New mask mandate affects Duquesne's campus

MARY LIZ FLAVIN & ELIZABETH SHARP
Duke Staff

This summer campus said farewell to masks — but not for long. On Wednesday August 11, Duquesne issued a formal statement to all students, requiring students and faculty to wear masks indoors along with reinstating social distancing guidelines in accordance with the CDC effective August 13.

“The temporary safety precaution is consistent with the latest guidance provided by the Allegheny County Health Department in response to the CDC, largely due to the recent upsurge of the Delta variant in our region,” said the statement.

Still, the statement ensured students that in-person classes will continue as planned this fall. However, as a precaution against the surging Delta variant, masks will be required indoors for students, faculty and staff who are or plan to be present on campus for the time being.

According to the CDC, “People who are not fully vaccinated should wear masks indoors in public at all levels of community transmission. CDC recommends that people who are fully vaccinated should wear masks indoors in areas of substantial or high transmission.”

Although covid-19 vaccinations are required for everyone present on campus, the substantial transmission rate in Allegheny County, compounded with students moving on campus from across the country, has caused administration to rethink its previously established protocols.

Andy Kamis, a freshmen at Duquesne, is content with the protocol in place. “If it keeps us from closing down or going online, I am ok with it,” Kamis said.

On June 30, Duquesne administration announced that it would be lifting the indoor mask mandate effective July 1. Just six weeks later, the indoor mask mandate is back in effect on campus.

While this decision indicates a further surge of local covid-19 cases, the renewed mask mandate is supported by both the Student Government Association and Faculty Senate. Administration also expects this mandate to be temporary.

“By Labor Day weekend, the university will evaluate whether the temporary requirement remains necessary,” said the aforementioned statement.

Duquesne is in compliance with what the CDC has put in place to ensure the safety of students against the Delta variant, and administration — as demonstrated in this decision — is frequently reevaluating and updating its policies as the covid-19 situation continues to evolve.

Erin Wrisley, a freshmen at Duquesne, shared her thoughts on the mask mandate. “I mean it wasn’t my favorite when I first heard about it, but as long as it’s going to keep people safe I don’t mind dealing with it,” Wrisley said.

Classes are set to resume fully in-person on August 23. As students and professors alike prepare for the change in academic atmosphere everyone will be required to wear masks in the classroom.

Professor Jim Vota, chairperson of the media department, is excited to return to teaching in person. “For me, teaching in person is going to bring back that collaborative component to teaching that many of us missed last year. So, I don’t see wearing a mask as a hindrance at all,” Vota said. “Thinking of others, and helping others is part of the Duquesne mission and spirit,” Vota said.

Duquesne University’s Society of Professional Journalism is recruiting new members!

Contact Dr. Pam Walck for more details at walckp@duq.edu
Basketball on the Bluff may be Pittsburgh’s best kept secret

LUKE HENNE  
Sports Editor

With college basketball season still close to 100 days away, it might be challenging to get excited right now. When the time for tip-off comes, however, Duquesne men’s basketball will be ready to bring the aforementioned excitement.

For starters, the Dukes are set to begin their first season of playing games solely on campus since the 2018-19 season, as each of the past two years were spent playing at various venues across Pittsburgh (Kerr Fitness Center, UPMC Events Center and PPG Paints Arena) while the A.J. Palumbo Center was renovated and rebranded as the UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse.

Duquesne did return to campus for two February tilts last season, including a nationally-televised victory over Dayton on Feb. 2 to open the refurbished building, but attendance was strictly limited as a COVID-19 precaution.

That should change this year, as Pennsylvania entertainment venues are permitted to operate at full capacity, meaning the Dukes can welcome large crowds into their permanent home for the first time in nearly three years.

In a 2020-21 season abundant with positive covid-19 tests and schedule shuffling, Head Coach Keith Dambrot found a way to navigate the ship and lead his team to a 9-9 record, becoming the first Dukes head coach to compile four straight .500-or-better seasons since Ron Everhart put together five such seasons from 2007-08 to 2011-12.

