



**Florida International University Presents the
9th Annual Homecoming Step Show:
“The Divine 9 Ring Circus”**

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Show starts at 7:30 p.m.

U.S. Century Bank Arena

11200 S.W. 8th Street, Miami, FL 33199

Step Show Chair

Gaby Wheeler

Gwhee001@fiu.edu

Overall Director

Mercy Lavado

Mlava004@fiu.edu

Final Participation Deadline:

August 26, 2011

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Dates and Obligations

July

6th: Step Show participation packets go out at “100 Days Till Homecoming” event.

August

26th: General Rules and Regulations meeting at 2PM.

Participation packets are due at 5 PM in GC 2214.

September

12th: Music in the form of a CD and Mp3 are due at 5 PM in GC 2214.

16th: Music reviewed by the Step Show Chair and found to need editing; due at 5PM

27th: Optional performance practice from 12-2PM in the Arena. Step Teams need to check in **no later than 5PM**.

Doors open at 6:30PM. Show starts at 7:30 PM.

Happy Homecoming to all Sororities and Fraternities!

The Homecoming Council at Florida International University will be presenting the 9th Annual Homecoming Step Show on Tuesday, September 27th 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

We request the participation of Fraternities and Sororities in the State of Florida to make this year's Homecoming Week one of the most memorable ever!

Attached, you will find the Rules and Regulations, as well as the Registration packet for the Step Show. "The Divine 9 Ring Circus", this year's title, reflects upon the overall Homecoming theme, "If Roary Ran the Circus...". This lively theme allows for all teams to extensively show off their creativity and ingenuity. There can only be ONE Ringmaster, so who will it be this year?

All Fraternity and Sorority chapters of Florida International University do not have a registration fee and get first priority. However, any step teams in which the majority (51%) are non-FIU or FIU Alumni will be charged, per person, the price of a ticket for admission, \$15. The application deadline is **August 26th at 5 PM in GC 2214. No later applications will be accepted past this date.** Please keep in mind there will only be one team per Sorority/Fraternity chapter.

We look forward to having you participate in this year's Homecoming Week! If you have any questions, please contact either the Homecoming Step Show Chair, Gaby Wheeler at Gwhee001@fiu.edu or 305-342-7385, or the Homecoming Council Overall Director, Mercy Lavado at mlava004@fiu.edu or via cell 786- 554-3399.

A. Rules and Regulations

1. Whereas HC agrees to plan, organize, and execute the Homecoming Step Show and the Step Team agrees to compete in the Step Show until elimination.
2. HC agrees to provide a suitable venue for the Step Show competition, including the sound equipment, staging, staffing and all other production requirements to facilitate the successful presentation of the event.
3. Step Team agrees to perform at the Step Show according to the Step Show Judging Criteria as stated in the “Step Show Application Packet”.
4. As a condition of participating, each Step Team member agrees to sign a release of liability and assumption of risk form. Step Team also assumes such risk with respect to the willful or negligent acts or omissions of said Step Team’s participators or persons otherwise acting or engaged in the Step Show.
5. Step Team agrees to allow HC to film the Step Show performances for Homecoming memorabilia.
6. Step Team agrees to have no less than **four** team members to perform at the Step Show. At least two of said team members **must be FIU students from local FIU chapter with valid FIU ID’s**. If 50% or more (51%) of the Step Team consists of non-FIU students, a fee of \$15 per performer will be due when the packet is turned in, **AUGUST 26th, 2011**
7. Step Team will not be permitted to substitute or add any members to their list after, August 26th, 2011 at 5:00 PM, unless there is proof of a family or medical emergency.
8. Step teams consisting of more than 50% (51% or more) alumni members are not eligible to compete.
9. Anyone found attempting to sneak people into the show will have their team forfeited from the competition. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
10. Members of your chapters that are not specified as a performer or coach, may not be backstage or on stage any time during the show. There will be a 10 point deduction for each member found breaking this rule.
11. No use of fire, firearms, pyrotechnics, confetti, glitter or liquids or any sort are permitted. Use of said items will result in instant disqualification. All props and special requirements must be approved by the Homecoming Council at least 72 hours before the performance.
12. The Overall Homecoming Council reserves the right to disqualify or deduct points from a competitor for ANY inappropriate behavior, choreography and/or set designs. Inappropriateness

includes, but is not limited to: the use of any illegal substance, alcohol, political propaganda, profanity, nudity, and poor sportsmanship.

13. Step Team agrees to return the contract as per the stated deadlines, including all necessary paperwork, forms, and waivers can be mailed to or turned in to:

Florida International University, Modesto A. Maidique Campus

Homecoming Council, GC 2214

11200 S.W. 8th Street

Miami, FL33199

Phone: 305-348-2139

Fax: 305-348-3823

14. By signing below you are agreeing to abide by all preceding guidelines and the FIU policy and procedures.

Organization Name (NO Greek Symbols)

President of Organization (Signature) President of Organization (Printed) Date

Address. City, State, Zip Code

Phone Number

Email Address

Undergraduate Advisor (Signature) Undergraduate Advisor (Printed) Date

15. The Step Team coordinator/representative must be available for the **General Rules and Regulations meeting held on August 26th at 2 PM.** The agenda of this meeting will be emailed to the representatives on what will be discussed. Failure to attend this meeting will result in a 10 point deduction from final score.

