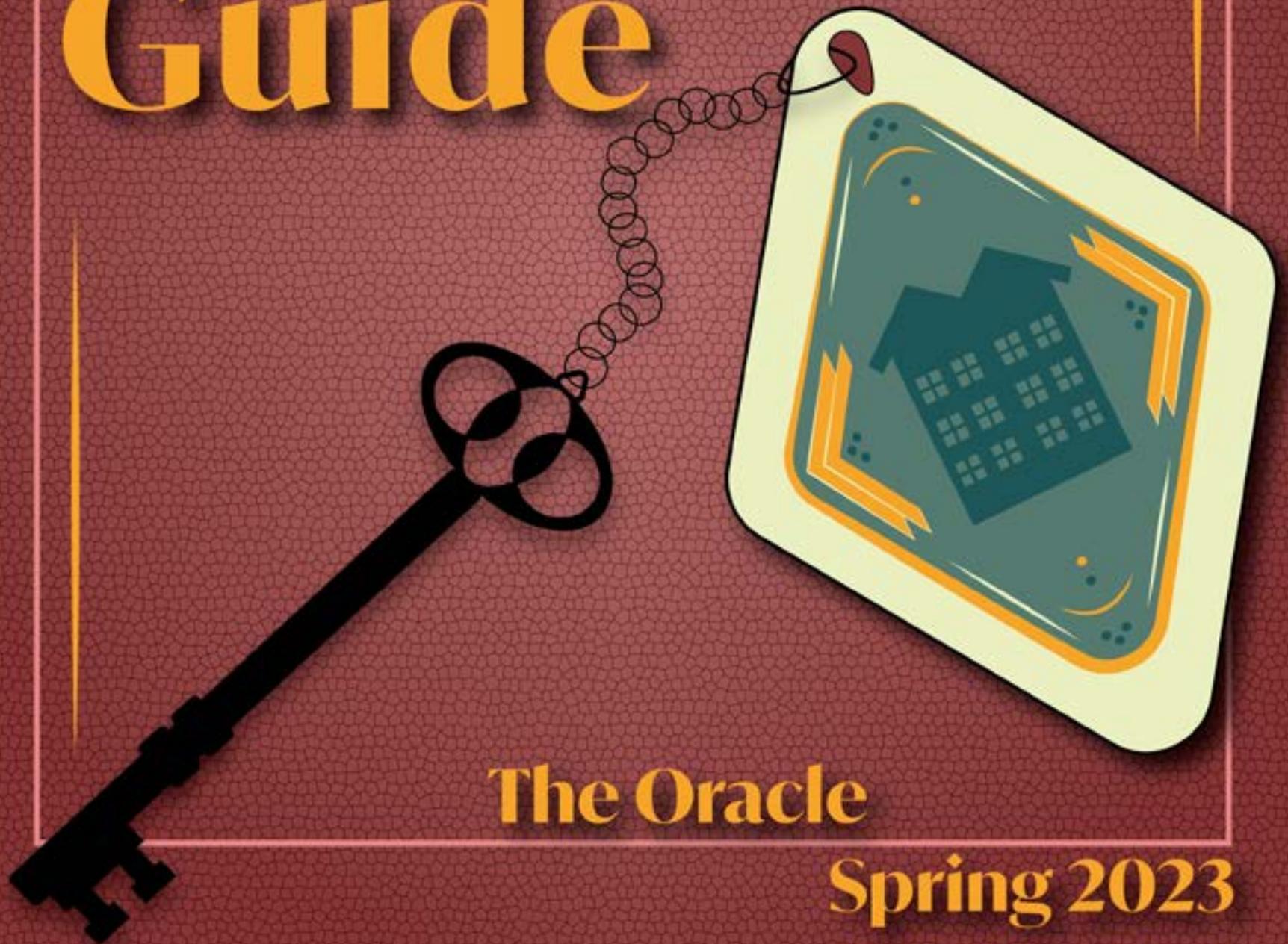


Housing Guide



The Oracle

Spring 2023

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HALESTORM
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Sara Evans
Sat. Mar. 4, 3:30
\$35



CHRIS "LUDACRIS" BRIDGES
Sat. Mar. 4, 7:30
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The Gatlif Brothers
Sun. Mar. 5, 3:30
\$25



