

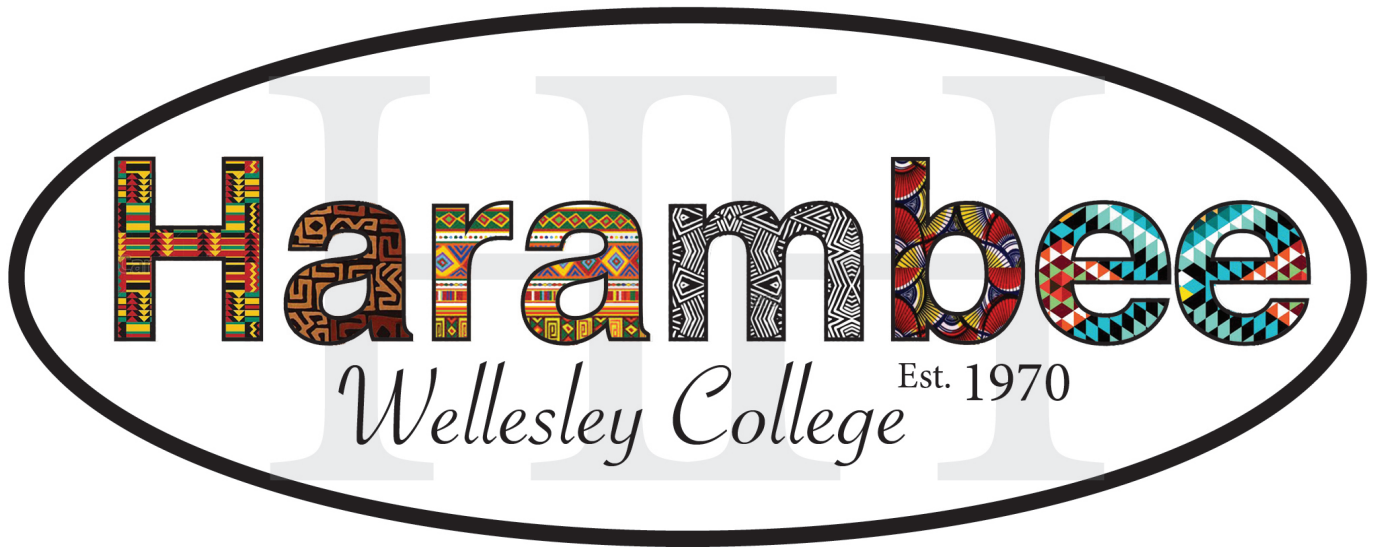
Harambee

House



FIRST-YEAR GUIDE

2021-2022



WELCOME CLASS OF 2025

The First Year Guide for Students of African Descent is designed to orient you to the Wellesley and greater Boston communities. This booklet is published annually by Harambee House as a service to you. We hope that you will find its content useful. It includes the names and contact information for Harambee sponsored student organizations: Ethos, Wellesley African Student Association (WASA), Wellesley for Caribbean Development (WCD), Ministry to Black Women (MBW), blackOUT, Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students (MAPS) and the Harambee Singers. A resource section with information on entertainment, restaurants and cultural shops in the surrounding areas is also included for when we get out of the pandemic.

Section 1: Harambee House



ABOUT HARAMBEE



Harambee House is a cultural center for students, faculty, and staff of African descent at Wellesley College. In line with the name Harambee, a Swahili word meaning “pulling together,” our mission is to work together to stimulate academic, personal, and communal growth among students of African descent. For many, Harambee House is a “home away from home.” Our living room is a large, comfortable space for a great variety of activities—from watching movies with friends to enjoying lectures and programs. The library houses a collection of literary, historical, and contemporary works devoted to the African Diaspora. Our kitchen is perfect for students in the mood for a real home cooked meal. On the lower floor, the den, computer area, and study rooms provide spaces for study sessions, organization meetings, and a place to just hang out with friends. We are also the home to several organizations involving students of African descent .

Services

Academic Support
Advising
Referrals
Personal Support
Advocacy
Alumnae Networking

Programs

First Year Outing
High Tea
Student/ Faculty Gatherings
Semester Study Breaks
Educational Programming
Senior Reception/Black Graduation

Visit us online at

<http://www.wellesley.edu/Harambee>

<https://www.facebook.com/harambee.house>

<https://www.facebook.com/HarambeeHouseWC/>

<https://twitter.com/HarambeeHouse>

MEET THE STAFF

The Harambee House Staff is here for you- for guidance, for advice, for support, and for advocacy. Feel free to drop in to see the Assistant Dean/Director during her office hours or by appointment.