16. In the event of a tie, each team will have a two minute pre-rehearsed step performance that will be judged based on three categories worth 5 points each that includes enthusiasm, creativity, and synchronization.

Please provide the name(s) of the coach(s) for the team:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Please provide the names of all stepping members. This number may not exceed 16, and must be a minimum of 4, with at least two of the four being FIU students with valid FIU I.D's. Photo I.D's will be checked the day of the event.

Chapter Name	Name: FIU Students	Name: Non-FIU Students
1)		
2)		
3)		
4)		
5)		
6)		
7)		
8)		
9)		
10)		
11)		
12)		
13)		
14)		
15)		
16)		

Step Team Coordinator/Representative (Signature)	Date
President of Organization (Signature)	Date
Undergraduate Advisor (Signature)	Date

B. Time Limit and Judging Criteria

1. Each judge will use the categories (shown below) to judge each team’s performance. The point value is based off the most that can be awarded per category.

Criteria	Points
Enthusiasm	5
Introduction Step	10
Relevance to Theme	10
Costumes	10
Traditional Step	10
Complexity	10
Synchronization	10
Vocal Clarity	10
Overall Performance	15
Maximum	100 Points

2. Each team will have a total of **17 minutes to perform including the Intro and Exit step**. 5 points will be deducted for each minute over the time limit. Five minutes overtime results in elimination, unless otherwise changed and notified by the Homecoming Council E-Board.

3. Any deductions of points Step Team may receive are listed below:

Reason	Deduction of Points
Each minute gone over the 17 minute time limit	-5 points
Any personnel behind stage during or before performance, not specified as a coach or performer	-10 -points per member found breaking this rule
Any props left on stage after the performance	-10 points
Any late music turned in after September 12th	-10 points
Attempts to sneak people into event	Immediate Disqualification
Failure to attend Rule ad Regs meeting on August 26 th	Immediate Disqualification
Any disrespectful or unsportsmanlike behavior towards other organizations on or off the stage	Immediate Disqualification
Use of glitter, confetti, liquids, etc.	Immediate Disqualification

4. Time starts as soon as a performer steps onto the stage, and ends when all members and props are off the stage.

5. Any disrespectful or unsportsmanlike behavior towards other organizations on or off the stage will result in disqualification.

6. Songs used in the performance must be edited for content and lyrics. An edited version of the music being used for competition **must be turned in for review by 5 PM September 12, 2011 to GC 2214**. The music must be submitted in both CD format and an mp3 format. The mp3 format needs to be sent by email to the Step Show Chair, AD of Administration and the Overall Director. Submitting music after September 12, 2011 will result in a 10 point deduction.

7. Once a team has turned in the first original draft, songs and format can NO longer be changed UNLESS deemed inappropriate by the Step Show Chair, AD of Administration, and Overall Director.

8. If a team is asked to change any music, it must be done by Friday, September 16th and turned in by 5pm to GC 2214. Once the music has been approved it can no longer be changed. Music needs to be turned into the Homecoming Step Show Chair (Gaby Wheeler) or a member of Homecoming Council in the Homecoming office (GC 2214).

9. Any special requests needed for the Step Show must be sent via electronic mail to the Homecoming Step Show Chair (Gaby Wheeler) by **September 19th, 2011**. Any last minute emergencies will only be acknowledged 24 hours before the event. **NO SPECIAL REQUESTS, INCLUDING LIGHTING, WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED THE DAY OF THE PERFORMANCE.**

10. At the end of the Step Show, all winners will be photographed.

11. All judges' decisions are FINAL!

These rules are subject to change at any time. If we decide to change these rules your Step Team will be notified in advance, before they take effect.

C. Arrival Procedure

1. All Step Teams will have the opportunity to briefly (15 minutes) rehearse their performances between the hours of 12 and 2 PM day of the event, September 27th, 2011.

1. All Step Teams must meet at the venue **no later than 5 PM** on the day of the show.

2. Step Teams will only be checked in once **ALL PARTICIPATING MEMBERS HAVE ARRIVED**. Performers and coaches need to present valid I.D.'s (either FIU or State issued) at the time of check in. All props will also need to be brought in and presented at the time of arrival.

3. All Step Teams' representatives and coaches are required to wear wristbands that will be distributed by Homecoming Council upon check in and arrival the day of the event. Without the wristbands individuals will not be allowed backstage.

4. Homecoming Council is not responsible for any personal belongings/items that are left in the dressing rooms after your performance. You may leave them **at your own risk**.

D. Order of the Show

1. Performance order will be decided by random drawing at the Homecoming Pep Rally on Monday, September 26th, 2011 between 12pm-2pm. Team representatives **MUST** be present in order to receive additional information regarding the Step Show.

2. The order will be determined by drawing once all applications have been collected.

3. Only the Homecoming Step Show Chair (Gaby Wheeler), the Homecoming Administrator of Production (Stephanie Suarez), or the Homecoming Overall Director (Mercy Lavado), can alter the order of the show.

E. Prizes

1. There will be two categories for competition:

A. NPHC Sororities

B. NPHC Fraternities

2. First place shall be awarded to the highest scoring team in each category. The awards will be distributed in both categories as follows:

- First place: \$1,000 + Trophy
- Second Place: \$500 + Trophy

3. Announcement of winners will occur at the end of the Step Show after the judges' votes have been tallied.