
MATRICULATE **FIELD GUIDE**

FALL 2017

The Seattle School
OF THEOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY

Welcome Letter from our President

On June 24 at Seattle's Town Hall, I will speak these words to our 2017 graduates: "I now confer upon you the degree..." Those are words of completion but not of ending; they are words of beginning but not the start. For The Seattle School graduates, their formal education is now officially complete. But the learning is not over. They begin their future but do not start the journey—that journey has been ongoing in the narratives of their lives for a long time and continues on in new chapters of life and learning.

"You will love learning and you will know that in the midst of the learning, is also the pursuit of God."

In your story, you are at the beginning of your Seattle School chapter. It is a grand time of anticipation and hope and a commencement of a different sort—the commencement of this part of your education. Graduate school is very different than undergraduate education. One large purpose of



graduate education is to prepare you to be an independent thinker and student. That doesn't mean you approach learning alone as if flying solo—true learning is interdependent and relational. But it means you will be trained to continue your own learning after your years in grad school. You will become equipped to continue education without the formality of a professor and syllabus and classroom; it will be the classroom of your life. If we have done our work well, you will have skills, tools, and instruments

My prayer for you is that you will also find yourself awake, alert, alive, able to listen and experience, to taste and see, to touch and know, to wait and feel, to know and not to know.

for a lifetime of learning; if we have done our work well, more importantly, you will have an instinct for learning—you will love learning and you will know that in the midst of the learning, is also the pursuit of God. Your pursuit of God is found in classroom, internships,

relationships, thinking, and living life. God's pursuit of you is found in all things—spirituality is learning to pay attention to the presence of God in all things.

If you get to know me at all, you will find that I have a deep love for the work of Wendell Berry—a Kentucky farmer, philosopher, novelist, poet, and thinker. He is a person of deep faith who has a great craftsmanship with words. He starts one of his poems offering an image of what it is to finish and to start...

*Dream ended, I went out, awake
To new snow fallen in the dark,
Stainless on road and field, no track
Yet printed on my day of work.
"Dream ended, I went out,
awake..."*

Our grads have completed one part of their education and fulfilled the dreams that prompted them to graduate education at The Seattle School. You are at the beginning of that with a dream for something

next. My prayer for you is that you will also find yourself awake, alert, alive, able to listen and experience, to taste and see, to touch and know, to wait and feel, to know and not to know.

We will do our best to set a table before you that is a feast of text, soul, and culture. We will place before you ideas and texts that will confront, disrupt, and create dissonance in your very being. We will stand alongside you as practicum facilitators and leaders, faculty, staff, and administrators who will listen and challenge. We seek to provide a holding environment in which you can find a place for transformation.

That's the high dream that we have for your life—a place of transformation in a learning community which is constantly being transformed itself. Welcome, you are welcome here, welcome.

Keith Anderson, President

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MATRICULATE

transitive verb:

to enroll as a member of a body and especially of a college or university

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WELCOME

- WELCOME FROM ADMISSIONS
- TIMELINE & COUNTDOWN
- BUILDING MAP

Welcome Letter from Admissions



I am thrilled to be first to say welcome to The Seattle School—and to the Matriculate Field Guide, in particular. More than nine years ago I was holding my cell phone with a white knuckle grip while I listened to my roommate reading the contents of my acceptance packet to The Seattle School (Mars Hill Graduate School at the time). I was in an airport flying back home, but always a bit on the impatient side, I couldn't bear waiting until I landed. I felt such a rush of emotion—from excitement, relief, and a tinge of pride to “Oh no! What have I done!”

My own journey of matriculating to The Seattle School involved a tremendous amount of courage. What proved to be the most terrifying thing wasn't moving from south Florida to Seattle, but surmounting my own ambivalence. Confession: I was the accepted student that never really got around to turning in her enrollment documents or tuition deposit. There was something in me that just couldn't pull the

trigger and commit to coming.

In retrospect, I am aware that my own journey of matriculating to graduate studies at The Seattle School had much to do with my own process around calling and desire. I had found a place that seemed to be offering the kind of curriculum and learning community that I had been longing for—but it had to be too good to be true, right? It took a phone call from the Director of Admissions at the time (funny how life comes full circle sometimes, isn't it?) to remind me about my deposit to bring about some movement. I don't remember her saying anything very profound, but I do remember being stirred and hearing something within me say, “You'll never know until you try. Go after your heart, Nicole.” And so I did. One impulsive, but very brave walk to the post office and 45 cents later and I was already knee deep in the process of matriculating.

