



LAS

LINEHAN ARTIST SCHOLARS PROGRAM
HANDBOOK

2024-2025

Table of Contents

Welcome.....	2
• LAS Team.....	3
Program Information.....	3
• Fall Welcome Gathering.....	3
• Scholar Activity Form.....	4
• Fall & Spring Excursions.....	4
• Linehan Website Resources.....	5
• End-of-Year Linehan Program Celebration.....	5
LAS Seminar 120H & 121H.....	5
• Overview and requirements.....	5
Research and Creative Achievements.....	6
• Undergraduate Research Award (URA).....	6
• Summer Research and Study Award (SRSA).....	6
• Study Abroad.....	7
• Alumni Mentor Program.....	7
Scholarship.....	8
• Rules and Guidelines.....	8
• Scholarship Deferral Request.....	8
• Scholars General Service Expectation.....	9
• Sophomore Service Requirement.....	10
Advising.....	12
• Arts Major Advising.....	12
Engagement.....	12
• Halloween.....	13
• Linehan Gallery & Artist Talk Café.....	13
• Linehan Artist Scholars and Alumni Newsletter Magazine.....	14
• GRIT Guide.....	14
• Linehan Scholar Study Lounge.....	14
Alumni Network.....	15
• Alumni Mentor Program.....	15
• Alumni Career Forum.....	16
• Alumni Connect Events.....	16

Earl and Darielle Linehan

The Linehan Artist Scholars Program was created through the vision and generosity of Earl and Darielle Linehan. The Linehans' vision for the Artist Scholars Program emerged from their deeply held belief in the importance of the arts to society. They helped launch the program with a generous gift in September 1997. After supporting the program for almost two decades, in 2015, the Linehans endowed the program, ensuring its future ability to continue and grow. Their commitment to UMBC and our student community has created a transformative learning experience for hundreds of talented undergraduates majoring in the visual and performing arts with a strong record of academic achievement.

Longtime residents of greater Baltimore, the Linehans have a distinguished history of involvement with UMBC. Mr. Linehan chaired UMBC's Board of Visitors from 1993 to 2005 and was chair of the University's first capital campaign. He served on the Exceptional by Example Campaign Committee, which surpassed its goal upon completion in 2011. He is President of Woodbrook Capital, Inc. and serves on numerous corporate, civic, and nonprofit boards.

In addition to her numerous civic commitments, Darielle Linehan turned her life-long love of books and learning into a vocation, founding the highly acclaimed Ivy Bookshop in North Baltimore. Earl and Darielle Linehan enjoy being engaged with the students and learning about their passion for the arts. We are deeply appreciative of their ongoing commitment to the Linehan Artist Scholars Program and UMBC.

"Artists are the leading edge of creativity in our society—they inspire our thinking and enrich our lives. But how can we encourage more young people to turn their talents into careers? Young artists seem to thrive best in an atmosphere that blends critical study with creative expressions — the kind of interdisciplinary environment that UMBC has always fostered."

—Earl L. Linehan, President, Woodbrook Capital, Inc.

WELCOME, Scholars!

This handbook is a valuable resource for new and returning scholars. Here, you will find information about program requirements, policies, community engagement, research and creative advancement, and other areas. As arts majors and artist scholars, you will advance your knowledge as you study new techniques and approaches across a variety of artistic disciplines. The Linehan Artist Scholars Program actively promotes the formation of an active and inclusive community, and we encourage you all to make the most of your time at UMBC. Work hard, work smart, and enjoy making art!

Mission

The Linehan Artist Scholars Program empowers artists to turn their talent into careers by being the program of choice, blending critical study with creative expressions in a high-achieving interdisciplinary environment. The program provides a dynamic community that promotes artistic, intellectual, social, and civic development. UMBC recognizes artists as leaders of transformation in our society, and in partnership with the visual and performing arts departments at UMBC, the program prepares artist scholars to be leaders and makers empowered to create in various contexts.

Vision

- Be a best-in-class destination arts program for talented students interested in UMBC's specialty arts programs (e.g., dance, imaging and digital arts, music, and theatre) at an R1 university offering interdisciplinary and entrepreneurial opportunities;
- Launch Linehan Artist Scholars into meaningful and productive careers; and
- Elevate UMBC's reputation as an institution with high-quality arts programs.

Core Values

Curiosity actively investigate and engage with all arts disciplines.
Community inquire into and support one another through your college career.
Diversity appreciate other perspectives, backgrounds, and identities.
Inclusivity promote inclusion, representation, belonging, and authenticity.

