



MAINE CENTRAL INSTITUTE

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## Fall at Maine Central Institute



### Greetings from MCI Residential Life!

As we wrap up the first quarter here at MCI, I couldn't be more excited with how the school year is going for the residential program and the amazing students that we have this year. We have introduced a couple of new faces to the residential life staff and have implemented a couple of new things into the program with the introductions of the Dorm Olympics and Mandatory monthly trips. Both programs encourage students to get involved with their dorm mates and to have a Maine experience as much as an MCI experience.

Thank you again for entrusting us in providing a safe and nurturing environment for your child to grow and thrive in as they grow into amazing and contributing young adults to our local and global community.

As we approach the holiday season I would like to pass along my holiday cheer to you and your family for a safe and enjoyable season.

All the best!  
John Dean  
Dean of Student Life

# Meet the Staff of Alumni Hall:

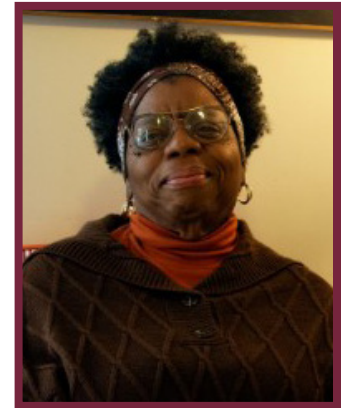


## Dana Fehnel - Dorm Director

Hello, my name is Dana Fehnel and I am the Dorm Director for Alumni Hall where all of our female students reside. I have a BA in Sociology and I also graduated from massage therapy school. This is my 5th year as the Director, but I have lived at MCI for 7 years. Over the summer, I live in the dormitory as well and help out with our ballet program as the dorm parent. I have one daughter, Madison who attends the local middle school here in Pittsfield and who also dances with Bossov Ballet Theatre at MCI. In our home, we also have a Goldendoodle named Asher and a cat named Stitch. I truly love getting to know each and everyone of our girls and watching them grow and succeed over the years!

## Janice Swinton - Dorm Parent

Hello, my name is Janice Swinton and I was born in Washington DC, raised in Mississippi, parents Robert and Anne McGee and I am one of six children. I grew up on a small farm and enjoyed small town life until I graduated high school, moved to Kansas City, married James Swinton, and began life. I continued my education at the University of Kansas, graduating with a B.S. in Journalism. I have published several books, worked as free-lance writer, and producer of original plays. I had a long career in the legal and medical profession and I have managed law offices. In the medical field I have worked as an administrator, Cardiovascular and HIV study coordinator, and research outreach coordinator. I owned a Soul Food restaurant in Waterville, Maine for 11 years. I am an ordained minister and overseas missionary having lived and traveled to China, Philippines, Ghana, Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and Haiti. My passion is my faith and I am a lover of international cultures.

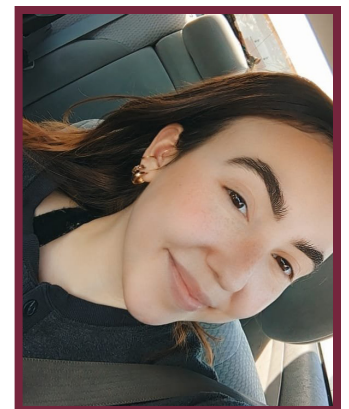


## Josette Hartley - Dorm Parent

I'm Josette Hartley and this is my second year as a dorm parent as well as being the social studies teacher at the local middle school. I am originally from Old Orchard Beach Maine where I worked at the local rec. department for seven years. I am a UMaine - Farmington graduate where I majored in secondary ed social studies and minored in political science with a special interest in Maine government. I love watching movies and reading. I also love baking different cookies, brownies, and muffins that I give to the dorm kids from time to time.

## Lily Elliott - Dorm Parent

Hi, My name is Lily Elliott. I am married to Caleb and mother of one year old Boone. I have my bachelors degree in psychology. I have been an equestrian most of my life and have two horses. I grew up in Pittsfield and graduated from MCI in 2019. I am really excited to be back here and be part of the MCI community once again.





# Meet the Staff of Manson Hall:

## Meg Thompson - Dorm Director, Transportation Coordinator, Girls JV Basketball Coach

I have worked at MCI for twelve years now, in Manson Hall where I live with my husband, Lonnie and two children, Tyson and Mila. I love the fact that my children are growing up in a multicultural environment, where they are always meeting new people from different backgrounds. Living here has opened my eyes, and theirs, to a slew of differing cultural norms, cuisine, languages, and much more. It has taught my children from a young age, just how big the world really is, but also how we all share many commonalities, regardless of where we come from.

I grew up in a nearby town and attended a neighboring high school. MCI has always been close to my heart, but also a rival when it came to athletics. My whole childhood was spent playing basketball and having such a love for the game and now I get to coach high school athletes to share my passion with them! Aside from basketball, I also enjoy puzzles, knitting, LEGO, sudoku, the ocean & spending quality time with my family.



