



LANDER UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING 2025: PARTY LIKE IT’S 1925!

Join Lander University in celebrating Chipley Hall’s 100th birthday! Our Roaring 20’s theme is an homage to Chipley, built in 1925. Since opening its doors, Chipley has housed amazing Lander women and has remained the only all-women's residence hall for 100 years. Join us in celebrating and honoring this Lander legend!

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What is “Homecoming”?

In the United States, it is a common tradition among colleges and universities to “welcome home” their alumni once a year through an annual celebration. At Lander University, we treat Homecoming as a campus-wide celebration for our alumni *and* our entire community. Students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to spend an entire week in fellowship with one another through activities and special events that foster the close bond we feel at Lander.

Homecoming Week and the Bearcat Cup

Homecoming festivities are preceded by a week of competitive activities among various homecoming teams. You’ll learn more about those activities in the pages that follow. At the end of the week, the team who has accumulated the most points across Homecoming Week will win the coveted Bearcat Cup - a Lander tradition! Not only do our Homecoming Week festivities allow for campus engagement, collaboration and the development of teamwork and social skills, but they’re also fun and enjoyable for all who participate.

Who can participate in Homecoming Week

All Lander Students, Faculty, Staff, and Alumni can participate in each event.

Creating a Team

While you are welcome to participate as an individual, you can also create a team of 10-30 students, faculty, staff, or alumni to participate as a team, earning points and competing for the Bearcat Cup! Teams can consist of any group of students, faculty, staff, or alumni, regardless of any official affiliation to an organization or group.

Teams are not participating as an organization and therefore should not be named after an organization. For example: If members of the “Alphabet Club” wish to create a team, they must have 10-30 participants and should find a team name (“ABC Team, Alphabet Crew, etc.). **A student can only be listed on one team roster.**

Teams will submit a team application, submitting their team captain, team's name, and team roster (first and last names).

The deadline to submit a team application is January 31st at 5:00PM. Late applications will not be accepted.

Apply on Involvement using your Lander credentials: <https://lander.presence.io/form/homecoming-teams-2025>

Homecoming Event Rules

During all Homecoming Week events, all Lander affiliated individuals (students, faculty, staff, and alumni) are expected to act in accordance with the Bearcat Creed and the Lander Student Handbook. Any behaviors in violation of these policies and expectations may result in a Student Conduct discipline action.

All competition rules are outlined in this packet. Failure to abide by these rules, as well as the Lander Student Handbook and Bearcat Creed, will result in team disqualification and potential Student Conduct discipline action. Note: Lander University Campus Engagement reserves the right to update the Homecoming rules at any point throughout the week. Any updates will be shared with the team captains through their Lander email.

Should a question arise about the competition or event rules, a final decision will be made by the Coordinator of Campus Engagement (homecoming@lander.edu).

DEADLINES

January 31st by 5PM	Team Applications Due (King and Queen nominations are included in the application)
February 1st at 8AM	Once approved by the Office of Campus Engagement, King and Queen nominees can begin campaigning on social media and through flyers and posters. All print material must be stamped by the Office of Campus Engagement (third floor CC) before being hung. They can only be hung where there are cork/pushpin strips. No tape can be used to hang posters and flyers on any Lander property.
February 3rd- 7th	King and Queen Nominee Personal Interviews
February 7th by 5PM	Completed banners due to Campus Engagement Office. Note: Teams will sign up for their dress rehearsal time slot.
February 7th at 5PM	Deadline to sign up for the Polar Plunge and Fashion Show.
February 9th (Assigned Times)	Mandatory Showcase Rehearsal- all attire, music, props, etc. Must be finalized at this time.
February 9th at 8AM- February 12th at 5PM	King and Queen Popular Voting opens on Involve!

WEEK OVERVIEW AND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Date, Time, Location	Event Title	Event Description	Deadlines for Teams
<p>Monday - Friday Lander Property</p>	<p>Modern Medallion Hunt</p>	<p>Follow @landercampusengagement on Instagram for clues to find the Golden Medallion! It will be hidden somewhere on Lander property... Good luck!</p>	<p>Everyone is open to find the medallion, even if they do not participate with a team. Those who find the medallion will have the choice to get surprise Lander gear OR give 5 points to any team!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No property destruction (digging up ground, breaking things, leaving a mess etc.) 2. No physical altercations (pushing, shoving etc.). 3. Be respectful/mindful of campus space (no screaming, running etc.). 4. You may not enter classrooms, offices, and/or staff spaces. Clues will be in open areas where all students can access at all times. 5. A “clue is dropping soon” email sent out to team captains and then clue dropped on Instagram (@landercampusengagement). Medallion clues will be dropped at different times each day. Students are expected to follow their regular schedules. Students should attend class, regardless of the medallion hunt or Homecoming Week events. <p>Failure to abide by these rules, as well as the Bearcat Creed and the Student Handbook, will result in Student Conduct Discipline action and team disqualification.</p>

