Congrats Moose of 2024! You have nearly completed your sophomore year! This means that you can now begin the exciting process of picking your housing for next year. Please read this info sheet carefully because the housing process has several steps and important deadlines.

In Ezra Stiles, the dean is responsible for all housing assignments. Room allocation is implemented by the Housing Committee (HoCo), which is composed of the dean and two permanent representatives from each class. Any housing concerns should be addressed to the committee and they will respect confidential communications. Your class representatives are Tiana Luo and Jake Wade.

Ezra Stiles College housing is determined by a lottery system that acknowledges seniority. Rising seniors choose housing first, then sophomores as they are guaranteed housing for the sophomore year, then rising juniors. **You will see the final housing stock available to your class in the housing portal after seniors finalize their housing.**

**Intent Declaration** – Friday, March 11–Friday, March 18, 11:59 p.m. (EST)

**Group Formation for rising Juniors** – Friday, April 1, 9:00 a.m. –Tuesday, April 5, 11:59 p.m. (EST)

**Pre-Draw for oversubscribed Juniors** – Wednesday, April 6, 10:00 a.m.
- Groups eliminated from oversubscribed suite types must disband and re-group into an available suite-type by 4/7 at 7:30 p.m. (EST)

**Lottery and Draw for rising Juniors** – Thursday, April 7, 8:00 p.m., via Zoom (link TBD)
- Attendance is required. If an individual cannot attend the live draw, they should appoint a proxy in advance. HoCo Reps, suitemates, and group leaders can serve as proxies.
- Lottery numbers for each group will be randomly generated.
- According to their lottery number, group leaders will announce the group’s suite selection.
- Immediately following the suite selection, suitemates choose rooms within the suite and inform the HoCo of their choice.

I. **INTENT**

   a. During this time all rising juniors must log into the Yale College Housing Portal and register intent to live on-campus or off-campus before the deadline.

   b. Have questions? Consider attending the optional housing information session with Dean T on **Wednesday 3/9 at 9:00 p.m.** (Zoom link TBA)

   c. Due to the ongoing pandemic and the need for isolation housing, there will not be mixed-college housing for juniors and seniors.
d. **Original Class Year:** All students who were originally members of class 2024 and who entered in the fall of 2020 (or before) will be classified as juniors in the college’s housing lottery and room draw.

c. Special Accommodations: Students with special housing needs are advised to request accommodations for legitimate health or religious reasons, meet with Student Accessibility Services (medical) or the Chaplain’s Office (religious) and have recommendations to the Ezra Stiles College Dean’s office no later than March 18. Note that if you were eligible for accommodations from previous years, eligibility does not “roll over” to future years, but instead must be documented each year with either Student Accessibility Services or the Chaplain’s Office.

II. **GROUP FORMATION**

a. Appoint a Group Leader for your lottery-group, the group of students who will constitute your suite. **Group Leaders** create a lottery-group in the housing portal and invite others in the group/suite to join. Group Leaders can select a group “size”, which can be changed until the group is finalized. When a group is full and all members confirm their participation in the group, the leader can “finalize” it—i.e., it can no longer be modified.

i. Students going for stand-alone-singles should form a group of one.

b. Use the time during group formation wisely to view the system for information that will be useful for you. The housing portal is a tool you use to find roommates, see open groups, see the available housing stock, and the demand for suite types. **Use all of these features to help inform your decisions.**

i. **Pro tip:** Ask some important questions: are you on the same page about your housing priorities as your suitemates? What’s more important, living together or being in a same-gender suite? Is everyone comfortable with the same degree of risk should that suite you planned to go for be oversubscribed? Should you disband and reconfigure into a suite-type that has less demand? If a group doesn’t seem to have sufficient students, should you join them?

ii. **Pro tip #2:** Have honest conversations with your suitemates about any concerns you may have going into an oversubscribed group. For instance, if being in a single-gender suite is a priority to you, you may not wish to risk a pre-draw. Respect those concerns when voiced by others and work together to find acceptable alternatives.

