

Lander University Homecoming 2024

Participation Packet

February 5th – February 10th

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Part One - Overview of How to Participate in Homecoming as an Organization or Group

Introduction

Get ready to travel back in time to the early 2000s as Student Life presents our Spring 2024 Homecoming theme. Celebrating the spirit of the new millennium, our theme, will transport you to an era of pop culture, iconic fashion trends, and unforgettable music. From Y2K excitement to the rise of boy bands and girl power, this Homecoming promises a nostalgic journey like no other.

Join us for a week-long extravaganza filled with retro-themed activities, and epic dance-offs. Whether you were a fan of frosted tips, cargo pants, or velour tracksuits, this Homecoming will have you rocking the early 2000s in style. Don't miss out on the chance to relive the glory days and make memories that will last a lifetime. Grab your flip phones and low-rise jeans because Bearcat Country is taking it back to the early 2000s in the most epic way possible!

All Lander Students, Faculty, and Staff are eligible to participate in Homecoming events. To participate as a group you must complete the entry form and follow the instructions listed in this packet.

Who can participate in Homecoming?

All Lander Students, Faculty, and Staff

You can participate as:

- (1) Student Organization
- (2) "Group" formed just for Homecoming, with at least 6 people – this could be a group of friends, people from your residence hall, etc.

General Guidelines for Participating as a Group

1. All students, faculty and staff are welcomed and encouraged to create teams to enter the competition, regardless of being affiliation with an organization. Group sizes must be no smaller than 6 people.
2. Organizations and groups will be broken into 2 competition divisions:
 - a. Blue Division: organizations or groups that participate with 6 to 35 members.
 - b. Gold Division: organizations or groups that participate with 36 members or above.

3. If organizations or groups choose to register as a team, they will not be separated from any events to compete individually.
4. Organizations may partner to create a single team, but equal representation from each group must be participating in each pointed event.
5. Organizations or groups may not enter as multiple teams in competitive events.
6. A student may be listed on multiple rosters. If a student tries to check in for a team and is not listed on the roster, their points will not be counted toward the event attendance.
7. All Homecoming communication will be directed to the person of contact for your organization or group. That representative must contact Homecoming Committee by email (homecoming@lander.edu) or by phone (864-388-8910) if any questions or concerns arise.
8. When a question arises regarding rules, the authority first goes to the Homecoming committee, then to the Interim Executive Director of Student Life or their designee. If the question arises regarding the overall competition, the authority will then go to the Interim Director of Student Life or their designee. Decisions made by the Interim Executive Director of Student Life or their designee are considered final.

***Please Note:** Member numbers from charter renewal/registration on Presence will determine the division in which registered student organizations will be able to participate. “Groups” will be required to submit a roster of students participating in that group.*

[How to Register an Organization or Group](#)

The Homecoming event forms are now digital. We have provided the links below within the document. Please make sure your forms are complete with all materials (including but not limited to drawings, descriptions, and scripts) necessary when submitted. **Late and/or incomplete forms without all documentation will not be accepted.**

Homecoming rules for each event, as well as general rules, are in the enclosed packet. All participants are responsible for reading and abiding by all rules. The Department of Student Life reserves the right to make any changes to the rules or this document at any time before, after, or during Homecoming week. If you should have any questions, please contact the Department of Student Life at 864-388-8244 or via email at homecoming@lander.edu.

Benefits of Participating as a Organization or Group

Overall, first place winners of the Homecoming competition for the Blue and Gold divisions will win the Bearcat Cup and \$250 in programming funds to be used before the last day of classes of the spring 2024 semester!

***Please Note:** If your team wins, the Department of Student Life will not reach out to the winning groups, it will be the responsibility of the group to reach out to Demario Watts (dwatts@lander.edu) no later than March 1, 2024. Purchase request must be approved by the Department of Student Life.*

