



The Inauguration of Dr. Lloyd A. Holmes as the 8th President of SUNY Niagara marks a historic milestone for the institution. There are activities every day the week of April 7th leading up to the inauguration on Thursday, April 10th. Please see below. You can also find these events listed on the web under the events calendar.

We hope you will take advantage of one or more of the activities especially those on Tuesday, April 8th and the actual inauguration on Thursday, April 10th

Inauguration of Dr. Lloyd A. Holmes, 8th President of SUNY Niagara

Thursday, April 10 | 11:00 am – 2:00 pm | Arts & Media Theatre & Learning Commons

The inauguration of Dr. Lloyd A. Holmes as the 8th President of SUNY Niagara marks a historic milestone for the institution. The ceremony, held from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm in the Arts & Media Theatre, will celebrate Dr. Holmes' leadership and vision while reflecting on our shared values and past achievements.

Following the ceremony, a reception in the Learning Commons from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm will offer an opportunity to meet Dr. Holmes, connect with the SUNY Niagara community, and enjoy light refreshments, including a special cake made by students of the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute. This is a significant moment in SUNY Niagara's history, and everyone is encouraged to celebrate this new chapter.

Daily Events

Student Showcase Exhibition

Monday, April 7 – Thursday, April 10 | Learning Commons Mezzanine

Explore our students' talent and achievements at the Student Showcase Exhibition. This event features a diverse collection of academic and creative work, including research, presentations, artwork, and more, highlighting the broad range of student abilities and curiosity-driven projects focused on excellence.

Hands of Hope

Monday, April 7 – Thursday, April 10 | Child Development Center Windows

Hands of Hope is a display featuring the handprints of children from SUNY Niagara's Child Development Center. Each handprint represents the potential, promise, and bright future of the young learners. This display symbolizes the hope we hold for the next generation, showcasing their unique contributions and the limitless possibilities ahead. Through these simple yet powerful expressions, we are reminded of the importance of nurturing and supporting the growth of our future leaders, innovators, and creators.

Symbols of Hope Art Collection

Monday, April 7 – Thursday, April 10 | Fine Arts Building

You're invited to experience the powerful expressions of hope through the creative vision of our talented SUNY Niagara students. The Symbols of Hope Art Collection features large-scale drawings, sketches, and paintings, showcasing symbols and flowers of hope that reflect resilience, optimism, and the beauty of a brighter future.

A Journey of Hope: Books to Uplift and Inspire

Monday, April 7 – Thursday, April 10 | Henrietta G. Lewis Library

A Journey of Hope: Books to Uplift and Inspire is a curated book display celebrating stories of resilience, optimism, and perseverance. This collection highlights the power of hope to inspire change, overcome challenges, and brighten the future. Explore these meaningful reads and discover stories that encourage and empower.

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

Relax & Recharge: Free Chair Massages

Monday, April 7 | 10:00 am – 2:30 pm | Learning Commons

Enjoy a moment of relaxation with a free chair massage provided by the senior class of SUNY Niagara's Massage Therapy Program. Take a break and experience the benefits of therapeutic touch as our skilled students help relieve tension and promote well-being.

King's Gambit: Open Chess Play

Monday, April 7 | 10:00 am – 11:00 am | Honor's Lounge, E225

Join Honor Scholar, Artem, a 2nd Division Chess Player, in the Honors Lounge for a friendly game of chess or to learn the basics of the game! Open to faculty, staff, and students, this is a great opportunity to enjoy strategic gameplay, improve your skills, or simply have fun with fellow members of the SUNY Niagara community. Artem will be there to guide you and share tips, so come challenge yourself, learn something new, or just enjoy a casual game. All skill levels are welcome!

Open Tabletop Role Play Game

Monday, April 7 | 10:30 am – 11:30 pm | Learning Commons

Whether you're a seasoned adventurer or brand new to RPGs, the Gaming and Anime Club welcomes all to take part in immersive storytelling, strategic gameplay, and creative world-building. Characters and dice will be provided – just bring yourself and your creative ideas. Drop in at any time and stay as long as you'd like – whether it's for just 10 minutes or the whole adventure!