After a tumultuous 3-5 start, a stretch in which the Dukes won 5 of their next 8 games provided momentum heading toward the end of the campaign. They would upset Richmond in the Atlantic 10 Championship’s second round before being ousted by St. Bonaventure, the eventual tournament champion, in the quarterfinals.

While this year’s schedule has yet to be released in its entirety, the Atlantic 10 Conference released its portion of the schedule in July. For Duquesne, that means hosting rivals such as Dayton and St. Bonaventure, in addition to familiar conference heavyweights like Davidson, Richmond and Saint Louis.

The Dukes are also set to head to St. Thomas to compete in three games during the U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam just prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. A quarterfinal matchup with Northwestern is already set for Nov. 19. Depending on outcomes from other contests, Duquesne could wind up playing Colorado and/or Creighton, both of whom are fresh off NCAA Tournament appearances.

Other scheduling tidbits include home contests with Hofstra on Nov. 13, Weighing in with CBS Sports’ Jon Rothstein, include home contests with Hofstra on Nov. 13, Weber State on Nov. 15 and Bowling Green on Dec. 1. Additionally, as reported by Pittsburgh Sports Now, the Dukes will open up the season at home against Rider, hosting the Broncos and Jett Roesing, who transferred from Duquesne to Rider after appearing in one game last season.

In short, there will be plenty of opportunities for students, alumni and fans to catch the Dukes in action at UPMC Cooper Fieldhouse this season after enduring the turmoil of the past two seasons.

On the flipside, it would be negligent to ignore the amount of roster turnover that Duquesne will endure heading into this year, as the team’s six leading scorers from last season have all found new homes.

Sincere Carry (9 points/game) and Lamar Norman Jr. (5 points/game) transferred to Kent State and Western Michigan, respectively, and will provide much-needed scoring depth behind the arc and could provide much-needed scoring depth. He also added Tre Williams, a transfer from a source of veteran leadership Duquesne will endure heading into this year, as the team’s six leading scorers from last season have all found new homes.

Sincere Carry (9 points/game) and Lamar Norman Jr. (5 points/game) transferred to Kent State and Western Michigan, respectively, and will provide much-needed scoring depth behind the arc and could provide much-needed scoring depth. He also added Tre Williams, a forward from Indiana State who averaged 8.1 points/game and five rebounds/game across two seasons with the Sycamores.

Other notable transfer additions include Rodney Gunn Jr. (Lenoir-Rhyne) and Kevin Easley Jr. (Texas Christian).

Dambrot will also be able to lean on Maceo Austin and Austin Rotroff, who are entering their third and fourth seasons, respectively, and will provide a source of veteran leadership to a team otherwise littered with younger players.

While missing most of the 2020-21 season, Austin started 29 of 30 games during his freshman campaign, averaging 7.0 points/game and 1.6 rebounds/game. Across three seasons with Duquesne, Rotroff has shot 56.5% overall.

With the season still months away, lots could happen when it comes to scheduling and player development, but the Duquesne men’s basketball program has laid the blueprint for becoming a successful team this season.

And now, after multiple weeks of venue-jumping, they finally have the state-of-the-art facility that can bring fans onto campus like never before.
Step Outside: Exploring off the Bluff

Happy Trails: PGH's best hiking and running paths

Elizabeth Sharp
assistant news editor

Pittsburgh boasts a selection of hiking, running and biking trails. These places are a great way for students to escape the noisy, bustling sectors of the city and spend some time taking in the fresh air.

Three Rivers Heritage Trail/Great Allegheny Passage

The 334.5 Mile Trail begins in Pittsburgh on the Three Rivers Heritage Trail at Point State Park. The Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers all meet at this point — which makes it a perfect start to a bike ride, often with a nice breeze.

You may choose to stay in Pittsburgh on the trail, or bike in between or all the way down to Cumberland, Md. With bikers being able to choose how long their path will be, this trail hosts cyclists of all experience levels and can be as physically involved as the cyclist chooses.