iii. **Pro tip #3:** Consult the resources on available housing stock and do the math. Some suites have doubles and singles. Be sure you know whether that triple you are going for is three singles or a double and a single. If there are three suites with the configuration you want, and one that isn’t, and there are four groups going for that same suite size, weigh your chances of getting the configuration you want vs. your acceptable risk.
iv. **Pro tip #4**: Accept the things you cannot change.

c. Students can ask to join a given group that is not yet full and can withdraw, if they so choose, before the group is finalized.

d. Groups must be full in order to go for a suite of the corresponding size (i.e. a group of three cannot go for a quad). Groups can opt to add a placeholder transfer or Y-VISP (visiting international) student to their group to be filled in the summer.

e. **Group Finalization**: All participants must be in a group by the end of the group formation phase, and all groups must be locked to determine whether a pre-draw is necessary and so that lottery and draw can proceed. For this reason, the deadline for groups to form and finalize is a hard deadline. Those who do not adhere to this deadline will be automatically removed from pre-draw, placed at the bottom of the lottery [not a fun place to be] or assigned an available suitemate or to an available group at the Dean's discretion. The goal is to have every group know their suite-type before the final draw.

III. **PRE-DRAW (Only for Oversubscribed Groups)**

a. Groups who are in oversubscribed suite configurations will be automatically entered in a pre-draw. For instance, if there are four groups of three vying for three available suites-of-three-singles, the pre-draw will decide which group will not get that suite-type. The group that is eliminated will need to look at the system online, see which suite types are not oversubscribed, and reconfigure themselves (possibly into other group sizes or joining with other members of disbanded groups). The goal is to have every group know their suite-type before the final draw.

b. The Dean will use a random number generator (mini-lottery) to randomly sort out oversubscribed groups.

   i. Any group eliminated at the pre-draw stage will need to log into the housing portal, review the **available** housing stock that’s not oversubscribed, and reconfigure to fit the available suite sizes. There is only one pre-draw.

   ii. Any group eliminated as a result of the pre-draw must immediately disband and elect another available (i.e. not over-subscribed) suite-type. Bottom line: have a plan B or C if you are vying for a suite-type that is in high demand.

c. At the end of the pre-draw process, everyone in your class will know what type of suite they will live in next year.

**Pro-tip**: Assess your level of risk. Stay away from oversubscribed groups if you feel strongly about same-gender suites or do not want the uncertainty of disbanding and reconfiguring yourselves last minute to fit available housing stock and/or matching with classmates who find themselves in a similar situation.
IV. LOTTERY AND DRAW

a. For live draws, attendance from at least one person (preferably the group leader) in every group is mandatory. If a group is not present at the time of the draw and has not appointed a proxy, their turn will be skipped, and they will be randomly assigned to an available suite after the draw.

b. **Lottery**: During this phase, the Housing Committee will conduct the lottery and use a random number generator to randomly assign lottery numbers to each group. The lottery numbers will define the order in which groups choose specific suites within their suite-type. All numbers drawn during this lottery are final.

c. **Draw**: Immediately following the lottery, each group, based on their lottery number, picks the suite or stand-alone-single they want. If a particular student cannot attend the room draw, they will need to designate a proxy ahead of time who will then participate in the event. Please alert your class HoCo reps if you are appointing a proxy.

d. **Room Selection**: Immediately after a suite is chosen, group members will confer and choose rooms within the suite, communicating this to the HoCo.

e. **Housing Contracts**: At the time a student chooses a room, or is assigned a room by their appointed group leader, proxy, or a member of the Housing Committee they have contracted for that room. This is binding. Unless otherwise announced by the University, students contracting for housing are responsible for room charges for the 2022-2023 academic year.

   i. Once the draw closes, room changes must be made in writing to the Dean’s office (see “Room Switching” below).

