

# COOGS HOUSE NEWS

## FEBRUARY 2023



### Organization Spotlight: Black Student Union

This month marks an important landmark in our country. Black History Month not only commemorates the achievements of African Americans across the nation but is a time to celebrate the fullness of African American history and culture. One on-campus student organization is paving the way to a brighter future for the UH community.

Functioning as an umbrella organization that fosters success through the social and educational support of the African American community, the Black Student Union strives to unite student leaders by cultivating cultural awareness.

Through activities and workshops such as resume building, network training, and business etiquette classes, participating students are equipped with the tools to make a lasting impression in the professional realm upon graduation.

To learn more about the BSU, follow the group on Instagram and Twitter [@bsu\\_u](#).

### Naming Contest for SHRL Newsletter

Calling all UH residents! The SHRL newsletter needs an official name, and your input is needed!

Please submit your suggestions using this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/FixLQoTRCN>.

A max of two entries per resident allowed. The SHRL Marketing & Communications team will select the winner and announce the new name via social media on **Friday, Feb. 24**.

*Entries should be submitted via email by Wednesday, Feb. 15.*

*The winner will be awarded a \$50 Visa gift card.*

#### **Guidelines for Submissions:**

- The name should be short – two to three words at most.
- Entries should be creative and unique.

Questions regarding the contest should be emailed to [mdbrook2@central.uh.edu](mailto:mdbrook2@central.uh.edu).

### Campus Resources

**Campus Dining**  
832-842-9053

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)**  
713-743-5454

**Cougar Cupboard**  
[uhcupbrd@central.uh.edu](mailto:uhcupbrd@central.uh.edu)

**FIXIT**  
713-743-4948

**Learning Advancements  
UNDERgraduate Cougars of Houston  
(LAUNCH)**  
713-743-5411

**Parking & Transportation**  
832-842-1097

**Student Health Center**  
713-743-5151

**Student Housing & Residential Life**  
713-743-6000

**University of Houston  
Police Department**  
713-743-3333

### Fire Safety 101: New Video for UH Residents

Did you know that more than 7,500 students call UH residence halls home each year? Because many students live in close proximity within these spaces, each resident plays an important role in fire prevention and safety.

College and university students experience a growing number of fire-related emergencies over the course of an academic year. There are several causes for these fires; however, most are due to a general lack of knowledge about fire safety and prevention.

To protect the safety of all residents, Student Housing & Residential Life recently created a short, informative video with fire safety tips for a fire-incident-free semester. View the video using this link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqFuYb9\\_Ogk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqFuYb9_Ogk)



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Division of Student Affairs

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## Spring Priority Room Selection for New Residents

Beginning, **Monday, Feb. 6**, residents who are new to campus for the spring semester will be able to complete a 2023-2024 housing agreement and self-assign to an available bed space in a qualifying residence hall.

New residents can save the \$99 agreement fee by submitting their room preference by **Friday, Feb. 24**.

**To take advantage of the Spring Priority Room Selection period, log in to AccessUH with your myUH ID and password. Click on the myHousing icon to gain access to the 2023-2024 agreement.**

Thank you to all the fall 2022 residents who participated in Priority Room Selection in November! SHRL staff look forward to welcoming you back to campus for next academic year!

Questions regarding Spring Priority Room Selection should be emailed to [housing@uh.edu](mailto:housing@uh.edu).

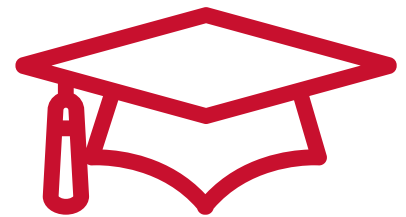
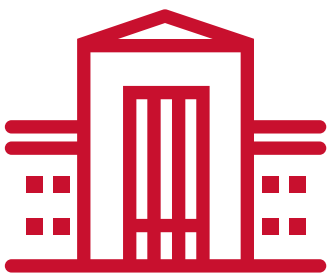


## UH Institute for Global Engagement to Host Learning Abroad Spring Fair

Did you know you can take classes as well as intern, do research, volunteer, or even teach abroad? Attend the Learning Abroad Spring Fair on **Wednesday, Feb. 1 in the Student Center South Ballroom, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Staff can help you find an affordable program that fits into your degree plan while staying on track to graduate. Meet UH faculty leaders, affiliated and exchange program providers, scholarship organizations, academic departments, and the UH Learning Abroad and Passport for Coogs team members.

For more info, email [uhglobal@uh.edu](mailto:uhglobal@uh.edu).



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FEBRUARY 2023



Join our team of Summer Conference Assistants

## Now Hiring Summer Conference Assistants

Looking for a rewarding on-campus job experience? Apply to be a Conference Assistant with Student Housing & Residential Life (SHRL)!

### **What is a Conference Assistant?**

As part of SHRL, Conference Housing coordinates overnight accommodations and meeting space reservations for summertime guests. Various camps, conferences, and workshops utilize the University of Houston facilities. Conference Assistants (CA) are frontline ambassadors who greatly contribute to each guest's experience by providing a welcoming environment through superior customer service for all participants. General work responsibilities include facilitating the guest check-in/check-out policy, answering the phone, room checks, and on-call shifts.

### **Why become a Conference Assistant?**

Becoming a CA is a fantastic way to form relationships with the housing community as CAs are vital to the conference experience, supporting community development and relationship building with our summertime guests. We are looking for individuals committed to gaining excellent hands-on experience while providing great customer service, building leadership, teamwork, and management skills, while serving as a resource for guests.

