

October 28, 2014

Dear AU Student

**Happy Halloween!** There are many events planned for AU students over Halloween weekend. Catch the Halloween spirit, and participate!

**In the Neighborhood:** Living in the local neighborhood gives you an opportunity to take part in community traditions. Consider these ways to observe Halloween with your neighbors:

- Carve a pumpkin for your front porch, showing neighbors that you are getting into the holiday spirit.
- Stock up on individually wrapped candies to hand out when neighborhood children ring your doorbell and shout, “Trick or Treat!” Halloween is on Friday, October 31. Most trick-or-treaters visit homes as soon as the sun sets.
- In preparation for trick-or-treaters, turn on your porch or yard lights and be sure your front walk and doorstep are clear.
- Think about adding to the fun by dressing in a not-too-scary costume, so you can surprise trick-or-treaters when you answer your door. You can start a neighborly conversation by commenting on how “amazing” their costumes are!
- Look for opportunities to volunteer at Halloween events at nearby schools, churches, or other locations. Wear your “AU” sweatshirt, and show that you are proud to be part of the community!

**In the D.C. Community:** There will be many opportunities for socializing during the Halloween weekend in the wider D.C. area. If you choose to celebrate Halloween with other students at your residence or elsewhere, please celebrate safely and in a considerate manner.

- If you go out on the town, have plans for when and how you will return home safely.
- If you host other students, take appropriate steps to monitor and control your guests’ behavior so you do not disturb your neighbors. Keep noise levels to a minimum, and end your party at a reasonable hour.
- **Step Up!** Look after your friends and ask them to look out for you.

**Have a safe and fun Halloween weekend!**

Michelle Espinosa  
Associate Dean of Students