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Dear Wildcat Parents and Families,

Since 2018 began, those of us in New Student and Family Programs (NSFP) have been doing what we do best, welcoming students and family members! In January, we welcomed the Pre-Orientation Programs (POP) and the POP Student Leadership team to our office which were previously overseen by the Office of Campus life. The 11 POP Leadership Team members work closely with NSFP to discuss and decide broader goals and directions for Northwestern's pre-orientation programs. In addition, the student leaders work directly with the specific pre-orientation program they are involved in. NSFP also welcomed the NSFP Board of Directors, a group of 10 Northwestern juniors who collaborate in the planning, coordination, and execution of transition programs for new students as well as select, train and supervise our orientation leaders, called Peer Advisers (PAs) throughout the entire first year. Finally, we officially welcomed the new Family Coordinators (a.k.a. FamCo), Emilie Touma and Danielle Hojnicki who help coordinate the training and organization of Family Ambassadors (student leaders) to serve as guides for Parent and Family Orientation and Family Weekend and assist with the planning and implementation of our family programs. You can learn more about all of these top student leaders on the NSFP Website.

In February, we sent our first official welcome to the Class of 2022 early decision students and in May, we will have the chance to welcome the rest of our new Wildcats. As the class begins to take shape, we are in the process of interviewing and selecting all of our student leaders and also planning the POP Programs, Wildcat Welcome, Parent and Family Orientation, Family Weekend, and a host of other experiences for the students and families joining our community and those still transitioning through their first year. To the new parents and families: welcome! To those of you who have already been “around the lakefill,” thank you for continuing this journey with us.

In this issue of the Wildcat Family Focus, our campus partners have provided lots of details about events that have occurred since Winter break as well as upcoming initiatives including information about the 2018-2019 Housing Selection process, information about the Summer Internship Grant application program and of course, details about Commencement which, surprisingly, is not that far off!

Staff and student leaders alike are energized and ready to make an impact; thank you for being our partners in making students' Northwestern experiences productive, enriching and fun! Remember, if you have questions, need guidance, or simply are in search of a place to start, do not hesitate to contact us at (847) 467-3988 or family@northwestern.edu.

Best Regards & As Always, Go ‘Cats!

Patricia F. Hilkert
Director of New Student and Family Programs
Northwestern University
Residential Services is excited to announce the Housing Selection process for the 2018-2019 academic year. Living on campus is an important part of your student’s NU experience, and allows students to take full advantage of campus resources. As a reminder, first and second-year students are required to live on campus via the two-year residency requirement. Please visit the Residential Services website for more information about the residency requirement, including how to submit an exception request.

To complete the housing contract, each student will need their NetID and password to sign into the Housing Portal, located on the Residential Services homepage. Students should be prepared to preference up to 10 housing facilities, as well as submit roommate requests (if applicable). Housing assignments will be sent to each student’s Northwestern email account in early August. For more information about the Housing Selection process, please visit the Residential Services website or contact us at housing@northwestern.edu.
STUDENT ENRICHMENT SERVICES

Spring break is right around the corner! We realize many students will remain on campus over break, and we are excited to provide an overview of important resources and options for students to take advantage of in the Evanston/Chicago area.

Co-sponsored by Northwestern Career Advancement and the Northwestern Alumni Association, NEXT is a unique opportunity to connect with Chicago Alumni. NEXT is a one-day job shadowing program that helps current Northwestern students—undergraduate and graduate—learn more about a professional field of interest. Alumni hosts arrange for students to spend a day at their place of employment, where students can observe and work alongside their hosts and meet other members of the organization to gain insight into the practical aspects of potential careers. Please encourage your child to take advantage of this excellent opportunity.

Another unique experience is Alternative Spring Break (ASB). ASB is a service learning trip to promote active citizenship and civic engagement for students on a quest for social, environmental, or animal justice across the country. Financial assistance for ASB is available through the SES One Form—Northwestern’s one stop shop for extracurricular funding opportunities.

Lastly, we want to encourage wellness and rest for students. If your student will be on-campus during break, rest assured that housing and food options are available. Campus Dining will be open and free for students on a meal plan, while students without a meal plan are able to dine for $8 per meal. Additionally, the Purple Pantry, Northwestern’s on-campus food pantry, will offer extended hours over the break for both on and off-campus students. For more information regarding the Purple Pantry, reach out to Mary Deeley from Sheil Catholic Center at m-deeley@u.northwestern.edu.

