FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Penn State Homecoming 2017 Court Nominations Now Available

Nomination processes for Student Court and University Court are now open

UNIVERSITY PARK, PA. (Apr. 22, 2017) — With preparation for Penn State Homecoming 2017 underway, the first round of 2017 Student Court and University Court nominations has now been made available to the public. Nominations for the 2017 Courts will be accepted through an online process. The 2017 nomination form is now open at homecoming.psu.edu and may be submitted by any member of the Penn State community who possesses a working Penn State ID and email address. This includes students, professors, and faculty members.

Each year the Homecoming Royalty Committee works to select 5 male students and 5 female students to represent the Penn State student body as a part of the Homecoming Student Court. Nominated students must be either senior or 5th year University Park students for the 2017/2018 school year. Nominated students who fit the nomination criteria will then be contacted to submit their own application. Penn State faculty members then interview candidates and select the Homecoming 2017 Student Court.

When asked what qualities are looked for in candidates, Royalty Director Anuja Jonnalagadda answered, “We typically look for extremely driven students. The type of student who not only exhibits leadership around campus but also puts school first and takes their academics seriously. Most importantly, candidates should embody the true Penn State spirit and exhibit passion in everything they do.”

A similar process is implemented for the Homecoming University Court. University Court is comprised of faculty members who have made an impact on the Penn State community. Renee Rivera, the 2017 Royalty University Court Captain summed it up saying, "Being nominated for University Court means that there was a student or fellow faculty member that was inspired by you. It means that you influenced them in some capacity. It's a great honor to be nominated."

A carefully selected student panel reviews nominated faculty members and then selects 3 male and 3 female faculty members to be recognized during the duration of Homecoming 2017.

Those selected on court can be found at all Homecoming events wearing the traditional Court sashes displaying their titles. Court members will also be featured in the Homecoming Parade and recognized during the Homecoming Football Game. The 2017 Homecoming King and Queen, members of the Student Court voted upon by students, will also be crowned during the Homecoming Football Game which will occur on November 11th in Beaver Stadium.

The online nomination form can be found at homecoming.psu.edu under the tab labeled “Royalty”. First round nominations will be accepted through April 28th. A second round of nominations will open early this fall.

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Individuals may also be nominated during Homecoming’s Legacy Celebration at the Royalty nomination tables. Legacy Celebration will be held this Wednesday April 26th in the HUB-Robeson Center. Here students can enjoy free games, foods, and performances while celebrating Penn State and the community they call home!

"I'm so excited to meet students from different facets of the Penn State community. The Student Court is certainly going to bring me new perspectives and knowledge about aspects of the university that I'm not familiar with," said 2017 Royalty Student Court Captain Kelly Powlishen.

Royalty Director Anuja Jonnalagadda, couldn’t agree more, as she remembers her excitement when she was a Homecoming Captain last year meeting some of Penn State’s most impactful leaders. “Each person on Student Court and University Court has a unique story and so many accomplishments,” said Jonnalagadda.

**About Us**

Penn State Homecoming is a student-run organization with aims to celebrate tradition and instill pride in all members of the Penn State family through active engagement of students, alumni, faculty and staff across the community. Our organization is comprised of many student volunteers who donate their time to creating a multitude of events that make the Homecoming celebration a yearlong event.

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