### **What are the benefits?**

Monthly stipend of \$700.00  
\$700.00 in Cougar Cash  
Summer Housing (Cougar Village I or II)

### **Ready to Apply?**

Students must attend an information session to access the application.

- **Thursday, Feb. 2** - The Quad Multipurpose Room, 3-4 p.m.
- **Monday, Feb. 6** - Virtual, RSVP for Link, 6-7 p.m.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 8** - Virtual, RSVP for Link, 3-4 p.m.
- **Friday, Feb. 10** - Student Center Heights, 1-2 p.m.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 14** - The Quad Multipurpose Room, 3-4 p.m.
- **Thursday, Feb. 16** - Virtual, RSVP for Link, 10-11 a.m.

RSVP [here](#) to receive link for Virtual Information sessions.

**The CA application period runs from Jan. 31 - Feb. 17, 2023.**

**The selection process for the CA position is a three-step process that includes:**

**(1)** attendance at a mandatory information session, **(2)** an application review, and **(3)** an interview session. Applicants attending the Information Session can apply via the MyHousing portal in Access UH. Applications will be reviewed, and grade checks will be conducted before an interview session. Applicants should prepare for their interview by critically thinking about the position's duties and responsibilities and why they want to be a part of the SHRL Conference Team. Selections and offers will occur during Spring Break.

For questions or to request ADA accommodations, email at [StayatUH@UH.edu](mailto:StayatUH@UH.edu).



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FEBRUARY 2023

## Staff Highlights

Student Housing & Residential Life is happy to welcome three new team members!

### **Mia Brooks, Communications Coordinator**

Mia is a native of Saint Paul, Minnesota. Prior to bringing her talents to the Houston area, Mia obtained a bachelor's degree from Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi. Mia has worked in the non-profit sector, developing marketing and communications campaigns for large-impact programs. Mia has immersed herself in the Houston community by joining organizations such as the Houston Area Urban League for Young Professionals and the Houston HBCU Alumni Association. Through her connections, Mia aspires to be an inspiration to the youth in her community.

### **Darshanay Pichon, Residence Life Coordinator (The Quad)**

Darshanay is a native of St. Louis, Mo., where she obtained a bachelor's degree in political science from Harris-Stowe State University and master's degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Darshanay has a background in k-12 education and has taught English and History in multiple grade levels. She has volunteered for many non-profits throughout the St. Louis Region and looks forward to being involved here in Houston. Darshanay enjoys spending time with her daughter, faith-based activities, and the color pink.

### **Andre Webb, Assistant Director of Residential Life (Bayou Oaks & University Lofts)**

Andre is a native of Washington, D.C. He obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration from University of Maryland Eastern Shore and a master's degree in student affairs – higher education from Texas State University. Andre is the eldest son of 23 siblings and looks forward to the arrival of his first child this month.



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## RHA Corner

Meet new people and gain unique experiences this semester by getting involved with the many opportunities Student Housing & Residential Life has to offer!

**The Residence Halls Association (RHA)** is a SHRL-supported student organization with a focus on improving the on-campus experience through programming, providing leadership opportunities, and serving as residential governance for all students on campus at the University of Houston. Representing over 7,500 residents, RHA strives for a fulfilled resident population through building community, developing leadership, and encouraging personal growth.

### Ways to Get Involved:

If you are interested in learning more about RHA, register for Spring Signature Diversity Workshops by visiting [www.uh.edu/cdi](http://www.uh.edu/cdi).

### 2023-2024 RHA Executive Board Application Now Open

RHA's E-Board applications are available to SHRL Student Staff (CMs/RAS/DAs) and Hall Council Members, beginning Jan. 27-Feb. 10.

### Lunar New Year Celebration

RHA is proud to announce the return of the Lunar New Year event to celebrate 2023's Year of the Rabbit, providing free food and giveaways to students while emphasizing diversity and inclusion. Join RHA for this multicultural event on **Thursday, Feb. 9, from 5-7 p.m., Student Center Plaza.**



Hover to enlarge

## Secure Your Room for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

Interested in living on campus next year? Rooms are still available in all residence halls!

Living on campus isn't just one experience or one community. It can be anything from sharing a suite with neighbors from around the world to Greek living in apartment-style buildings to urban lofts.

You are one step closer to convenient living when you complete Student Housing & Residential Life's online housing agreement.

### Ready to Apply?

1. Log into your AccessUH and select the MyHousing icon to complete the application.
2. Submit your application and prepayment fee.
3. Electronically sign your housing agreement.
4. Find a roommate via RoomSync.
5. Select your bedspace.

Questions? Call 713-743-6000 or email [housing@uh.edu](mailto:housing@uh.edu).

### Residence Hall Directory

**Bayou Oaks** - 713-743-6594

**Cougar Place** - 713-743-6994

**Cougar Village I** - 832-842-6020

**Cougar Village II** - 713-743-6432

**Moody Towers North** - 713-743-6057

**Moody Towers South** - 713-743-6056

**The Quad** - 713-743-6044

**University Lofts** - 832-842-5638



## Facilities Updates

- 1) Seven ADA accessible doors have been installed throughout SHRL facilities. When the project concludes later this month, it will be the product of a six-month long project aimed at increasing accessibility for residents.
- 2) The Cougar Place gym windows have received privacy window striping so those exercising can feel more comfortable. This project was initiated by members of Cougar Place Hall Council.
- 3) Bayou Oaks is currently undergoing an interior refreshment, including new brighter hallway lighting, freshly painted walls, and new carpeting.