Whether taking a breather or going on an adventure, we hope your student will take advantage of some of Northwestern’s amazing opportunities and resources over break. For the most up to date information on programming and resources, please like “Student Enrichment Services” on Facebook.
Northwestern will host the 160th Commencement ceremony at 9:30 AM on Friday, June 22, 2018 at Ryan Field Stadium. Each participating degree candidate will be allocated 10 guest tickets for the ceremony which will be made available beginning March 26, 2018. In addition, all families are invited to attend the President’s Reception and the Baccalaureate Service scheduled for Thursday, June 21st.

Families should also look forward to attending their student’s individual school convocation, where students will cross the stage and diplomas will be distributed, occurring at various times on Friday, June 22, and Saturday, June 23. Ticket information regarding convocation ceremonies will be sent to graduating students by their respective schools in Spring Quarter.

As always Northwestern University tries its best to accommodate individuals with accessibility needs that wish to attend commencement or convocation. For the most accurate and up to date information for families who may require mobility or hearing assistance for their guests during commencement weekend, or for updates regarding the weekend’s events, please visit our Commencement website at www.northwestern.edu/commencement.
MLK DAY OF SERVICE AND LEARNING

On Monday, January 15th, 2018 Northwestern University celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. This event was hosted in collaboration with the Leadership Development and Community Engagement Office and City Year Chicago and was one of the many actions that took place to honor Dr. King’s legacy. Each year City Year Chicago chooses a school where their Corps members serve as a site for an MLK transformation project. This year Gale Community Academy, in Rogers Park (K-8), was chosen. Before volunteering students had the opportunity to hear from numerous elected officials about the impact of Dr. King’s life and the importance of engaging in your local community.

Over 150 Northwestern students and staff joined 900 additional volunteers to renovate the entire school. Some were involved in painting murals on the walls and stairwells, others built benches to assist with small group instruction, and a few helped with the community garden. Those who were present felt as though the day was meaningful with plenty of opportunities for thoughtful reflection and focused participation. Many students have expressed interest in staying connected at Gale in ongoing ways and we are thankful for Gale’s continuous invitation for partnership.

Later in the week on Friday, January 29th, 2018 we continued the learning with Inside Chicago. This was an interactive, fast-moving education program highlighting Chicago’s racist history using documentary shorts and commentary by local community leaders. Following the event there was a reception in Norris University Center. We closed out the night with Lift Ev’ry Voice. This event was an open mic dedicated to providing a “megaphone” for black Northwestern students’ voices. Participants shared up to seven minutes of a play, song, poem or speech. This collaborative event was in partnership with VERTIGO Productions.
SAVEMONEY with MyDtxt
Looking for ways to save money when buying Cat Cash for your student? Just text in to 82257 with keyword SAVEMONEY Family. Once you are signed up, we will send out promotional texts and flash sales directly to you. No worries, we won’t spam you and you’ll be happy you signed up. Standard text messaging rates do apply.

Cats Cups Flash Sale $35 for the remainder of the year promo code with location map of freestyle machines.
Coca-Cola Freestyle machines have made their way onto campus and we’re excited to give your students the freedom of over 100 different choices in 7 locations across campus. Why pay $1.99 for a paper cup that will litter our landfills when your student can help sustainNU with a purchase of a refillable and reusable ‘Cats Cup. For only $9.99, the stylish and sleek design reps the Northwestern Academic N and is made of durable melamine. You can easily make your purchase in our Hugs From Home webstore. Students will pick up their ‘Cats Cup gift in our Foster-Walker Fresh Market. PLUS: For only $35 more, you can purchase an unlimited plan: unlimited fills through the remainder of the academic year (now thru June 15th). The best value on campus right now is ‘Cats Cup!
Bonus Cat Cash promotion code:

Buying Cat Cash is easy in our Hugs From Home Webstore. For two weeks only, March 5th-18th our St. Patty’s gift to you is a bonus promotional code. Type in Lucky to the savings box for an extra 10% bonus in Cat Cash!

Choose to Reuse expanded!

