



**THE NEWS RECORD**  
**WELCOME**  
**BACK GUIDE**  
**FALL 2022**

**FOOTBALL PREPARES FOR  
FINAL SEASON IN AAC**  
Page 8

**GET TO KNOW THE LEADERS  
OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT**  
Page 5

**UC OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS TO  
CANCEL HOUSING**  
Page 2

# UC overbooks on-campus housing, offers moving incentives

ALLISON KIEHL | NEWS DIRECTOR

With the largest incoming student class in recent memory and one less operational dorm, the University of Cincinnati (UC) is relocating upper-class students off-campus and encouraging them to cancel their housing contracts altogether.

The university messaged students for the first time in early June and continued to message them over emails and text messages about the incentive programs.

“To help accommodate our largest residential community to date, university housing is offering a limited time incentive for current upper-class students to cancel their housing contract,” reads the statement from the university. “Upper-class students who cancel their housing contracts by Friday, June 24 will receive a \$1500 scholarship for the Fall semester.”

Following the statement, UC released another email, asking for students to relocate to CP Cincy, a university-owned housing complex about 10 minutes walking distance west of the uptown campus.

In exchange for relocating to off-campus housing, the university offered students a reduced rent rate, as well as free parking for the first 200 students to take the incentive.

The incentives offered to students to relocate or cancel their housing contracts is an ongoing effort by the university, according to Jack Miner, the vice provost for enrollment management. It is still unclear how many individuals have been impacted.

The housing shortage follows the university accepting the largest class of first-year students in recent history and a larger number of continuing students who chose to renew their university housing contracts. In addition, the construction of Calhoun Hall leaves the university hundreds fewer on-campus housing



UC's Daniels Hall, located in the West Campus on Jefferson Avenue.

Zachary Robinson | Photography Director

rooms than in a typical fall semester.

Em Hynes, an upcoming third-year student who received housing incentive offers from UC, chose to decline them and plans to live on campus this fall.

“I don’t believe it’s fair of the university to ask students to cancel housing,” said Hynes. “A lot of students who are living in campus housing are doing so because they can’t afford rent as we don’t have disposable income. It’s the university’s responsibility to not overbook itself.”

Despite all the housing challenges this year, all students who met the housing application deadline are guaranteed university housing, according to Miner.

As for planning the housing selection

process in the upcoming year, Hynes believes the university should better plan housing using current data.

“If we saw a huge increase in students from the last year entering we can assume as well that this will happen again the following year,” said Hynes. “If they don’t think they’ll have enough room then they need to reevaluate how they are handling their own housing crisis with the remodeling of large capacity residence halls like Calhoun and Siddall.”

It is unclear how the university will approach university housing in the coming year after this year’s on-campus housing shortage. Miner said the “university continues to review and improve our service to students.”

## Letter from the Editor

Whether you’re taking your first steps onto campus at the **University of Cincinnati (UC)**, or preparing for your final semester before graduation, I’d like to start off this letter by asking all of you to give yourselves a pat on the back. We’ve faced a lot of adversity in our education, and yet we’ve made it, preparing to start our first mandate-free semester in over two years. Go ahead, congratulate yourself for pushing through – you deserve it.

To celebrate, I am pleased to present you with **The News Record’s** fall 2022 **Welcome Back Guide**. This guide was created to help ease your way into the school year, providing you the news you need to know about UC, resources to help make the most of your college experience, and stories of students from all across campus that show you just how diverse everyone’s journey is from one another.

The significance of keeping up with campus and community news is immense in this day and age, and as time wages on, we at **The News Record** promise to keep you up-to-date with all of the information you deserve to know. So, flip through our pages, check out our website, and make sure to keep up with us this fall.

Best of luck this semester!

Emma Balcom, Editor-in-Chief

## About the Guide

Stories in the fall 2022 **Welcome Back Guide** were produced by staff at **The News Record** – the independent student news organization at the University of Cincinnati.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Emma Balcom

MANAGING EDITOR: Zachary Jarrell

MULTIMEDIA DIRECTOR: Stephanie Scarbrough

PHOTOGRAPHY DIRECTOR: Zachary Robinson

NEWS DIRECTOR: Allison Kiehl

EDITORS: Joe Frye, Brianna Connock,

Landon Bartlett, Ian Siegart

REPORTERS: Zurie Pope, Hayley Garr, Alexia

Dolan, Ryan Smith, Bobb Knauff

DESIGNER: Frank Bowen

ADVISER: Bob Jonason

COVER PHOTO:

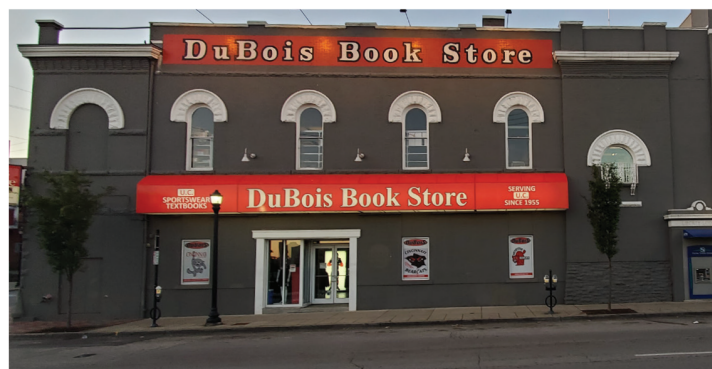
Stephanie Scarbrough | Multimedia Director



*Serving UC Students, Fans, and Alumni Since 1955!*

DuBois has the unique distinction of having served Bearcats, like you, for over 65 years. As a family owned provider of Bearcats apparel, souvenirs, and gifts, we take pride in providing an unbeatable selection at best-in-class prices.

