

The Value of a Bryant Education

At Bryant University, your son or daughter will discover big-school opportunities in a small-school setting and achieve success – as he or she defines it.

Our academic programs have a long-standing reputation for excellence. What sets us apart from other colleges and universities is the depth and breadth of our offerings and the unique integration of business and liberal arts – all business students study liberal arts and all liberal arts students study business. This integration gives students marketable skills and hands-on opportunities to work closely with faculty, gain hands-on experiences, and enhance critical thinking and communication skills to compete in and contribute to a complex, global environment.

Bryant's rich campus life allows students to engage in meaningful community service, gain real-world experience, develop new talents and passions, and build lifelong friendships with classmates from 31 states and 45 countries. They can choose from more than 80 clubs and organizations on campus, and stay fit through Division I athletics, intramural and club sports, and a wellness center that rivals private fitness clubs.

Career planning starts early at our nationally recognized Amica Center for Career Education with Career Planning 101, a five-week course that helps students examine their values and careers that are of interest to them. All students are encouraged to take advantage of self-assessment tools, speaker programs, and workshops. Internship opportunities complement classroom learning and allow students the flexibility to explore different

career paths or prepare for graduate school. Our corporate recruiting program involves more than 350 companies.

At Bryant, character and success go hand in hand. For the Class of 2007, 98.4 percent of surveyed graduates were employed or enrolled in graduate school within six months of graduation and reported an average starting salary of \$43,177.

The investment made in a Bryant education pays lifelong dividends, but it should be counted not just in career success stories but also in the character our students develop for a truly successful life.

For more information about Bryant's academic programs, visit www.bryant.edu/areasofstudy.



Choosing a College

We consider parents and families to be an important part of the college search process. As your son or daughter tries to decide on the right college, you want to be sure they select schools that offer a variety of academic programs (www.bryant.edu/areasofstudy) and an active campus life. Many students enter college not knowing exactly what they want to do after they graduate, and even those who have a professional career in mind often change direction once they are exposed to different areas of study.

I invite you to consider applying to Bryant under one of our two Early Decision programs. Early Decision at Bryant is less about "getting in" and more about where your student wants to be. Merit and need-based financial aid decisions are the same in both Early Decision and Regular Decision. There is no doubt that these are challenging economic times, so I encourage you to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before the applicable deadlines to determine eligibility for federal and institutional aid. At Bryant, we remain

committed to providing the highest quality education at a reasonable cost, and we offer a wide variety of programs designed to assist you.

In the coming months, the Admission Committee and I will make some tough decisions as we select the Class of 2013 from a large and talented pool of applicants. We want to maintain Bryant's friendly, small-university atmosphere by keeping our undergraduate population at about 3,500 students. It's important that our students get to know their professors, who have regular office hours and often serve as a source of advice and encouragement.

Bryant University has always prided itself on preparing students to succeed in life and their chosen professions. We're excited about all the great things happening on campus and would be happy to talk with you at greater length. Come take a tour and have coffee with me or a member of the admission staff. Meanwhile, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Michelle Beaugard
Director of Admission

First class
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Bryant
UNIVERSITY
The Character of Success

APPLICATION DEADLINES
Early Decision II
January 2
Regular Decision
February 1
Financial Aid
February 15

A person in a red shirt and white shorts is running on a green track. The background shows a building and trees with autumn foliage.

bryant university
NEWS
for parents & families



Freshman class cochair makes the most of Bryant

At 7 a.m., first-year student Cory Cloutier is jolted awake by his alarm clock. He doesn't hit snooze — he knows that he doesn't have time. Half asleep, he walks over to the giant desktop calendar that details the day ahead: classes until 2 p.m., lunch with his R.A. in Salmanson, Student Senate committee meeting, intramural soccer tryouts, study group for his upcoming accounting exam, and a late-night Bryant Helps meeting to plan a holiday party for underprivileged children. Whew!

What's amazing is that this jam-packed day is not unusual for Cory. Most are filled with academic, cocurricular, and social activities — and that's just the way he likes it. In fact, it's one of the reasons he chose to come to Bryant in the first place. "It is easy to get involved and meet new people here — everyone is so outgoing and friendly," he says. "The minute I walked on campus, I knew I wanted to come to Bryant."

Cory, who is from Charlton, Mass., was an Early Decision applicant and is happy to say that Bryant University was his first — and only — choice for college. But as much as he loves it, he knows that it's important for students to have a voice in decisions being made about life and learning at Bryant. He ran for Student Senate, won the election, was appointed Freshman Class Cochair by the Senate Executive Board, and is committed to representing the Class of 2012 for the next four years.

Although Cory's story sounds like the exception, he's not all that different from many Bryant students. The University's culture thrives on students who are steadfast in making the most of their time here. Many echo Cory's philosophy: "You learn so much more being active on campus. It's just a better overall experience."



A Four Year Procession to Commencement

Over the past several months, you've probably been poring over brochures, clicking through Web sites, and walking the halls of your son's or daughter's potential alma mater. You've heard terms like "student-centered," "academic excellence," and "multidisciplinary curriculum" from every university, including Bryant. And while all of these elements are critical to success, equally as important is a meaningful framework in which each student can develop and achieve.



At Bryant, we are student-focused, but it doesn't mean that the faculty and staff bend to the whims of the 18-year-olds that walk onto campus each fall. What it does mean is that there is a thoughtful progression of development opportunities offered throughout the four years that your son or daughter will call Bryant home.

