

Event Rules and Protocol

In order to host events with alcohol, you must be a registered host. In order to become a registered host you must attend an Alcohol Training Workshop run by the Director or Associate Director of Student Activities. Be sure to plan ahead and attend a workshop before the event you want to hold!

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The primary concerns of the College Administration for any campus event are that all guests of the party are safe, that the facility being used is not damaged, and that things are cleaned up at the end of the event.
- All student-run events must be reserved and registered properly through the Student Publicity and Activity Resource Center (SPARC) located in the Student Activities Office (Campus Center, 218).
- Events cannot be publicized until they are registered properly with SPARC.
- All events must have 2 Event Hosts – both of whom meet with a SPARC Intern to register the event and sign appropriate paperwork.
- When alcohol is served at an event, both Event Hosts must have attended an Alcohol Training Workshop during the current academic year.
- Event hosts are expected to remain present and available throughout the event, and are not to engage in any commitments during the event which would draw their attention away from monitoring the general progress of the party. (Ex: DJ, performing in a band, etc.)
- Friends of students who want to attend Bard events must be registered with Security, in accordance with the college's guest registration policy. This will help to ensure that unwanted strangers and local high school students do not enter Bard events. Advertising these types of events off campus is not allowed and will jeopardize the event happening, as well as your ability to host future events.
- Most large scale events are required to have additional Event Staff to help monitor various aspects of the event such as entrances and exits, alcohol distribution, etc. Event Staff is provided by the Office of Student Activities. Be aware that Security and/or the Administrator on-call may check in on campus events to ensure that they are running smoothly.
- Events need to end at the designated time on the registration form. All events must end by 2:00 am on Friday and Saturday. Events scheduled for Sunday through Thursday will end by 12:00 am. Events occurring in Residence Hall areas need to end 30 minutes prior to the start of quiet hours (1:30am on Fri & Sat; 11:30pm on Sun-Thurs).
- Due to limited resources, a maximum of three large events will be approved for a weekend night. This includes spaces like SMOG and the Campus Center MPR.
- There will be no events approved during completion days for each semester unless under special circumstances.
- There is limited space on campus so reservations for events are on a first come first served basis.
- Strobe lights are strictly prohibited from all student-run events on campus.
- Events that are well organized and have a well-advertised theme are better attended, so do your best to organize something more than just a keg party.

ALCOHOL AT EVENTS

- The College's Position on alcohol: It is expected that all policies in the Student Handbook be obeyed. If you are unfamiliar with the policies in the Handbook, be sure to read them over. The Handbook is available here: <http://inside.bard.edu/doso/handbook/>.
- Up to 1 keg of beer (or 2 half-kegs) is allowed at the following venues only: Manor Lounge, Manor Lawn, Kline Commons, Kline Faculty Dining Room, Ludlow Lawn, Village Walkway, and Stonerow Quad.
- Hard alcohol and wine are not allowed for any large events.
- Up to ½ keg off beer OR wine is allowed at art shows in Fisher Studio Arts and Woods Studio. These events require a separate 30 minute meeting with the Director of Student Activities to discuss details for the event.
- If more alcohol is present at an event than was approved, the event will be shut down by Security and the alcohol will be confiscated.
- Hosts are required to provide enough non-alcoholic beverages and snacks to match the expected attendance of the party. The cost of all food and beverages are the responsibility of the hosts and should be taken into account when planning the event.

- Club funding can be used to purchase food and non-alcoholic beverages for events. Club funding can **NOT** be used to purchase alcohol.
- If alcohol is to be provided at the event, a designated Event Host will be needed to supervise the serving of alcohol.
- Hosts must remain sober (no drinking at all!) during their event.
- All guests attending events where alcohol is provided will be required to show some form of ID at the door. Guests (non-Bard students) will have to be registered at Security by a Bard host. Guests who are not registered by a Bard student will be asked to leave the campus.
- Event hosts providing alcohol will be required to use wristbands to identify students who are over 21. An alphabetical list of all Bard students with date of birth will be provided for reference. The Event Staff assigned to your party will check ID's and give wristbands only to students over 21.
- If guests arrive highly intoxicated or become so, you may not serve them further drinks. The Event Staff will help you monitor this.
- If guests seem to be drinking a large quantity at the event, please stop serving them drinks. Even if they are not showing signs of intoxication, drinking large amounts can lead to many dangerous situations. Feel free to ask for help from Event Staff to enforce this.
- Hosts cannot require guests to pay for alcohol, because you do not have a liquor sale license. Donations can be requested to cover general expenses for the party but charging admission solely to cover alcohol expenses is not allowed. Charging for cups, which then are filled up from a keg, is the same thing as charging for beer and is not allowed.
- You may not advertise alcohol on event flyers. Events that publicize alcohol will be taken down and thrown away and hosts will lose their hosting privileges. Hosts are responsible for approving all advertising material before it goes out.
- Hosts may be held legally responsible for guests who leave a registered event regardless if they became intoxicated at that event or if they arrived intoxicated. Intoxicated guests should not be allowed to drive. Contact Security or the Golf Cart Patrol for escorts or be sure to get attendees on the Campus Shuttle. If you ever need help with an intoxicated guest, find the Event Staff at your event or call Security.
- Outside alcohol may **NOT** be brought into events regardless of whether the hosts are providing alcohol or not.