Empowered by Hope & Belonging: Navigating Uncertainty Together

Monday, April 7 | 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | FRCAE Conference Room D104

As we celebrate a new chapter with the inauguration of Dr. Holmes, we acknowledge the challenges and uncertainties many may be facing. This session offers a welcoming and respectful space to share feelings, ask questions, and explore ways to support one another. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the role of hope in shaping a more inclusive and connected campus. Whether you join to listen, share, or simply be in community, your presence is valued. Bring your lunch and take part in the Diverse Dialogue, where open conversation fosters connection and understanding.

Theatre Department Student Showcase

Monday, April 7 | 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Black Box Theatre, Fine Arts Building F108

Experience the talent and creativity of SUNY Niagara's Theatre Department in this dynamic showcase of student performances. Featuring a selection of scenes, this event highlights the dedication and artistry of our theatre students. Join us for an inspiring celebration of storytelling, performance, and the magic of live theatre!

Pawsitive Blankets: Animal Blanket Making for the SPCA

Monday, April 7 | 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Student Housing Village, Game Room

Join us for a heartwarming event sponsored by Student Housing Village and Wellness Center, where we'll be making cozy blankets to benefit animals at the Niagara County SPCA. Bring your creativity and compassion as we craft blankets that will provide warmth and comfort to furry friends awaiting their forever homes. It's a great opportunity to give back to the community while making a difference in the lives of animals. All materials will be provided. Participants will receive a free Day of Service T-shirt. [Sign up](#) today!

Strike Up Some Fun: Monday Night Open Bowling

Monday, April 7 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm | Bowling Alley, Student Center

Join us for a fun-filled Monday night at the bowling alley! Student Life is hosting a special open bowling session where you can relax, unwind, and enjoy a game (or two). Whether you're a seasoned bowler or just looking to have some fun, everyone is welcome! Come enjoy great music, friendly competition, and a chance to strike up some fun.

Game Time & Good Vibes

Monday, April 7 | 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm | The Den: Recreation Room, Student Center

Step into *The Den*, your ultimate hangout spot for relaxation and fun! Whether you're looking to unwind with a game of ping pong, challenge friends to video games, or just kick back and enjoy some free popcorn, The Den has something for everyone. Join us for a laid-back atmosphere where you can connect, compete, or just chill out with friends. Free popcorn and endless fun await!

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025 – DAY OF SERVICE - Free Day of Service Shirt for all Participants

[Sign up](#) today!

Easter Blessings: Baskets of Hope for Families in Need

Tuesday, April 8 | 8:00 am – 5:00 pm | Lighthouse Women and Children's Center

Join us in spreading hope by helping families in need at the Lighthouse Women and Children's Center in Niagara Falls. We challenge each department, class, alumni, and friends of SUNY Niagara to come together and create at least one family Easter basket and one children's basket filled with essential items. Lighthouse provides support and resources for women and children experiencing homelessness, helping them regain stability and hope for a better future. The goal is to assemble 25 family baskets and 25 children's baskets. Your contributions will directly impact families and children at Lighthouse, providing them with essential items and offering them a brighter, hopeful Easter. Let's work together to make a meaningful difference! [Sign up](#) today!

Suggested Items:

Family Basket: Dish soap, tea towels, laundry soap, cleaning products, paper towels, personal hygiene items (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper), and non-perishable food items.

Children's Baskets: 1 piece of chocolate, individually wrapped candy, plastic eggs, 1 small stuffed animal, coloring books and small crayons, grass for baskets, child's toothbrush, toothpaste, and socks.

Drop off locations: Student Services, Student Success Center, Athletics, and Student Life

Give Back at FeedMore WNY: A Morning of Service

Tuesday, April 8 | 9:00 am – 11:00 am | FeedMore WNY Warehouse, 91 Holt Street, Buffalo

Join us for a morning of service at FeedMore WNY and help fight hunger! Volunteers will sort food and products at their warehouse, preparing them for distribution to families in need. FeedMore WNY is a nonprofit committed to ending hunger and supporting food security in Western New York, serving Niagara County through food pantries, shelters, and meal programs. This is a great opportunity for students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members to give back, connect, and make a real impact. Sign up now to help provide food for all! [Sign up](#) to help provide food for all.

