

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Parent and Family Programs



Cyclone Family Weekend 2025

Schedule of Events

*Schedule is subject to change

Friday, October 10, 2025

Residence Hall Open Houses

Residence Halls (noted below) | 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Arriving early in the day for Cyclone Family Weekend? The Department of Residence is hosting a warm and welcoming drop-in event at our Residence Hall Open Houses! Families are invited to connect with Resident Assistants (RAs) and Hall Directors in a relaxed, social environment. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the people who support your students and to see where they live. Feel free to come and go as you please from 2:00-4:00pm.

The below residence hall areas will be hosting open houses:

- Martin Hall
- Eaton Hall
- Helser Hall
- Friley Hall
- Wallace/Wilson Hall (combined community program)
- Maple/Willow/Larch (combined community program)
- Barton-Lyon-Freeman and Birch-Welch-Robert (combined community program)
- Oak-Elm Hall
- Linden Hall
- Geoffroy Hall
- Buchanan Hall

Check-in

Student Innovation Center, Floor 1 | 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Don't forget to check in for Cyclone Family Weekend when you arrive! Registered family and friends will receive registration materials. Staff will also be available to answer any questions you may have about the weekend, ISU or the Ames community. Additional information regarding check-in, including early check-in dates and times, will be sent to the registered email address closer to Cyclone Family Weekend.

Cyclone Family Weekend Welcome Reception

Parent and Family Programs Featured Event

Student Innovation Center, Floors 0, 1, 2, 3 | 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Kick off your weekend with the Welcome Reception at the Student Innovation Center! After checking in, dive into a world of creativity and exploration. Families can enjoy open Makerspaces like the Metal and Wood Shop and Digital Media Studio, shop at the Innovate 1858 student-run store, and savor light snacks. Capture fun memories at the photo booth and hear heartfelt greetings from ISU administrators. With scheduled activities throughout the evening, this is the perfect opportunity to reunite with your student, meet other Cyclone families, and start the weekend festivities. We look forward to seeing you there!

Women's Soccer Match

Cyclone Sports Complex | 6:00pm

Cheer on the Women's Soccer Team as they play against Kansas this Friday evening! Support our student athletes and enjoy an evening of comradery and good fun.

CyBowl & Billiards

Memorial Union, Ground Floor | 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Ready to roll some strikes and show off your bowling skills or rack 'em up in a game of pool? Look no further than CyBowl and Billiards, conveniently located right here on campus. CyBowl and Billiards will be available for Cyclone Family Weekend participants so stop by anytime to play a game as long as there are lanes or billiards tables open.

Family Craft at the Workspace

Memorial Union, East Basement | 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Channel your Cyclone spirit into your creations with a family craft at the Workspace. You'll take home unique keepsakes that capture the memories made during Cyclone Family Weekend. Craft will be announced later this summer. Seating in the Workspace is limited and is first-come, first-served. Check back later if the room is full when you arrive!

Spirits in the Gardens \$

Tickets Required – purchase through Reiman Gardens

Reiman Gardens | 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Reiman Gardens' popular fall celebration is back with even more spooky fun! With 1,000+ intricately carved Jack-O-Lanterns, magic shows, candy, chemistry experiments, jugglers, cosplay and so much more. Wear your favorite costume and join in the fun. Visit the Candy Factory on the Events Plaza to collect treats and non-candy items from our whimsical candy slides. Pre-purchased tickets are required and can be found on the Reiman Gardens website in September.

Cyclone Cinema

Student-run Event

Carver Hall, Room 101 | 7:00pm

Presented by the Student Union Board. Unwind with your family after a day of exploring campus and the community by watching a recently-released movie (movie name will be released later this summer). Concessions will be available for purchase. Seating is limited to first-come, first-served. Open caption is available by letting the staff know before the movie starts.

Comedic Performance by Eric O'Shea

Parent and Family Programs Featured Event

Memorial Union, Durham Great Hall | 9:00pm

Join us for a night of side-splitting comedy as award-winning comedian Eric O'Shea brings his high-energy, family-friendly humor to Cyclone Family Weekend! Known for his viral "Songs for Commercials" and hilarious takes on everyday life, Eric's performance is packed with quick wit, clever observations, and just the right amount of nostalgia. Whether you're a student, parent, or just in it for the laughs, this is one show you won't want to miss!

