

# BAYLOR STUDENT LIFE SPOTLIGHT

Dear Division Colleagues,

The weather may not show it, but it is officially fall. Saturday was the Autumnal Equinox. Ready or not, bring on the Pumpkin Spice!

## IMPACT

Family weekend (9/15-9/17) was a great success as we **welcomed the families of our students to campus with a little extra flair this year as we hosted them in the brand-new Hurd Welcome Center.** There were several highlights from the weekend, but of particular note was After Dark. We hosted two performances of the student talent showcase, featuring visual art, live performances, and short films all created by our students. **Between both shows we sold over 3,400 tickets!**

On Thursday of last week (9/21), we kicked off the first of our heritage month celebrations at Baylor with the Hispanic Heritage Luncheon. **It was a great meal and celebration with 315 attendees from the Baylor and larger Waco community present.** Mrs. Andrea Kosar, President and CEO of Cen-Tex Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, gave a talk on the theme of prosperity, power, and progress.

Yesterday we held our first [Staff Development](#) event, “*The Art of Play*,” and what play we had! From puzzles to painting to chair yoga, we were grateful to be in community together practicing the art of play and pursuing our theme of *Well-Being in Practice*. Don't miss out on the next one, which will be on **October 26th**.

## UPDATES

As you know, Baylor is currently in the midst of formulating our next strategic plan and President Livingstone has created a [Strategic Planning Group](#) (the SPG) to lead the efforts to create this next strategic plan. The SPG is hosting listening sessions to hear from faculty and staff regarding the new strategic plan. **Your input is important.** The SPG has planned three listening sessions specifically for the Division of Student Life and we would love for voices from the Division to be well-represented in our next strategic plan.

We held the first of our three listening sessions last Friday (9/22). If you missed that, don't fret, there are still two more opportunities to have your voice heard. **Our next listening session will be held virtually (on Zoom) on Tuesday October 4<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Then our final listening session will be in-person in Cashion 506 on Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.** Please check your inbox/calendars for more information, or e-mail [student\\_life@baylor.edu](mailto:student_life@baylor.edu).

## COMING UP

If your Friday night is open and concerts are your jam, **Delta Night Live** is happening tonight in the *Roxy Grove Hall*. More information can be found [here](#).

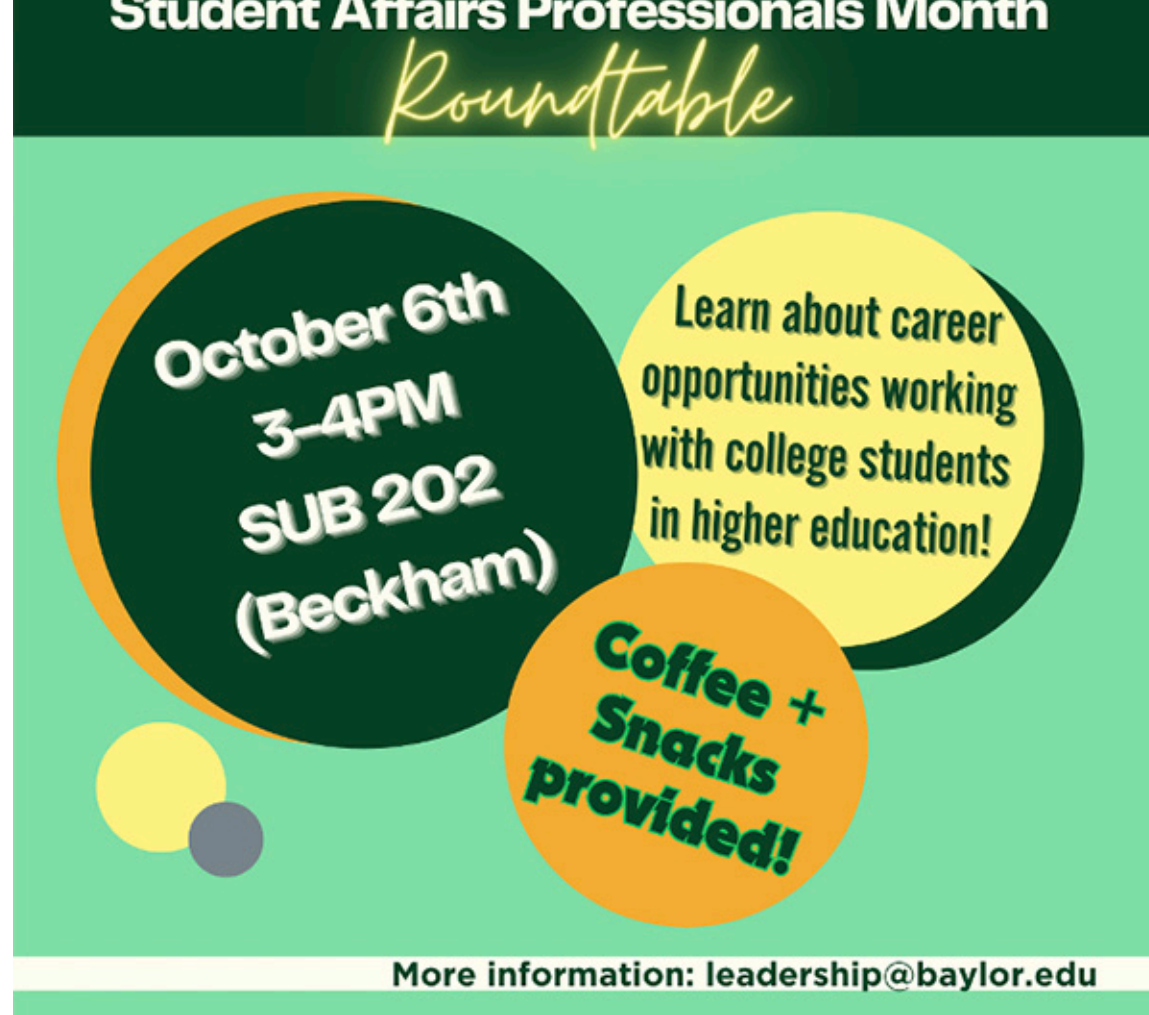
And before we know it, it's **October!** With that, the first week is filled with great opportunities to be out in community. The first event is the [Leadership Speaker Series event](#) where James K.A. Smith will be on campus to discuss his book, *You are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*. This will be held on **Tuesday, October 3 at 6:30pm in McClinton Auditorium (Foster 240)**.

