

Part 1: Questions

1. Title of proposed Special Interest House/Theme Living Area.

The title of our Special Interest House is "The Arts House." This would be a continuation of the already existing Arts House, which attempts to represent all artistic aspects of college life, including but not limited to theater, dance, visual art, art appreciation and music.

2. Goal/Mission Statement outlining the purpose of the proposed Special Interest House.

"The goal of the Arts House is to help the campus's artistic population as well as make the arts accessible to everyone on campus including those who feel that they have little or no artistic ability. At a school dominated by the natural sciences, we believe it is important to provide the Allegheny community with an artistic outlet. Almost every aspect of life is artistic, from acting to cooking, to watching and discussing movies. The Allegheny community has always been eager to be involved with the Arts: therefore we hope to continue the visibility of the Arts house on campus."

3. Please describe the programs, which will support your house goals/mission that you plan to do both fall and spring semesters for the 2007-2008 academic year. Please describe what steps you will take to accomplish these programs.

Continuing on with the tradition of having diverse programs that integrate all levels of things artistic in nature, we would like to start incorporating programs that deal not only with the campus, but the community as well. We would like to have a program that brings patrons from organizations like the Academy theatre, together with students and staff of theatrical organizations on campus. This would help to foster more relations with the community and campus in general. We would also like to start trying to attend, as a house, most of the programs, concerts, and productions that the campus, as well as Meadville, has to offer. We will, of course, continue to host the PlayShop receptions, which we have found to be extremely well attended by the cast, faculty, and guests of the college, and theatre patrons of the shows. We would also like to have several themed events, which can be as diverse as the house itself, which will lend itself to ways to get one in touch with his or her more creative side. These events will be much more casual, and can be a relaxing break from the rigors of the studious college life. This past year we realized the importance of having underclassmen housemates. Three of the housemates first semester were seniors which created an imbalance of program responsibility due to their Senior Project work, in the next year we would like to rectify this by having a younger more diverse house.

4. How do you plan to promote your programs to the community at large?

As a house for this coming year, we all have very diverse interests, as well as talents. We have housemates in activities such as Greek Life, various choirs, Jazz Band, ARGO, Improv comedy, SET, JaDE, and many others. Between all these different outlets, we can get our message out, just by word of mouth, as well as hanging up flyers and posters in posting areas. For the Playshop receptions we have an announcement in the programs that invites all theater patrons, students, and faculty.

5. If you are given this unique residential opportunity, how do you plan to serve the entire Allegheny College community over the course of the next year?

As we stated in our goal/mission statement, we would like to make the arts accessible to everyone on campus. Though in previous years the house has mainly been a theatre house, this year we have expanded into a more of a fine art house, with a great deal of involvement in things utilizing music, dance, as well as studio art styles, while housemates still participate in the theatrical aspects of the campus and community. As a house we would like to attend as many productions and gallery openings as possible, in order to know what is going on in areas outside of our own talents, as well as to possibly develop new talents. We hope that our programming will help to get those who feel they have little experience or talent to realize how much art is involved in little tasks through programs involving crafts and cooking, as well as engaging those actively involved in the arts through other organizations.

6. How would you like support for this program from the Office of Residence Life?

In order to continue the Arts House as it exists today we would need the office of residence life to help us with housing and funding, which is vital to the types of programs, like the receptions, that we hold. Residence Life has helped the Arts House in the past by supporting its existence for eight years as well as recognizing its importance on Allegheny's campus.

7. If your house is selected as a SIH house, your budget from Residence Life for programming will be \$125 per semester. Please use this figure when you plan your programming activities for your house.

The Budget over the past year was sufficient and we don't feel that we need more in order to support the programs mentioned. The majority of the funding will go toward refreshments for the programs and craft materials for our other events.

8. If you are a current Special Interest House, please describe the programs and events you have completed this year (2007-2008). Also explain how your house has benefited the Allegheny Community and how you will add to the efforts you have made this year.

We have hosted one Playshop reception for the production of "Our Town". Even though it was not listed in the program, due to a miscommunication, we still had a very large turn-out for the event, simply due to the reputation and the number of times the Arts House has held this kind of event previously. On February 9th we plan to have a Valentines themed program, where one would craft his or her own valentines, while we serve some chocolate and relax. We have, as small groups, gone to see productions both on-campus and off, supporting our housemates as well as the community at large. The Arts House serves the Allegheny community in that it continues to serve the theatre here on campus, and helped to connect people who were not so concerned with the arts to things they really enjoyed. In the next year, we hope to continue this tradition, and help to foster more relations between the community and campus, as well as to introduce others to ways in which to express themselves creatively as well as be entertained.

9. Understanding that placement decisions will be made based on balancing the competing needs of the accepted programs, please list the top three house preferences you have and why you believe those would best serve your program.

The Arts House is currently located at 373 Sherman Street where it has existed for the past eight years and where we would like it to remain. We truly believe that the Arts House benefits from name recognition associated with maintaining the same location for

multiple years. Opening the Playshop receptions to the entire community, means having a large number of guests in our house at one time and the house at 373 Sherman Street provides us with a large kitchen and living room in order to accommodate for large casts, their families and guests. The house is also very accessible, being located right next to a guest parking lot and is also relatively easy to locate, even for guests who are unfamiliar with the Allegheny campus.