The Great Allegheny Passage is not just for biking; it also hosts runners, walkers and hikers. Being only about a 20 minute walk from Duquesne’s campus, Three Rivers Heritage Trail that leads to the Great Allegheny Passage is a great way to get out for a walk with friends, your pet or just to clear your mind.

Hill located in the park to observe the over 100 species of birds that have been recorded there.

Even though the park is not exactly walkable from Duquesne’s campus, it is definitely worth it to take a short 17 minute car or Uber ride over to check it out.

Schenley Park

Schenley Park, located in the heart of Oakland, is only about a 10 minute car ride or 20 minute bus ride from Duquesne’s campus. It has become a place where university students, business people and outdoor enthusiasts can all come together and enjoy hundreds of acres of trails and other attractions.

This park in particular caters to walkers with the Panther Hollow Trail and Junction Hollow Trail having easier paths than some other parks in the city.

Schenley Park would be an ideal spot to spend a sunny afternoon with friends as there are areas to sit and complete work before taking a nice stroll in the park.

North Shore Riverfront Trail

Located on the northern bank of the Allegheny River, the North Shore Riverfront Park and Trail is one of the best spots for runners in the city. Along the path you can see views of PNC Park, the Pittsburgh Skyline, Heinz Field and other sights.

The location proves ideal for runners due to its flat pavement surfaces along the river. Here, runners are bound to be around other active runners and walkers, which will make for an enjoyable outing.

Having some of the best views in the city, especially for newcomers, the Riverfront provides an unforgettable Pittsburgh experience.

Only about a 20 minute walk from campus, the North Shore is perfect for a fall or spring day. Be advised that a seemingly easy run on the water may be difficult in the summer as not much shade is provided.

Frick Park

Frick Park, located near the Squirrel Hill and Point Breeze neighborhoods, has the most diverse array of activities for students.

There is not much you can’t find at this park.

In addition to a nine mile run trail, it also provides basketball courts, tennis courts, a baseball field and its very own lawn bowling greens and club.

Photos by Mary Liz Flavin | News Editor
"A vibrant escape right in the heart of the city"

Emily Ambrey
staff writer

Don’t “overlook” Pittsburgh’s latest pop-up park. Debuted in summer 2021, the Allegheny Overlook is downtown Pittsburgh’s newest go-to hang out. Located at the intersection of Sixth St. and Ft Pitt Boulevard, the park features great views and comfortable seating areas to view the Allegheny River.

Pop-up parks are usually smaller, temporary green spaces nestled in an urban area. They can last anywhere from a few days to months. The Allegheny Overlook is sponsored by the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership in the organization’s effort to draw more people to the downtown area.

“The Allegheny Overlook highlights an underutilized space in the city’s urban core,” said Colten Gill, the senior manager for marketing and communications at the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership. “It also provides yet another space for community and gathering as people begin to return to the neighborhood.”

“Just a 20-minute walk from Duquesne’s campus, the Allegheny Overlook is open daily, rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. “At the Allegheny Overlook, college students can enjoy the park as a vibrant escape right in the heart of the city,” said Gill. “It’s a fantastic venue to meet up with friends before a Pirates game, before dinner or just to catch up while playing games like badminton, giant Jenga and basketball.”

The Allegheny Overlook raises Pittsburgh’s culture to new heights through the concerts and food the park offers. Throughout the summer, the park has hosted numerous free concerts on the outdoor stage from all genres — from folk to country to rap. The local artists who have already performed on this stage include Jordan Montgomerie, Elia Khouri, Fierce Dipper & the Shades of Blue, Bindley Hardware Co. and William Matheny.

A bird’s eye view of the park reveals the “Pathway to Joy,” a mural on Ft. Duquesne Boulevard by artist Janel Young. The mural features an abstract design of vibrant green, blue, orange and purple blocks and represents life to a team of entirely Black women.

