

NPHC

Magazine

Your Guide to the Iowa State University
National Pan-Hellenic Council

How to Join
Chapter
Profiles
& More!



CONTENTS

P.04 **ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY**
Learn about our history and the values that guide us

P.08 **ABOUT OUR COUNCIL**
Learn more about the National Pan-Hellenic Council

P.10 **CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT**
Learn more about each NPHC chapter at Iowa State

P.28 **HOW TO JOIN**
Learn about the different ways you can join an NPHC chapter

P.30 **TRADITIONS & ACTIVITIES**
Learn more about our annual traditions and activities

P.31 **OUR HISTORY**
Learn about the history of the National Pan-Hellenic Council

P.32 **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**
Have questions? We have answers!

P.34 **TERMS TO KNOW**
Don't speak "Greek"? Learn the terms you need to know here





Iowa State University National Pan-Hellenic Council



@iowastatenphc



ISU Sorority and Fraternity Engagement

Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement

0355 Memorial Union | 2229 Lincoln Way | Ames, Iowa 50014

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GREETINGS!

Welcome to Iowa State University

And greetings from the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement! There are few sorority and fraternity communities across the country that are as unique, dynamic, and robust as the community at Iowa State University. Sorority and fraternity members at Iowa State consistently receive recognition at every level you could imagine: personal, chapter, regional, national, and international! For years, our community has been known as one of the best of the best. There is an incredible opportunity ahead of you if you would like.

As you think about what organization you should join, take some time to reflect on your own life. You should choose a sorority or fraternity that has similar values, ideals, principles, interests, and goals to your own. These are people you feel comfortable around. You are making a commitment for a lifetime and this is a serious decision. You need to choose a group of people you would be proud to call your sisters or brothers.

There are many great characteristics of our sororities and fraternities at Iowa State. Take the opportunity to visit with multiple chapters, look at organizations from multiple points of view, and do not feel rushed to make a decision. This commitment is just as much your decision as it is the organization's decision. Consistently, the all-community grade point average exceeds the all-undergraduate average. Our first-year retention rates and graduation rates are higher than the university averages. Sororities and fraternities at Iowa State are here to support your academic endeavors. Fraternities and sororities collectively complete more than 35,000 hours of community service and raised an average of \$53.21 per person annually for charitable causes.. There are countless leadership opportunities available to members of our community.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council is a vital part of our community and our history. The oldest NPHC chapter in our community is nearly 100 years old. Black Greek-letter organizations play a significant role in the lives of young African Americans in higher education. The nine organizations that compose this council were founded between 1906 and 1963 and support to the needs of African American men and women. All nine organizations make up the National Pan-Hellenic Council which was founded on May 10, 1930.

Black Greek-letter organizations were created to unite African American students with common core ideas and principles. In many instances in the early 1900s before these organizations existed African Americans were not allowed to pursue higher education. Those students on college campuses came together to develop bonds of sisterhood and brotherhood that have stood the test of time. While membership is open to people of all backgrounds, this mission still remains true for all National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations.

A unique characteristic to NPHC organizations is the commitment of alumni through graduate chapters. While joining all sororities and fraternities is a lifelong commitment, members of NPHC organizations often take that commitment more seriously. These alumni chapters located all over the world provide an opportunity for members to continue to engage well beyond their collegiate years.

Joining a fraternal organization is a huge commitment. Have fun with this process as you consider making an incredibly important lifelong commitment. Sororities and fraternities at Iowa State have a plethora of success stories but central to all of our organizations is the commitment to friendship.

Billy Boulden

BILLY BOULDEN

**ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS,
DIRECTOR OF SORORITY AND
FRATERNITY ENGAGEMENT**



ABOUT

THE SORORITY & FRATERNITY COMMUNITY

Fraternities and sororities have been an integral part of Iowa State University (ISU) since 1875 and have enhanced the lives of thousands of men and women. The ISU Sorority and Fraternity Community offers outstanding opportunities to get involved in leadership, philanthropy, and service while striving academically. Joining the ISU Sorority and Fraternity Community will provide students with the opportunity to meet many friends and become involved on campus and in the community.

