The Big Event: March 23, 2013

Service Enriching the Community

Howdy! Aggieland is going through some great changes as we move into the SEC, continue to move towards vision 2020, and have just opened up the Memorial Student Center. With all this change, The Big Event will continue to be a pillar of service for Texas A&M University, as we have been for over 30 years. We are hard at work fundraising, recruiting, and improving the whole organization to make this the best Big Event for residents as well as students. I have the utmost confidence in our Executive Staff leadership with our 35+ years of combined experience, ability to work as an efficient team, and every member’s desire to constantly improve every aspect about The Big Event. Thank you all for your continued support. To the students for spending 4 hours early on a spring Saturday to serve the residents, to the residents who sign up to connect with A&M, and to the financial supporters who make the whole project possible, thank you, as you are the ones who provide the financial base to make this day happen. Join us this March 23rd, 2013 for a big thanks and a big day which is The Big Event.

God Bless and Gig ‘Em,
Justin Cardenas ‘13
The Big Event Director

The Big Event Gala

Each year, The Big Event hosts a Gala and Silent Auction to raise money to help fund the year’s Big Event. This year, The Big Event will be hosting their fourth annual Gala Fundraiser on Friday, October 19th at Pebble Creek Country Club in College Station. If you would like to support The Big Event by attending this year’s Gala, please visit our website, bigevent.tamu.edu/gala for more information.

The Big Event provides the students of Texas A&M University with the opportunity to say "Thank You" to the community of Bryan/College Station for their continued support throughout the years.

**Recruitment**

Bryce and Morgan are working diligently on getting the word out about our one big day! One of the first tasks is to build up The Big Event from within by recruiting the wonderful committee during the first weeks of the Fall Semester. Fall Awareness week approaches quickly thereafter, a week in which we hold banners on campus and attempt to overtake social media to reach our soon-to-be staff assistants. Numbering over 200, these hard workers are the hands and feet that help with the labor-intensive aspects of our organization such as checking jobs. When the Spring Semester rolls around, it is all hands on deck as we try to flood campus during three weeks of our student recruitment. We will prepare ahead of time by making sheet signs, ordering promotional items, and strategically planning how we will advertise on campus, off campus, and within student organizations. Recruitment was blessed to hear word that The Big Event was chosen as one of eight organizations to partner with and be featured throughout the entire year on The CW TV channel and KBTX. This new opportunity is a big step in getting the word out to both participants and residents. This year, we hope to reach 19,000 participants and it is Recruitment’s job to ensure that happens!

Ryan, Dane, Justin, and Bryce support the SGA golf tournament and represented The Big Event!
Will and Ashley are excited to work with their Outreach subcommittee as they work hard to expand the Big Event across the nation! Although The Big Event was founded at Texas A&M University in 1982, it has since expanded to over 75 other universities. Outreach manages relationships with other universities as well as The Big Event’s national public relations. From calling individual schools to interacting with national media outlets, Outreach’s responsibilities encompass the visionary side of The Big Event. Part of that vision is the idea of The One Big Day, where every school holding a Big Event across the nation collaborate in having one annual set day dedicated to community service. Through resources such as an expansion packet, a step-by-step instruction manual instructing how to start a Big Event, Outreach provides any necessary assistance to new or growing Big Events. Will, Ashley, and their committee members are already planning the 7th Annual Big Event Conference to take place on February 2nd, 2012. Schools are encouraged to attend Conference to hear from speakers, discuss strategies in roundtables, and learn more about The Big Event in detailed workshops. Outreach hopes to have over 15 schools attend this year so that The Big Event and the spirit of service can expand even further!

Be sure to check out our new website:

onebigthanks.tamu.edu

Dane and Leann are excited to organize several events this year with the newest members of their subcommittee. Our Fall Retreat, Fall Service Project and several socials will get the year going in the right direction and keep everyone energized as we get closer to The Big Event on March 23rd! This semester, Programs will be working ahead on the planning for the Night Before Banquet and the Day Of by lining up sponsors and entertainment. Dane and Leann are thrilled to be working together this year and are overly excited for the journey ahead and the opportunity they have to bless others.
Operations

Operations executives, Emily Cain and Ryan Lesikar, are looking forward to hosting The Big Event’s fourth annual Gala Fundraiser. Gala is The Big Event’s largest fundraiser and helps generate funds to cover The Big Event’s annual operating cost. This year’s Gala Fundraiser will be held on Friday, October 19th at The Pebble Creek Country Club in College Station. The evening will consist of dinner, live and silent auctions, and entertainment. This year’s theme will be “An Evening of Stars” and will highlight the Bryan and College Station community that The Big Event serves each year. We would love for you to be a part of this year’s Gala. If you would like more information, please visit our website, bigevent.tamu.edu/gala, or contact the Operations executives by email at operations@bigevent.tamu.edu. During the fall semester, the Operations committee will be busy obtaining auctions items for this year’s Gala and conducting The Big Event’s inventory. During inventory, The Big Event’s committee will count and organize more than 8,000 tools that will be needed for March 23rd, 2013. We couldn’t be more excited to have our Operations committee assembled and begin preparations for the year to come.

Development

The Big Event is very excited to welcome the return of our Development subcommittee for its second year. Being the newest subcommittee within The Big Event, our main focus for the upcoming year will be to facilitate committee meetings, communicate with Bryan and College Station city officials, lead staff assistants in the spring, and build lasting relationships with our Big Event alumni. We believe that we can ultimately help meetings become more productive while still encouraging healthy and growing relationships between all committee and staff members alike. One of Development’s largest tasks will also be in reconnecting with our expanding Big Event alumni. We recognize that they are a vital piece in shaping The Big Event’s future, as they have all assisted in shaping it’s past. Most importantly, we believe in connecting and reaching out to the Bryan and College Station city officials. Many of these officials have grown up here and have taken part in this growth and change. We believe that they will be of utmost importance as we take on the challenge of growing The Big Event further in the future. The ultimate goal of The Big Event is to serve the residents of the Bryan/College Station community, and we as Development want to help ensure this success for years to come.

Development’s goal is to complete 1,850 jobs in the Bryan/College Station community this coming March!