Whether you're new to Cincinnati, or call the Queen City home, DuBois is your one-stop-shop for Bearcats merchandise.



## THE BEST PLACE TO DRESS YOUR DORM & FIX YOUR FIT!



COLLEGIATE APPAREL    SOUVENIRS    GIFTS & TOYS    HOME DECOR



321 Calhoun St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

Phone: 1-866-BEARCAT  
[www.duboisbookstore.com](http://www.duboisbookstore.com)

Stay Current on News and Promos  
Follow Us! [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [p](#)



**Stratford Heights Building No. 16 is home to the Bearcats Pantry, and offers food, hygiene products, and other necessities to students at no cost.**

Aaron Dorsten | TNR File Art

# Five UC resources to address essential student needs

BOBB KNAUFT | OPINION REPORTER

**T**he University of Cincinnati (UC) offers several programs designed to be a shoulder to fall on in the event of crisis, emergency or mental health troubles. From incoming first-year students to seasoned Bearcats, knowing what tools you have available this upcoming year is essential.

## Emergency Funds

For those facing financial hardship, the university offers several programs to relieve some difficulties.

The Dean of Students office provides the Bearcat Emergency Fund, which assists “students with unexpected emergency expenses surrounding situations such as accidents, illness or death of a family member,” Dr. Juan Guardia, dean of students and assistant vice president for student affairs, told The News Record. Additionally, the office offers short-term, interest-free loans for larger financial needs.

## Health and Wellness

There is no shortage of health-related resources on campus, like the university’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) -- which takes a “collaborative, strengths-based approach” to help students identify tools and resources to meet their mental health goals, according to their website. CAPS can be found on the Uptown campus at 225 Calhoun Street, Suite 200, but is also available at the Blue Ash (online services) and Clermont (Student Services Building, Room 201) campuses.

Guardia also recommended the Student Wellness Center on Mainstreet at 480 Steger Student Life Center as a good resource for incoming students. The wellness center, according to Guardia, is a place where students can stop by for some quiet time and “take a break from their busy schedules or explore the extensive collection of resources and information about various health and wellness topics.” It provides “inclusive resources and non-judgmental support,” he said.

## Bearcats Pantry

Food insecurity is a problem faced by nearly one-third of college students nationwide, according to the College University Food Bank Association (CUFBA). The Bearcats Pantry and Resources Center (BCP), run by the Division of Student Affairs, provides a variety of food, hygiene products, and other necessities to all students at no cost. Located just one block west of the Uptown campus in Stratford Heights Building No. 16 (Room 007), students can walk in during business hours without proof of need. BCP services are also available at the Blue Ash (Muntz Hall 118A) and Clermont (online form completion) campuses.

## Career Closet

As you progress through college, so will your need for professional clothing to wear to interviews or jobs. The Career Closet is a section of the BCP dedicated to professional clothing and is available to all students. Among its offerings

are dresses, suit jackets and blazers, according to their webpage. Clothes received from the Career Closet are free and are for the student to keep.

## Tenant Info Project

For many students, college is the first opportunity to live on their own. Whether or not this school year is your first taste of independence, it is important for you to know your rights as a tenant.

The UC School of Law offers a hotline to provide information to off-campus housing tenants regarding tenant rights and landlord-tenant law. While they cannot provide legal advice, the Tenant Info Project (TIP) volunteers can clarify the law and answer questions about potential courses of action regarding landlord-tenant disputes, according to their webpage. Students can access TIP exclusively by phone at (513) 556-0053 five days a week.

There are many ways to help keep these important resources running. Guardia encouraged students to connect with the Student Affairs offices and log in to Campus Link, the online community for UC students to discover opportunities on campus, to find out how they can get involved.

“The Division of Student Affairs is here to assist all students in their transition to UC and we encourage first-year students to visit our offices and utilize our programs to get the most out of their UC experience,” said Guardia.



# Meet Smitherman & Martinez, the faces of student government

EMMA BALCOM | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**P**resident Isaac Smitherman and Vice President Yulia Martinez were elected to the University of Cincinnati's (UC) student government (SG) last March after weeks of vigorous campaigning in all corners of campus.

Smitherman, an environmental engineering student, and Martinez, a computer science student, ran on a platform that focuses on creating an equitable college experience for all students, emphasizing the importance of sustainability and working directly with UC's higher administration to actively voice the needs of the entire student body.

The News Record sat down with the pair to discuss the significance of SG and their plans for the upcoming school year.

**The News Record (TNR): What would you like incoming students to know about yourselves and your roles in SG?**

**Isaac Smitherman (IS):** I want people to know that SG is a resource and that we are a dedicated group of students on campus. Whatever problem you have – whether that's something in Cincinnati, on campus, or maybe even just in Ohio – your SG can be your one-stop shop to address all those things. I would hope that we do a good job of letting people know their representatives are in SG so that if you see us around... [you think], 'Hey, that's someone that I can go talk to and ask a question and they're going to be responsive and friendly.'

**Yulia Martinez (YM):** I want students to know that we're also very accessible. You don't need to go through a third party. You don't need to make an appointment. You can just pop in by the office and talk to us. We're students just like them. We're just an email, a click, an office away.

**TNR: What are some of the easiest routes for students to go about reaching out to you and making sure that their needs are being met?**

**YM:** The easiest way to reach me would be my email. I know a lot of people in different departments like career readiness, accessibility, a ton of different things. If you want something, whether it's academic, social, even just career readiness, I'm just an email away.