Chris Young
Sun. Mar. 5, 7:30
\$60



Neal McCoy
Mon. Mar. 6, 3:30
\$30



Josh Turner
Mon. Mar. 6, 7:30
\$35



Root & Boots
Aaron Tippin, Collin Raye and Sammy Kershaw
Tue. Mar. 7, 3:30 \$35



CeCe Winans
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Tanya Tucker
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Ride-A-Thon Mar. 8
Ride All Day \$25

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HOLA! Plant City
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Concert dates and times are subject to change

Guide for online apartment searching

By Lorena Roberts

U L O O P

Searching for an apartment can be time consuming, disappointing, frustrating and overwhelming. But since apartment listings have been able to migrate to the web, it's much easier to get your ducks in a row.

If you're beginning your online apartment search, here are a few tips you should take note of.

Know what you want

Whether or not you want to live with roommates, if you need a washer/dryer in the unit or if you need to be within walking distance of a Starbucks are all really important aspects of apartment searching. Walking into this blind is not a good move. If you haven't decided on what you want out of an apartment, spend some time looking through apartment listings without getting serious. Once you get a feel for what's out there, you'll be able to narrow down what it is that you want.

Know what you can afford

Budgeting is a big part of having an apartment. Sometimes utilities are included, but for the most part, they aren't. Knowing how much you can afford in rent and utilities every month is really important. Staying within your price range might be tough, but if you settle on a price you cannot go above, you'll be limited to only what you can afford.

There's no reason to look at million dollar houses if you only have \$100,000 to spend. Don't do it to yourself. You'll fall in love with the one that you really can't afford and you'll have to take out monthly loans from your parents. That's not a situation anyone really wants to be in.

Decide on a list of "must-haves"

If you absolutely cannot live in a place that doesn't allow pets, limit your search by places that do. If you can't live more than a few miles from a major interstate or if you need to live with at least one other person, that's important to know walking



Searching for apartments can be a hassle, so use these tips to ensure you find the right fit for you. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/PEXELS

into the whole situation.

If you decide on what you absolutely must have before you even start looking, you won't be persuaded to talk yourself in and out of things you haven't decided on.

Set boundaries for areas of town you want to live in

Some people don't want to live near train tracks or certain attractions in town. Others want to be smack in the middle of the action. If you limit your search to areas of town you truly want to live in, you'll make it easier to decide on a place.

If you're moving to a University town, you may or may not want to live near the strip of clubs and eateries that these college students frequent.

You may also want to check out the

recent crime in the area where you're looking to live. This isn't to scare you but instead is meant to reassure you about where you're looking to move. You don't want to be living in the middle of high crime rates, so checking on this online can help you narrow down your preferred areas.

You'll also want to think about your commute. How far away do you want to be from the office? The grocery store? A gas station? All good things to consider as you begin searching for an apartment.

If it's too good to be true ...

Then it's probably not true. Don't let yourself fall for a scam. Even if you're on a reputable apartment listing website. It can sometimes be easy to fall for the people

who con you into making bad decisions. If the application process feels rushed or your gut feeling is that it's not right, it's probably not.

Use the avenues you know.

Posting on social media for apartment recommendations will usually get you some pretty honest feedback. Depending on how many Facebook friends or Twitter followers that you have, you might be able to navigate around the bad complexes with ease. Recommendations from people you trust are like golden eggs.

Mixing patterns to decorate your living space

By Elana Goodwin
U L O O P

When decorating rooms at school, making choices about colors, patterns, and how to mix the two can be overwhelming as you want to personalize your area without making it look too busy.

While many landlords include clauses in the lease agreement that state you can't paint walls in your rented house or apartment, there are still a number of other ways to brighten up your space, put your stamp on it and make it yours.

Here are some ideas on how to mix patterns to decorate your living spaces, like a living room or bedroom, and make your home away from home your own.

Bold colors and busy patterns

If you're the type of person who likes vibrant colors and wants a room filled with splashy eye-catching decor, pick a few bright colors that you like.

Use your colors to decorate your room by choosing throw pillows and sheets or chairs and small tables in those colors and create a space in your home that will brighten up your day and make the place seem cheerful.

Then, pick a pattern — like polka dots, zigzags, stripes, etc. — and find a bedspread, couch, dresser, or other bigger room necessity or decoration that has one or more of the colors you picked in it.

This way, you're mixing bright solid-colored decor with a few patterned items and uniting them by using the same sort of color scheme so your room doesn't look like Bed, Bath & Beyond had a fight with Target which resulted in chaos.