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Zumba Class

Ticketed Event

Location TBD | 8:00am – 9:00am

Great moves and music are what you'll experience in these Latin-inspired dance routines with a fitness twist. All fitness levels encouraged. Please wear tennis shoes and clothes you can move in and bring a water bottle.

Check-in

Student Services Building, First-floor Lobby | 8:00am – 10:00am

Can't arrive until Saturday? We will be here to greet you! Registered family and friends will receive registration materials. Staff will also be available to answer any questions you may have about the weekend, ISU or the Ames community. Additional information regarding check-in, including early check-in dates and times, will be sent to the registered email address closer to Cyclone Family Weekend. 10-minute parking for this check-in will be available in Lot 4.

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Family Reception Breakfast

Ticketed Event – through the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Reiman Gardens | 8:00am – 10:00am

Please note that this event is only open to families of first-year students and new transfer students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Registration for this event must be completed separately. A link will be provided on the Registration page until all spots are filled.

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is excited to invite the newest Cyclones and their families to a reception. There will be refreshments provided and a short program at 9:00 am along with door prizes, so be sure to brush up on your ISU trivia. At the reception, students will be able to introduce their guests to advisors in their major and interact with college leadership. Following the reception, families and guests will be able to tour the gardens. **Advanced registration is required through the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.**

ISU Research Park Open House

ISU Economic Development Core Facility, 1805 Collaboration Place | 8:30am – 10:00am

Join the Research Park for breakfast and learn about opportunities for your students to be involved with cutting edge technology, research, and entrepreneurship! Light breakfast will be provided as well as drawings for Research Park swag. This is a come-and-go open house with a short program at 9:00am.

First Scholars Office Open House

Memorial Union, Rooms 3220 & 3250 | 9:00am – 10:30am

Come enjoy coffee and donuts while hearing about all that the First Scholars Office offers for you and your students. Decorate a mug as First Scholars staff describe the support services designed for first-generation and income-eligible students.



Ivy College of Business Open House

Gerdin Business Building, Granite Hallway | 9:30am – 11:30am

Visit the home of the Debbie and Jerry Ivy College of Business, where world-class faculty, staff, programs, and facilities are brought together to deliver business education for a rapidly changing world. Stop by for coffee, juice, and donuts (while supplies last) and a guided tour. Tour is first-come, first-served. Entry to Gerdin Business Building will be through the west doors.

Graduate College Open House

Outside Pearson Hall | 10:00am – 12:00pm

Is a master's or doctorate degree in your future? Graduate students at Iowa State University are part of a community of adventurous minds, connecting through research, discovery, and intellectual growth. If this is the kind of education and excitement you are looking for, then the Graduate College is the perfect place for you! Visit the home of the Graduate College, Pearson Hall, for free giveaways, snacks, and information on Iowa State's graduate programs. Staff will be available to answer your questions.

College of Engineering Open House

Student Innovation Center, Floor 1 | 10:00am – 12:00pm

Stop by to explore ISU's engineering clubs, see live glass blowing, and play engineering trivia. Show off your engineering knowledge and grab a snack!

Campanile-Carillon Model Open House

Biorenewables Complex, Sukup Atrium | 10:00am – 12:00pm

Step into a world of musical wonder and architectural splendor when you visit the Sukup Atrium to explore the 3,000-pound, 1:5 scale replica of the ISU Campanile and 27-bell Carillon Model hosted by ISU's Student Carillon Leader Council. This open house includes concert performances at 10:00am and 11:00am and hands-on activities.

Parks Library Archives Open House

Parks Library, Room 405 (the Special Collections classroom) | 10:00am – 12:00pm

Step back in time as you browse the Parks Library archives' collections. Experience the sights and sounds of yesteryears and ISU history through manuscripts, media, and historical documents that offer glimpses into bygone eras. Please note that food and drinks are not permitted on the fourth floor of Parks Library.

Jack Trice Stadium Tours

Ticketed Event

Jack Trice Stadium, meet at South End of Stadium outside of the Sukup End Zone Club | 10:00am – 12:30pm (tours begin at 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30)

Join Iowa State Athletics for a tour of Jack Trice Stadium to learn about the magic that goes into Cyclone Nation. Please note this is a walking tour and will be mostly outdoors. Parking is available in Lot S2.