Whatever your version of the brave post office walk is, please



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know that you are not alone in this process. On behalf of our Graduate Admissions Team—Nicole, Ashlee, Ben, and Charis—we wholeheartedly welcome you into our community. As you anticipate the hello's and goodbye's coming your way over the coming months and weeks, know that we are here to be a continual resource and presence to you.

Welcome to The Seattle School!

Warmly,

Nicole Greenwald
Director of Enrollment
Management

Timeline & Countdown



WELCOME

- JUNE 2** *Scholarship Application Deadline*
- JUNE 27** *Scholarship Award Notification*
- JUNE 14** *Online Registration for Fall Term Opens*
- JUNE 14** *Fall Book List Available*
- JUNE 24** *2017 Commencement Ceremonies*

- MID-AUGUST** *Welcome (Back) Picnic at Golden Gardens*
- AUGUST 24** *Last Day to Order Books and Bill Your Student Account*
- AUGUST 28** *New Student Orientation and Fall Term Begins*
- AUGUST 29** *All School (Re)Orientation*
- AUGUST 30** *Frameworks & Intersections for New Students*

- FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER** *Stipend checks available*
- SEPTEMBER 7-9** *Community Weekend: Vespers, Neighborhood Dinners, Convocation, and Community Picnic*

E X P L O R E

- Your neighborhood by checking out the park spaces, local stores, and coffee shops that will be future study spots
- Information and Resources on the [Students section](#) of the website
- Stories, insights, and compelling content to keep you connected and invigorated on the [Intersections blog](#)
- Job and housing opportunities, books for sale, and more on [Elliott's Wall](#) (our very own Craig's List)

P L A N

- Make a budget for the academic year
- Do a trial run of your commute to the school and check out Seattle's [public transportation system](#)
- Order your [textbooks online](#) (when the book lists are finalized!)
- Log in to your @theseattleschool.edu email

C O N N E C T

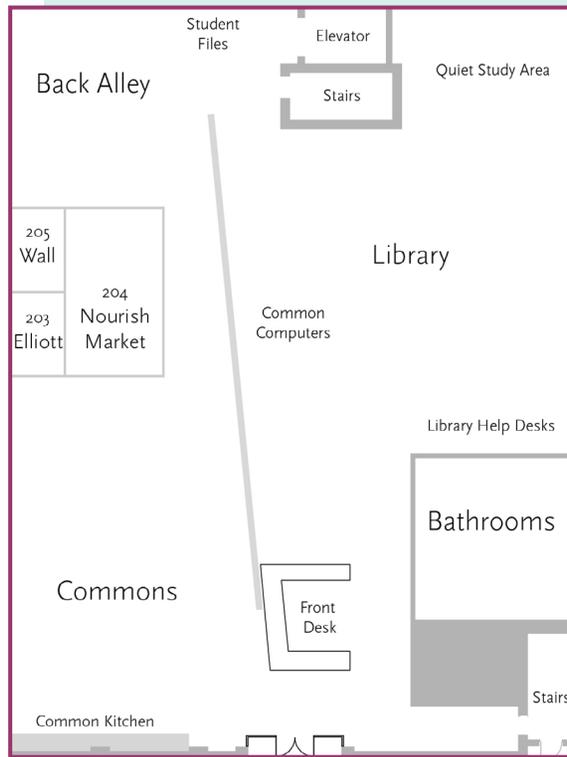
- Join the Fall 2017 Cohort Facebook group
- Meet someone from your cohort for coffee or breakfast
- With yourself! Care for yourself and all the transition your body is holding by going for long walks, taking deep breaths, getting a massage, and reading fiction or poetry