EVENT REGISTRATION

- Both Event Hosts will need to meet with a SPARC Intern to discuss details of the event they hope to have.
- Both hosts are expected to be involved with the organizing of campus events. When alcohol is present, both hosts will need to attend an Alcohol Training Workshop with the Director or Associate Director of Student Activities before the event will be approved.
- In general, you should begin organizing at least 14 days in advance for an event. This will give you time to reserve a location, request services, plan for advertising, etc.
- All event registrations must be completed and submitted **BY NOON ON THE MONDAY PRIOR TO YOUR EVENT DATE.** No exceptions. Don't put yourself in the position of having your event canceled because of a lack of planning and/or communication on your part. This is not optional. If you are planning to reserve a residence hall or are planning a very large party (ISO Cultural Show, etc.) you will be required to begin organizing further in advance and may need to set up additional meetings, depending on the space you want.

RESIDENCE HALL EVENTS

- Manor, Robbins, Tewksbury, outside the Village Dorms, and outside of StoneRow are typically the only residence halls that are available for registered events. To reserve these spaces, you will need to meet with SPARC Interns.
- By request of residents and the Peer Counselor staff, only one event with amplified sound will be registered in these residence halls per weekend. Space is available on a first come, first served basis.
- Unless outside, events have to fit within the public lounge areas of the residence halls. General guidelines for capacities in these lounges are as follows... Manor: 180; Robbins: 150; Tewksbury: 100. If your event ends up being too big for the space, Security will require you to ask people to leave.
- In order to maintain a safe living space, events in Residence Halls may not be advertised to non-Bard people. If you plan on having non-Bard guests at your event, they must be registered with Security.
- Tewksbury and Robbins are available for certain events but alcohol will not be approved for these spaces.

EVENTS IN THE CAMPUS CENTER

- No alcohol is permitted in the Campus Center.
- The Multipurpose Room and “Down the Road” Cafe are spaces that are available to register an event. Other spaces such as the lobby and balcony may be used but may require extra planning to arrange.
- Hosts of events in the Campus Center are required to monitor for people smoking and/or drinking inside. They are expected to ask smokers to go outside, and ask people to dump their alcohol or leave the building with it.

CLEANING UP AFTER YOUR EVENT

- Event hosts are expected to see that the area(s) being used during their event is (are) cleaned up. This means that all trash (bottles, cans, cups) is put in trash bags for disposal and that a basic broom sweeping is done. Cleaning up includes all areas inside and outside the building impacted by the party including bathrooms, outside entrances, and the surrounding area.
- For events held in Manor, hosts should call Security to come and sign off on the Manor Rounds sheet to show that the space has been cleaned. This will ensure that the hosts/organization responsible for the event will not be fined for failure to clean. By not asking Security to sign off with you, you open yourself up to the possibility that you may be charged for not cleaning.
- An \$80.00 fee will be charged if the party space has not been satisfactorily cleaned. This fee will either be split between the two hosts (charged against your student account) or the club/organization responsible for the event (charged against the convocation fund).
- Arrangements should be made in advance for cleaning supplies. You can always contact Security, who can access supply closets for additional cleaning supplies if needed.
- If damage occurs and the responsible person is not identified, either the hosts will have their own student accounts charged or, the sponsoring student organization may have their convocation account charged.
- Always inform the Office of Student Activities about damages that may have occurred at your event.

WORKING WITH EVENT STAFF

- Student Activities assigns Event Staff for all student parties. The number of Event Staff depends on the size of your party and whether you are serving alcohol. Please respect the role of the students who are Event Staff –they are there to help you have a successful event and ensure the safety of the students attending.
- Event Staff will help to administer the event details. This does not mean the Event Hosts (you) are no longer responsible. They will simply help with wristbands, birthday list checking, overseeing alcohol distribution, and watching for safety violations. They will help you follow college policy and look out for the safety of your guests.
- Prior to the event, the Event Hosts should introduce themselves to the Event Staff. This will make it easier for them to locate a host during the event if needed. We encourage you to communicate freely with one another about your concerns and your desires for the party. The Office of Student Activities can also put you in touch with the Event Staff BEFORE your party, if you request it.
- After the event is cleaned up, you are welcome to call Security. They can look over the space, confirm that everything is OK, and sign off on your event host agreement form. This will ensure that you will not be held responsible for any cleanup problems or damage charges caused by people after your event is over.

