Welcome to Wesleyan University! This self-guided tour will help you find your way around the campus and give you a glimpse of its past and present, and a little bit of what it’s like to be a student at Wesleyan. This tour should take about 1 1/2 hours, at a leisurely pace.

Wesleyan was founded in 1831 by Methodist leaders and Middletown citizens. Instruction began with 48 students of varying ages, the president, three professors, and one tutor; tuition was $36 per year. By the end of the 19th century, the University was already known as one of New England’s top colleges. From its inception, Wesleyan offered a liberal arts program and curricular innovations rather than theological training. Wesleyan became fully independent of the Methodist church in 1937.

Today Wesleyan offers instruction in 40 departments, 47 major fields of study, and 11 interdisciplinary programs and awards one undergraduate degree, the bachelor of arts. Master of arts degrees and doctor of philosophy degrees are regularly awarded in six fields of study. The student body comprises approximately 2,800 full-time undergraduates and 200 graduate students, as well as more than 400 part-time students in the Graduate Liberal Studies Program. An ongoing faculty of more than 300 is joined each semester by a distinguished group of visiting artists and professors.

Wesleyan’s first president, Willbur Fisk, a prominent Methodist educator, set out an enduring theme at his inaugural address in September 1831. President Fisk stated that education serves two purposes: “the good of the individual educated and the good of the world.” Student and faculty involvement in a wide range of community-service activities reflected President Fisk’s goals in the 19th century and continues to do so today.

Wesleyan provides a liberal arts education characterized by boldness, rigor, and practical idealism. The community of faculty, students, and staff value independence of mind and generosity of spirit. Students here engage beyond the superficial through intense conversation and meaningful exchange. Most of all, Wesleyan produces intellectual entrepreneurs—people who see possible futures and create them.

Begin your tour at the Suzanne Lemberg Usdan University Center (on Wyllys Avenue), designed to foster intellectual exchange among students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Opened in 2007, the center overlooks Andrus Field, College Row, and Olin Library. Adjacent to the landmark towers of Fayerweather building (see 37 below), the center houses campus dining; the university post office; meeting spaces; offices for the Wesleyan Student Assembly, University Events and Scheduling, and Student Activities and Leadership Development; and retail space for the Cardinal Technology Center.

The building is named for Suzanne Lemberg Usdan, president of the Lemberg Foundation, a generous benefactor whose social vision and sense of responsibility to help others inspired her children. In her honor, John ’80 and Eva Usdan, Adam Usdan ’83 and Andrea Pollack, and Esme Usdan and James Snyder donated the major funding for the center.

On the second floor, the Usdan Center has a Marketplace food area that offers a number of food choices (pizzas, burgers, sandwiches and salads, vegetarian and vegan dishes, Kosher options, and more) and a café on the first floor.

The dining options on campus are varied and eclectic enough to make eating meals on campus enjoyable for all four years. Besides Usdan, Wesleyan has several other eating venues on campus, including WesWings, Summerfields, and the Pi Café, and there are also eating clubs. Upperclass students often cook together in their homes and may purchase supplies at Weshop, the campus grocery store (at West College, see 30 below).

Cross Wyllys Avenue and walk east toward the Center for the Arts, the rectangular stone buildings ahead of you.
The Center for the Arts (CFA) opened in fall 1973, dedicated to studio arts, art history, film, music, theater, and dance. The 11-building complex was designed by Kevin Roche of Kevin Roche, John Dinkeloo and Associates, and was constructed of Indiana limestone. The buildings were situated to preserve the existing trees on the site and designed with underground spaces to minimize scale above ground. The complex includes music, art, dance and theater studios, a graphics workshop, an art gallery, the 411-seat Crowell Concert Hall, the 400-seat Theater, the 271-seat Hall, the World Music Hall, the Rehearsal Hall, and offices.

The Center for the Arts hosts a series of arts events each year that attracts not only the campus community but also audiences from around the region. Students have the opportunity to watch renowned artists perform at much lower prices than they would in large cities. They may also watch numerous student performances in music, dance, and theater.

Wesleyan offers six majors in the arts (art studio, art history, dance, film studies, music, and theater) and encourages student involvement through interdisciplinary courses and a wide range of performance opportunities. These opportunities are open to majors and non-majors. The model of scholarship in the Wesleyan film studies department is in the liberal arts tradition of merging history and theory with practice. All film majors study the motion picture in a unified manner, combining historical, formal, and cultural analysis with filmmaking at beginning and advanced levels in 16mm film, digital video, and virtual formats.

The World Music Hall is a rehearsal/concert space that provides a showcase for Wesleyan’s internationally acclaimed PhD program in ethnomusicology. The hall houses the Javanese Gamelan, a 25-person percussion orchestra. The University supports one of the most active Gamelan programs nationwide.

You can now begin the optional side-trip below to see the Center for Film Studies, Russell House, Malcolm X House, and the Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies, or simply continue on to Davison Arts Center (7) on page 10.
the Vampire Slayer, Firefly), director/ writer Paul Weitz ’88 (American Pie, About a Boy), director Miguel Arteta ’89 (The Good Girl, Youth in Revolt), and director/ writer Mike White ’92 (School of Rock).

The Center for Film Studies often hosts talks by artists who work in the film industry, including Wesleyan graduates, as well as talks by scholars from other departments on campus and sneak peeks of upcoming films. These events are usually held in the Goldsmith Family Cinema, home to the Wesleyan Film Series, which shows films four evenings a week that are chosen by a student committee. Films in the series range from American and foreign classics to first-rate independent films to recent Hollywood blockbusters.