**IS:** We also have our UC SG Instagram account [@smitherman.martinez], and if you shoot a DM to that account, there's probably 10 or 15 people logged into it, so someone is bound to see that DM and reply to it. We're also in 655 Steger [Student Life Center.] Yulia and I try to be there at least 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day and keep the door open. Students are always welcome to just stop in and come talk to us directly.

**TNR: What are you most looking forward to this school year?**



Isaac Smitherman and Yulia Martinez are UC's student body president and vice president for 2022-23.

Stephanie Scarbrough | Multimedia Director

**IS:** We have some collaborations with METRO in the near future. We're having conversations about pedestrian safety in Clifton, trying to get more students on the bus and educated about how to use the bus, hopefully making some of those things more accessible for students. A lot of people don't know that we have a student discount that gets you \$1 rides on the bus.

**TNR: Is there anything else you'd like to students to know about yourselves or about the upcoming year?**

**IS:** Our slogan is "Bolder Bearcats," so I think our goal is to see the campus come alive. I'm

hoping to see the resurgence of student organizations and in-person activities on campus, and having this be the first year that we start off with no COVID restrictions in place. I know that no matter where you go, people are going to be looking for you to help out, student government too. I don't want people to come here and continue to sit in their rooms and not be involved on campus. If you're a freshman and you're reading this, please get involved on campus, because we need you. We need you really bad.

Read the full interview on [newsrecord.org](https://newsrecord.org).

# Here's what you missed: The four biggest news stories of summer 2022

IAN SIEGERT | OPINION EDITOR

**P**lenty of newsworthy events occurred over the summer semester, but here are four that may impact your campus experience as you make your way into the fall semester.

**'Inclusion doesn't allow us to remain unchanged': President Neville Pinto formally recommends removing McMicken's name from campus**

The University of Cincinnati (UC) Board of Trustees has unanimously voted to remove the name of Charles McMicken from all uses on campus.

This decision is part of a series of research and action that began in January 2019, when a working group was created and tasked with looking into McMicken's historical affiliation with UC. The 2019 working group agreed that McMicken's name should be removed from the Arts and Sciences Building.

With the Board's approval, the latest decision will rename McMicken Hall, McMicken Commons, McMicken Circle, and Mick and Mack's Contemporary Café.

According to Pinto, the rationale behind his recommendation was one largely based in inclusion.

"We cannot allow division or despair to define our nation, much less our campus community," said Pinto. "We must act."

**Roe v. Wade is no more: Student groups protest at the Hamilton County Courthouse**

Following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, overturning *Roe v. Wade*, student organizations, such as the University of Cincinnati Young Democratic Socialists of America (UC YDSA), took to the streets in protest.

Beginning the same day as the decision, June 24, these groups met outside of Hamilton County Courthouse to voice their disagreements with the decision.

"Overturning *Roe v. Wade* is an attack on the ability of the working class to make decisions about their bodies," said Sean Bridge, the secretary of UC YDSA.

The protest was a four-way effort between local organizations UC YDSA, Cincinnati Socialists, Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Democratic Socialists of America, and the Party for Socialism and Liberation that amassed a crowd of hundreds.

Beyond the decision, the protests centered around an Ohio law previously caught up in court that prevents nearly all abortions after six weeks.

**UC COVID-19 vaccine mandate dropped as hospitalization rises**



The Arts & Sciences building was the first to have McMicken's name stripped from it in 2019.

Stephanie Scarbrough | Multimedia Director

Following a reversal of the September 2021 mandate, UC will not require the COVID-19 vaccine in fall 2022 as hospitalizations rise.

The decision to reverse the mandate was made in late April and took effect at the beginning of summer 2022.

However, new subvariants of COVID-19 that have shown increased hospitalizations could spell out a new beginning of COVID-19 protocol later in the year.

Hospitalizations in the United States have been increasing since May, with the most recent subvariant being the highly infectious Omicron BA.5 discovered in July that now accounts for around 80% of COVID-19 cases in the US.

Whether or not UC will change protocol is still to be seen, but no announcements have been made as of yet.

**UC announces new football tailgate area on Short Vine**

Uptown's "Short Vine" district section will now host a tailgate party for every home football game this upcoming season.

The party, referred to as "Bearcat Bash," will close the section of Vine Street and include a big screen livestream of the game, a stage, and refreshments.

The Bearcat Bash will be hosted by ESPN 1530 host Mo Egger, former Bearcats quarterback Tony Pike and owner of the Bearcat Journal Chad Brendel, alongside DJ ETRAYN.

This decision comes alongside UC joining the Big 12 in 2023.



On June 24, Cincinnatians took to the streets, marching to the Hamilton County Courthouse to protest the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*.

