

A stylized background graphic of a hand holding a sign. The hand is formed by thick, overlapping lines in shades of red, teal, and grey. The sign is a large, rounded rectangle with a white background, containing the text 'KNOW YOUR RIGHTS' in bold, dark blue, sans-serif capital letters.

**KNOW
YOUR
RIGHTS**

THROUGHOUT THE YEARS,

Northwestern students have used activism to disrupt the university and **demand change** from the administrators appointed to serve them. ASG hopes to **support** students who **fight for change** on our campus, in Chicago, and the world at large. The following outlines successful forms of activism historically, your rights, and what to be aware of when undertaking any form of activism.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROTEST AND PETITION.

Yet, many other scenarios related to those rights fall under the discretion of police and administrators to determine whether you are disrupting the peace on a case-by-case basis. Learn how to act out as a Northwestern student while minimizing punishment and maximizing effectiveness.

IN THIS GUIDE:

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What's the deal with NUPD or Evanston Police?

Should I identify myself?

- When in a public space, you need only give your name. You do not need to produce ID unless you have committed a traffic violation or are suspected of committing a crime.
- When in a private space like a Northwestern building, you do not

ASK: ARE YOU
DETAINING ME OR
AM I FREE TO GO?

need to identify yourself, including by name, to police. Keep in mind- failure to identify yourself on private property could lead to you being asked to leave the property or be cited/arrested.

How about when police monitor my activities?

- Police will monitor most public protests. They often ask questions and offer input about safety or other concerns. It is your right to stand your ground and refuse their advice, as long as you are not hurting others.

SAY "I DON'T WISH TO
SPEAK WITH YOU" AND
PUT SOME DISTANCE.

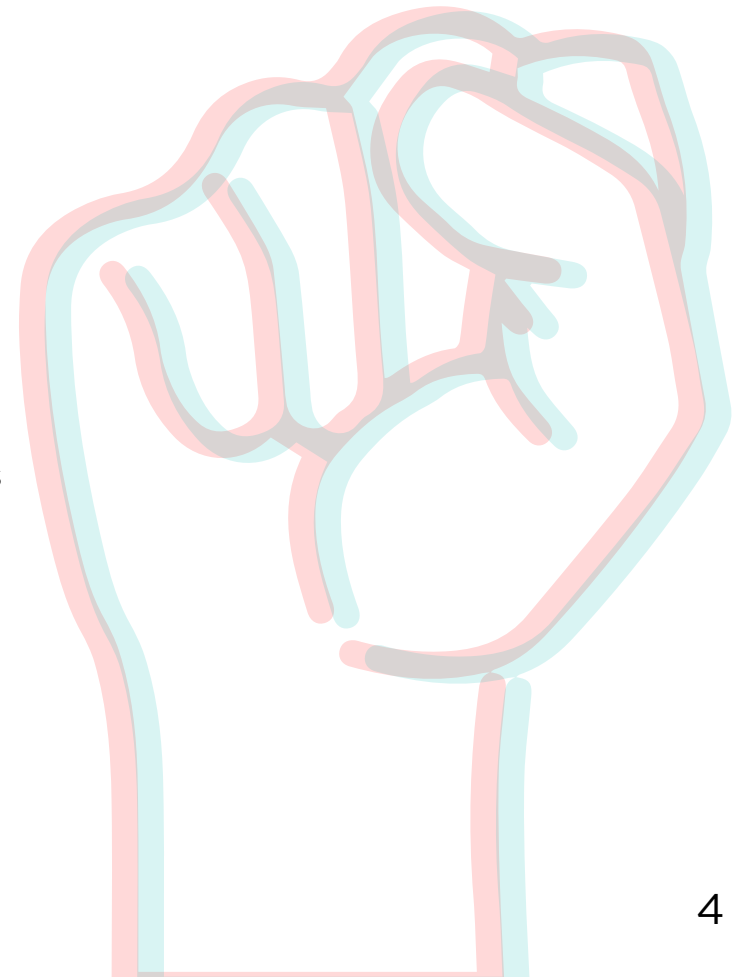
- You have the right to video or audiotape an on duty police officer in a public area.