The Reid Cinema Archives houses the University’s growing collection focusing on motion picture and television history, including papers, photographs, posters, and memorabilia relating to the films of Ingrid Bergman, Frank Capra, Jonathan Demme, Clint Eastwood, Federico Fellini, Elia Kazan, Frank Perry, Roberto Rossellini, Martin Scorsese, John Waters, and others.

East of the Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies and the Center for Film Studies on Washington Terrace, you will reach the Center for African American Studies and Malcolm X House, both contained in a 1901 two-building complex constructed by Thomas MacDonough Russell and acquired by Wesleyan in 1934. After being damaged by fire in 1967, the building was renovated in 1969, and its residential section was renamed the Malcolm X House. The complex serves as a residence for more than 20 students who wish to live in an environment dedicated to the exploration and celebration of the cultural heritage of the African diaspora. The complex is also home to the Center for African American Studies (CAAS), which grew out of the African American Institute (founded in 1969) and was established in 1974. The center houses faculty offices for the African American Studies Program and sponsors an annual fall lecture series and a variety of poetry readings and artistic events as well as a series of events during Black History Month. It also contains the DuBois Library, with a collection that serves as a major resource for information on African American literature and culture.

During the 1960s, Wesleyan became one of the first prestigious New England liberal arts colleges to recruit African American students, reflecting the University’s commitment to social justice. The class of 1969 had 27 African American students and is often referred to as the Vanguard Class. Many Wesleyan faculty, students, and staff members were active in the civil rights movement. Martin Luther King Jr. visited the campus several times, delivering the baccalaureate sermon in 1964.

Directly across High Street from the Center for African American Studies stands Russell House. New Haven architect Ithiel Town designed this stately Greek Revival building that was completed in 1830.
as a home for Samuel Russell, a China trading merchant, and his wife. Wesleyan received the building as a gift in 1937 and it served as the Honors College until 1996. The building was named a National Historical Landmark in 2001. Today Russell House serves as an intimate venue for musical programs, literary readings, and lectures, many of them open to the public. It also houses the philosophy department.

Russell House is the end of the optional side-trip of the self-guided tour. You may now continue on to Davison Arts Center.

If you walk south along High Street from the Center for African American Studies, you will reach Davison Arts Center (DAC), which is housed in the Greek Revival structure originally known as Alsop House. Richard Alsop IV paid for the building to be constructed for his mother in 1838–39 by Middletown builders Barzillai Sage and Isaac Baldwin; the builders were inspired by designs of Ithiel Town, who also designed the nearby Russell House (see above). Wesleyan acquired the building in 1949, and it was expanded for use as an arts center thanks to George W. Davison, class of 1892, and his wife Harriet, who was a Middletown native. The arts center opened in June 1952 with class-rooms, studios, and gallery space.

Oil-on-plaster wall paintings grace the interior and exterior of the building, which were unusual for American architecture of its time. The exterior has classical trompe l’oeil figures, with a central figure facing High Street based on an engraving of Erato (muse of love poetry) in the Vatican.

The Davison Art Center art collection chiefly consists of works on paper. Its print collection, numbering approximately 18,000, is considered to be one of the two or three most important at an American university. It includes fine impressions of works by Dürer and Northern and Italian Renaissance artists; Rembrandt and his contemporaries; Goya; 19th-century French painter-printmakers such as Manet and Millet; and American modern and contemporary artists, especially Jim Dine. There are also about 600 Japanese ukiyo-e woodcuts and strong holdings illuminating the early histories of mezzotint and lithography. Additionally, students have the chance to display their own artwork right next to these professional works.

The DAC’s 6,000 photographs range from calotypes and daguerreotypes made in the 1840s, to work by later photographers such as Lewis Hine and Berenice Abbott, to images by contemporary artists including Duane Michals, Cindy Sherman, and Wesleyan graduate Philip Trager ‘56. The DAC is also home to the Art Library, a 28,000-volume collection that supports the subject areas of art and architectural history, photography, and studio arts. The actual art collection numbers close to 45,000 volumes, but because of the Art Library’s size constraints, art books and journals are also shelved elsewhere on campus.

Across the street from the Davison Art Center on the corner of High and Court streets stands Downey House, an 1842 building that was originally the residence of Elihu W. N. Starr and then the Misses Patten’s school for girls (1889–1911). It was acquired by Wesleyan in 1922. It served as a faculty club from 1923 to 1935, named in honor of Dr. David G. Downey, class of 1884 and a former president of the Wesleyan board of trustees. In 1936 it became a campus social center with a campus store, post office, and dining room. The Cardinal Pub was housed here in the late 1970s. In 2005, Downey House was renovated as a humanities center; it is home to offices of the English, classical studies, and Romance languages and literatures departments, and the Writing Program. The building has two classrooms, a seminar room for 50 people, and an 850-square-foot Humanities Lounge.

