2019 Head Orientation Leaders!

Name: Billie Holecek
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior
Involved in: Trailhead Café, Campus Cursive, Sustainable Energy Club

Why do you love ESF? Being a small school you can create meaningful relationships with your professors and other students while also going to big events hosted by SU. ESF really has a place for everyone, no matter what you may want to do.

Favorite part about being an OL: Going into my third year as an OL I am so excited. I love being able to help all the first-year students acclimate to campus and help them get through the rigor of their first year.

Advice and thoughts for new students:
Don’t be afraid to ask for help right away. I recommend signing up for tutoring, even if you think you may not need it. The extra help always help. Also try to step out of your comfort zone. Say hello to someone you don’t know, they could become one of your best friends here!

Name: Justin Rosenberg
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior
Major: Environmental Resources Engineering
Involved in: ERE Club, EWB/ESS Club, Syracuse University Club Tennis Team

Why do you love ESF?
I love ESF because of the small school atmosphere; it creates a very tight-knit community as we all want to make the environment and planet a better, healthier place.

Favorite part about being an OL:
I love seeing the enthusiasm of new students and their passion for the environment. It makes the job even more worth it.

Advice and thoughts for new students:
I would absolutely create a plan for success for the semester the first work of school. It may seem daunting at first but having a breakdown of how you will utilize your time is critical to staying on top of things. I really like this app called “My Study Life.” I literally organize my entire school year on this, and it helps so much.
2019 Orientation Leader Bios

Name: Alexandra Allard

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Sophomore

Major: Biotechnology

Involved in: ESF Ecotones, the Acapella group, Student Ambassador, Syracuse University Lifeguard

Why do you love ESF? The community and sense of unity that you feel right when you get on campus is so inviting, and there are so many ways to get involved and stay happy on campus

Favorite part about being an OL: Playfair! Also, just being able to help you adjust to college life in really fun and creative ways

Advice and thoughts for new students: Don’t feel afraid to go out and have a good time, even if you need to step out of your comfort zone. You never know who else you’ll inspire, as well as finding a new hobby or fun event to take part in!

Name: Amelia Dragone

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior

Major: Wildlife Science

Involved in: Active member and previous Vice President of ESF’s Bob Marshall Club, which is a great group of outdoor loving backpackers.

Why do you love ESF? ESF is a close-knit community full of people with big hearts and colorful personalities. Simply walking around campus, you’re greeted with many hellos and smiling faces. It’s a place I will always consider home.

Favorite part about being an OL: Being an OL makes me feel like I have a bigger part in shaping the ESF community. I get to help freshmen find their little niche in our wonderful family and help them discover what makes ESF special.

Advice and thoughts for new students: College may be a little overwhelming at first, but that’s okay! Be sure to find a balance between school work and having fun. Try and keep some sanity amidst all the papers, exams, and mastering bios. Step out of your comfort zone, meet new people, and try new experiences. You’ll only end up regretting the opportunities you don’t take.
Name: Carson Rowe  
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior  
Major: Environmental Studies with a Policy Planning and Law Focus and Minors in Economics and Environmental Writing and Rhetoric.

Involved in:  
Undergraduate Student Association, SUNY Student Assembly, and an Economics Teaching Assistant.

Why do you love ESF?  
I love ESF because we attract some of the most dedicated, intelligent, and kind students. ESF students and the community they create are the reason I love this place so much!

Favorite part about being an OL:  
My favorite part about being an OL is getting to meet the new students and helping them find their niche at this school. I want to help make the transition to ESF as smooth as possible. I want to make sure everyone becomes as comfortable as they can be!

Advice and thoughts for new students: Find something you love and get involved, there are so many awesome activities on campus! Remember to do something for yourself when you are here! It is easy to get lost in your classes, and outside activities, so make sure you find something you love to do and do it!

Name: Ben Marschall  
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior  
Major: Environmental Resources Engineering  
Involved in: Syracuse University Club Hockey, Jewish Stumpies

Why do you love ESF?  
ESF has been an amazing experience for me. No matter what your interests are ESF has a place for you. Classes are fun and challenging.

Favorite part about being an OL:  
Meeting the incoming first year students and being able to help them with the transition into college.

Advice and thoughts for new students: Put yourself out there. You won’t regret those experiences.
Name: Christian A. Chevalier

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior

Major: Wildlife Science

Involved in:
- Troutbums Fly Fishing Club
- ESF Bass Fishing Team
- ESF Men’s Soccer Team (past)
- The Wildlife Society

Why do you love ESF?
Everyone is so kind and supportive of each other. It’s not just a college community, it’s a family.