## Cody Campbell - Dorm Parent, Academic Counselor

Cody Campbell is one of our College and Career Counselors serving students with last names A-L. This is his first year at Maine Central Institute. After earning his education degree at the University of Maine at Farmington, Cody began his career in college admissions helping students complete and understand the college application process. He is thrilled to be able to provide students with the guidance, support, and knowledge of admissions at the high school level. Outside of school, Cody enjoys hiking, kayaking, theatre, board games, and baking. He is excited to be a part of the MCI community and cheer on our Huskies in the classroom and around campus.

## Cameron Morin - Dorm Parent

Cameron Morin is a math teacher at MCI where he teaches Algebra, Geometry, Statistics, and Calculus. He also serves as an assistant soccer coach for the boy's soccer team as well as the esports team. This is his second year as a dorm parent in the Manson Hall dorm with his wife Emily. They met at the University of Maine at Farmington and married in January 2024. Emily works for the Maine Department of Transportation, and loves attending student activities to cheer them on.



## Darrell Roberts - Dorm Parent

My name is Darrell Roberts and I'm a graduate of the University of the Maine at Farmington. After receiving my Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education for English, I traveled to South Korea for student teaching. In Korea, I had the wonderful opportunity to teach grades 8-12 at Daegu International School. I've always had an interest in learning about other cultures and student teaching was an experience that made me fall in love with traveling. Currently, I'm teaching fourth grade at SeDoMoCha and helping international students develop a strong connection with Maine Central Institute (MCI) as a dorm parent for Manson Hall. My wife, Hailee Roberts, helps me create a safe, inclusive, and friendly environment throughout the dorms of Manson as well as teaches Kindergarten at SeDoMoCha.

# BBT Summer Intensive/STEAM Camp

by Jane Mautz '25 - United States

A summer at MCI is definitely filled with lots of fun activities, and creates unforgettable memories. The Bossov Ballet Theatre Summer Intensive arrived towards the end of June and the MCI STEAM Camp arrived in early July. These two differing camps allowed students to create new friendships and connections with people from all over the world! Each camp was very successful and supportive of each other.

During their stay at MCI Bossov Ballet and the MCI STEAM Camp explored the state of Maine with various trips throughout the state, and some even venturing out of the state. Some shopping was done in Portland and Freeport, beautiful landscapes were visited at the botanical garden, and the students

got to experience a Maine Sea Dogs game which was definitely a highlight for many of those visiting from different countries. However, a trip that was definitely the most exciting for the students was a trip to Boston. During this trip the two camps had the opportunities to tour the college campus of Harvard and MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), and also do some shopping throughout Boston. Students attending both camps took advantage of the weekend trips that were offered to them. These trips allowed the students to take a break from learning or dancing and to really embrace their Summer.

Overall, summer at MCI was very busy, but was incredibly successful, which I am so grateful to have been able to be a part of. Many students formed lifelong friendships, and some even decided to stay for the year round program.

The MCI community is already looking forward to what the summer of 2025 brings!



# Start of School Year - Orientation/Opening of School

by Seine Chin '25 - United States



The start of the school year kicked off with a whirlwind of fun and activity. New residential students arrived on campus a few days prior to the opening of school to help get their feet on the ground. SOLI week was filled with games, icebreaker activities, movie trips, and yummy food! Students got to make new friends, which is what many were most excited about when arriving at MCI. They also got to set up their ipads, and start to figure out their schedules. Many were excited to find out they had classes with their new friends or were in a class that peaked their interests. By the time New Students Day rolled around for both residential and day students, the SOLI kids were pros at figuring out where to go.

One activity that many enjoyed was the scavenger hunt, where we raced across campus to find each location that matched the clue we were given. Not only was it fun to figure out clues, but kids were also excited to familiarize themselves with our beautiful campus, and at the end, the winner got a prize. The whole residential community also went on a mandatory movie trip, where we could pick any movie playing in theaters that we wanted to see. We all laughed (or cried depending on what movie we saw), ate popcorn and candy, and talked with our friends. It was a great trip to start to get comfortable with each other, and ended with a trip to Five Guys!

Transitions academy was another great way to get to know students who do not live on campus. Kids got to get a taste of MCI classes, including art, english, drama/theater, math and more! The start of school was filled with things to do, marking the beginning of a great year!



# MCI Homecoming

by Hyunji Lim '25 - South Korea



Homecoming week is one of the most exciting events in a year. There are sports events, class competition, and the dance. For the sports event, boys/girls soccer, field hockey, cross country and football / cheer games will match in MCI. This year, they brought a lot of victories.