Building Map

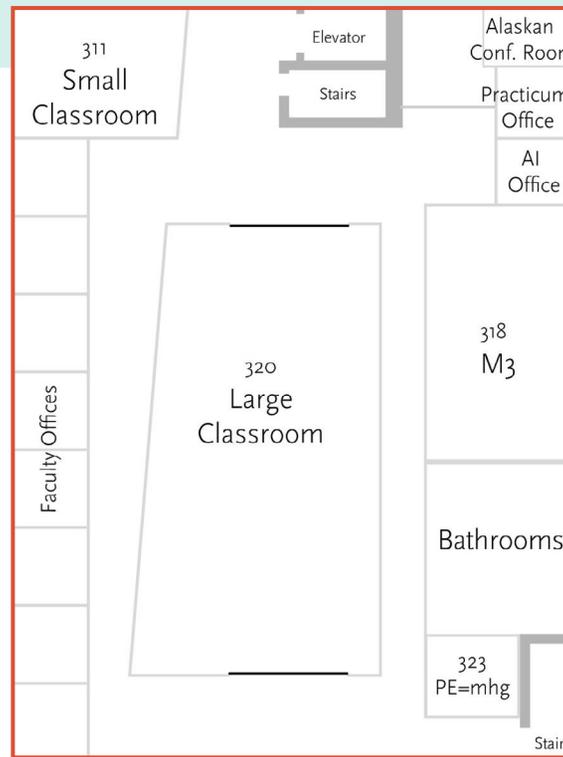


WELCOME

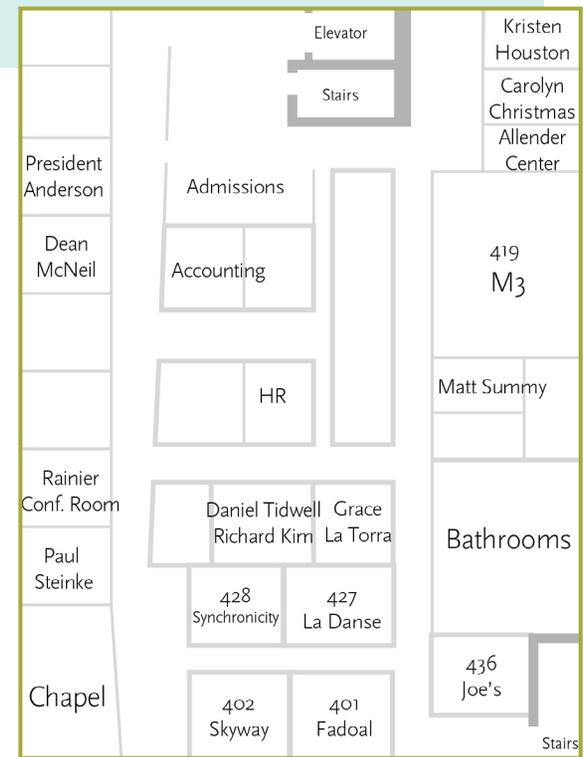
2nd Floor



3rd Floor



4th Floor



Elliott Avenue

ACADEMICS

- WELCOME FROM DR. J. DEREK MCNEIL
- REGISTRATION & COURSE ROTATIONS

Welcome Letter

from Dr. J. Derek McNeil



People often ask me, “What does an Academic Dean do?” I never quite know where to start with an answer. In a broad stroke, the dean is responsible for the management of the faculty, and with the faculty, the oversight of the academic programs. This means I do a lot of problem solving and building systems that support the quality of the educational experience. I also think there is a bit of “co-pastoring” quality to this work. The co-pastoring involves engaging with students to understand their educational needs, to learn both how we might support them and how to make our academic programs stronger.

that learning is easy or simply memorization. We take a posture that learning is formational, which means learning is hard, and it’s challenging. We’re not asking you to simply learn facts, but to also learn about your self, to understand how you are emerging, and how you might shape the world. We are asking you to bring more of your whole self and your whole set of experiences to the learning process. I came to The Seattle School because they were invested in this type of formation, and willing to face the challenges and struggles this entails. It has been exciting to come to a place that is asking students to dig deeper and not just pile more information onto them.

The second thing I want to remind you is that we get to do this together, both faculty and students. Creativity needs to be a part of the learning process, and it does not happen without a faculty willing to grow with their students in the classroom. We are a younger institution, and in many

ways we are learning along with our students. We also know that learning is a relational experience. We need to engage you and not just try and transmit knowledge in abstraction. I think these are two important things to know about the school before you begin. I look forward to meeting you, and

remain excited about what we will create together.

Welcome!

Dr. J. Derek McNeil
Academic Dean

Academics Staff

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We’re not asking you to simply learn facts, but to also learn about your self, to understand how you are emerging, and how you might shape the world.