From the Davison Art Center, walk west on High Street and cross Wyllys Avenue to reach the President’s House, an Italianate residence built in 1834 that was once the home of the widow of Samuel
Dickinson Hubbard, who was Postmaster General in 1852–53. It became the President’s House starting in 1904 and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Michael S. Roth became Wesleyan’s 16th president at the beginning of the 2007–08 academic year. A Phi Beta Kappa and University Honors graduate of Wesleyan’s class of 1978, he has presided over exciting changes to the curriculum, such as the opening of the interdisciplinary College of the Environment in 2010 and the creation of certificate programs in Middle Eastern studies and writing. He has substantially increased grant support for the 44 percent of Wesleyan undergraduates who receive financial aid and instituted a scholarship program for veterans. Under his leadership, Wesleyan is continuing to internationalize its campus while enhancing creativity and civic engagement. A regular spectator at student performances and athletic events, President Roth also posts frequently to his blog (http://roth.blogs.wesleyan.edu) and teaches a course each semester.

Proceed from The President’s House south along High Street, to the Center for the Americas, housed in a yellow-and-white frame building that was built in 1837 as the President’s House for Wesleyan’s first president, Willbur Fisk. It has also served as the Dean’s House, and home to the alumni and development office and to the Graduate Liberal Studies Program. It became the Center for the Americas in 1998 and now houses the American Studies and Latin American Studies Programs.

The building was renovated in 1992, with an upgrade of fire safety and access for individuals with disabilities. Today Fisk houses classrooms, the Language Resource Center, some of the foreign language departments, and the Office of International Studies, which oversees study abroad programs and offers advice to students on academic credit and financial aid. Wesleyan sponsors five programs, and students are able to choose from more than 140 pre-approved programs around the world.

Up the hill above the Center for the Americas, you will find several brownstone buildings that line College Row, once the center of academic life of the campus. Wesleyan is committed to progressive liberal arts education and student choice in academic coursework. As a result, there is a great deal of academic freedom for students. Wesleyan’s open curriculum operates under a system called the General Education Expectations, which ask that students take three courses in each of the following areas: natural sciences and mathematics, humanities and the arts, and social and behavioral sciences. Although these General Education Expectations are not required, Wesleyan students take them seriously. Eighty percent of the graduates in the Class of 2010 fully completed the General Education Expectations. Wesleyan students also are able to take advantage of the interdisciplinary nature of the curriculum. Around 30 percent of Wesleyan students choose to double major.

College Row begins with the Squash Building, currently under renovation as the home of the Career Center, the Art History Department, and the College of Letters. Next door are North College and South College, which were constructed in 1825 by the city of Middletown to house Captain Partridge’s American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy. When Partridge failed financially, he left Connecticut for Vermont and founded Norwich University. The structures reverted to Middletown and eventually became Wesleyan’s first buildings.

Across from the Center for the Americas on the corner of High and College streets is Fisk Hall. Named in honor of Willbur Fisk, Wesleyan’s first president, this building made of Portland (Conn.) brownstone was completed in 1904 and was designed in the Romanesque style by Cady, Berg & See of New York City. It was notable for its time for comprehensive systems for heating, lighting, ventilation, and drainage.
North College, the main administrative building on campus, is home to many of the offices that serve students, including the Office of the Registrar, the Student Affairs/Deans’ Office, and the Offices of Student Services, Financial Aid, Student Accounts, and Residential Life. The Offices of Academic Affairs and Finance are also housed here. The original building was called the Dormitory until fall 1871 and accommodated about 100 students. The building was destroyed by fire in 1906. The new North College opened in 1907 as a reproduction of the original building. Administrative offices began to move into the structure in the late 1950s.

South College was originally called the Lyceum or the Chapel, serving as home to classrooms, an early library collection, and a chapel. It is the oldest building on campus. In 1906, it was remodeled to contain offices and a raised entrance was built. A cupola and belfry, designed by Henry Bacon, were added in 1916. Today South College houses the President’s Office, the Office of University Communications, and the Wesleyan carillon of 24 bells. During the year, students ring the bells several times a day, when they may play an eclectic selection of tunes, including the theme from the Flintstones cartoon series, a song by the Beatles or Elvis Presley, “Happy Birthday,” or Darth Vader’s “Imperial March” from Star Wars.

Next to South College stands the nondenominational Memorial Chapel built in 1871 at a cost of almost $70,000 to honor alumni and students who fell in the Civil War. Classrooms were on the first floor, with the chapel on the second floor. In 1916, architect Henry Bacon remodeled the building into the two-story space it remains today. The chapel underwent a major renovation in 2003, dedicated to the memory of Edward Ernest Matthews, class of 1889, by his stepdaughter. The building hosts religious services, large lectures and concerts, and weddings. It also has a 3,000 pipe Holtkamp organ and a meditation room. Such noted writers as Norman Mailer, Anna Quindlen, Michael Cunningham, Tony Kushner, and Seymour Hersh have given talks here.

Campus spiritual life is as diverse as Wesleyan, shaped by the wide range and depth of students’ questions and interests. The chapel is only one of the places on campus relating to spiritual pursuits. The University has four chaplains: Catholic, Jewish, Protestant, and Muslim. Each of the four chaplains sponsors a weekly service. All students are welcome and encouraged to attend any of these services, and students assume many of the responsibilities for planning and leading them. The chaplains also work together to sponsor several multi-faith events during the year, such as the annual celebration of winter holidays at the end of the fall semester.

Each Wednesday during the academic year, Vespers are held at the chaplains’ lounge at 169 High Street. This Wesleyan tradition is open to students from any or no religious background to create a different ritual each week that addresses the immediate concerns in our lives and the world. This is a casual, relaxing, hands-on spiritual gathering with flowers for all and a vegetarian meal.