The Sorority and Fraternity Community focuses on five key values including: academics, civic engagement, friendship, leadership, and social justice.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
sfe.dso.iastate.edu



OUR COMMUNITY'S

VALUES

Academics. The Sorority and Fraternity Community prides itself on holding high academic standards for its members. It consistently holds a higher GPA (3.20, Fall 2022) than the all-university undergraduate average (3.11, Fall 2022). Student retention is also stronger among the sorority and fraternity community than with unaffiliated students.

The Greek Academic Achievement Plan (GAAP) was developed between the Academic Success Center and the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement to support chapters looking to enhance their academic achievement. Chapters collaborate with the Academic Success Center to provide effective scholarship programs, study skills, and individual academic planning.

Civic Engagement. Each semester, chapters participate and conduct fundraisers for charitable organizations of their choice. The sorority and fraternity community raised on average \$53.21 per member annually for local and national organizations. Some organizations include the Special Olympics Iowa, Children's Miracle Network, local shelters, emergency residence projects, and many more. The community hosts and provides opportunities for community service events including the annual Fraternity and Sorority Trick-or-Treat event, community clean up, visiting local schools and many other opportunities. The community donates over 35,000 hours annually to community service initiatives.

Friendship. Joining a sorority or fraternity provides members an opportunity to foster lifelong friendships and countless memories through a “home away from home” environment. Chapters participate in many social events within the chapter, exchanges with other sororities and fraternities, and connections with other on-campus student groups. Through events such as Homecoming and Greek Week, chapters interact with peers to create siblinghood among members. The friendships built through a sorority and fraternity experience extend beyond college and serve as a foundation and network for your future. Mentoring opportunities after graduation with chapter alumni, advisers, graduate chapters, inter/national staff, and representatives provide members networking opportunities for many years.

Leadership. There are many ways students can get involved as a sorority and fraternity leader. The first is through chapter leadership, where students can serve in a leadership role internally to support the vision and mission of their organization. Leadership roles provide members with experience budgeting, event planning, conflict resolution, team management, and enhance critical thinking skills. Sorority and fraternity students also play a significant role in campus organizations and community activities through the city of Ames.

Social Justice. Iowa State University sorority and fraternity chapters offer diverse experiences for members. Chapters engage in critical conversations about inclusion, diversity and challenging inequalities by exposing members to opportunities they may not otherwise experience. By partnering with campus departments including The Center for LGBTQIAA+, Student Success, Margaret Sloss Center for Women and Gender Equality, Student Accessibility Services, and more, chapters learn about differences and similarities between and among the community. The Sorority and Fraternity Community promotes social justice through educational programming and creating opportunities to bring awareness and change. Additionally, the community welcomes all students to join our variety of chapters which provide a vast array of opportunities to help each individual student succeed at Iowa State University.



As you begin your journey at Iowa State University, the organizations in the National Pan-Hellenic Council will help you find a sense of community through organizations that promote scholarship, service, social action, brotherhood, and sisterhood. While our organizations are historically Black Greek Letter Organizations, any Iowa State student may pursue membership. The NPHC member organizations continue to amplify our voices as we speak out against the injustices happening locally, domestically, and internationally. We invite you to visit the newly established National Pan-Hellenic Council Plaza, located outside of the Memorial Union, to learn more about the councils and organizations. This permanent structure is long overdue for our campus and community. We now have a space, presence, and representation of our hard work, dedication, and efforts on this campus. This plaza will increase education around our nine organizations and how we have made and will continue to make an impact on this campus and the world. We are not just Iowa State history but American history. Our legacies will last forever on the Iowa State campus through this physical representation. Use this guidebook to learn more about our council, and feel free to reach out to any of our member organizations to learn more about their impact on our community through programming, community service, and social activism. Membership in the NPHC organizations goes beyond your college years, now is a great time to join an NPHC organization.



Kendra Boone

National Pan-Hellenic Council President



NPHC

NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL

Iowa State University is home to eight of the nine National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) international organizations, which are often called the “Divine Nine.”