Part Two – Schedule of Events

Day	Event	Time	Location	Information
Monday, February 5th	Banner Reveal	5PM	Grier Student Center Commons	Come out as our teams unveil their banner for Homecoming 2024. Each team will show off their creativity by making a banner that shows Lander spirit and celebrates this year's theme: Early 2000s! Banners will be displayed in the Commons all weeks!
	Service Project Begins	5PM	3rd Floor of Grier Student Center - Student Life Office S336	Teams participating in Homecoming will have the opportunity to gain additional points by donating jackets, blankets, etc. to this years' service project for Connie Maxwell. The service project will run from Monday, February 5th at 5:00 pm through Thursday, February 8th ending at 5:00 pm.
	Strongest Bearcat	6PM	Auditorium	Join us during Homecoming week for our annual Powerlifting Competition! To participate in the competition, sign up on the #LUREC app. All experience levels are welcome to participate!
Tuesday, February 6th	Showing of: Legally Blonde	All Day	Auditorium	Your voice was heard, and the winning Early 2000's movie from the movie bracket on @lu_studentlife was Legally Blonde. It will be streaming every 2.5 hours starting at 10AM. Streaming times: 10AM 12:30PM 3PM 5:30PM 8PM
	Volleyball Tournament	6PM	PEES Gym	Get ready to spike, set, and serve at our thrilling Homecoming Volleyball Tournament! Join us for an action-packed evening of friendly competition as participating teams compete in a

				bracket system to determine the blue and gold division volleyball winner.
Wednesday, February 7th	Trivia	4PM	PEES 224	Challenge your wits and embrace the thrill of knowledge at our Early 2000s Trivia event! Gather your team for an afternoon of brain-teasing questions, friendly competition, and the chance to claim the title of trivia champion. Event is open to everyone – teams must be marked for participation: see more information in section 3.
	Spirit Night	5:30PM	Arena	Dribble, shoot, and slam-dunk your way into an electrifying evening of basketball action at our Spirit Night Basketball Event as our Men's and Women's Basketball teams take on University of South Carolina Beaufort. Women's Basketball game will start at 5:30PM and our Men's team will begin at 7:30PM.
Thursday, February 8th	Polar Plunge Event	3:30 PM	Pool Area	Come out for the Polar Plunge as President Cosentino and students enter the pool for the first time in celebration of homecoming and money raised for student scholarships.
	LU y2k Showcase	9PM	Arena	Prepare to be amazed as our Showcase event unveils a mesmerizing array of local talent from our participating homecoming teams, in a night that promises to leave you in awe of the extraordinary skills within our community.
Friday, February 9th	Finish the Lyric	2PM	Bearcat Lounge	Unleash your inner lyricist at our "Finish the Lyric" event, where music and competition collide! Test your knowledge of popular songs as you race against the clock to complete the lyrics to your favorite Early 2000s tunes. It's a musical showdown like no other, where quick thinking and lyrical prowess take center stage for a night of entertainment and fun.
	YOLO Silent Disco	6PM	CC Bridge	YOLO! Come join us for a silent disco party that's all about good times and great company! Get ready to <i>evacuate the dance floor</i> and have a whole lot of fun as we come together to celebrate our community and make lasting memories.

Saturday, February 10th	Tailgate	10AM	Front Lawn	<p>Get ready to rev up the school spirit at our Homecoming Tailgate Event! Join us for an unforgettable tailgate filled with lively music, and the company of fellow alumni, students, and fans.</p> <p>Whether you're a die-hard sports enthusiast or just here for the good vibes, our tailgate is the place to be. Decked out in your school colors and surrounded by the electrifying atmosphere, you'll experience the true essence of Homecoming as we come together to cheer on our men's and women's basketball teams.</p>
	Homecoming Game	1:30PM	Arena	<p>Come out to support our women's and men's basketball game as they go against Clayton State and find out who will be crowned the next Homecoming King & Queen.</p> <p>The Women's Basketball Game starts at 1:30PM and the Men's Basketball Game will begin at 3:30PM. Stick around after the game to find out how gets to take home the title as our Homecoming Winner for our Blue and Gold Division!</p> <p>** Students must have Lander ID for entrance</p>

Part Three – Event Guidelines & Point System

Event Breakdown - Guidelines & Rubrics

Event	Guidelines	Point System	Rubric
Banner Reveal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT mount your banner on a board. • Banners must incorporate school and promote the homecoming theme. The banner must be clearly identified with your organization's name or letters. • NO GLITTER MAY BE USED ON THE BANNERS. • Banners must be on a "twin size" sheet (flat, not fitted) or equivalent size of material (66 inches x 96 inches). 	Pointed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spirit of Lander→ 40% • Relation to Theme→ 30% • Originality/Creativity→ 20% • Identifiable Name→ 10% <p>*The Spirit of Lander judging criteria means how well the group represents the Bearcat Pride of Lander</p>