Next up is [Missions Week](#), which kicks off on **Monday, October 2**. Throughout the week, there will be activities and events, as well as 30 global missions organizations that will be coming to campus. A highlight of Missions Week will be the Missions Fair on **Tuesday, October 3** from 6:00 - 8:00pm. At Fountain Mall, there will be a chance to not only learn about mission opportunities, but taste foods from different cultures.

The celebration of **Hispanic Heritage Month** continues with [Hispanic Heritage Month at the Museum](#) on **Saturday, September 30** at the Mayborn Museum. Another event to highlight is the Hispanic Heritage Month Banquet on **Tuesday, October 10**. For more information, and to find the full calendar of events, click [here](#).

Don't forget to put on your calendars the [Faculty & Staff Appreciation Night](#), which will take place on **Saturday, October 14** at Touchdown Alley/McLane Stadium. Free food, fun activities, and a surprise movie awaits us!

October is also Student Affairs Professionals Month, so here's to you and all you do! Additionally, if you know any students that might be interested in a career student affairs, we are hosting an interest lunch on October 6<sup>th</sup>. See the flyer below for more details.



## STAFF NEWS

### Spotlight On New Staff

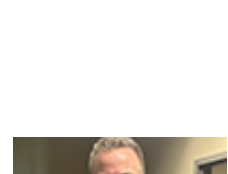
We're continuing to shine a light on some of our newest Student Life staff members. Newer team members were featured each issue this summer, and now it will be regular practice throughout the year as people join our division. Enjoy getting to know each of them! This issue we have:



**Chelsea Sentell, Assistant Director for Student Leadership Education**

**Fun fact:** "I spent several years working at and managing the most iconic attractions at Walt Disney World. I'm most proud of being a World Famous Jungle Cruise Skipper (once a Skip, always a Skip)."

**What I enjoy most about working at Baylor:** "It's hard for me to narrow the list down! Today, I'm most thankful for the people I get to work with, and that I get to be a part of a learning community full of students, faculty, and staff that are constantly finding great new questions to ask."



**Tom Malaspina, Judicial Affairs Legal Associate**

**Fun fact:** "I love playing cornhole. My family and I used to play nightly before I moved to Texas, and I continued to play all throughout college! I was thrilled to take home the title alongside my partner Charlie during this year's Summer Social!"

**What I enjoy most about working at Baylor:** "I enjoy the profound sense of community. I moved here to work before I (hopefully) attend Baylor Law next year and am even more sure of that choice given how welcoming and supportive the Baylor community is!"

## MOMENTS



*As busy as this fall has already been for the Division of Student Life, the break yesterday, even while brief, was most certainly appreciated. Student Affairs work can be stressful at times, and as you work, remember to pause and be mindful of your own mental and physical health. We can't be strong for our students if we aren't taking care of ourselves first.*

Stay connected with Student Life

