



Homecoming Celebration  
Team Competition Packet  
Hosted by Student Involvement + Patriot Activities Council  
January 30 – February 7, 2026

## **TABLE TO CONTENTS**

**Full Calendar of Homecoming Events**

**About Homecoming Team Competition 2026**

**Information, Rules, and Regulations**

**Banner Competition**

**Lip Sync Battle**

**Day of Service**

### **Official Team Registration**

Register your team via the following link:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/ROHxk8UCaV>

## Full Calendar of Homecoming Events

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Taco Tuesday Trivia: Homecoming Edition

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Bandito's - University Mall

Thursday, January 29, 2026

*Rally at the Court: Homecoming Promo event*

11:00 am to 1:00 pm

JC Atrium

Friday, January 30, 2026

*Homecoming Tip Off Party and Lip Sync Battle*

7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Dewberry Hall, Johnson Center

Saturday, January 31, 2026

*Women's Basketball vs. Saint Louis*

Doors at 2:00 pm, Game Time 3:00 pm

EagleBank Are

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

*Homecoming Day of Service*

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

The Hub and various locations

Thursday, February 5, 2026

*Homecoming Headliner, JOSH JOHNSON*

Doors at 8:00 pm, Showtime 9:00 pm

George Mason University Center for the Arts

Homecoming City Crawl (not announced yet)

Friday, February 6, 2026

5:00 pm to 11:00 pm

Downtown City of Fairfax

Saturday, February 7, 2026

*Game Day Festival and Tailgate*

12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Lot L

Saturday, February 7, 2026

*Men's Basketball vs. Saint Joseph's*

Doors at 3:00 pm, Game Time 4:00 pm

EagleBank Arena

## About 2026 Homecoming Competitive Events

Homecoming 2026 Competitive Events will not have an overall winner. Instead, each of the competitions listed below will be judged individually. Students can participate with different teams for each competition.

### Competitive Events

- Banner Competition
  - Monday, January 26 to Sunday, February 8, 2026.
  - JC Atrium
  - Thursday, January 29, 2026 People's Choice Award Voting at Rally at the Court
- Tip-Off Party: Lip Sync Battle
  - Friday, January 30, 2026. 7pm – 10pm
  - Dewberry Hall
- Day of Service
  - Wednesday, February 4, 2026. 10am – 4pm
  - Hub Ballroom and various locations

### Prizes and Awards

#### Banner Competition

First Place Winner will receive \$300 for their group.

Second Place Winner will receive \$200 for their group.

Third third-place winner will receive \$100 for their group.

People's Choice Winner will receive a free 2-hour event at the Corner Pocket

#### Lip Sync Battle

First Place Winner will receive \$300 for their group.

Second Place Winner will receive \$200 for their group.

Third Place Winner will receive \$100 for their group.

#### Day of Service

First Place Winner will receive \$300 for their group.

Second Place Winner will receive \$200 for their group.

Third Place Winner will receive \$100 for their group.

Visit <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/R0Hxk8UCaV> to access the team registration form. This form is due by 9am on Tuesday, December 9, 2025.

Winners will receive an email the week of February 9 with directions on how to receive their prize money. You must submit all information before the deadline noted in the email to receive your winnings. Please email [pac@gmu.edu](mailto:pac@gmu.edu) if you have any questions! We look forward to seeing your group participate in Homecoming 2026

## Information, Rules and Regulations

1. Homecoming teams must be made up of current George Mason University undergraduate or graduate students.
2. The Team Captain is responsible for giving out all information from the Homecoming Committee to the team.
3. The Homecoming Committee has the right to determine if the Homecoming team name is appropriate.
4. Any unsportsmanlike conduct will result in immediate disqualification of a team or an individual at the sole discretion of the Homecoming Committee and/or the judge(s) or other officials affiliated with George Mason University. Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Visible intoxication and disorderly behavior
  - b. Vandalism of any kind
  - c. Harassment or intimidation of other teams or individuals whether in-person, through social media/electronic communication, or third-party communication
  - d. Racist, sexist, homophobic, or other offensive behaviors or comments before, during, or after any part of the Homecoming Competition activities for which you're registered
  - e. Any violation of the George Mason University Student Code of Conduct during, in preparation for, or in the name of any Homecoming events.

Please Note: The Homecoming Committee reserves the right to disqualify any team or individual(s) from the competition for violating these rules and regulations.

Anyone checking in and representing your group at an event will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Homecoming Competition. Please share the Participant Agreement below with anyone representing your team.

It is understood that all team competition participants must acknowledge the following:

### Participant Agreement

I acknowledge that I have read and completely understand the contents of the Homecoming Celebration Competition Packet. I understand that I must abide by the Homecoming rules and regulations for team competitions and must meet all deadlines set by the Homecoming Committee in order to participate. I am fully aware that if I violate the rules and regulations outlined in this document and/or on the [Homecoming website](#) my group can be automatically disqualified. I also understand the Homecoming Committee reserves the right to disqualify any group for misconduct during the week of Homecoming and refer those individuals to Student Conduct if the Student Code of Conduct has also been violated. I also allow the Homecoming committee and Patriot Activities Council to use any photographs and/or videos taken during events and performances on their promotional materials and website.

## **Banner Competition**

Banners due to Student Involvement (HUB 2300) by 12pm (noon) on Friday, January 23, 2026.

Each year, teams paint a school spirit banner which represents our Patriot pride! It can be a way to showcase your team and who makes it up, it can be a depiction of the basketball teams that will be competing, or anything that is a positive representation of Mason!

