

Prairie Stars Fall Family Days 2023

October 13, 14, 15

Friday, October 13

- 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. UIS Bookstore, Public Affairs Center, 1st Floor.
Special extended hours for Family Weekend.
- 4 – 7 p.m. Family Days Welcome. Office of Admission, UHB lobby.
Stop by the office and say hi.
- 5 – 7 p.m. **"Around the World" Family Weekend Extravaganza!** Student Union, Ballroom
Families Embark on a Global Journey – rally your squad and immerse yourselves in an exhilarating game of UIS Jeopardy, designed in a family-feud style competition! Challenge your wits, engage in friendly banter, and prove that your family is the ultimate trivia champion! "Around the World" promises an evening filled with laughter, learning, and unforgettable moments. Whether you're a seasoned trivia master or just curious to learn, this experience is tailor-made to delight, educate, and entertain. Sponsored by the Office of Engaged Learning. Appropriate for all ages. (FREE)
- 5 – 7 p.m. **Uncover the Secrets of Spectacular Fireworks: A Family Adventure!** Health Sciences Building (HSB), Room 328
Have you ever wondered how fireworks transform the night sky into a dazzling canvas of colors and light? Join Dr. Miranda Andrews for an unforgettable experience as she unravels the captivating science behind these explosive wonders! Dr. Andrews will unveil the extraordinary alchemy of elements that ignite the brilliance in every burst. Space will be limited to 20 people at a time in the lab. Sessions will be offered at 5 p.m.; 5:45 p.m.; and 6:30 p.m. Appropriate for ages 6+. Safety goggles will be required and provided to all participants. Sponsored by the School of Integrated Science, Sustainability, and Public Health. (FREE)
- 8 – 11 p.m. **Join Us for a Stellar Night at the UIS Star Party.** Brookens Library, Rooftop Campus Observatory. Entrance accessible from southwest corner of Brookens Library.
Explore the cosmos, gaze through telescopes, and unravel the mysteries of the night sky at our [Star Party](#). [Pre-registration](#) is a must to secure your spot, but we'll welcome walk-ups as space permits. Please reserve your space in advance. Remember, this event depends on clear skies, so participants who pre-register will receive a weather update via email on Friday afternoon. Note: To fully enjoy the experience, participants should be comfortable climbing four flights of stairs and a short 5 ft. ladder up to the main telescope dome. (FREE)

Saturday, October 14

- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Family Weekend Welcome. University Hall Building, Admissions Office.
Stop by the office and say hi.
- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. **Partial Solar Eclipse Viewing.** Outdoors, UIS Colonnade
Join us for a front-row seat to the breathtaking partial solar eclipse visible from Springfield. We've got eclipse glasses ready (while supplies last) to safely immerse you in the cosmic dance of the sun and moon. Please note that this experience is subject to the whims of the weather. If Mother Nature decides to be elusive with clouds or rain, we may have to reschedule this cosmic rendezvous to April 8, 2024 for a total Eclipse. This awe-inspiring adventure is appropriate for budding astronomers aged 6 and up, though our littlest stargazers may have difficulty using eclipse glasses. Safety first! (FREE)
- 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. **Pumpkin Party.** Lincoln Residence Hall Great Room
The Department of Residence Life invite all families and students to enjoy the timeless fall tradition of painting pumpkins. Participants will be able to pick out and paint their very own small pumpkin to take home. Appropriate for all ages. (FREE)
- 12 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch on Your Own.
The Student Union Food Studio accepts UIS dining dollars (meal plan money), cash and major credit cards. Or try the famous horseshoe sandwich at one of our many [local restaurants](#).

- 12 – 4 p.m. UIS Bookstore. Public Affairs Center, 1st Floor.
Special extended hours for Family Weekend.
- 2 – 4 p.m. **Springfield Out of the Darkness Walk.** Student Union, North Patio
The Out of Darkness Walk is an event to recognize those that have lost lives and/or been affected by the loss of a loved one to suicide. This is a mental health awareness event to shed light on the importance of mental health and services. The walk is for remembrance. It is not a race. No registration. Sponsored by UIS Volunteer & Civic Engagement Office. Appropriate for all ages. (FREE)
- 4– 6 p.m. **La Familia Cookout.** Student Union, North Patio
It's that time of year again, and we're ready to spice things up! Join us for the sizzling, yearly La Familia Cookout, hosted by the dynamic collaboration of The Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS), Gamma Phi Omega Int. Sorority Inc., Sigma Lambda Beta Int. Fraternity Inc., Baile Monarcas, and the illustrious UIS Diversity Center. Get ready to immerse yourself in the vibrant culture of Hispanic/Latinx/e heritage while savoring mouthwatering dishes that will transport your taste buds to Latin America and beyond! But it's not just about the food – it's a unique opportunity to discover the inspiring missions of these incredible organizations, dedicated to promoting the richness of Hispanic/Latinx/e culture right here on campus. Bring your family and friends, because this is more than just a cookout; it's a celebration of unity, diversity, and the joy of coming together. Appropriate for all ages. (FREE)
- 5 – 7 p.m. Dinner on Your Own.
 - Enjoy the culinary delights of Springfield's restaurants. [Visit Springfield Illinois](#) for dining options, or
 - Dine on campus with your student. The Food Studio accepts UIS dining dollars (meal plan money), cash, and major credit cards.

Sunday, October 15

- 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. **RFS Presents: The Weakest Link: Music Edition.** Lincoln Residence Hall Great Room.
Based on the game show the weakest link, families will be able to select a representative to compete for a chance of winning \$50 prize. Questions will be music based. Sponsored by Ritmo, Flow y Son. Root beer floats will be available. Ages 6+. (FREE).
- 1 – 3 p.m. **Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) Pumpkin Painting.** Student Union, Student Leadership Center.
Let's start out the season of fall with painting pumpkins as a family. Join KDP for this fun event with all supplies being provided. KDP members can't wait to create fun fall memories with each and every one of you! Appropriate for all ages. (FREE)

Suggested: Family Time!

- Brunch, Lunch or Dinner on your own.
Enjoy some of Springfield's 'As Seen on Diners, Drive-ins, and Dives' restaurants: D'Arcy's Pint, Charlie Parker's, or Route 66's famous Cozy Dog Drive-in. Check-out our Downtown Restaurants and Cafes too.
- Finding Lincoln <http://www.lookingforlincoln.com/>

Things to do in Springfield Saturday & Sunday

(Local events are highlighted and may have required registration or admission fees. Explore links for details):

- Family Fitness at the Market | YOGA. 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Old Capitol Farmers Market, S 4th St &, 406 E Adams St, Springfield
Meet us under the market mural every 2nd & 4th Saturday for a free, all-levels yoga class led by instructors from Jax Yoga. Bring your own mat, water, towel, and sunscreen!
- Downtown Springfield, Inc. Events:

<https://www.downtownspringfield.org/downtown-springfield-community-calendar/>

- Illinois Times Calendar of Events: <https://www.illinoistimes.com/springfield/EventSearch?v=d>. A Sample of events that may be of interest (Local events are highlighted and may require registration or admission fees. Explore links for details):
 - [Prairieland Classic All Breed Dog Show](#), Oct. 13-15
 - [The Illinois Freedom Project](#) (Saturdays) Springfield & Central Illinois African American History Museum
 - [Elijah Iles House](#) (Saturday 12-4). Historic Springfield house tour
- [Wheel of Fortune stage show](#) (Saturday 6:30 p.m.). Sangamon Auditorium, UIS.
- [Theresa Caputo Live! The Experience](#) (Sunday 2 p.m.). Sangamon Auditorium, UIS