Got style?

Attention all wannabe rock stars, pro athletes, movie stars and 'playas:' NUTV lets students show off their celebrity-style pads in 'NUTV Cribs'

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Published: Wednesday, February 22, 2006

Updated: Sunday, September 7, 2008

Graphic Courtesy/Monica Yi

Their kitchen isn’t filled with $100-a-bottle Cristal and they don’t have a bowling alley in their basement, but Matt Evola and Keith Portugal believe their freshman crib is the hottest around.

"We've got mad TV's, the most couch space and our fridge is always stocked," said Evola, a political science and history double major.

The two residents of 420 Kennedy Hall may not make it onto "MTV Cribs" with their digs, but they’re exactly what NUTV’s version of the series is looking for.

"NUTV Cribs," started by Jonathan Cohn, the group’s president, and spearheaded by Filipe Vieira, a sophomore civil and environmental engineering major, is searching for the six most "pimped-out" living spaces on and off campus.

"We're looking for anything that really stands out and attracts attention," said Vieira, who mentioned items like posters and flatscreen TVs as aspects of a crib that will make it stand out to judges.

The show is a collaboration between NUTV and the Resident Student Association, Vieira said.

Caitlin Campana, vice president of programming for RSA was excited about it, and it’s been approved by Smith Anderson, president of RSA (RSA), Vieira said.

Although the dorm rooms in Speare Hall and the two-bedroom off-campus apartments in Douglass Park are being judged in the same category, a more expensive crib does not necessarily give students an edge, Vieira said.

"We will try to make it look amazing no matter what," he said.

Nicole Stewart, a middler biomedical physics major, agreed that those living in small dorm rooms should be included.
"I think they should be included because of their circumstances ... There needs to be variation [in the apartments chosen]," she said.

Vieira was uncertain if the entire RSA council would be in charge of choosing the six cribs or only a select few.

"All I know is RSA gets to choose the final six," he said.

NUTV plans to create six three-minute clips showcasing each crib by April 1. Each clip will appear on the NUTV portal in the community section of myNEU.

Portugal and Evola, who boasted about the three-room suite's multiple microwaves and refrigerators, sporting one per room, said they hope to make it into the top six.

"You've gotta make do with what you have," Evola said.

Furnished with a luxurious red futon, mood lighting and an entertainment center stocked with stacks of DVDs, multiple video game systems and a large television, the two are not finished spicing up their living quarters.

"We are planning on getting a flatscreen TV for the bathroom," Evola said.

Alongside the videos will be a poll with which each student can cast one vote for the most "pimped-out" pad. Voting will close April 19 and the residents of the winning apartment will receive a prize.

The prize may be a $100 gift certificate to their favorite restaurant, an Xbox 360, or maybe something to make their room even better, Vieira said.

However, Sarah Hewes, a middler industrial engineering major, had a different perspective on how the prizes should be awarded.

"I think they should find the top six crappiest apartments and give [the owners of those apartments] the stuff to make their rooms nicer," she said.

Those who think their crib is the hottest on or off campus can apply (no indoor swimming pool needed) through www.rsa.neu.edu.

Submissions will be accepted until March 15.