



Texas Independence Day Sample Events and Guidelines

In 1897, students celebrated UT's establishment as a university of the first class and in 1900 adopted a resolution that states, "Whenever two Texas Exes shall meet on March 2, they all shall sit and break bread and pay tribute to the institution that made their education possible."

Texas Exes TID celebrations are an expression of pride in the state of Texas, which had the foresight to establish a "university of the first class" in the Texas constitution. They are not celebrations of Texas' independence from Mexico.

While the COVID-19 pandemic is still impacting our communities, we know that gathering for an event may not be possible for your chapter. We encourage chapters to make the best decision for their chapter and engage alumni in new and exciting ways this year.

TID Fundraising and Event Ideas:

- Host a social hour on March 2nd
 - Chapters can include UT and UT History themed games such as BINGO, trivia, scavenger hunts, etc.
- In-person/Online Silent Auction
- In-person/Virtual "painting with a twist" or "board and brush" event
- [Virtual cocktail/mocktail making class](#)
 - Have a signature drink/drink kit that alumni can make at home
- Cheese (or any food/beverage) tasting
 - Partner with a local shop/restaurant (also an opportunity to engage local Texas Exes owned establishments)
 - Check out: [Texas Exes Longhorn Business Listing](#)
- Outdoor "tail gate" or picnic event
 - Everyone BYOB, food, beverages, chairs, and socialize outside in a park
- Family friendly- virtual petting zoo event.
 - Ex: Austin based company that has done virtual animal events; [Tiny Tales to You](#).
- Speaker event
 - A donation can serve as your "ticket" to have access to the event
 - Ex: [Texas Exes Virtual Lunchtime Lectures](#)
- Race/5K with proceeds supporting the chapter's scholarship fund
 - Look into takeaways alumni could receive such as a Texas Exes ____ Chapter TID race medal
- Concert event
 - Is there a local musician that would be willing to perform for the chapter at a low cost virtually or in-person?
- Wine Pull

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- Purchase a variety of wines at different price points and give them each a number.
- Have alumni purchase a numbered mystery bottle during the virtual event until all numbers are taken.
- \$25 dollars for a chance (example)
- Designate time and place for wine pick up/drop off
- Book Club Meeting that gathers on March 2nd or the week of TID

Important things to remember:

- Regardless of how Chapters choose to participate in TID, remember that your event should be focused on UT and celebrating the establishment of the University of the First Class, NOT Texas Independence from Mexico.

Virtual Event Tips:

- Remember that texasexes.org and the chapter's ____chapter@texasexes.org [Eventbrite Premium](#) account can be used for ticket management
 - Contact the Chapters and Network Department for sign-in information if your chapter has not utilized this resource
- Information on event ticket hosting: [Chapter and Network Leader Web and Event Manual](#)
- Suggest alumni use a [Texas Exes Zoom Meeting Backgrounds](#) during virtual events
- Keep the virtual meeting/event around 1 hour for optimal engagement
- Conclude the event with **A Toast to Texas**
 - This toast was written by Joe B. Frantz, two-time UT Alumnus and Former UT Professor, in salute to his alma mater: *To our State, whose founders made our education possible; To Texas Exes, who have provided generations of leadership to the State of Texas; and to the proud tradition of continued excellence of The University of Texas.*