

Adopted from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff *The ROAR Student Handbook*

1.2 University Traditions

The life of every student is enriched by the traditions which have become a part of the University through the years. Some of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff's traditions include:

1.2.1 Band Concert

Annually, the Music Department presents the University Band in Concert.

1.2.2 Black History Month

During the month of February, Black History Month is observed in order to pay tribute to noted African Americans who have made significant contributions to the progress of mankind as a whole and to African Americans in particular.

1.2.3 Chancellor's Benefit for the Arts

This is a formal affair presented with elegance. The proceeds from this event support the visual and performing arts at UAPB, the "Keepers of the Spirit" Exhibit, and historical review of Branch Norman/AM&N College/University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

1.2.4 Chancellor's Convocation

An all-school assembly, originally established by President L.A. Davis, Sr., as the "family chat hour," is held at the beginning of each semester. Classes are dismissed.

1.2.5 Founder's Day

Each year the University pauses on the Thursday closest to April 25th (the date of the founding of the institution) to pay tribute to those whose services and sacrifices have made the University's achievements possible for the annual Founder's Day Convocation; classes are dismissed. The celebration also includes sunrise service, and a family breakfast on the following Sunday.

1.2.6 Handel's Messiah

Each year the University choir performs Handel's Messiah during the Christmas season. The Vesper Choir is assisted by the University Concert Band and by a string ensemble from the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. The Messiah is considered to be the best oratorio in music history. Traditionally, the presentation of the Messiah marks the official opening of the Christmas season on the campus. The event is sponsored by the Department of Music.

1.2.7 Homecoming

Annually, the University sets one weekend during The Fall Semester for the celebration of its Homecoming activities. Plans are made under the direction of the Homecoming Committee, which consists of faculty/staff and students to extend the traditional UAPB hospitality to alumni, former students, guests, and friends. The campus is beautifully decorated and various student organizations and academic departments prepare floats for the annual Homecoming parade on Main Street in the city of Pine Bluff. Other events during Homecoming are: the football game, the Coronation and Ball, and victory dance or concert.

1.2.8 Honors and Awards Day

Students are recognized for academic achievement and contributions to the University through scholarships and awards. This recognition is held in conjunction with the annual Founder's Day Convocation.

1.2.9 Lion Fever Day

During the Fall and Spring Semesters, high school students throughout the state of Arkansas and adjoining states are invited to the campus for a day of information and activities.

1.2.10 Spring Emphasis Week

Each spring, usually in March or April, one week is devoted to honoring different components of the University family: students, faculty, staff, the community, parents, women, and all others who contribute to the life-blood of the University.

1.2.11 Spring Unity Fest

An activity designed to bring together the University and the community through entertainment, food, games, vendors, information booths, novelty attractions and contests.

1.2.12 Vesper Choir Concert

The Friday before Spring Commencement, the University Choir performs its annual concert in the John McLinn Ross Auditorium in the Hathaway-Howard Fine Arts Building.