HOUSING RULES

**General Rules**

1. **Deadlines are firm.** Housing deadlines are very carefully planned, and it is critical that they be observed by all participants throughout the housing process to ensure it runs smoothly. Failure to adhere to housing deadlines may result in students being placed at the bottom of the lottery list or being assigned to an available group/suite/room at the Dean’s discretion.

2. **All questions in writing.** If you have any questions or concerns about housing rules in Stiles that are not explained in this document, you must submit them in writing (this includes e-mail) to your class’s HoCo reps, who will bring them before the committee.

**Before the Housing Draw**

1. **Class Definitions: Sophomore/Junior/Senior.** Due to a special exception this year students who took time away from Yale will be entered in the draw to house with their original class year (i.e. a student who is academically a member of the class of ’24 may request to house with the class of ’23 if they were originally a member of that class).
2. **Acceleration, Leaves, and Withdrawals.** Students participate in the lottery of their current or original class. Acceleration does not affect class status for purposes of housing.

3. **Students Currently Abroad or on Leave.** Students who are currently taking a term abroad or a semester of leave may be included in the lottery only if they intend to be enrolled in Yale this coming fall. To participate in the housing draw, these students must declare their intent and adhere to all the same deadlines as currently enrolled students. No student who is currently withdrawn or suspended from Yale may participate in a lottery even if they anticipate reinstatement in the upcoming fall term.

4. **Students Planning a Fall Term Abroad.** Students who applied for and received confirmation for acceptance into a Fall term study abroad program should not participate in the Housing draw or contract for housing, and they should therefore declare intent to live off-campus, even if they plan to live on-campus in the spring term. Students attempting to secure on-campus housing they do not intend to use during the Fall term may be subject to the charges outlined in Financial Services.

5. **Plans to house for Spring term only.** Students who will be studying abroad or on a Leave of Absence in the Fall and therefore want housing for the Spring term only must not participate in the housing process. See Section #4 above. Requests for second-semester housing for students who will be abroad or on leave in the Fall must be submitted by November 30. Every attempt will be made to accommodate returning students seeking second-semester housing but cannot be guaranteed.

6. **Mixed-Year Housing Within Stiles.** Any requests to live with members of another year within the college will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are granted only on an exceptional basis. For mixed-year housing, class is determined by the lowest year. This means that the upper-level student(s) in the group will enter the lower-level student’s draw. This does not apply to students housing with their original class year.

7. **Co-ed Housing.** Rising seniors, juniors, and sophomores are allowed to live in mixed-gender rooms and mixed-gender suites. In fact, unless specifically designated by the dean, all floors will likely also be mixed-gender. Due to the nature of our housing lottery, no student at Yale, unless granted accommodations by the Chaplain’s Office, is guaranteed a single-gender suite or floor.

8. **Special Needs or Housing Concerns.** The dean cannot guarantee any special arrangements unless such requests are accompanied by authorization from Student Accessibility Services (health-related) or the Chaplain’s Office (faith-based). **Please note: students who received an extraordinary waiver last year, note that that waiver does not carry over to future years. Students must apply or register with the above-mentioned offices each year and notify the dean and McKenzie of your plan as soon as possible.

9. **Ghosting.** Ghosting occurs when a student indicates intent to live on-campus, knowing that they do not plan to live on campus but does so anyway: as an extension of the intent period to “buy time” to make off-campus plans; as a “back-up”; in collusion with a group member’s
attempt to force a double into a single ("dingle"). A student who does this and withdraws before the conclusion of the draw is also considered to be ghosting. **The dean and the housing committee regard ghosting as disrespectful and inconsiderate behavior.** Should this occur, one of two things may happen: (1) the group will be allowed to keep the room, but the Dean and Housing Committee may place someone to fill the vacated spot without consulting the other group members, or (2) the group will forfeit their right to the room and may be forced to disband. In addition, the individual who engaged in ghosting will be at the bottom list of the draw for all subsequent draws.