The park also offers food and drink options from local breweries and Pittsburgh classics. Patrons can grab a bite to eat from a converted 1950’s Greyhound Bus at Blue Sparrow, or pick up some classics, like chicken livers and fries or spinach pies, from the Good Eats Outdoor Food Truck.

Visitors also have the option to get a change of office scenery by booking one of the three workspaces featured at the Overlook. Designed by Workscape Inc. with furniture from Knoll, these workspaces offer a peaceful green atmosphere to be productive.

Additionally, the park has a variety of recreation opportunities available including basketball, giant connect four, giant Jenga, ladder toss, bocce ball, badminton, cornhole and Ping Pong.

While the park — much like Allegheny County — does not have specific covid restrictions at the moment, visitors are advised to continue to practice safety measures such as wearing a mask and social distancing when in crowded areas.

By its very nature, Pop-Up Parks like Allegheny Overlook are a temporary adventure. The park will close Sept. 12.

“My favorite part of the Allegheny Overlook is the energy of the space,” said Gill. “It’s a terrific spot to people watch, and it’s been so great to see the community really embrace the pop-up park over the past summer.”

Other Parks within walking distance of The Bluff

Point State Park

Point State Park is located at the confluence of the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers and is only a 25-minute walk from Duquesne. The 36-acre Point State Park has views of PNC Park, Heinz Field and the “Three Sisters” bridges. Points to miss. Whether you are walking along the river or sitting in the large grass field, a trip to Point State Park is a Pittsburgh must.

The Color Park

The Color Park is different from a traditional park. Formally a vacant industrial lot was transformed into a colorful explosion of art for all to enjoy. Located on the Three Rivers Heritage Trail in the South Side between 4th and 6th street, this colorful community space is perfect for hanging out with friends, exercising or getting creative inspiration from local artists’ work featured all over the park. The Color Park is a 25-minute walk across the Tenth Street Bridge.

“Gravity Hill: What goes up must come ... up?”

Rio Scarcelli
staff writer

Pennsylvania’s notorious rolling hills and windy roads are a big part of what contributes to a mysterious optical illusion in various parts of the state: gravity hills.

Also known as a magnetic hill or a mystery hill, a gravity hill is a one on a plot of land where the layout produces an optical illusion. It makes a slight downhill slope appear to look uphill. There are hundreds of gravity hills located across the world. Allegheny County’s largest public park, North Park, is home to one of the state’s three gravity hills. The main sight to see is in an intersection between Kummer and McKinney Roads, which gives the illusion that you are defying the laws of gravity.

When driving through McKinney Road, a car, person or object will be travelling on a slightly downhill slope. But when a car driving down this road is put in neutral, it gives the perspective that it is actually rolling uphill.

There are certain conditions that allow this illusion to come to life. The first is that the skyline is obscured. Horizons are a way for our eyes to perceive the depth of an area and the slope to which a line is traveling. Without a horizon, a hill that goes downwards may actually appear to have a slope or even look like it is travelling skyward.

Also playing a factor is the area around the road. Trees or tall natural objects throughout the drive can cause a perpendicularly view of the surroundings becomes confused. Trees that lean slightly inwards with no skyline to reference can make a road travelling downhill appear uphill or vice versa.

Finally, the largest addition to the illusion is our own brains.

Many of these anomalies can be observed around the country and are called gravity hills, magnetic hills or mystery spots amidst other names. When exploring these kinds of mind-tricks, an idea is ingrained in our heads that the hill is going to defy gravity.

Without any explanations, the car is set in neutral and rolls downwards on the road. Knowing that the road being travelled is cognitive dissonance, which conflicts with the concept of travelling upwards in your brain. Prior knowledge in your head creates a sort of placebo effect in your brain. The area is called Gravity Hill, and so it should have the ability to lose gravity. Psychologically, your eyes use this idea as a confirmation bias and compels your brain to see the travel of the object as going upward.

All that is left is to try the experiment for yourself. Gravity Hill is one of many amazing natural sites to explore in Pittsburgh’s own backyard. You will not believe what kinds of tricks your own eyes can play on you. If your imagination can do it, maybe you too can bend the laws of gravity.

