SILLIMAN COLLEGE
CLASS OF 2023
Undergraduate life at Yale is organized around fourteen residential colleges where students live, eat, and participate in intellectual, artistic, and social activities. Each college is a cohesive community with its own character and traditions. Along with its standard student living quarters, Residential Colleges have allocated space for a house for the Head of College, an apartment for the Dean of the College, and a few apartments where faculty (Resident Fellows) live amongst the students. These faculty members, their families, and sometimes pets, are a fundamental part of the residential college life.

Whereas other colleges house their first-year students on Old Campus, first-year students in Silliman College, Benjamin Franklin College, Pauli Murray College, and Timothy Dwight College enjoy the privilege of living in their own colleges. Silliman is the largest college at Yale, occupying most of a city block. Silliman’s courtyard alternates as an informal athletic field, a site for college festivities, and a place for quiet repose. Over one hundred members of the faculty, staff, and administration are Fellows of Silliman, and they are invited to eat in the college dining hall and participate in college activities. The aim is to promote interchange between faculty and students.

Silliman offers a wide range of activities and is known for the enthusiasm of its students. It is a truth, universally acknowledged, that Silliman is the most awesome college at Yale. Through participation in college activities, conversations in the dining hall, and a wide variety of social activities, students create the intellectual and cultural atmosphere that is the foundation of college life.

What to look forward to...

This booklet contains information about the accommodations, facilities, and activities in Silliman College. It also contains important practical information to keep in mind. You will find it a useful guide during the first days of college.

Silliman is a vibrant place, alive with diverse activities, facilities, traditions, and people. Head of College Laurie Santos, Associate Head Mark Maxwell, Dean Leanna Barlow, the staff and the students of Silliman are eager to get to know you.

Like our Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/SillimanCollege

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Benjamin Silliman (1779-1864), Yale Class of 1796, was one of America’s pioneers in science. Although Silliman graduated knowing nothing of the natural sciences, President Timothy Dwight asked him (to avoid hiring a foreigner with whom Puritan manners and morals might not sit well) in 1802 to become Yale’s first science professor, teaching chemistry and natural history. Silliman proved to be eminently capable and delivered Yale’s first science lecture in 1804. Soon afterward, President Dwight sent him to Europe to purchase scientific equipment, books for the College Library, and a cabinet of two thousand minerals to begin the study of mineralogy at Yale. After his return, he played a leading role in the foundation of the Yale Medical School, the Peabody Museum, and the American Journal of Science, a scientific periodical still published today. In 1852, Silliman was instrumental in the founding of the Yale School of Engineering, a pioneering event in professional scientific education in the United States. To honor such a towering figure in the history of science at Yale and in America, our college was named after Benjamin Silliman.

Silliman College opened in September of 1940. It was the last of the original ten Yale residential colleges to be completed. The Vanderbilt-Sheffield dormitories and Byers Hall (now the Common Room, Dining Hall, Sillibrary, and Head’s and Dean’s Offices), dating from the early 1900s, were retained in the plans. All of the brick structures, including the Head of College House, were built between 1938 and 1940. Over the years, our college has evolved from a dormitory intended for science students to a diverse yet cohesive residential community. Sparing its first-year students from the disorder of living on Old Campus, Silliman is the largest in area of all the colleges. Our buildings boast a tremendous array of facilities, including a movie theater, digital arts lab, art gallery, library, kitchen, aerobics and dance studio, art studio, basketball court, weight and fitness room, sound studio, game room, buttery and café.

The colors in Silliman’s seal refer to the four elements of the ancient philosophers: red represents fire; white represents air and water; and green represents the earth. It also carries the golden acorns from the family crest of Frederick W. Vanderbilt, Yale Class of 1876, whose bequest funded Silliman’s construction. Because of its legendary associations with fire, the salamander was selected as the college symbol. Our friends call us Sillimanders.
Laurie Santos, Head of College

Laurie Santos, a Professor in the Department of Psychology and the interdisciplinary Cognitive Science Program, assumed responsibility as HoC in July of 2016. HoC Santos is a cognitive psychologist who studies what makes the human mind unique by exploring how animals think about the world. She studies the origins of human cognition by focusing on two different groups of animals: non-human primates (our closest living evolutionary relatives) and domesticated dogs (the species that lives most closely with humans). She is director of the Comparative Cognition Laboratory ("CapLab") and the Canine Cognition Center at Yale. HoC Santos studies the evolutionary origins of both our smarter human capacities — such as our ability to think about what other people think and our capacity to learn from others’ teaching — and our not-so-smart capacities — such as our irrational economic biases and errors. Her "monkeynomics" studies on the later topic were featured in a 2010 TED talk which has been seen by over one million viewers.