	<p>** Banners that are any other size will not be accepted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn in Banners to the Department of Student Life (Office S340) by 3:00 pm on Friday, February 2nd. 		University.
Service Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service project will run from Monday, February 5th at 5:00 pm through Thursday, February 8th ending at 5:00 pm. • Teams must purchase requested items from the Amazon link provided below. If sent directly to Connie Maxwell receipt must be emailed to homecoming@lander.edu or turned in to S336. • All in-hand donations need to be brought to the S336 on the 3rd Floor of the Grier Student Center to be counted daily during University business hours (8am-5pm). <p>Amazon link to Connie Maxwell Needed Items: see below table</p> <p>Designated Point Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gift Cards = points per dollar value <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ex: \$25 gift card = 25 points • Non-perishable Goods/Other items - 2 points • Hair ties/Hairbands/Headwear - 2 points • Hair Care - 5 points • Hygiene Products - 5 points • Bathroom Material - 8 points • Bedding Material - 8 points • Cleaning Products - 8 points • Kitchen Products - 8 points • Bookbags - 10 points • Other items will be up to the discretion of the homecoming committee • Groups must order from Connie Maxwell Amazon Needs List and submit receipts of orders to be able to obtain points. 	Pointed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams participating in Homecoming will have the opportunity to gain additional points by donating items to Connie Maxwell. The maximum number of points a group can receive will be 100 points/team. • Items have already been assigned a designated point value. • See event guidelines on point breakdown per item • The Team with the most donations in the BLUE and GOLD divisions will be awarded points accordingly
Strongest Bearcat	Come out and support your fellow bearcats during the	Pointed Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold Division: a

	<p>“Strongest Bearcat” Powerlifting Competition. The meet will allow each participant three attempts at the Squat, Bench Press, and Deadlift combined. Join us as we determine the strongest male and female bearcat!</p>		<p>minimum 25% of a team’s roster must be in attendance for 20 additional points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue Division: a minimum 50% of the team’s roster must be in attendance for 20 additional points.
Showing of: Legally Blonde	<p>Early 2000s movie will be streaming every 2.5 hours starting at 10AM. Come out and take a break from class and studying to watch Legally Blonde. Streaming times: 10AM 12:30PM 3PM 5:30PM 8PM</p>	Non-pointed	<p>Join in on the Homecoming Week fun without the competition!</p>
Volleyball Tournament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams of 6 on the court 6 sub-players are allowed Bracket system to determine who plays. Campus Rec Intramural rules apply Volleyball - 6v6 Rules.docx (sharepoint.com) 	Pointed	<p>Based on team performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Place→ 15 points 2nd Place→ 10 points 3rd Place→ 5 points
Trivia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams must check-in and provide a team roster for the event. Doors open at 3:30PM and trivia 4PM Teams of 3 people will be allowed to participate. Game will be traditional trivia style. No phones will be allowed – if found cheating teams will be disqualified. More rules will be clarified during the event. 	Pointed	<p>Based on team performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Place→ 15 points 2nd Place→ 10 points 3rd Place→ 5 points
Spirit Night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each team may have an unlimited number of participants; all must be members of the organization or team. Check in at the table in the Arena when your group arrives. Check-in time begins after Banner Reveal. Each group should be identifiable by signs, banners, or t-shirts. NCAA rules prohibit the use of any type of noisemakers, such as sticks, air horns, beating drums/trash cans, pennies in a jug, etc. Any group 	Pointed	<p>Scoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spirit of Lander (25%) Signage (25%) Dress/Costume (25%) Group identity (25%) <p>Points determined by team performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Place→ 15 points 2nd Place→ 10 points 3rd Place→ 5 points

