

Other Traditions

Dorm Wars, Hysteria, the Semi-Formal, and the Student-Faculty Potluck dinner are not the only traditions that Hinman celebrates. There are also other minor celebrations that have occurred on an off again throughout Hinman history. These events may come and go and rise and fall in popularity but they can still be considered minor traditions in the realm of Hinman history.

One tradition that has been around for many years is the date auction, which has been going on since at least the 1970's, though it is unclear exactly when it began. Date auctions have been used for a variety of reasons, though usually they are used to raise funds for individual buildings, the community, or a charitable organization. The date auction features volunteers who agree to have themselves auctioned off as dates to the highest bidder. More often than not, dates do not actually take place, it's merely for show.

Although almost every building at some point in time has had their own date auction, in recent years Lehman Hall has held a highly successful date auction to raise money for charitable causes. Each year for the past few years, the Lehman Hall main lounge is transformed into an area with speakers, a projector and a catwalk for the volunteers to strut their stuff. This program has been incredibly successful and popular, and has grown each year of its existence. It has also raised large sums of money for charity.

Another tradition that has been very popular in Hinman over the years has been trivia competitions. Since the 1970's, students have participated in quiz bowl, a competitive trivia event much like the television show Jeopardy! Though most of the trivia programs have been closely related to campus-wide events rather than Hinman-specific trivia programming, in recent years that has changed. At around the same time that Lehman Hall began its annual Date

Auction, Smith Hall began to stage a team trivia competition in the lower dining hall. This trivia competition was in the style of many popular team trivia competitions held in bars and cafes across the country. A team, usually consisting of about 6-10 people, will form and then be asked a series of questions. Each team gets an allotted amount of time to answer each question correctly, usually about the length of a song that is played while the team discusses their answer. The number of questions asked and the number of rounds varies, but the team with the most correct answers at the end of the game wins. Smith Hall's annual trivia competition has grown in size and popularity each year that it has been occurring and, like the Lehman Hall Date Auction, is well on its way to becoming another Hinman tradition.

Lehman and Smith Halls are not the only buildings with traditions in Hinman. Cleveland Hall for many years had a popular event called Cleve-edge. Cleve-edge was a program that hosted a number of entertainers from around campus like musical groups, acappella groups, comedians and other entertainers. All the proceeds from this event would be donated to charity. Cleve-edge was a popular and well-attended event that entertained many and raised funds for good causes. However, in recent years Cleve-edge has fallen in popularity and now no longer exists as a Hinman tradition. The last Cleve-edge to occur was in the fall of 2004. For whatever reason, Cleve-edge just was no longer successful and unfortunately no longer ranks as a Hinman tradition. However, its legacy of fundraising for good and charitable causes can still be seen in any program of that nature that occurs within the bounds of Hinman College.