Harambee House office hours are from 9am-5pm Monday through Friday.



Patricia Birch
Assistant Dean of Intercultural Education
Director of Harambee House
Adviser to Student of African Descent
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pb100@wellesley.edu



Teofilo Barbalho
Administrative Assistant
Office of Intercultural Education
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tbarbalh@wellesley.edu

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

WHAT DOES THE ASSISTANT DEAN/ DIRECTOR OF HARAMBEE HOUSE DO?

The Assistant Dean/Director manages Harambee House's operations and supervises programming for students of African descent and the Wellesley College community. She advises all student organizations whose primary purpose is to serve students of African descent.

The Assistant Dean/Director works with faculty, class deans, and other staff members to assist in the development of all students of African descent at Wellesley College. The Assistant Dean/Director meets with staff from student Life, the Alumnae and Admissions Offices, the Dean of Students, Associate Deans of the College, and the President of the College.



WHY SHOULD I MEET WITH THE ASSISTANT DEAN/DIRECTOR?

The Assistant Dean/Director advises students on coursework, career goals, participation in student organizations, and campus initiatives. By knowing who you are and your interests, she can refer you for awards, committee membership, conference attendance, or employment. She provides recommendation letters for scholarships, employment, and graduate school.

She can help you through the intricacies of college administration and can direct you to the proper channels as the need arises. She can advocate for you if you have any type of difficulty with fellow students, professors, staff, Resident Life, the Academic review board, or General Judiciary.



STUDENT STAFF



**AWINO
ODHIAMBO, '22**
**ENVIRONMENTAL
STUDIES**
KENYA



ALANA ABDI, '23
**COMPUTER SCIENCE &
ECONOMICS**
VIRGINIA



Section 2: The Organizations





The purpose of Ethos is to provide a safe space for students of African descent to support one another and effectively organize around issues that impact Black students. Recognizing the unique challenges facing students of African descent in higher education, our mission is to create a supportive environment where such students are empowered to reach their full potential at Wellesley College.





WELLESLEY AFRICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (WASA)

The Wellesley African Students Association exists to promote the exchange of knowledge about contemporary issues affecting Africans and Africans of the Diaspora. Our aim will be achieved through activities, such as monthly discussions, lectures, cultural celebrations, community service projects, journals, film festivals, concerts, and participation in conferences.



MINORITY ASSOCIATION OF PRE-MEDICAL STUDENTS (SNMA-MAPS)

Minority Association of Pre-medical Students represents the undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). This initiative of the SNMA represents future underrepresented medical students. Associate Members of SNMA attend some of the strongest and most influential undergraduate institutions and constitute a large percentage of the membership body. Through community service and dedication to eliminating ethnic health disparities, they strive to provide themselves and their communities with a larger sense of being.

The Minority Association of Pre-medical Students



Wellesley College MAPS



WELLESLEY FOR CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT (WCD)

The purpose of Wellesley for Caribbean Development is to establish a meeting place and serve as a support group for students of Caribbean descent by enhancing our cultural, social, and academic experience on Wellesley's campus and to promote cultural awareness.



BLACK WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Black Women's Ministry is an organization of students that share a common background and desire to continue learning and sharing Biblical teachings and principles. It is a mechanism meant to spiritually mature women in the teachings of Jesus Christ, whom we acknowledge to be the only true and living God. This is achieved by our ideals and beliefs to support each other and spread these teachings to our community.

blackOUT

blackOUT serves to create an inclusive and safe space for all students of African descent at Wellesley who identify as queer, trans or questioning (LGBT*QIA+). The organization aims to provide a tangible community for black queer and trans students, both on campus as well as in the greater Boston community and serves as a support system on a personal, social and academic level.



blackOUT

HARAMBEE SINGERS



The Ethos Choir lives on through the Harambee Singers.

Established in 2019 under the direction of Linda Brown-San Martin '70, the group draws its influence from the gospel genre. It also embraces the diversity of African Diasporic music in each performance. The group meets weekly.

THE PARTNER ORGS

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS (NSBE)

NSBE is a nonprofit organization that is owned and managed by its members. With more than 30,000 members around the world, NSBE is one of the largest student-governed organizations based in the United States. The organization is dedicated to the academic and professional success of African-American engineering students and professionals. NSBE offers its members leadership training, professional development activities, mentoring opportunities, career placement services and more.

