Dear New Carleton College Parents,

We are delighted to welcome you and your student to Carleton College’s Class of 2026. We’re writing to introduce ourselves and to share a few ways you can connect with the Carleton College community. We are the current leaders of the Parents Advisory Council, a group of parents who volunteer their time to advise the college and serve as a resource to other parents. We hope that we can make it as easy as possible for you to connect and to find the information you need.

**Start with the Gateway**
First, we hope you’ll start to familiarize yourself with the Parent/Family Gateway at [go.carleton.edu/parents](http://go.carleton.edu/parents). The Gateway is a great place to begin when you have questions, as the website includes links to many of the key campus offices that you or your student will need. There are also links to important campus updates and calendars, parent newsletters, webinars, and more.

**Advice for New College Parents/Guardians**
On the Gateway you will also see a link to the Family Guide, under “Information and Policies.” We encourage all first-time parents/guardians of college students to review this guide, particularly the section titled “Advice for Parents,” which contains tips on what to expect developmentally as your student progresses through Carleton. Please pay special attention to the student privacy rights and parental notification section. The college is limited in what can be shared with parents and families about their students, so we encourage you to have thoughtful conversations with your Carl regarding mutual expectations for connection and updates about how they are doing.

**Connecting With Other Carleton Families**
Through the Gateway, you also have access to the Family Directory (under “Parent Services”), which includes a geographical listing of parents/guardians, the names and classes of their students, and contact information. We hope you will find this information helpful in identifying other Carleton families in your area with whom you can share information, insights, and interests. The updated directory can be accessed after July 1 with password *knights2022*.

Although the directory information about parents is considered “public information” within the Carleton community, we respect everyone’s desire for privacy. Should you wish to update and/or exclude your information from the online directory, please go to: [apps.carleton.edu/parents/update](http://apps.carleton.edu/parents/update).

If you’d like to connect with fellow parents/guardians by email or online:
- Join the parent-to-parent email group at [apps.carleton.edu/parents/list](http://apps.carleton.edu/parents/list)
- Ask to join the privately-run “Carleton College Parents Group” on Facebook

We are confident you will find Carleton to be an academically rigorous and supportive environment for your student. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at (507) 222-4075 or reach out to Trey Williams, Class Dean for First-Year Students at twilliams@carleton.edu.

Sincerely,

Karen Handelman & Marc Hirshman, Co-Chairs
Carleton College Parents Advisory Council
Parents of Abby Hirshman ’20 and Emily Hirshman ’23

Eva and Jeff Camp, Vice Chairs
Carleton College Parents Advisory Council
Parents of Lee Camp ’23