This is a collaborative council of historically Black Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities. Each organization was established on the tenets of brotherhood/sisterhood/siblinghood, scholarship, leadership, and service to others. The Iowa State University National Pan-Hellenic Council is home to four fraternities and four sororities. The National Pan-Hellenic Council elects peers to serve in leadership roles to further the vision and mission of all National Pan-Hellenic organizations. These leaders promote scholarship, leadership and service to others through collaborative events, cultural awareness, and promote organizations at chapter and university events.

Our Chapters

- **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. ***
- **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.**
- **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.**
- **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.***
- **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**
- **Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.**
- **Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.**
- **Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.**
- **Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.****

*chartered on campus but does not currently have active members on campus.
**not chartered on campus, but interested students should contact the SFE office.

ALPHA PHI ALPHA

FRATERNITY, INC.



The Omicron Pi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has developed leaders and helped advance the community since its founding in 1982. Through our programming and service, we carry and uphold our chapter motto, "Through our Brotherhood, we pursue the unification of the entire Black community."

**The Omicron Pi Chapter of
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.**



Website:
Facebook:
Instagram:

apa1906.net
Omicron Pi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
@theomicronpi_alphas



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Omicron Pi Chapter

National Founding Date:

December 4, 1906

Local Charter Date:

May 2, 1982

Motto:

First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All.

Colors and Flower:

Old Gold and Black; Yellow Rose

National Programs: Project Alpha; Go to High School, Go to College; A Voteless People Is A Hopeless People; My Brother's Keeper

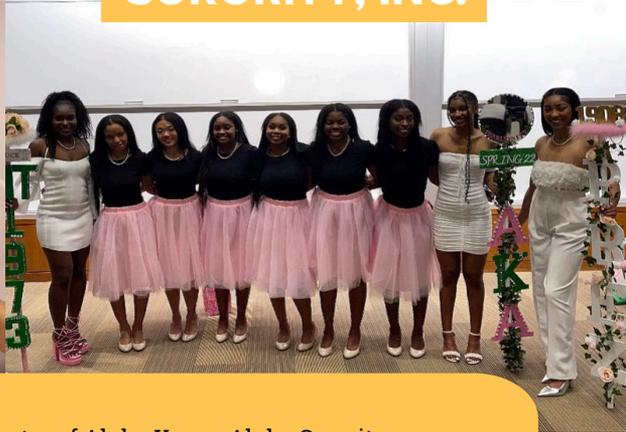
Fun Fact: The chapter has had multiple brothers serve as student body president.

Find Membership Requirements Here:

apa1906.net/membership

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA

SORORITY, INC.



The Exquisite Eta Tau Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. was chartered on June 14, 1973 to promote service, maintain high ethical standards, and bring college-educated women together to partake in an illustrious sisterhood. Over the years, our chapter has continued to blossom and highlight these core values. Our goal is to provide a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for our sisters and other members of our community.

**The Eta Tau Chapter of
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.**



Website:
Instagram:

www.aka1908.com
[@etatauakas](https://www.instagram.com/etatauakas)

AKA



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Eta Tau Chapter

National Founding Date:

January 15, 1908

Local Charter Date:

June 14, 1973

Motto:

By Culture and By Merit.

Colors and Flower:

Salmon Pink and Apple Green; Pink Tea Rose

National Programs: The Program theme for 2022-2026 is Soaring to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood. The six initiatives are: Strengthen Our Sisterhood, Empower Our Families, Build Our Economic Wealth, Enhance Our Environment, Advocate for Social Justice, and Uplift Our Local Community.

Fun Fact: Some of our charter members are still residing in Des Moines, IA and are actively contributing to our organization!

Find Membership Requirements Here:

aka1908.com/membership

KAPPA ALPHA PSI

FRATERNITY, INC.



The Outrageous Omega Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. was founded on November 28th, 1925 at Drake university. This joint chapter of both Drake and Iowa State, has given the “Nupes” a unique chance to spread their message of Achievement in Every Field of Human Endeavor on both campuses as one. Seeking to unite college men of culture, patriotism, and honor in a bond of fraternity through all the years. Our love for the communities around us being highlighted by our food drives, volunteering for back to school events, and serving as mentors to young men in the schools surrounding our campuses.