How can I report on infringement of my rights?

“THE OFFICE OF STUDENT CONDUCT PROVIDES LEADERSHIP IN RESOLVING STUDENT CONDUCT AND CONFLICT ISSUES AT NORTHWESTERN; SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY, LEARNING AND INTEGRITY ON CAMPUS AND BEYOND; AND MANAGES THE UNIVERSITY'S FORMAL DISCIPLINARY PROCESS, THE UNIVERSITY HEARING AND APPEALS SYSTEM (UHAS).”

- If NU reports you for disciplinary conduct, you get a meeting with your residence director or with the director of the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#). You can explain and present your case for why you were within your rights.
- If you didn't get officially reported, file a report by talking to your residence director
- If you get a ticket from Evanston police, you may [file a complaint here](#).
- If you experience or witness a bias or hate-related incident, file a report through [Respect NU here](#). This applies to all members of the university, such as faculty, students and NUPD.
- If an NU faculty member, including NUPD, presents a problem, you may file a complaint through [EthicsPoint here](#). Or call **866-294-3545** to file an anonymous complaint.



What are common violations?

At Northwestern:

“THIS UNIVERSITY, THEREFORE, WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY ATTEMPT BY ANY INDIVIDUAL, GROUP, OR ORGANIZATION TO DISRUPT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY.”

Therefore, the university may act if they feel you are either blocking people’s way to class, work, or any authorized and scheduled event or endangering yourself or others.

In Evanston:

Noise Ordinance Violation:

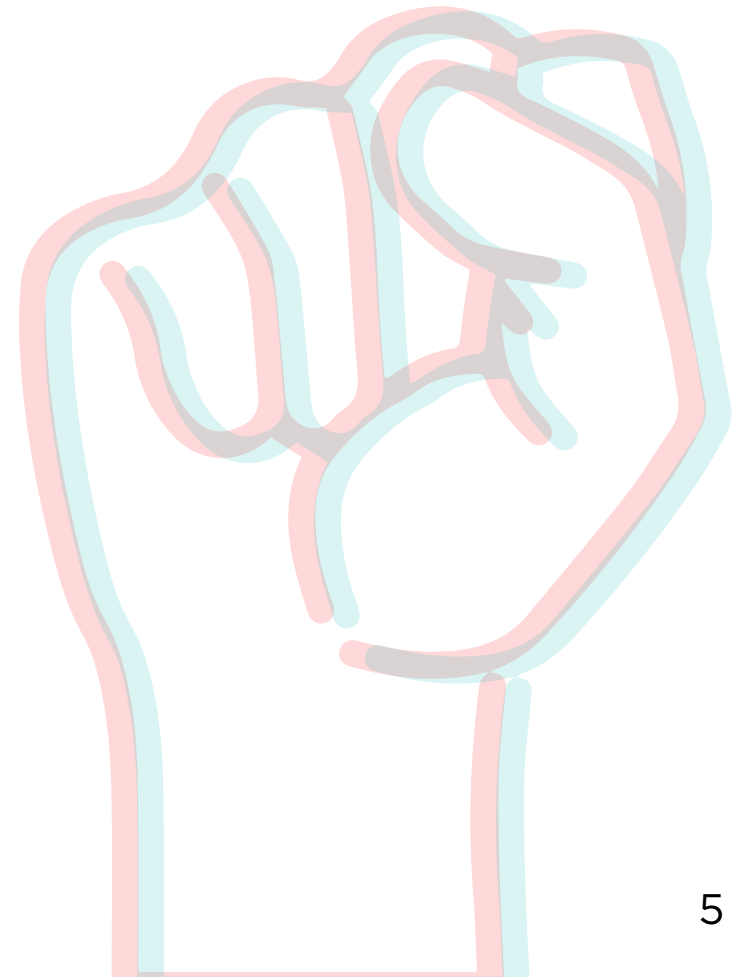
You can be cited for disturbing the peace of others. This includes:

- Being too loud at night, such as yelling between 11 pm-7 am
- Using amplified devices (i.e., loudspeaker) without a permit.

