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**Contact the Office of Parent and Family Engagement**

Phone: (904) 256-7535

Email: [family@ju.edu](mailto:family@ju.edu)

**Connect**

[Learn more about the President's Parents Council.](#)

[Fill out the Parent Information Form](#) to ensure your contact information is up-to-date and stay on top of all things JU!



**BIG Dates to Save in April**

This April marks Jacksonville University's 85th birthday! Each year, we celebrate the day our charter was signed with a [Charter Day of Service](#) and our annual day of giving, [Big Green Give](#). Join us on **April 12** as we give back to our communities and to the University in support of your students!

Before our annual day of philanthropy, we take a moment to gather with our Dolphin Family and raise a glass in a Global Toast to JU. This year, we have Global Toast events throughout the country that we welcome you to attend on **April 11!**

[Find and RSVP for a regional Global Toast event near you.](#)

**There's Still Time for Your Student to Study in Sorrento, Italy this Summer!**

We are still accepting applications to study abroad in Sorrento, Italy this summer. **The deadline for applications is April 1 for Summer I or Summer II in Sorrento!**

[More information on JU's programs in Sorrento.](#)

[More information on Summer I or II in Sorrento.](#)

**Parent Spotlight**

Melanie '03 and Paul Herring P'20 are Dolphins for Life! Melanie is a graduate of the University's EMBA program and their son is a junior in the Aviation program. Melanie and Paul regularly attend University events and are volunteer ambassadors of the [President's Parents Council](#).

They own a company called [Dorm Pack Pros](#), offering services to college and university students including turn-key summer storage solutions. We thank Melanie and Paul, and all the President's Parents Council members for their involvement with the University. To get involved, please contact the Office of Parent and Family Engagement at [family@ju.edu](mailto:family@ju.edu).

**Visiting Writer On Campus: Pulitzer Prize Winner Leonard Pitts, Jr.**

The English Department is excited to present Leonard Pitts, Jr., Pulitzer Prize-winning author and nationally syndicated columnist as our third annual Walter Visiting Writer.

Over the span of 35 years, Mr. Pitts has been a columnist, a college professor, a radio producer, and a lecturer. But the word he most defines himself by is "writer." As the author of one of the most popular newspaper columns in the country he has been called "insightful" and "inspiring"; as the author of a series of critically-acclaimed books, including in his latest novel *Freeman*, he has touched on issues central to American identity.

Please join us at Terry Concert Hall on Wednesday, April 3, 2019. There will be a social hour with light hors d'oeuvres at 6:00 p.m., and Mr. Pitts will give a talk with Q & A beginning at 6:45 p.m., to be followed by a reception at 7:30 p.m..

Please RSVP to [writer@ju.edu](mailto:writer@ju.edu) if you plan to attend.

**Gearing Up for Graduation**

If your student is a senior, Commencement is on the horizon! [Check out the schedule of events, graduation checklist, FAQs and more.](#)

**Highlights:**

- Thursday, April 18 at 5 p.m.: Multicultural Graduation Celebration
- Thursday, April 25 at 5 p.m.: Master & Doctorate Commencement Ceremony
- Friday, April 26 at 5 p.m.: Senior Stroll & Class Photo, followed by the Graduate Reception
- Saturday, April 27 at 8 a.m.: Undergraduate Programs Commencement Ceremony

**2019 Dates to Remember**

*April 1: Deadline for Sorrento Study Abroad applications for Summer 2019*

*April 4-8: Dolphin Travel Program: [Iceland](#) (trip full!)*

*April 3: Walter Visiting Writer, Leonard Pitts, Jr.*

**April 11: [Global Toast](#)**

*April 11: Athletics Brew-val Tour ([Jacksonville Global Toast](#))*

**April 12: [Big Green Give/Charter Day of Service](#) - no scheduled classes**

*April 18: Frisch Welcome Center Dedication*

*April 22-26: Final Examination Week*

*April 25: Commencement for Graduate and Doctoral Programs*

*April 26: Senior Stroll and Graduate Reception*

*April 27: Commencement for Undergraduate Programs*

*May 1: Payment plans for Fall 2019 open*

*August 25 - September 2: Dolphin Travel Program: [London](#)*

**October 18-20: [Homecoming & Family Weekend](#)**

[Academic Calendar](#)



[Personalized video footage of your graduate walking across the stage during Commencement is available to order here.](#)

### Honoring the Influential Women Who Inspire Us

"As we approach the final days of March, Women's History Month, and we celebrate the naming of our outstanding JU Women of the Year, I've spent some time reflecting on the women who influenced, guided and enriched my own life."

[Read the full letter from President Tim Cost '81.](#)

### Your Financial Aid Spring Checklist

- File 2019-2020 FAFSA now at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)
- Payment plans for Fall 2019 open on May 1. Sign up in May to take advantage of a 6-month plan for fall
- Parents can get access to your student's account by having them designate you as an authorized user. [Find Instructions here!](#)

### Support JU Students

Fill out the [JU Parent Information Form](#) to ensure you receive University communications.

Jacksonville University

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