

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THON: MORE THAN A 46-HOUR DANCE MARATHON

University Park, PA

No sitting. No sleeping. Just forty-six hours of dancing “for the kids.” For almost forty years, the Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) has been raising money to fight pediatric cancer. Each year, during one special weekend in February, the joy, pride and selflessness of everyone involved are on full display as they come together to dance “for the kids.”

THON is more than a weekend. It is more than a dance marathon. It is a year-long fundraising and awareness campaign. It is the largest student-run philanthropy. It is an effort to give kids a childhood and it is a fight to conquer pediatric cancer.

This is an effort by more than 15,000 Penn State students who work tirelessly for THON while balancing rigorous course loads and the normal stressors of college life. These students plan and run the events including but not limited to the largest 5K in central Pennsylvania, a carnival and a fall picnic for families battling cancer and a forty-six hour dance marathon to celebrate lives lost and saved.

THON creates a unique bond between students and families through the Adopt-A-Family program, which pairs the two in an effort to ensure that no family has to face this terrible disease alone. It is this relationship that motivates Penn State students and makes THON an unparalleled experience. Together, these students are making a difference in the lives of children and these families are making a difference in the lives of students.

About THON

THON (www.thon.org) is the largest student-run philanthropy. It benefits The Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital. The Fund assists children being treated for cancer and their families through superior care, comprehensive support and innovative research. Since 1977, THON has raised more than \$78 million for The Fund and the fight to conquer pediatric cancer.

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For high-res imagery of any of the events or families or more information regarding the Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, please contact:

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