Many other religious and spiritual activities are offered on campus. Students initiate and design many of these activities through such organizations as the Havurah, Wesleyan Christian Fellowship, Buddhist House, Turath House, Shakti, Catholic Student Organization, Believing in Service Ujamaa, Unitarian-Universalist Campus Group, and the Muslim Student Association. Services and contact information are also available for students who are Quakers, Hindus, Christian Scientists, and Baha’is. The chaplains are available to support, sponsor, and help plan events for these students.

The glass-and-steel Zelnick Pavilion, next door and adjoined to the chapel, was dedicated in 2003 to honor the Zelnick family. The pavilion provides a reception space for the chapel and Patricelli ’92 Theater, as well as an indoor connection between these two busy spaces.

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**THE PROFESSORS** at Wesleyan are phenomenal. The simple act of talking to them makes it clear that they think of the academic process as much more than a job—they see it as an ongoing process of discovery and improvement. The fact that they work in such close quarters with the students is great. They are all dedicated to bringing out your potential, and that makes you want to go the extra mile and do as well as they believe you can do.

— Gabriel Urbina ’13, San Jose, Costa Rica
Patricelli ’92 Theater, next door and adjoined to the pavilion, was completed in 1868 as Rich Hall and served as the original university library building. When Olin Library opened in 1928, it was converted into a theater with the generosity of the class of 1892. In 2003, the building reopened with a renovated interior and was dedicated to Leonard J. Patricelli, class of 1929, with a gift from Robert Patricelli, class of 1961.

The theater houses Second Stage, one of the oldest student-run theater organizations in the United States, founded by Jan Eliasberg ’74. Second Stage has helped sponsor more than 600 productions over the years. Funded by the Wesleyan Student Assembly, with strong ties to the theater department, it provides a variety of services to student directors, choreographers, technicians and performers who would otherwise not have access to necessary resources. Second Stage staff members are also responsible for the maintenance of the Patricelli ’92 Theater. Performances are held on the Ring Family Stage. The Tony Award-winning Broadway musical In the Heights, composed by Lin-Manuel Miranda ’02, had its first incarnation at Second Stage. Three alumni who graced Wesleyan theater stages in the past are Emmy Award-winning television and stage actor Bradley Whitford ’81 (The West Wing), Tony Award-winning actor Frank Wood ’84, and Emmy Award-winning television and film actress Dana Delany ’78 (Desperate Housewives, Body of Proof).

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Among the best-known scientists of his day, Wilbur Olin Atwater, class of 1865, was Wesleyan's first professor of chemistry and worked at Judd Hall. The founder of the first U.S. Agricultural Experiment Station, he was a key figure in nutrition science and is considered the “father of the calorie.” In the basement of Judd Hall, he designed and constructed the respiration calorimeter to study human metabolism as it enabled the calculation of caloric content in food items. (He was assisted by Edward Rosa, a physics colleague, and Olin S. Blakeslee, a physics department mechanic.) Despite his prominence, Atwater was vilified by the Methodist church for his research showing that alcohol had nutritional value.

Hall-Atwater Laboratory (see below) is named for him.

Down the road from Judd Hall are two buildings that were strongly associated with fraternity life in the past but which are now considered residential program houses.

The colonial-style Alpha Delta Phi building was finished in 1906 and was designed by Charles Alonzo Rich, who made use of brick set in a Flemish bond and Indiana limestone. The Middletown chapter of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity was founded in 1856. A large addition was built onto the back of the house in 1925, and a new front entrance was constructed in 2005. Today the building is considered a program house with 26 rooms.

Alpha Delta Phi has been offering open lectures, poetry readings, plays, and musical events since 1883. It publishes AdLit, an annual literary magazine, which began in the 1960s. Until World War II, members delivered weekly essays on a range of current events and literary and historical themes at their weekly meetings. George W. Davison, class of 1892, and John Emory Andrus, class of 1862, whose names grace Davison Arts Center (see above), the Davison Rare Book Room in Olin Library (see below), and Andrus Field (see below) were members of the fraternity. Best-selling suspense writer Robert Ludlum ’56 (The Bourne Identity) was also a member and lived in the house.
Since 1972, Alpha Delta Phi has been a coed residence; it officially became a part of the coed Alpha Delta Phi Society in 1992. The building is home to the Star and Crescent Eating Club, which is arguably Middletown’s oldest continuously operating dining establishment and open to all students. According to the 1877 and 1878 editions of the university yearbook, the Olla Podrida, the Chronometer Club, Alpha Delta Phi’s first restaurant, was initiated in 1855 and changed its name to the Star and Crescent in 1878.

Across High Street from Alpha Delta Phi is the brick Eclectic building with its distinctive Greek portico supported by four Doric columns. The building was completed in 1907 and designed by Henry Bacon, who also designed the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. From its beginning, the building was home to the Eclectic Society of Phi Nu Theta, one of the oldest U.S. college fraternal organizations; it was a strong social and intellectual center for its members on campus until the 1960s, and several Wesleyan presidents who graduated from the University were Eclectic members. Wesleyan acquired the building in 1970 and it is now considered a program house. Eclectic in its present incarnation is also coeducational.

Wesleyan does have three fraternities housed in residential buildings: Delta Kappa Epsilon, Psi Upsilon, and Phi Beta Sigma. In addition, there are a number of other nonresidential fraternities and sororities. A small percentage (less than 10 percent) of Wesleyan students are involved in Greek life.