HoC Santos received her A.B. in psychology and biology (1997) and Ph.D. in psychology (2003) from Harvard University. She joined Yale’s faculty in 2003 and was awarded tenure in 2010. Head of College Santos has been recognized widely for her excellence in research and teaching. Her work has been featured in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, and The New Yorker. She is the recipient of the Stanton Prize from the Society for Philosophy and Psychology for outstanding contributions to interdisciplinary research. She was recently voted as one of Popular Science Magazine’s "Brilliant 10" young minds, and was described in Time Magazine as a “Leading Campus Celebrity.” In 2012, she was awarded the The Lex Hixon ’63 Prize for Excellence in the Social Sciences.

Mark Maxwell, Associate Head

Head of College Santos is joined by her husband, Mark Maxwell. Associate Head of College Maxwell is currently a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy at Yale. His work in metaphysics and philosophy of science draws on his background in physics (Mark received his B.S. in physics from MIT and his Ph.D. in philosophy from Yale University) to investigate how laws of nature help structure our understanding of the world. Before coming to Yale, Mark worked as a computer programmer and then as a professional poker player, both of which continue to influence his approach to philosophy.

Leanna Barlow, Dean

Dean Barlow earned her B.S. summa cum laude in Public Health and Social Justice from the University of Massachusetts; her M.P.A. from Cornell University’s Institute for Public Affairs; and her Ph.D. in Politics from Brandeis University. At Brandeis she taught courses in the Politics Department on comparative politics, social movements, and extreme party politics in Europe. A scholar who has received numerous awards and fellowships, Dean Barlow studies a broad range of issues in politics, among them political party development, local government, and ethnic conflict and nationalism.

Dean Barlow comes to Yale with experience in residential advising and mentoring undergraduates. She has served as a sophomore adviser at Harvard College’s Winthrop House, providing pre-major academic guidance to its undergraduates. She has also served as Lead Tutor for Winthrop’s CARE (Consent Advocate & Relationship Educator) program, its Lead First-Generation Tutor, and its Lead BGLTQ Tutor. Before advising at Harvard, she served as a mentor and adviser to Brandeis students, many of them the first in their families to attend college, and facilitated workshops in study skills, campus resources, and healthy relationships.

In her spare time, Dean Barlow enjoys reading and watching mysteries (ask her about Poirot, The Fall, Happy Valley or just about any British mystery series that the BBC has to offer), as well as traveling abroad, baking bread, and trying out new exercise classes like spin and barre. She loves to talk about pop culture, the latest in podcasts, and her favorite weather blog, “Weather Wisdom”.

Silliman Operations Manager

Sergio González

Room 419, Byers Hall
Monday to Friday, 8:30-5
Office: (203) 432-0708

Administrative Assistant to the Head of College

Elaine Vivero

Room 111, Byers Hall
Monday to Friday, 8:30-5
Office: (203) 432-0702

Administrative Assistant to the Dean

Ashley Nesmith

Room 115, Byers Hall
Monday to Friday, 8:30-5
Office: (203) 432-0701
Silliman’s Dining Hall is the best at Yale! For many students, this becomes their home dining room away from home. However, students may also eat in other colleges, although transfer restrictions may be imposed at peak times.

**SCHEDULE**

Serving hours in the Silliman Dining Hall are:

**Monday through Friday**
- Hot Breakfast: 7:30-10:30 AM
- Continental Breakfast: 10:30-11:00 AM
- Lunch: 11:30-1:30 PM
- Dinner: 5:00-7:30 PM

**Saturday and Sunday**
- Brunch: 11:00-1:30 PM
- Dinner: 5:00-7:00 PM

Please check notices outside the Dining Hall for any changes to this schedule.