<p>Monday - Saturday CC Commons</p>	<p>Service: Supporting The Period Pantry Project- Menstrual Supply Drive</p>	<p>Donate tampons, pads, pantyliners, diapers, and hygiene wipes to the boxes in the Cultural Center throughout the week. All donations will be sent to The Period Pantry Project. For more information, visit: https://www.theperiodpantryproject.org/</p>	<p>Teams are encouraged to participate in our service drive. Teams should bring their donations to the front desk of the Cultural Center to be counted and recorded.</p> <p>50 count boxes of pads, tampons, liners, or diapers= 5 points</p> <p>20 count boxes of hygiene wipes (Ex. Summers Eve wipes) = 5 points</p> <p>100 maximum points per team. The deadline to donate is Friday at 5PM.</p>
<p>Monday, 02/10/2025 3:30PM - 4:45PM Front Lawn</p>	<p>Racing to the Roaring 20s: Soap Box Car Race</p>	<p>Compete against your fellow Bearcats in a soapbox car race down Wilson Street! You and an opponent will race in a prebuilt soapbox car.</p> <p>Helmets will be required.</p>	<p>From 3:30-4:00PM, teams will compete against one another for points through a bracket system. Delegates for each team will be presented on the day of the event.</p> <p>First Place- 15 Points Second Place- 10 Points Third Place- 5 Points</p> <p>All participants will earn 1 point for their team (regardless of placement).</p>
<p>Monday, 2/10/2025 5:00PM - 6:00PM CC Commons</p>	<p>Unroll and Roar: Banner Reveal</p>	<p>Teams will display their creativity and Lander Spirit in a banner reveal!</p>	<p>Banners will be painted on twin size bed sheets (not fitted). No glitter can be used on banners. Banners must be turned into the Office of Campus Engagement by February 7th, 2025, at 5:00PM. Banners will be revealed in alphabetical order and judged based on Lander Spirit, creativity, and use of the Roaring 20s theme.</p> <p>First Place- 15 Points Second Place- 10 Points Third Place- 5 Points</p> <p>All participants will earn 1 point for their team (regardless of placement).</p>

Monday, 2/10/2025 7:00PM - 9:00PM CC Auditorium	Strongest Bearcat: Powerlifting Competition	Join your Bearcats to celebrate strength and powerlifting! Hosted by Lander Campus Recreation.	
Tuesday, 2/11/2025 2:00PM - 4:00PM Start at the Front Lawn	Color Me Jazzed: Color Run	Start drab, end jazzed! Enjoy a color run of campus!	
Tuesday, 2/11/2025 7:00PM - 9:00PM Centennial Fire Pit	Bonfire and Karaoke Night	Have a roaring good time with Smore's and karaoke!	
Wednesday, 2/12/2025 12:00PM - 3:00PM Front Lawn (Rain Location: CC Commons)	Field Day	Tug-O-War, Three Legged Race, Relay Race, Capture the Flag, and more!	
Wednesday, 2/12/2025 4:00PM - 5:00PM Lander Pool	Ice, Ice, Bearcats: Annual Polar Plunge	Join your fellow Bearcats as they take the plunge in the icy pool! Sign up to participate here: https://lander.presence.io/form/ice-ice-bearcats-sign-up	Teams are encouraged to enter one delegate to take the plunge! Each team that submits a participant will receive 1 point.
Wednesday, 2/12/2025 5:00PM - 7:00PM PEES Gym	Party like it's 1925!	Don your fringe, feathers, and pearls to dance the night away! 1920s attire is encouraged!	

<p>Wednesday, 2/12/2025 7:00PM - 9:00PM PEES Building</p>	<p>Glamorous Game Night</p>	<p>Karaoke, board games, crafting, and more! After you dance the night away, keep the party rolling!</p>	
<p>Thursday, 2/13/2025 3:00PM - 4:00PM PEES Gym</p>	<p>Faculty VS. Student Dodgeball</p>	<p>Students Versus Staff in a Dodgeball face off! Who will be the victor? All are welcome to cheer on our teams!</p>	<p>Submit one teammate to join the student team! The student team will consist of one member from each competing team. Each team that submits a participant will receive 1 point.</p>
<p>Thursday, 2/13/2025 7:00PM - 10:00PM Horne Arena</p>	<p>Annual Homecoming Showcase: "Jazz Age Jamboree"</p>	<p>Join us in the Arena to see our teams perform their best Roaring 20s themed dance, song, or other performance! While only registered teams will perform, all are welcome to join and cheer on their favorite teams.</p>	<p>Teams will be judged on their creativity, Lander spirit, and incorporation of the theme. First Place: 30 Points Second Place: 25 Points Third Place: 15 Points People's Choice (open to any team, regardless of placement): 5 Points All groups should prerecord scripts and music in one file on a flash drive. No videos will be permitted. One member of your organization must sit with the tech crew during rehearsal and the performance. All music and recordings must be appropriate, no explicit language, etc. Groups participating in Showcase will sign up for a dress rehearsal time on February 7th by 5PM. All participants must attend mandatory dress rehearsal on Sunday, February 9nd. All participants must be members of the team roster. Each group is responsible for its props. Clear the floor completely once your performance is over. Time limit – The maximum time allowed for set-up, performance and tear down/clean up is 8 minutes</p>