Across from Judd Hall is the Allbritton Center, opened in the fall of 2009, a classic Beaux Arts building made of Harvard brick and Indiana limestone and designed by Charles Alonzo Rich. Completed in 1904, the building was originally a physics facility dedicated to John Scott Bell, class of 1881, by his brother and his father, a Wesleyan trustee. Scott died in 1898 from an illness contracted during the Spanish-American War. Scott Lab, as it was known on campus, was remodeled and opened in 1984 as Davenport Student Center, dedicated to Edith Jefferson Andrus Davenport, class of 1897. The building underwent a $22 million renovation in 2007, and is Gold LEED Certified for Sustainable Design.

With the opening of Usdan University Center (see 1 above), the building returned to academic use as home to the Allbritton Center for the Study of Public Life, which links intellectual work on campus with practical and policy issues nationally and internationally. It hosts courses taught by people who have had distinguished careers in public service, including law, business, government, the nonprofit sector, and media. The top floor of the Allbritton Center contains the Shapiro Creative Writing Center, which brings together students and faculty seriously engaged in writing. This center was endowed by a gift from John Shapiro ’74 and Shonni Silverberg MD ’76. The building also houses the Quantitative Analysis Center, which educates students in the analysis and interpretation of large bodies of data, and the Science in Society and Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies programs.

Behind Judd Hall stands the Public Affairs Center (PAC), which was originally dedicated in 1928 as Harriman Hall, a dormitory for 104 students and built to memorialize Daniel Gould Harriman, class of 1864. The four-story Harvard brick building with Vermont marble trim was designed by the architectural firm of McKim, Mead & White and constructed on the site of the former Observatory Hall. In 1955, two floors of the building were renovated into classrooms and a one-story eastern wing was added. The building reopened as the John E. Andrus Public Affairs Center to house the social sciences departments: economics, history, government, sociology, and the College of Social Studies. In 1985, the building was renovated again for academic use.
The Public Affairs Center is connected to the grand Georgian style Olin Library, with a front entrance facing Church Street. The building was dedicated in 1928 to memorialize Wesleyan's second president, Stephen Olin (1797–1851), and his son, Stephen H. Olin (1847–1925), who was born in the President's House on campus, was a member of the class of 1866, and was one of Wesleyan's longest-serving trustees. Henry Bacon sketched the design of the building, and the architects were McKim, Mead & White. The building was constructed of Harvard brick, laid in a Flemish bond with Vermont marble trim.

In 1939, an addition was finished that almost doubled the size of the book stacks. In spring 1986, 46,000 square-feet were added to the back and side of the library, allowing floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Andrus Field without destroying any of the original building. Since its founding, the library has been known as one of the best among Wesleyan's peer institutions. The library contains 1.3 million volumes, subscriptions to more than 6,800 periodicals, and access to 289,000 government documents as part of the Library of Congress Depository System and to an extensive collection of electronic resources.

Wesleyan participates in the CTW Consortium of book sharing among Wesleyan, Connecticut College, and Trinity College. This consortium holds 2.9 million volumes, with Wesleyan holding 47 percent of the collection. An inter-library loan system gives students access to resources in hundreds of other academic and public libraries.

Olin Library has an extensive Scores and Recordings Collection, which contains CDs, LPs, and scores of both music and spoken word as well as the World Music Archives. The archives began as the personal collection of unique field recordings of Professor David McAllester and was first used in teaching in 1953; it includes more than 3,000 original audio tapes and hundreds of recordings in other formats. The archives supports Wesleyan's renowned undergraduate and graduate programs in ethnomusicology. Among its many strengths is the world's largest collection of Navajo recordings.

The Library's Special Collections and University Archives department houses a renowned collection of more than 25,000 rare books, including several medieval manuscripts, a first-rate Arthurian collection, a leaf of a Gutenberg Bible, all four Shakespeare folios, artists' books, and a signed first edition of A. A. Milne's Winnie the Pooh. The University Archives includes more than 8,000 linear feet of records and other materials related to Wesleyan and Middletown history.

Wesleyan's librarians offer comprehensive reference and class instruction services, as well as one-on-one personal research sessions for students. In addition, students have a range of options for private and group study, from the social floor to the completely silent Smith Reading Room to private thesis carrels.

The Information Commons on the first floor serves as a space for group and individual work and provides coordinated services, both in person and online, that make it easy to find information or assistance, with centralized access to the Student Academic Resources Network (SARN) advisors. This network includes tutoring, counseling, and other academic support systems such as the Writing Workshop, Math Workshop, and the Quantitative Analysis Center. The SARN Program has peer advisors—juniors and seniors who work during student orientation and throughout the academic year to refer students to academic services and resources, facilitate academic support workshops, and give general academic advice.

Adjacent to Olin Library on Church Street, Clark Hall, a 1916 brownstone building designed as a dormitory by Henry Bacon, was named for Judge John C. Clark, class of 1886, in 1924; Clark served as president of the Wesleyan board of trustees. The building was renovated in 1966 with 112 rooms. In 2002, Clark underwent a complete renovation designed by Centerbrook Architects to accommodate 135 first-year students in one-room doubles. The building has two lounges per floor, a full kitchen, a laundry room, vending machines, indoor bicycle storage, an apartment for professional staff, an elevator, thermostats in each room, and air-conditioning.
Cross Church Street from Olin Library to reach the **Exley Science Center**, which contains the three-story Science Library and the six-floor Science Tower. Completed in 1971, these buildings were renamed the Exley Science Center in 2002, to recognize the generosity of Charles E. Exley, class of 1951 and a Wesleyan trustee. Designed by Smith, Haines, Lundberg and Wachler of New York City, the center houses the departments of earth and environmental sciences, physics, mathematics, and computer science, and contains the largest campus classroom, with 300 seats. The Science Library holds about 279,000 volumes and more than 900 journal titles, and provides access to a variety of electronic indexes, databases, and electronic texts. A research greenhouse (at the back of the center on Lawn Avenue) is used in laboratory courses and in studies in evolutionary biology. The center also houses Information Technology Services.