Favorite part about being an OL:
The bonds that I’ve forged with my fellow OLs. I will cherish them for my entire life.

Advice and thoughts for new students:
Don’t be afraid to ask questions. Try new things. Explore yourselves and the new world around you. And don’t forget that your OLs are always there to help.

Name: Curt Ellison

Class Year (entered Fall 2019): Spring 2021

Major: Environmental Resources Engineering

Involved in: ERE Club

Why do you love ESF?
The entire atmosphere of the college makes everyone feel welcome. If you have a day on the weekend free, there is almost always something going on to get involved with. You get the small school setting, but SU is right next door if you ever want to use their facilities.

Advice and thoughts for new students:
Branch out and get to know everyone; this is college, don't be afraid to get out of your comfort zone and try new things. Get yourself comfortable with your schedule and how it works, so you can make your own changes if you want to.
Name: Ellie Sherman  Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior

Major: Conservation Biology  Involved in: Vice President of Bob Marshall Club

Why do you love ESF?

My parents both graduated from ESF and I grew up in the area, so ESF really is my home. Orientation week was one of the best weeks of my life because I fell in love with the tight knit community of like-minded people and made lifelong friends. I think I found my real family during freshman year when I joined Bob Marshall Club, ESF’s hiking and backpacking club. I also went on a trip to Costa Rica for a course in ecotourism and spent three weeks at Cranberry Lake Biological Station attending lectures and conducting field work. These have been my favorite educational experiences at ESF so far. Additionally, my education at ESF has helped me obtain an internship with the NPS monitoring sea turtle nesting activity and this has shaped my future career path. I am grateful for the memories and experiences I have made here and I hope all of you new Stumpies will love ESF as much as I do!

Favorite part about being an OL:

Meeting all of you! And sharing my love of ESF by welcoming all of you into our community and acclimating you to life on campus. I can’t wait to see the smiles on your faces and introduce you to the friends that you’ll have for life.

Advice and thoughts for new students:

Attend everything that you are even slightly interested in because opportunities are around every corner and you never know who you will meet or what will lead to your next adventure. Take risks if they feel right and say what you mean. Befriend your peers, TAs, and professors because the goal of everyone here is to help you on your journey.

Name: Emily Ellithorpe

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Sophomore

Major: Environmental Resources Engineering (ERE)

Involved in: ERE Club, Engineers Without Borders, NYWEA, Eco-Reps, Woodsmen Team

Why do you love ESF? It’s really easy to make friends because you will find groups of people that have similar interests as you.

Favorite part about being an OL: This is my first year being an OL, but I’m excited because I loved orientation week as a freshman. It is a busy week, but it’s fun and you get to make so many new friends while you get adjusted to campus.

Advice and thoughts for new students: Meet as many new people as you can during orientation week. Seeing familiar faces around campus makes the first few weeks less scary. Also, don’t be afraid to reach out to upperclassmen for advice on classes and getting involved. If they don’t know the answer they probably know someone who does.
Name: Emily Link
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior
Major: Environmental Biology
Involved in: Co-president of the club FORCES: Friends Of Recreation, Conservation, and Environmental Stewardship. On-Campus Job at Sadler Dining Hall
Why do you love ESF? I love ESF because of the inclusive environment. Everyone has a place they belong, and no one is judged for being themselves and I just think that is really great. Everyone here is also very passionate and strives to get things done which I admire. As an environmentalist, I especially appreciate everyone’s passion to help the environment.
Favorite part about being an OL: My favorite part is welcoming the students to their new home and helping them unlock the potential of their ESF experience.
Advice and thoughts for new students: Always be yourself. There are friends for everyone on campus and if you aren’t yourself you won’t find people you actually enjoy spending time with. Try as many new things as possible, college is all about opportunities and you never know if you’re going to like something new unless you try it.

