

patriotlife.wordpress.com



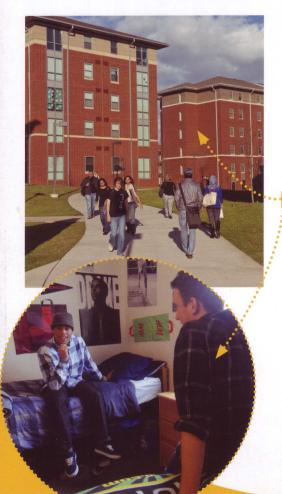
WHERE INNOVATION IS TRADITION

### Welcome to the Mason Nation

ason attracts some of the brightest minds in the country. Our undergraduates come from all 50 states and more than 135 countries. With such a vibrant and diverse student body, it is easy to find your niche—no matter your major or your interests.

Mason students are incredibly talented. You never know who may be sitting next to you in class. Our students have started companies, secured patents on new inventions, discovered galaxies, and competed in the Olympics, all while taking classes and participating in campus life.

Mason offers the best of both worlds: a large campus of more than 32,000 undergraduate and graduate students located just minutes from Washington, D.C., and a cohesive, close-knit campus community in beautiful suburban Virginia. It is impossible to get bored here, even for a second.



## ON CAMPUS

Your Home Away from Home. Mason boasts one of the largest university residential communities in Virginia and indeed the nation, and additional residence halls are being built to accommodate the climbing number of students wishing to make Mason their home. Housing is guaranteed for freshmen if they apply by May 1. Be sure to check out our unique Living Learning Community options, which come with special social and academic activities to connect you with students who share your interests. Visit housing. gmu.edu to learn more.



## IN THE COMMUI

Near the Heart of It All. Mason's Northern Virginia location gives you easy access to the amenities and resources of the greater Washington, D.C., area. Let's face it, you can't be expected to find everything you need on campus. So let's get away and...

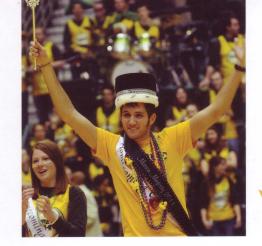
**Explore!** Hike along the Ridge Trail at Great Falls Park for a spectacular view of the Potomac River, or work up a sweat on the mountain bike trails at Fountainhead Regional Park. Campgrounds, national and state parks, and historic battlefields are just moments away. And a short road trip



#### **Extraordinary Extracurriculars.**

Whether you are interested in trying underwater hockey or want to help the homeless, there are others here who share your interests. In fact, with more than 300 student-run organizations at Mason, you might find yourself in a quandary as to how to balance your time between academic, social, and recreational pursuits. You can hone important career skills, build leadership competency, make friends, and, best of all, make a difference in the lives of others locally and globally. Visit **si.gmu.edu/student-organizations** for more information.

Never a Dull Moment. From free tickets to world-class performances at the Center for the Arts to live bands, comedians, and film festivals offered as part of Weekends@Mason, there is always something to do. Add to that the opportunity to participate in celebrations embracing global diversity, cheer on our winning sports teams, and listen to an amazing array of VIP guest speakers from President Obama to Matt Damon to Stephen King—the list goes on and on.



#### Take Part in Campus Traditions.

Annual festivals, such as Patriots
Day, Mason Day, Homecoming, and
International Week, have been taking
place at Mason for decades and bring
together the entire campus community.
Food, games, entertainment, comedy
and fashion shows, concerts, dinners, and
dances are among the many activities
in which you can participate. You can
even help to plan these events by joining
the Program Board. Visit **pb.gmu.edu** to
explore the possibilities.

Let's Rock! Ke\$ha, the Killers, Kings of Leon, Russell Brand, and Wanda Sykes are only a few of the performers who have visited the Patriot Center just this year! A block of tickets is set aside for the campus community to purchase for each concert. Visit patriotcenter.com.

Dabble in the Arts. Mason's 2,000-seat Center for the Arts Concert Hall features world-class performers such as the Mark Morris Dance Company, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, the Virginia Opera, and numerous other artistic exhibitions. As a student, you can get free tickets to sample opera or take in an international group such as the Kings of Salsa. Take a look at the season at cfa.gmu.edu.

It's All Greek to Me. Gain a brother or a sister by joining one of the 24 fraternities or 14 sororities on campus. Members focus on academics, campus and community service, and personal connections. Find out more at si.gmu. edu/greek-life.

#### Something's Cooking

(even at 2 a.m.). With so many dining options on campus, you will always have time to grab a meal or a snack. And it won't be the cafeteria food your parents experienced in college. One of the most popular campus hotspots is lke's in the Eisenhower Commons residence hall. The popular 1950s-style diner is open until 4 a.m. on weekdays. Mason's largest dining facility, Southside, boasts seven different food stations catering to all appetites (including vegetarian and vegan) in an all-you-can-eat format. Check out dining.



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**Stay in Shape.** Don't worry about the dreaded Freshman Fifteen. Yes, the food is good, but you have plenty of opportunities to stay in shape. Our state-of-the-art fitness facilities offer all students the chance to take a swim, work out, and reduce stress after a hectic day in class. You can even take a Pilates or a Zumba class. Our

Aquatic and Fitness Center, Skyline Fitness Center, and Recreation and Athletic Complex are all conveniently located around campus, so you can fit a workout into your busy schedule. You can even sign up for a free fitness orientation at recsports.gmu.edu/wellness





# IN THE COMMUNITY

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will take you to some of the area's best ski slopes, beaches, and amusement parks. See for yourself at **virginia.org**.

**Go Downtown!** The Smithsonian, the National Zoo, the Capitol, the White House, the National Gallery of Art, Georgetown, Adams Morgan, the restaurants, the theaters, the shopping, the nightlife, the excitement! Easy bus and Metro service get you there and back. Visit **washington.org.** 