LAS TEAM

Program Director

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Arts Department Linehan Liaison

DANCE	Ann Sofie Clemmensen
MUSIC	Lisa Cella
THEATRE	Eve Muson
VISUAL ARTS	Julie Sayo

PROGRAM Information

All Linehan scholars are expected to contribute actively to our community, which includes taking part in our program excursion activities and Linehan community events, as well as attending your peers’ performances and arts events.

Keep yourself abreast with the **Linehan Calendar** available on the Resources tab on the Linehan website; here, you will find important program information, dates, deadlines, and registration forms. Communication is very important. We expect all scholars to respond to emails from the Linehan TEAM and scholars staff in a timely manner.

Fall Welcome Gathering

On the second Friday of the fall semester, we host a Fall Welcome Gathering for all current scholars to welcome our new group of first-years, share the latest program news and scholar opportunities, and hear from scholars who were awarded the Summer Research & Study award (SRSA). Food and beverages will be provided, and all scholars will receive an RSVP email at the beginning of the fall semester. We expect all scholars to attend.

Scholar Activity Form

At the beginning of each semester, you are required to fill out the online Scholar Activity Form located on the Resources tab on the Linehan website. The form asks you to list:

- performances, shows, and/or events you will be participating in for the current semester;
- any involvement in faculty research, internships, and/or working on your own research;
- summer activities, and other news specific to your career; and
- for seniors only: details about your plans for graduation and beyond.

The information is used by the Program Director to identify what the scholars are doing on a regular basis, and forms much of the primary content for the Autumn and Spring issues of our Linehan Artist Scholars & Alumni Newsletter Magazine.

The Scholar Activity Form will close on:

- Fall 2024 | September 20
- Spring 2025 | February 21

Fall & Spring Program Excursions

A central component of the LAS scholar experience is the fall and spring trips to New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC. These excursions always include a museum exhibition and a live performance (rotating between dance, music, and theatre each semester/year). Seeing works of art, classics or new, opens all kinds of passages and possibilities to think beyond what one already knows. The program strongly believes in providing our scholars opportunities to immerse themselves in works by professional artists and find resonance in their own experiences and the relationship between history, philosophy, politics, and art.

Fall Excursion to NYC will always happen on either

- the last Saturday of September (9/28/2024) or
- the first Saturday of October (10/5/2024)

Spring Excursion to either Philadelphia or DC will always happen on

- the second Saturday in March (3/8/2025)

Registration, which is available on the Resources tab of the Linehan website, is required, regardless of whether you plan to attend. The dates above should be reserved for the Linehan Program. Scholars with extenuating circumstances can be excused with the Program Director's approval.

Linehan Website “RESOURCES”

All scholars are expected to keep themselves up-to-date with program events, registrations, award applications, job calls, research assistant opportunities, and more, which are posted under the Resources tab. Scholars can access it using the password Linehan2024. The password changes “the year” (only) each January.

End-of-Year Linehan Program Celebration

At the end of the spring semester, we celebrate our senior artist scholars and recognize their incredible achievements and service to our program. We welcome incoming scholars as well as alums of the program. The event is open to current scholars, alumni, and the families of our graduating and incoming scholars. Earl and Darielle Linehan, whose vision and generosity make your scholarship a possibility, strive to attend this event when it is possible.

LAS Seminar 120H & 121H

First-year scholars are required to enroll in the LAS120H and LAS121H. The seminars are held on Fridays from 1:00-3:45 PM during the fall and spring semesters. The program director facilitates the seminars and includes workshops by UMBC arts faculty and professional regional artists. Scholars will share ideas about art and what it means to be an artist, and explore a broad range of creative approaches to investigate the different – yet interconnected – ways the arts enable critical thinking. It is a process that involves stepping outside one’s comfort zone and questioning one’s own perceptions, which in turn create new realizations. The seminars foreground community building and comprehensive learning experiences where individual voices are honored. Cornerstones are making and fabrication, critique, collaboration, research, and critical thinking. Through collaborative and self-led projects as the foundation of integrative and engaged learning, scholars are introduced to experiences and opportunities that support their involvement and investigation of their creative practice in the arts as research.

Seminar course requirements include attending events/performances outside of the regular Friday meeting time. You must check the topical outline for each seminar at the beginning of the semester and communicate any conflicts to the Program Director.

120H focuses on art-making practices, interdisciplinary exploration, and collaboration. 121H focuses on practice-as-research. Scholars engage in research proposal writing, data collection, and oral/practical presentation of outcomes. Go to the Linehan.umbc.edu/ Resources tap to read more and download syllabi.

