

OCTOBER 12 – OCTOBER 15

HOMECOMING

2026

“Blaze The Seas”

ALL EVENT PARTICIPATION APPLICATIONS TO BE
COMPLETED ONLINE

uab.edu/homecoming

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HOMECOMING COMPETITION OVERVIEW

The purpose of the UAB Homecoming Competition is to promote school spirit and greater involvement among UAB faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Any school, department, or unit of UAB is eligible to participate in this competition.

The winners of the various UAB Homecoming Competitions will be presented with awards or plaques during the main athletic Homecoming event.

The deadline for all applications is Friday, October 2, 2026 at 5:00 pm, unless otherwise noted. All applications will be completed online at uab.edu/homecoming.

1. HOCO Window Competition

Categories:

- 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place (1st Place will also receive \$250.00*)

2. HOCO Banner Competition

Categories:

- Schools: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place (1st Place will also receive \$250.00*)
- Student Orgs: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place (1st Place will also receive \$250.00*)

2. Gurney Derby Race

Categories:

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place
- Best Dressed Gurney
- Most Creative Passenger
- Dead Last Award (this award will be presented to the team with the slowest time)

*All prize money will be deposited in a school-related alumni chapter account to be used for alumni activities.

COMPETITION RULES

HOCO WINDOW COMPETITION – SPONSORED BY THE UAB NATIONAL ALUMNI SOCIETY

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026 @ 5 PM

EVENT DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026 @ 11 AM

- Each school will decorate at least one window of their choosing that must be located at their school's building.
- Each entry will receive a basic set of window markers provided by Alumni Affairs. These can be picked up at the Alumni House.
- All entries will be judged by the panel on Tuesday, October 13th.

Prizes

There will be a 1st place, 2nd place, and a 3rd place. 1st place will receive a \$250 prize for their school/organization.

*The judges for the competition will consist of representatives from campus, community, and the alumni board of directors.

COMPETITION RULES

HOCO BANNER COMPETITION – SPONSORED BY THE UAB NATIONAL ALUMNI SOCIETY

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026 @ 5 PM

BANNERS MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE ALUMNI HOUSE BY WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH AT 5 PM

JUDGING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH @ ALUMNI TAILGATE BEFORE THE GAME

- Each entry will decorate one banner (4 ft. x 7 ft.) using the Homecoming theme to be hung at the Alumni Tailgate before the football game.
 - Schools and Student Orgs can use any items to decorate the banner.. Get creative!
- Banners will be ready to be picked up at the Alumni House beginning September 14th.
- Banners must be completed and turned in to the Alumni House by Wednesday, October 12th at 5 PM.
- All entries will be judged by the panel at the Alumni Tailgate on Thursday, October 13.

Prizes

There will be a 1st place, 2nd place, and a 3rd place for both the school and student organization categories. 1st place will receive a \$250 prize for their school/organization.

*The judges for the competition will consist of representatives from campus, community, and the alumni board of directors.

COMPETITION RULES

GURNEY DERBY COMPETITION – SPONSORED BY THE UAB NATIONAL ALUMNI SOCIETY

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026 @ 5 PM

EVENT DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026

CHECK-IN @ 11 AM | RACE BEGINS @ NOON

TEAMS

Teams must consist of four members, two male and two female, with one pushing/pulling at each corner of the gurney. Each team must also supply a 2-member pit crew to help with race day preparations. Since there will be a limited number of gurneys available for the race, teams will be selected on a first-come, first-serve basis. Any team associated with UAB is eligible to enter the race.

RULES

If the gurney is turned loose by any team member while the gurney is in motion, the team will be immediately disqualified. No team member may “ride” or coast on the gurney. These teams will be immediately disqualified. Any interference, intentional or accidental, with other teams during the race may result in disqualification. Each team must make an effort to compete. Walking will result in disqualification. Each team member will be required to wear a (bicycle) helmet, wrist guards, elbow pads, and knee pads. Wrist guards, elbow pads, and knee pads will be provided by the Alumni Affairs Office. Each team must provide their own helmets. Teams will not be allowed to participate without helmets, wrist guards, elbow pads, and knee pads.

