

Want to get involved, but not sure where to start?

Plan on Zooming in for Get Involved ClubFest at noon Wednesday, Jan. 27 to learn more about Black Hawk College clubs for both campuses.

Get Involved ClubFest will also include impressionist Justin Ruppel, with his show starting at 12:30 p.m.

In addition to clubs, the college also offers a variety of student life opportunities. During COVID-19, these have included virtual events and grab-and-go activities.

“BHC Student Life wants you to know that we will continue to provide safe programming to allow students who want to get or stay involved!” – Jana Koch, Director of Student Life & Engagement

“We pivoted our programs this fall semester to engage students in a variety of activities that respected the college’s COVID-19 guidelines.” – Vashti Berry, Coordinator of Orientation and Educational Advisor (East Campus)

If you can’t make the Get Involved Clubfest event, explore [clubs and student life](#) opportunities at Black Hawk College online.

Read on for active students’ thoughts on what they enjoy about their clubs and why you should get involved.

Keeghan Kinsella

Hometown: Kewanee, Illinois

Campus: East Campus

Program: Associate in Science

Involvement: Student Veterans of America (secretary/treasurer)

What have you enjoyed about being involved with clubs this school year? Also, what are you looking forward to this semester?

This past school year, I have enjoyed meeting current and former veterans as we work alongside them. I am looking forward to becoming a stronger leader and helping out the community more.



Black Hawk College student Keeghan Kinsella (under the flag) working with the Optimist Club.

Why should other students get involved by joining a club or organization?

Other students should get involved in clubs and organizations, not only because it is a great time, but also because you get to meet many different people. By joining clubs, you are able to gain leadership skills and also expand your connections throughout the school and community.

Leah Mueller

Hometown: Reynolds, Illinois



Campus: Quad-Cities Campus

Program: Associate in Arts

Involvement: Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society vice president of service

What have you enjoyed about being involved with clubs this school year? Also, what are you looking forward to this semester?

I have enjoyed being involved in PTK because of the different opportunities that it can provide, such as scholarship opportunities and ways to make an impact on the community through different service projects. Although this year was not ideal, it did allow us to be able to participate in different conferences over Zoom with chapters from all over Illinois, which we might not have been able to do otherwise. Something I'm looking forward to this semester is finding fun and unique ways to connect with members by hosting some virtual games and contests.

Why should other students get involved by joining a club or organization?

Getting involved at Black Hawk is something that can be really rewarding. Not only is it something that you can put on a résumé, but by getting involved you are able to meet new people with your same interests and is a great way to branch out and get more connected with the school. I think that students who are looking to get involved at BHC should definitely consider joining Phi Theta Kappa. The great thing about being in this group is that you can be as involved as you want, so there's really no down side to joining. By just becoming a member, there are a lot of scholarship opportunities that are available, which can really be helpful for transfer students.

Itzel Rivera

Hometown: Los Angeles, California



Campus: Quad-Cities Campus

Program: Associate in Arts (political science)

Involvement: President of the Association of Latin American Students (ALAS), co-president of Sigma Kappa Delta (English honor society) and member of Phi Theta Kappa

What have you enjoyed about being involved with clubs this school year? Also, what are you looking forward to this semester?

Although times are tough right now, I have enjoyed working with all club members to create events that are available for the whole school. Specifically for ALAS, I am excited to start fun and educational projects this semester and to introduce more members into the club! Last semester, we made a Dia de los Muertos virtual event to educate students on this well-known Latin tradition, and we are currently planning on something similar for this semester.

Why should other students get involved by joining a club or organization?

Students should strive to join clubs or organizations because it is a good way to meet other people and to take part in being with amazing groups of people that have common interests. In ALAS, we strive to educate and inform people about Latin-American cultures and struggles while not only representing the Latin population on campus, but also in the community.

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