Longwood Traditions

Longwood’s traditions and culture say a lot of things about the university and the students who go here. Longwood has many long-standing traditions that express the school’s honor and integrity, superstition, and community and fun.

Many of Longwood’s traditions center around honor and integrity, the most notable being the student-lead honor board. Longwood is one of few universities in the country with an honor code upheld by members of the student body. During New Lancer Days, incoming freshman attend the Honor and Integrity Ceremony to enforce just how important the honor is at Longwood. The secret society Princeps also upholds these principals through its focus on leadership and academics. Princeps honors good students and good citizen leaders who model the qualities of honor and integrity prized by the school.

All college campuses have their own superstitions; it’s just part of the college experience. Perhaps this is because it gives students a unique “inside scoop” about their communities traditions not known to outsiders. At Longwood, the main superstition involves the rotundas and the crowns. Students avoid stepping on the rotundas, representing Chi and the spirit of Longwood, for fear of bad luck. In contrast, students seek to step on the crowns, representing Princeps and academic success in hope of good luck. At exam time, students step on all seven, which is rumored to give you all A’s on your exams. Longwood students also touch the hands of Joanie on the Stoney for good luck.

Lastly, Longwood upholds traditions of community and fun. The secret society Chi represents and promotes Longwood spirit and active participation in the community. Events like Octoberfest and Spring Weekend bring students together for fun activities such as bands, booths selling food and other fun things, color wars, and oozeball. Students have a lot of fun at these events while fostering a strong sense of community.

Longwood has many traditions that are important to the student body. From crowns and rotundas to Octoberfest and Spring Weekend, Longwood traditions help students take part in the community of Longwood and expand their college experience. To learn the essence of Longwood, you can look the traditions it upholds.