COLOR IS MUSIC

Color Is Music is an acappella group that focuses on songs from the African diaspora and performs on- and off-campus.

FUSION

Fusion is an organization of students dedicated to raising awareness of mixed-race/identity issues and cultural intersectionality and providing a supportive, safe space for Wellesley community members of mixed-race.

YANVALOU

Yanvalou Drum & Dance Ensemble is a faculty-directed ensemble that performs the folkloric music and dance of Africa as it exists today throughout the African Diaspora, particularly in Haiti. Students perform on authentic instruments, experience a variety of cultures through

Section 3: Campus Resources



Campus Police

Davis Parking Facility

Open 24/7

- Provides emergency response and assistance with lockouts, lost IDs, and parking issues
- For emergencies, call: ext. 5555 (off-campus: 781-283-2121)
- For non-emergencies, call: ext. 2121 (off-campus: 781-283-2121)

Career Education (CE)

4th Floor, Green Hall

Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 4:30pm

- Provides resume reviews, practice interviews, and career counseling
- Posts job, internship, and fellowship opportunities

Accessibility and Disability Resources

3rd Floor, Clapp Library

- Provides individualized assistance and information to students with disabilities, temporary or permanent
- The Director, Dr. Jim Wice, is the first point of contact for students with physical disabilities, learning disabilities, and attention disorders

Health Services

Simpson Building

Mon/Wed/Fri, 8AM-5PM

Tues/Thurs, 8AM-6PM

- Outpatient clinic on-campus that provides non-judgmental, high-quality medical care and health promotion opportunities that are respectful of culture and background

Library and Technology Services (LTS) and the Help Desk

2nd Floor, Clapp Library

Mon-Fri, 8:15am to 5:30pm

- Through LTS, you can borrow equipment, get help with a research project, take classes, and borrow books
- The Help Desk assists with computer, software, and technological issues
- For the Help Desk, call: 781-283-7777

Office of Religious and Spiritual Life

2nd Floor, Billings

- Supports the spiritual, educational, and worship needs of all Wellesley students
- A team of chaplains and advisors are available to support, counsel, and celebrate people of Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian (Orthodox, Protestant, Roman Catholic), Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Native African, Native American, Pagan, Secular, Sikh, Unitarian Universalist, Zoroastrian, and other religious traditions

Office of Student Involvement

1st Floor, Billings

- Supports more than 170 student organizations, trips, and events in Boston, concerts on-campus, and traditions such as Lake Day and Hooprolling

Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center (PLTC)

3rd Floor, Clapp Library

Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 4:30pm

- Offers free tutoring to all students
- Has a collection of resources on time management, study skills, and much more

Stone Center

Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 4:30pm

- Confidential individual and group counseling
- Staff is diverse in ethnic origin and sexual orientation
- Find a variety of online mental health resources at: wellesley.edu/counseling/ourservices

Students' Aid Society

Suite 117, 1st Floor, Schneider

- Provides short-term emergency loans, tuition loans, and other means of support to Wellesley students with demonstrated need

Student Financial Services

Room 122, 1st Floor, Schneider

Mon-Fri, 8:30am to 4:30pm

- Provides information on and assistance with loans, grants, and any issues related to college costs
- Speak to a Financial Services counselor to readjust your plan or alert them to any changes

Transportation Office

Room 215, Schneider

- Shuttle (late night transportation around campus from 6pm-2am)
- Senate Bus (weekend transportation off-campus)
- MIT Exchange Shuttle (weekday transportation to MIT)

Section 4: Get Involved



Get Involved

MINORITY RECRUITMENT, HIRING, AND RETENTION COMMITTEE (MRHR)

MRHR works with the Provost's Office, the Office of the President, the Office of the Dean, and faculty to help the College create and maintain diverse faculty and staff. Students can be representatives on this committee.

THE MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

The fundamental objective of the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) is to increase the number of minority students, and others with a demonstrated commitment to eradicating racial disparities, who will pursue PhDs in core fields in the arts and sciences. The Program aims to reduce over time the serious under-representation on the faculties of individuals from certain minority groups, as well as to address the attendant educational consequences of these disparities.

FELLOWSHIPS

The CE work together to assist students and alumnae with applying to undergraduate and graduate fellowships . Fellowships provide participants with support, mentoring, and often financial assistance for their academic, research, and professional development.