Name: Emily Parsons
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior
Major: Paper Engineering
Involved in: Paper and Bioprocess Engineering Club, Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority, Alpha Xi Sigma Honor Society, Syracuse University Women’s Club Lacrosse Team
Why do you love ESF? The people!
Favorite part about being an OL: Helping new students find their home!
Advice and thoughts for new students: Say yes to everything legal!
**Name:** Emily Paul  
**Class Year (entering Fall 2019):** Senior  
**Major:** Conservation biology  

**Involved in:** I spend my days working at trailhead, hiking, and knitting  

**Why do you love ESF?** The students are kind, welcoming, and we all share the same passion for protecting the Earth  

**Favorite part about being an OL:** helping new students enjoy their college experience at ESF and being a part of the OL family  

**Advice and thoughts for new students:** get involved on campus to find your passion and don’t be afraid to ask for help
Name: Evan Stewart  
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior  
Major: Environmental Biology, Pre-Health  
Involved in: Horticultural Therapy, Campus Blood Drive Coordinator  

Why do you love ESF? ESF has such a welcoming environment. The students, faculty, and staff at ESF are extremely kind and outgoing. I also love the many unique classes you can find at ESF. Although a small school compared to SU, ESF has some of the coolest classes. I’ve taken classes in my time here all about lichens and slime molds! How cool is that?!?!?!

Favorite part about being an OL: My favorite thing about being an OL is meeting new students and getting to know them. I love being right there with all the transfer and first year students, participating in all the fun games we have planned, as well as talking to them about their background and answering any questions they have about ESF or college in general.

Advice and thoughts for new students: If we are gonna be real, it can be a hard transition for some people from high school to college, it was for me. Never be afraid to ask for help from your professors, OL’s, or other resources at ESF such as Student Affairs or the Counseling Center. We are all here to help you out! I benefited a lot my first year from asking for help! In the end, you will look back and see that you learned more than you might have thought, about the topics in class and more importantly, about yourself.

Name: Gabby Mass  
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior  
Major: Wildlife Science  
Involved in: The Wildlife Society, Syracuse University Outing Club (SUOC)  

Why do you love ESF?  
The student body is one big team who is working together towards a similar goal, which makes this school and people so easy to connect with on a personal level that will last a lifetime!

Favorite part about being an OL:  
I’m looking forward to welcoming all the new incomes into ESF and showing them everything this school and people have to offer them and what they can accomplish here!

Advice and thoughts for new students:  
It’s important to take school seriously, but it is also important to maintain a healthy social life. You will realize that not only at the end of each semester you will feel accomplished about your grades but also the memories you’ve made and shared with people. P.S. make sure to visit Oakwood Cemetery at least once during your time at ESF!
Name: Grace Leman  
**Class Year (entering Fall 2019):** Senior  
**Major:** Environmental Studies  
**Involved in:** Undergraduate Student Association, Academic Governance  
**Why do you love ESF?**  
The people that I have met at ESF have been amazing and have helped to make my college experience so positive.  
**Favorite part about being an OL:**  
My favorite part of being an orientation leader is getting to meet the incoming students and being able to help them adjust to college.  
**Advice and thoughts for new students:**  
Take advantage of events and clubs/activities on campus, they are a really good way to get involved and meet new people.

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Name: Hannah Doktor  
**Class Year (entering Fall 2019):** Sophomore  
**Major:** Biotechnology  
**Involved in:** Engineers Without Borders, Work Study, Research Lab (involving phytoremediation)  
**Why do you love ESF?**  
I love that ESF is such a welcoming community of people with different backgrounds and perspectives, yet we all come together for a common goal to better the environment.  
**Favorite part about being an OL:** Getting to meet so many new people and get them hyped to be at ESF!
Name: Honey Herman

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior (class of 2021)

Major: Environmental Resources Engineering

Involved in: Founding member and President of Jewish Stumpies; Vice President of Operations for Chabad SU

Why do you love ESF? I love ESF because it is a place where I can truly be myself. Everyone at ESF is so different and unique, but we share a similar drive and passion. ESF embraces everyone’s differences, while highlighting our unifying traits. This university has helped me to grow so much, both as a student and as a person. This is truly a place I can truly call home despite being 1000 miles away from the place I grew up. I have truly had the best time at ESF and I look forward to two more exciting years here!

Favorite part about being an OL: This is my first year being an OL and I’m so excited! I can’t wait to meet all the rising freshmen and help them get adjusted to college life. I’m looking forward to being there for the rising freshmen and cannot wait to be both friend and confidant. I’m so excited to welcome freshmen to this wonderful world called ESF!

