Congrats Meese of 2022! You are almost 2/3 of the way through sophomore year! This means that you can now begin the exciting process of choosing your housing configuration for next year. Please read this document in its entirety because it contains important housing info and deadlines.

In Ezra Stiles, the Dean is responsible for all housing assignments. Room allocation is implemented by the housing committee, 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 Reta Behnam and Tony Leche.

Ezra Stiles College housing is determined by a lottery system that acknowledges seniority. Rising sophomores choose housing first, as they are guaranteed housing for the sophomore year, then rising seniors, and lastly rising juniors. Historically, the following suites have been available for Juniors and Seniors. These numbers will change once we know how many students are choosing to live on-campus and once seniors pick their rooms and suites. **You will see the final housing stock available to your class in Vesta after seniors finalize their housing.**

- 64 stand-alone singles
- 3 3-single suites
- 9 3-person suites (1 single, 1 double)
- 3 4-single suites
- 1 5-person suite (3 singles, 1 double)
- 4 5-single suites

**I. WHAT TO DO BEFORE SPRING BREAK**

a. **Friday, February 28 until noon on Friday, March 6:**
   All students log into Vesta, the online system and register intent to live on-campus or off-campus.

b. Have questions? Consider attending the housing information session for your class with the Dean on Monday 3/2 at 9:45 p.m. in the Crescent Theater.

c. **Think and Plan Ahead:** Decide if you want to live in a “suite of singles” a stand-alone-single (SAS), a triple, or doubles. Hope for the best but prepare for the worst. Remember, seniors will have first pick of the common housing stock; so, have a plan B and C ready and be flexible. Talk to your friends and potential room/suitemates and clip-mates and work out possible configurations.
d. **View the Stiles Floorplans**: Large hard-copy printouts are available for your viewing in the office (they need to remain in the office and photos are not permitted).

a. **Special Accommodations**: If you are requesting special housing accommodations for legitimate health or religious reasons, meet with Student Accessibility Services (medical) or the Chaplain’s Office (religious) to register your need for accommodation. If your request is approved, the authorization must be received by the dean by **Friday, March 6**.

   i. Note that if you were eligible for accommodations from previous years eligibility does not “roll-over” to future years but must be documented each year with either Student Accessibility Services or the Chaplain’s Office.

**II. WHAT TO DO DURING SPRING BREAK**

a. Take a break, relax, have fun.

b. If your housing plans are still up in the air, alert your HoCo reps so they can try to help you out or offer guidance.

**III. WHAT TO DO AFTER SPRING BREAK**

a. Appoint a “Group Leader” for your lottery-group (the groups of students who will constitute your suite) who will be primarily responsible for logging information into Vesta. If you are choosing to live in a SAS, you will act as your own “Group Leader.”

b. **Group Formation: April 1, 9:30 a.m. – April 3, 11:59 a.m.**

   i. **Group Leaders** create a lottery-group in Vesta and invite the others in your suite/group. Group Leaders can select a group “size” which can be changed until the group is finalized.

   ii. 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. When a group is full and all members confirm their participation in the group, the leader can “finalize” it, which means that it can no longer be modified. Students can view a page with information about the housing stock available, other students without groups, and all existing groups.

   iii. Use the time between April 1 and **before noon April 3** to view the system for information that will be useful for you – how many suite configurations are oversubscribed? Should you disband and reconfigure into a suite-type that has less demand? If a certain group doesn’t seem to have sufficient students, should you join them to create a suite?
c. **Noon Friday, April 3**

i. All groups must be finalized *before* noon on 4/3 (hopefully earlier). **This is a very hard deadline.** Those who do not adhere to this deadline will be placed at the bottom of the lottery [*not* a fun place to be] or assigned to an available group at the Dean’s discretion.

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

a. **Noon on Friday, April 3, College Dean’s Office (attendance optional)**

i. You will be automatically entered in a pre-draw if you are vying for a suite-type that is oversubscribed. For instance, if there are 4 groups vying for the 3 available suites-of-three-singles, the pre-draw will quickly decide which group will *not* get that suite type. This way, the group that is eliminated will have time to look at the system online, see which suite types are in less demand, and reconfigure themselves. The goal is to have every group have certainty that they know the suite-type they want before they go into the final draw.

ii. Based on previous years’ rising junior draws, we can tell you that oversubscription generally occurs for stand-alone singles and suites of singles. The groups of students that don't get these types of housing will then need to form groups of 3, 4, or 5 to fill the remaining suites that have double bedrooms in them. Then, once those groups decide on the new configurations, groups can form clip groups with other groups and standalones if they so choose.

iii. Any group eliminated as a result of the pre-draw must disband and elect another available (i.e. not over-subscribed) suite-type before **Friday April 3, 11:59 p.m.**

iv. Use your HoCo reps and the demand statistics on Vesta to find room/suitmates if your Plan A doesn’t work out. Bottom line is, have a plan B or C if you are vying for a suite-type that is in high demand. (Or stay away from oversubscribed groups!)

**Pro-tip:** Stay away from oversubscribed groups if you do not want the uncertainty of disbanding and reconfiguring yourselves last minute to fit available housing stock and/or matching up with classmates who find themselves in a similar situation.

