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Spring into Northwestern

Ambassadors' Spring Newsletter

Above Left: Wildcats coming together for Dance Marathon (above) and House on the Rock (below) Above right: Willie the Wildcat!



Our wildcats having some fun in the sun!



3 Must Do's for Spring

1 Dillo Day:

Every June, student group, Mayfest organizes a daylong free music festival for Northwestern students on the lakefill. It's a great way to celebrate the end of the school year and relax with your friends. Past headliners include Steve Aoki and Wiz Khalifa. This year students will enjoy 2 Chainz and Chance the Rapper among other artists.

2 Enjoy the Lakefill:

After being cooped up inside during winter quarter, students take advantage of the lakefill as soon as the weather warms up. Grab a blanket, your friends, and a book to enjoy the view of the Chicago skyline while lying on the grass and soaking up some sun. Norris Outdoors rents tandem bikes and canoes for more adventurous Wildcats!

3 Create in Artica!

Artica is Northwestern's art studio in the basement of Norris (the student center). It is necessary that you go let your creativity flow and make a masterpiece! Finger painting is free every Friday!



CAMPUS PHOTOS

Check out our Wildcats around campus!



Hello Class of 2018!!!!

My name is Sarah Carthen Watson and I currently serve as the Coordinator of For Members Only (FMO), Northwestern's Black Student Alliance! FMO serves to encourage political, social, cultural and intellectual unity and growth within Northwestern University's Black students and its broader community. FMO is the representative and political voice of Northwestern University's Black undergraduate student body. The services and programs of FMO seek to cater to the concerns and interests of the undergraduate Black student body, educate people on the contributions of Black people and Black culture to society, instill consciousness of the state of Black affairs at Northwestern University and abroad, and develop Black leaders.

FMO is a great opportunity to get involved on campus and develop leadership skills. Be on the lookout for chances to volunteer, join committees, and add us on Facebook to hear about our events!

If you have any questions at all about NU, the Black community, or anything in general, please feel free to reach out to me at SarahWatson2015@u.northwestern.edu. We want to help make sure that your transition is as smooth as possible, and that you find a real community away from home here at NU. On behalf of For Members Only, we can't wait to meet you!



Sarah Carthen-Watson, Class of 2015



Advice from a

Senior:

Before they leave Northwestern, a few of our seniors wanted to leave you with some words of wisdom.....

Name: Torry Walker

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Advice to Incoming Freshmen: Find your relaxation. Whether that be a person, a group of friends, a student organization, a sport, an activity, a place, it really doesn't matter. You're going to have so many new experiences, having something familiar to go to for relaxation in times of great stress can make a big difference.



FMO SPRING CONCERT

By Sierra Boone

After barely surviving the polar vortex this winter, I figured the FMO Spring Concert would be the perfect way to welcome spring with open arms.

This year's Spring Concert performer was Big K.R.I.T., a southern rapper hailing from Mississippi. Admittedly, I had never heard of K.R.I.T. before, and thus, was worried that I wouldn't enjoy the concert as much as people who did. But after listening to some of the recommended music and hearing, "I'm so jealous!" from my friends back home, my worries soon ceased. I found out that Big K.R.I.T. has some great music (my current favorite is "What You Know About It").

When the day finally came, a very pumped Sierra made her way to Norris in hopes of an unforgettable night. And she wasn't disappointed, either.



Before K.R.I.T. even came on stage, the DJ put the "Vibes" in NU Vibes. I cannot dance to save my life, but you wouldn't have thought so on Saturday, April 19th! It was a great break from impending deadlines and other schoolwork. It was a great break from club meetings and making decisions. It was just raw fun.

By the time it was K.R.I.T.'s turn to perform, I was beyond ready. In, my opinion, he was the perfect decision for Spring Concert. The crowd - myself included - fed off of his hype energy, making the night great. The weather wasn't even that warm, but by the end of the night no one even cared. Probably the best part for me was being surrounded by all of my friends in one place, screaming lyrics and waving their hands with me in fun. Oh, and when Big K.R.I.T. jumped into the crowd and made everyone go crazy.

Sure, when I walked back to my room after everything was over, my voice was nonexistent, but it was well worth the experience. And I cannot wait for an even better experience next year and for years to come.

Research @ NU

By Amrit Trewn



Northwestern University is hailed as one of the top research universities in the world. This is a point made very clear to prospective students when they read news reports about the university, turn through the pages of informational pamphlets, and take student-guided tours of the campus. But, what does Northwestern's status as a premier Research I institution mean to its students?

On the one the hand, students at Northwestern are taught by professors who are conducting cutting-edge research in their respective fields. When students graduate, they enter into the job market with an indisputable advantage. However, on the other hand, Northwestern's expertise as a leading research institution means that undergraduates have a plethora of opportunities to engage in research as assistants or independent researchers. As a senior, I cannot overemphasize the benefits of being a student at an institution that takes its undergraduate research seriously. Through the Mellon-Mays Undergraduate Fellowship I have been funded to conduct independent research since my sophomore year.

Over the span of two years, I have had the opportunity to work closely with professors from the English, African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Political Science, and Sociology departments to find answers to questions of interest. For example, my first project emerged from my confused and confusing identity as a 'mixed-race' student. Growing up, I always wondered: What does it mean to be 'mixed-race'? To address this question, I studied how 'mixed-race' became a categorical identity in US history by looking at debates about the 'mixed-race' person in race science, US Law, literature, and film. At the end of my study, I found that the media, legal, and political structures have talked about the 'mixed-race' person in particular ways to legitimize anti-black racism throughout modern history.

Through my research experiences at Northwestern, whether it be my fellowship or summer research programs offered by the university, I have developed irreplaceable bonds with professors who served as advisors and mentors. Whenever I need letters of recommendation to apply for scholarships and career opportunities, I know I have the strong support of my advisors. They have pushed me to think through challenging questions in academia as well as life, taught me what it means to conduct research, encouraged me when I was feeling down, and prepared me for a potential career in higher education/research. The very fact that I am a Fulbright Scholarship finalist, planning to study database surveillance technologies in the UK is testimony to the immense possibilities and benefits of participating in undergraduate research as Northwestern University.

Name: Jessica Gaddis

Hometown: Southfield,
Michigan

Major: Journalism

Advice to Incoming

Freshmen: My advice to you is short and sweet: keep your peace. College is really hard, but it was designed that way for a reason. I challenge you to do what you need to do to regain your peace of mind. If there's a television show that calms your spirit, or if talking on the phone with your mom is what soothes your soul, than do those things. At Northwestern, the first thing we all seem to sacrifice is our peace of mind because academics are so important or because we think our social status is going to make or break us. I challenge you to keep your peace of mind in a safe place and off the chopping block.



More
Advice from a
Senior



Name: Raven Smith

Hometown: Chicago, Illinois

Major: Chemistry

Advice to Incoming Freshmen: GOD, faith, and hard work can conquer all preconceived notions of your abilities. Allow nothing and no one to discourage you from doing "the impossible". You are the impossible :)

MORE CAMPUS
PHOTOS



Note from the Coordinators

Dear Class of 2018,

We are so excited that you chose to join the Wildcat Family! We can't wait to meet all of you in the fall, but feel free to email us if you have any questions or concerns over the summer at ambassadors@northwestern.edu

There are tons of ways to get involved with Ambassadors on campus by writing for our newsletters, serving as a pen pal for prospective students, or hosting admitted students in the spring when they visit campus to name a few. Don't forget to like us on Facebook: NUAmbassadors

See you in the fall!

The Ambassadors Coordinators