The Housing Draw

1. **Lottery Groups.** If any of the people in your lottery group (i.e., group of students who will form your suite) change or drop out after the group formation deadline, the Housing Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action (e.g., assigning students to the room or giving the suite last pick in the draw). **Groups who fail to form by the group-formation deadlines automatically get last pick in their respective lotteries.**

2. **Lotteries.** Lotteries determine the order in which students pick their rooms. Everyone is welcome to observe this process in the name of transparency. There are separate lotteries for the sophomore, junior, and senior classes.

3. **Double-Dipping.** As housing is based on seniority, in order to ensure fairness to each rising class of students, any student who previously participated in a particular upper-level class draw (either rising junior or rising senior) due to time away from Yale and attempts to house a second time at that class level (i.e. now as a true rising junior or rising senior) will be demoted to the bottom of the lottery for that draw in order to avoid preference competition with true rising juniors or rising seniors for whom this is their first time in such a draw. In essence, the first time a student participates in a senior class draw they may do so with full privileges of seniority, equal to all other participants in that draw, while the second time (or any subsequent times) a student participates in a senior class draw they are assured last choice in that draw; the same is true for the junior class draw.

4. **Your risks are your own.** All participants in the housing draw are accountable for knowing the housing rules and understanding the risks inherent in pursuing oversubscribed suite types, whether going for a stand-alone-single or a suite. The HoCo is not obligated to make housing changes attributable to dissatisfaction with the outcome.

5. **Decisions are Final.** Any and all decisions made at the draw are final.

6. **Best Behavior.** The HoCo reserves the right to expel from the room draw proceedings anyone who causes a disturbance or who otherwise disrupts the room draw. The Committee will represent those expelled for the remainder of the draw.

7. **Housing Contracts.** At the time students choose a room, or are assigned a room by their appointed group leader or proxy, they are understood to have contracted for that room.

After the Housing Draw
1. **Room Switching.** If two suites or individuals wish to exchange rooms after the draw, they must do so by contacting the Dean’s Office. All members of both suites must agree to any and all switches in writing (see McKenzie for instructions).

   a. It is very important that the College has the correct room on record for every student and therefore must be notified of all changes.
      i. Room keys will only be issued in the Fall for the corresponding room of record.
      ii. For safety reasons, unofficial key swaps are not permitted.

   b. A student may not switch rooms without permission from the dean.

   c. If a suitemate relinquishes housing, the remaining suitemates are not entitled to make housing arrangements within the suite without first consulting the dean.

   d. If it is discovered that a student has moved rooms without permission, they may have to move to their assigned room and will automatically be placed at the bottom of the following year’s housing draw.

2. **Relinquishing Housing.** Anyone who participated in room draw and later relinquishes his/her housing before the 15th day of the Fall term will be liable for ¼ of the fall term room rate, per the Yale College Undergraduate Regulations.

3. **Doubles are Doubles.** Any and all available beds within the college can be filled at any time. Should your roommate take a leave of absence or for any other reason surrender their on-campus housing, the Dean may fill that empty bed according to the needs of the college. The same applies for singles-within-a-suite.

4. **Smoking.** Smoking is forbidden everywhere on campus. If a student is discovered to have smoked in the college, the student will be placed at the bottom of the housing draw for the following year and may be subject to other disciplinary actions as determined by the Head of College and Dean.

5. **Pets.** Pets are not allowed to reside within the college. Students with questions about support animals on campus should contact Student Accessibility Services.

Elastic Clause. The Housing Committee reserves the right to modify the rules at any time if the situation warrants. In addition, suite assignments can be changed to ensure fairness and to make sure that everyone has a place to live. All decisions will be made at the discretion of the Housing Committee, the Dean, and the Head. All decisions are final.

STILES 2022 HOUSING COMMITTEE
STUDENT MEMBERS

Class of 2022
Reta Behnam

Class of 2023
Annie Gimian
Tony Leche

Class of 2024
Tiana Luo
Jake Wade

Sam Vitale

Class of 2025
Lee Muita
Faith Peña