Adjacent to the Exley Science Center are **Hall-Atwater Laboratory** and **Shanklin Laboratory**, which house the departments of biology, chemistry, and molecular biology and biochemistry. The buildings contain an extensive variety of advanced scientific instrumentation—including electron and confocal microscopes, five NMR machines, PCR and gene chip readers, and equipment for brain slice studies—that supports research on the frontiers of scientific disciplines.

Wesleyan has been a leader in the sciences since the University was founded. Recent faculty and student research has pioneered the discovery of supernovae and variable stars, identified previously unseen animal species, made advances in understanding brain function, led the way in stem cell research initiatives, and much more. Research programs in all departments invite undergraduate participation, whether the topic is DNA replication, molecular studies of Lyme disease, conservation of aquatic ecosystems, climate change, quantum fluids, bioinformatics, neuroscience, or any of dozens of additional research areas. At Wesleyan, the faculty’s commitment to research makes their teaching in the classroom challenging and engaging.

There is a hands-on component of the undergraduate science experience: undergraduates work side-by-side with faculty members and graduate students (around 200 full-time graduate students study at Wesleyan) on research projects. It is very common for undergraduates to spend one or more summers pursuing research that may lead to a senior honors thesis. in the summer of 2011, 108 undergraduates received stipends to conduct research with faculty and graduate students. Wesleyan students often co-author articles in peer-reviewed journals, an exceptional accomplishment for undergraduates.

Wesleyan ranks first among liberal arts peers in federal grants for science according to the National Science Foundation (NSF). The BA/MA Program in the Sciences, known as 5 for the price of 4, encourages undergraduates to go onto the master’s level in an accelerated year-long program that serves as a continuation of their undergraduate research and culminates in a master’s thesis. Data from the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) shows that the University ranks first among liberal arts colleges in science and math publications. Wesleyan also ranks in the top 10 among baccalaureate programs sending students to PhD programs in the sciences and first in the number of undergraduate science majors who are women. Students experience high acceptance rates to medical school.

Continue down Church Street from the Exley Science Center, passing Pine Street, Fountain Avenue, and Warren Street, to reach the **Freeman Athletic Center**. First opened in 1990, the expansive facility is named for Mansfield Freeman, class of 1916, and Houghton “Buck” Freeman, class of 1943. A 56,000-square-foot addition, designed by Moser Pilon Nelson Architects, was finished in 2004. The center features a state-of-the-art indoor swimming pool, the Spurrier-Snyder Rink for skating activities, indoor and outdoor tracks, the 1,200-seat Silloway.
Gymnasium for basketball and volleyball, the 7,500-square-foot Andersen Fitness Center, and the Rosenbaum Squash Center with eight international squash courts, named for Robert Rosenbaum, University Professor of Science and Mathematics Emeritus. Smith Field, a synthetic “all-season” turf field behind the athletic building, was completed in 2006.

More than 700 students participate in intercollegiate athletics each year. Wesleyan has been competing on the intercollegiate level for more than 140 years, dating back to the Agallian baseball team of the 1860s. Women began competing in varsity athletics in 1971.

Wesleyan is an NCAA Division III college and its 29 varsity teams compete in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC), established in 1971. Current members include Amherst, Bates, Bowdoin, Colby, Connecticut College, Hamilton, Middlebury, Trinity, Tufts, and Williams, along with Wesleyan. NESCAC is considered to be the most competitive NCAA Division III conference in the country, and emphasizes the integration of athletics and academic programs. About 700 students participate in intercollegiate athletics each year.

Varsity teams include baseball, basketball, crew, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, ice hockey, indoor track, lacrosse, soccer, softball, squash, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and wrestling. In the last several years Wesleyan athletes have attended NCAA tournaments in swimming, track and field, soccer, lacrosse, basketball, cross country, and volleyball, and men's crew has been a consistent medal winner at the New England Rowing Championships. Since 2003,15 Cardinal athletes have achieved All-American status in team and individual sports, led by the men's lacrosse team, which claims six.

Wesleyan sponsors a wide range of some 30 club sports, including aerobics, badminton, cricket, cycling, equestrian, fencing, ice-hockey, karate, lacrosse, ping-pong, Rugby, sailing, skiing, soccer, triathlon, ultimate Frisbee, volleyball, and water polo. Nearly 1,200 individuals, including students, faculty, staff and alumni, take advantage of a comprehensive intramurals program. Around 60 percent of the students participate in some kind of athletics.

At Reunion and Commencement 2008, the center dedicated the Wesleyan Athletic Hall of Fame. The first inductees included marathon runner Bill Rodgers ’70, Super Bowl-winning coach Bill Belichick ’75, and Olympic gold medalist Kathy Keeler ’78, among others.