As you anticipate joining this learning community, I would first want to disavow you of the notion

Registration & Course Rotations

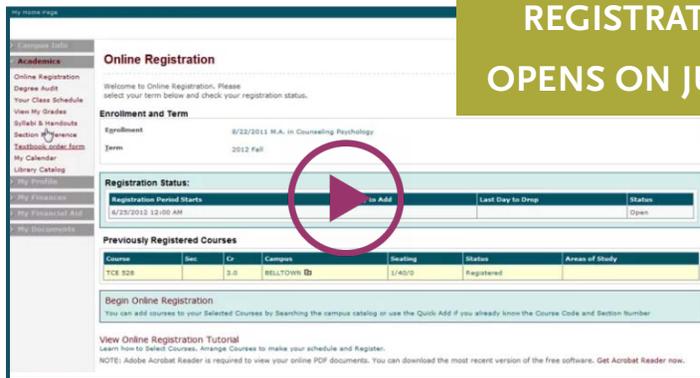


Registering for your first term of courses is an exciting part of the process! The course rotations offer you a road map for your program. Start here and feel free to schedule an advising session (over the phone or in person) with our Academic Services team.

Your student account on MyCampus is your go-to spot for registration, financial aid award letters, and other “to dos” during this part of the process. If you haven’t already log-in to your account, [here’s a resource](#) for getting started.

As you prepare to register for classes, the video below walks you through the process step-by-step.

Beyond your required academic courses, you definitely want to sign up for Frameworks & Intersections (a no-credit, no-cost course required for incoming students). We also recommend the Writing Workshop.



**REGISTRATION
OPENS ON JUNE 14**

If you have any questions about registering for classes, don’t hesitate to be in touch with your Admissions Counselor!

If you are having trouble viewing this video, please try another browser or [click here](#).

Course Rotations



[3 year/full time](#)
[4 year/part time](#)



[Interdisciplinary 2 year track](#)
[Interdisciplinary 3 year track](#)
[Global & Social Partnership](#)
[Theology, Imagination, & the Arts](#)



[3 year/full time](#)
[4 year/part time](#)

PAYING FOR SCHOOL

- **FUNDING OPTIONS**
- **APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID**

Funding Options



SCHOLARSHIPS

The Seattle School is committed to making graduate education financially accessible for students. Every year, The Seattle School earmarks \$50,000 in funding for student scholarships.

STUDENT LOANS

The Seattle School participates in the Direct Loan Program, which allows us to offer students Title IV funding for education expenses. To receive Title IV funding students must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States or an eligible non-citizen
- Have a high-school diploma, GED, or home-schooled equivalent
- Not owe a repayment on a grant or be in default on a student loan
- Be enrolled in a degree program with full-time or at least half-time student enrollment status
- Have a valid Social Security number
- Have financial need as determined by your FAFSA

PAYMENT PLAN

Our payment plan is a great way to keep your student debt low by budgeting for what you can afford to pay out of pocket while still granting you access to the student loan funding you need to cover the difference. The payment plan divides your total education costs for the term into three equal payments due on the first Friday of each month. There is a \$50 fee applied to each term you [enroll in a payment plan](#).

FEDERAL DIRECT LOANS

Most students take advantage of the Direct Loan program. This program allows students to borrow loan funds at a low interest rate while in school and offers a 6 month grace period for repayment after graduation. Graduate students enrolled in at least four credit hours per term are eligible for \$20,500 in funding through Direct Loans each academic year.

DIRECT GRADUATE PLUS LOANS

The Direct Loan Program offers additional funding beyond what the student receives by Direct Loans through PLUS loans. PLUS loans are credit based. Because we are committed to ensuring that students keep their borrowing to a minimum, advising is required prior to applying for a PLUS loan.

FEDERAL WORK STUDY

The Seattle School participates in the Federal Work Study Program, which funds 4,242 hours of work for students in positions on campus and at our community outreach site each year. Eligibility for the Federal Work Study Program is determined by your FAFSA. These are paid positions that provide students funds to cover the cost of tuition and living expenses while gaining robust work experience in higher education and a non-profit institution. Open positions are announced in the spring and summer of each academic year and as they become available.

Funding Options



VETERANS BENEFITS

The Seattle School is approved by the Higher Education Coordinating Board's State Approving Agency (HECB/SAA) program for enrollment of persons eligible to receive educational benefits. Eligibility for VA educational benefit programs is determined by your enrollment as a degree-seeking student and by your date of enlistment. In all cases, the Department of Veterans Affairs makes the final determination of eligibility. Application forms for your VA benefits are available at va.gov/vaforms.