Research and Creative Achievements

UMBC offers many opportunities for undergraduates in every major to gain significant experience with independent creative work, scholarship, and research. In addition to their own creative research, Linehan scholars frequently participate in faculty research in the Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts departments.

Linehan scholars are strongly encouraged to advance their own practice and artistic engagement through research projects, intensives, apprenticeships, and more. You can discuss research ideas and projects with the program director as well as your departmental advisor. Always plan ahead of time with regard to project proposal ideas.

Undergraduate Research Award

The [Undergraduate Research Award \(URA\)](#) is offered by the Undergraduate Research and Prestigious Scholarships Office and is open to all undergraduate students. If a student's project is selected, they may receive a stipend of up to \$1,500 to fund a research proposal. Students must submit a detailed proposal and budget for their project under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Interdisciplinary work is encouraged. Students with interdisciplinary proposals are encouraged to have a mentor in each key discipline. All funded student research is presented at UMBC on Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day each April.

URA Proposal Timeline

- January: Identify a mentor from your art major department.
- February: Start proposal / discuss research with your mentor / make revisions.
- May: Application due early May.
- Summer: Start your research.

Summer Research & Study Award

The Linehan Artist Scholars [Summer Research and Study Award \(SRSA\)](#) supports summer research through study at an established summer workshop, conference, internship program, or through a self-designed program of study with nationally/internationally recognized professional teachers. Funding may be used to cover tuition, travel, room, and board up to a maximum of \$4,000. The SRSA is a competitive award, with one awarded in each of the four arts departments: Dance, Music, Theatre, and Visual Arts.

Eligible Linehan Scholars: sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated excellence in their majors. Applicants must have a GPA of a minimum of 3.250.

The application requires that you submit a Plan A and Plan B. Before starting the application, you must have discussed and sought advice for both your research/study plans with a faculty member/advisor from your department.

The application requires confirmation of parents/guardian's permission if your proposal involves domestic or international travel.

[Application](#): Opens on the first day of classes Spring Semester and closes on April 1st. Carefully read and follow the application guidelines. Awardees are required to:

- Participate in the research described in their proposal and communicate project activity via email with the Linehan Director during the summer.
- Document (photo, video, journey, etc.) their research throughout its duration.
- Meet with the Linehan Director upon completing their project (in September) to discuss their research experiences.
- Submit a written summary of their SRSA project experiences for the Linehan Newsletter (due Oct. 1st).
- Attend the Linehan SRSA Forum held during Free Hour (12-12:50 PM) on Friday, November 22, 2024.

Study Abroad

Linehan Artist Scholars may utilize their scholarship for credit-worthy courses earned abroad. Scholarship funds can only be used for studying abroad during the fall or spring semester. Studying abroad is one of the best ways to acquire global and intercultural skills.

To learn more, visit the [UMBC Education Abroad Office](#). Scholars interested in studying abroad for a full semester must discuss this with their departmental arts advisor, and obtain approval to be shared with the program director. Scholars may complete the [Scholarships Study Abroad Approval Form](#) to receive approval to use any merit scholarships abroad and submit it electronically to scholarships@umbc.edu.

Alumni Mentor Program

The mentoring program is available for all third-year scholars. At the beginning of the fall semester, third-year scholars can sign up for the mentor program and complete the mentee questionnaire. The commitment runs for two semesters. Go to our website, under RESOURCES, to sign up. To learn more about the alumni mentor program, please see page 14.

SCHOLARSHIP | Rules and Guidelines

1. Linehan Scholarships are limited to fall and spring semesters for four years or eight consecutive semesters for undergraduate study only. Early graduation will result in the forfeiture of the remaining unused scholarship funds.
2. To retain the scholarship, Scholars must enroll and complete a minimum of 12 credits each fall/spring semester and achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.25. Scholars failing these two requirements will be placed on probation (see #7).
3. Any changes in registration or enrollment (internship, cooperative education, study abroad, or withdrawal from UMBC must be approved by the UMBC Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. Unauthorized withdrawal below the full-time requirement or from UMBC may result in the cancellation of this award.
4. Art Major requirements:
 - Scholars must enroll and complete coursework required to stay on track for their arts major each fall and spring semester.
 - Scholars not enrolling in coursework required for their arts major must notify the Program Director.
 - Scholars who choose to drop their arts major will no longer qualify for the Linehan scholarship, and it will be discontinued.
5. Program Requirements:
 - First-year scholars must register for and complete LAS120H and LAS121H seminars.
 - Scholars are required to complete Sophomore Service and engage in General Linehan Service as defined in the LAS handbook (p. 9).
 - Scholars are required to participate in program events each semester throughout the four years, including but not limited to our semester opening gatherings, peer mentorship, off-campus program trips, and specified on-campus arts/lecture events.
 - Scholars are required to respond promptly to all communication related to their role as Artist Scholars. Failure to do so can result in a warning or probation.
6. All Scholars undergo an academic review each semester to ensure they maintain the cumulative GPA, enrollment, major, and program requirements. Scholars who fail to meet these requirements will be placed on probation for one semester.
7. Scholars on probation have the following semester to work actively with their departmental adviser and additional university resources to devise a plan of action to restore themselves academically.