Help us sustainNU by purchasing a program card for Choose to Reuse for your student. This popular program allows students to take their food on the go from 3 locations on campus in an eco-friendly, reusable container. Now accepted in Elder Dining Center, Foster-Walker Dining Centers, and Fran’s Cafe. It’s fast, easy and convenient and works for your students every day. You can purchase this in our Hugs From Home webstore or in-person at any of these three locations.

Tips to use Dining Dollars

Depending on their meal plan, most students have of Dining Dollars to spend in our markets, cafes, and restaurants each quarter. Our favorites are The Kiln, The Cat Shack Grill, Lisa’s Cafe, and Fran’s Cafe. Be sure to stop by and visit these locations when you’re on campus and taste the goodness. Also, check out Fill My Fridge in our Hugs From Home webstore--an easy way to make sure your student’s fridge is always stocked with the foods they love! Pick and choose packages from our Fresh Market and we will bag it up and give them a call to pick it up. We can even deliver to dining centers for a nominal delivery fee.

Winter Dates to use Guest Passes

Don't forget! Your student’s meal plan comes with guest passes! Come visit campus on these dates and use their guest visits to enjoy a nice family meal on us!

March 1, 2018
Stone Steakhouse at Sargent & Allison

March 4, 2018
Neighborhood Brunch at Plex

March 7, 2018
Wing Night at Sargent & Plex

March 14, 2018
Pi Day in all Dining Centers

April 11, 2018
BBQ Blues at Plex

April 15, 2018
Neighborhood Brunch at Allison
Northwestern recently unveiled a framework for a new residential experience. The proposed new approach is designed to help students thrive by creating distinct, robust “Neighborhoods” with access to common facilities, support structures and programs. (You can find the full report here.)

The proposal provides recommendations on building community for students, expanding the bonding experience that starts with Wildcat Welcome and ensuring an inclusive, engaging and universal residential experience in the years that follow. The goal of the recommended framework is to preserve the traditions many students have come to define as synonymous with their residential experience, while building on community connections.
The report follows several strategic initiatives already underway, including the Housing Master Plan that will run through 2025 and the implementation of the new two-year residency requirement for students that began last fall. Some of the changes already can be seen. A new residence hall at 560 Lincoln Street opened in the fall with stunning lakefront views, cooking pantries on each floor, and spaces where academic courses are offered. In January, a newly renovated Willard Hall reopened, which includes the second Engagement Center, a fitness room, and a redesigned Fran’s Café with full menu service and snacks. In addition, a Faculty-in-Residence apartment has been integrated into Willard.

A core principle is to be responsive to evolving student needs. By including in the Neighborhoods elements of the University’s broader support structure—such as academic support, residential instruction and emotional wellbeing care—students may perceive and appreciate the whole University better and not just the parts. Feedback on the new framework plan will be collected at town hall meetings, or comments may also be submitted online.
HELPFUL HINTS ABOUT MOVING OFF-CAMPUS

Is your student considering moving off-campus next fall? Northwestern's Off-Campus Life office has some advice for how to make this transition as easy as possible!

If your student is going to live with a roommate(s) encourage them to discuss the details before signing a lease together. Important questions include: How long will each individual remain a resident of the apartment/house? Whose name will be on the lease and other bills such as gas, electricity, and water? What furniture do you already have and what will you need to purchase?

It is also important to consider the location of the apartment or house. How close is it to campus? Will you walk, bike, or drive?

Lastly, you may want to contact the Evanston City Online Citizen Support Center to request the latest city inspection information and the most recent status of the property; or call 847-448-4311.

For more information about moving off-campus, please visit our website at northwestern.edu/offcampus or review our “How to Move Off Campus” video. If you have questions, email offcampuslife@northwestern.edu or call 847-467-3160.
After returning from the Winter break, the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Panhellenic Association (PHA) at Northwestern welcomed their newest groups of members. Recruitment events for both councils took place during the first two weeks of winter quarter, and brought together students of all years, backgrounds, and majors.