Joseph Putman

**Joseph Putman,
Chapter President**



National Website:
Chapter Twitter:
Chapter Instagram:

kap.site-ym.com
@OmegaNupes1925
@omeganupes



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Omega Chapter

National Founding Date:

January 5, 1911

Local Charter Date:

November 28, 1925

Motto:

Achievement in Every Field of Human Endeavor.

Colors and Flower:

Crimson and Cream; Red Carnation

National Programs: Room to Read, Achievement Academy, Guide Right, Kappaa League, Military and Veteran Affairs, Senior Kappa Affairs

Fun Fact: Talen Horton-Tucker of the Los Angeles Lakers is an alumni member from the Omega Chapter.

Find Membership Requirements Here:

kappaalphapsi1911.com/page/MembershipInformation

OMEGA PSI PHI

FRATERNITY, INC.



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity is a professional organization of educated men with similar ideas and like attainments. The fraternity's founders chose Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance and Uplift as the cardinal principles that every prospective candidate must possess. Our fraternity's motto is "Friendship Is Essential To The Soul" Since the birth of the organization, Omega has and will continue to impact the world in every profession and all walks of life

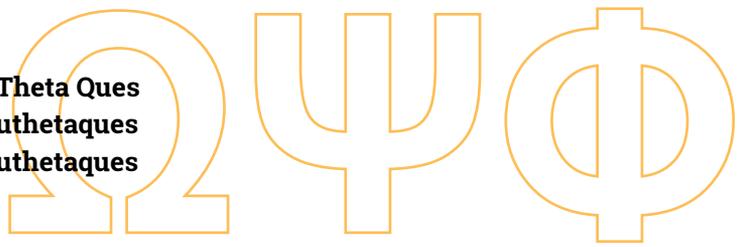
Candidates must exhibit the qualities of the Fraternity's Four Cardinal Principles: Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

**The Mu Theta Chapter of
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.**



Facebook:
Instagram:
Twitter:

Mu Theta Ques
@muthetaques
@muthetaques



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Omega Chapter

National Founding Date:

November 17th, 1911

Local Charter Date:

February 1st, 1970

Motto:

Friendship Is Essential to the Soul.

Colors and Flower:

Royal Purple and Old Gold; African Violet

National Programs: Achievement Week, Scholarship, Social Action, Talent Hunt Program, Memorial Service, Reclamation and Retention, College Endowment Fund, Health Initiatives, Voter Registration, Education & Mobilization and Involvement with NAACP

Fun Fact: The Mu Theta Chapter was the first historically black fraternity chartered at Iowa State University.

Find Membership Requirements Here:

<http://msp.oppf.org>

DELTA SIGMA THETA

SORORITY, INC.



The Phi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. has been committed to serving the Black community at Iowa State and Drake Universities since 1923. Our primary focus as an organization has always been social action. Just three months after the founding of our National Organization our 22 Collegiate Founders participated in the women's suffrage march held in Washington D.C. on March 3, 1913 during a time when Black people were not allowed to vote, our Founders understood the purpose of the march was large than themselves. As an organization dedicated to sisterhood, scholarship, service, and social action Phi Chapter is looking for women who also exude these tenants. Our programming and service projects, held throughout the year, focus on our five-point programmatic thrusts of economic development, educational development, international awareness and involvement, physical awareness & involvement and political awareness & involvement. As a result of our hard work we have won numerous awards locally, regionally and nationally. We may be small in numbers, but our impact is continually felt as we use our voices to speak up against injustices, our leadership on campus and the service we provide to others. If you are interested in learning more about Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. be sure to visit our National Website (deltasigmatheta.org), follow us on our social media or check out the book *In Search of Sisterhood* by Paula Giddings.

**The Phi Chapter of
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**



Website: deltasigmatheta.org
Instagram: @dstphichap
Facebook: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Phi Chapter
Twitter: @DSTPhiChap
Email: phichapter@iastate.edu



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Phi Chapter

National Founding Date:

January 13, 1913

Local Charter Date:

December 29, 1923

Motto:

Intelligence is the Torch of Wisdom.