8. Scholars who fail to meet scholarship standards following their probation period can submit an appeal.
9. Appeal Process: A Scholar can submit an appeal to extend their probation period. The following information is required in order to complete the [Appeal Request Form](#). The deadline for completing the appeal is a week after the final grades are posted.
 - Appeal Statement: a personal statement explaining the reason(s) the Scholar failed to meet scholarship standards for the semester(s) reflected on their transcript.
 - Academic Plan: a detailed plan on how the scholar will restore themselves academically.
 - Supporting Documentation [optional]: submit any documentation supporting the extenuating circumstance(s) listed in your appeal statement.

The Program Director will contact the chair of the scholar's department to obtain a statement of support for their continuation.

10. If the appeal request is approved, the Scholar is placed on probation for one additional semester and should follow the process outlined in point 6 above. Scholars failing to meet scholarship standards following an appeal/probation will have their scholarship discontinued.
11. Discontinued awards may not be reinstated regardless of whether the Scholar is able to meet the terms of their scholarship in a future semester.

Scholarship Deferral Requests (updated June 2024)

There can be many reasons for a scholar seeking a semester off, including medical conditions, family circumstances, or others. A scholarship deferral allows the student a one-time, single semester of non-enrollment from UMBC while maintaining their scholarship eligibility upon their return. Scholars who are not planning to enroll during the fall or spring semesters may request a scholarship deferral prior to the beginning of the intended semester. A scholar seeking a deferral must first discuss this with their department chair; a formal statement and supporting documents must be submitted via the Scholarship Office's deferral webpage: <https://scholarships.umbc.edu/deferral/>.

Deadline for FALL deferral request: August 10, 2024

Deadline for the SPRING deferral request: January 10, 2025

Scholars General Service Expectations

Linehan Scholars are required to provide service/assistance to their department and the program.

General Linehan Service | 1-4 years scholars

- Be available for Scholar Selection Day (last Saturday in February).
 - Departmental set-up
 - Linehan Scholars Panel
 - Family Panel

- End-of-Year Linehan Spring Celebration
 - Performance
 - Art exhibit
 - Coordination

Sophomore Service Requirements

Scholars in their second year are required to provide 30-40 hours of service. Music scholars must enroll in and complete MUS191-02 as part of their service requirement; all other scholars must enroll and complete LAS220 Service Learning in the Arts I during their sophomore year (fall or spring).

Scholars can sign up for specific Linehan Program service activities, apply for our partner internship opportunities, assist faculty research, and/or complete department-specific service tasks. It is the responsibility of the sophomore scholars to complete and track their required service hours using the Service Hours Tracking form available on the Resources tab of the Linehan website. Service opportunities and guidelines will be listed on that page on the following dates for each semester:

- Fall: Aug 1
- Spring: Jan 4.

Some service activities require an application process, and it is up to the scholars to stay informed about service opportunities and deadlines.

Enrollment

Scholars have two enrollment options. Scholars enrolling in the Fall semester must complete all 30-40 hours in that semester. Scholars can choose to complete some of their required service hours during the fall semester, track these hours, and enroll in spring and complete the rest of their required hours. Check the Resources tab of the Linehan website for more information.

Areas of Departmental Service

Scholars may complete specific tasks, like helping out during events coordinated by the department, creating content for departmental social media, assisting in faculty research, and more.

Areas of Program Service

Scholars can serve the program in the form of content developers for our Instagram account and the Linehan newsletter magazine, serving as helpers for Scholar Selection Day, which includes but is not limited to guiding scholar applicants and taking part in the scholar panel session, and serving as assistants to the Assistant Director of Engagement during UMBC Campus recruitment events, and more.

