



Idaho State
University

University
Honors Program

Weekly Update

October 25, 2021

Rake-a-Difference and Other Upcoming Events

A letter from UHP Acting Director Alex Bolinger

As you will see from reading this week's Weekly Update, there are a variety of great Honors events coming up in the next six weeks. They range from the Honors Halloween Party and Costume Competition later this week to the "Rise and Register" pre-registration event on November 8th to a pair of Game Nights in November and December. I especially encourage you to save the date of December 3rd for a Winter Formal that promises to be decorated quite glamorously, in the style of the Yule Ball in Harry Potter. (I want to give a quick shout-out to your University Honors Club student leaders, who keep coming up with these incredibly creative, awesome ideas!)

The back end of any semester is usually very busy and these next six weeks will fly by, so I encourage you to make a commitment to carve out some time in your schedule for fun and fellowship. Please consider seeking out at least one or two of these events that interest you and fit into your schedule – not just because attending an event each semester is a requirement of the Honors Program, but more importantly as a way to help preserve the balance that is important in any student's life.

In terms of participating in an event that will allow you to have a significant positive impact on the most vulnerable members of our local community, nothing could be better than

participating in Rake-a-Difference (Friday, November 12th and Saturday, November 13th). An ISU student originally dreamed up the idea for Rake-a-Difference eight years ago in response to the Make-a-Wish Challenge, where students in my Management classes organize in groups to come up with and carry out a fundraiser to raise money for children in our community who have faced a life-threatening medical situation.

The idea of raking the leaves of people throughout Pocatello and Chubbuck in exchange for donations to those in need was transferred to the Pocatello Free Medical Clinic and has been one of their primary fundraisers ever since. Remarkably, the Pocatello Free Clinic is one of the oldest free medical clinics in the entire United States and it relies primarily on volunteers from the community (e.g., including many Honors students who have interned at the Free Clinic over the past several years) and funding from grants, donations, and fundraisers to continue to provide medical and dental services.

Here is why your participation makes such an important difference: The Free Clinic has obtained a series of matching grants that only provide funding to match what the Free Clinic can raise. Thus, every dollar that gets raised during Rake-a-Difference will be matched by up to five dollars from grants, dramatically

amplifying the impact of your work.

Last year, despite some snowy weather, 80 of you participated in Rake-a-Difference and contributed to a record fundraising effort of over \$18,000! This year, the long-range forecast is looking a lot sunnier (famous last words for anyone living in Idaho!) and we would like to up the ante. We are hoping that 100 Honors students will participate this year to help the Pocatello Free Clinic toward their goal of \$20,000 to meet the growing needs in our community during the pandemic.

If you'd like to sign up to join a Rake-A-Difference team, please visit isu.edu/honors/rake.

When it comes to taking on a good challenge, I have no doubts about Honors students – after all, you all were pivotal in enabling the Honors Program to race past our goal of 400 gratitude letters during The Gratitude Challenge (we ended up with 521 letters during the month of September!). Thank you in advance for considering participating in Rake-a-Difference and some of the other great Honors events coming up in the next six weeks. I am also really looking forward to getting to see many of you face-to-face at our Bi-Annual Honors Meeting (BAHM) next week. (Be sure to take a moment to sign up for your preferred BAHM meeting time, if you have not already – spoiler alert: there is nothing quite like the Friday 7:00 a.m. time, in case you're wondering...)

-Dr. Bollinger

Help Us Reach Another Audacious Goal!

We aim to have **100 Honors student participants** in the Fall 2021 Rake-A-Difference. Last year, 80 Honors students participated in this event.

To sign up, visit: isu.edu/honors/rake.

Please RSVP by October 29th so we have sufficient time to form raking teams.

Rake-A-Difference is a fundraiser in which UHP participates yearly to raise funds for the Pocatello Free Clinic. Learn more about the clinic: youtube.com/watch?v=g4a-Sqr4ByM

Here are the dates we have committed to providing volunteers for Rake-A-Difference:

Friday, November 12, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Saturday, Nov. 13, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Community volunteers will cover the following dates:

Friday, November 5, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Saturday, November 6, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Honors Courses for Spring Semester 2022

As you begin to plan for your spring semester schedule, you may be looking for classes that are listed as Honors courses. Attached to this week's update email you'll find the UHP spring schedule.