Pack the Pantry: No Thunderwolf Goes Hungry

Tuesday, April 8 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm | SUNY Niagara Food Pantry, Student Center

Make a difference by donating non-perishable food items to the SUNY Niagara Food Pantry! We invite faculty, staff, students, and community members to contribute and support those in need on campus. The pantry is located on the north side of campus, near the Alliance Niagara Federal Credit Union, easily accessible from the back circle, across from the Student Housing Village. We are accepting donations of canned soups, stews, and chili, instant noodles or ramen, canned or frozen vegetables, fruits, and beans, cereal, granola bars, oatmeal, peanut butter and jelly, pasta, sauce, rice, canned tuna and chicken, healthy snacks, and breakfast bars.

Storytime with President Holmes

Tuesday, April 8 | 10:00 am – 11:00 am | Henrietta G. Lewis Library

Join us for a special National Library Week event as President Holmes reads to the children from the Child Development Center. This heartwarming storytime fosters a love for reading and celebrates the importance of libraries in shaping young minds.

Dennis Stierer Exhibit & Artist Reception: Celebrating 200 Years of the Erie Canal

Tuesday, April 8 | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm | Dolce Valvo Art Gallery, Learning Commons

Celebrate with us at a special artist reception honoring Dennis Stierer and his captivating photography exhibit commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Erie Canal. Showcasing striking images from the Burchfield Penney Art Center, this collection highlights the canal's rich history, lasting impact, and cultural significance. Meet the artist, explore the exhibit, and enjoy an evening of art and conversation as we reflect on the Erie Canal's enduring legacy.

Hope in Motion: Serving with The Goodness Project***Tuesday, April 8 | 11:00 am – 1:00 pm | 1500 Clinton Street, Suite 114, Buffalo***

The Goodness Project provides essential resources to families in crisis, fostering stability and growth. With one of just four locations in North America, the Buffalo warehouse supports nonprofits, schools, and organizations across Western New York, including Niagara County. We invite alumni, community members, students, faculty, and staff to volunteer by sorting and organizing goods, helping provide food, hygiene products, and household supplies to those in need. [Sign up](#) today to give back and make a lasting impact in our community!

Service with a Slice: Build-A-Tripp***Tuesday, April 8 | 11:30 am – 2:30 pm | Student Leadership Center, Student Center, Room G244***

Come join us for a fun and impactful event where you can make a stuffed Tripp mascot plushie and enjoy a free slice of pizza! Students, faculty, and staff are all invited to participate. This event is led by SUNY Niagara's Men and Women of Merit. Our goal is to make 100 Tripps. These plushies are sure to brighten a child's day, offering comfort and joy during difficult times. Come have fun, give back, and share a slice for a great cause! [Sign up](#) to volunteer!

Midday Motown Vibes with Styles Entertainment***Tuesday, April 8 | 11:30 am – 2:30 pm | Dining Commons, Student Center***

Join us for an unforgettable performance by Style Entertainment, a dynamic Motown cover group bringing classic hits to life! Sponsored by the Men and Women of Merit Club, this high-energy show will have you dancing and singing along to timeless favorites. Don't miss out on the soulful sounds and feel-good vibes!

Serving Hope: Niagara Gospel Mission***Tuesday, April 8 | 11:00 am – 2:00 pm | Niagara Gospel Mission, 1317 Portage Road, Niagara Falls***

Join us in making a difference in our community! The Niagara Gospel Mission provides food, shelter, and support services to those in need, offering hope and a brighter future. Volunteers—including students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members—can help by serving meals to those in Niagara Falls experiencing homelessness. Your time and efforts will directly impact the lives of those facing hardship. [Sign up](#) today and help bring hope and support to those in need!

Annie's Closet: Fashion that Fuels Hope***Tuesday, April 8 | 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Annie's Closet, Student Center, Room G117***

Volunteer at Annie's Closet and help students dress with confidence! Donate gently used clothing—suits, casual wear, shoes, purses, belts, and jewelry—or assist by sorting, steaming, and preparing clothes for display. You can also welcome new visitors and guide them in finding the perfect outfit. Get involved today to spread hope and empower students! [Sign up](#) and make a lasting impact!