If you go...

Address: 461 McKinney Rd, Wexford, PA 15090; intersection of McKinney and Kummer Roads.

Distance: 25 minutes from Duquesne University

Materials needed: Car, ball or other round object

Cost: Free
Taking a bite out of the Burgh: A food guide

Which 'wich?' An editor's take on the best nearby sandwiches

MARY LIZ FLAVIN
news editor

Brugger’s Bagels
Brugger’s was founded in 1983 in New York City. Today they operate nearly 260 bakeries nationwide. Their menu includes both breakfast and lunch sandwiches, soups, salads, coffee, and a wide array of bagels. Brugger’s Bagels are located at 529 Fourth Ave., open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 1801 E Carson St., open from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. everyday.

A personal favorite sandwich is the Pastrami, Egg, and Swiss which contains a fresh-cracked egg, pastrami and Swiss cheese served on a pumpernickel bagel. All of the flavors complemented each other nicely.

Pamela’s Diner
Pamela’s Diner first opened their doors in 1979 in the Squirrel Hill area. Currently Pamela’s can be found at 60 21st St., open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day, and 3703 Forbes Ave., open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. every day. Their menu includes an assortment of breakfast items such as eggs, omelets, hotcakes, burgers, sandwiches, and salads.

A go-to sandwich would be the breakfast sandwich made up of a fried egg, provolone cheese, bacon, italian toast. The only thing that could make this sandwich better would be a side of hotcakes.

DiBella’s Subs
DiBella’s Subs began as a small family run business in Rochester, NY but over the years turned into the sub shop we know today spanning 44 stores across five states. At the core of DiBella’s subs are their freshbaked bread. Their menu contains subs, specialty subs, and salads. They can be found at 16 Market Square and are open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

One of their best sandwiches is the Italian Assorted made with genoa salami and capicola with famous Italian oil dressing. Add lettuce, tomato, and onion and you’ve got yourself a perfect sandwich.

Primanti Bros
Primanti Bros is a Pittsburgh staple serving customers their iconic fry-stacked sandwiches. Primanti was founded in 1933 and opened in the Strip District, which still operates today on 46 18th St. from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 12 a.m. Friday and Saturday. There is another location on 2 Market Square open 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to 12 a.m. Thursday, and 10:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

A favorite sandwich of mine is the Pastrami and Cheese made with pastrami, provolone, coleslaw, tomato, and fries on Italian bread. Taking a bite of this sandwich makes you feel like a true Pittsburgher.

Sick of your usual college special? Try these Duke Staff favorites

ZOE STRATOS
opinions editor

Nadine’s - 19 S 27th St. Pittsburgh, PA 15203

There’s nothing like your mom’s cooking, and Nadine’s in the South Side is the ultimate home cooking in the city.

Tucked back on the corner of 27th and Wakefield, this diner is more than enough time to stop in for a meal. If you’re lucky you’ll have some for yourself.

Being a big breakfast person, I’m usually there in the morning for a few eggs and bologna, but the pasta is arguably the highlight of the joint.

The biggest issue with Nadine’s is its size, but it’s also the beauty of it. The food and atmosphere is more than worth the wait, and if you’re lucky you’ll have some great conversations with Mama Na and the rest of the staff. I’ll save the history of the place for your own visit.

Nadine’s is open from 6:15 a.m. to 1:45 a.m. on weekdays, but pushes opening time to 9:00 a.m. on the weekends. Even if you don’t get there at opening, you’ll have more than enough time to stop in this good old-fashioned diner.

TSAō-CAA - 5871 Forbes Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15217

In Pittsburgh’s Squirrel Hill neighborhood, you’ll find no shortage of ethnic food and beverage joints, including TSAō-CAA: a small milk tea shop nestled in a strip of other small businesses on Forbes.