	<p>with any type of noisemaker WILL be disqualified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating groups should sit in the lower deck on the home side of the Arena. Women's Basketball game will start at 5:30PM and our Men's team will begin at 7:30PM. 		
Polar Plunge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come out for the Polar Plunge as President Cosentino and students enter the pool for the first time in celebration of homecoming and money raised for student scholarships. In order to receive full participation points your group will need to check-in between 3:30PM-3:45PM and stay until 4:15PM. 	Pointed Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gold Division: a minimum 25% of a team's roster must be in attendance for 20 additional points. Blue Division: a minimum 50% of the team's roster must be in attendance for 20 additional points.
LU y2k Showcase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turn in an explanation of skit, song lyrics, script, music on a digital file (if necessary), list of props for rehearsal, and description of costumes with entry form no later than 3:00 pm on Wednesday, January 17th All groups should prerecord scripts! No videos. Music must be in a digital format in the correct order of your performance. All music and recordings must be appropriate, no explicit language, etc., and will be approved by 1/30 from the Department of Student Life with a resubmission due 2/1 by 3:00 pm. Groups participating in Showcase will sign up for a dress rehearsal time when they turn in their entry form. <u>All participants must attend dress rehearsal on Sunday, February 4th.</u> Failure to participate in the dress rehearsal will disqualify your organization from Showcase. Athletic shoes should be worn by all participants. High heels are not allowed on the gym floor. All participants in the Showcase 	Pointed	<p>Scoring: Spirit of Lander→ 40%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creativity→ 30% Presentation of Performance and Relatable to the Theme→ 30% <p>Points determined by team performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Place→ 15 points 2nd Place→ 10 points 3rd Place→ 5 points

	<p>must be roster members of your organization/group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each group is responsible for its props. Do not use any type of prop/product that would leave any residue or debris on the floor. Clear the floor completely once your performance is over. Point deductions could occur if groups do not follow instructions. • Time limit – The maximum time allowed for set-up, performance and tear down/clean up should not exceed 8 minutes. However, there is no minimum time limit. 		
Finish the Lyric	Come out to the Bearcat Lounge and compete in our Finish the Lyric event for the chance to win some Lander Homecoming Swag!	Non-pointed	Join in on the Homecoming Week fun without the competition!
YOLO Silent Disco	YOLO! Come join us for a silent disco party that's all about good times and great company! Get ready to <i>evacuate the dance floor</i> , and have a whole lot of fun as we come together to celebrate our community and make lasting memories.	Non-pointed	Join in on the Homecoming Week fun without the competition!
Tailgate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let's get hyped up and ready for the big homecoming game against Clayton State! • You may bring your own tent. • There must not be any advertisement or wording on the tents, other than the name of your organization. • You must indicate on the entry form if you plan to attend the tailgate and if you intend to bring a tent. • Stakes may not be used for tents. Tents must be freestanding or weighed down. • Faculty and staff groups or offices may also participate in Homecoming Tailgate activities. • No additional music or speakers used during this time. • No grills on grass areas. • Follow all local, state, and federal laws as well as University policies and procedures. 	Non-pointed	Join in on the Homecoming Week fun without the competition!

Homecoming Game	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come out to support our women's and men's basketball game as they go against Clayton State and find out who will be crowned the next Homecoming King & Queen. • The Women's Basketball Game starts at 1:30PM and the King will be crowned during halftime. • The Men's Basketball Game will begin at 3:30PM and the Queen will be crowned during halftime. • Students must have Lander ID for entrance 	Non-pointed	Join in on the Homecoming Week fun without the competition!
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*** Service Project: Amazon link to Connie Maxwell Needed Items -

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/239S05WHTVDX1/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex

Homecoming Scoring Overview

There will be an all-points homecoming winner for each division.

Homecoming Pointed Events

Points for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place (or completion) will be awarded for the following competitions: Banner, Showcase, Volleyball Tournament, Trivia, Spirit Night

- 1st Place → 15 points
- 2nd Place → 10 points
- 3rd Place → 5 points

Bonus pointed events: Service Project

- Earned up to 100 points
- See event guidelines for ways to earn points

Homecoming Pointed Participation Events

Gold Division: a minimum 25% of a team's roster must be in attendance for 20 additional points

Blue Division: a minimum 50% of the team's roster must be in attendance for 20 additional points

** Participants must bring their Lander ID to check-in to events for attendance. The names submitted per event will be compared to the original and previously submitted roster. Only members on the team roster may be counted for participation points.

Non-Pointed Events

Less competition and more Homecoming Week fun! These events are non-pointed but still have all the fun of getting involved in Homecoming.