Panhellenic Formal Recruitment began on Thursday of the first week of winter quarter with an information forum where potential new members (PNMs) met their Recruitment Counselors (RCs) and completed the Personal Values Assessment. RCs are current members of PHA chapters who volunteer to serve as guides and mentors to PNM s throughout the recruitment process. The Personal Values Assessment asks PNM s to reflect on life experiences that have been personally meaningful and transformative, and encourages them to use these experiences as a springboard for conversation as they meet chapter members across the PHA community. Over the next several days, PNM s visited each of the 12 chapters, where they got to know women from each organization and the personality of each chapter. PHA recruitment concluded with Bid Night, an annual celebration where PNM s receive invitations to join their new chapters and celebrate their new membership with active members. This year, 387 students received a bid to join Northwestern’s 12 Panhellenic chapters.

IFC Formal Recruitment began on the Tuesday of the first week of winter quarter with chapter open houses, dinners and events. This year, 343 new members received bids to Northwestern’s 15 IFC chapters during winter recruitment.

Winter quarter brings an exciting time of growth to the 27 chapters within these two councils.
Student Organizations & Activities (SOA) rang in the new year with our second Student Organization Fair of the academic year, which gave Northwestern students another opportunity to explore involvement opportunities on a large scale. Ninety student groups tabled at the fair, 8 of which were brand new.

This winter, SOA also collaborated with NU Nights to bring students to see the critically acclaimed musical Wicked at Chicago’s Oriental Theater. This was one of our most popular programs to date. We were happy to have such interest early in the quarter and are excited to continue to provide students with fun, interesting, and educational events this winter.

Student involvement is paramount to a fulfilling college experience and a well-rounded education. Further information on student organizations and their events at Northwestern University can be found on Wildcat Connection.
For more information on events and initiatives sponsored by Student Organizations & Activities: studentorgs@northwestern.edu
WHAT’S NEW AT NORTHWESTERN CAREER ADVANCEMENT

As winter quarter comes to a close, NCA looks forward to a spring full of opportunities for students to connect with employers and alumni, learn about different industries and career paths, apply to fund unpaid internships, and more!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Internship and full-time job opportunities
NCA kicked off winter quarter with its Winter Internship and Job Fair in January, welcoming 90+ employers in a range of industries to campus. Beyond the fair, there are still many opportunities for your student to connect with organizations. Employers continue to post internship and full-time positions in CareerCat throughout the year, and NCA is co-sponsoring two additional career fairs in late winter and spring: The Community Health Volunteer & Internship Fair and the Startup Fair. More information will be available soon on the NCA website.

WINTER AND SPRING HAPPENINGS

Summer Internship Grant Program now accepting applications
Is your student seeking financial support for an unpaid internship this summer? The Summer Internship Grant Program (SIGP) provides a $3000 stipend to undergraduate students participating in unpaid internships and offers career development support from NCA. Application deadline: Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 11:59 p.m. CST. Questions? Contact sigp@northwestern.edu. Learn more on the SIGP website.
NCA Social Impact Series

Your student is invited to learn about careers in the social justice and nonprofit fields throughout March 5-16. Events include: A community health volunteer and internship fair, a nonprofit career trek in Chicago, and more. More information will be available soon on NCA’s website.

2018 Summer Career Treks

NCA invites undergraduate students to join career treks to NYC, Washington DC, LA and other cities in late summer 2018. Students will gain an insider’s perspective on what it’s like to work at some of the top employers in Startups, Marketing, Media, Film & Television, and Government, Law & Policy. More information will be available soon on NCA’s website.
SUMMERFEST
THE HOME EDITION

For years, students have attended SummerFest at the start of winter quarter to learn about all the ways Northwestern can help them make the most of their summer. Due to the event’s size, Norris University Center was the only place to hold it. Thanks to rapid progress on the Housing Master Plan, Residential Services was able to bring SummerFest into campus residences for the first time this January.
Hosted in the Shepard Hall Engagement Center one afternoon and the multi-function room in the 560 Lincoln Street Residence Hall the next evening, SummerFest included more than 20 university offices and programs at each event. Over the two days, approximately 400 students came for summery treats and information about everything from internships and campus jobs to study abroad and undergraduate research. In addition, nearly 100 students took advantage of walk-up resume reviews by Northwestern Career Advancement staff members and Career Ambassadors.