Slime and Smiles: Making Slime Kits for Oishei Children's Hospital***Tuesday, April 8 | 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Student Housing Village, Game Room***

Come join us for a fun and creative event where students will assemble slime-making kits to benefit Oishei Children's Hospital! These kits will bring joy and a touch of scientific fun to the hospital's young patients. Help us spread smiles and support children in need while enjoying a hands-on activity. All materials will be provided. [Sign up](#) today!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025**Town Hall with President Holmes: A Conversation for the SUNY Niagara Community*****Wednesday, April 9 | 8:00 am – 9:00 am | Dining Commons***

Join us for an engaging and informative Town Hall with President Holmes. This event offers an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to come together and connect with our university leadership. Members of our college community will present updates on the latest campus developments, share insights on the future direction of SUNY Niagara, and answer questions from the audience.

Relax & Recharge: Free Chair Massages

Wednesday, April 9 | 9:30 am – 12:30 pm | Learning Commons

Take a break and treat yourself to a free chair massage, provided by the junior class of SUNY Niagara's Massage Therapy Program. Enjoy a moment of relaxation as our skilled students help relieve tension and promote overall well-being through therapeutic touch. It's the perfect way to unwind and recharge!

Forging Hope: A Welding Sculpture Unveiling in Honor of President Holmes

Wednesday, April 9 | 11:00 am – 11:30 am | President's Garden, Notar Administration Building

Join us for a special unveiling of a one-of-a-kind welding sculpture created by SUNY Niagara students and faculty, dedicated to President Holmes. This beautiful work of art, crafted with precision and passion, will be displayed in the President's Garden as a lasting tribute to our shared values and vision. Be part of this memorable moment as we celebrate creativity, collaboration, and leadership.

Shaping Hope: A 3D Sculpture for President Holmes

Wednesday, April 9 | 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm | Dolce Valvo Art Gallery, Learning Commons

Join us for a special unveiling ceremony of a 3D sculpture created by SUNY Niagara Animation student Frank Deyo as a gift to President Lloyd A. Holmes on the eve of his inauguration as the university's eighth president.

Voices of Hope: Poetry Readings by SUNY Niagara's Creative Writing Students

Wednesday, April 9 | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm | Dolce Valvo Art Gallery, Learning Commons

Experience an inspiring afternoon of poetry as SUNY Niagara's Creative Writing students share their original works focused on the theme of hope. These heartfelt readings will reflect the power of words to inspire, uplift, and create change. Each poem, written and performed by students, offers a unique perspective on hope and resilience. A reception will follow the readings, providing an opportunity to connect with the writers and celebrate the creativity within our community.

Servin' Up Hope: Pickleball Tournament Sponsored by HPE Majors Club

Wednesday, April 9 | 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm | Main Gym, Athletics, Room H-110

Get ready for some fun and friendly competition! This event is open to everyone, so grab your paddles and join us for an afternoon of exciting matches. Whether you're a seasoned player or a beginner, there's a place for you in this tournament. Show up and let the games begin!

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

Inauguration of Dr. Lloyd A. Holmes, 8th President of SUNY Niagara

Thursday, April 10 | 11:00 am – 2:00 pm | Fine Arts Theatre & Learning Commons

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SUNY Niagara Baseball vs. SUNY Erie

Thursday, April 10 | 2:00 pm & 4:00 pm | Sal Maglie Stadium, 1201 Hyde Park Blvd, Niagara Falls

Cheer on SUNY Niagara's baseball team as they take on SUNY Erie in a thrilling matchup. This game is part of the Inauguration Day celebrations for Dr. Lloyd A. Holmes and offers a great opportunity to support our student-athletes while enjoying a fun, competitive atmosphere.

SUNY Niagara Softball vs. Corning Community College

Thursday, April 10 | 3:00 pm | Softball Field, SUNY Niagara Sanborn Campus

Celebrate the conclusion of Inauguration Week with SUNY Niagara's softball game against Corning Community College. Dr. Lloyd A. Holmes will throw out the first pitch at 3:00 PM, marking a memorable moment as we wrap up a week of celebration. Come support our athletes and enjoy the final event of a historic week!