

HOMECOMING

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Lip Sync weathers Baldwin renovations



Photo submitted by Landon Delgado

Members of Alpha Phi Omega, Tau Kappa Epsilon and Phi Delta pose for a photo during their Lip Sync practice. Greek organizations are grouped into teams and work together to choreograph a dance routine and lip sync performance in what has become a headlining Homecoming event.

BY AMBER DRAPER
TMN-TV Executive Producer

To keep the annual Homecoming event Lip Sync alive, the Homecoming committee has spent the past six to seven months working to adjust seating and location because of renovations to Baldwin Hall, Lip Sync's usual setting.

Lip Sync is an event performed by teams of Greek organizations who work together to lip sync to songs, choreograph dances and incorporate skits into their overall performances.

The event will take place Oct. 20 in Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall instead of in its usual location in Baldwin Auditorium.

Junior Taylor Collins, Lip Sync co-director, said although the Performance Hall has limited seating, there will be alternatives for viewing the performance. There will be a live-stream viewing party in the Stu-

dent Union Building for those who are unable to secure a ticket for the Performance Hall.

Performance hall tickets are \$7, and viewing room seating is \$4. Adam McMichael, program adviser for campus activities, said because of Baldwin Hall renovations, there were rumors Lip Sync would not be included in Homecoming this year.

Lip Sync co-director senior Scott Halbert said the Homecoming committee has worked since last spring discussing possible concerns.

"There was a point of when we were looking at holding other events in place of Lip Sync and we were looking at all these traditions at other campuses," Halbert said.

But Halbert said they could not let go of a tradition that has meant so much to Truman students.

"We decided that in the campus' best interest is to try and figure out how we could continue the tradition, even if that meant that we were going to have to make some changes," McMichael said.

Homecoming Liaison junior Jennie Huynh said performers are also restricted now to one costume, but in previous years they had been able to change at least once.

"Since it's in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall, there's no wing, so we just have to wear one costume or layer our costumes," Huynh said.

Despite the changes, senior Tiffany Shearer, who has participated in Lip Sync for three years, said she's glad the event is still happening. The changes should not deter anyone from attending or participating.

"I feel like it's the heart of Homecoming," Shearer said. "I mean aside from the game, which I know is the point, I mean it's kind of where everyone kind of comes together. Because it's the heart of the competition at least."

A total of 24 teams are competing. For more information about Lip Sync and other Homecoming events, visit homecoming.truman.edu.

Non-Greek organizations emphasize continued Homecoming participation

BY MATT RAGSDALE
Contributing Writer

Homecoming at Truman State University is a yearly tradition for organizations big and small, and non-Greek organizations come back year after year to get their names out there and do some hard work with other organizations.

The new Homecoming committee is hoping for more non-Greek support and participation including fundraising and social events like lip sync and philanthropy. Non-Greek support of Homecoming is strong with a few organizations because they care about the impact they can have working with a variety of groups toward a good cause.

Cardinal Key is one of the smallest organizations participating in Homecoming this year, with just 25 members. For Cardinal Key, Homecoming is a way to branch out and take participation head-on. The reason Cardinal Key president senior Laura

DeDecker keeps coming back is to embrace the relationships fostered through the event.

"I think by showing that even if you are small you can do your part," DeDecker said. "And we have stuff to learn from Greek organizations that can organize themselves so well for something like homecoming and it can still be a really good time."

The new Homecoming directors are looking to change the preconceived view of the event from being limited just to Greek organizations to being a campus wide celebration. Homecoming director senior Taryn Sohal reached out to every organization on campus last spring semester and earlier this fall. Sohal's focus is to gain more non-Greek support for Homecoming. For Sohal, Homecoming shouldn't be just for a handful of student organizations, but instead should allow everyone at Truman and in the community to participate. Sohal's goal is to gain as much support as possible for the 150 year anniversary of the University.

"We really tried to reach out and be very inclusive," Sohal said. "Like, it isn't a Greek thing, it's way more than a Greek thing."

Participation in Homecoming essentially works the same. All groups participating need a team for lip sync and must fundraise for the Homecoming philanthropy.

Professor Anton Daughters said he thinks certain non-Greek organizations don't have the same goals as Homecoming and flatly are not interested.

"As a smaller group, they're going to have fewer activities," Daughters says. "And those activities are probably going to be targeted at the specific interests of the larger group."

Despite the recent push for non-Greek participation, Homecoming is commonly thought of as an event for Greek organizations. Senior Nakell Baker, Homecoming liaison for Prim Roses, said she thinks not all organizations are represented equally by homecoming.

"Homecoming I think is geared towards social organizations," Baker said.



Don't miss these Homecoming events, taking place the rest of this week!

Thursday, Oct. 20

Lip Sync

7 p.m.

Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall and Student Union Building live streaming

Friday, Oct. 21

Hands on a Van

1:30 p.m.

The Mall

Mystery Mission

5:30 p.m.

The Mall

Saturday, Oct. 22

Homecoming 5K Run/Walk

7 a.m.

Barnett Hall parking lot

Homecoming Parade

9 a.m.

Franklin St.

Pep Rally

12 p.m.

Tailgate parking lot (across from the Department of Public Safety)