ISU Horse Barn Tours

Ticketed Event

Horse Barns, 1050 North University Blvd, meet by red gate in NW corner of parking lot 79 | 10:00am – 2:00pm (tours begin each hour)

Discover the rich history and educational opportunities at the ISU Department of Animal Science's historic horse barns. These iconic facilities offer students hands-on learning experiences in a unique setting. Explore the barns that house two student apartments, an office, a reproduction lab, an equine treadmill, and a classroom. Gain insights into our breeding program and the thriving horse industry in Iowa.

Family Craft at the Workspace

Memorial Union, East Basement | 10:00am – 4:00pm

Channel your Cyclone spirit into your creations with a family craft at the Workspace. You'll take home unique keepsakes that capture the memories made during Cyclone Family Weekend. Craft will be announced later this summer. Seating in the Workspace is limited and is first-come, first-served. Check back later if the room is full when you arrive!

Punch & Paint

Ticketed Event

Location TBD | 10:30am – 12:00pm

Spend time with your family while unleashing your artistic flair! Visit the Student Innovation Center to create an acrylic painting of ISU's campanile under the guidance of Assistant Dean of Students and renowned artist, Jordan Brooks. With easy-to-follow instructions, everyone can participate regardless of their skill level, plus Cyclone Punch is included!

Late Check-in

Alumni Center | 11:00am – 1:00pm

Arriving later Saturday? We will still be here to greet you! Registered family and friends will receive registration materials. Staff will also be available to answer any questions you may have about the weekend, ISU or the Ames community. Additional information regarding check-in, including early check-in dates and times, will be sent to the registered email address closer to Cyclone Family Weekend.

Bacon Expo \$

Student-run Event

Hansen Learning Center | 11:00am – 2:00pm, while supplies last

Bacon Expo is Iowa State's largest student run philanthropy! Every year, the Bacon Expo hosts a one-day celebration of bacon, allowing student organizations and outside vendors to make a wide variety of bacon dishes. For \$5 for students and for \$10 non-students everyone can try all the dishes, participate in a contest, have access to education stations and games surrounding the pork and agriculture industry, attend various entertainment events, and interact with live pigs! Tickets can be purchased at the event entrance while supplies last. Follow their social media for updates throughout the day and news leading up to the event @isubaconexpo on Instagram and Facebook.

Hickory Park Lunch \$

Ticketed Event

The cost per person is \$26 for age 9 and up, \$21 for ages 3 to 8. 2 and under are free.

Alumni Center, Reiman Ballroom | 11:00am – 3:00pm (start times are 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, and 2:00)

You can't visit Ames without enjoying the great BBQ that Hickory Park has to offer! Take time to experience this Ames tradition without waiting in line at the restaurant. The menu will include options for those with dietary restrictions.

Rock Climbing Wall

State Gym | 12:00pm – 4:00pm

Try your hand...s and feet at our two rock climbing walls, top rope wall and bouldering wall. Climbing walls will be reserved for Cyclone Family Weekend participants and will be first-come, first-served. Climbing equipment will be provided at no cost. Participants will sign a waiver prior to this activity.

ISU Creamery Tours

Ticketed Event

*Food Sciences Building, meet at the Soybean in East Entrance | 12:00pm – 5:15pm
(tours begin at 12:00, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3:00, 3:45, 4:30)*

Calling all cheese and ice cream enthusiasts! Experience the magic behind the scenes at the Iowa State University Creamery, where dairy dreams come true. Our experiential learning methods fully prepare dairy food science students for the most skilled positions in the fast-paced and competitive dairy processing industry. Join us for a tour of the facility and see the process involved in making the delicious cheese and ice cream offered for sale at the Creamery! Don't forget to visit the retail store, where you'll have the opportunity to purchase freshly-made dairy delights.

University Museums Open Houses

Farm House Museum (601 Farm House Ln), Christian Petersen Art Museum (1017 Morrill Hall) | 12:00pm – 4:00pm

Explore ISU's diverse array of artistic treasures, from the masterpieces housed within the Christian Petersen Art Museum to the charming exhibits at the Farm House Museum. Grab a self-guided tour map and discover selected works from the ISU Public Art Collection, strategically placed throughout campus. Please note that food and drinks are not permitted in the museum galleries, but fear not – the Farm House Museum awaits you with complimentary cookies to sweeten your visit! Various University Museums publications will be for sale, as well as magnets and postcards that showcase the Art on Campus collection.