Disorderly Conduct:

You can be cited for breaching the peace of another. This includes:

- Impeding pedestrian mobility.
- Stopping an ambulance
- Hurting yourself or others (i.e., suddenly run out into the street)
- Egregious and imminent danger of someone getting hurt would get you in trouble.



How can faculty and/or administration help me?

Campus Resources:

[Multicultural Student Affairs \(MSA\)](#)

📍 **1936 Sheridan Rd**

<http://www.northwestern.edu/msa>

Multicultural Student Affairs (MSA) enriches the cultural experience of Northwestern through leadership and education programming; providing opportunities for community engagement and identity expression; and assisting students in navigating the University.

[Leadership and Community Engagement](#)

📍 **Norris University Center, 3rd floor**

<http://www.northwestern.edu/lead-engage/>

“Our department reflects the Division’s investment in the development of students who are leaders committed to justice and social responsibility. Through our work, we will develop sustained partnerships in the community and on campus that will advance student learning, transformation, and commitment for a just and equitable world.”

[Social Justice Education \(SJE\)](#)

📍 **601 University Place, Ground Floor**

<http://www.northwestern.edu/socialjustice/>

Social Justice Education (SJE) creates co-curricular educational opportunities in partnership with our student community that foster self-exploration, facilitate conversations across difference and support actions that create social change on campus.



How can faculty and/or administration help me?

Community Resources:

[Chicago Activism](http://www.chicagoactivism.org/about)

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ChicagoActivism.org is a project started by MultiKulti and Unity for a Change aiming to provide the Chicago community with a directory of organizations, progressive news feed and a calendar of events. We also support organizations and groups by allowing for exposure and access to resources.

[Midwest Academy](http://www.midwestacademy.com/)

<http://www.midwestacademy.com/>

The Midwest Academy is a national training institute committed to advancing the struggle for social, economic, and racial justice. From local neighborhood groups to statewide and national organizations, Midwest Academy has trained over twenty-five thousand grassroots activists from hundreds of organizations and coalitions.

CHICAGO ACTIVISM



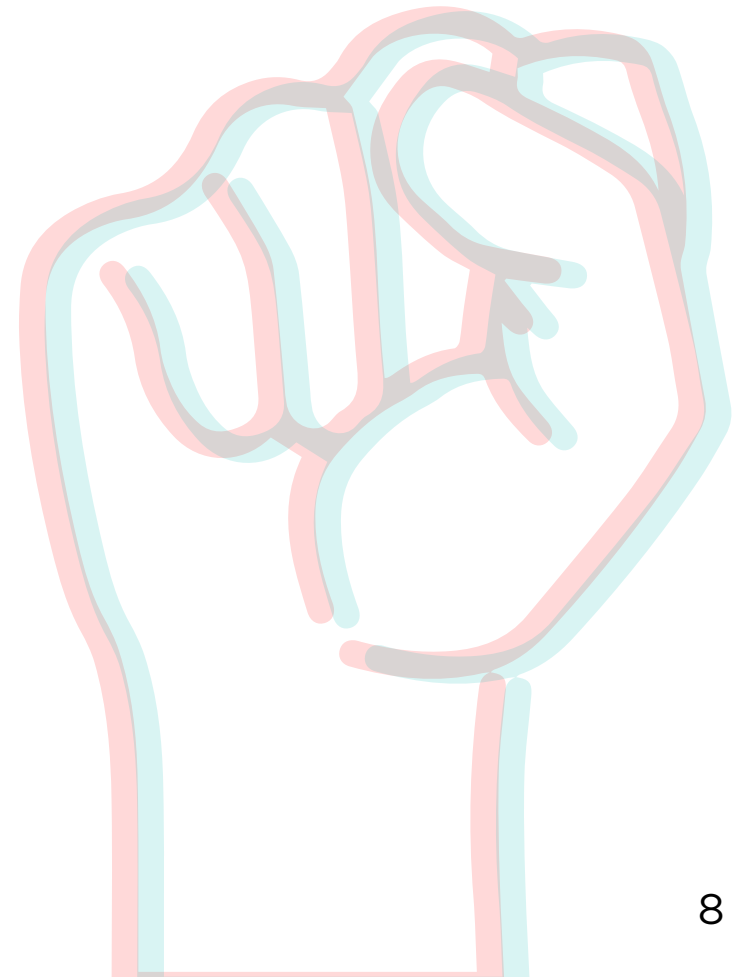
Previous Actions at Northwestern Hot Spots

