

Alum to Alum Mentoring Q & A



- **Can I use Barnard Connect to network with other alumnus?**

Yes! Barnard Connect is a platform that drives both student-alum and alum-alum connections.

- **Can I tailor who I'd like to hear from on the platform?**

It is not possible to customize audience that can message you, however, you can set how many meetings requests you are open to receiving each month. If you are not currently available to respond to messages, please click on your profile image on the top right, select “My Preferences”, then “Availability”, and set “Request a Meeting” to zero which will hide your profile from others. You will still be able to search and reach out to others in the platform.

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- **How else can I network with the Barnard Alum Community?**

- **LinkedIn Searches**

- Enter “Barnard College” in the search bar.
- On Barnard's page, click on “Alumni” from the menu.
- Browse for alums of interest using the filters such as where they live, where they work, what they studied, or enter keywords that should appear in their profile.
- Once you’ve located an alum you’d like to connect with, send a personalized connection request, identifying yourself as a fellow alum, a brief explanation of what you have in common (field, major, skill set), and ask to be connected.
- Once you hear back, send a longer message with more information on the type of advice you're seeking, and a request to set up a phone, video or in-person conversation.
- A Beyond Barnard advisor can walk you through this process in more detail, tailored to your specific goals. We can also help you create or update your LinkedIn profile.

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○ LinkedIn Groups

There are several Barnard groups on LinkedIn where you can read, post, connect and learn about upcoming events. Follow the links below to request to join:

- [Barnard College Alumnae and Affiliates \(all fields\)](#)
- [Barnard Alumnae in Law](#)
- [Barnard Women in Entertainment](#)
- [Barnard Entrepreneurs Network \(BEnet\)](#)
- [Barnard Alumnae in Tech](#)

○ Informational Interviews

Planned conversations with a fellow alum can be a one-time advice-seeking session, or lead to an ongoing mentoring relationship. As you meet with alum to ask questions about their work, look for people you feel comfortable with, who have a strong network they are willing to connect you with, and whose advice feels on the mark. Cultivate those relationships beyond the one meeting by circling back for specific advice as you conduct your job search, advocate for a promotion, or make a change in role or fields.

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- **Advising Appointments**

Meet with a Beyond Barnard adviser for tailored advice on how to locate, connect, and cultivate a mentor or mentors with alumnus in your field(s) of interest. We're here to discuss what you are looking for, and to suggest specific ways to locate and reach out to alumnae who can be of help on a short or long term basis. Advising appointments are available by phone or virtually. Make an appointment online via barnard.joinhandshake.com, or by calling the office at 212-854-2033.

Alumnae Relations

- **Update Your Contact Information with Alumnae Relations**

Make sure you receive Alumnae Relations communications about events and other opportunities to connect with fellow alumnus. You can also update your communication preferences, on the [Alumnae Relations website](#). Creating a profile also allows you to search the Alumnae Directory for possible connections.

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- **Shared Interest Groups**

Barnard has a variety of shared interest groups, some centered around a shared industry, others by personal identity or college activity. For a complete list and more information, visit the [Alumnae Relations website](#).

- **Professional Leadership and Development Committee (PLDC)**

The PLDC provides alumnae compelling programming to support continued growth and development in their careers. The Committee plans several events per year, both virtual and in-person, incorporating key professional and leadership concepts with ‘hands-on’ practicing of skills. Other [AABC committees](#), including Young Alumnae, Alma Maters, and Project Continuum, plan events by career and life stage.

- **Regional Clubs**

Connect with Barnard Alumnae in your area — a [complete list of clubs is here](#). If you don’t see your region represented, contact alumnaerelations@barnard.edu for ways to start a new club or plan a regional event.