This isn’t just about getting involved.

At Penn State, you have thousands of ways to find out what matters to you, who you want to be, and how you want to live your life—in and out of the classroom.

Looking for people who share your interests? Special interest clubs, service groups, professional societies, and social fraternities and sororities bring people together. Looking for a stage? Theater companies, improv groups, and musical ensembles will put you front and center. Want something to cheer about? Get into the game with intramural competitions and club teams.

Looking for more? There’s a multimillion-dollar investment portfolio to manage. An award-winning newspaper to publish. And the world’s largest student-run philanthropy to organize for the fight against pediatric cancer.

This is about spending your time, getting involved, making a difference, creating something new, leaving a mark.

Opportunities abound at each of our twenty undergraduate campuses. Find your niche. Discover your passion. Get ready to live your life—at Penn State.
“Find what you’re passionate about.”

Matt Mullis, Secondary Education, Org: Superheroes for Kids


Ripped from the pages of their favorite comic books, Matt and his friends—fellow students who don costumes of their favorite characters—have teamed up for one of Penn State’s newest student organizations, Superheroes for Kids.

“Any community event that involves kids, we try to get involved with a kiosk to do photo ops,” says Matt, who portrays Captain America.

The group has participated in Penn State’s Relay for Life and did an event at a local library to support a summer reading program. They’ve also contacted a children’s hospital in Philadelphia to do a weekend trip and are developing an anti-bullying program to take into schools.

“Our goal is just to know that we made a kid’s day—it’s as simple as that,” Matt said. “The sky is the limit for us. We’re just looking to spread joy.”
“YOU GET WHAT YOU GIVE.”

JOHN WIATER, Security and Risk Analysis
Org: PENN STATE HOMECOMING

John Wiater knows how to throw a party.

As one of the directors of Penn State Homecoming—one of the largest student-run organizations in the country—John has worked to show a good time to the thousands of Penn Staters who converge on the University Park campus for one weekend each fall.

John joined Penn State Homecoming to work on the group’s web team and learn about web development.

“It turned into something more than that,” John says. “I wanted to do something for the University that had given me so much.”

He went on to serve as a director for the 2014 celebration. He says his experiences taught him about teamwork, leadership, and networking. He put what he learned into practice in other organizations, too—as an entertainment captain for the Penn State Dance Marathon, a musician in the Penn State Songwriters Club, and even during a summer internship. “My only goal at Penn State is that I wanted to do everything under the sun,” he says. “I didn’t want to leave a single leaf unturned.”
Clubs and Organizations

At University Park

Academic/Professional: 296
Fraternities and Sororities: 85
Honor Societies: 41
International/Multicultural: 79
Media/Publications: 16
Music/Performing Arts: 86
Philanthropic: 67
Political: 10
Religious/Spiritual: 61
Residence Hall Interest Houses: 11
Service: 48
Special Interest: 163
Sports/Physical Activity: 80
Student Council: 22
Student Government: 3
University Affiliate: 22
TOTAL: 1,090
Source: Office of Student Affairs

At Commonwealth Campuses

Penn State Abington: 40+
Penn State Altoona: 90+
Penn State Beaver: ~20
Penn State Behrend: 110+
Penn State Berks: ~50
Penn State Brandywine: 25+
Penn State DuBois: 20
Penn State Fayette: 20+
Penn State Greater Allegheny: ~15
Penn State Harrisburg: 50+
Penn State Hazleton: 15+
Penn State Lehigh Valley: 20+
Penn State Mont Alto: 20+
Penn State New Kensington: 20+
Penn State Schuylkill: 30+
Penn State Shenango: 10+
Penn State Wilkes-Barre: 20
Penn State Worthington Scranton: 15+
Penn State York: 20+
**Game On**

In addition to University Park’s NCAA Division I teams, eighteen other Penn State locations have intercollegiate athletic teams that compete in Division III or in the United States Collegiate Athletic Association.

Opportunities to compete in both men’s and women’s sports include the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Teams Competing in</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Abington:</td>
<td>13 NCAA Division III teams</td>
<td>abingtonsports.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Altoona:</td>
<td>16 NCAA Division III teams</td>
<td>altoona.psu.edu/sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Beaver:</td>
<td>8 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psubeaverathletics.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Behrend:</td>
<td>22 NCAA Division III teams</td>
<td>psbions.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Berks:</td>
<td>12 NCAA Division III teams</td>
<td>psuberksathletics.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Brandywine:</td>
<td>12 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psubrandywineathletics.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State DuBois:</td>
<td>10 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psuduboisathletics.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Fayette:</td>
<td>7 USCAA teams</td>
<td>goroaringlions.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Greater Allegheny:</td>
<td>10 USCAA teams</td>
<td>athleticsga.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Harrisburg:</td>
<td>16 NCAA Division III teams</td>
<td>athletics.hbg.psu.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Hazleton:</td>
<td>7 USCAA teams</td>
<td>athletics.hn.psu.edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Lehigh Valley:</td>
<td>6 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psulehighvalleyathletics.com</td>
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<td>Penn State Mont Alto:</td>
<td>12 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psumontaltoathletics.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn State New Kensington:</td>
<td>9 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psnkathletics.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Schuylkill:</td>
<td>10 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psuschuylkillathletics.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State University Park:</td>
<td>29 NCAA Division I teams</td>
<td>gopsusports.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Wilkes-Barre:</td>
<td>7 USCAA teams</td>
<td>wb.psu.edu/StudentLife/Athletics/varsity.htm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Worthington Scranton:</td>
<td>10 USCAA teams</td>
<td>psuscrantonathletics.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State York:</td>
<td>5 USCAA teams</td>
<td>sports.yk.psu.edu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Jeanine Askew intends on making a career of doing good and doing good business. The marketing major wants to someday be the head strategist at an advertising agency—one that does a fair amount of pro bono work for nonprofits.