You can even choose more than one pattern to go with your other bright solid-colored decorations by picking different kinds of patterned pillows to sit out on your bed or couch.

To further decorate your room, buy some art and decor for your walls that keep with your theme and pull the room together or put up some posters or wall decals to personalize your room more and cover up some of those white walls.



Enjoying your living space is essential for productivity and relaxation. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/PEXELS

Muted tones and animal prints

Love a good zebra or leopard-spotted print and want to decorate your room nature or jungle-style? Pick an animal print — or even two — you want to use in your room and buy a bedspread, curtains, or pillows in those patterns.

Then choose a few more muted softer tones — like a light green, brown, or blue — to use as a transitional sort of color between the other wilder printed decor so as not to overwhelm the room.

By using muted tones, you let the animal printed-decorations be the focal points of the room and won't overwhelm the space with too much pattern or color.

Remember to also spread out the animal print decor to keep the room feeling balanced and not looking like one side is hogging all the leopard spots and zebra stripes.

Keep the theme going by hanging some nature photography or a picture of a nice sunset on the walls to complement the room.

Fun designs and simple elegance

If you prefer to keep your room more simple and understated, pick a fun patterned bedspread or sofa, like one with an unobtrusive design, and use that as the centerpiece of your room.

Use complementary colors or neutral tones when buying pillows, lamps, and other room accessories. For example, buy a flowery bedspread and then purchase throw pillows in different colors, picking up on those found in the bedspread, to create a fun flower-themed room.

Using more elegant and versatile supplements will keep the room feeling less cluttered and busy, with only one or two designed focal points.

Look for some abstract art, inspirational quotations on canvas, or hang photographs of you with family or friends on the wall as the finishing touch to transforming your room into more of a serene haven.

When trying to decide how to decorate your room, choose your "big design" piece first as it will help you build the rest of your room around it. Bigger items — like

bedspreads, couches, rugs, chairs, or tables — and the pattern you pick for them should typically inform how you go about planning the rest of your room's decor, even if you choose to mix patterns.

Don't pick a pattern and color scheme that you'll grow tired of but instead consider the fact that you'll be seeing these things every day and they will help set the tone and feel of your room.

Also, remember to pick a couple of patterns or ideas and stick to it — keep with colors that complement each other and are in the same palette, don't decide to just throw in one big polka dot pillow if your room has no other polka dot items or the like in it, etc.

Create a space that will serve as your home and comfort zone while at school and keep in mind any restrictions your apartment or house may have on your plans for whatever room you choose to decorate.



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What to do if you're placed with a polar opposite roommate

By Francine Fluetsch

U L O O P



Being placed with a roommate who is nothing like you can be difficult to navigate alone, but there are ways to make your living arrangements work. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/PEXELS

It's hard enough to live with people you know, but living with a stranger is a new task in itself. Sure you filled out a mannerism application when you signed up for housing, but who is completely truthful on those anyway? Someone who is extremely messy isn't going to put that on their application because they either don't know that they are "that" messy, or they don't want to get stuck with someone who is worse than them. It's really the luck of the draw when it comes to the person/people you are paired up to live with.

You could end up with an amazing roommate or with a roommate from hell.

Communicate with one another

If you have a problem with your roommate, you have to let them know because they can't read your mind (which is probably a good thing). The longer you don't bring up the problem, the harder it will be to fix. I know it can be really awkward, especially if you hate conflict,

but you will only be hurting yourself by keeping your concerns in the dark. Want to bring something up to them but don't know how?

Bring it to their attention nicely. A lot of problems can be solved just by telling your roommate that they are doing something that is bothering you. They probably had no idea.

This may sound like a no-brainer, but confronting people can be really intimidating. As long as you say things in a nice voice, your roommate should cooperate.

Use sticky notes. If confrontation isn't your thing, try leaving a sticky note for your roommate telling them about the problem. This way you don't have to be around when they read what is bothering you, so they will have a chance to process it before you get back. The drawback to this is it might not be as effective as actually telling them, since they might not take it as seriously, but give it a try.

Hint at the problem. Depending on

your roommate, you may be able to get the message across while not stating it outright.

Pick your battles

If you finally muster up the courage to tell your roommate a problem and they don't seem to take it seriously, you'll have to tell them again, but in a way that they know that what they are doing is not okay.