The first year is firmly centered on character. To help students define what character means to them, they concentrate on discovering personal strengths and individual passions. In the freshman Liberal Arts seminar, required of all students, the curriculum committee painstakingly selects classic and modern reading assignments that help students understand how character defines us and shapes our choices. This semester, for example, students debated the merits of the historical figures in David McCullough's *Brave Companions: Portraits in History*.

Additionally, every student in the College of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences gets a unique introduction to business in a trial-by-fire course, where students create a new business plan and pitch their proposed enterprise to "potential investors" as part of the University's Elevator Pitch Competition. The class teaches students the value of working with a cohort, sparks awareness of their strengths and weaknesses, and gives them a glimpse of what they may want to do in the future.

This introspection and discovery can be challenging, especially combined with the adjustment of living away from home for the first time. To make the transition easier, all first year students take Foundations for Learning, a one-credit class that encourages them to explore how they will take responsibility for academic success. Bryant faculty member Laurie Hazard designed the curriculum and wrote an accompanying textbook, which is used at colleges and universities across the country.

These are just a few of the first-year programs that make the Bryant experience distinctive, but it doesn't stop there. With an understanding of character in hand, students are well prepared for their sophomore year, when they explore their place in the world through coursework and cocurricular activities. One of these

programs, the Sophomore International Experience (SIE), is a unique two-week, three-credit study abroad experience held during winter and summer breaks. Hundreds of second-year students have traveled to the United Kingdom and France, Panama and Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, China, Germany and Greece, and Italy to learn about other cultures and how businesses operate globally.

In their junior year, students begin to refine their passions. If the SIE sparked an interest in studying overseas for a semester, students can choose from one of 46 countries. And, as graduation edges closer, academic internships become critical in defining career goals and gaining marketable experiences. Through relationships with more than 350 companies, the Amica Center for Career Education helps students secure practical internships at organizations such as Fidelity Investments, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Walt Disney World, the New England Patriots, Textron, local and national media outlets, and a variety of nonprofit organizations.

The Amica Center again becomes a key partner as seniors identify and pursue job opportunities or enroll in graduate school. Senior year is also packed with intense upper-level classwork, capstone projects in several disciplines and in the Honors Program, and networking opportunities like the Bryant Career Fair.

Ultimately, our hope is that four short years from now, when students walk through the Archway on the way to Commencement exercises, they are empowered by what they have learned and who they have become. As a whole, the four-year Bryant experience will ensure that every student who receives a degree is fully prepared with the core skills and competencies — and personal qualities — to succeed.

Financial Aid

A college education is one of the biggest investments a family can make. Bryant recognizes this and offers a variety of aid packages to help students finance their education. Options include scholarships, need-based grants, loans, and work-study awards.

In order to be eligible for need-based financial aid, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This document is used to determine eligibility for federal and institutional aid, and can be completed online between January 1 and February 15 on the U.S. Department of Education Web site: www.fafsa.ed.gov. Bryant's federal school code is 003402.

It is critical for Early Decision II applicants to complete their FAFSA online as early as possible. Students and parents should not hesitate to use best estimates

for income figures, which may not necessarily be officially available until later in the year. Those admitted under the Early Decision II program receive their merit scholarship awards (if applicable) and need-based financial awards (if required financial aid information has been provided) with their acceptance letters in February. Every effort is made to provide a timely response to FAFSA forms submitted by Early Decision II candidates, as these students are expected to make an enrollment deposit to the University by February 23.

For more information or assistance, please call 401-232-6020 or e-mail finaid@bryant.edu.



Benjamin Zander and the Lauren Amarante factor

Benjamin Zander is accustomed to greatness. As the renowned conductor of the Boston Philharmonic, he works with the world's top musicians. As a sought-after inspirational speaker, he espouses lessons in leadership and teambuilding to top executives at Shell, IBM, NASA, and the U.S. Army, among others. But it was a sophomore from Bryant University that recently hit a high note with him.

Lauren Amarante, events director of the Global Entrepreneurship Program (GEP) at Bryant, was set on getting Zander to speak at the University's fall Elevator Pitch (E-Pitch) Competition. She spoke to him several times by phone, traveled to Boston from her hometown of Meriden, Conn., to talk more about the event in person, and finally got Zander to agree — and even waive his fee. He set one condition: "Mr. Zander challenged me to bring 200 Bryant students to his October 15 concert in Boston," Amarante says. She remembers him saying, "This is a test of your entrepreneurship abilities."

She passed the test with flying colors when more than 300 students attended the concert. Days later Zander was at Bryant as the E-Pitch keynote speaker — as promised. During his presentation, he spoke to students about opening their eyes to a new, more positive way of thinking, and raising questions that they never thought to ask. And then he spoke about possessing the Lauren Amarante factor as a means to success. Her passion, drive, and ambition truly inspired him, Zander said.

As for Amarante, she credits Bryant faculty and the GEP with giving her the support to boldly go where her ideas lead. She is fully committed to the GEP slogan, "Dare Mighty Things" and hopes to open her own speaker's agency some day.

"I have developed a fearless, determined drive to network and confidently approach the world's most successful people," she says.

For more details regarding this event, visit www.bryant.edu/zander.

Important Dates

EARLY DECISION I

NOVEMBER 15
Application deadline
DECEMBER 15
Notification mailed
JANUARY 5
Enrollment deposit due

REGULAR DECISION

FEBRUARY 1
Application deadline
MID MARCH
Notification mailed
MAY 1
Enrollment deposit due

EARLY DECISION II

JANUARY 2
Application deadline
FEBRUARY 2
Notification mailed
FEBRUARY 23
Enrollment deposit due

FINANCIAL AID

FEBRUARY 15
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) due. Bryant's federal code number is 003402. It is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