The design inside the shop is sleek and modern, showcasing their colorful varieties of milk teas, fresh teas, fruit teas, smoothies and desserts. Prior to the pandemic, TSAō-CAA offered a small amount of seating for patrons, but since then have removed them. Still, this small shop is perfect for stop-and-go drinks to take on the road, or even on a walk through the neighborhood. As an option, there is still a small bar against the window where patrons can set their drinks and watch passers go about their day.

When ordering, patrons have the option to order at the counter or on an iPad, and then receive a number. While waiting, you can look at the display case of macarons and other small desserts, or watch the staff whip up your drink right in front of you.

The biggest attraction at TSAō-CAA is of course their bubble milk swirl tea, even with the boba shortage. A favorite among Pittsburghers, TSAō-CAA features a brown sugar milk tea, and like all other orders, customers can choose their ice and sweetness levels. All of their drinks are worth a try, and the presentation is beautiful and colorful.

Compared to other boba options in the city, the authenticity and variety at TSAō-CAA is unmatched. The shop is open from 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 12:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sunday.
For incoming students, the first fall semester at a brand new school can be intimidating. Duquesne University’s campus offers a variety of extracurriculars, clubs and other organizations for students to join. Aside from campus life, Pittsburgh is a wonderful city to explore, with various venues of dining, tourism and beautiful sights all around. To kick off the fall semester, clubs will be featured on A-Walk for a mini expo Aug. 19 at 3:30 p.m.

**Painters’ Society**

“Look for our table at the mini expo and regular club expo, request to join Campus Link, email doddlk1@duq.edu or jepky@duq.edu. Meeting times are in the evening lasting for an hour and a half, but you don’t have to stay the whole time! This club is a fun, low-commitment way to meet friends! Painters of all experience are welcome. During meetings we play music, talk, and paint whatever our hearts desire. Sometimes we have fun theme nights and special events in the Nikespot. Dues are $5 each semester and we provide all the supplies and clean up after the meeting.”

— Kaitlin Dodd, Co-president

**Duquesne Choirs**

“Duquesne choirs consistently appear on Pittsburgh’s most prestigious concert series and perform across the region, including recent concerts in Johnstown, Cleveland, Erie, Buffalo, and Philadelphia. In 2015, Voices of Spirit sang with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra on the Grand Mellon Concert Series under Manfred Honeck. Committed to community outreach, the choirs frequently perform in schools, workshops, and conducting master classes, including the 2018 Eastern Division ACDA conducting master classes. In November 2010, Voices of Spirit was featured at the National Collegiate Choral Organization conference in College Park, MD. In March 2020, the choir toured to Canada. To audition for Pappert Chorale or Voices of Spirit for FA21, contact Dr. Daley no later than Tuesday, August 24; daleyce@duq.edu for audition requirements. Choirs meet in the late afternoon! Visit www.duq.edu/choirs.”

— Dr. Caron Daley

**Mock Trial**

“This year, the Duquesne Mock Trial Team will be litigating a thrilling case of aggravated arson! Our year will revolve around arguing both sides of this case - the prosecution and defense. Members of the team portray attorneys and witnesses while performing in real courtrooms and being judged by actual attorneys. In the fall, we compete at different colleges like Penn State, Ohio State, Rutgers, and St. Bonaventure University. In the spring, we face other schools in pursuit of the National Championship Title! Almost every college has a mock trial team, so it is a rewarding experience to be able to travel and make connections with like-minded students all throughout the country. We are a very busy team - we practice about 3 or 4 days a week and travel to compete over a few weekends. If you are interested in the law, acting, writing, public speaking, or even science - this is the club for you. Contact our president Kelsey McCafferty (kmccafferty@duq.edu) and visit us during the Student Expo on A-Walk if you’re interested! Our first meeting will be Thursday, September 2nd, at 7pm in a College Hall Lecture Hall (located on the bottom floor of College Hall). See you there!”