<p>Friday, 2/14/2025 11:00AM - 1:00PM Plaza</p>	<p>Puppies on the Plaza</p>	<p>Meet some of the most adoptable friends at the Greenwood Humane Society!</p>	
<p>Friday, 2/14/2025 7:00PM - 9:00PM Auditorium</p>	<p>Flapper Fashion Show</p>	<p>Feathers, pearls, pin stripes and more! Enjoy (or join) a fashion show of Flapper fabulousness! Non-team participants will be eligible for a People’s Choice Award! Sign up to participate here: https://lander.presence.io/form/flapper-fashion-show-sign-up</p>	<p>Each team should select one delegate to perform in the fashion show. Delegates will be judges on Lander spirit, creativity, and incorporation of the Roaring 20s Theme. Teams will draw their themed outfit idea on February 7th. First Place- 20 Points Second Place- 15 Points Third Place- 10 Point All delegates will earn 5 points for their team (regardless of placement).</p>
<p>Saturday, 2/15/2025 9:00AM - 10:00AM Lander University</p>	<p>A Roaring Good Time: Homecoming Parade!</p>	<p>Line the streets to celebrate Lander University and Chipley’s 100th Birthday! Tailgate activities to follow. A more detailed schedule of Saturday’s events will be shared in January!</p>	<p>Teams are invited to walk or ride in a car (or on a trailer) in the parade. All parade supplies are the responsibility of the team. Note: Organizations will be invited to participate. If your team is a part of an organization, you do not need to register your team for the parade.</p>
<p>Saturday, 2/15/2025 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM Horne Arena</p>	<p>Women’s Basketball Game (1:30) and Men’s Basketball Game (3:30)</p>	<p>Cheer on our Lander Bearcats as they take on Georgia College! Our Homecoming King will be crowned during women’s halftime and our queen will be crowned during men’s halftime.</p>	<p>Our Bearcat Cup winner will be announced following both games!</p>

KING AND QUEEN CANDIDATES

Each team is encouraged to nominate one King and one Queen candidate to serve on the Homecoming Court. They are not required to nominate anyone, and they can choose to only nominate one person. While it is suggested that their nominee is someone competing alongside the team, it is not a requirement.

Teams can co-nominate court nominees (for example, team A and team B can nominate Sally J. for queen and John D. for King. The nominees would campaign as representatives of both teams). There is no limit to how many teams can sponsor a single candidate.

Application and Interviews: Nominees should be registered with the team application. Teams should notify their nominees by January 31st at 5PM. King and Queen nominees will be contacted by Lillian Strawn (lillian.strawn@lander.edu) from the Office of Campus Engagement with an application and to schedule their personal interviews. All interviews will be conducted between February 3rd and February 7th. Nominees will also take a headshot photo at the time of their interview, which will be featured on the Campus Engagement Instagram.

Campaigning: Nominees can begin campaigning on February 1st. Campaigning can be done through social media or posters and flyers. All posters and flyers must be stamped by the Office of Campus Engagement before they can be displayed. Posters and flyers may only be displayed where there are already cork strips and push pins. No tape can be used (no taping on windows or walls, in elevators, or on tables). Flyers and posters cannot be left on tables. Failure to comply with campaigning rules will result in disqualification.

Scoring: King and Queen nominees will receive two scores- one for their personal interview and one for the votes they receive in the campus wide popular vote. The highest scoring king and queen candidates will be the winner, with the first runner up and second runner up being named.

Crowning and Awards: The king nominees will be presented during the halftime of the women's basketball game (Saturday, February 15th beginning at 1:30PM). The queen nominees will be presented during the halftime of the men's basketball game (Saturday, February 15th beginning at 3:30 PM). King and queen nominees must attend both games until the queen has been crowned.

Requirements to serve as a king or queen nominees: All king and queen nominees must be in good standing with Lander, both academically and financially. They must not have any past or pending student conduct violations.

Nominees are required to submit an information sheet and a resume prior to their interview with the Office of Campus Engagement. They must attend a personal interview between February 3rd and February 7th. They must be able to attend the Homecoming parade on Saturday, February 15th at 9:00AM, and both basketball games (beginning at 1:30PM and 3:30PM).

HOMECOMING COMMITTEE AND CONTACTS

All questions pertaining to rules and expectations for Homecoming Week should be directed to the Coordinator of Campus Engagement, Lillian Strawn (lillian.strawn@lander.edu) or homecoming@lander.edu.

Big thank you to our 2025 Homecoming Committee! These students work to ensure a successful and safe Homecoming Week for our campus.

Cheyenne Straub, Senior: Day Events Chairwoman

Jayla Ward, Senior: Night Events Chairwoman

Leyla Amari Ferrell, Freshman

Bailee Cornuet, Junior

Jocelynn Forbes, Freshman

Jamera Johnson, Freshman

Kaitlyn King, Freshman

Madison Prior, Freshman

Amiya Rapp, Freshman

Cameron Smith, Freshman

Charles Walker, Freshman