Advice and thoughts for new students: This transition is very exciting, but it could also be nerve racking. Remember we have all gone through this, and we understand how you are feeling. We are here to help you and make this the most exciting time for you. Don’t be afraid to completely be yourself! Don’t be afraid to walk up to a stranger and introduce yourself! You never know who could be your new best friend! Embrace this time during orientation week, freshman year and all four years at ESF, and don’t be afraid to be excited. HAVE FUN and enjoy every minute.

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Name: Ilsa Dohner

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Sophomore

Major: Environmental Studies (Policy, Planning, and Law)

Involved in: Sexuality and Gender Alliance, Undergraduate Student Association, Environmental Studies Student Organization, and Alpha Xi Sigma Honor Society

Why do you love ESF? ESF has allowed me to meet so many new people with similar interests, but of different backgrounds. Everyone has a common passion for the environment which creates this wonderful and welcoming community.

Favorite part about being an OL: This will be my first year as an OL, but I am excited to help students make the transition to the next chapter of their lives and watch them grow as people along the way!

Advice and thoughts for new students: Try to go to events and activities as much as you can, but remember to take time for yourself, so you don’t burn out.
Name: Jared Mason

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Fall 2020

Major: Environmental Biology

Involved in: Student Ambassador, ESF in the High school

Why do you love ESF?
ESF is such a nice community of open minded people all with a great passion for helping our environment.

Favorite part about being an OL:
Getting to know the freshman and helping them enjoy the first week on campus.

Advice and thoughts for new students:
Don’t be afraid to ask for help if you need it and make sure to get involved on campus!

Name: Joey Baker

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Sophomore

Major: Environmental Resources Engineering

Involved in: Physics coach, tutoring, student ambassador, tour guide.

Why do you love ESF?
This campus has an atmosphere that is second to none. Here, everyone here shares a unique perspective (environment stuff) while still maintaining individuality and the ability to accept others’ perspectives. Also, the professors in my major are on a first-name-basis.

Favorite part about being an OL: August 2019 will be my first time being an OL and I can’t wait! My orientation experience as an entering freshman the most fun I had all semester, and I met people who are now my closest friends.

Advice and thoughts for new students:
Just be as open as you can! In the activities, show enthusiasm and just don’t be afraid to have a great time. The first week is when you will meet the friends and peers that you will spend the next four years with, so don’t be a stranger. All the new students around you are in the same position you are, and the OLs are here to help you have a good time and acclimate as best as possible!
Name: John Perez

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior

Major: Environmental Resources Engineering (ERE)

Involved in: Engineers without Borders, Engineering for a Sustainable Society, Environmental Resources Engineering club and Student Ambassadors

Why do you love ESF? I love how friendly everyone is here. It’s so easy to just speak with your professors as you would with anyone else. You’re never alone there’s always someone you can go to for help it could be a professor, staff member, your RA or even your orientation leader

Favorite part about being an OL: I love being there for students and helping in any way I can be it getting through classes, making schedules or just talking. I hope you’ll see your orientation leaders as a friend you can turn to.

Advice and thoughts for new students: You’re all here for the first time and all in the same boat. Put yourself out there and go meet new people. The best thing that could happen is you end up being best friends and the worst thing is you just don’t get to know them. It’s only up from here.

Name: Jordan Card

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior

Major: Environmental Education & Interpretation

Involved in: ESF Choose Action Committee, Undergraduate Student Association, CARE

Why do you love ESF? The community is hands down the most inviting, supportive, and down-to-earth group of people I have ever met. Despite the challenging curriculum, the connections I have made here remind me why I chose ESF in the first place.

Favorite part about being an OL: Being able to meet and help out first-years with their transition to our campus.

Advice and thoughts for new students: Go at your own pace. College comes with a lot of pressure to get that internship, find that job, and ace all your classes. However, everyone experiences college differently. Don’t feel pressured, make time for fun, and experience college how you want to!
Name: Kanika Jakhmola
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior
Major: Wildlife Science
Involved in: AXS, Herpetology Club, The Wildlife Society, USA, Peer Tutoring, Student Ambassador

Why do you love ESF? I love ESF because of the community and the close-knit family feel you get from the environment around campus. Everyone is so nice and friendly and always happy to help you out or just have a conversation with you before class. Even the faculty and staff seem to genuinely care about you and want to see you succeed. Also, I like that fact that in all the ESF buildings you can enter and exit through any of the doors and that there’s not just random useless doors made for fire exits.

Favorite part about being an OL: Getting to help the new student who are in the same boat as I was my freshman year! Getting to show everyone my love for ESF!