The thing is, if they are inconsiderate you are going to have to pick your battles, and decide which points of annoyance are the most important to you to change. If your roommate is always loud, messy, and stays up too late, you'll probably have to pick one problem to focus on and attempt to endure the other ones.

If they stay up late with the light on, try using an eye mask. It takes some getting used to but works wonders.

If they like to be really loud when you are trying to sleep, invest in some earplugs (if you can stand them). I couldn't

personally sleep with them in, but give them a go.

If they are messy try and keep your area clean so the room doesn't look like it's eating itself. You can also have your friends come over a lot and maybe make jokes about the messiness. This might inspire your roommate to clean.

Attempt to stay civil

If your roommate is still doing things that you asked them to stop, still try and stay civil. I know it can be hard, but if you stay friendly and show them that you are willing to work through your problems, the situation could still get better. One of the best things to do is to not be around them all the time.

You could study in a café with your friends, join a sports team or club or chill at your friend's place.

Of course it is your room too and you want to feel at home, but if you and your roommate are always stuck together, conflict will more easily break out.

Get help

If you got the full "roommate from hell" that is simply making your life miserable, it is time to get help. No, you aren't a snitch. You should feel safe and at home at school, and if your roommate is causing extra stress then you need to figure out a better situation.

If you just want the problem resolved but don't want to move, it would be best to talk to an RA and let them know the problem. It will be a bit awkward afterwards, but hopefully you and your roommate can move past it.

If, however, the situation has become beyond repair, you will have to take action with a higher authority. This is different for all colleges, but there is usually a housing adviser of some sort that you will be able to contact.

You are definitely going to want the housing office in your corner, and if you contact them first, they will already have the situation from your side of the story. Banks ended up winning the room because



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The do's and don'ts of college housing

By Brittany Hawes

U L O O P

Think of the horror stories you've heard from your friends and classmates about getting stuck in a place we'll just call "Nightmare Housing". The beginning of the semester was rolling in quicker than your friend might have expected, so they did what they had to do - they rushed and they settled. Or maybe the apartment complex they were at told them they could get a free scooter or TV if they signed the same day of the tour. Before they had time to rethink their decision, their name was assigned and they were officially a tenant at Nightmare Housing.

Now, they didn't know that the walls were going to be so thin that they would be able to hear their six or so neighbors arguing at three in the morning. No one told them that none of those sparkling amenities were going to be in working condition until their year-long lease was up. They certainly didn't expect that the first place they'd want to drive their new scooter to was as far away as possible from Nightmare Housing because their unit is filled to the brim with cockroaches. But they were rushing and didn't have time to do proper research on their potential home.

Don't let yourself become a tenant at Nightmare Housing. The price may be tempting and the offer of reduced rent for same-day signing might make you want to sign the lease right away, but hold off. Don't rush. Choosing college housing shouldn't be a decision made while you're in a hurry. Your decision will definitely have an effect on your college experience, so don't take it lightly.

The do's of college housing

The following are things that you should keep in mind when choosing college housing.

Think of how much you'll be able to spend on rent

The amount of money you have to spend on rent will narrow down your housing choices, so this should be one of the first things you consider when choosing college

housing. When you think of rent, it's important to not just think of how much you're going to have to pay for the rent, but also what your other expenses during the semester will be. This will help you get a more realistic idea of how much money you'll have left that will be able to be used on your monthly rent payment.

During the semester you may have to pay tuition, groceries, utilities, gas, pet expenses and health insurance.

Once you create a budget that reflects any potential expenses, you'll be able to see more clearly how much money you can put toward rent. You might be surprised to find that you can afford to stay closer to campus or get your own private balcony.

Distance from campus

Decide how close you want to be to campus. Some students prefer to be as close to campus as possible so they'll still feel "connected" to the school. Other students prefer the privacy and quiet that comes with living a bit farther away from campus. Decide which appeals more to you and your lifestyle.

Think about your mode of transportation. If you have a vehicle, living far from campus is a viable option for you. Without a car, getting to campus from a home that's over ten miles away will be difficult.

If you're the type of person who enjoys solitude and prefers silence when you're studying, choosing college housing that isn't close to campus will be ideal for you. But if you like to be where all the action



Follow these tips to ensure you make the right choices for your living arrangements. SPECIAL TO THE ORACLE/PEXELS

is and be a short distance away from the school that you worked so hard to get to, then you should begin your housing search at places nearby campus.