- VPA floor mentors
- Assistant Content Creator
- Linehan Gallery coordinator/assistant
- Video Documentation / PR
- Photography Documentation / PR
- Linehan Artist Scholars & Alumni Newsletter
- Senior Viewbook coordinator/design
- Program events assistance
- Social media content developer
- Campus recruitment fairs
- Internship with Linehan Program Partners

Assisting Faculty Research

Scholars invited or selected to participate in faculty research (in or outside their department) can report this as service. Be sure to communicate with the faculty PI that you may complete a maximum of 40 hours for the research project as part of your service hours, and notify the Program Director of your participation in the project.

Service Expectations

- Scholars are expected to commit to serving their department and the program each semester in some capacity.
- Scholars can serve either their department or the program, depending on their department's needs and the scholar's schedule.
- NEW FOR 2025: Graduating Scholars with a strong service record (program and department) will be eligible to be nominated by the Program Director for The Linehan Service Award.
- Scholars on the payroll for the program or their department can't count their work as service.

Advising

All advising is facilitated by the department the scholar is pursuing a major. You are responsible for being proactive in knowing what classes they need to take and when those classes are offered. Consult the departmental handbook when planning the journey toward completing the degree. A departmental advisor can assist you in planning semester schedules and determining graduation requirements. Successful completion of all coursework is ultimately the YOUR responsibility. Changes in your academic journey, such as a change of major, deferral, or academic probation, are also your responsibility. Prepare for advising meetings by checking Degree Audit through myUMBC, and the online Class Schedule. Many courses are not offered every semester – you must consider “fall only” or “spring only” coursework in your plans and work with your advisor to ensure that you are on track to complete the degree. Scholars are welcome to schedule an advising meeting with the Program Director in addition to their departmental advising. These conversations look at what your goals and ways to best reach them through strategic course schedule management.

Engagement

From getting involved in program events, providing service to one's department, attending peer performances and exhibits, volunteering as a peer mentor, and collaborating across disciplines – **our scholars create their Scholar Experiences**. As a program, we offer activities where scholars have the opportunities to socialize, meet new and familiar faces, and engage in learning opportunities that complement their academic and creative experiences.

Halloween

With help from volunteering scholars, the Linehan Program hosts community social events each semester. These are wonderful opportunities for us all to come together across cohorts. The Halloween Party takes place in October, and this is a great opportunity to connect with scholars across cohorts. There will be food, competitions, and awards.

Linehan Gallery & Artist Talk Café

Scholars across all four disciplines are invited to submit work to be featured publicly in a curated Linehan Gallery exhibition guided by an overarching theme, as outlined in a submission call, which will be emailed to all scholars. Each exhibit runs for a full semester. The Linehan Gallery is located in the second floor corridor of PAHB.

All current Linehan students are HIGHLY encouraged to submit to the Linehan Gallery. Scholars do not have to make anything new specifically for the gallery; feel free to submit any works from your existing portfolio that you feel fit the theme.

New or works from an existing portfolio that can be submitted:

- 2D works (e. g. paintings, drawings, etc.)**
- Photography
- Videography
- Animation
- Photos/Videos of Performances
- Photographs of 3D works**
- Process Videos
- Audio Files

** Please submit a high-quality photo or scan of your work that is a faithful reproduction of the original. We are only displaying printed copies of your works due to concerns over the safety of the artwork being exhibited in a public area.

Opportunities provided by the Gallery:

- You can include the exhibition of your work on your resume.
- You will have the opportunity to participate in an artist talk regarding your work, which you can also include on your resume.
- You will learn how to talk about your work and display your art in a professional setting.

The Linehan Gallery coordinator(s) will facilitate Artist Talk Café sessions throughout each semester with scholars whose work is on display. The study lounge will be “converted” into a cozy café, and it is an opportunity to hang out with scholars across cohorts and disciplines as well as other UMBC community members interested in art.

Linehan Artist Scholars & Alumni Newsletter Magazine

Our newsletter celebrates the work of our scholars and alumni, highlighting the significance of art and creative expression on our campus and beyond. Sharing the work of our artist scholars and alumni – promoting artistic fulfillment, self-awareness, and being open to new ideas and experiences – informs us of ways in which art gives meaning to life and helps us understand our world.

The autumn and spring issues focus on current scholars' activity and the winter and summer feature Linehan alums.