Advice and thoughts for new students:
Don’t be nervous, be who you are, step out of your comfort zone and talk to people, go to all the on campus event and get free food, join the clubs that interest you even if you don’t go to all the meetings.

Name: Karleigh Cimorelli
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior
Major: Environmental Studies!! Minor in Food Studies
Involved in: Environmental Studies Student Organization (ESSO), The Baobab Society, Syracuse University Outing Club (SUOC), Sketchy Stumpies

Why do you love ESF? I love ESF because we all come from different backgrounds and interests for a common goal. Every ESF student inspires me in different aspects of life and environmentalism, which is never ending. We have a common appreciation for things that makes me feel very at home.

Favorite part about being an OL: I’m excited to be able to spread my knowledge and share my experiences with new students, as well as making genuine connections to make ESF even more of a community – for myself and others.

Advice and thoughts for new students: Take advantage of the resources available to you, get involved in at least one club/activity that you’re passionate about, don’t forget about the activities outside of academics that you enjoy, and remember to take care of yourself.
Name: Katherine Miller

Class Year: Senior

Major: Environmental Health with a focus in Water/Wastewater and a minor in Chemistry

Involved in: The Undergraduate Student Association (Senior Class Chair), SU Greek Life (Alpha Omega Epsilon), Co-Facilitator for CARE, a support group for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, Environmental Health Club (Founder, President), and Ducks Unlimited

Why do you love ESF?: I loooove ESF because of how close everyone is, especially within your major. It feels like a lil family.

Favorite part about being an OL: My favorite part about being an OL is meeting all the new incoming first years and hearing why they chose ESF.

Advice and thoughts for new students: YOU GOT THIS!

Name: Kayla Johnson

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior

Major: Conservation Biology

Involved in: SU Club softball, American Fisheries Society, CRU (Christian organization)

Why do you love ESF? The people!! For the most part we are all liked minded individuals who come from so many different backgrounds. The people here definitely make school less stressful and the friendships you make will last a life time.

Favorite part about being an OL: My favorite part of being an OL is the new relationships that I get to make with the incoming students and fellow OL’s

Advice and thoughts for new students: Do not be afraid to ask for help. Help with school or mental health or anything else. ESF has so many resources here to help you. From tutoring services to counseling services, all of the faculty and student body want to help. Also, don’t be afraid to try something new! Best of luck to everyone!
Name: Lauren Kelly
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Sophomore
Major: Environmental Studies
Involved in: Bob Marshall Club
Why do you love ESF?
A lot of great people and so many great opportunities!
Favorite part about being an OL:
Helping the new freshman call ESF home and making long-lasting friendships in the OL family!
Advice and thoughts for new students:
Make new friends!
Have fun!
Stay positive and never give up!
Never eat a Sadler breakfast!

Name: Lena Zeebuyth
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior (academic Senior)
Major: Environmental Studies
Involved in: National Society for Leadership and Success; Honors Program
Why do you love ESF? ESF is filled with amazing minds and souls. Students are appreciated by faculty at ESF more than any other group of college students at university that I’ve heard about!
Favorite part about being an OL: Meeting and bonding with a group of fantastic people.
Advice and thoughts for new students: ESF is full of challenge and opportunity. Don’t be afraid to talk to professors and seize those opportunities your first year at ESF!
Name: Levi Kovach
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior
Major: Environmental Resource Engineering
Involved in: Jewish Stumpies
Why do you love ESF?
I love ESF because of the energy and excitement that people here have for the environment and saving the planet.
Advice and thoughts for new students:
My advice to new students is you will get what you put in. Work hard and you will succeed.

Name: Liam Reed
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior
Major: Conservation Biology
Involved in: Bob Marshall Club!Food Recovery Network
Why do you love ESF?
I love ESF because of the caring community that all of the students create. We are a school of very likeminded individuals with a love for the environment. This unites the campus and makes ESF a home.
Favorite part about being an OL:
This is my second year as an Orientation Leader and my favorite part is being able to have a positive and helpful impact on other peoples lives. I am also looking forward to all of the events that go on during orientation week and meeting all of the freshman. I can’t wait to help all of you find your niche in this environment-al school.😊
Advice and thoughts for new students:
The best advice that I can give for new students is to join clubs, go to activities, and study hard. The clubs at ESF are all amazing and are the places where you can destress after studying and working hard. They also connect you with lots of amazing people with similar interests.
Name: Lucy Bischoff  
Class Year (entering Fall 2018): Junior  
Major: Conservation Biology  
Involved in: Syracuse University Equestrian Team, Syracuse University Club Swim Team  
Why do you love ESF? ESF has such a strong sense of community, and everyone is so genuine and compassionate. I love the small-school community and the availability of SU resources and clubs right next door.  
Favorite part about being an OL: I love connecting with and building relationships with new students! Meeting new people and helping them de-stress during a potentially stressful time is super rewarding.  
Advice and thoughts for new students: Don’t be afraid to reach out for support! Transitioning to college is stressful but you have a family at ESF, and becoming comfortable with asking for help can really benefit you.