Don't forget that housing closer to campus is going to be more expensive when compared to housing farther away.

Decide how many roommates you want

Often, the more roommates that you have, the less expensive your portion of the rent is going to be. Decide how you feel about sharing your space with one or more people. Living with friends might seem exciting, but maybe you blanch at the idea of having to share a bathroom with a complete stranger. Some students prefer to live alone after staying on campus in one of the dorms.

You have to decide what you want out of your college housing before you sign

the lease. If you're looking to possibly make new friends or just try living with strangers, you could look for housing that will be shared by four people. A studio, on the other hand, would be ideal for students seeking peace and quiet this semester. If you have someone in mind that you'd like to room with, you both might try for a townhome or a two-bedroom, two-bath apartment.

Whatever you decide, make sure it's before you sign the lease.

Make sure your apartment is in a safe area

The rent may be low, the amenities may look great, but if you're in a really dangerous part of a neighborhood, none of those things are going to matter. You want to feel safe in your home,

■ See DO'S AND DON'TS ON PAGE 10

DO'S AND DON'TS

Continued from PAGE 9

period. If an area has a crime rate and it's known to be a dangerous place to live, look elsewhere for your college housing.

The don'ts of choosing college housing

These are the things that you shouldn't do when it is time to select your new home.

Make a hasty decision

Making a hasty decision usually equates to making a bad decision. Don't wait until the last minute to find good college housing. To spare themselves stress, students typically begin signing up for their new place many months in advance of the move-in date. Beat the crowd of stragglers by giving yourself plenty of time to find a home that you're going to love living in. That way, you won't feel like you have to make a decision every time you tour a house or apartment complex.

If you can't make it to your college's town that far in advance to begin looking at houses, you can start your search online

instead. Don't feel rushed—give yourself time.

Go with the cheapest place you can find

Every college student wants to find ways to save money, but there are some things that you really shouldn't skimp on, and one of those things is your home. You'll be living in the home you choose for the next year or so, if things go according to plan. You don't want to be tight-fisted with your money and wind up in a house that has all sorts of problems.

Instead, find college housing that's affordable and comfortable. It might take a lot of research and budgeting, but if you can find a home you love, it will be worth it.

I do know how it is to not have much money to put towards rent every month and you might be in a situation where you have no other choice but to look for the cheapest option. If that cheapest option has health violations, is in a sketchy area, or is just too far from campus, you might have to consider cutting back on other expenses to afford a place where you'll feel

safe, comfortable and happy.

Search for the place that throws the best parties

You want to have a good time in college. But you don't want to live in a place where the police are constantly being called because of the noise complaints. If you have a test you need to study for, you don't want to be where there's a gigantic party going on in the unit above you. Suddenly, living at a place known for its wild parties might not seem like such a good idea.

It's understandable to want to be close to where there's going to be a lot of fun happening, especially since you won't be living on-campus. Instead of finding a place that's known for how wild it can get, you should look for an apartment complex that throws social gatherings where tenants can come out, party and get to know each other, without the police needing to be involved. You can also look for college housing that's close to a few bars and nightclubs.

Choose your home based off of the amenities

Amenities are great to have, but you shouldn't choose your home based on whether the property has access to nice-looking amenities or not. Often, your school will have these same amenities offered to students for free. There you have it—the do's and the don'ts of choosing college housing. To summarize, don't get blinded by low rent and fancy amenities when you begin your search for a new home. You have to focus on which things will really affect you in the long-run and what might not be easy to get out of once you sign that lease.

Choosing college housing should be a fun experience. After all, you might be picking out your very first apartment since leaving your parents' house. Trust yourself to pick out a great home but don't block out the advice of your parents or other parental figures in your life. They've had to go through the same process of choosing college housing, so they'll be able to provide you with great advice.

