



Boston Area College Housing Association
2019



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The academic year is already flying by. It is officially Fall in New England - the leaves are changing colors, pumpkin spice is out in full force, and the heat is back on. We hope you all are taking care as the semester continues to be busy and full of challenge. Remember those bright moments - the ones that give you life - the ones that bring you back to your important work in residential life. By changing our frame and approach to the work, those often unexpected challenging situations will not seem so daunting. Take care!

-The Steering Board

RA Conference



BACHA RA CONFERENCE
NOV 2, 2019
UMASS DARTMOUTH

CONFERENCE TIP

GET OUT THERE!

Challenge yourself to make new connections with student leaders from across the region! Knowing RAs from other institutions can be helpful when you're looking for fresh ideas or advice on the RA role from someone who gets it.

Can you believe that the RA conference is almost here?! We are excited to see you all this weekend!! Check out the BACHA Facebook page for more information about the conference, conference tips, and our exciting conference themes for this year.

<https://www.facebook.com/bachaonline/>

Halloween Fire Safety



Halloween is once again upon us and with that comes fun themed programs and decorations in the residence halls. This is a good time to remind residents and student staff about the fire and life safety policies in place if they choose to decorate their hall or house.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) finds that From 2013-2017, an average of 780 home structure fires began with decorations every year. Over 40% of these fires occurred because decorations were too close to a heat source and more than 30% of these fires were started by candles.

The NFPA recommends the following to reduce risk of fire during the Halloween season:

- Use a battery operated light or glow stick in your jack-o-lantern
- Avoid long, trailing fabric when picking your costume - this could catch on fire or be a trip hazard if an evacuation happens.
- Decorations such as dried cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily and should be avoided if possible. If used, keep the decorations far away from heat sources.
- Keep all exits and egress points clear from any decorations.

While we want our residents and hall staff to have fun during the Halloween season, we also want them to be safe. Fire safety can be overlooked when in a festive mood. Let's all be safe this month and avoid all decoration-based fires in our residence halls and houses.

[NFPA Halloween Fire Safety Tips](#)

Let's BACHA 'bout It

A Student Affairs Approach to an Inclusive Halloween

by Kayley Robsham



"As institutions of higher education become more diverse, it's critical to develop students' awareness, knowledge, and skills to foster inclusive learning environments. Student affairs professionals, student leaders, and staff play a key role in facilitating conversations with students about issues regarding identity, including: race, sexual orientation, gender, socioeconomic status and other complex and intersectional social variables....

...With this in mind, we've laid out helpful reminders, resources and articles that may help facilitate conversations surrounding Halloween costumes at different levels on your campus."

[Read the full article here!](#)

Join The Conversation!

BACHA has a Facebook Group!

We are excited to announce that we have added a Facebook Group to our Facebook Page.

We hope this can be a space for our members to engage in discussion, share

articles and resources, and post opportunities at your institution.

After utilizing any of the above resources, let us know your thoughts!

[Click here to join!](#)

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