“As high as you can get in the agency, that’s what I’m aiming for—more work, more challenges, more people to reach,” says Jeanine.

Judging by her involvement at Penn State, she should be ready to meet those challenges. Jeanine juggled logistics for a corporate conference on sustainability and a used clothing drive, both activities organized through Penn State’s chapter of Net Impact, a national sustainability student interest group.

The sustainability conference attracted more than 1,800 participants, including corporate representatives highlighting green initiatives. Net Impact is only in its second year on campus but Jeanine sees her work as building for the future.

“What we’re doing now is something that’s going to carry on and continue to have an impact here long after I graduate.”
ESTELLA OBI-TABOT describes herself as shy but, when she’s in her role as president of the College of Health and Human Development’s Biobehavioral Health Society, she knows how to work a room. She’s made the most of the opportunities she’s had with the group aligned with her major. First she served as the club’s social chair before being elected as president. “I’ve learned a lot of important leadership skills that I probably would never have gotten before,” Estella says.

“GETTING INVOLVED IS THE EASIEST WAY TO MEET PEOPLE.”

ESTELLA OBI-TABOT, Biobehavioral Health
Org: BIOBEHAVIORAL HEALTH SOCIETY, an academic association
Forget about the hair and makeup. What you really need to know about synchronized swimming, according to Ailaura Donahoe, a member of Penn State’s club sport synchronized swimming team, is that it’s a strenuous workout.

“People don’t realize how hard it is,” says Ailaura who, like many of her teammates, had never participated in synchronized swimming before coming to Penn State. “It combines dance and gymnastics with swimming. You have to be flexible. You have to keep yourself afloat, which is a lot harder than it sounds.”

Another plus: Ailaura has found that her teammates in the pool are her friends back on solid ground.

In addition to being a good outlet for exercise and a venue for making friends, Ailaura sees one more benefit of being on the team—it’s a conversation starter when meeting new people, which recently included recruiters conducting summer internship interviews.

“It’s definitely a talking point,” Ailaura says. “Synchronized swimming isn’t a really common sport. Hopefully, it will help them remember me.”
THON

— Penn State Dance Marathon
— World’s largest student-run philanthropy
— 15,000 students, year-round fundraising campaigns
— 1 weekend of dancing = more than $13 million in 2015
— More than $114 million raised to fund pediatric cancer research and support families battling pediatric cancer since 1977
— THON organizations at all 20 Penn State undergraduate locations

Special guests

Penn State welcomes hundreds of entertainers, industry leaders, and international and nationally known speakers to its campuses each year. Recent guests have included:

Drew Houston, CEO and co-founder of Dropbox
Earvin “Magic” Johnson, NBA legend
Marcus Lutrell, Navy Seal and author of “Lone Survivor”
Joseph Hirt, Holocaust survivor
Kunal Nayyar, actor and cast member on “The Big Bang Theory”
Jim Donovan, drummer and former member of Rusted Root
John Douglas, former FBI special agent, criminal profile pioneer, and author
Todrick Hall, music video superstar
Jackie Cruz, actress and cast member of “Orange is the New Black”
Sarah Koenig, journalist, producer for the weekly public radio show “This American Life,” and host and executive producer of the podcast “Serial”
Johnny “Cupcakes” Earle, entrepreneur, founder and CEO of Johnny Cupcakes, Inc.
Soledad O’Brien, journalist and former CNN host
On Wednesday nights, Tyler Bank plays in basketball games in which, regardless of the final score, everyone comes out a winner.

In these games, the sound of rubber-soled basketball shoes pounding the court is replaced by the squealing of a different kind of rubber—that of wheels braking on the wheelchairs the players are propelling around the court. The games are run by the Adaptive Outreach Club, which sponsors leisure activities for people with and without physical disabilities.

“It’s a mix of people there to play, some of whom are in wheelchairs and those who aren’t,” says Tyler, who serves as a coach and organizes the games. “There are a couple of people who are really awesome Special Olympic athletes. We’ve had Wounded Warriors come in sometimes and play with us, too. It’s a really good time and a lot of fun. I love it.”

Between ten and twenty people show up each week for the games. The group has also played on the court at the Bryce Jordan Center during halftime of Lady Lion Basketball games.

“Everyone is so positive and really friendly,” Tyler says. “It makes you feel like if they’re happy and they can laugh about things, you should be happy, too.”
YOU'RE ALL THERE FOR THE SAME REASON.
YOU’RE ALL THERE FOR THE SAME REASON.

JOHN ALLEGRO, Education and Public Policy,
Org: ESSENCE OF JOY

When John Allegro takes the stage with Essence of Joy, he knows dreams do come true.

About forty undergraduate and graduate students are selected annually to sing in the choral ensemble, which performs African and African American secular and spiritual music.

“Essence was always my dream choir when I came to Penn State,” John says. “We get to travel and explore a really unique sector of music that is very different and very recognized in the University.”

The choir performs regularly throughout the academic year on campus and throughout the state and beyond. All of the rehearsals and performances and hours traveling to venues result in memorable music and concerts—and something more.

“We always call ourselves the Essence family or EOJ fam,” John says. “Essence creates a close-knit group of people you rely on not just for music but for anything going on in life. It’s really great to be in a group that emphasizes that importance of connection.”

He fits in the Essence rehearsals and performances around his involvement as a program coordinator with Straight Talks, a peer education initiative that looks at LGBT issues on campus and beyond through the LGBTQA Resource Center.

“The quote I always use is ‘everybody has a story to tell,’” John says. “It’s important to listen to others and learn from them—just as it’s equally important to own yours and find pride in it.”