**DINING HALL MANAGER**

Ms. Jennifer Currier and Mr. Jim Murray manage the Dining Hall. Their office is in the Dining Hall (432-0440). Concerts and social events may be held in the Dining Hall, but permission must be obtained from HoC Santos and the Dining Hall Managers. Events must not interfere with normal dining hours.

**FIRST-YEAR COUNSELORS (FROCOS)**

First-year counselors are pillars of the first-year community. These seniors have been appointed, through a rigorous selection process, to play an integral role in helping you adjust to life at Yale. First-year counselors (aka FroCos) assist, advise, and counsel, among other things, the incoming members of our Silliman community. All FroCos attend summer training in preparation for this coveted role, and will be some of the first faces to greet you as you arrive to campus. Although each first-year student is assigned a specific counselor, you are encouraged to reach out to any and all in the group.

**Entryway B**
- B32 Ellen Yang
- B33 Prisca Dognon
- B43 Matthew Peoples

**Entryway C**
- C12 Kishore Chundi
- C32 Esmeralda Lugo

**Entryway E**
- E21 Caleigh Propes
- E31 Margo Williams
- E41 Abby Waugh

**Entryway F**
- F24 Fatima Abaroa
- F44 Kamau Walker

**PEER LIAISONS**

Peer Liaisons (PLs) are students who help connect first-year students to the wealth of support and programming initiatives based in the LGBTQ Resource Center, the University Chaplain's Office, the Office of International Students and Scholars, the Afro-American Cultural Center, the Asian American Cultural Center, and the Native American Cultural Center.

Alice Park, ’21 AACC
Emily Almendarez, ’20 La Casa
Teodora Tyankova, ’21 OISS
Kellyn Kusyk, ’20 LGBTQ

**COMMUNICATION AND CONSENT EDUCATORS (CCES)**

The Communication and Consent Educators (CCEs) are a large, diverse group of undergraduates working together to foster a more positive sexual and social climate on campus. We aim to end sexual violence by transforming our corner of contemporary culture into one where respect, mutuality, and mindfulness are the norms.

Camila Toro, ’21
Alice Park, ’21
Paloma Ortega, ’21
Sam Ryan, ’22

**WRITING TUTOR**

Elizabeth Sledge is the Silliman Writing Tutor and can help students with all types of writing, but especially with course papers. She can assist at every stage of the writing process, from an outline to the final product. Visit her with your papers even if you do not have writing problems; even very talented writers can benefit. Her office is on the fourth floor of Byers Hall and her office hours will be posted in September.

**BASIC INFORMATION**

**All Other:**
- Your name
- Yale University
- Silliman College
- 250 Church Street, New Haven, CT 06510
All student boxes sent via UPS or FedEx should be picked up at 250 Church Street. Boxes should be addressed: Name of student, Silliman College, 505 College Street, New Haven, CT 06511. You will also have the option to pay for a post office box after you move in.

**ROOMS**

**Room Keys:** First-year room keys (and IDs) will be available in the courtyard from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Friday, August 23. All students must return their room keys at the end of the year. A $25 fine is imposed by the University for lost keys or failure to return keys at the end of the term.

**Excessive Noise:** Amplifiers, stereos, musical instruments, radios, and the like should be used with consideration for other college residents. They must not be played so loudly as to invade the rights of others. Quiet hours are in effect after 11 PM Sunday-Thursday and after 1 AM Friday and Saturday. Violators risk disciplinary action, and persistent offenders may be required to vacate University housing.

**PETS:** Students are not allowed to keep pets in the college. The presence of any animal in student rooms constitutes a problem for public health and sanitation.

**Smoking:** The colleges at Yale are smoke-free zones. Smoking is not permitted in any building in Silliman, including student rooms, entryways, courtyard, etc. Yale is committed to supporting a tobacco-free campus.

**Smoke Detectors:** As the first line of defense against fire, these should be operating at all times. Never remove batteries from detectors. Tampering with smoke alarms or removing the batteries is punishable by a $100 fine.