Name: Lydia Loan  
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior  
Major: Environmental Resources Engineering  
Involved in: ERE Club, Engineers Without Borders/Engineers for a Sustainable Society, Undergraduate Student Association, Bob Marshall Club, Student Ambassador  
Why do you love ESF? The sense of community here is something that you can’t find anywhere else. So many people here want you to succeed and are here on this journey with you. Plus, we have some really amazing clubs that provide so many amazing opportunities!! Also there’s lots of free food (yay)  
Favorite part about being an OL: Getting to watch first years succeed at ESF and being able to be there for people when they first get to college. I love the bond that all of the OLs share, and how that allows us to be the most effective at helping the first years! OH YEAH 😊  
Advice and thoughts for new students: Time management is the most important skill you can have coming into college. Follow @esfbathrooms on Instagram. Fun hack you can add chipotle mayo to almost anything at trailhead and it changed my life. Also get a warm jacket
Name: Maddie Goodman

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior

Major: Environmental Resources Engineering

Involved in: Food Recovery Network, AXS Honor Society, Crew member at Trailhead Cafe

Why do you love ESF? I love ESF for its sense of community. It is so easy to meet people with common interests, or interesting new hobbies that you may have never heard of! You can never stop making new friends, and talking to people isn’t nearly as hard as you might think.

Favorite part about being an OL: This will be my first year as an OL, and since I transferred in the second semester of my freshman year, this will actually be my first ESF orientation experience! One reason why I am excited to be an OL is because I am eager to share all my ESF hacks with the incoming freshmen class. I want them to know their way around ESF and feel right at home so they are prepared to finesse their way through the first semester.

Advice and thoughts for new students: My advice for new students is to manage your time. Planning ahead and starting your assignments well before the due date is always a good idea, this gives you time to ask questions and get clarification from your professors if needed. Also, most importantly, don’t be afraid to be weird and be yourself; and if you have rollerblades and want to blade sometime please let me know

Name: Makhali Voss

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior maybe?

Major: Environmental Biology

Involved in: USA, Ducks Limited, Works in student affairs office and outreach office

Why do you love ESF? I love ESF because I can be who I want to be here and know that I will be accepted no matter what.

Favorite part about being an OL: Being able to help the transition into college easier on the first years!

Advice and thoughts for new students: Go to class!!!
Name: Martin Cain

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior

Major: Environmental Resource Engineering

Involved in: Bob Marshall Club, Food Recovery Network

Why do you love ESF? It feels like I never stop meeting people. Everyone is united with their love of the environment, and everyone has their own interesting story.

Favorite part about being an OL: Spending a lot of time outside walking around while reliving the feeling of coming to college for the first time.

Advice and thoughts for new students: Take every field trip chance you can! Especially for people from rural areas, it can be hard to adjust to the city at first, so make sure you try to join a club early on!

Name: Mary Zarba

Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior

Major: Environmental Science

Involved In: SU club lacrosse, Food Recovery Network, Nautilus Society, Alpha Phi Sorority, AXS Fraternity, Ottothon

Why I love ESF: My love for ESF stems mainly from the people that make up the ESF community. The student body at ESF is the most welcoming and diverse group of people that I have ever been a part of. On top of that, they all share the same devout passion for the environment that I also possess within myself. ESF is hands down the place to be. However, also as a fan of that “big university feel” and crazy, spirited athletic events, ESF once again is the place to be due to SU. As ESF students, we have benefits as SU students. I absolutely love spending time at the SU whether I’m at a basketball game in the dome, playing lacrosse with the SU club team, or just hanging out with friends. This duo-dynamic is why there is no better place for me than ESF.

