's input as we plan senior events during this momentous year!

More details about senior class events, including graduation, will be sent to students at their AMCATS email before Winter Break.

[Click here for
Commencement
information](#)

BE IN-THE-KNOW WITH THE LINKS BELOW:

[Office of Student Activities Instagram](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

[Campus Resource Directory](#)

[Athletic Schedule](#)

[Meal Plan Enhancements Form](#)

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