

Graceland House System Video Transcript

Graceland University is a place where everyone belongs. Our unique house system ensures that from day one all students feel connected to the members of their house and to the larger Graceland community. Student centered and student led, the house system brings four years of fun, fellowship and leadership. It is a house that feels like home. It is, for all who live at Graceland, The Power of Together.

I'm Tara Sheehy, and I'm current house president of Aponivi House here at Graceland University.

Graceland University doesn't have sororities or fraternities. Instead, we have our housing system that places each individual into their own house. Knowing that, knowing each individual that comes to Graceland has a place and belongs in our community. The housing system is something that's really unique to Graceland and that it creates very intentional communities through the placement of new and transferring students. It's something that we focus on as house presidents and house

councils, to create relationship and communities through different involvements and creating majors, extra-curricular activities, functions, trips to Des Moines, late night hang-out sessions with food and trips to Kum-n-Go. We have house meeting every Tuesday night where all of the men and women from your house come together in fellowship and share updates as well as have fun games. We have functions that happen on the weekends that include bowling and ice skating and movies and dinner together. Some other things that we do, we have homecoming here that creates an air band competition that each house creates a five minute production of dancing and activities to a set of music that is to a certain theme that everyone comes in collaboration for and gives effort towards.

We have house presidents as well as house council members that represent the different organizations of our campus including intramurals, our campus activities, A.S.K. which is for Academic Student Council, senate, and sometimes we have treasurers. These opportunities that were presented to the house groom our students for leadership positions

and allow them to reach beyond their potential in terms of creating communities, not only for themselves but for others.

I think the housing system provides students with a chance for maximum growth and success because they get to have a support system on their hall, sort of like a family when they go back from classes or whatever they're doing throughout the day. There's people there hanging out in the hallway. Your house president always says hi to you. And it also provides you with a chance for leadership as you get older.

It provided me with (something) like a family in case I needed somebody to talk to. I just had my house president to go to if I need anything - if I need help for class or needed help around campus. Just to get involved in the housing system really helped me out.

I agree. I was kind of homesick when I first came here, and you sort of get a group of friends on your first day. Your house president and the house council members were always there to talk. A

couple times, I just needed someone to talk to because I really missed my family, and they were always there for me.

The Power of Together