

WELLESLEY COLLEGE

ADMISSION & FINANCIAL AID

Alumnae-Supported Admission Initiatives Fall 2020

Wizr Online Community

Wizr is an online community for colleges and universities in which users can share content (like webinars and other recorded sessions) and have discussions within sub-communities related to specific topics. The Admission Office has two Wellesley-specific Wizr platforms: #iwillatwellesley (admitted student network) and [Wellesley 101](#) (prospective student network).

Admission has created an invite-only (private) community within Wizr for prospective students of Black, Latinx and Native American descent. The community is called **“See Yourself at Wellesley”** and is designed to be a space for prospective students to ask questions and learn about and engage current students and alums of color. The group is also monitored by Admission staff. *See image below:*

WELLESLEY
W

Search...

Home Members Communities Discussions Events Connections

Change image

See Yourself At Wellesley

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🔒 Invite Only
🕒 Created 4 days ago

When you see it, you can believe it.

Finding the “right fit” involves so much more than choosing a course of study and completing an application. It’s about finding a community that makes you feel safe, challenges you to grow, and celebrates your accomplishments.

More importantly, it is about being able to see true representation of everything that is possible both during your college years and well after you graduate. Let’s face it, when you can see it, you can believe it.

You are not alone. At Wellesley there are many people who you can rely on, turn to for questions, and help remind you of your potential.

The See Yourself At Wellesley community is about connecting with Black, Latinx and Native American students and alums who have been in your shoes. They’ve failed and succeeded and taken many paths to reach their goals, and they’re ready to speak openly and honestly about their experiences.

Help



This fall, the Admission Office will invite a select group of alums to act in a role called, “**Ambassador**” in the Wellesley 101 Wizr network. Each Ambassador will be asked to build a profile (this includes a picture and answers to biographic and educational history questions) within Wizr after receiving an invitation to join the See Yourself community. The profile will help prospective students to get to know you, including things like your interests/involvements when you were a Wellesley student, your academic interests in college, and your professional experiences. *See example below:*

The screenshot shows a user profile on the Wellesley 101 Wizr platform. The header is dark blue with the Wellesley 'W' logo, a search bar, and navigation links: Home, Members, Communities (highlighted), Discussions, Events, and Connections. A user profile for Joy St John is displayed. It includes a circular profile picture of a woman, her name, title (Dean of Admission and Financial Aid), and location (Wellesley, MA, US/Eastern). Below this is an 'About Me' section with a welcome message and an email address (deanofadmission@wellesley.edu). To the right, a 'Complete Your Profile' section shows a progress bar and an option to 'Add a Club or Organization'. Below that, a 'Your Activity' section lists: 0 Connections, 4 Communities, 1 Discussion Topic, and 0 Chats. At the bottom, there's a section for 'Academic Career' (University of California-Los Angeles) and a 'How Can You Help?' section with a 'Help' button.

Ambassadors are encouraged to post messages on the Discussion Forum within the See Yourself community. Prospective students are encouraged to pose questions to individual Ambassadors or ask general questions to be answered by members of the group. The collective efforts of current students, faculty, staff, and alums as Ambassadors in Wellesley 101 will help build ongoing engagement with prospective students and, hopefully, serve as a replacement for the more frequent in-person engagements students would typically experience (in a non-COVID world) prior to applying or being admitted to Wellesley.

Social Media Tagging

The Admission Office regularly communicates with prospective students through social media campaigns using its Instagram and Facebook accounts. Tagging (or linking) posts between accounts is an important way to increase our social media engagement and enhance our content.

Admission is interested in finding and working with alums who are already active users of social media for civic and/or professional purposes. The Office hopes to strategically coordinate tagged posts with @wellesleyadmission throughout the fall and winter months leading up to the January 8th Regular Decision deadline.

Alumnae Panels

The Admission Office will host **panels of alums** who will speak to prospective students and families about their reasons for choosing Wellesley and their experiences at the College and as alums. In 2020-21, we expect most panels will be hosted as virtual events. The typical format of an alum panel is as follows: four to five alums serve as panelists, the panel is moderated by a member of the Admission staff, the staff member briefly introduces the event and then asks the panelists to introduce themselves by answering these questions in 5-7 minutes:

1. How and why did you choose Wellesley?
2. As a graduate, why do you value your Wellesley experience?

The Admission Office asks each alum to incorporate at least two of the themes about Wellesley into their introductions:

- how your experiences at Wellesley shaped and/or influenced your identity
- how attending a women's college influenced your development as a student and an adult
- your ability to develop strong relationships with faculty and/or peers (these relationships can be either academic or personal)
- your experiences and opportunities with experiential learning (research, study abroad, internships)
- your experiences attending college in the Boston community
- some mention of the fun you had at Wellesley (there is always a concern that no one has fun at a women's college)
- the benefits and power of the Wellesley alumnae network

Once the panelists have finished their introductions, the moderator will field questions from the audience and ask panelists to respond until the event ends. Panels are typically scheduled for 75 minutes and held weekdays in the evening or weekends in the afternoon (Eastern)