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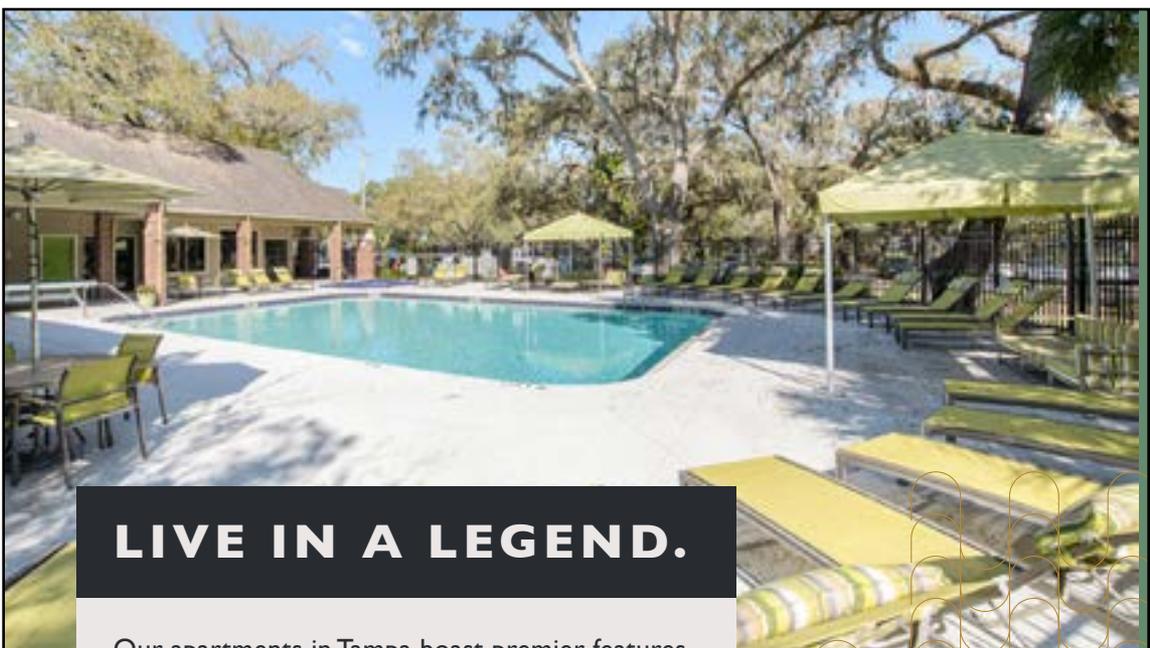
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MSC 2708

Valentine's/St. Patty's

February 23rd

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MSC 3707

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March 23rd

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BRASA AT USF



BRASA AT USF

BRAZILIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

WE AIM TO GIVE THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE THAT BRAZILIANS COULD HAVE AT A UNIVERSITY IN THE UNITED STATES.

OUR VISION IS TO GIVE OUR MEMBERS THE ABILITY TO POSITIVELY IMPACT ANY COMMUNITY THEY ARE INVOLVED IN.

BIGGEST BRASA IN THE WORLD

OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO EMPOWER THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS WHO WILL MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT TO BUILD A BETTER BRAZIL.



WE ARE ALL ONE SCHOLARSHIP



VENMO @BRASAU5F

THE COLOMBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

Carnavales de Colombia



FRIDAY FEB 17TH
8:30 - 10:30 PM
9 MSC BALLROOM

RSVP on BullsConnect by Feb 12th!

COLORFUL ATTIRE + JOIN US FOR FOOD, RAFFLES, ENTERTAINMENT, & MORE!

GET INVOLVED! STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS GET INVOLVED!

2023 Rehearsal SCHEDULE

EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY AT 7:30PM



DIRECTOR **DEVIN HAGANS**
PRESIDENT **JENAE LITTLEJOHN**

Sopranos, Altos, Tenors & Musicians!
Come and join the movement

3755 USF Holly Drive, MUS 119 Tampa, FL 33620

THE GOSPEL CHOIR AT USF



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF LEADERSHIP AND SUCCESS

Building leaders who make a better world

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN FROM **KNOWN LEADERS**, GAIN MEANINGFUL **LEADERSHIP SKILLS**, AND HAVE ACCESS TO BENEFITS LIKE **SCHOLARSHIPS AND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION?**

JOIN THE NSLS AT USF!

ENTER THE NOMINATION CODE **18199-150-13837** AT **NSLS.ORG**, PAY A ONE-TIME MEMBERSHIP FEE, AND COMPLETE OUR LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM TO BECOME A FULLY INDUCTED MEMBER AND ACCESS YOUR LIFETIME BENEFITS!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW OUR EVENTS ON BULLSCONNECT!

@NSLS_USF

NSLSUSFEBOARD@GMAIL.COM



Sponsored by Smoothie King.