Emma Balcom | Editor-in-Chief



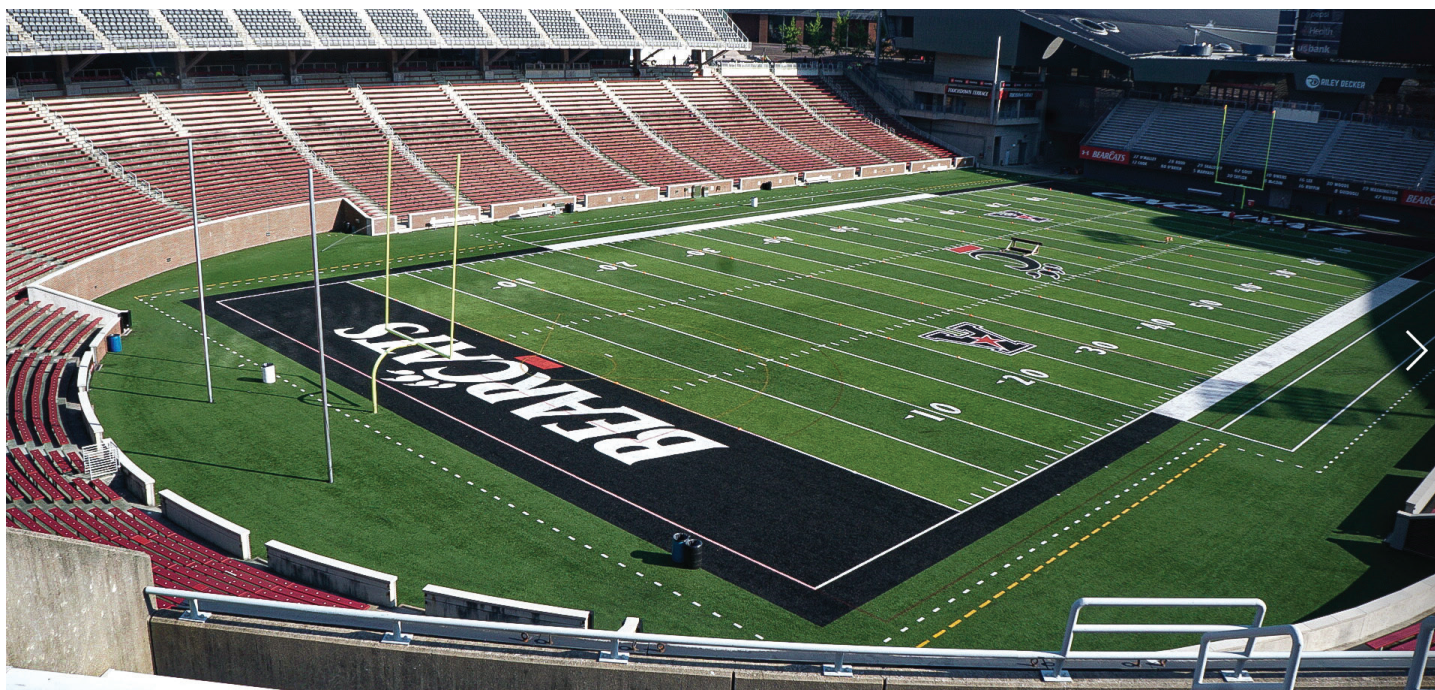
# Fit Check. Textbooks, Check.

Start your 6-month trial.

[amazon.com/joinstudent](https://amazon.com/joinstudent)

prime student  



UC's Nippert Stadium, capable of seating 40,000.

Zachary Robinson | Photography Director

# PREVIEW: UC will attempt to follow-up historic season during final year in AAC

RYAN SMITH | SPORTS REPORTER

On New Year's Eve 2021, the University of Cincinnati (UC) football program's historic season ended after falling to the University of Alabama 27-6 in the College Football Playoff (CFP) semi-final. After a record-breaking year and becoming the first non-Power 5 team to make the postseason tournament, UC looks to follow up by winning their third straight American Athletic Conference (AAC) championship.

Set to join the Big 12 Conference on July 1, 2023, UC enters its final season in the AAC with a new roster after a school-record nine players were selected in the 2021 NFL draft.

After the departure of reigning AAC offensive player of the year Desmond Ridder to the Atlanta Falcons, Cincinnati's quarterback competition remains rampant between sophomore Evan Prater and senior Ben Bryant. The battle between Prater and Bryant, both of which spent time behind Ridder on the depth chart, to succeed the third-round NFL draft pick continues into fall camp and the start of the season.

UC is in the process of filling another void left by former running back Jerome Ford, the 2021 AAC championship game MVP and

all-AAC first team member. Looking to fill the shoes of Ford as UC's featured back include seniors Charles McClelland and Ryan Montgomery, junior Ethan Wright, and LSU transfer and Cincinnati native Corey Kiner.

It is yet to be seen if one of those players will emerge as the featured back or if head coach Luke Fickell and his staff will select a running back by committee approach. The good news for UC is the return of the entire 2021 offensive line, anchored by three 2021 all-Conference first-team linemen.

The loss of many key players essential to its 2021 CFP run has led many to bet on a fall from grace for the Bearcats in 2022. A return to the CFP is an extremely tall order, especially considering the Bearcats' strength of schedule this upcoming season. UC is set to face just two Power 5 teams, one of which being Indiana University – which fell to Cincinnati last season and finished with an underwhelming 2-10 record in the regular season.

Week one – where UC will begin their 2022 campaign against the University of Arkansas at Razorback Stadium on Sept. 3 – will prove to be one of the most crucial games of the year

for Cincinnati if the refreshed squad wants to present a resume boost. The Razorbacks are the only team on the Bearcats' 2022 regular season schedule that has been commonly ranked inside the top-25 NCAA pre-season rankings.

Meeting the University of Houston Cougars in the AAC Championship, which would be a rematch of last season, may be the only other opportunity for a true resume boost for the Bearcats. UC bested Houston in last year's AAC Championship game 35-20.

Since Luke Fickell took over UC's football program in 2017, the Bearcats have won 11-plus games in three seasons, including a 9-1 record during a COVID-shortened 2020 season. UC fans are nothing short of confident in Fickell as they have witnessed him lead the football program to unprecedented heights, featuring two New Year's Six bowl appearances. UC is yet to claim victory in one.