TO ENTER

Complete the online registration form (uab.edu/homecoming) or the attached form, sign the liability waiver, and return it to the Alumni Affairs Office by 5 PM Friday, October 2, 2026. If the form is not complete, your team will be ineligible to race. Any and all substitutions of team members must be declared, with waivers signed, by 11 AM the day of the race. Due to the popularity of this event, no exceptions will be made. Gurneys will be available on a first-come, first-served basis to allow for schools or student organizations to enter teams. No more than two teams per school/organization allowed.

THE RACE

The race begins at Noon. All team captains and all team members must be at the assigned race location by 11 AM on race day for check-in, assignment of gurneys, organization of teams, and gurney decoration. If your team is not checked in by 11:30 AM, you will not be qualified to participate, and we will go to alternates. The racecourse will be the same as last year. (10th Avenue South between the EEC & ASC). The race will run in “heats.” The top 4 times overall will run in the Championship Run. The Championship Run will take place 5-10 minutes after the last heat. Winners will be recognized and awarded directly after.

THE COURSE

At the sound of the starting pistol, the crew will push the gurney down the course as quickly and safely as possible. Upon reaching the orange pylons, the crew must go past the pylons, and each team member must turn around and push the gurney back up to the beginning position, across the finish line (the former starting point).

NOTE: EACH TEAM MEMBER MUST TURN - DO NOT TURN THE GURNEY.

AWARDS

It is possible for a team to win one or more of these awards!

- 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD PLACE: The top three teams to cross the finish line will receive awards
- BEST DRESSED GURNEY: The best/most creatively, decorated gurney will receive a plaque and will be given the opportunity to walk in the Homecoming Parade
- MOST CREATIVE PASSENGER: The best/most creatively, costumed passenger will receive a plaque
- DEAD LAST AWARD: This award will be presented to the team with the slowest overall time

MR. & MS. UAB IMPORTANT DATES

TO SCHEDULE INTERVIEWS, CALL 205.934.3555

*Applicants required to attend all events below

APPLICATIONS DUE BY MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

www.uab.edu/homecoming

INFO SESSION DATES

*ALL APPLICANTS MUST ATTEND ONE INFORMATION SESSION

Thursday, September 17 at 12:00 PM | Friday, September 18 at 10:00 AM | Monday, September 21 at 11:00 AM
Tuesday, September 22 at 9:00 AM | Wednesday, September 23 at 4:00 PM

FIRST ROUND INTERVIEWS

POSTING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 @ NOON BY EMAIL/ONLINE

Wednesday, September 30 | 1-8:00 PM

UAB National Alumni Society House | 1301 10th Avenue South

POSTING/EMAILING OF THE TOP 10

Friday, October 2 | Noon

The items below refer to events for TOP TEN FINALISTS ONLY.

FINAL INTERVIEWS FOR TOP 10

Wednesday, October 7 | 2-5 PM

UAB National Alumni Society House | 1301 10th Avenue South

STUDENT VOTING DATES

Monday, October 5 – Friday, October 9

Dates changed due to Football game being on Thursday

REHEARSAL FOR HALFTIME PRESENTATION

Date and Time TBD | Intramural Fields

PARADE

Thursday, October 15 | Noon

Meet at 14th Street South & 10th Avenue South

You will have to arrive around 10:30 AM

HOMECOMING DAY

Thursday, October 15 | Pre-Game Announcements & Football Game 6:30 Kickoff

Football Game vs. ECU

More details to be announced at a later date.

MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE THE AWARD.

SPIRIT SONGS

UAB ALMA MATER

Here in Alabama, a place of rich diversity,
stands our Alma Mater. We cherish her integrity.
May each loyal son and daughter wear
proudly the colors green and gold.
Praise to thee, our UAB. Her honor we uphold.

Yearning minds of age and youth
live and love her noble truth.
Moving ahead with blazing speed
t'wards knowledge to empow'r,
in the heart of Birmingham our UAB stands proud.

FIGHT SONG

At UAB in Birmingham
All hail our players bold
They are the mighty Blazers
Who wear the green and gold

Tonight let's fire their golden blaze
The flame of victory
Go, Blazers! Go, Blazers!
Win for UAB!

BLAZER VICTORY

All hail Alma Mater
We sing this song for thee
Raise up the banner
For Blazer victory!

All hail Alma Mater
We pledge to always be
Ever faithful, ever loyal
To dear old UAB!