Sit In:

Since university buildings are **private property**, sit-ins can be more challenging because it is the university's discretion to make you leave or not. The university will not usually remove you unless you are blocking entrances/exits into the building or its rooms. You also risk more of an administrative response if your noise level disrupts class or office work.

March/Rally:

Sidewalks are **public property** subject to Evanston city law. Blocking the way of pedestrians can persuade Evanston or Northwestern police to interrupt any actions (i.e. fire hazards).



Campus Map

The Rock:

- No reservation necessary unless you have food at your event. You can reserve the area by contacting Norris Events Management Office at [847-491-2330](tel:847-491-2330).

Past Events:

Students did not reserve the area when they organized the US-Mexico, Palestine-Israel mock checkpoint demonstration. They successfully acted out scenes between migrants and US Border Patrol, and Palestinians and Israeli Defense Forces (2015).

150 students rallied and marched from the Rock on April 12, 1995 to advocate the creation of an Asian American Studies Program.

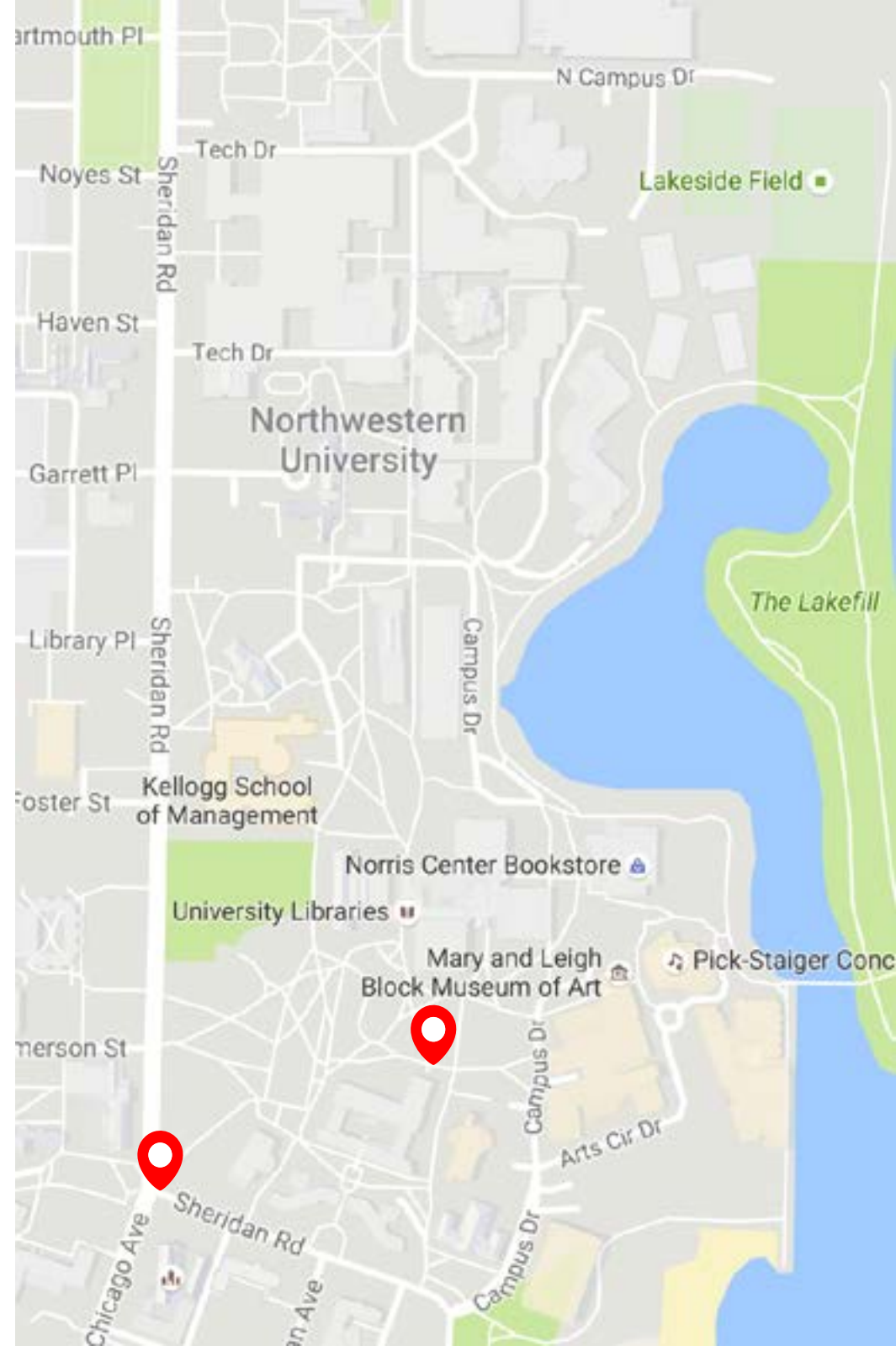
The Arch:

Corner of Sheridan Rd. & Chicago Ave.

- All sidewalks are public property, so fall under Evanston city law.

Past Events:

Students staged a die-in on November 26, 2014 to protest the grand jury decision concerning Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri. They lay on the sidewalks at the corner of Chicago Ave and Sheridan Rd for 4.5 hours.



Campus Map

Norris Center Ground Floor: 1999 Campus Dr.

- If you need mics, reserve under Norris Events Management Office at **847-491-2330** or email **norris-events@northwestern.edu**.

Past Events:

A Black Lives Matter Breathe In and Speak Out gathered students and Chicago organizations for poetry, music and other commentary on blackness in America (2015).

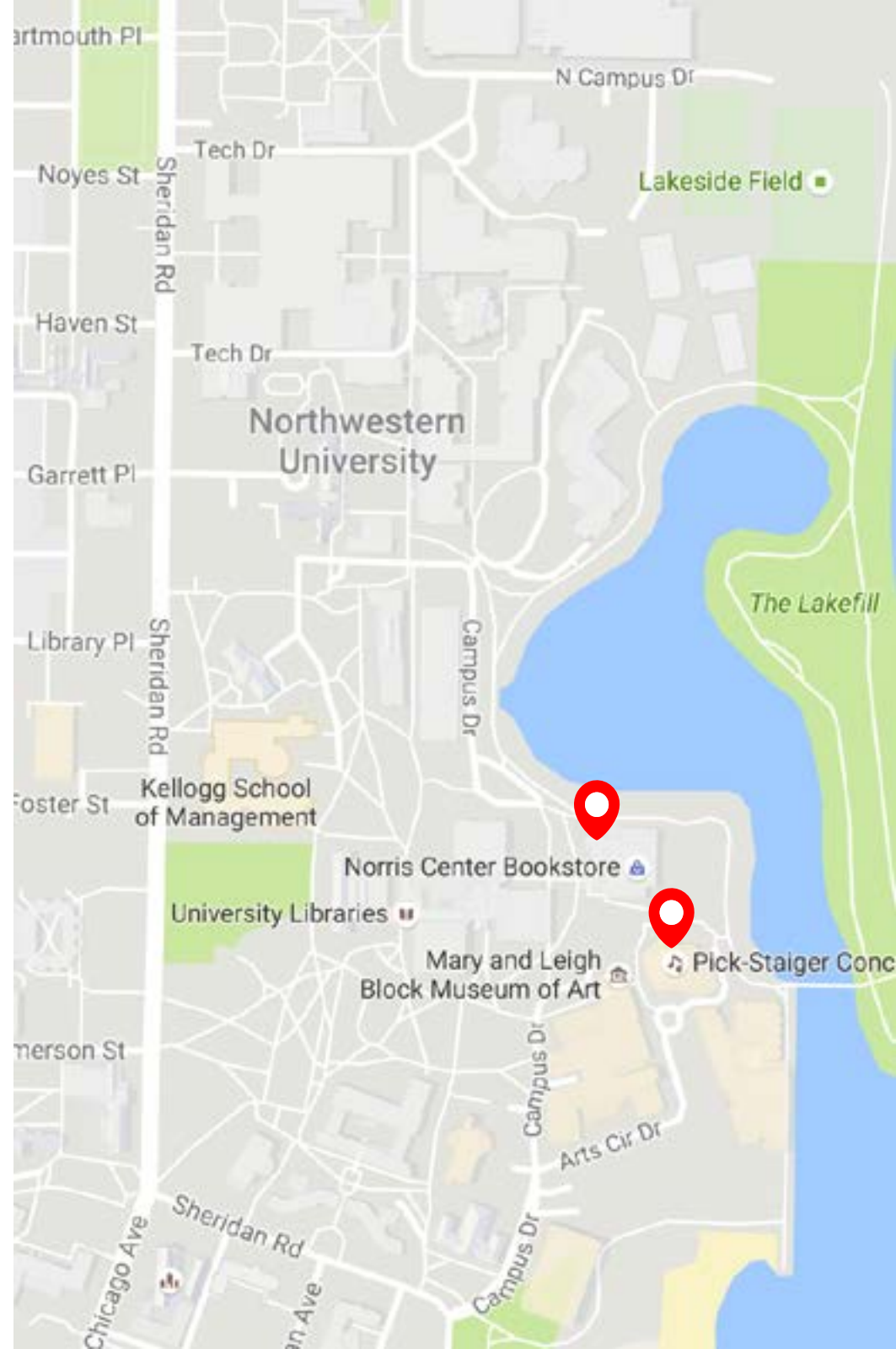


Pick Staiger: 50 Arts Circle Dr.

- Managed by Pick-Staiger administration.

Past Events:

Students stood and chanted outside in a Title IX protest for greater transparency in sexual assault cases. They held signs, chanted slogans and handed out informational fliers about what they want to change (2014).



Campus Map

 **Kellogg:**
2001 Sheridan Rd.

• Reserve through [Outdoor Events request form](#)

Past Events:

Students march from Kellogg to the Rebecca Crown Center while carrying their mattresses and pillows in support of Emma Sulkowicz's Carry That Weight campaign, which criticized her school's handling of sexual assault (2015).

 **Weinberg Dean's Office:**
1918 Sheridan Rd.

Past Events:

Title IX marched from Rock, through Arch, up Sheridan to do a sit-in outside Dean's office in protest of Professor Ludlow's continued employment at the University (2014).



Campus Map

Rebecca Crown Center: 633 Clark St.

• An anti-apartheid demonstration here involved protesters staging a 5 hour sit-in in the offices. 95 students were voluntarily held (1985).

Past Events:

Managed by facilities. This location is in close contact to administration, so you may risk a quick university/police response.



Tech: 2145 Sheridan Rd.

• Reserve through [Outdoor Events request form](#)

Past Events:

More than 100 people held candles outside Tech and commemorated the deaths of 43 student activists in Ayotzinapa, Mexico. They walked from Tech to the Rock (2014).