Register at phideltaepsilonusf.weebly.com/battle-of-the-footballs.html
5 v 5 Soccer • Flag Football Joint Tournament

BATTLE of the Footballs

\$200 Prize & Bragging Rights for each winning team

DATE: Sat, March 4, 2023
TIME: 9:30am - 2:30pm
LOCATION: Fowler Fields
\$25 Team Registration / \$5 Spectator Entry
5 Player Teams

PRESENTED BY PHI DELTA EPSILON MEDICAL FRATERNITY
All proceeds go to Childrens Miracle Network Hospitals / Johns Hopkins All Childrens Hospital

Nonprofit Board Expansion

Philanthropy Accurately Construing Experience (PACE)
International Rural Education Project (IREP)

PACE

- Optimize distribution of humanitarian aid in developing nations
- In communication with UNHCR and UNAI, working to publish UN Report
- Meeting with organizations like WOCON and IMC to gather information

IREP

- Bridge gaps between necessary resources and underserved communities
- Identified projects to alleviate major humanitarian issues in growing countries: Zambia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, and Burundi

If you are interested, please access the form below:

<https://forms.gle/bAwwWgk0tuztlyA7>



GET INVOLVED! STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS




POWERLIFTING CLUB
AT
USF™

Who Are We?

We aim to create a welcoming, safe, and supportive environment for both our competitive and recreational lifters. Our goal is to help our lifters grow to the best of our ability.

Upcoming Events

- Weekly Saturday practices with access to competition grade equipment
- 2023 USF Powerlifting Spring Classic



JOIN US ON BULLSCONNECT!



@POWERLIFTINGCLUBUSF

PREVCARE

Our mission is to raise the standard of health and wellness throughout the campus and community.

JOIN US TO:
Learn how to live a healthy lifestyle to prevent illness.
Volunteer around local gardens, food banks and elementary schools.
Have fun at our events!

Valentines Social Feb 21, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm MSC 3707	Self-Care and Crafts Night, Mar 22, 7:00 pm - 8:45 pm, MSC 2100A	Boba Social, Apr 12, 7:30 pm - 9:15 pm, MSC 2708
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CONNECT WITH US!

 [prevcare_usf](https://www.instagram.com/prevcare_usf)
 [PrevCare USF](https://www.facebook.com/PrevCareUSF)
[BullsConnect](https://www.instagram.com/BullsConnect)

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

JOIN TODAY!

Rotaract IMAGINE ROTARY

@usf_rotaract
@RotaractUSF

RUGBY

PRACTICES @ SYCAMORE FIELDS

TUES/THURS 9-9:45PM WEDNESDAY 6-7:45PM

ALL STUDENT ATHLETES WELCOME

GET INVOLVED! STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS GET INVOLVED!

USF SOCIETY OF AERONAUTICS AND ROCKETRY
THE SKY IS NOT THE LIMIT.

Join SOAR and be a part of the collegiate space race!

Gain experience in:

- International rocketry competitions
- Liquid engine design and prototyping
- Design, manufacturing, and testing
- Outreach and professional development
- Leadership skills and collaboration

Join SEA for a...

GEOSCIENCE PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 16 | 6-7 PM | MSC3704

Join academic advisors, USF professors, and other professionals in the geoscience field to ask questions and learn more information!



Abroad Veterinary Internship with USF VAW Chapter

This program is open to ALL majors and there are leadership positions available!

For more info:
Email: usf.vet@vawgha.org
Phone: (813) 399-3438
Instagram: @usfvaw



Veterinary Outreach

VAW interns work closely with local veterinary professionals and partners to provide animal health support across LMICs.

VAW Global Health Alliance
Committed to cultivating sustainable partnerships with local communities and professionals to work together to improve access to essential resources.

You're just "not that into" politics?

Your boss is. Your landlord is.
Your insurance company is.
They use that knowledge to keep your pay low, keep your rent high, and deny you coverage.

It's about time that you got into politics.

JOIN THE USF YOUNG
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS



DISCORD



INSTAGRAM



BULLSCONNECT

GET INVOLVED!

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

GET INVOLVED!

**FREE
AD
SPACE!**

USF Student Organizations,
Fraternity & Sorority Life and Sport Clubs
are eligible to place ads for FREE in
The Oracle!

Contact Gloria today for details and eligibility.

Email: studentorgads@gmail.com