**Highland Heights, NKU rank among safest college towns in U.S.**

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky. – Northern Kentucky University and Highland Heights are the 12th safest college town in America, according to new annual rankings from Safewise.

This is the third year Safewise has ranked NKU among the safest college towns in the nation for the low rate of crime on campus.

The Utah-based security & crime prevention firm compiles its rankings by using the most recent FBI technology to analyze crime statistics, as well as its own analysis of crime prevention initiatives and activities.

“Each person on our campus is committed to providing a safe learning environment, and we are proud that those efforts have again been recognized,” said Dr. Daniel Nadler, NKU vice president of student affairs and dean of students.

Safewise praised the proactive steps NKU takes to help keep campus safe, such as the Norse Alert emergency notification system, the safety features provided via the University’s mobile app, and offering programs such as A.L.i.C.E. training.

“The university has done an impressive job of limiting crime on campus,” the firm wrote in its analysis. “One way NKU helps protect students is through the free NKU phone app. The app includes emergency contact information, an alert system, and personal safety tips. In addition, the university regularly conducts fire drills and active shooter education.”

Safewise also praised the Highland Heights Police Department for its work to educate and inform the campus community.

“The safety of each student, faculty, staff, and visitor is our top priority and very much a shared responsibility across campus as well as across the community,” said Lt. John Gaffin, interim University Police chief. “We are proud to work with Highland Heights and many other community partners.”

For more information, visit www.safewise.com/blog/safest-college-towns-america-2016/.

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