Colors and Flower:

Crimson and Cream; African Violet

National Programs: My Cry in the Dark, Delta Gems, Adopt a Black Business, Mary Help of the Sick Mission Hospital, Social Action

Fun Fact: There are two single letter chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in Iowa, and Phi Chapter is one of them!

Find Membership Requirements Here:

<https://www.deltasigmatheta.org/become-a-member/>

PHI BETA SIGMA

FRATERNITY, INC.



Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C., January 9, 1914, by three young African-American male students. The Founders, Honorable A. Langston Taylor, Honorable Leonard F. Morse, and Honorable Charles I. Brown wanted to organize a Greek letter fraternity that would truly exemplify the ideals of brotherhood, scholarship, and service. From its inception, the Founders also conceived Phi Beta Sigma as a mechanism to deliver services to the general community. Rather than gaining skills to be utilized exclusively for themselves and their immediate families, they held a deep conviction that they should return their newly acquired skills to the communities from which they had come. This deep conviction was mirrored in the Fraternity's motto, "Culture For Service and Service For Humanity". Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, prides itself in being a selective organization that further exemplifies educated men in the service of their community, society, and world. The Men of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated, takes the definition of being, 'My Brother's Keeper', to its highest level and are the common characteristics of a Phi Beta Sigma Man.

**The Kappa Gamma Chapter of
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.**



Website: phibetasigma1914.org
Instagram: @pbs_1914
Facebook: Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Kappa Gamma Chapter

National Founding Date:

January 9, 1914

Local Charter Date:

September 5, 1978

Motto:

Culture for Service and Service for Humanity.

Colors and Flower:

Royal Blue and Pure White; White Carnation

National Programs:

Bigger and Better Business, Education, Social Action and Sigma Beta Clubs

Fun Fact: Kappa Gamma was first chartered at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.

Find Membership Requirements Here:

<https://phibetasigma1914.org/about/sigma-membership/>

ZETA PHI BETA

SORORITY, INC.



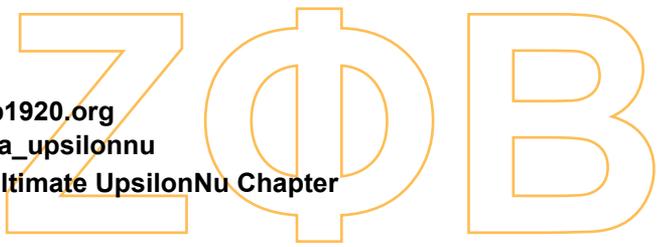
The Upsilon Nu chapter was chartered on March 19, 1988 with the purpose of bringing scholarships, service, sisterhood, and finer womanhood to the campus of Iowa State University. I joined this organization in Spring of 2023 because of the finer woman who came before me. Women of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. are unique, trailblazers, and they don't conform to any stereotypes. This organization enhances the person I am without trying to change me.

Kierra Jack

Kierra Jack
Chapter President



Website: zphib1920.org
Instagram: @zeta_upsilonnu
Facebook: TheUltimate UpsilonNu Chapter



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Upsilon Nu Chapter

National Founding Date:

January 16th, 1920

Local Charter Date:

March 19th, 1988

Motto:

A Community-Conscious, Action-Oriented Organization.

Colors and Flower:

Royal Blue and White; White Rose

National Programs: Z-HOPE (Zetas Helping Other People Excel), Get Engaged, National Education Foundation

Fun Fact: The Upsilon Nu Chapter was the first NPHC organization to be in the President's Circle (2022).

Find Membership Requirements Here:

<https://zphib1920.org/how-to-become-a-member/>

SIGMA GAMMA RHO

SORORITY, INC.



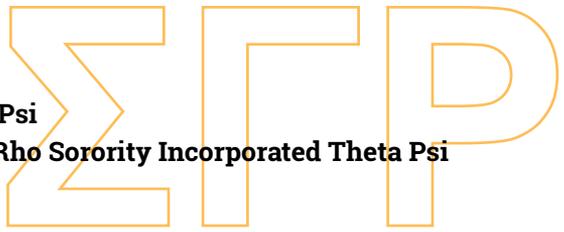
Sigma Gamma Rho was organized November 12th, 1922 in Indianapolis, Indiana by seven young educators. Theta Psi was chartered May 7th, 1982 by three illustrious women on the campus of Iowa State University. It is the mission of Sigma Gamma Rho to enhance the quality of life for women and their families in the U.S. and globally through community service, civil, and social action. Our goal is to achieve greater progress in the areas of education, health awareness, and leadership development. Our members, affiliates, staff, and community partners work to create and support initiatives that align with our vision.