The Bearcats kick off their season on the road in Arkansas, opening as an underdog against the Razorbacks. The game will be nationally televised on ESPN, kicking off at 3:30 p.m. EST.



The University of Cincinnati Medical Center.

University of Cincinnati | TNR File Art

# Cincinnati businessman's lawsuit against UC Health dismissed

ZURIE POPE | NEWS REPORTER

A formidable Cincinnati-area businessman and hotel chain owner's medical malpractice case against UC Health and the University of Cincinnati (UC) Medical Center was dismissed late last month.

Hamilton County Common Pleas Court Judge Jody Luebbers dismissed June 22 Bill Ynug III's lawsuit against the university's health system. It marks the latest turn in the case, which was set to go to a jury trial days before the order was issued.

Yung, the owner of Columbia Sussex hotels, filed the suit in May 2020, alleging UC Health and UC Medical Center were responsible for "significant" hearing loss after a failed MRI in 2019. Specifically, Yung claimed the MRI left his hearing "gravely impaired," with the earplugs given to him not functioning correctly.

"I have to use headphones to watch TV. I must always use a speaker on my phone. I hardly go to restaurants because the noise is too loud," Yung told the Cincinnati Business Courier. "UC left me in terrible shape, and they need to take responsibility for that."

But, according to Luebbers' judgment, Yung was "unable to sustain his burden of proof regarding the standard of care," as the doctor chosen by Yung to testify wasn't an expert in MRIs. The case, which was dismissed without prejudice, can be refiled in the future.

The Business Courier reported that Yung's legal counsel plans to appeal.

UC Health, Dinsmore & Shohl and the commercial litigation attorney representing Yung were unavailable for comment.

# UC's identity centers offer 'safe place' amid nationwide uncertainty

BRIANNA CONNOCK | LIFE AND ARTS EDITOR

**T**he U.S. Supreme Court's overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. Police shooting and killing a 25-year-old Black man in Akron. Hundreds of bills targeting the LGBTQ community in statehouses across the country, including Ohio.

Those are just some of the major 2022 events impacting University of Cincinnati (UC) students, especially those in marginalized communities. As students grapple with the possible mental health pitfalls, the university's identity-based centers offer a place to turn to.

UC is home to a diverse student body. In fact, according to UC data, one in four new students at the university belonged to a racial or ethnic minority group. To keep up, campus organizations are providing marginalized groups with tools to maintain mental health, especially considering this year's events.

In late June, the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, taking away the right to an abortion. The decision will impact all women – and other people with uteruses, like transgender men and nonbinary people – but, according to pro-abortion activists, women of color, who already face higher maternal mortality rates, may take the biggest hit.

Days later, Akron police shot and killed 25-year-old Jayland Walker, leading to days of protest in the northern Ohio city. In 2020, the death of George Floyd sparked nationwide Black Lives Matter protests against police bru-

tal and racism Black Americans face.

In the background, state lawmakers across the country have introduced, and in some cases passed, legislation advocates called anti-LGBTQ in 2022. Many bills target transgender youth, including bans on gender-affirming care and participation in sports.

Organizations such as the African American Cultural & Resource Center (AACRC), Women's Center and LGBTQ Center assist UC's marginalized communities in navigating difficult times.

The AACRC has been serving UC's Black student population for 30 years, aiming to address the needs of Black students in academics, culture and spirituality. The organization has a partnership with UC's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) to provide students with free weekly consultations with counselors.

"In a world where racism, discrimination and political and social unrest exists, having identity spaces like the AACRC is essential," Mercedes Johnson, AACRC director, said.

The AACRC also has a liaison in CAPS who facilitates group conversations on mental health, wellness and navigating spaces as Black Students known as "Wokeshop Wednesdays" and "Talk About It Tuesdays."

The Women's Center, which offers resources to support the mental health of women and gender-nonconforming students, hosted a town hall after the *Roe v. Wade* reversal to educate

students on what the ruling meant when it came to their reproductive rights, where they could go for assistance and what impact it may have on the future.

"Our staff are perhaps our greatest resource. We're extremely knowledgeable about women's history, feminist movements, intersectional social justice and current events," Dana Bisignani, Women's Center director, said.

"Turning anger outward rather than inward definitely supports mental wellness, as do the connections students make within the Women's Center and with the student organizations who meet there," Bisignani said.

The LGBTQ Center provides a safe space and resources for the LGBTQ community and its allies on campus. The organization welcomes students of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