From Freeman Athletic Center, cross Church Street and heading back in the direction of Olin Library, take a left up the stairs next to Vine Street. Here you reach Fauver Residences, which opened in fall 2005. The residence halls were built on land previously known as Fauver Field, named after “Doc” Edgar Fauver, who worked at Wesleyan from 1911–1946 in several capacities, including serving as the college physician and as a professor of physical education. Fauver Residence Hall accommodates 160 first-year students, all living in double rooms. The building is equipped with a community kitchen, a spacious central community lounge, as well as study and social lounges on each floor. Upperclass students serve as RA staff to provide both social and informative programs for the residents. Fauver Apartments house junior and senior students in 20 apartments, each with five bedrooms, a shared kitchen, dining area, and living room. Both residences are adjacent to Foss Hill (see 34 below) and in close proximity to dining facilities, Olin Library (see 22 above), other academic buildings, and the Freeman Athletic Center (see 27 above). Nearly 99 percent of Wesleyan students live on campus for all four years.

The Fauver Residences are just two of the several housing options available to Wesleyan students. Housing options at Wesleyan reflect a philosophy of “progressive independence,” which gives students more responsibility and freedom as they go through four years of on-campus living. Wesleyan is a four-year residential community that boasts three freshman dorms, nine freshmen and sophomore dorms, five residential fraternities and societies, 26 program houses, seven junior and senior...

I WAS a little apprehensive when I was considering whether or not to continue my wrestling career in college. Playing a sport in high school is one thing, but I had no idea what to expect from the time commitment in college. Thankfully, the athletic community at Wesleyan fully advocates the idea of a “student-athlete,” not just an athlete. I like thinking of practice as just having one more class a day or even as a daily break from studying. Being a member of an athletic club provides an inherent support system from your teammates and coaches; it does not take over your life but simply guides it.

— Luke Erickson ’12, Bloomington, MN
RESIDENTIAL LIFE at Wesleyan is among its best features. The housing options are incredibly varied and appeal to a lot of different preferences. For example, during my freshman year, I actually got to live in a single room. I had my own space but never felt like I was missing out on the social aspects of residential life.

— Blair Laurie ’12, Dover, NJ

year apartment living options, and an entire neighborhood of more than 140 senior wood-frame houses (which can be seen on the walk from Olin Library to the Freeman Athletic Center).

Program housing is a distinctive living option offered to Wesleyan upperclass students. It gives students the opportunity to live collectively in a house based on shared hobbies, experiences, and cultural interests. It also supports the creation of interwoven communities of interest that otherwise would not be as connected and provides singular educational and cultural programming opportunities for the entire campus. Many program houses are not only tied to an academic department or student organization, but often provide outreach to the greater Middletown community. Among the many program houses are 200 Church Street (open to first-year students as a space for exploring racial identity), Asian/Asian American House, Buddhist House, Film House, German Haus, La Casa de Albizu Campos, Sign Language House, Well Being House, and Womanist House. In fall 2008, a Writing Hall in Clark Hall (see 23 above) was established for students who are interested in living in a community with other writers.

Straight up on Church Street from the Fauver Residences is West College, also known as WestCo, part of the Foss Hill residence complex, which also includes Nicolson (see 31 below) and Hewitt (see 33 below). These residences for freshmen and sophomores were designed by Charles H. Warner Jr., class of 1933, and the architectural firm of Brown, Lawford and Forbes. Their design incorporated materials that reflected those used in College Row, and the buildings were surrounded by trees. The first six units of the complex were finished in 1957.

West College was established in 1967 to provide a place for informal interactions between faculty and students. The buildings closest to Clark Hall were named Howland Hall in 1971 after Leroy Howland, a Wesleyan dean and administrator (1909–1957), while the structures on the west were named Andrus Hall after John Emory Andrus, class of 1862 (see also 35 Andrus Field, below). In the basement of this area is a former snack bar, now known as WestCo Café, a student-run performance space. Weshop, the campus grocery store, is also found here. The store accepts meal plan points and allows students to buy their own groceries and cook for themselves.

Across from West College on Foss Hill Drive are Nicolson 5, 6, and 7, named for Frank W. Nicolson, a Wesleyan Latin professor (1891–1934) and dean of the faculty. A founding member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, he edited the 1938 publication Athletics at Wesleyan. First opened in 1957, Nicolson gained an addition (called Foss 5½ at the time) in 1983, which allowed room for 30 more students. Freshmen and upperclass students reside in singles and doubles here. Nicolson has single-sex floors and the community-based living options of Film Hall, French Hall, and Japanese Hall.

Across the way from Nicolson lies Van Vleck Observatory, which stands on the highest point on campus. Designed by Henry Bacon and dedicated in 1916, the building is a memorial to Wesleyan professor John M. Van Vleck by his brother Joseph, who provided the funding. The observatory is used for instruction and research in a program funded by NASA. Its principal piece of equipment is a 24-inch visual refractor telescope with a focal length of 27.6 feet, augmented by modern electronics and situated in a dome separate from the building in the west end. Astronomy faculty and students have conducted groundbreaking studies of supernovae and variable stars. Van Vleck is open every Wednesday for public stargazing.

North of Van Vleck Observatory are Hewitt 8, 9 and 10, which house mostly sophomores and juniors in singles and doubles who
have access to a community kitchen, study and social lounges, and a performance space. Each fall students living here host Foss Fest, an outdoor celebration with live music. The buildings were dedicated in 1963 to the memory of Joseph W. Hewitt, a Greek language and literature professor (1905–1929) and freshman dean.

