

THON Events throughout the Year

October:

Canning Weekend #1 – October 1-2: Canister solicitation, or canning, is a profitable source of fundraising for THON. This is the first of four predetermined weekends where an average of 269 organizations send students to surrounding cities and states to stand with cans and collect spare change to help kids fight cancer.

Harvest Day – October 2: A chance for Four Diamonds Families to bond with the Overall Committee and Captains while playing games and doing fun activities at a local farm.

Committee Members Announced – October 2: THON is a student-run organization consisting of 14 Committees who continue to be successful through the over 3,000 student volunteers who help to create THON each year.

THON 5K – October 23: The THON 5K has grown into the largest 5K in Central Pennsylvania with more than 5,700 registrants just last year. The day includes a Kids Fun Run, timed competitive run, family speaker, music, food and more.

November:

100 Days 'Til THON – November 9: 100 Days 'Til THON is a university-wide celebration that encourages student involvement and generates excitement for the Dance Marathon.

THON TailGREAT & Halftime Show – November 12: Penn State athletics graciously allows THON to appear during halftime of the Penn State vs. Nebraska football game during which the Overall Committee holds up cards to spell out the yearly theme. Before the game, TailGREAT, a free pep rally in the Bryce Jordan Center for fan, features THON help raise awareness about pediatric cancer, THON, and the Four Diamonds Fund.

Family Carnival – November 13: The Family Carnival is filled with activities and games for the Four Diamonds families. The THON 2012 logo will be revealed at the end of the event.

Mr. and Mrs. THON Pageant—November 16: Two representatives from each THON Captain Committee compete for the title of Mr. and Mrs. THON. There are performance, fashion, and interview portions as well as a family speaker.

December:

Canning Weekend #2 – December 2-4: The second of four predetermined weekends where 296 organizations will send students to surrounding cities and states collecting spare change for the Four Diamonds Fund.

January:

THON Skate – January 14: A fun event held at the Penn State Ice Rink. A portion of the proceeds from ticket sales goes toward the THON 2012 total donation to the Four Diamonds Fund.

Independent Dancer Diamond Pursuit—January 17: This is an event held by the Communications Committee for Independent Dancers. They compete in a series of challenges centered around the four diamonds of courage, honesty, wisdom and strength. The dancer couple with the most points at the end of the night wins another slot in the dancer lottery.

Canning Weekend #3 – January 20-22: The third of four predetermined weekends where around 296 organizations will send students to surrounding cities and states collecting spare change to help kids with cancer.

Road to THON Celebration – January 26: This event celebrates the spirit of THON through the recognition of exceptional volunteers and donors. This special also features speeches by THON organizers and distinguished guests.

February:

Dancers Announced – February 2: Independent dancers will be randomly selected from the large pool of applicants. These dancers complete the official registration of dancers from all organizations as well as those dancing independently. The total number of dancers in 2011 was 709.

Canning Weekend #4 – February 10-12: The fourth and final weekend of canister solicitation where students travel to surrounding cities and states to collect spare change in order to help kids with cancer.

THON 2012 Weekend – February 17-19: Dancers, committee members, families, kids, and supporters pour into the BJC for 46 hours of no sitting, no sleeping all **FOR THE KIDS!**

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On behalf of the entire Executive Committee we hope you can find time to join us THON Weekend as we raise awareness to our cause and dance to find a cure! Please let us know if you are planning to attend.