**Security:** For your own safety, the Head and the University Police strongly urge you to keep your room locked at all times. Entryway and basement doors and the four gates to the College should also be kept locked at all times; please do not prop doors open. Broken locks should be reported without delay to the Head of College Office.

**Insurance:** Yale University does not carry insurance on personal property and is not responsible for any items belonging to students. Insurance on property must be arranged privately.

**CUSTODIAL**

Facilities Superintendent — Melissa Debies-Carl is the Facilities Superintendent at Silliman. She is responsible for supervising the cleaning and maintenance of the entire College. All questions about maintenance, bathrooms, and furnishings should be addressed to her email or her office in Timothy Dwight K12.

**Room Inspections:** During the year, the Fire Marshal periodically makes fire and safety inspections of rooms. For reasons of health and safety, students should maintain reasonable standards of cleanliness and order in their rooms. Health and fire hazards will not be tolerated. Remember that occupants are held responsible for any and all property damage within the suite, including damage caused by guests. Electrical space heaters, cooking equipment, microwave ovens, and other heavy-duty electrical appliances violate the fire code and are subject to confiscation by the Fire Marshal. **Explosives, firecrackers, and firearms are prohibited.**

**Recycling:** Yale is required by Connecticut law to recycle 9 types of items, including office paper, newspaper, glass bottles and jars, cans and corrugated cardboard. Yale uses single-stream recycling.

**BICYCLE RACKS**

Bicycle racks are located near the Wall Street, College Street, and Grove Street gates. Please do not store bicycles in the stairwells as this violates state fire laws. Items blocking stairwells and fire doors may be confiscated by order of the Fire Marshal. Also, please do not chain bikes to trees or benches in the courtyard.

**FACILITIES**

Silliman is constantly improving its facilities and the Head of College works closely with students to determine how to make Silliman even better. We’re eager to hear your ideas! Most of the facilities and activities in Silliman are coordinated and organized by students, and you’re encouraged to get involved in as many ways as you can.

**ART STUDIO/BOOK BINDING ROOM**

The art studio is located in the basement of Entryway A and is fully stocked with art supplies and book binding equipment.

**THE SILLIDOME (BASKETBALL COURT)**

A half-court basketball court is located in the basement of Byers Hall. Your room key opens the Sillidome door. Students are welcome to play during open hours. Be sure to wear sneakers!

**ACORN**

Visit our student-run café on the 4th floor of Byers Hall offering specialty coffees, tea and baked goods. The Acorn is a Platinum-Certified member of the Yale Office of Sustainability’s Green Workplace Program. Purchase 10 coffees and join the mug club!
COMMON ROOM
The main Common Room in Byers Hall is a wonderful space for students to study, read, play the piano, and gather in groups. This room houses two beautiful Steinway concert grand pianos, large comfy chairs and sofas, spacious coffee tables, and enormous soft luxurious rugs. As members of this community, we ask you to do your part in the upkeep and organization of this community space (always pick up after yourself, and sometimes after others, refrain from eating or drinking items that can stain or damage the surfaces, and if you move it, put it back).

THE BUTTERY
Reported to be one of the best on campus, our Buttery boasts of a large screen television, assorted games, surround sound music tower, and a student run late-night eatery with foods to satisfy all your cravings. The Buttery restaurant is open from 10pm-1am, Sunday-Thursday. Contact this year's student managers (to be determined), if you are interested in volunteering your services in support of this fun and exciting food operation.

COURTYARD
The soft grass, old beech trees, oversized swing, chess table, hammocks, Adirondack chairs, and picnic tables make the Silliman courtyard one of the glories of the college, enjoyed by all. Impromptu games of frisbee, football, spikeball, volleyball and even cricket have been known to take place here.

COMPUTER ROOM
Our computer room on the 3rd floor of Byers Hall, contains PCs Macs for student use. One Mac is a desktop publishing station with a color flatbed scanner. All computers can be used for word processing, and each is networked, allowing access to e-mail, education software, and internet services. The Student Techs (STs) are available to make sure that the computer room - and students’ personal computers - are always in working order. If you have computing questions, please contact any student tech.