Autumn Issue	Late October
Winter Issue	Late January
Spring Issue	Mid March
Summer Issue	Late May

GRIT guides

The Grit Guides are the lifeblood of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, and the work that they do is crucial to UMBC. Scholars are encouraged to become GRIT guides, a job that involves sharing information about our institution with prospective students and families, showing visitors our campus, and assisting students with the application process. It is an on-campus job, and it requires that you are interested in joining a team of students who support each other, encourage each other, and learn new skills together.

If you have questions about the application or just want to chat about what it means to be a Grit Guide before applying, please contact Gina Ralston at gralston@umbc.edu or admissions@umbc.edu.

Linehan Scholar Study Lounge

Linehan and Humanities scholars have 24/7 access to the study lounge in the PAHB, room 212. There are **four** desktop Mac computers available and a black and white **printer**, which should only be used for education/career-related purposes.

The following rules apply:

- This is a shared space; please be mindful not to disturb others.
- Clean up the room before you leave.
- Materials left in study rooms are the responsibility of the user.
- The LAS program is not responsible for the loss of personal items.
- Scholars are not allowed to swipe in other non-scholars/groups to use the study lounge.

Food and drink (in covered containers) are permitted in the study lounge, with the exception of areas at or near computers and equipment. We request that you dispose of trash and recyclables in appropriate containers and clean up accidents or spills immediately. Notify Jacqui Lom if professional cleaning is required.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all times. Smoking throughout the campus is prohibited by UMBC campus-wide policy. Violation of these will result in probation or discontinuation of scholarship.

For issues with swipe access to the scholars' lounge, contact Jacqui Lom.

Alumni Network

The vibrant Linehan Alumni community reaches back almost thirty years, doing amazing work right here in Baltimore, nationally, and around the world. Our Assistant Director of Engagement leads our alumni community, offering alums the support to stay connected, and continue the Linehan vision of being leaders and makers empowered to create in various contexts.

Alumni initiatives include in-person and virtual networking and mentorship opportunities, online community/resource forum, reunions, and more. Each spring, we host a Linehan Community Gathering event, where current and newly selected scholars, together with alums, get together to celebrate Earl and Darielle Linehan and the program.

We ask that our graduating scholars complete the UMBC Office of Alumni Engagement [Update Contact Information form](#) upon graduation and periodically update it. All senior Linehan scholars will receive an invitation to join our LAS Alumni Facebook group.

Alumni Mentor Program

The Linehan Program Director and Assistant Director of Engagement pair mentors with mentee(s) based on their knowledge of the scholar, a brief questionnaire, and the field/area experience of the mentor. The mentor program is offered to all third-year scholars, and the commitment runs for two semesters. Alumni mentors are vetted based on their degree area(s), professional experiences, and supporting expertise (e.g., grant writing, communication, non-profit, graduate career, etc.).

The Mentor program is facilitated through UMBC's Retrievers Connect platform, which verifies all users. All aspects of the mentoring process (email, message, or video chat) will occur through Retrievers Connect. It is up to the mentor and mentee to determine what areas of assistance to focus on over the course of the two semesters. A minimum of two virtual meetings are required per semester, and it is expected that the mentor and mentee engage in additional communication/sharing. The mentor and mentee are expected to report any changes/incidents to the program director or AD. The mentor will submit a final mentor report at the end; this is for archival purposes and overall program improvement.

Mentee guidelines:

- Complete the mentee questionnaire
- Attend virtual meetings
- Come prepared to mentor meetings; that includes bringing materials/questions
- Timely communication

Alumni and current scholars are able to engage through the Linehan Artist Scholars Program Community private group in Retrievers Connect, allowing for further collaboration even after completing the mentorship program.

Alumni Career Forum

The Alumni Career Forum is facilitated through our Linehan Alumni LinkedIn Group and through *Alumni Connect Events*. It is a space where Linehan alums can connect with each other to collaborate, network, and enhance their career opportunities within their respective fields and across disciplines. We encourage alumni to share their work and amplify the work of other alumni.

Alumni Connect Events

Alumni Connect Events are organized by the Assistant Director of Engagement in order to facilitate comradery, connection, and community for Linehan alums. We communicate with our UMBC-region alumni on a frequent basis to inform them of opportunities to join activities locally and on campus. Through an ongoing effort to encourage our alums to update their profile in UMBC's Contact Info database, we are identifying geographical regions where Linehan alumni reside in order to gauge interest and plan gatherings across the U.S. We also collaborate with UMBC's Alumni Association to host affinity gatherings within their events, such as UMBC's Homecoming, UMBC night at Oriole Park, and Alumni Night at the BSO.