SCHNEIDER BOARD OF GOVERNORS (SBOG)

The SBOG is a student-run and led organization that is responsible for planning and hosting large-scale events on-campus. A section of College Government, the Board strives to make the social life at Wellesley exciting and inclusive.

Get Involved

WELLESLEY WOMEN IN BUSINESS (WWIB)

WWIB aims to help women find career direction, network with alumni and peers, and achieve ambitious career goals. WWIB holds panels, lectures, workshops, and field trips to connect students with alumnae and leaders in business professions of their interest and expose them to business graduate programs early on.

GLOBAL MEDICAL BRIGADES

Medical Brigades at Wellesley is a chapter of Global Brigades, the world's largest student-led global health and sustainable development organization. Global Medical Brigades develops sustainable health initiatives and provides relief where there is limited access to healthcare.

Residential Life

The Office of Residential Life works to build strong communities within each residence hall. Their mission is to share and model a commitment to the education of students through our roles as administrators, teachers, and mentors.

COLLEGE GOVERNMENT/SENATE

The elected Cabinet and Senators of College Government work to administer and implement the various functions and responsibilities of CG by collaborating with student organizations, administrators, and staff, and holding events throughout the year. They serve as a liaison between the student body and the administration.

Get Involved

SOCIETIES

Societies are a long-standing tradition at Wellesley for making close friends and bonding over a passion. Each of the six societies- Tau Zeta Epsilon, Alpha Phi Sigma, Zeta Alpha, Agora, Shakespeare, and Alpha Kappa Chi - promotes fellowship and service through their respective purposes.

SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATORS (SHEs)

The SHEs is a student organization that provides sexual health education, on- and off-campus resources, as well as support for Wellesley students through events such as SHEopardy in the residence halls, Sex Carnival, campus lectures, and Sex Positivity Week.

BALANCE HEALTH EDUCATORS (BHEs)

The BHEs is a student organization whose goal is to promote health and wellness at Wellesley College. The BHEs emphasize the importance of living a balanced lifestyle through programming focusing mainly on sleep, nutrition, exercise, relaxation, and alcohol education.

ACTIVE MINDS/MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATORS (MHEs)

Active Minds strives to create a safe environment for the discussion of mental health and advocate for the rights and needs of students with mental health issues. The MHEs are a subgroup of Active Minds and they are a group of specially-selected students in every residence hall that can direct students to services on- and off-campus.

WZLY

WZLY is Wellesley's student-run radio station. WZLY was the first all-women college radio station. There are currently sixty student Disc Jockeys and fifteen members on WZLY's executive board.

Get Involved

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Intramurals are free of charge and all levels of skill and fitness are welcome. Our program currently offers leagues for volleyball, soccer, badminton, and basketball. We also offer many one-day events and tournaments, ranging from flag football to innertube water polo to kickball and dodgeball and much more!

EL TABLE

El Table doubles as one of Wellesley's working cooperatives and a dining facility. It is a student-run cafe located in the basement of Founders Hall that features vegetarian and gluten-free options.

PUNCH'S ALLEY (THE PUB)

Another working co-op, Punch's Alley is a student-managed and operated pub where you can meet with friends, dance away your stress, and occasionally jam out to live music.

CAFE HOOP

Cafe Hoop is a student-run, student-owned co-op in the basement of the Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center. Serving up delicious late-night snacks and drinks, the Hoop is a great place to hang out.

Section 5: Outside the Bubble





Off-Campus Student Organizations

ASSOCIATION OF HARVARD BLACK WOMEN

blackharvardwomen.wix.com/abhw

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY INC.

ak1908.com

HARVARD BLACK STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

www.theharvardbsa.com

HARVARD BLACK MEN'S FORUM

www.facebook.com/HarvardBMF

BIG SISTER ASSOCIATION OF GREATER BOSTON

www.bigsister.org

TUFTS AFRICAN STUDENTS ORGANIZATION

TUFTSASO.WEBS.COM

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY INC.

deltasigmatheta.org

MIT'S BLACK WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

bwa.mit.edu/index.html

BABSON BLACK STUDENT UNION

www.facebook.com/BSUBabson

BOSTON BLACK STUDENT NETWORK

www.facebook.com/BBSNetwork

MIT AFRICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

africans.mit.edu

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK ACCOUNTANTS

www.nabainc.org

Restaurants

Ashur Restaurant (\$\$)

Somali/Middle Eastern Cuisine
291 Roxbury St.
Boston, MA 02119

Flames Restaurant II (\$)

