# The New 'Normal' and Planning Student Events

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## Overview

In the chat

Introduce yourself What are you hoping to learn and/or One word to describe how you are feeling about events this Fall?

#### My role in the Student Center

Programs during 2020-2021

Lessons Learned

Going into Fall 2021

Questions/Discussion

## Introduction & SCPC

- Program Advisor in the Student Center
- SCPC hosts over 50 events every semester
  - Students plan and we advise through the processes
- March 2020: Beginning of COVID
- Summer 2020: How do we make Programs happen
  - Look to the institution for guidelines and requirements
- August 2020-May 2021 Outcome
  - 35 Events; 7,855
  - 18 "Smaller events"; 850
  - Students reported that they felt safe
  - 0 cases linked to our events



### How did we find success



#### Lessons Learned

- People want to attend events and they know what is at risk
  - Connections are an important part of mental health (Students, faculty, and staff)
- Plan EARLY (6-8 weeks out)
- The minuscule details mattered more than the big pieces
  - (Check in, flow from entrance to exit, strategically placing volunteers, etc.)
- Set expectations before the event: emails, tickets/registration
- Time slots help you control flow
  - Wristbands or resets
- Model how you want attendees to behave at events
- Use campus resources: ELC, ECN,
- Test your virtual components before the event
- Be ready to be flexible



#### Going into Fall 2021

- Fresh off the press: Fall 2021 Event Guidelines
  - <u>https://specialevents.gatech.edu/2021-campus-events-guidelines-fall</u>
- Tentative Calendar
- Finding large spaces and planning for more people than anticipated
- Continuing Tickets and other queuing processes
- Turn to the experts



#### **Questions & Comments**

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