Students loved that they could access these resources near (or even in) their home during a cold snap. Many also appreciated that SummerFest’s casual vibe—including a playlist of summer-themed musical hits—carried over into the new residential format, which also made the events more community-oriented as roommates and neighbors showed up in bunches to have some fun, grab a bite, and start exploring summer options.
Northwestern students work hard through the cold winter quarter, on their way to a well-deserved spring break. The end of the quarter starts to feel like it is coming fast, and it may feel like the stress is picking up pace, too.

The Libraries have the solutions that help students navigate these final weeks with more confidence, and less anxiety:

**Subject Specialists**
Remember that the Libraries have librarians for every subject who specialize in identifying scholarly resources at the beginning of a long-term project, or finding that elusive last resource in the final days before a paper is due. From 276-African Literature in Translation to 315-Application of Genetic Engineering to Immunochemistry, our specialists know the course, know the professor, and know the assignments. Ask us where to start.

**Research Consultations**
There’s more to research than finding the right resources. Sometimes, it requires a strategy just to identify where to begin, or how to sustain a long-term project. Students can set up a research consultation, a one-on-one appointment where a librarian can help fine-tune the topic, and coach students on how to search library databases for scholarly materials. These consultations save a lot of time and alleviate a lot of frustration so students can focus on reading, understanding, and writing their papers.

**Citation assistance**
It’s a common query we hear: “How do I to cite this article in my paper?” It isn’t obvious, that’s for sure. Students need only stop by the Ask Us desk on the first floor of University Library to get guidance on MLA, APA, Chicago and more styles of citation required by their professors!

**The space you need, right when you need it**
During the last two weeks of the quarter, the Libraries are open 24 hours a day. And students take us up on it! We have many quiet places for dropping in and getting work done, of course. But for those who need something extra — more room to spread out, better lighting, ample power outlets, or even a place to gather the study group for lively collaboration — you can reserve a study room to get the work done, even into the wee hours.

**And now for something completely different**
The Libraries are here to help students take care of the end of the quarter, not just academically but mentally. Because it’s important to give the brain a break during exams, we have video games, coloring, Legos, puzzles, and the much-beloved late-night snack trolley of happiness! We strive to always have a few surprises up our sleeve to help students cross the finish line in confidence.
NEW ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

This quarter brings a new enhancement to academic support services at Northwestern!

Academic Support & Learning Advancement is now open in the Main Library, 2nd floor, North Tower. This unit serves all Northwestern undergrads with group study, tutoring, academic coaching, and other programming, and will add additional services and programming over the coming year.
One Book One Northwestern has been busy this quarter. By the end of the winter quarter, we will have hosted or co-sponsored 24 events to accompany this year’s One Book One Northwestern selection, *Our Declaration; A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality*, by Danielle Allen. Some highlights have been the opening of the Revolutionary Women exhibit at the main library and the ongoing One Book One Northwestern podcast. In February we will host a talk in the Dittmar Gallery by professor Galya Ben-Arieh, titled *Unbound Citizens: Localities and Refugee Settlement*, and a talk by professor Martha Biondi about her book *The Black Revolution on Campus*.

Revolutionary Women is an informational art exhibit depicting several women who were revolutionaries in their times and in their trades. *Our Declaration* speaks of the broad political and cultural changes that motivated the American Revolution. It’s about the meaning of the Revolution and what it meant to be a revolutionary. The One Book ambassadors and fellows have highlighted women from around the world who possessed the same trailblazing spirit as the American Founders. The exhibit will be up in the Information Commons until March 24th.

One Book One Northwestern, the podcast, follows Wildcats having engrossing conversations, on campus and beyond, about this year’s One Book. Currently we have 4 episodes. The most recent focuses on Free Speech issues on campus. We will air a total of 10 podcasts by the end of the academic year. You can subscribe via [SoundCloud](https://soundcloud.com) or [iTunes](https://itun.es). We also have all the podcasts posted on the [One Book website](http://onebookone.northwestern.edu).
Unbound Citizens: Localities and Refugee Settlement is the second of our Dittmar Dinners. This one will be led by Professor Galya Ben-Arieh. The talk and discussion will explore how different communities have responded to the American refugee crises. Some communities have responded with #refugeeswelcome, while others have institutionalized the principle of “not in our backyard,” with legal restrictions and criminalization of those who provide support to refugees. Professor Ben-Arieh provides insight into the ways in which local communities operationalize legal rituals and invoke constitutional values and norms of what it means to be American in their response to refugee reception and integration.

