



## Partners in Learning

January, 16, 2009—Newsletter # 1

[www.parents.tulane.edu](http://www.parents.tulane.edu)

Dear Tulane Family,

Happy 2009! Tulane University is beginning the new year with many exciting events in store. One of the biggest New Orleans traditions that your student will be experiencing this semester is the celebration of **Mardi Gras**. Though festivities run throughout January and February, the actual day of Mardi Gras is not until February 24th. Your student will have the opportunity to participate in the Season by eating **King Cakes**, attending parades with friends, and learning about the **history of Mardi Gras**. For details about all of the parades and their routes, visit the following [site](#).

Spring semester also brings the excitement of participating in **Greek** recruitment, as well as other student leadership opportunities such as applying to become a **Resident Advisor** or an Orientation Coordinator. Students who received a GPA of 3.5 or above during their first semester as freshmen will be asked to join Tulane's Honor Society known as **Phi Eta Sigma**. This is a great honor for your student and they should be encouraged to join.

Saving the best for last, the **Reilly Student Recreation Center** will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary on January 14th. In lieu of the celebration, the Reilly Center will be hosting a 80's Dance Party for students on January 30th from 8pm–11pm which will include live music by **Bag of Donuts**, free refreshments, break dancing, moon walking, an 80's costume contest and tons of *fantabulous* prize give-a-ways!

As always, if you at anytime have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 877-TUP-WAVE or [parents@tulane.edu](mailto:parents@tulane.edu). We wish you a prosperous 2009!

Sincerely,

*Maylen L. Aldana*

Assistant Director, Office of Parent Programs and Student Transitions



### A Message From The Vice President of Student Affairs

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! As the new year begins, it is a time to reflect on the past year and the experiences that your student had at Tulane. It is also a time of anticipating new beginnings and experiences for your student as they prepare to return for the spring semester. Starting a new semester can be challenging and anxiety provoking yet at the same time exhilarating. The start of spring term and a new year is a realization that the first year of college is halfway done!

As parents you can do the following in support of your student during this time:

1. Encourage your student to take a renewed, invigorated look at new classes and potential classmates as opportunities for new connections and improved academic performance.
2. Discuss with your student what worked and what didn't work fall semester including time management strategies. For tips on achieving this goal go to <http://www.erc.tulane.edu>.
3. It is also time to start thinking of financial aid for next year. Begin to compile the necessary tax information to apply for 2009-2010 financial aid.
4. Finally, encourage outreach to upper-class peers, staff and faculty from the fall that your student had positive connections with for guidance and advice about any issues that may come up.

We look forward to having your student back at Tulane. Here's to a successful 2009!

Sincerely,

*Cynthia Cherrey*

Cynthia Cherrey



### It Is All Greek To Me: Fraternity & Sorority Recruitment 2009

This January, hundreds of Tulane students will join a Greek organization on campus. Over 475 students have already registered to participate in Panhellenic Sorority Recruitment which will kick off on January 15<sup>th</sup> and take place January 17<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. An estimated 400 males will participate in Interfraternity Council Recruitment which kicks off on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and will follow events on January 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.



Other students may choose to join a National Pan-Hellenic Organization or Delta Xi Nu, the multicultural sorority on campus. Just under 30% of all full-time undergraduate Tulane students are affiliated with one of the 24 Greek organizations on campus. Greek life offers students with leadership & community service opportunities, social networks, and friendships to last a lifetime. And what's more, the all-Greek grade point average is well above the all-student average at Tulane. Find out more about what membership in a fraternity or sorority can offer. Visit <http://greek.tulane.edu/parents.html> or contact the office staff at [gogreek@tulane.edu](mailto:gogreek@tulane.edu).

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### The "Did You Know?" Section For Parents

1. Tulane has an official Mardi Gras Policy for visitors and hosts. Although, we love for your student to invite their friends and family for Mardi Gras, make sure your student is aware of the policies that apply during the Mardi Gras season. For detailed information [click here](#).
2. Last day to change or cancel a meal plan is Friday, January 30. Also note Bruff Dining Room will be closed Tuesday, Feb. 24, Mardi Gras Day and Monday, March 23 through Saturday, March 28 for Spring Break.
3. New Orleans Hillel is looking forward to an exciting and enriching 2009 spring semester. Highlights in January include the Welcome Back BBQ January 14, the launching of a new Jewish student newspaper 'The Shpiel', and a trio of special Shabbats- Israeli Shabbat, Moroccan Shabbat, and Super Bowl Shabbat. Remember to call the Hillel Matzah Ball Soup Hotline at (504) 866-7060 if your student is sick and in need of some home-cooked comfort food. For more information contact New Orleans Hillel at [hillel@tulane.edu](mailto:hillel@tulane.edu).



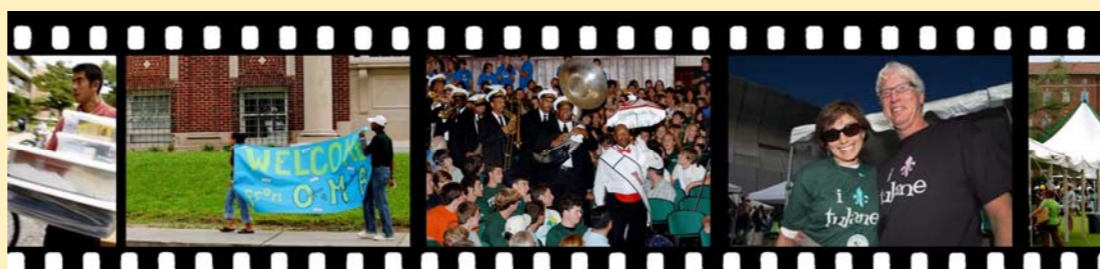
### Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service...

Is an annual one-day service event for New Orleans college students (Dillard, Loyola, Xavier, Tulane and others), as well as the universities' faculty, staff, alumni and their families. Through the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, we seek to build a stronger community by working together to provide needed assistance to local schools and non-profit community organizations. Staging for this event will take place in the Lavin-Bernick Center on Tulane University's campus on January 17 at 8:00 am. [Click here to check out the project descriptions.](#)



For Registration go to <http://tulane.edu/studentaffairs/oma/mlk/>

For more information, please email [MLKJr.DayofService@gmail.com](mailto:MLKJr.DayofService@gmail.com).



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Currently, you are on the Office of Parent Program Listserv to inform you of upcoming events. If you do not wish to receive this information, you may leave the list at any time by sending a "SIGNOFF PARENTS2012-L" command in the body of an email to [LISTSERV@TULANE.EDU](mailto:LISTSERV@TULANE.EDU). Be aware your removal from this listserv may mean that you will not receive any pertinent information regarding your role as a Tulane Parent.