SOUND EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

- Soundcrew is available to provide speaker systems and a sound technician for most student-run events.
- Soundcrew requires at least 7 days notice about events in order to provide staffing and equipment. Meet with a SPARC Intern in order to submit your soundcrew requests properly. E-mail Soundcrew at soundcrew@bard.edu with additional questions or requests you might have.
- Do not assume that the Soundcrew will be there! It is your responsibility to confirm three days in advance with SoundCrew to run equipment at your event.

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Students who register social events with the College often have questions about their responsibility as hosts. As a host, you are responsible for your guests, the facility used and its cleanup. If an accident should happen, you can be held legally liable. For example, if someone drinks alcoholic beverages at an event and later has a car accident, court cases have found the event host(s) responsible. Likewise, if someone is injured, the host can be responsible.
- You are not only subject to civil action, which is injured person v. yourself for damages, but you are subject to criminal action, which is The State of New York v. yourself. The latter can bring stiff fines, jail time, and costly litigation expenses.
- There is also the possibility of action by the College or student-to-student complaints. These are handled through the College conduct system.
- For your own sake, protect yourself from accidents and the legal mess that follows. The best way to protect yourself is to adhere to all laws and policies in the Student Handbook.

“IF I DON’T HOLD UP MY END OF THE DEAL”:

- Students who violate college policy regarding Event Host expectations will likely go through the College conduct system. This can include meeting with the Peer Review Board, the Student Judiciary Board, and/or an administrator.
- Hosts that do not meet the responsibilities expected of them can be removed from the approved list of event hosts and/or may be expected to attend another Alcohol Training Workshop again before being allowed to host any more events. Depending on the severity of the violation, hosts may be subject to official sanctions from one of the conduct boards and/or the administration.

NEW YORK STATE LAW REGARDING ALCOHOL

- Driving while ability impaired - (Blood Alcohol Level of .05 to .09) \$300 to \$500 fine, up to 15 days in jail /mandatory 90 day license revocation.
- Driving while intoxicated - (Blood Alcohol Level of .1 or more) \$500 to \$1,000 fine, up to 1 year in jail and/or 3 years probation / mandatory six month license revocation.
- Felony driving while intoxicated - (Second DWI conviction in 10 years) \$1,000 to \$5,000 fine, up to 4 years in jail and minimum 1 year license revocation. If under 21, loss of license until you reach 21.
- Furnishing alcohol to persons under 21 \$500 fine and up to 6 month in jail and/or 1 year probation.
- Possession by persons under 21 \$50 fine per offense and/or mandatory participation in an alcohol awareness program.
- Use of false identification \$100 fine, revocation of license for 90 days, community service, and mandated participation in an alcohol awareness program.

These statutes are not arbitrary or negotiable. New York State handles alcohol related offenses in a severe manner; hence, a simple party can become a costly, embarrassing, inconvenient or even fatal lesson. Please avoid spoiling your party.

FACTS ABOUT ALCOHOL

- Alcohol, if abused can have severe, life threatening effects that range from addiction to alcohol poisoning to death. Many students know people in recovery or people who have had serious medical emergencies due to alcohol abuse. Still many other students are recovering alcoholics themselves. Never assume someone is a drinker. A more interesting and entertaining atmosphere is one that attracts many varieties of people, drinker or non-drinker. The following is a short list of side effects related to alcohol that you as a host should be aware.
- When alcohol is mixed with medications or other drugs, it's affect is often synergistic. This means that 1 drink plus 1 medication may equal the effect of 3 or more of each.
- Alcohol is addictive.
- The smell of alcohol can cause someone in recovery to become ill or have psychological flashbacks.
- Alcohol is a depressant. It causes inhibitions to be relaxed. The majority of sexual assaults involve alcohol.
- Bread, water, and cold showers will not help to sober someone up. Only time will allow your body to metabolize the alcohol.

- Alcohol affects people differently. A lighter person will become intoxicated more quickly than a heavier person. A person who drinks frequently will develop a tolerance to alcohol -- it takes more alcohol to reach the same effect but a person's blood alcohol level will rise in accordance with their intake regardless of their perceived tolerance. Some people are prone to violence when they drink.
- There is a genetic pre-disposition to alcoholism. Someone who has a parent who has been or is an alcoholic will be five times more likely to become an alcoholic themselves.

If you ever have concerns regarding your (or a friend's) alcohol or drug use, please seek out the resources that are available to you, such as the Counseling Office, Dean of Students Staff, Peer Counselors, or Faculty.