The homecoming parade and class competitions were incredible and really brought out the competitive spirit in all of the students. It all began with the parade, which consisted of class floats and all of the sport teams riding on trucks and trailers. We ride down Main St. with crowds of people on the side of the road and we are happy to toss candy to all of the kids that are cheering MCI on. Once we are back to MCI campus where we are dropped off to get ready for the class competitions, which is so much fun. Since it is the last year of high school for seniors, people jumped in to join the activities and bring the victories of homecoming class competition. My favorite competition game is taking the water to a bucket or pail on the other side. I like this activity, because everyone joins the game and has fun with their classmates.

The senior class did awesome this year and I am happy to report that we won the Homecoming competition. My senior year homecoming week was great!!!

The day after the class completion, there was a match for the football team, and they won the homecoming game. On Saturday, the day of homecoming dance, there was a soccer match for both boys and girls soccer teams in the morning. The day was really windy, but both teams played really well. In the homecoming dance, people are wearing nice shirts and dresses, and dance to the music. As the music's over, homecoming week is over. However, my friends and I enjoyed the week of homecoming, and it is the best week of the year.



## Residential Life - Dorm Olympics & Mandatory Trips

by Seojun Park '26 - United States

Our new year and new journey starts. We have new events, which are mandatory trips and dorm olympics, and there are regular sit down dinners as well. Overall, it has been going very well so far. Most of the dorm kids were a little worried about those new events at first, but I think they are on the same journey on the same page right now. They participated so well on most of those new events and enjoyed them but I think they loved the Halloween Costume Competition especially.

A new event in place this year is the Dorm Olympics. Four teams were made up between the residential students and several competitions take place each month. The Dorm Olympic score is very ideal so far. Rather than only one team getting first place all the time, each team shows their talent in different competitions and they are being so competitive to each other. The Red team has the lead so far, but the gap between other teams is getting closer. The volleyball game was so much fun it was nice to see the Green team get their first win of the year.



	Prefects	1st Event Flag Decorating 9/2-9/17	Door Decorating 9/17-10/7	Pie Eating 10/7 - SDD	Hula Hoop 10/7 - SDD	Costume Challenge 10/31 - SDD	Volleyball 11/11	Kahoots Friends-giving 11/2 -SDD	Ugly Sweater / Best Holiday Pajamas 12/16 - SDD	TOTALS
<b>Team Red (Chili Peppers)</b>	Jane and Jaekwon	100	25	100	100	75	75	25		500
<b>Team Yellow (Yellow Jackets)</b>	Hyewon and Tommy	25	100	50	50	100	50	75		450
<b>Team Blue (Blue Jays)</b>	Seine and Al	75	75	75	75	25	25	100		450
<b>Team Green (Goats)</b>	Hyunji and Jake	50	50	25	25	50	100	50		350

Mandatory trips have been becoming funnier and funnier as dorm students get closer and closer to each other. We have gone on such great trips so far like hiking in Camden, Maine, going apple picking and into a corn maze, and attending a UMaine hockey game, which they won and it was so much fun.

I'm expecting there will be more advantages for everyone as we go through this year with a lot of exciting trips. My opinion for mandatory trips is to visit some good universities such as MIT or Harvard. Getting those kinds of opportunities will be so helpful for every dorm student and their big futures as well. As I said, however, dorm mandatory trips are going so well. Also, Sit Down Dinners have been much more enjoyable this year, with SDD themes, dorm olympic events, and celebrations of birthdays all happening during them. I cannot wait to spend time with these wonderful friends and students, and it will be so fun as we have more new events.





# Athletics at MCI

by John Dean, Dean of Students

The fall season has wrapped up with many teams having successful seasons, but most importantly with the students mostly having a positive experience. MCI offers many opportunities to be involved in athletics such as Soccer, Football, Field Hockey, Cross Country, Cheering, and Esports. This year we saw residential students more involved this year than any other. Personally, as the boys soccer coach, it was fantastic to see the residential students make quick friendships with the day students and for them to play “the beautiful game”. Although we didn’t get as many wins as we would have liked, I will say that everyone had such a positive attitude and experience playing this year. I am sad to see the seniors leave, but looking forward to the underclassmen returning next season. I truly enjoyed seeing the residential students represent themselves, their home country, and MCI on many of the fall teams this year and doing it with such pride and dignity.



Winter season is right around the corner with the following sports being offered: Basketball, Wrestling, Competitive Cheering, Indoor Track, Hockey, Skiing, and Esports.

Good luck to those playing a winter sport and GO HUSKIES!!!!

If sports isn’t something that a student is interested in there are many other options here at MCI to take advantage of. MCI offers many Clubs and Activities (20+) throughout the year from Fencing, Drama, Key Club, Student Council, to name just a few. Please see the attached link for a list of all the clubs.

<https://resources.finalseite.net/images/v1709294738/maine/kjg4szm8fkg2chew1jud/ClubsBrochure.pdf>

Good luck to those playing a winter sport and GO HUSKIES!!!!