The following VA educational assistance benefits are available at The Seattle School:

- [Montgomery GI Bill for Active Duty and Veterans](#)
- [Montgomery GI Bill for National Guard and Selected Reserves](#)
- [Post 9/11 GI Bill](#)
- [Survivors and Dependents Educational Assistance Program](#)
- [Veterans Educational Assistance Program](#)

The Office of Student Financial Services is committed to serving the needs of individuals eligible for Veterans Affairs Educational Benefits. We are here to answer questions related to eligibility, benefits and take responsibility for certifying veteran enrollment to the regional Veteran Affairs Office each term. For additional information and support, you are also welcome to contact the Department of Veteran Affairs:

Educational Information: gibill.va.gov or call (888) GI-BILL-1

General VA Information: benefits.va.gov or call (800) 827-1000

AMERICORPS

The Seattle School is an Americorps partner. Americorps is an opportunity to serve in the community while earning funding to assist with education costs.

Learn more at the [National Service department](#)

Student Financial Services Staff



Carolyn Christmas

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STEPS TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

- 1 Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- 2 Complete Direct Loan Master Promissory Note
- 3 Complete Loan Entrance Counseling
- 4 Apply for Scholarships
- 5 Create Your Student Account in MyCampus
- 6 Review and Accept Your Financial Aid Package
- 7 Financial Aid Disbursement and Payment Plan

Applying for Financial Aid



STEP #1

COMPLETE THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

The application is available online at fafsa.ed.gov.

[Apply online](#) for your Federal Student Aid Number (FSA#). If you already have an active FSA# you do not need to apply for a new one.

Request to have your FAFSA submitted to The Seattle School by entering our Federal School Code: G34664.

You may begin the FAFSA for the upcoming school year on or after November 1. The best time to complete your FAFSA is after you have finished your taxes for the previous year.

fafsa.ed.gov

STEP #3

COMPLETE LOAN ENTRANCE COUNSELING

Loan Entrance Counseling is an online tutorial orienting you to the financial aid process. Before you are able to receive any financial aid funds you must complete loan entrance counseling online at studentloans.gov. Once this is completed, Student Financial Services at The Seattle School will receive an electronic notification from Direct Loans.

studentloans.gov

STEP #2

COMPLETE DIRECT LOAN MASTER PROMISSORY NOTE

If you are receiving a Direct Loan or a Graduate PLUS Loan, you must complete the Master Promissory Note (MPN) for those funds to be dispersed. You can sign your MPN online at studentloans.gov. Once this is completed, the Office of Student Financial Services at The Seattle School will receive an electronic notification from Direct Loans.

studentloans.gov

STEP #4

APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

In order to keep student financial costs low, The Seattle School earmarks certain funds for student scholarships. You must complete a FAFSA in order to receive any of our internal scholarships.

theseattleschool.edu/scholarships

Applying for Financial Aid



STEP #5

CREATE YOUR STUDENT ACCOUNT IN MYCAMPUS

MyCampus is your portal to accessing your student account and financial aid documents. You must be an enrolled student to create a MyCampus account. Your enrollment confirmation email from our Registrar will include an invitation to create your account.

mycampus.theseattleschool.edu

STEP #6

REVIEW AND ACCEPT YOUR FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE

The Office of Student Financial Services will notify you when your Award Letter is available on MyCampus. Award letters will be available to review online after June 15. You must follow the steps to accept your awards within MyCampus before these funds will be dispersed. (To give you an idea of the amount of your award, the funding available to all graduate students enrolled in at least 4 credits per term is \$20,500 per academic year.)

mycampus.theseattleschool.edu

STEP #7

FINANCIAL AID DISBURSEMENT AND PAYMENT PLAN

The Seattle School operates on a trimester system, and one third of your financial aid award is disbursed at the beginning of each academic term. Loan funds are applied to your student account to cover tuition and fees. Any unused portion will be made available in the form of a stipend. If your financial aid was completed on time and there are no holds on your student account, your stipend check will be available at the front desk the first week of the academic term.

If after the disbursement of your funds you still have a tuition balance, or if you have chosen not to receive financial aid, The Seattle School offers a payment plan for those desiring to cover some or all of their education costs out of pocket. The payment plan divides your total education costs for the term into three equal payments due on the first Friday of each month.

There is a \$50 fee to enroll in the payment plan, and late fees are assessed at 1% per month on the remainder of the balance. To enroll submit the Tuition Payment Plan form to the Office of Student Financial Services.

theseattleschool.edu/funding-options

STUDENT LIFE

- WELCOME FROM PAUL STEINKE
- STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Welcome Letter from Paul Steinke



In the days ahead, I look forward to meeting each of you, hearing something of your story and how such has brought you now, at this point, to The Seattle School. If you are anything like Sarah and I, this turn of a page has opened a chapter full of goodbyes, perhaps a bit of fear, along with excitement about new beginnings, new friends, and the promise of continuing to pursue who God is calling you to be in this world. In the midst of it all, know The Seattle School community is anticipating your arrival—and so am I.