Jamaican Cuisine
746 Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02115

Asmara Restaurant (\$\$)

East African/Ethiopian Cuisine
739 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139

Next Step Soul Food Cafe (\$)

Soul Food
657 Washington St.
Boston, MA 02124

Clover Food Lab (\$)

Vegetarian
496 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139

Nzuko Restaurant (\$)

Nigerian/Caribbean Cuisine
341 Cochituate Rd.
Framingham, MA 01701

Coast Soul Cafe (\$\$)

Soul Food
233 River St.
Cambridge, MA 02139

Stephanie's on Newbury (\$\$\$)

Gourmet Soul Food
190 Newbury St.
Boston, MA 02116

Darryl's Corner (\$\$)

Gourmet Soul Food
604 Columbus Ave.
Boston, MA 02118

Suya Joint (\$\$)

Nigerian/West African Cuisine
185 Dudley Street #10
Roxbury, MA 02119





Beauty

Anita Kurl Salon
1661 Washington St.,
Boston, MA 02118
(617) 266-2668
www.anitakurl.com

Simply Erinn's Unisex Hair Salon
268 Brookline St.
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617) 547-8098
www.simplyerinn.com

Liquid Hair Studios
640 Tremont St.,
Boston, MA 02118
(617) 425-4848
www.liquidhairstudios.com

Styllistik
1831 Dorchester Ave.
Dorchester, MA 02124
(617) 533-8961
www.styllistik.com

Princess Hair Palace and Spa
1876 Dorchester Ave.,
Dorchester Center, MA 02124
(617) 436-4006

Studio 27
142 Union St.,
Everett, MA 02149
(617) 294-1358
www.studio27hairsalon.com

Salon Monet
168 Newbury St., 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 425-0009
www.hairsalonmonet.com

Thread & Shape
Waxing and Threading
1218 Massachusetts Ave.,
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 661-6100

Serina's Hair & Treatment Salon
33 4th Ave.
Needham Heights, MA 02494
(617) 953-3908
www.serinashairsalon.com

Town's Nail and Skin Salon
Nails, Waxing, and Skin Care
336 Newbury St.
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 236-8089



Places of Worship

Myrtle Baptist Church

21 Curve Street

Newton, MA 02465

<https://www.myrtlebaptist.org/>

Park Street Church

One Park Street

Boston, MA 02108

www.parkstreet.org

Pentacostal Tabernacle

56 Magazine Street

Cambridge, MA 02139

<http://ptspice.org>

St. Paul A.M.E. Church

37 Bishop Allen Drive

Cambridge, MA 02139

<https://www.st-paul-ame.org>

Twelfth Baptist Church

150 Warren Street

Roxbury, MA 02119

<https://tbcboston.org>



Resources

Boston Public Library

Books, Movies, and Discounted Museum Passes

700 Boylston St.,

Boston, MA 02116

www.bpl.org/central

Raven Used Books

Books

23 Church St.

Cambridge, MA 02138

ravencambridge.com

Cambridge Public Library

Books and Movies

449 Broadway,

Cambridge, MA 02138

www.cambridgema.gov/epl.aspx

Tropical Foods

Multi-Ethnic Grocery Store

450 Melnea Cass Blvd.,

Roxbury, MA 02119

www.tropicalfoods.net

Dick Blick Art Materials

Art Supplies

401 Park Dr., Suite 109

Boston, MA 02115

www.dickblick.com

Wellesley Free Library

Library

530 Washington Street

Wellesley, MA 02482

www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org



Fun Things to Do

The Beehive

Live Music and Restaurant
541 Tremont St.,
Boston, MA 02116
www.beehiveboston.com

Boston On Budget

Free Events and Discounts
bostononbudget.com

Dance Complex

Dance Classes and Performances
536 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139
www.dancecomplex.org

First Fridays at SoWa

Art Galleries and Exhibitions
Harrison and Thayer Streets.
Boston, MA 02118
sowaboston.com/events/sowa-first

MASS Sports Teams

visitma.com/things-to-do/sports/sports-teams

Huntington Theatre Company

Theater
264 Huntington Ave.,
Boston, MA 02115
www.huntingtontheatre.org

Improv Boston

Live Comedy
620 Massachusetts Ave., Apt. 6
Cambridge, MA 02139
www.improvboston.com

Museum of Fine Arts

Art Museum
465 Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02115
www.mfa.org

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WELLESLEY

HARAMBEE HOUSE