Finally, in partnership with Evolution to Revolution: 50th Commemoration of the Bursar’s Takeover, One Book will be hosting Northwestern Professor Martha Biondi as she talks about her book The Black Revolution on Campus on Feb. 21st.

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<th>Event</th>
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<td>Revolutionary Women</td>
<td>Jan 11 - Mar 24</td>
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<td>Unbound Citizens: Localities and Refugee Settlement</td>
<td>Feb 20</td>
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<td>The Black Revolution on Campus</td>
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School of Education and Social Policy freshman Jonathan Sun won the $500 One Book One Northwestern Essay Award for his piece “Disparate and Equal,” which explores a sobering moment during high school when he began to rethink the meaning of “equality.”

The essay contest was held in conjunction with Northwestern University’s One Book One Northwestern program.

This year’s One Book selection, Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality by political philosopher and best-selling author Danielle Allen, sparked the essay question, “When have you stood for or against equality?”
Sun’s entry was one of 23 submissions from all six undergraduate schools. For the first time, international students also submitted essays. Sun’s stood out because he took a fresh approach to the prompt and because his essay was “gracefully written and engaging,” said One Book committee member Jeanne Herrick, assistant professor of instruction at the Weinberg College of Arts and Science. “He looked at the inherent conflict between equality and the pressure to stand out and be different than others and integrated this discussion with points he made about Allen’s book,” Herrick said.

In his essay, Sun described how he grew up equating “equality” with “mediocrity,” preferring to excel individually and set himself apart from his peers. But during the high school election season, Sun witnessed a colleague verbally berating another student in a closed-door meeting. Like the others, he said nothing.

“Through the entire fifteen-minute tirade, a surrealistic, inquisition-like experience, not a single person present dared to speak up, and I knew absolutely then that any perception of myself as morally outstanding was misguided,” he wrote.

“I was forced to admit that I was no different from (the others) because I did not have the courage to hold a friend accountable when he acted out against a stranger. By my apathy in a decidedly unjust situation, I stood that day against equality.”

Humbled by the experience, Sun wrestled with how to make amends. He now believes that “equality is a more difficult concept than liberty for the human mind to grasp, as we are cognitively egocentric. It is hard enough to imagine ourselves in someone else’s shoes, but even more difficult to realize that we fit in them, too. But equality is necessary because it lies at the root of all human understanding.”

Sun, who received the award during Allen’s keynote speech, said he is still trying to reconcile a desire to stand out while acknowledging that he is not better than anyone else.

“But coming to Northwestern has been really helpful with that,” he said. “We all make subconscious judgments when we meet those we are not familiar with, and being able to ‘reason’ my way out of prejudice by recognizing that everyone here is here for a reason is something powerful.”
As we move to the end of the winter quarter, the staff at the Sheil Catholic Center is struck by the variety of opportunities our students initiate and take part in. Since the fall, we have had three retreats – one led by students, one at a monastery where the students kept silence and joined the monks in prayer (even at 3:30 am), and one retreat open to the whole community, appropriately entitled “Come Back to Me with all your Heart.”

Retreats are one of many ways to encourage people to find space for God in their lives. The students and staff who lead these retreats are committed to taking a step back for prayer and find great joy in it. Did you know that no student is turned away from a retreat because of inability to pay? Our generous donors provide scholarships so that students pay what they can afford and we take care of the rest.
We had 10 students join our annual mission trip to Nicaragua and another seven visited Detroit over the MLK holiday. One more group will leave for New Orleans over Spring break. It never fails that students come back energized and eager to serve others in whatever way they can. They continue to be inspirations for us. They don't neglect local service either. The students are serving in soup kitchens, tutoring centers, nursing homes and the juvenile detention center. They live out their discipleship in many ways.

On Feb 10, we held our annual Mardi Gras fundraiser which helps us pay for programs, staff, and projects. We are so grateful to our benefactors and volunteers who help us on the way. We love to have parents at the event as well so think about joining us next year on the Saturday before Ash Wednesday.

