Name of Your Affinity Community:

______________________________

**Community Information**
*Use the space provided to respond to each question.*

Name of Your Community (if applicable):

______________________________

How long has your club/organization existed at Alvernia University (if applicable)?

______________________________

If applicable, tell us more about your club/organization. What are some of your club/organization’s recent accomplishments?

Questions
*Please submit your typed responses below each question or on a separate sheet of paper.*

1. Why is your club/group interested in creating an Affinity Community?
2. What is the purpose of your Community?
3. What will be unique about your Community? How will your group distinguish your Community from other living environments on- and off-campus?
4. If selected to participate in the Affinity Communities, how will your community give back and/or benefit the greater Alvernia University community?
FORM B: COMMUNITY LEADER APPLICATION

One Leader is required for each Community. These individuals will serve as the liaison between your community and Alvernia University Administration. They will meet regularly with staff from the Office of Residence Life to share information and report any issues community members are experiencing. Community Leaders schedule community meetings, oversee program planning, distribute information to the residents of the community, and keep the lines of communication open between the Community and the Office of Residence Life. The anticipated workload for the Community Leader is approximately two hours a week. Community Leaders must be in place for the entire academic year—individuals going abroad are not eligible for the Community Leader position.

General Information
Name of Community Leader: ________________________________

Class: (circle one) Sophomore Junior Senior

Major(s): ________________________________________________

Cell Phone Number: ______________________________________

T-Shirt Size: (circle one) S M L XL XXL

Are you going abroad next year: (circle one) Y N

Questions
Please submit your typed responses below each question or on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Why are you the best candidate for the Community Leader Position?

2. Tell us about your experience and interest in the theme of your Community. Have you taken any courses at Alvernia that relate to the theme of your Community? If so, tell us about those as well.

3. How do you plan to hold members of the Community accountable for the behavioral and programming responsibilities of your Community?

Statement of Responsibility
Please read the statement below and sign the appropriate space if you understand and agree to the terms of the Group Leader position.

If your Affinity Community is accepted, you will automatically be slated as the Community Leader of your program. By signing below you agree to fill the Community Leader role for your community. This means that you will be required to attend regular meetings with other Community Leaders and Residence Life staff to help manage communication between your community members and Office of Residence Life. Failure to meet these responsibilities may result in your termination from the Community Leader position and/or removal of your Affinity Community from Alvernia University housing.

Signature: _______________________________________________ Date: _____________________
The Affinity Community program at Alvernia University provides a unique living/learning experience that enables a community of students to explore common interests while living together. In addition, Affinity Communities promote an environment that brings students, faculty, and staff together. Serving as a Community Advisor is a great way to meet and work with students outside of a classroom setting.

Each Affinity Community is required to have an advisor. The main role of the advisor is to assist the members of the community in exploring their common interest/themes by providing support and/or expertise. In addition, advisors provide a link to other University resources. The responsibility of the advisor varies based on the needs of the community. Generally an advisor will meet with the community leader once or twice a semester to discuss the ICHP, touch base with the Assistant Director of Residence Life once a semester, and attend community functions and meetings as needed and/or desired. Co-advisors are also welcome.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Office of Residence Life at 610-706-8320 or reslife@alvernia.edu

General Information

Name of Community Advisor: ____________________________________________________________

Position: __________________ Office/Department(s): ________________________________

Office Phone: ______________________________

Will you be on leave next year: (circle one) Y N

If yes, please tell us about the duration of your time away next year.

Statement of Responsibility

Please read the statement below and sign the appropriate space if you understand and agree to the terms of the ICHG Advisor position.

If this Affinity Community is accepted, you will automatically be slated as the Community Advisor for this program. By signing below you agree to fill the Community Advisor role for the 2012-2013 academic year. You are encouraged to support the Affinity Community and to have a presence in the community. This can be done through staying in communication with the student Community Leader, participating in Community meetings, and attending Community programs.

Signature: ___________________________________________________________________________ Date: __________________
FORM D: COMMUNITY STANDARDS AGREEMENT

Affinity Community residents are expected to know and abide by all University and Housing policies. In addition, each Community is required to establish a Community Standards Agreement, which will serve to stipulate further community standards for the area. This contract will act as a starting point to mediate any conflicts within the Community.

On a separate sheet of paper, create your Community Standards Agreement. This document can be a simple list or can be a detailed constitution. This is an opportunity for your group to make up their own rules (as long as they fit within the parameters of Alvernia policy and federal and state law). Everyone who signs up to be in your Community needs to review this document before agreeing to live in your community.

When preparing your Community Standards Agreement, some points you may want to address include:

- Use of common spaces (kitchen, bathrooms, and living room)
  - If someone uses the kitchen, within how many hours are the expected to clean up after themselves?
  - If damage is done to the area (holes in the wall, vomit, etc.), what are the expectations for holding residents accountable?

- Community building expectations
  - When are Community meetings? How frequently do they occur? Is attendance mandatory?
  - Are residents required to attend, plan, and/or participate in community sponsored programs?
  - Will there be a time each week when you all get together for community dinner, game night, etc?

- Theme-related Standards
  - Reflect back to the theme you are proposing, are there ways to integrate that theme into your Community Standards Agreement? If so, you are HIGHLY encouraged to incorporate those thematic elements.
FORM E: FILL YOUR INTEREST COMMUNITY HOUSING GROUP

Now that you’ve identified that you’re interested in living in an Affinity Community, you need to fill it up with members of your group, organization, or cadre of friends. Use the form below to organize your sign ups. Please note that all students who sign the form will be obligated to fill a space in your community if your Community is selected. They will not participate in the standard lottery process; this will serve as their housing application for the 2012-2013 year.

If you have people who plan to go abroad next semester, they will need to identify that in the form below. Going abroad in the fall or spring semesters will impact a student’s ability to live in the Community, and, as a result, you will want to fill any gaps created by people going abroad. For example, if someone is going abroad in the spring, you may want to have someone sign up who is going abroad in the fall semester. This will balance out your roster, which will help your application.

Please talk to prospective Community Members about your program, if you have not done so already, and have them read the following statement. If they agree to the terms they can fill out a line below and sign. The signature is required in order for the form to be valid.

I hereby apply to live in the Affinity Community for the 2012-2013 academic year. If for any reason I decide not to participate in the Community during this academic period, I understand that I will be reassigned to another room, which may not be a comparable accommodation. Moreover, I understand that if I have the opportunity to live in this Community, I will forfeit my number for housing selection. Finally, if I choose to withdraw my application from the affinity community by April, 3, 2012 I understand that I will be expected to participate in regular housing selection on April 15, 2012. I agree to live by the Community Standards Agreement drafted by the sponsoring group/organization and know that by signing below I will be expected to (and may be required to) fill a space in the Community.

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