Favorite part about being an OL: After I fell in love with ESF, I knew that I had to be an OL so that I could express to the new students how amazing this school is. I am excited to help the freshmen have the best first experiences on our ESF campus as possible. My OLs last year were the reason I felt so at home at ESF from the day I arrived, and I am ecstatic that I have the opportunity to do the same for the ESF family’s newest additions.

Advice and thoughts for new students: I would like all the new students at ESF to be aware of the plethora of academic resources at their fingertips. ESF is a rigorous school, particularly for the first-year students. However, students should never feel alone in their studies. There are workshops every day of the week in various campus buildings for students. There are also TA-led reviews before quizzes and exams. The list does not stop here. Overall, there are so many different individuals and groups of people on campus that are dedicated to our success.
Name: Matthew Barkley
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior
Major: Wildlife Science
Involved in:
Bob Marshall Club
Food Recovery Network
Why do you love ESF? ESF is where I found the people that mean the most to me. The love for the environment and overall caring people here make the campus a happy place.
Favorite part about being an OL: I’m excited to help people get through their first year here as smoothly as possible. This is my first year as an OL and I couldn’t be any happier for orientation week!
Advice and thoughts for new students: Be open to new things, and don’t be afraid to put yourself out there. Find people you really connect with and always stay true to yourself. Work hard, but always take some time to relax and always stay positive! Explore the city, go for a hike, ride your bike, or just hammock in the cemetery.

Name: Mete Rice
Class Year: Junior, 2021
Major: Aquatics and Fisheries Science
Involved in: I am a member of both the ESF Bass Fishing Team and the Trout Bums Club.
Why do you love ESF? I love ESF because it is a small, tight knit community. It seems that no matter your background, getting along at ESF is quite easy. I also like how as students of ESF we are able to use parts of the Syracuse campus.
Favorite part about being an OL: When I was a freshman, I really appreciated having an Orientation Leader guide me through my first couple weeks at ESF. My favorite part about being an Orientation Leader is now I have the chance to help upcoming freshmen, just how my Orientation Leader had helped me.
Advice and thoughts for new students: My piece of advice for the new students is that it’s okay to be nervous at first, but you will meet people you like, and you will find caring friends sooner than you think. Everyone is in the same boat!
Name: Mike Bernal
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior
Major: Environmental Resources Engineering
Involved with:
Server at Harbor Hotel, Watkins Glen, NY
Why do you love ESF?
Studying an environmental program at an environmentally focused campus
Favorite part about being an OL:
Creating unforgettable moments for myself and others
Advice and thoughts for new students:
Bring a mattress pad... you won’t regret it

Name: Molly Pero
Class Year (entering Fall 2018): Junior
Major: Sustainable Energy Management with a minor in Economics
Involved in: Teaching Assistant, Employee at Trailhead Cafe, AXS, NSLS, ASHRAE, BAOBAB
Why do you love ESF? I love ESF because this campus is like a family. The students here are inviting and accepting of others.
Favorite part about being an OL: This is my first time being an OL, but I am looking forward to being helpful on everyone’s transition to the campus!
Advice and thoughts for new students: Put yourself out there! You never know the lasting friendships you can make by just introducing yourself to someone.
Name: Molly Mulhare
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior
Major: Environmental Resources Engineering
Involved in: ERE Club, AXS, SU Band, Research in the Environmental Resources Engineering Department

Why do you love ESF? There is a sense of community that radiates throughout the college, which contributes to the numerous opportunities to become involved both on and off campus. All of the students and faculty at ESF are connected with a common goal - helping the environment. It is inspiring to be surrounded by so many passionate people with the same goal as myself.

Favorite part about being an OL: Making others feel comfortable by being my energetic, welcoming, and passionate self.

Advice and thoughts for new students: Don’t be afraid to say hi to other students. A majority of you are nervous and uncomfortable, but if you just say hi to someone you can spark a conversation and possibly a lasting friendship. I said hi to someone in my small group the first day of orientation and we are still friends today.

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Name: Natasha Duran
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Senior
Major: Environmental Resources Engineering
Involved in: Engineers Without Borders, Trailhead Café, CSTEP

Why do you love ESF? ESF students have created a community that is unseen at any other university. Everyone is welcome and everyone finds a place for themselves. I’ve received a quality education and met my best friends. There’s also a ton of free food and free plant events which is a total plus.

Favorite part about being an OL: Helping students to not feel so alone in a new world. Being a friendly face they can say hi to and rely on for help in the first week, last week, and every time in-between is a wonderful feeling.