On Ash Wednesday, we also had a visit from Cardinal Blase Cupich who celebrated Mass with us to start the season of Lent. With students around for most of Lent, we expect our Fish Frydays to be packed even more than usual and for a thriving array of bible studies, prayer groups, and the deep conversations of faith that the season seems to bring forth. We hope your Lent and Easter are good as well. Please visit if you are in the area and may God bless you in all you do.
Northwestern Hillel has had a meaningful and eventful few months. From community-wide events with over 500 students to intimate winter break trips, the Northwestern Hillel community continues to provide great opportunities for Northwestern students.

During the first weekend of November, more than 30 students traveled to OSRUI Camp in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin for Hillel's annual Fall Retreat. Sasha Becker, Programming Vice President, along with the rest of Hillel student board, planned and executed the retreat, centering activities around the theme of kavanah or intention. Students participated in Jewish learning about social justice and leadership, community-building activities, and much needed relaxation time.

On November 9, we welcomed Josh Peck (center), known for his iconic role in the hit Nickelodeon series “Drake and Josh,” as the headliner for our annual speaker event. More than 500 students flocked to Cahn Auditorium to hear Peck discuss his career in television, film, and most recently, video blogs. Peck also spoke about his connection to his Jewish identity, explaining how he incorporates Judaism into his daily life.

In celebration of Hanukkah, Northwestern Hillel hosted its annual Latkepalooza event at Coffee Lab in Evanston. Students were treated to piles of donuts and a myriad of latke flavors. There was a Hanukkah sweater competition, a jelly donut eating contest, and a performance by ShireiNU, Northwestern Hillel's premier a cappella group. What a great way to welcome in the holiday with the Northwestern community!
Over winter break, 15 members of the Northwestern community, including Lydia Greenberg, our Social Justice Fellow, and Becca Haas, our Program Associate, volunteered in Houston to help with hurricane relief efforts. Along with many other service projects, the cohort went to Undies for Everyone and packed 4,600 pairs of boys’ underwear (picture right). Northwestern Hillel is committed to giving back to the community nationwide!

Also over winter break, eight Northwestern students and Rachel Hillman, our Associate Director, traveled to Israel for a week to participate in a conference with the Hartman Institute. Along with many other Hillels from around the country, the Northwestern Hillel students participated in seminars, lectures, and field trips surrounding the political climate in Israel. It was a great opportunity for students to dissect the Arab-Israeli conflict with scholars on the topic. Thank you to the Hartman Institute for providing this great opportunity.

The highlight of our Winter quarter was our annual MegaShabbat event, which took place on February 2nd. The Jewish community of Northwestern gathered 500 students, alumni, staff members, faculty members, and other esteemed guests at Norris for our largest Shabbat dinner of the year, as well as various pre- and post-dinner programs. Our MegaShabbat evening began with a “mocktail” hour to allow students and other guests to mingle and meet each other, leading to our main feature; dinner. Guests could choose from three separate dining experiences, including our largest room, the MegaExperience room, a MegaShow room featuring student group performances, and our MegaSoulful room, a more intimate and religious experience. Following our “Mega” dessert, guests could opt in to one of our after-dinner programs, including HQ Trivia, various board games, as well as guided meditation.

We look forward to many more exciting events and trips throughout the remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year!
IMPORTANT DATES

March

Mon., Mar.  5-16  NCA Social Impact Series
Mon., Mar.  19-23  Winter Final Exams
Sat., Mar-Apr.  24-2  Spring Break
Mon., Mar.  26  Commencement tickets available for qualified students

April

Sun., Apr.  1  Spring Tuition Due
Tue., Apr.  3  Spring Classes Begin
Thu., Apr.  5  at 11:59 p.m. Summer Internship Grant Program Application Deadline
Tue., Apr.  21-22  Greek Leadership Retreat

May

Tue., May.  1  Applications for Catholic Scholars program available for 2017-18 school year
Thu., May.  31  Fraternity & Sorority Life Awards Program

June

Mon., Jun.  11-15  Spring Final Exams
Sat., Jun.  16  Residential halls close for students not graduating
Thu., Jun.  21  President’s Reception and the Baccalaureate Service for graduating students
Thu., Jun.  21  Sheil Catholic Center’s Graduating Mass 6 pm (tentative)
Fri., Jun.  22  Commencement Ceremony at Ryan Field Stadium at 9:30am
Fri., Jun.  22-23  Individual School Convocations

CONTACT US
NEW STUDENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

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