V. **CLIPPING (Optional)**

i. Clipping is optional; if you are not clipping you can skip this step.

ii. Clips allow different groups and suites and those in stand-alone-singles an opportunity to be close to each other. **All members of a clip receive the same lottery number ensuring that your entire clip can select rooms at the same**
time on Carnival night. After the pre-draw (if one is needed) and before 11:59 p.m. on 4/6 (hopefully earlier) those of you who wish to clip must confirm your clip group in Vesta. These groups can vary in size between 1 to 8 members of varying suite and SAS configurations. Group leaders can initiate clips, but prior to the lottery all members of your clip group must confirm in Vesta to ensure all are in agreement.

VI. HOUSING CARNIVAL!!! (a.k.a. HOUSING DRAW)
Can we really fit carnival-sized fun in the D.H.? There is only one way to find out!

a. Tuesday, April 7 9:45 p.m. in the Dining Hall

i. During this event, the dean will operate the lottery on Vesta and the system will assign lottery numbers to each group/clip. The lottery numbers will define the order in which you choose specific suites within your suite-type. All numbers drawn during this lottery are final.

ii. Draw: Immediately following the lottery, each suite/clip group, based on their lottery number, walks on stage and picks the suites they want by placing stickers on the large floor plan that will be on display.

iii. Housing Contracts: As soon as the group picks their actual suite, each member of the group is required to walk up to the HoCo table to sign the Housing Contract for the 2020/2021 Academic Year. This is a legally binding contract. Those who later back out of contracted on-campus housing will have to pay a not-insignificant housing penalty. No exceptions.
   1. When students sign their housing contract, they will be asked to indicate their room # as well.
   2. After the carnival, room changes will need to 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 housing reps, who will bring them before the committee.

3. New Stilesians. If the college has space available next year, we may house 4 unknown suitemates: 2 transfer students from other universities, and 2 visiting rising juniors from
international universities. Groups may agree to take one or more of these students as a member of their suite. Groups that wish to exercise this option must inform the Dean and McKenzie as soon as possible. In all cases, seniority rules.

**Before the Housing Draw**

1. **Class Definitions: Sophomore/Junior/Senior.** For purposes of the housing rules, a student is a member of the class he or she will enter in the upcoming fall. A current first-year student will be defined as a sophomore in these rules, a current sophomore as a junior, and a current junior as a senior. (See Rule 2 on acceleration.)

2. **Acceleration, Leaves, and Withdrawals.** Acceleration does not affect class status for purposes of housing. Students participate in the lottery of their current class. A student who takes off one term is allowed for housing purposes to participate as a member of his or her original class. A student who takes off two or more terms and returns to a different class will be considered for housing purposes a member of the new class. A student who wishes to participate in the housing draw of their original class should notify the Dean’s Office in advance of the Intent deadline. No student who is currently withdrawn from Yale may participate in a lottery even if he or she anticipates reinstatement in the upcoming fall term.

3. **Students Currently Abroad or on Leave.** Students who are currently taking a term abroad or a semester off may be included in the lottery only if they intend to be enrolled in Yale this coming fall. To be counted in the lottery, such students must notify the Dean’s Office in writing of their intention to live in Ezra Stiles next fall and designate someone (a housing proxy) to act on their behalf in the lottery. If the student cannot find another student to be their proxy, they may ask for their class’ Housing Committee representatives to serve as their proxy.

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 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. **Housing 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 Vesta 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.** Any requests to live with members of another year will be handled on a case-by-case basis and are not guaranteed. We will do our best to accommodate people who legitimately want these arrangements. For mixed-year housing, class is determined by the lowest year. This means that the upper-level students in the group will enter the lower-level
student’s draw. Please talk to the Housing Committee no later than March 6\textsuperscript{th} if you plan to live in a group that has students from different classes.

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 also be mixed gender.

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 waiver will not apply/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 submits his or her name into the online system indicating intent to live on-campus, knowing that he or she does not plan to live in the residential college. A student who does this and withdraws before 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 disperse. 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.). Late applicants 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. **Decisions are Final.** Any and all decisions made at the draw are final and it is your responsibility to attend the draw. If there are extenuating circumstances that require you to miss the draw, you must designate a proxy and have this person sign the form and attend the room draw for you. Please alert the Housing Committee of any such arrangements and see McKenzie for the proxy form.

4. **Best Behavior.** The Committee 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.
5. **Housing Contracts.** At the time students choose a room, they will sign a contract 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 student who has signed a contract may not switch rooms without permission from the dean.** If it is discovered that a student has done so without permission, he/she will 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 participates in room draw and then decides to relinquish his/her housing in order to live off-campus or to take a leave of absence is subject to a fine of ¼ of the fall term room rate, as stated in the Yale College Undergraduate Regulations.

3. **Doubles are Doubles.** 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 2020 HOUSING COMMITTEE**

**STUDENT MEMBERS**

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<tr>
<th>Class of 2020</th>
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<td>Gina Zhu</td>
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<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<td>Reta Behnam</td>
<td>Annie Giman</td>
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