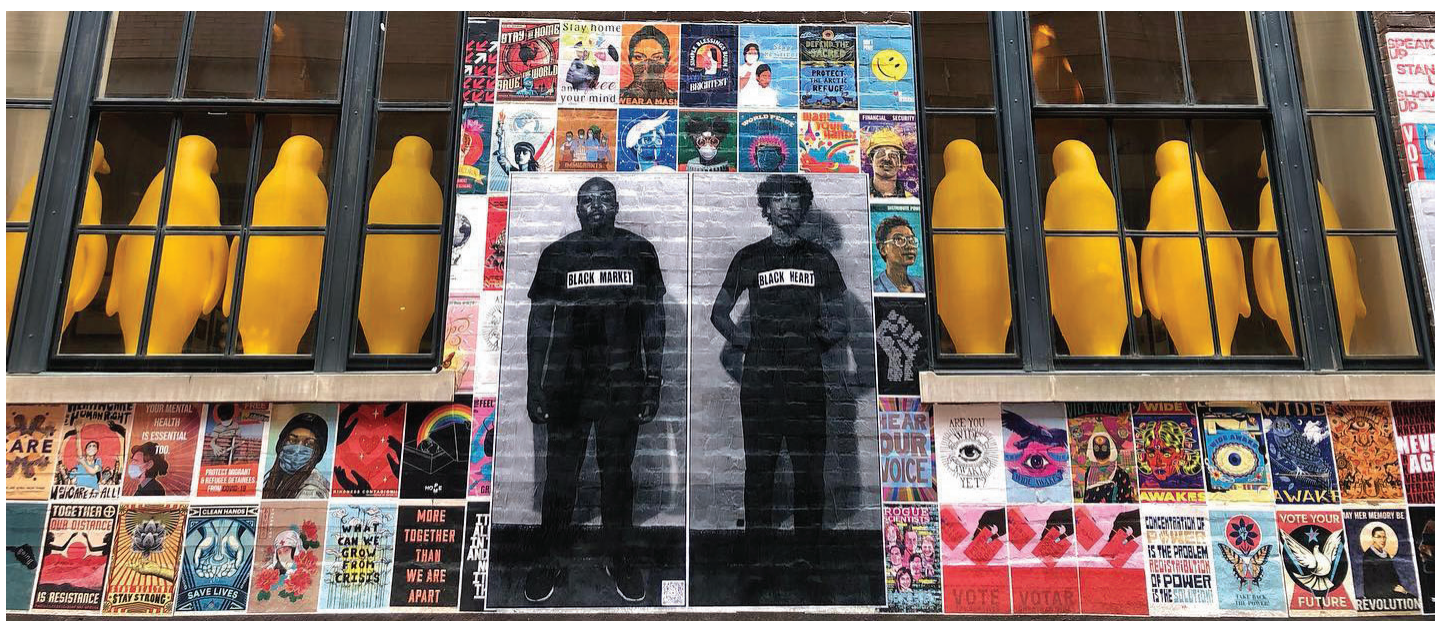
The LGBTQ Center hosts the "THRIVE" mentorship program, which pairs first- and second-year students with upper-class students who share similar identities. This partnership helps students make friends and support each other's mental health.

"Within safe spaces, students can get acclimated better to college life and feel more comfortable having discussions with [people] of similar backgrounds. They can learn from each other, build community, feel supported and celebrate each other," Johnson said.



The AACRC has created various pathways for students to find mental support, including through their partnership with CAPS.

Provided | AACRC



CrackingArt's yellow penguins guard the entrance of the 21c hotel and art museum.

Facebook | 21c Museum Hotel Cincinnati

# Students share their favorite off-campus locations

ALEXIA DOLAN | LIFE AND ARTS REPORTER

Whether you're looking for a bite to eat, a unique art exhibit or some fun entertainment, there are plenty of options to suit your interest around the University of Cincinnati (UC). Check out these Cincinnati gems before graduation to make the most of your college experience.

## Bellevue Hill Park

When the world of homework and strict deadlines becomes too overwhelming, nature can bring peace to even the busiest of students. Second-year Savannah Berry recommends Bellevue Hill Park as the prime spot to relax after a long day of classes. "I think it's one of the best views of Cincinnati, and not too far away from campus, which makes it a perfect location to visit with friends during the summer and fall season," she said.

With an overlook of a spectacular view of downtown Cincinnati, plenty of green space and monthly "Music at Bellevue Hill Park" events for local musicians to play for the community, Bellevue is the ideal location to do everything from rocking out with friends to planning sweet picnic dates.

2191 Ohio St.

## Adriatico's Pizza

Voted as Clifton's "Best Pizza" in the "Best of UC" by The News Record readers for more than five years, this local pizza spot never disappoints. Adriatico's brings the taste of New York to Clifton with their plethora of pies and super-sized sides. Having served the commu-

nity for almost 40 years, this family-friendly location has a plate to suit all palettes.

For the best taste, check out their loaded tater tots or split the bacon, cheese and ranch with friends. Better yet, order a massive Bearcat-sized pizza for watch parties, made extra-large to serve 10-12 people.

113 W. McMillan St.

## Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Museum

The Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Museum (CAC) was one of the first contemporary institutions in the U.S., offering guests a unique visual and interactive art experience on every floor. Its exhibits engage directly with visitors by encouraging them to start conversations about modern issues and from diverse perspectives.

The CAC is open Wednesday through Sunday and offers four wheelchair-accessible levels of interactive and post-worthy modern art.

44 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

## 21C

A hotel, art museum and restaurant all rolled into one, 21C placed in the top ten of Best Midwest Hotels for the Condé Nast Traveler at the Reader's Choice Awards in 2021. Contemporary culture describes this location, constantly updated with fresh new art displays for all guests to enjoy.

Note the yellow penguin that serves as the hotel's mascot, guarding the establishment's entrance and available for purchase in the gift shop, and check out the collaboration tour

between CAC and 21C on Aug. 26 to receive a free tour of both facilities.

609 Walnut St.

## Drunken Bento

Though the restaurant itself is tiny, Drunken Bento has proven to be a major contender in sushi preferences among students for its expansive menu at low costs. Stop in and try the Sunday Morning roll with edamame as an appetizer in this eclectic sushi bar, open seven days a week.

Fourth-year mechanical engineering student, Will Delaney, recommends Drunk Bento as a prime eatery for all UC students to try. "This is the best sushi in Cincinnati because it's super affordable for students, and their warm sake is awesome."

