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### **Simon's Rock Hosts Annual Rock the Community Week of Service**

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA—Simon's Rock will host its annual Rock the Community event this April. Rock the Community is a week of service executed by Simon's Rock first-year students that highlights giving back to the school and the community as a whole. This event emphasizes both the student and school's commitment to being socially minded, responsible members of the community from a local to global scale. Rock the Community, a core part of the Simon's Rock ecosystem for years, is now integrated into the First Year Experience course, which helps new students explore and engage with the school and surrounding areas.

This year's Rock the Community week will include a number of events for students, from learning about local birds to a school-wide blood drive. On Earth Day, Saturday, April 22, students will help clean up Alford Road in Great Barrington, where the school resides. In the upcoming week, students are encouraged to learn about Conversations to Remember, an organization that connects students with senior citizens. Students will also assist patrons at the Great Barrington Library with general tech support.

The week of April 24 onward will include murals painted on campus, group trail walks, and a campus car wash. On Friday, April 28, students will make ecobrick—plastic bottles densely packed with used plastic that serve as reusable building blocks that reduce waste and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

More activities will take place on campus during Rock the Community. Giving back to the community is an integral part of education at Simon's Rock.



## About Simon's Rock

[Bard College at Simon's Rock](#) is the only college in the country specifically designed for highly motivated students ready to enter college after the 10th or 11th grade. Simon's Rock offers a challenging program in the liberal arts and sciences, taught exclusively in small seminars by supportive, highly trained faculty, who are leading scholars in their fields. The College grants degrees in more than 35 majors. The Princeton Review's *Best 380 Colleges* rates academics at Simon's Rock higher than Harvard and Princeton.

[Bard Academy at Simon's Rock](#) is the nation's first two-year boarding and day program designed to prepare 9th and 10th graders to start college early. A student entering Bard Academy as a high school freshman will earn an Associate of Arts degree from Bard College at Simon's Rock after only four years and a Bachelor of Arts degree after only six years. The Academy curriculum is designed and taught by students' future college professors who are leading scholars in their fields.

For more information, visit [simons-rock.edu](http://simons-rock.edu) and [bardacademy.simons-rock.edu](http://bardacademy.simons-rock.edu).

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