ISU Brew Lab Tour

Ticketed Event

Food Sciences Building, Room 1951 | 1:00pm – 2:30pm

The tour of the ISU Brewing Science Program starts with a presentation on the program in the 40-seat Technology Transfer Theater located at 1951 Food Science Bldg. After the presentation, guests enter the adjacent brew lab (1598 Food Science Building) to tour the 2,800-square-foot research, education and production facility, which includes brewing equipment with capacities ranging from 10 gallons to 2 barrels. The tour concludes with tastings of beer for attendees 21 years of age or older, produced by both students and professional staff. All attendees must bring a valid photo ID to this event. Wristbands will be placed on attendees who are 21 or over and are required to be worn for the tasting.

Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering and Technology Tours

Ticketed Event

Sukup and Elings Hall Atrium | 1:00pm – 2:30pm (tours begin at 1:00 and 1:30)

Step into the future of agricultural and biosystems engineering with this immersive tour! Discover cutting-edge research and hands-on innovation as you journey through a series of mini-tours featuring the Streamflow and Hydraulics Lab, the Automation and Robotics Lab, and the Manufacturing Lab. Whether you're passionate about sustainable systems, smart technologies, or advanced manufacturing, this tour offers a behind-the-scenes look at how engineering is transforming agriculture and the environment.

College of Health and Human Sciences Open House

MacKay Hall, Room 118 | 1:00pm – 3:00pm

The College of Health and Human Sciences is moving humanity forward with every field of study – and that includes the science behind ice cream and cookies! Join us for socializing while we enjoy ice cream from the Iowa State Creamery and scratch-made cookies, prepared by the Joan Bice Underwood Tearoom. *While supplies last.*

Chemistry Demonstration

Student-run Event

Gilman Hall, Room 1002 | 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Bring the whole family to experience the wonders of chemistry like never before! The Chemistry Learning Community and Society of Chemistry Undergraduate Majors (SCUM) will provide a variety of demonstrations using their chemistry knowledge. Come experience demos such as:

- The Methane Mamba
- Gummi Bears
- Hydrogen/Oxygen Reactions
- Genie in a Bottle
- Elephant Toothpaste
- Fireworks

Seating for this event is first-come, first-served.

Therkildsen Industrial Engineering Building Tours

Ticketed Event

*Therkildsen Industrial Engineering Building, meet at the East Atrium | 2:00pm – 4:00pm
(tours begin every half hour)*

Come join Industrial Engineering faculty and staff as they showcase the newest building on campus, Therkildsen Industrial Engineering Building. Discover student opportunities in this department, hear about new initiatives, and enjoy the aerial perspective of campus from the fourth floor! Tours begin at the East Atrium on the first floor of the building.

Zumba Class

Ticketed Event

Location TBD | 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Great moves and music are what you'll experience in these Latin-inspired dance routines with a fitness twist. All fitness levels encouraged. Please wear tennis shoes and clothes you can move in, and bring a water bottle.

Spirits in the Gardens \$

Tickets Required – purchase through Reiman Gardens

Reiman Gardens | 5:00pm – 9:00pm

Reiman Gardens' popular fall celebration is back with even more spooky fun! With 1,000+ intricately carved Jack-O-Lanterns, magic shows, candy, chemistry experiments, jugglers, cosplay and so much more. Wear your favorite costume and join in the fun. Visit the Candy Factory on the Events Plaza to collect treats and non-candy items from our whimsical candy slides. Pre-purchased tickets are required and can be found on the Reiman Gardens website in September.

Bingo

Student-run Event

Memorial Union, Sun Room and South Ballroom | 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Get ready to bring out your competitive side at the ISU family edition of a classic: Bingo! Grab your lucky charms and prepare to claim victory in a game that's fun for all ages. Be sure to come early to grab a seat or join at any time if a seat is open!

P.S. - Be on the lookout for our celebrity callers!

CyBowl & Billiards

Memorial Union, Ground Floor | 7:00pm – 10:00pm

Ready to roll some strikes and show off your bowling skills or rack 'em up in a game of pool? Look no further than CyBowl and Billiards, conveniently located right here on campus. CyBowl and Billiards will be available for Cyclone Family Weekend participants so stop by anytime to play a game as long as there are lanes or billiards tables open.

