

# Exciting Family Weekend at Dominican features Convocation 2016

The Dominican community celebrated its annual Family Weekend October 28-30 with an array of activities illustrating the breadth of the Dominican Experience.

The Dominican Experience is a fully integrated experience designed to prepare students for lives of purpose. Every student's education leads not simply to a successful career, but to a purposeful and effective life.

[Family Weekend](#) began October 28 with Convocation 2016 in Angelico Concert Hall. The University recognized the academic achievements of Dominican students who have been named to the Dean's List in consecutive semesters, as well as first-year students who have been awarded the highest academic recognition of Trustee Scholar.

Dominican President Mary B. Marcy delivered the welcome address and Reed Upson '12, '13 MBA, now Vice President at Business Capital and a Capital One Academic All-American student-athlete as a lacrosse player at Dominican, was the keynote speaker. Dr. Denise Lucy, Founder and Executive Director of the Institute for Leadership Studies at Dominican, was named the recipient of the Joseph R. Fink Faculty Achievement Award. A total of 222 awards were handed out to standout students.

Convocation was followed by the President's Reception in Guzman Lecture Hall and a Fall Showcase performance by Dominican students in the [LINES Ballet BFA in Dance program](#) in Angelico Concert Hall. The program is celebrating its 10 year anniversary.

On October 29, parents, siblings, and family friends convened in Guzman Lecture Hall for Family Weekend [Registration](#) and Information. Coffee and pastries were served.

Beginning at 10 a.m. delegates for [College Debate 16](#), Dominican's national voter engagement initiative, discussed how they were able to inspire 1.5 million social media users in their movement to engage millennial voters across the country.

Following College Debate 16 presentation, Family Weekend participants had the choice to attend one of three classroom experiences on campus from 11-11:45 a.m.

The three academic sessions were:

- "Life in the Dark: Why and How Do Cave Animals Lose Their Eyes and Pigment" led by [Meredith Protas](#), assistant professor of Biology, in Science Center Room 102
- "Pokémon STOP! A World Universities Debating Championships Exhibition" led by Christian Dean, professor of Political Science, in Meadowlands Assembly Hall.
- "Global Firms Dilemma in the Host Country: Exile or Compromise?" led by Chang Seob Yeo, assistant professor of Marketing, and Vafa Saboori, assistant professor of Management, in Guzman Hall Room 104.

At 12:30 p.m., a barbecue lunch was served on Caleruega Dining Hall Plaza. [Family Weekend activities](#) concluded with a matinee performance by students in the LINES Ballet BFA in Dance program in Angelico Concert Hall.

On October 30, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Family Weekend visitors took part in the "Campus Challenge: Day of Service." All volunteers met on the Edgehill Manson Lawn at 8:30 a.m. and chose between, among others, participating in organic gardening at Marin Homeward Bound or paddle boarding for a litter clean-up around San Francisco/San Pablo Bay.

For more information about “Family Weekend” contact Jennifer Kregel at [jennifer.kregel@dominican.edu](mailto:jennifer.kregel@dominican.edu).

*October 7, 2016*