

**Towson University**  
**Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life**  
**New Member Presentation/Neophyte Show Guidelines**  
**“The Debut”**

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It is understood that new member presentations/neophyte shows are an integral part of the NPHC and UGC fraternity and sorority experience. Towson University recognizes that the participation in this tradition can have significant impact on the creation of community and sense of pride within the organizations who traditionally participate. Despite the generally positive nature of this practice, some issues related to hazing have been associated to these shows and their rehearsal processes. In an effort to provide guidance that will enable the successful and positive continuation of the tradition of new member presentation/neophyte shows, the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life has established the following guidelines to ensure the success of planning a new member presentation/neophyte show at “The Debut”:

**Any chapter found to be in violation of the policy below will be charged in the TU Conduct system for Failure to Comply and docked 50 CAP points.**

1. Show time length will be 45 minutes.
2. **The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life must approve all new member presentation/neophyte shows that will be at “The Debut” 1 week prior to the show.** All organizations hosting new member presentation/neophyte shows must submit written approval from a national or regional representative allowing the activity to take place.
3. Participates in “The Debut” must remain in designated room until they are escorted to the performance area, and must return to designated room once their presentation is completed.
4. Presentations may begin no later than the time designated by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
5. **No alcoholic beverages are permitted at the event. Any members under the influence will be asked to leave and charged in conduct.**
6. Participation in the show must be truly optional for neophytes/new members. Any pressure or coercion to participate in the show will not be permitted.
7. No hazing, as defined by the group’s national organization, the University, and/or the local, state, or federal laws may occur prior to, during, or after the show.
8. Rehearsals for the show must be held at reasonable hours and be positive in nature. Forced calisthenics and physical demands outside of what is considered reasonable for practicing of the dance/step is not permitted.
9. No physical abuse will be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: slapping, kicking, spitting, punching, pushing, poking, caning, etc. Canes, staffs, sticks, etc. may be used as a part of the performance, but may not be used as a weapon to harm another individual.
10. Disruptions by other attending organizations will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: walking through the presenters’ show, talking over the presenting organization, etc.
11. **Groups or individuals of chapter who cause a disruption will be asked to leave the performance and charged in conduct.**
12. All shows must respect new members, members, alumni, other organizations, and the University.

**Under no circumstances will degrading or negative sentiment towards another chapter or another chapter’s members be permitted. This type of behavior includes mocking signature steps or calls in order to cause laughter or poke fun. Under no circumstances will profanity, racism, sexual innuendos, obscene gestures or hate towards another culture, gender, or identity be permitted.**

# OFFICE OF FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE

## “THE DEBUT”

### NEW MEMBER/NEOPHYTE PRESENTATION AGREEMENT

<b>Organization</b>	
<b>Date of Show</b>	<i>TO BE DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE OF FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE</i>
<b>Description of Show</b> (provide a <b>FULL</b> description of what will happen during the show)	

My signature below indicates that:

- I have read, understand and agree to **New Member Presentation Guidelines**.
- The information provided on this form is accurate and true.
- The show will not stray from the spirit and written description of the show.
- I have disclosed everything regarding the format of the show in writing and to my Advisor and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
- I understand that my organization, in addition to the President, and individuals within the show will be held accountable should any of the guidelines be violated.

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**President** **Signature** **Date**

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**Membership Intake/Education Coordinator** **Signature** **Date**

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**Chapter Advisor** **Signature** **Date**

For Office Use Only

Date Rec'd: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

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