### Rules and Guidelines:

- Banners must be created on a twin bedsheet (66in x 96in/168cm x 244 cm), or lightweight fabric of the same size. Sheets must be a flat sheet (not fitted).
- Profanity or obscenities on the banner will result in disqualification, as determined by the Homecoming Committee.
- If you are using the Mason logo or the opponent's logo, you must do so in good taste.
- The required design components are:
  - Name of the organization or team must be clearly seen and spelled out on the banner (no acronyms or abbreviations). Greek letters are not considered an acronym and therefore can be used.
  - "Homecoming Celebration 2026" and "Patriots Brave and Bold" must be somewhere on the banner at least once.
  - The banner must be accompanied by an index card with team name and banner description.

If your group would like to keep their banner after Homecoming, please indicate on the index card by writing "WOULD LIKE TO KEEP BANNER". Banners without a request will be disposed of at the conclusion of Homecoming.

Banners will be available for pick up in the Student Involvement office starting on Tuesday, February 10, 2026. Please make arrangements to have someone retrieve your banner by the end of that week. If your banner is not retrieved by Friday, February 13, 2026, it will be discarded.

### Scoring

Teams will be judged by a panel of judges on:

- Creativity (30 points)
- Patriot Pride (20 points)

## Lip Sync Battle

Friday, January 30, 2026

7pm-10pm

Dewberry Hall

Throughout the event, teams will be called to the stage in Dewberry Hall to dance it out in the Lip Sync Battle! All members of the competition team must check in to the event between 6pm and 6:30pm. The performance schedule will be determined, and teams will be notified of performance times by the close of business on Thursday, January 29, 2026. Additional updates will be sent out as they become available.

### Rules and Guidelines:

- Groups are responsible for their own props or other supplies.
- All music must be submitted in mp3 format by 12pm (noon) on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 by emailing [pac@gmu.edu](mailto:pac@gmu.edu). Late music submissions will not be accepted and those groups will not be included in the performance schedule.
  - The subject of your email should be “(TEAM NAME) – Hoco Lip Sync Music”
- All songs and performances must be in good taste (radio edits). Rude, lewd, or obscene dance moves will not be permitted.
- No suggestive acts, props, or attire will be allowed. See rules and regulations above for further guidance. Teams in violation of this restriction will be immediately disqualified, and their performance will be stopped.
- Performances must be at least 3 and no longer than 6 minutes.

We reserve the right to disqualify any act that is not performed within the guidelines explained above or in the rules and regulations.

### Scoring

Teams will be judged by a panel of judges on:

- Dance Moves (20 points)
- Originality and creativity (30 points)
- Appearance, including costumes and props (20 points)
- Crowd response – so bring your friends (20 points)
- Time - the group stayed in the required time limit (10 points)

## **Day of Service**

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

10am-4pm

Dewberry Hall, Johnson Center

### **INOVA Blood Services Blood Drive:**

Did you know that just 1 blood donation can save up to 3 lives and that the average red blood cell transfusion is 3 pints (or 3 whole-blood donations)? More than 1 million people every year are diagnosed with cancer for the first time, and many of them will need blood—sometimes daily—during chemotherapy. More than 38,000 blood donations are needed every day, and while 38% of the American population is eligible, only 2% actually donate.

Each person who gives blood can earn one point for their team. Upon arrival, check-in for your appointment, and note the team you are representing.

Teams can participate and earn points by:

1. Donating blood at the INOVA Blood Drive in Dewberry Hall
  - a. One point per donation
  - b. Upon arrival, check in for your appointment, and note the team you are representing.

### **Stuff-a-Truck Donation Drive:**

On the Day of Service, from 10am to 4pm, the SI2Go mobile Student Involvement truck will accept food and supply donations for the chosen charities. **The location for donation drop-offs will be announced at a later time.**

This year, items will be donated to the **Patriot Pantry**, Mason's own food pantry for students experiencing food insecurity, or to **Food for Others**, a food pantry serving individuals and families in Fairfax County.

Teams can participate and earn points by:

1. Donating physical items
  - Student Involvement will provide teams with as many boxes as needed to contain your donation.
  - Donations must be received in the standard-sized boxes provided.
  - Each team can pick up their boxes from Student Involvement starting Friday, January 30 and through Tuesday, February 3, 2026.
  - Your donations will be scored as a full box with the lid on. Items or cases that do not fit into the standard-sized box will be scored at the discretion of the team competition managers.

## 2. Donating online

- To donate to The Patriot Pantry online, use the following link:
- [Patriot Pantry Wish List](#) or go to [https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3W1RAZSSCJM5/ref=pdp\\_new\\_wl?](https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3W1RAZSSCJM5/ref=pdp_new_wl?)
- Email receipts for your donations to [pac@gmu.edu](mailto:pac@gmu.edu) with subject header (TEAM NAME - HoCo Day of Service Receipts)
- Receipts for online donations will be accepted through Friday, February 6, 2026 by 12pm.

### **Additional Service Projects**

The following service projects will occur during the Day of Service. Teams can earn points by participating in any of the projects below:

#### 1. Plant Pot Decorating

Bring the green and gold spirit to our very own Campus Gardens by helping to decorate plant pots!

#### 2. Power Packs for Kids

Give back to Fairfax community by helping us pack lunchboxes for children in need. Supplies will be provided!

#### 3. Other Alternative Service Projects

Updates on additional projects will be added to the Homecoming website. Stay tuned!

### Scoring

One blood donation = 1 point

One box donation = 1 point

Each \$15 purchase for Patriot Pantry = 1 point

Each person who participates in the listed additional service projects = 1 point

\*In-person donations will be counted as they are received on Wednesday, February 4, 2026. If a team cannot deliver their donations on this day, please email [pac@gmu.edu](mailto:pac@gmu.edu) and request an alternate, earlier delivery date.