

**The Bairnwick Women's Center**  
**2022-2023 Resident/Co-Director Application**

**The Resident position is open to rising sophomores, juniors and seniors.**  
**The Co-Director Position is open to rising juniors and seniors.**

**Deadlines** (all due at 11:59 pm of that day)

- **March 3:** Co-director applications due
- **March 4:** Co-director interviews
- **March 3:** Resident applications due
- **March 6 & 7:** Resident interviews, each applicant participates in a 10 minute interview with incoming and outgoing co-directors and our faculty advisor Dr. Mansker.

Please direct all questions to Sara Brandenburg ([brandsm0@sewanee.edu](mailto:brandsm0@sewanee.edu)) or Marc Monteil ([montemc0@sewanee.edu](mailto:montemc0@sewanee.edu)). If you are a first time applicant, we suggest you speak to a current resident or co-director about the various commitments expected of a Wick resident.

**Please read thoroughly the “Mission Statement”, “Resident Expectations”, and “How to Fill Out Application Form” sections below. After reading, you may proceed to the Application Form found at the bottom of this document.**

**Mission Statement**

The Bairnwick Women's Center is a student-led movement that seeks to educate and to empower the Sewanee community by promoting social justice, equality, and voice. We seek to examine and challenge traditional understandings of gender and sexuality in our community, and we are dedicated to inspiring open and honest dialogue. We serve the campus as an alternative to traditionally “male” models of leadership, thought, and participation. We work through an inclusive and dynamic feminist framework that celebrates diversity and respects difference. We refuse to accept sexist, homophobic, racist, classist, and other discriminatory behavior and practices on our campus. We approach and execute our mission through the following facets:

**1. Diverse leadership.** When considering feminist issues, it is essential to approach activism through an intersectional framework. Because the U.S. and college student bodies are increasingly diverse around racial, ethnic, religious, and gender identity, it is especially important to consider leadership diversity around these identities. We strive to represent all voices and identities on campus by upholding these intersectional perspectives.

**2. Fostering community.** We work to further a sense of community through open events such as community potlucks, Tuesday Toasts, Sewanee “date nights,” creative writing workshops,

Pinnacle Luncheons featuring a variety of speakers, and book clubs. We also understand that we are but one platform for discourse and are committed to collaboration with and support for other student organizations seeking to further social justice on our campus.

**3. Encouraging conversation.** We incite meaningful and productive conversations through advocacy campaigns, social media presence, consciousness raising groups and day-to-day interactions. We strive to provoke, facilitate, and contribute to difficult discussions on campus to create a comfortable, mindful, and safe environment for the entire community.

**4. Providing a platform for student voices.** Our programming focuses on giving all students an opportunity to make their voices heard. Students have a chance to share personal stories, experiences, and lessons in both public and anonymous forums such as Tuesday Toasts, Pinnacle Luncheons, and Sewanee Monologues. By providing a safe and open-minded environment, we strive to make each person feel empowered because “everyone deserves a parade.”

**5. Demanding change.** No sexism. No racism. No homophobia. No transphobia. No classism. We believe in shared humanity and we demand mutual respect.

**6. Serving as a resource within and beyond our community.** Within Sewanee, we offer peer support 24/7 and a safe space. We are not professionals, but we are passionate, well-informed students that are ready and willing to help in any capacity. Beyond Sewanee, we seek to partner with local nonprofit and activist organizations.

### **Resident Expectations**

There are specific expectations for residents of the Bairnwick Women’s Center. In order to ensure that applicants are aware of the nature of our work, these expectations are listed below:

- Participate in a pre-semester orientation and training planned by co-directors. This will likely take place shortly before classes resume in August and involve training on triggering and sensitive subject matter.
- Fully commit to an average of **10 hours per week** to Wick involvement, in addition to **2-hour meetings** each week. Co-directors will exceed **10 hours of work per week**.
- Accept Women’s Center responsibilities as the **first priority over non-academic activities** including Greek life, sports, and other student organizations.
- Fulfill and uphold the Women’s Center’s mission in all Sewanee spaces to the best of your ability.
- Demonstrate flexibility, patience, empathy, good time management, and the ability to put other ideas and perspectives ahead of your own.
- Contribute and execute creative programming, both individually and collectively.
- All residents, especially co-directors, must work and live together in a partnership, holding each other accountable.
- Embrace and honor a leadership role that empowers the campus community. Co-directors will be the main line of communication from the Wick to the administration.
- Support students in crisis, advocate for your peers, and respect the Women’s Center as a safe space.

- Serving as peer supporter for the day at least twice a month. When you are on peer support you must stay sober and cannot leave Sewanee for the whole day.
- **Understanding that by being a part of the Wick, you will have to possibly support a peer in a time of severe crisis.** This support might include but is not limited to helping a peer regulate their emotions, file a Title IX form, understand their options if they have experienced a form of gender discrimination, and bringing them to the nearest hospital.
- If you are interested in contributing to the Women’s Center but feel unable to commit to any of these expectations, please consider the Women’s Center Auxiliary Board (WAC), a non-residential partner organization that works closely with the residents of the house to promote gender equality and social justice.

### **How to fill out the Application Form:**

1. Copy and paste the Application Form to a separate document where you can fill out the responses below.
2. If you are applying for co-director, please fill out all responses below, including “Co-Director Response.” If you are applying for resident, please fill out all responses except “Co-Director Response.”
3. Send this **form with your responses filled in as a PDF and a resume/CV as one attachment** to [bairnwickwc@gmail.com](mailto:bairnwickwc@gmail.com). Please make the subject of your email and the name of your PDF your name and the position you are applying for (e.g. First Name Last Name\_ Co-Director Wick App).

## **Application Form**

Name:

Email:

Graduation Year:

Identity (however you would like to identify yourself, such as gender, pronouns, race, ethnicity, or however you would conceptualize identity):

### **Co-Director (open to rising juniors and seniors) Response**

If you are applying to be co-director, please supply a personal statement as to why you want to be a co-director. Please outline your leadership experience, leadership style, and how you would best help fulfill our Mission Statement.

### **Short Response**

1. Will you be going abroad during the 2022-2023 school year? Which semester?
2. Are you applying to be a co-director?
3. If yes, then are you still interested in living in the house if not selected as co-director?
4. If not selected as a resident, would you be interested in serving on the Auxiliary Board?
5. Are you applying for other theme houses or to be a proctor?
6. Have you ever had any disciplinary or honor code issues? If so, please explain. Are you ok with us checking with the Dean of Students?
7. Do you have housing accommodations (i.e. require a single, etc.) or a registered Emotional Support Animal? If you have an ESA, will you be able to make sure that your ESA receives flea treatment on a regimented basis?
8. How would you describe your living style?

### **Free Response**

Respond to the questions below.

1. Why do you want to live in the Women's Center? How do you envision your role in the house? If you are a returning resident, how do you see your role evolving?
2. What do you think is the biggest challenge facing the Wick? How will you address it as a resident or co-director? Please provide specific examples.
3. Please describe any prior involvement or participation in Women's Center events or other community/activist organizations. Have you taken any Women's and Gender Studies courses? If so, please list.
4. Is there an area of advocacy (i.e. gender equity, mental health, environmental justice, racial justice, etc.) that you would like to bring to the house? If so, what is it and why do you feel passionate about it?
5. What is one suggestion for the Women's Center that you would like to improve as a co-director or resident?

6. Pitch us a programming/event idea! How would you put the program/event together?
7. How do you envision your role in peer support programming? If you are a returning resident, how do you see your role evolving?