212 W. McMillan St.

## Bagel Brothers

Just steps from UC's main campus and with indoor and outdoor seating, enjoying a pre-class strawberry cream bagel has never been easier or sweeter. Open Monday through Saturday, guests can check each day for their latest deals and specials offered inside.

Fourth-year criminal justice student and former Bagel Brothers employee Clara Manning recalls her time at this fan favorite as more than memorable. "The food is good and the prices were better, that's why they continue to remain busy after 20 years," she said.

347 Calhoun St.

# UC Self-Improvement Club strives to create Bearcats with better habits

JOE FRYE | FEATURES EDITOR

In his first year on campus, Dean Haynes, a music education student at the University of Cincinnati (UC), made the decision to start journaling, meditating and going to bed before 11 p.m. Beginning college in the fall of 2020 – the first semester fully affected by the pandemic – Haynes found adjusting to life in Clifton to be difficult, citing the lack of social interaction. To combat this isolation, Haynes began focusing on improving his daily habits to protect his mental health.

Beginning fall 2021, Haynes served as a resident advisor (RA). Coming in contact with nearly 40 people a day, Haynes said he saw the struggles his residents were experiencing on a daily basis. When his residents shared these difficulties with him, Haynes would recommend journaling, meditating and other habits he found to be helpful. These recommendations proved successful, with Haynes receiving positive feedback from his residents.

Following his own self-improvement success, and that of his residents', in the wake of the pandemic, Haynes was determined to bring a personal development club to campus, and thus the UC Self-Improvement Club was created. Inspired by Haynes' quest to take care of his mental health during difficult semesters, the club focuses on mental and physical health, along with other healthy habits, seeking to help students become better versions of themselves, according to their Campus Link page. "I wanted to make this club so maybe I can make a positive change on other students," Haynes said.

Gathering once a week, the club's 70 members listen to a presentation from Haynes in which he shares his self-improvement habits that he has found successful since his first pandemic-stricken semester. Each week focuses on a different habit for self-improvement – such as healthy eating and working out – all of which Haynes cites as important habits that helped make his college experience a more successful one.

In addition to providing a spot to learn about self-improvement, Haynes also strives to cultivate a sense of community. "You get to meet new people and also get to learn about this new [self-improvement] technique," Haynes said, while noting that self-improvement requires a community to be successful. "Self-improvement is not an individual thing. It's a group effort."

His emphasis on group accountability has proved to be popular, and club members cite the communal aspect as a positive force in their self-improvement journey. "We got a chance to meet different people and develop a



**Tre' Montgomery assisted in creating the Self-Improvement Club, and hopes to increase its presence across campus this year.**

Zachary Robinson | Photography Director

relationship with them," said Tre' Montgomery, a fourth-year Africana studies student, who assisted Haynes in the creation of the club. "The community ties into accountability. You have people to hold you accountable for the things you want to do throughout the day."

This fall, Haynes said that the Self-Improvement Club hopes to increase its presence on campus. Focusing on expanding membership and possibly collaborating with other campus organizations, Haynes hopes to spread his message to every corner of the university. "I want everybody to know about [the club]. I want to get people from other parts of campus to join," Haynes said. "I just want the biggest variety of people possible and I want the club to be accessible to everybody."

With those already in the club expressing satisfaction with their experience, many believe that UC's campus has a chance to make a beneficial change. "It's a fun time and a great way to meet people and it can really help you think about how to live your life more strategically for your best benefit," Montgomery said. "Currently, college is a really hard time, and you can run into a lot of issues, but the activities that we do at Self-Improvement Club could make a positive impact on everybody individually and make campus a lot healthier."



**Dean Haynes created the Self-Improvement Club to help students become the better versions of themselves.**

Provided | Dean Haynes



UC's Gettler Stadium, as students gather to play soccer.

Zachary Robinson | Photography Director

# Women's soccer team looks to make a leap in 2022 with fresh squad

LONDON BARLETT | SPORTS EDITOR

On the south side of the University of Cincinnati's (UC) main campus lies Gettler Stadium, home to the UC women's soccer program. The team, which finished with a .500 record of 7-7-3 last season, looks to make a leap in 2022 with a fresh squad full of returning student-athletes, incoming first-year students and transfers. With four of the Bearcats' first five regular-season games at Gettler Stadium in front of Bearcats fans, early momentum is crucial to the season.

Northern Kentucky University (NKU), Michigan State University, Murray State University and Stony Brook University will be the first four teams to make the trip to Clifton this season. Playing in front of a home crowd is something junior Lauren Bastian recognizes as valuable and can't wait to do this season.

"Being able to play for your school is something I've always enjoyed doing," Bastian said. "You have little girls who come from local club teams to come watch you, and students, student-athletes, everybody coming to watch you play is really special and I'm really excited

for that."

Bastian, the Bearcats' midfield No. 10 and leader in assists for the 2021 season, has been in her hometown of Centerville, Ohio, working on her game over the summer. She knows her fellow teammates have been doing the same in their respective areas.

"Talking to all the UC players [this summer] and knowing all the hard work everyone's putting in separately, to be able to see that come together will be super exciting," Bastian said. "We're looking forward to adding the freshmen coming in and the transfers. It'll be really cool to see how their personalities on the field and off the field mesh with ours."

A key player returning for UC is leading scorer (10 goals and assists) Vanessa DiNardo, using her final year of eligibility as a graduate student. More key players returning include starting keeper and leader in minutes, Anna Rexford, and second-leading scorer (five goals and assists), Paige Miller.