DANCE STUDIO
Silliman has an excellent dance studio with a sprung floor located in the basement of Byers Hall, adjacent to the Game Room. Contact the dance coordinators if you want to use this room.
GOOD LIFE CENTER
The Good Life Center exists to spread good vibes and provide a refuge from the daily grind. Our space is located outside the stress of academia, and inside the other exhilarating parts of humanhood. It's a place to be quiet, meditate, play, create art, or do nothing at all.

GAME ROOM
The game room is in the basement of Byers Hall and houses a variety of games, such as ping-pong, air-hockey, foosball, and billiards.

LIBRARY
The “Sillibrary” is located on the third floor of Byers Hall. It offers a quiet study space and a beautiful reading room. It houses books and reference materials.

MAYA’S ROOM
Named in memory of Maya Hanway SM’82, the Gallery is located on the first floor of Byers Hall. Exhibitions change frequently during the term. Stop by the Head of College Office to make arrangements to reserve the space.

BASEMENT MURALS
Walk through the basement corridors on your way to the Buttery or your entryway to see some spectacular murals painted by Silliman students last year. Stay tuned for info on when our yearly mural painting extravaganza will take place.
MUSIC PRACTICE ROOMS
Silliman has four student practice rooms. The music rooms are located in the basement between Entryways H and I. Three of the four practice rooms contain an upright piano, whereas the fourth is the Band Room, equipped with state-of-the-art electronic gear. Keys to the Music Rooms are available in the Head of College Office. Contact the student coordinators to inquire about use of the Band Room. Please note that a fine is imposed on all students who do not return these keys at the end of the academic year.

SILLIFLICKS
Silliflicks is Silliman’s movie and television theater. Located in the basement of Entryway C, Silliflicks boasts stadium seating, a giant projection-screen television, a full array of cable channels, a DVD player, and a collection of several hundred movies on DVDs. Silliflicks is available to all Silliman students, as long as they follow rules posted on the SM website. There are also organized events in Silliflicks, including weekly showings of popular shows, moviethons on weekends, and student film screenings. Contact coordinators to book timeslots.

LUMRY-WENGERD SOUND STUDIO
This state-of-the-art sound studio has been made possible through the generosity of Loren and Amanda Wengerd SM’01, Rufus and Patricia Lumry, and the Silliman Parents Fund. It is the first studio of its kind ever constructed in a university. The studio is a room within a room, able to be tuned to perfect pitch, and suitable for all types of sound recording needs. Contact the coordinator(s) to set up recording times.

SILLIKITCHEN
Located in the basement between Entryways M and N is the expansive student kitchen, equipped with essential cooking equipment. Contact the kitchen coordinators if you want to reserve the kitchen and cook up a storm. Just remember to clean up afterwards.

TEXTBOOK LIBRARY
The Silliman Textbook Library (SMTL) is an initiative developed by Sillimander Kushal Dev ’20 to combat educational inequity on Yale’s campus. The SMTL was founded on the acknowledgement that textbooks and other educational resources are often prohibitively expensive for many students, especially those of first generation and low-income (FGLI) backgrounds. The SMTL collected over 800 textbook donations from Yale students which are now available for students. Currently located in the Acorn Cafe, the SMTL makes textbooks for many different classes available for students to use free of charge.
The recently-upgraded Silliman weight room.

Silliman Teas
The Head of College invites guests to the College to talk informally with students over tea at the Head of College residence. We have welcomed prominent persons from the worlds of art, photography, sports, literature, cinema, politics and science. Our guest list has included Jerry Greenfield (of Ben & Jerry’s), Baz Luhrman, Anna Quindlen, Kishore Mahbubani, Richard Hatch (of Survivor fame), Andrew Mondshein (acclaimed film editor) Ken Auletta (New Yorker columnist), Ken Starr, The Roots, Conan O’Brien, Martina Navratilova, Kurt Vonnegut, Michael Dukakis, Madeleine L’Engle, The Indigo Girls, Chris Bohjalian, Randy Fenoli (of Say Yes to the Dress), Bronson Pinchot, Rafi, and Denzel Washington.