Don't forget - you can always meet with an Honors advisor to help you plan for spring registration.

Follow Us on Social Media!

 Instagram @idahostatehonors

 Twitter @Idaho_Honor

 Facebook @isuhonor

Thank You!

248 UHP Students RSVP'ed for BAHM!

If you are one of the 248 students who have RSVP'ed, you have received an email on October 25 that includes the physical location of the session you selected via your RSVP. The advantages of attending in person are asking your questions face-to-face, enjoying the increased likelihood of experiencing technical difficulties, and interacting with your peers. The email will also include a Zoom link. The Zoom link is only to be used if you have extenuating circumstances such as COVID, COVID exposure, you are the primary giver of a vulnerable individual, or a court date.

If you have not signed up for a BAHM session, please do so via the email you received with the subject line: Urgent! Bi-Annual Honors Meeting (BAHM) - RSVP Now!

First-Year House Competition Party

Congrats to House Panthera for being the winners of the house competition! Thank you to everyone who attended the House Celebration Competition. Special thanks to Caleb Wilson, the mentor of House Panthera, and his mentees.



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Service Opportunity

One of our Honors ACAD 1104 service learning groups is putting together gift baskets for our campus security and would like your help. On October 28, they will be holding a booth in the Pond Student Union Building from 10am-2pm for students to come and write notes for security.

This is a great opportunity to serve our campus security as well as our fellow students.

Have you Checked out our Website Recently?

The honors website has gotten some upgrades! So, if you haven't checked it out recently, we encourage you to take a look. One of the new features is a weekly updates archive where you can access any of the old weekly updates, starting now. It's a great way to find information you missed or just read up on something interesting!

isu.edu/honors/current-students/uhp-weekly-update

Apply to be a Student Speaker for Commencement!

Are you proud to be a Bengal? Are you graduating this semester? Do you want to inspire and motivate your fellow graduates? Do you crave the challenge and reward of public speaking? Then you just might have what it takes to be a student speaker!

Applications, letters of recommendation, rough drafts, and applicant videos are due Tuesday, November 16. Visit the Student Speaker webpage for more information about the application process and other details.

isu.edu/commencement/studentspeaker

Honors Leadership Opportunities

We are currently accepting Applications for Spring 2022 Honors Envoy and 2022 Peer Mentor positions! Applications are due by Friday, November 12, 2021.

Honors Envoy

Envoy members support Honors Leadership, are deeply involved in UHP work and recruitment, and become the face and representative of the UHP and its student members. There are typically five Envoy positions available every Fall and Spring semester.

As an internship position, Envoy positions are semester-long terms (available each Fall and Spring semester) and include a \$300 scholarship and a stipend of approximately \$300 (at \$9 per hour, paid over the semester).

Honors Peer Mentor

Honors Mentors provide Honors students a resource on campus that they can rely upon to answer questions related to their education, the university, and even personal matters. Their knowledge of ISU campus resources and professional training offer new Honors students with a reliable advocate for a successful college experience.

To apply for an Envoy or Peer Mentor position, visit isu.edu/honors/current-students/honors-student-leaders/

UHP Club Events

All Honors students are invited to join the University Honors Student Club. The UHP Club strengthens connections among Honors students, positively impacts the community through service and enhances campus life by hosting fun activities. Here's a look at upcoming club events!

October

29 *Halloween Party | 7:00-10:00 PM | Bengal Cafe in the SUB*

Join us for a night of spooky fun! Awesome prizes will go to the best costumes, so start making plans now! Prize categories include: Most Creative, Funniest, Best Career, Best Group or Duo, and People's Choice.

November *Rake-A-Difference*

5-6 Friday, November 5, 3pm-6pm
& Saturday, November 6, 10am-2pm
12-13 Friday, November 12, 3pm-6pm
Saturday, November 13, 10am-2pm

To register a volunteer, visit: isu.edu/honors/rake

8 *Rise and Register | 6:00-7:00 AM | Rendezvous behind the C-Store*

This is the first day to register for Spring classes! Grab a breakfast snack while you register early to make sure you get into all the classes you need next semester. If you need help, Honors advisors will be there to help.

11 *Game Night | 8:00-10:00 PM | Rendezvous behind the C-Store* Hang out and relax with fellow Honors students!