Ally Griffin, a graduate transfer and forward, is repping the Bearcats for the first time,

coming from Texas Tech University. She is a former Second Team all-Big 12 selection with eight goals and two assists in her two full seasons of play.

Also joining the squad is junior Mackenzie Tucker, who comes from rival Xavier and will be playing her first season in the black and red this year after being on UC's campus in the spring. She's not the lone Xavier transfer on this squad, though, as senior Maddie Thiss spent a year as a Musketeer before making the switch to UC two years ago.

Xavier isn't on the schedule for the 2022 season. Still, common opponents and rivals such as NKU, University of Louisville, Pittsburgh and an entire American Athletic Conference gauntlet lie ahead of Bearcats women's soccer.

"All of [the games are important]," Bastian said. "We just want to come in, have a record-breaking season, and want to win lots of games."



# Get out and do something in Cincinnati this fall

EMMA BALCOM | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**W**hether you're new to Cincinnati or were born and raised within the city, the list of things to do in the area is extensive and ever-changing. It's necessary for students to get their fun in, away from the hustle and bustle of academic life, and there's no shortage of opportunity to do just that. From flashing your school spirit, to supporting local business, to hanging out at fun new activities with friends, make sure you check out some of these events taking place this fall semester.

## Now-Sept. 28: Summer Cinema

Every Wednesday, Washington Park invites guests to bring their folding chairs and picnic blankets to settle down on the lawn and watch a free screening of some of the nation's most well-loved movies.

Some of the future flicks to look forward to include "Harry Potter," "10 Things I Hate About You" and "Black Panther," among many more. Movies start at 9 p.m. each night but make sure you arrive early to grab a drink at the bar or a tasty meal from the food trucks parked on-site.

*Washington Park. 1230 Elm St.*

## Sept. 16-18: Oktoberfest Zinzinnati

Starting at 1 a.m. each day, America's largest Oktoberfest is back to celebrate German heritage in Southwest Ohio. Taking place just minutes from campus in downtown Cincinnati, the three-day festival typically pulls in crowds of hundreds of thousands.

Vendors will sell guests German-style food and drink, such as potato pancakes, strudel and

bratwurst. Peruse the streets with your fists full of tasty delicacies while enjoying the rich sights and sounds of German-style music and dress.

*Second and Third Streets, between Walnut and Elm Streets.*

## Sept. 17 & Oct. 8: City Flea

City Flea, "Cincinnati's original curated, urban flea market," takes over Washington Park for one day each month to showcase the talent of local business owners and offer Cincinnati-ans a unique way to interact with their community. Vendors set up tables in the park, right in front of Music Hall and the surrounding area, to sell their wide array of goods.

Products offered differ in each market but typically include everything from baked



**LEFT: The City Flea has supported over 400 local business owners since its establishment in 2011.**

Provided | The City Flea

**ABOVE: Oktoberfest Zinzinnati is the largest Oktoberfest in the country, hosting thousands of guests each year.**

INSTAGRAM | @OKTOBERFESTZINZINNATI

goods and pizzas to houseplants and floral arrangements to vintage clothing pop-ups and handcrafted artwork.

*Washington Park, 1230 Elm St.*

### **Sept. 23-Oct. 29: Halloween Haunt**

Each fall, King's Island transforms itself into a land of haunts and horrors that has attracted thousands of guests each year and even earned USA TODAY's title for "Best Theme Park Halloween Event" in 2021.

The exhilaration of Kings Island doesn't just stop at their rollercoasters this time of year. Check out the scare mazes and scare zones that Kings Island plants around their park, in which "hundreds of horrifying creatures" creep around corners to jump out for a scare or lurk in the fog nearby to make for a more sinister, yet thrilling, experience.  
*Kings Island. 6300 Kings Island Dr.*

### **Oct. 3-8: Homecoming Week**

Coming off the Bearcats' stellar football season last year, Homecoming Week will surely be a blast this year. As usual, the university will host a week of fun activities for students, beginning Oct. 3.

On Oct. 7, a Homecoming Kickoff Party will take place for students and families alike to celebrate the upcoming game and show off their Bearcat pride. The following day, the Homecoming Parade will make its way down Clifton Avenue, followed shortly after by the Homecoming game itself, where the Bearcats will take on the Bulls from the University of South Florida. At halftime, the Homecoming King and Queen will be crowned.

*Nippert Stadium. Tickets at [gobearcats.com/students](http://gobearcats.com/students).*

### **Nov. 18-Jan. 8: PNC Festival of Lights**

Just blocks from the uptown campus, the Cincinnati Zoo will be hosting its 40th annual PNC Festival of Lights this year.

After strolling around the animal enclosures for the day, the real delight comes once dusk falls. Starting at 4 p.m. each day, the Festival of Light activities begin. Four million vividly colorful LEDs will light up the zoo in brilliant displays depicting scenes of winter wonderlands and wild savannahs.

Aside from the lights, guests can also challenge themselves to find five Fiona fairies hidden in the zoo's fairyland and watch a blacklight puppet show. The zoo will also set up two S'mores-n-More stands for guests to stock up on tasty winter treats.

*Cincinnati Zoo, 3400 Vine St. Festival of Lights is included with the price of admission.*

# A job that pays **more than money**

**Need a job that works around your class schedule?** Hundreds of older adults in Greater Cincinnati need help with chores, meal prep and other in-home tasks. AddnAide app, powered by Council on Aging, makes it easy to be matched with seniors who need your help.



Developed by home52,  
a subsidiary of Council on Aging



Visit [home52.org/addnaide](https://home52.org/addnaide)  
to learn more, sign up and  
start making a difference.

