

# STUDENT LIFE AT VILLANOVA

Kathy Byrnes, J.D.

Vice President for Student Life

[kbyrnes@villanova.edu](mailto:kbyrnes@villanova.edu)



# FROM VILLANOVA'S MISSION STATEMENT:

To foster academic excellence, we...

Concern ourselves with developing and nurturing the whole person, allowing students, faculty and staff to grow intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, culturally, socially and physically in an environment that supports individual differences and insists that mutual love and respect should animate every aspect of University life.



# THE VALUES OF STUDENT LIFE AT VILLANOVA

- Holistic student development
- Inclusion and Belonging
- Equity and Justice
- Well-Being

..creating communities of care and respect where each student can flourish



# THE FOCUS OF STUDENT LIFE: ENHANCING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE!

- Create welcoming and inclusive communities
- Create connections and friendships among students
- Care for and respect self and others
- Support students in good times and bad



# FAST FACTS

Most undergrads live on campus –  
less than 20 commuters in FY class  
of 1700

Villanova students tend to get  
involved outside of the classroom  
(92% on Senior Survey)

- High Achieving
- High Engagement
- Both confident and unsure

# WHAT WE SEE: THEMES AND TRENDS

## GEN Z

---

- Screen time and communication style
- Savvy and still young
- Delayed adult activities
- Emerging adulthood

## MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

---

- Anxiety
- Interest in therapy, mindfulness, etc.
- 24/7 nature of their lives
- Competition is the thief of joy | social media posts do harm

## SOCIAL PRACTICES

---

- Posts and texting rather than talking
- More time alone
- Still developing conversation skills
- Friends from home ever present, slows adjustment to VU

## COVID-19 IMPACT

---

- Missed out on traditional and maturing experiences
- Less comfortable with real-time interactions
- Desire for in-person interactions



# Themes for the year:

As a community, we do not all flourish until we each flourish

We Care.

Each  
person  
matters

Community  
is an  
action  
word!

There will  
be highs  
and lows.  
Take time  
for  
reflection.

# CREATING A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Residence Life

Office of Belonging &  
Inclusion

New Student Orientation  
Communitas  
First-Year Experience





# CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

Student  
Involvement

Student  
Performing  
Arts

Fraternity  
and  
Sorority  
Life



# SUPPORTING STUDENTS

Dean of  
Students

CARE

House Call

Sept 18, 2024

International  
Students  
and Scholars

Access  
and  
Disability  
Services

Parent  
and  
Family  
Relations



# CARING FOR SELF AND CARING FOR OTHERS

[Student Health Center](#)

[University Counseling  
Center](#)

[Office of Health  
Promotion](#)

[CARE Team](#)

[UWill](#)

UHelp



# A LASTING PARTNERSHIP: FACULTY AND STUDENT LIFE

Supporting each other for  
student well-being

Keeping in touch re:  
questions or concerns

Reach out [studentlife@villanova.edu](mailto:studentlife@villanova.edu)