Advice and thoughts for new students: College is a time to bloom like the flower you are. Lose yourself, find yourself, reinvent yourself, stumble, fall and get back up. It is a crazy ride but you get to make the rules. Enjoy it and don’t be so hard on yourself.
Name: Rachel Nazak
Class Year (entering Fall 2019): Junior
Major: Conservation Biology
Involved in: SU/ESF Catholic center, AXS honor society, work at Trailhead
Why do you love ESF? Everyone is here because they want to make the world a better place, and I think that is incredible and makes this school so special.
Favorite part about being an OL: Getting to share things with incoming freshmen that I wish I had known when I was a freshman.
Advice and thoughts for new students: Be yourself and have fun and you will do great things

Name: Rebecca Barkan
Class Year (entering Fall 2018): Senior
Major: Environmental Resources Engineering
Involved in: ERE Club, Engineers Without Borders/Engineering for a Sustainable Society
Why do you love ESF? Kind and passionate people who are constantly willing to go the extra mile; genuinely the people I’ve become friends with are my family and I wouldn’t be who I am without them.
Favorite part about being an OL: All of it! Especially watching first-years grow into themselves as leaders as the year progresses! It warms my heart.
Advice and thoughts for new students: If you don’t have hiking boots, get them. Same goes for rain jackets and warm socks!
Name: Sachi Segan  
Class Year (entering Fall 2018): Sophomore  
Major: Environmental Studies  
Involved in: Green Campus Initiative (GCI), Undergraduate Student Association (USA), and Materials Working Group Meetings (MWG)  
Why do you love ESF?: ESF has a really great education system and the professors are awesome  
Favorite part about being an OL: Meeting the incoming freshman and being myself around them! Being able to make freshman excited for ESF and more comfortable is definitely going to be an amazing experience :)  
Advice and thoughts for new students:  
Try to take advantage of the endless opportunities ESF has to offer. Being motivated and true to your passions on this campus will get you far!

Name: Tim Webb-Horvath  
Class Year: Junior  
Major: Environmental Resource Engineering  
Involved in: Acorns 2 Action, AXS, Engineers Without Borders, ERE Club, NYWEA, Syracuse University Outing Club, Organization of Competition Bodies, NAE GCSP, Honors Program  
Why do you love ESF? More than anything else, I love the people at ESF. The community here is more wholesome, helpful, and supportive than any other I’ve ever come across. It seems that no matter what your problem is, there is somebody on campus that is willing and prepared to help. Every interaction I’ve had with others on campus has been a positive one and the kindness within this community is unmatched.  
Favorite part about being an OL: My favorite part about being an OL is the ability to provide help to first-years. I remember how much the support of the OL’s positively shaped my introduction to college and consequently everything after that. I am excited to get to know everybody and answer any questions that may help somebody. Seriously, ask me anything  
Advice and thoughts for new students: Be yourself and be comfortable. I’ve found that people here will accept you for you. So, do whatever it is that makes you happiest and do it well.
**Name:** Trevor Hanson  
**Class Year (entering Fall 2019):** Sophomore  
**Major:** Conservation Biology  
**Involved in:** Student Ambassador, SUNY ESF Men’s Basketball team  

**Why do you love ESF?**  
I’ve made so many new friendships, ones that are going to last a lifetime. Starting my adult life with great people has been my favorite part about ESF.  

**Favorite part about being an OL:**  
Being able to help new students with their transition into college and make the most of their college life.  

**Advice and thoughts for new students:**  
Be involved, try new things, and most importantly, put yourself out there. College is a really good time to find yourself and is a fresh start.

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**Name:** Zoie Gold  
**Class Year (entering Fall 2019):** Sophomore  
**Major:** Environmental Studies  
**Involved in:** Undergraduate Student Association (USA), Environmental Studies Student Organization (ESSO) and hopefully more this year!  

**Why do you love ESF?**  
I love ESF because of all the amazing friendly people who have made ESF a second home.  

**Favorite part about being an OL:** This is my first year as an OL, but I am so excited to meet all of the incoming students and be with you all as we learn and grow throughout our time at ESF!  

**Advice and thoughts for new students:**  
Talk to people, keep an open mind, and try new things!  
There are so many talented and interesting faculty and students at ESF as well as great clubs and student organizations. You never know what will spark a friendship, opportunity, or interest!  
Also, don’t stress too much. ESF is not all fun and games and you will be in some tough classes, but you are here and can do it! There are always people and services here for you as well!