As you have made arrangements to arrive at school, the Graduate Admissions Team have been your primary guides. While they will always be available to answer any questions you may have, please feel free to contact me as well. Together with those in the Office of Students & Alumni, I have the privilege of “pastoring” students and alumni and the systems that impact them. So if I don’t know the answer to your question, I’ll

do my best to connect you to the person who does. Over the next several weeks in Matriculate, you will meet those who “pastor” with me: Daniel Tidwell (Alumni Programs Coordinator), Richard Kim (Intercultural Credibility Coordinator), Linda Ruthruff (Student Life Coordinator/ Bookstore Manager), and the Student Leadership Quad. There is a lot to digest in the days ahead, I know...but hang in there and you will be metabolizing in no time!

So pour yourself a large cup of coffee or tea, sit back, and breathe—there’s still a whole lotta summer left. We are praying for you as you set out on your own wild beautiful roads. May you find the Spirit’s greeting at each unexpected turn.

Paul Steinke
Vice President of Student
& Alumni Development

Office of Students & Alumni Staff



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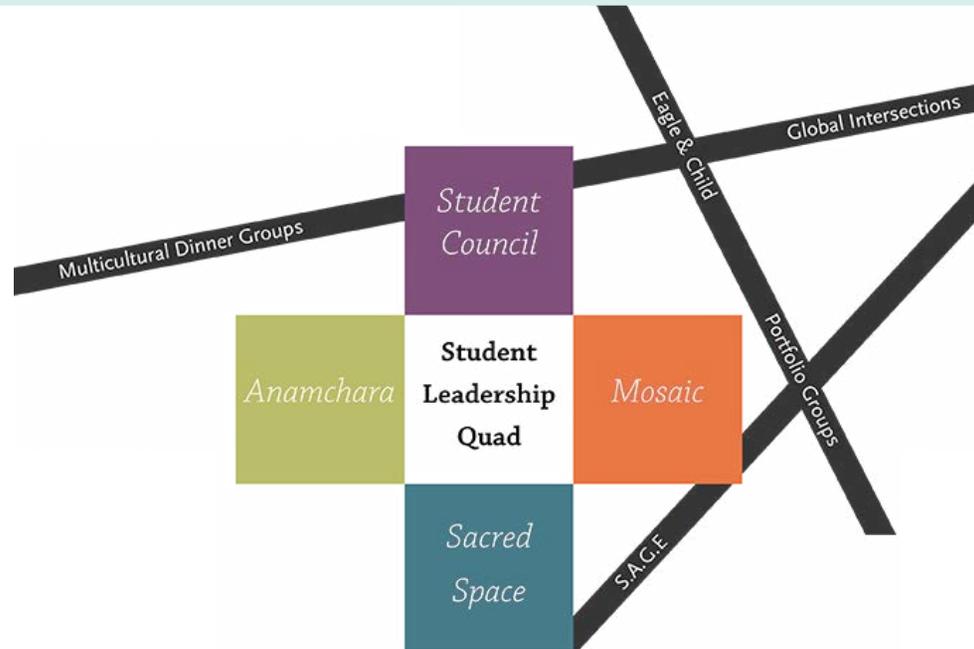
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Student Leadership



The Quad consists of three students and one spouse of a student who collectively make up the student affairs team for The Seattle School. In order to more fully embody its mission, the leadership of The Seattle School made a commitment in the fall of 2002 to incorporate students into the leadership fabric of the institution in order to ensure The Seattle School was always connected to the face and voice of the students. As a result of this commitment, the Quad serves The Seattle School community in the unique position of being both staff and student as they facilitate the four realms of student leadership—Anamchara, Mosaic, Sacred Space, and Student Council.

At The Seattle School, community life is led and facilitated by students in collaboration with the Dean of Students & Alumni/Field Abbot. Student Leadership is crucial to shaping the direction and community of the school, bringing a richness of ability and desire as they participate and create on behalf of The Seattle School community. Student Leadership invites students, spouses, and partners to shape and embody the vision and mission of The Seattle School for the sake of blessing our community, the neighborhood of Belltown, and the larger community of Seattle.



Instructions for living a life:

Pay attention.

Be astonished.

Tell about it.

– Mary Oliver

SEATTLE

