New Member Programming Ideas

101 Non-Hazing Activities for New Members

1. Participate in a leadership retreat/weekend with a ropes course and teambuilding activities
2. Incorporate teambuilding activities into the regular meetings of the new member class and solicit the participation for the chapter leadership
3. Develop a community volunteer service project for the chapter to be performed on a regular basis
4. Have new members create skits around a chapter topic. The chapter can judge the winner.
5. Sponsor/host a career skill development and planning workshop for all members (can be held in conjunction with resources available on campus)
6. Attend an educational speaker as a chapter with the new member class, process and discuss what was presented as a large group
7. Visit the Hop together to see an interesting indie movie
8. Plan a new members only camping trip
9. Invite faculty members to lunch with new members
10. Have a discussion facilitated by a chapter advisor, national representative or chapter officer in relation to the values and purpose of the organization
11. Sponsor or host a study skills workshop for the chapter membership (can be held in conjunction with resources available on campus)
12. Host an alumni speaker each week for formal dinner and/or chapter meeting
13. Host and plan an arts and crafts/construction session, contracting items for needing organizations
14. Participate in a recruitment retreat and/or workshop with the entire chapter membership
15. Invite officers of the GLC or the undergraduate leaders of the Greek community to speak about governance, involvement and relationships of the community
16. Invite the GLOS Director to speak about a leadership topic
17. Host a dinner and movie night for the new member class and/or the chapter membership
18. Shadow an officer of the chapter and assist in the planning/execution of a program/event
19. Shadow an alum/advisor in your field of study to generate better relationship among constituents of the chapter and yourself
20. Present the pledge class with a chapter problem or challenge and have them work out a solution.

21. Develop semester/annual goals and objectives for the chapter and a series of action plans and strategies for accomplishing these benchmarks.

22. Plan and execute a fundraiser to help offset initiation cost and membership fees.

23. Include all new members in chapter meetings or a portion thereof.

24. Include all new members in regular programming and activities.

25. Host/sponsor a speaker on health and fitness.

26. Encourage members to become involved in activities in the community and campus outside of the organization.

27. Evaluate the new members process, before, during, and after (ask for the opinions of constituents and those outside the organization).

28. Plan a friendly competition between another pledge class. Choose older members to serve as captains or referees.

29. Use the climbing wall.

30. Host a fathers, mothers or family and friends weekend.

31. Ask a representative from the National Headquarters and/or advisor to provide a presentation or information on available programs and resources.

32. Host a discussion on the finances of the chapter and the breakdown of each expense, facilitating conversation on how dues are spent.

33. Attend/host an IFC/Panhellenic Council/NPCH/NALFO/Coed Council or GLC meeting.

34. Participate in Greek community sponsored events (athletic events, speakers, and philanthropy projects).

35. Review parliamentary procedure, its purpose and necessary areas of use.

36. Work with College involvement/leadership programming to develop a presentation and discussion on motivation and group dynamics.

37. Host/sponsor a presentation from the College alumni association and/or Foundation to encourage involvement in host institution after graduation.

38. Host a certified instructor to administer the Meyers-Briggs Personality Type Inventory.

39. Ask a faculty member or College staff to provide a presentation on ethical decision making.

40. Ask a faculty member or College staff to provide a presentation/discussion on diversity.
41. Host/sponsor a campus health educator to provide a presentation on suicide, eating disorders, depression, sexual assault, and other health issues
42. Discuss risk management liability with the College legal counsel
43. Brainstorm new methods of positive recruitment and education
44. Host an all campus/community event to “meet the members”
45. Set up a 1000 dominos competition throughout the house or floor
46. Start a new member intramural team
47. Schedule a weekend each season devoted to the maintenance and upkeep on internal and external facilities, invite parents and alumni to help
48. Develop an academic incentive program for new members and the entire chapter membership
49. Conduct regular roundtable, candlelight, gavel pass ceremonies
50. Host/sponsor a speaker on the history of the Greek organizations
51. Brainstorm new methods for improving scholarship performance of members
52. Attend a campus performance or athletic event chosen by the new member class
53. Hold a new member / active quiz bowl tournament
54. Hold a discussion regarding membership standards and expectations
55. Participate and attend regional and national leadership programming by the Fraternity or local leadership programming by the College
56. Utilize case studies on hazing and risk management to discuss positive methods to develop alternatives
57. Write a letter to the founders stating your thoughts of the organization, make a copy for yourself
58. Write a letter to a mentor thanking them for their guidance and leadership
59. Write a letter to yourself to be mailed in two months or upon a major event stating your goals, aspirations, thoughts, feels, and hopes for continued development
60. Conduct an open executive board meeting and encouraged attendance of chapter members
61. Conduct a joint meeting of the chapter executive board and the new member class officers
62. Host/sponsor the College president to speak about the campus and his/her role and understanding of the Greek community
63. Host/sponsor a speaker from the College career development/planning center
64. Host/sponsor a faculty recognition dinner
65. Create and develop an event with a non-Greek organization on campus
66. Host/sponsor CPR and FIRST AID certification for all members of the chapter
67. Host/sponsor a Hanover town council representative and/or Town Manager to speak to the chapter
68. Encourage members to register to vote
69. Host/sponsor a financial advisor to discuss credit and personal finances
70. Produce an educational project researching the founding and evolution of the organization
71. Hold a rock / scissors / paper tournament
72. Host/sponsor a domestic abuse speaker with another organization on campus
73. Develop and create an alternative spring break program for all members
74. Create a sports competition in an unusual sport like curling, croquet, broomball, arm wrestling etc.
75. Have new members plan a surprise party for members and try to keep it a secret from the members
76. Conduct a chapter fundraiser to sponsor a member to attend UIFI, FuturesQuest, or Leadershape
77. Hold a discussion on the symbols and insignia of the organization
78. Research and review publications and materials from other organizations to learn of resources and programs each provides
79. Develop and create a parents alliance for the chapter membership
80. Dedicate a weekend to clean, repair, and refurbish any and all ritual regalia and equipment
81. Encourage new members to schedule at least 1 hour each day for personal development and reflection
82. Host/sponsor a campus health professional to discuss personal fitness and dietary facts
83. Dedicate an evening to officer transition and election for the new member class. Ask each chapter officer to provide a 5 minute testimonial on their role and responsibilities
84. Identify a chapter gift for the College and begin to allocate the proper budgeting
85. Host/sponsor a speaker on etiquette
86. Gather once a week for dinner and lunch in a formal dining hall
87. Invite chapter advisors to new member meetings
88. Visit the National Headquarters as a chapter and/or new member class
89. Partner with a local service organization/philanthropy to support throughout the year
90. Host/sponsor a sorority recognition week in conjunction with Women’s awareness month
91. Recognize a member of the week or MVP throughout the semester, who receives a special badge, medallion or specific artifact of the chapter
92. Develop a new member class journal with pictures and inspirational quotes to capture the experience and thoughts of the class
93. Develop a mentoring program with a local elementary school, where members visit once a week to spend time with their designated student
94. Visit local retirement center and volunteer service to the staff and simply spend time with the residents
95. Develop and construct a neighborhood and community relationship plan, fostering good relationships among neighbors
96. Host a speak to talk about the history of Dartmouth College
97. Visit the local children’s hospital at DHMC and play with the children
98. Donate clothing and food to local pantries and shelters
99. Meet with local alumni to learn of their experience and speak about the current happenings of the chapter
100. Host/sponsor a BBQ and welcome reception for international students
101. Host a poker night