— Kelsey McCafferty, President

**Red Masquers**

“Welcome freshman and theater newbies alike. The Red Masquers, Duquesne’s resident theater troupe, is so excited to be back to doing live theater this year! With live theater comes a number of exciting opportunities for new and experienced members of the organization both on and off stage; from the ever popular acting, to behind the scenes work like set and costume design to exciting technical positions involving lighting and sound. (And don’t worry if you lack experience in any of these fields, just let us know you’re interested and one of our members would be delighted to show you the ropes!) To see what’s happening head on over to our website, duqredmasquers.com, or just search Duq Red Masquers on Instagram, Twitter and/or Facebook. You can also keep in touch and get involved by signing up for our mailing list so updates on auditions, social events, and other opportunities get sent directly to your inbox. To do this, or if you have any other questions, comments, or concerns, just shoot us an email at redmasquers@gmail.com. If you’re looking to get involved immediately, we have several exciting opportunities already on the horizon! Our General Meeting, where you’ll get an opportunity to learn and ask questions about the organization and the upcoming season, is on Wednesday, August 25th at 7pm in the Genesius Theater. In addition to this, we are also having a Welcome Back Party on Friday at 7pm in our Rehearsal Hall; a great opportunity to have fun, play games and make some new friends! But wait, that’s not all! In addition to this we are also having our semiannual Play in a Day Festival where a play is cast, written and performed all within 24 hours, starting with auditions for actors that same night. If you are interested in writing or even directing for Play in a Day please send an application and writing sample (if you are applying to be a writer) to Justin Sines at sines908@duq.edu and Hannah Schmidt at schmidth@duq.edu no later than August 20th if you would like to direct and no later than August 23rd if you would like to write. Thank you so much for taking the time to learn a little bit about the Red Masquers!”

— Travis Barklief, President

**For off-campus hot spots**

“There are so many good places to eat off-campus because we are located in the heart of the city! The Red Ring and T.G.I. Friday’s are both super close and convenient but If you’re up for a little more of a walk, Market Square is a great option with places like Primanti’s, Dunkin’ and Five Guys!”

— Mia Lucarelli, fourth year pharmacy major

“I love a good Nicky’s Thai moment! Since Duquesne offers discounted tickets for the Benedum musicals, my mom and I love to eat there right before the shows.”

— Abby Lanzelotti, senior secondary education major

“If you take the Port Authority buses, you can go to the Oakland area, Squirrel Hill or South Side! Oakland offers many restaurants and museums, including the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and Phipps Conservatory. There’s a lot of cultural food and diverse restaurants in both Squirrel Hill and South Side, too, which is always a treat.”

— Guia Apaga, sophomore nursing major
MEET DUQUESNE
Say hello to some of these familiar campus faces

Alicia Simpson

“I would encourage students to focus on their well-being and mental health. Taking care and making time for yourself are really important aspects of self-care that can make all the difference in reducing stress and helping you to focus and relax.”

Alicia Simpson, Duquesne Title IX Coordinator and director of sexual misconduct at Duquesne University.

James Drennen

“My one-word piece of advice: explore! This is a time to expand your horizons and discover your passion. And Duquesne is the right place for it—whether it’s studying a new subject, taking on a research project or becoming involved in the community.”

James Drennen, Duquesne University School of Pharmacy Dean

President Ken Gormley

“Take the time to really dig into what you’re good at, and how that’s good for the world—be that problem-solver who always thinks bigger and outside the box. Take advantage of the knowledge, research, creativity, and life lessons offered by our world-class teacher-scholars here at Duquesne. They’re as enthusiastic about your future as you are; they’ll walk alongside you to realize your boldest goals.

Since its founding in 1878, Duquesne has advocated for the marginalized and our university continues to help build a better Pittsburgh. Join us in our community involvement in local neighborhoods, where we collaborate with residents to address systemic challenges in health, education, legal access, economic development and more. When you work with our neighbors in service projects, you help Duquesne live out its mission.

I wish all of our Duquesne students the best of health, success and happiness in the fall 2021 semester. This will be a great year, because we have the best, most engaged students imaginable!”

Ken Gormley, Duquesne University President

Photos Provided By Duquesne University with the Subjects’ Consent