Science Hall is located in Hewitt 8 and strives to provide a supportive living environment for people interested in the sciences as well as unifying the scientific community on the Wesleyan campus. The house also offers science outreach to the Wesleyan and Middletown community through mentoring and various other programs.

When Wesleyan students need to relax, they often head to Foss Hill, which overlooks Andrus Field. Foss Hill is the place they go to play Frisbee, lie in the sun and hang out with their friends, go sledding in the winter months, and throw the occasional party. After they graduate, alumni often have happy memories associated with the time they spent here.

Foss Hill was named for Archibald Foss, class of 1852, a professor of Latin and Hebrew and brother of Cyrus D. Foss, class of 1854, Wesleyan’s sixth president. Archibald Foss owned a house on the hill, purchased in 1880 by George I. Seney, class of 1845, who gave “Foss House” to the University. Hence the name Foss Hill.

The building became a site for an annual faculty party, the Foss House Frolic, beginning in the 1940s. Foss House was an integral part of the campus until 1955, when it was burned down to make way for the Foss Hill residence halls. In the 1950s and ’60s, the hill became the site of many informal student gatherings, when students left their dorms and the library to study or play outside. Planned parties, though, still usually occurred indoors.

For the past 40 years or so, Foss Hill in the spring has been a place for students to celebrate. In May 1970, the Grateful Dead held a free, legendary concert on the hill and started a trend for outdoor concerts on campus. The seed was planted for a tradition of bands playing on Foss Hill for Spring Fling, which now occurs the day after the end of classes, when students can unwind and listen to a live band before finishing up final papers and studying for final exams. Movies have also been screened outdoors on Foss Hill throughout the year.

Foss Hill overlooks Andrus Field and to the right, Denison Terrace. Andrus Field is the oldest of 10 athletic fields in the United States that have been in continuous use since 1900 or before. The first Wesleyan intercollegiate football game played on the grounds was against the Amherst Aggies (now University of Massachusetts Amherst) on October 31, 1881. In 1898, the field was improved and officially named for John Emory Andrus, class of 1862 and a Wesleyan trustee, who provided the funds. During World War I, Wesleyan students in ROTC (Reserve Officers’ Training Corps) practiced for warfare by digging trenches next to Andrus Field. Today, Corwin Stadium is created each fall on the grounds when stands are erected for the football season. In the spring, varsity baseball games are played here on Dresser Diamond.

Overlooking Andrus Field is Denison Terrace, which is built on the slope bordering the back of Olin Library. The terrace was constructed in 1931 for Wesleyan Centennial celebrations and memorializes Charles L. Denison, a Wesleyan trustee and major donor. Wesleyan’s annual Commencement is held here, except in inclement weather. Recent commencement speakers include Barack Obama; Jim Lehrer, the anchor of The News Hour with Jim Lehrer; and Amy Gutmann, president of the University of Pennsylvania. Graduates receive their diplomas on the terrace, while families and friends watch the ceremony from Andrus Field and Foss Hill.
If you walk down from Foss Hill and to the left of Andrus Field, you will find the **Fayerweather** building, next to the Usdan University Center. Fayerweather, with its distinctive Romanesque towers, was originally built in 1894 as the university gymnasium. It was designed by architect J. C. Cady, who also designed the south wing of New York City’s American Museum of Natural History (1892–98) and buildings at Williams College and Yale University. The renovated Fayerweather now houses theatrical and dance rehearsal spaces and Beckham Hall (on the second floor), which can accommodate large dinners, dances, and lectures. The hall is named for Edgar Beckham, class of 1958, who was dean of the college from 1973–1990.

On the other side of Usdan from Fayerweather, you will find the former home of the University squash courts. This building will be the new home of the Career Center, the College of Letters, and the Art History Department. This renovation, scheduled to be completed in spring 2012, will bring the Career Center into the heart of campus.

Return to where you began your tour—the **Usdan University Center**, the heart of student life on campus. The offices for the Wesleyan Student Assembly and the Student Budgetary Committee in Usdan oversee around 250 student organizations that embrace a range of interests and issues: economic, environmental, ethnic, health/sexuality, political, social, and service activism; a cappella, comedy, dance, theater, and music performance; Greek life; religious, regional, and identity groups; student-run publications, and sports teams. New groups are formed constantly in response to student interest.

Student groups that focus on local activism and service are particularly strong on campus, including Wes Habitat for Humanity, Community Gardens, Environmental Organizer’s Network (EON), Long Lane Farm, the Wellness Walk/Run Committee, Wesleyan Clinic Escorts, Wes VOTE (Voter Outreach Through Education), Best Buddies, Food Not Bombs, and the Wesleyan Blood Drive Group.

Community service and volunteerism have a high participation rate among students. Students volunteer in Middletown tutoring programs, at local hospital programs, community arts venues, and elsewhere.
Thank you for visiting Wesleyan, and we hope your walk has given you a glimpse of what makes Wesleyan and its students so special. We encourage you to talk with students while you are visiting the campus. They are often very willing to engage in conversation with prospective students and their families, and can provide more insight into why they chose Wesleyan, and what it means to them.

For historical information, this guide is indebted to the Wesleyan University Archives, Welcome to Wesleyan Campus Buildings by Leslie Starr, and Wesleyan University, 1831–1910, and Collegiate Enterprise in New England by David B. Potts ’60.

This book was printed on paper made of 100% postconsumer waste.