Activities
In Silliman, dances, films, plays, contests, concerts, receptions, and teas take place throughout the year. Announcements appear in the HoC’s emails, on posters you will see on bulletin boards around Silliman, and on the Silliman website http://silliman.yalecollege.yale.edu.

Silliman Administrative & Activities Council (SAAC)
All enrolled Sillimanders are invited to become members of SAAC, and are entitled to attend meetings and vote. SAAC acts as a forum for the discussion of matters important to the Silliman community, allocates the Student Activities Fund and organizes most of the social events that take place in Silliman throughout the year. SAAC has sponsored events such as dances, a haunted house, a ski trip, a karaoke night, fellows dinners, a trip to a baseball game, and a year-end carnival known as Sillifest. Come to the meetings to help plan these activities, or to suggest ones of your own. Council officers are elected each semester, and first-year students are especially encouraged to run for office. Look for signs and emails and come get involved. This is a great way to get to know other people, to discuss improvements to the college, and to eat free food, soda, and candy. Meetings are Mondays at 10:00 PM in the SAAC room.

Aerobics & Weight Room
The gym in the basement of Byers Hall includes weight and cardio machines, free weights and more. An easy way to get your workout in without having to go all the way to Payne Whitney.

Laundromat
There are two laundry rooms, one in the basement of Entryway M, and the other on the first floor of Entryway F. They are operated by and maintained by the Student Laundry Agency (203-432-1889).

Silliman round table, from where SAAC reigns...
Silliman was a THREE TIME Tyng Cup Champion (2006, 2007, 2008)! Help Silliman take back the Tyng this year! Get in touch with the secretaries, and try to play at least one sport each season. Play soccer against Pierson or inner tube water polo against JE! All students — regardless of ability — are invited to defend the Silliman banner against other colleges in intramural competitions. The college that scores the most points in Intramural competition is awarded the prestigious Tyng Cup. You don’t have to know how to play: we will explain the rules of the game to you, so don’t be shy! It’s a wonderful opportunity to have fun and meet people and take a break from studying. Check the IM white board in Byers Hall for announcements and schedules, and to see which sports are in season. IM secretaries are listed on the Silliman website, so feel free to contact the secretaries for more information. Remember to take a selfie with your Team to earn 2 Buttery Bucks for snacks at the buttery with every IM you play!

**Fellows**

Silliman College has over 100 Fellows — faculty members — representing most of the departments and schools of the University. There are also over 100 Associate Fellows — distinguished members of the New Haven community. The Fellowship offers the faculty an opportunity for greater contact with students. A Silliman Fellow can serve as your college advisor. They also give seminars, join the students for social occasions, and participate in many events in the College. Invite a Fellow to join you for a meal — he or she will probably be delighted to accept.

The College also provides a relaxed atmosphere where members of different departments can become acquainted. A physicist and a classicist may find that they have much in common and become fast friends. These interludes are significant in building unity and spirit within the University and in making it an exciting place to work — all of which results in a stronger faculty, to the ultimate benefit of the students.

Silliman also has a set of residential Faculty Fellows. This year, they are Amin Karbasi, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering at SEAS, and his wife Marjan Karbasi; Maytal Saltiel, Associate Chaplain, and her husband Dan Shetler.
Our bountiful courtyard garden!

Free Barre class providing cardiovascular conditioning and strength training

Swashbucklin’ fun at our “Talk Like a Pirate Day” study break
I’m grateful for . . .

Wellness Week Fun

Silliman’s annual haunted house
Dates to Remember

August 23: Residences open to first-years, 9am

August 24: First-year BBQ

August 27: First-year Dinner

August 28: Fall-term classes begin at 8:20am

October 4-6: Family Weekend

October 15: October recess begins at 11pm

November 22: November recess begins at 5:30pm

December 6: Classes end at 5:30 pm.
Reading period begins

December 12: Final examinations begin at 7pm

December 18: Examinations end at 5:30pm
Winter recess begins

Check out http://silliman.yalecollege.yale.edu for news, information, pictures, and more!

Like our Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/SillimanCollege