Cyclone Cinema

Student-run Event

Carver Hall, Room 101 | 7:00pm

Presented by the Student Union Board. Unwind with your family after a day of exploring campus and the community by watching a recently-released movie (movie name will be released later this summer). Concessions will be available for purchase. Seating is limited to first-come, first-served. Open caption is available by letting the staff know before the movie starts.



Sunday, October 12, 2025

Friley Windows Brunch \$

Ticketed Event


The cost per person is \$19.50 for age 9 and up, \$14.75 for ages 3 to 8. 2 and under are free. ISU Students with a current meal plan can use their ISU dining card to swipe into the facility – only students may use a swipe for this event.)

Friley Hall, Friley Windows | 9:00am – 12:00pm (seatings at 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, and 11:00)

Wrap up your Cyclone Family Weekend with a delicious family brunch at Windows Dining in Friley Residence Hall, courtesy of ISU Dining! The menu will include options for those with dietary restrictions. Please note, this facility will only be open to Cyclone Family Weekend participants and will not be able to serve students that are not registered.

University Museums Open Houses

Farm House Museum (601 Farm House Ln), Christian Petersen Art Museum (1017 Morrill Hall) | 12:00pm – 4:00pm



Explore ISU's diverse array of artistic treasures, from the masterpieces housed within the Christian Petersen Art Museum to the charming exhibits at the Farm House Museum. Grab a self-guided tour map and discover selected works from the ISU Public Art Collection, strategically placed throughout campus. Please note that food and drinks are not permitted in the museum galleries, but fear not – the Farm House Museum awaits you with complimentary cookies to sweeten your visit! Various University Museums publications will be for sale, as well as magnets and postcards that showcase the Art on Campus collection.

Cyclone Family Weekend Art Walk

Memorial Union, Meet at North Entrance near the Fountain | 12:00pm

In addition to University Museums' Open House hours, ISU families are invited on an hour-long walk around some of the most iconic public art of Iowa State. From the sculpture of Christian Petersen to the latest additions to the Art on Campus Collection, get a glimpse of the largest public art collection of any university in the United States. This event is first-come, first-served and attendance may be capped on site to maintain a quality experience.

Collage of Choirs \$

Tickets Required – purchase through Stephens Auditorium

Stephens Auditorium | 3:00pm

The four major Iowa State University choirs: the Iowa State Singers, Iowa Statesmen, Cantamus, and Lyrica take the stage and offer a wide spectrum of choral styles and genres, from classical masterpieces to contemporary arrangements. Get ready to be uplifted and inspired. Admission is \$10 general admission or \$5 for children 18 and under, ISU students, and seniors ages 65 and older. Tickets can be purchased at the door prior to the performance or ahead of time through the Ticket Office at Stephens Auditorium.

Spirits in the Gardens \$

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Reiman Gardens | 5:00pm – 9:00pm

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Carver Hall, Room 101 | 7:00pm

Presented by the Student Union Board. Unwind with your family after a day of exploring campus and the community by watching a recently-released movie (movie name will be released later this summer). Concessions will be available for purchase. Seating is limited to first-come, first-served. Open caption is available by letting the staff know before the movie starts.

Ames Community Events



Ames Artists' Studio Tour

Studio Tour Headquarters at 136 Main St, Ames | Saturday, October 11 from 10:00am – 4:00pm and Sunday, October 12 from 12:00pm – 4:00pm

During this free self-guided tour, visit any of the participating studios and discover the original art — paintings, glasswork, ceramics, and more — created by Ames artists. Artists will demonstrate their craft, share techniques, discuss what inspires their work, and have beautiful pieces for sale. Don't miss this unique opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process. Find a list of artists and a map at the Ames Community Arts Council website.

See below for some other things to do in and around Ames!

- Ames Main Street Farmers' Market
Downtown Ames / 8:00am – 12:30pm
 - Ledges State Park
Madrid, IA
 - Ada Hayden Heritage Park
5205 Grand, Ames, IA
 - Veenker Memorial Golf Course
2916 Veenker Dr, Ames, IA
 - High Trestle Trail
- 