Part Four – Important Dates and Deadlines

Schedule of Due Dates

Date	Information
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<p>Friday, January 19, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All event entry forms are due by 3:00 pm • The LU y2k Showcase teams must have signed up for rehearsal times by 3:00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You must provide: an explanation of the skit, song lyrics, and script. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A digital file with the music (All music should be edited prior! The team may receive a deduction of 10 points if the Homecoming committee asks for more than one edit of the music.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The digital file is due by 3:00 pm • No changes may be made after 1/19/2024 unless requested by the Department of Student Life. ▪ A list of props for rehearsal and description of the costumes must be included on the entry form. • Banner descriptions are due by 3:00 pm on entry form.
<p>Tuesday, January 30, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All homecoming captains or main contact person must attend this Homecoming Q & A session. • This will take place at (time) in (place).
<p>Wednesday, January 31, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The physical banner is due by 3:00 pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2023, to GC 336. •
<p>Sunday, February 4th, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All team members participating in the showcase must be in full dress attire and must bring all props/materials they plan to use.

** King and Queen Due Dates list in Part Five

[Entry Link Forms](#)

[Entry Form](#)

[Showcase Rehearsal Sign-up](#)

Part Five – King & Queen Information

[Important Information & Deadlines](#)

Date	Information
Wednesday, January 17, 2024	King and Queen contestant forms due by 5:00 pm; contestants sign up for their interview slots online by 5:00 pm King and Queen contestants pick up their free Homecoming shirts and have their picture taken on Friday, January 19, 2024 during the Homecoming Interviews. Please make sure to view the guidelines regarding campaigning!
Friday, January 19, 2024	All event entry forms are due by 3:00 pm Homecoming Court interviews occur today
Wednesday, January 24, 2024	Queen and King contestant's announcement will occur virtually through our Instagram(@lu_studentlife) at noon Voting booth opens at 8:00 pm; check your Lander email for more details
Friday, January 26, 2024	King and Queen voting ends at 8:00 pm
Monday, February 5, 2024	King and Queen contestant's rehearsal begins at 7:00 pm in the Arena King and Queen group photos to be taken directly following the rehearsal; wear your homecoming t-shirt! All contestants must be available during this time!

[Sponsor a King and Queen Candidate](#)

Registered student organization or student groups only

- An organization/team may sponsor one student for Queen and one student for King. Multiple organizations or groups may not sponsor the same candidate. Due to scheduling of interviews and pictures, the king and queen candidates must turn in their own forms.
- The sponsoring organization/team must participate in a **minimum of five events** in order to sponsor a candidate.
- Each candidate must have completed 24 credited hours at Lander prior to the Spring 2024 semester and have a Lander cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above. Candidates must be a full-time Lander University student (currently carrying at least 12 semester hours). Candidates must not be on academic or disciplinary probation.
- There is no fee for organizations to sponsor a King or Queen candidate. Each group will be awarded five points if they sponsor a king contestant and five points if they sponsor a queen contestant.
- King and Queen Candidates are highly encouraged to attend all pointed and non-pointed events.
- Popularity vote (100 points) and an interview process (100 points) will select the Homecoming King and Queen. All nominees will be recognized prior to Homecoming day, and the winners will be announced on Saturday, February 10th during the Women's and Men's Basketball Game v Clayton State University. If two or more candidates tie for the

overall scoring of King, Queen, or any runner-up, the highest interview score will break the tie. In the event the interview scores are the same, the highest GPA will break the tie.

- Students are encouraged to campaign to the student body. Candidates may use social media, videos, approved flyers and posters to spread the message of their nomination for Homecoming King or Queen. ALL FLYERS/POSTERS must be stamped by our office between 10:00 am-8:00 pm by a student worker in the Bearcat Lounge.
- **Campaigning and marketing may begin after review and approval from the Department of Student Life.** Please review the posting policy. **If posters/flyers are posted in inappropriate places, the individual's posters/flyers will be removed, and the student may receive a point deduction, or the candidate being disqualified.** If there are any marketing materials that are in violation of University policy, this may result in point deduction from the candidate or being disqualified. Candidates may not campaign using food or drink items.
- Forms and interview sign-ups are due no later than **Wednesday, January 17, 2023, by 3:00 pm.**

[King and Queen Submission Forms](#)

[Homecoming Court](#)

[Entry Form](#)

[Interview Sign-Up](#)