

# FLORIDA BLUE KEY

*Florida's most prestigious leadership honorary since 1923.*



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Since 1923, Florida Blue Key has served as the producer and host of the University of Florida's annual Homecoming celebration. Homecoming brings together students and alumni to celebrate the University of Florida. The culmination of Homecoming is Gator Growl, widely recognized as the the 'World's Largest Student Run Pep Rally', the show is held annually in Ben Hill Griffin Stadium at the University of Florida.

Beyond its popularity and tradition, Gator Growl is renowned for being a launching pad for many beloved entertainers such as Robin Williams, Dennis Miller, Jerry Seinfeld, Dave Chappelle, Bill Cosby, Billy Crystal, Bob Hope, Daniel Tosh and Dane Cook.

Held in the fall, Homecoming and Gator Growl are produced by a team of over 500 students working in Florida Blue Key to plan events for tens of thousands. More information can be found at [www.gatorgrowl.org](http://www.gatorgrowl.org).

## Schedule Of Events

## Education Celebration



Florida Blue Key



Florida Blue Key Growl & UF Hom

Have you seen Ga & UF Homecoming tanks? Stay tuned info on where and you can buy your:

**United We Growl!**  
gatorgrowl.org

What better way to your Gator and Ar pride than with a n United We Growl t continue our them patriotism, we are to have our Growl ready to wear for t

430 people like Florida Blue Ke



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Thursday, October 20 – 5:00 To  
6:00 P.M.

## Rion Ballroom At The J. Wayne Reitz Union

Since 1959, Education Celebration has recognized and celebrated the contributions of the faculty and staff to furthering higher education at the University of Florida. Since then the event has evolved to include more awards and greater recognition of the University's staff.

Eduation Celebration gives students the opportunity to nominate teachers and faculty who have had an outstanding impact on their academic career. The awards include the Distinguished Faculty Award, the Distinguished Mentoring of Undergraduate Award, and the Distinguished Departmental Award. Some past winners include Dr. William Graves Carleton (1959), Dr. Manning J. Dauer (1972), Dr. David Albert Denslow (1983), and Dr. Pauline O. Lawrence (1998).

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## Soulfest

Friday, October 21 At 7:00 P.M.

## J. Wayne Reitz Union

Soulfest, one of Homecoming's most progressive events, is a multicultural extravaganza and outdoor concert event, which includes an evening of music, dance and art. This event gives all members of the university and general

communities an opportunity to celebrate the variety of cultures and unique backgrounds within the Gator Nation. This year's event will include a showcase of multicultural pride featuring cultural attire and music as well as talent from various student organizations, artistic performances and international foods.

The theme for Soulfest 2011 is "The Untold Story of A Timeless SOUL." We are striving for continued excellence by strengthening the effort to celebrate cultural awareness while giving back to our community. Our philanthropy is a huge component of Soulfest, our 3rd annual blood drive will take place from October 3rd – October 21, 2011. The winner of Soulfest's talent showcase will have the opportunity to perform at Gator Growl 2011. UF's got SOUL so let the FESTivities begin.

Soulfest will take place on October 21st from 7pm-10pm in the J. Wayne Reitz Union

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## Swamp Symphony – "A Night Of Symphonic Spirit"

Thursday, October 27 – 6:00 –  
8:00 P.M.

Flavet Field

The College of Fine Arts and UF Homecoming proudly present the innagural Swamp Symphony! Swamp Symphony is a celebration of the talents of the College of Fine Arts' student body in a fun, family friendly

atmosphere. The show will include the University of Florida's orchestra, glee club, drum line, symphony, and other performers. Performances will center around the University of Florida and the spirit of the Gator Nation. Flavel Field

Swamp Symphony is FREE for everyone!

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## Homecoming Pageant

Tuesday, November 1 At 7:00  
P.M.

### Phillips Center For The Performing Arts

The Homecoming Pageant is one of the longest standing traditions at UF and highlights the most outstanding men and women on campus. Every participant demonstrates phenomenal leadership campus-wide. At the pageant, the top three females and the top three males will be announced as the 2011 Homecoming Court. The Homecoming Queen and King will later be announced in front of thousands at Gator Growl 2011.

This year, the pageant will be held on Tuesday November 1st in the Phillips Center for Performing Arts at 7pm. Tickets will be on sale for \$10 at the Phillips Center Box Office.

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## SuntTrust Gator Gallop

# Friday, November 4 At 11:30 A.M.

## University Avenue

The Suntrust Gator Gallop is 2 mile run/walk which takes participants around the University of Florida campus.

Those who would like to pre-register can do so up until November 1st at 11:59pm for \$10. Registration on the day of the event starts at 9:15AM and costs \$15 CASH ONLY.

The actual race starts at 11:30AM on Friday, November 4th and serves as the escort for the Homecoming parade which holds its roots deep in University of Florida traditions.

There are generally around 1500 participants for the event and this year is sure to be no different.

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## Homecoming Parade

# Friday, November 4 At 12:00 P.M.

## University Avenue

UF's 88th Annual Homecoming Parade features the theme "There's Nothing Like The Swamp." The University of Florida and Gainesville community will be on display along side local and state dignitaries as they ride down University Avenue. This year's Homecoming Parade will showcase spectacular bands, floats and special guests from University of Florida student organizations and many community groups.

One of the nation's largest homecoming parades, more than

100,000 spectators are expected to pack the streets for this annual tradition.

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## Alumni Barbecue

Saturday, November 5 – 2.5  
Hours Prior To Kickoff

### Stephen C. O’Connell Center

At the Barbecue you will find people of all ages – from UF Alumni to baby gators to current UF students – EVERYONE is welcome! Homecoming is a time to get together with friends old and new and celebrate how much we love the Gator Nation...and we know just how to do that! The tailgate will be on November 5th, the day of the homecoming football game. Entrance to the event is FREE, but meal tickets are \$10 and can be purchased pre-sale at the University Box Office or the day of at Gate 2 of the O’Connell Center.

We will be dining on delicious barbecue and refreshments provided by Cody’s Original Roadhouse. There will be trivia contests, raffle drawings, appearances by the Dazzlers, Cheerleaders and the one-and-only Albert & Alberta! Children under 12 years of age will love to enter in our Most Spirited Gator Guy & Gal competition and play our mini-carnival games for a chance to win prizes. Mark your calendars now for the best time you can have before walking across the street to the Florida Field at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium to cheer the Gators to victory against Vanderbilt. We can’t wait to see you there!

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## Spring Tapping Banquet

April 28th at the J. Wayne Reitz Union Grand Ballroom. Click [here](#) to purchase tickets.

## ReConnect

Coming soon! Join Florida Blue Key's private alumni network and reconnect with actives and alumni.



## The O'Connell Society

Give back to Florida Blue Key and invest in the leaders of tomorrow.

.@MissUFL winner @AshlynRobinson competes in her first preliminary round of Miss Florida tonight! Follow @MissUFL for updates! #gogators — ufFBK

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