**The Theta Psi Chapter of
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc.**



Website:
Instagram:
Facebook:

sgrho1922.org
@SGRho_ThetaPsi
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated Theta Psi



QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name:

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Theta Psi Chapter

National Founding Date:

November 12, 1922

Local Charter Date:

May 7, 1982

Motto:

Greater Service, Greater Progress.

Colors and Flower:

Royal Blue and Antique Gold; Yellow Tea Rose

National Programs: The Women's Wellnes Initiative, Project Cradle Care, Operation Bigbookbag

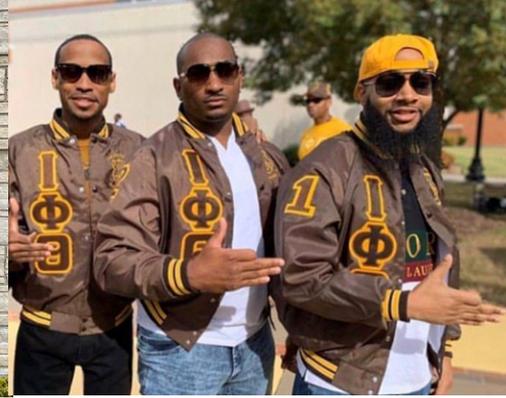
Fun Fact: Our chapter was chartered May 7, 1982 by three illustrious women. Reactivated on March 4, 2017 by Brittany Cade, Desire Clark, Taea Bonner, Krysten Cardona, Brittany Pernel, and Amber Abogunrin.

Find Membership Requirements Here:

<https://www.sgrho1922.org>

NPHC ORGS

not on campus



IOTA PHI THETA FRATERNITY, INC.

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. was founded on September 19th, 1963 at Morgan State College (now Morgan State University) located in Baltimore, Maryland. Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Incorporated is a historically African-American, collegiate fraternity whose purpose is the development and perpetuation of Scholarship, Leadership, Citizenship, Fidelity and Brotherhood among Men. Since its founding date, Iota Phi Theta® has continued to grow and has become the fifth-largest and fastest growing predominantly black fraternal organization in the United States.

QUICK FACTS

Official Organization Name: Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

Organization Motto: Building A Tradition, Not Resting Upon One! and/or It Takes a Man!

National Founding Date: September 19, 1963

National Programs: National Iota Foundation, the I.O.T.A. Youth Alliance, and the INROADS Partnership

Colors and Flower: Yellow Rose

HOW TO JOIN

Members interested in joining one of these chapters will participate in intake. Members must have an established Iowa State GPA, so many members will not join until their second semester at Iowa State University, at the earliest. Members interested in a National Pan-Hellenic organization are encouraged to attend Meet the Greeks, held each semester, and/or attend an informational session for one of the organizations. Students who are interested in joining an NPHC chapter can start attending the chapter's events and engaging with their members to determine if the chapter is right for them.

Each organization has a GPA, completed credit hour, and enrollment status requirement for membership. All NPHC organizations require an established Iowa State GPA. Some organizations may host a "Rush Week", where prospective members can learn more about the organization to determine if they would like to pursue membership. Other organizations may host informationals to provide more context and information.

TIPS FOR JOINING

EARN THE GRADES It is important that you have a great academic start at Iowa State. Focus on exceeding the minimum GPA requirement. Utilize the services provided by the Academic Success Center to help yourself thrive.

GET TO KNOW THE MEMBERS AND THE ORGANIZATIONS Whether you are extremely familiar with sororities and fraternities, or know nothing at all, it is important that you get to know the members and the organizations AND for the members to get to know you. Use the first semester to attend each chapters' events and interest meetings to determine the best fit for you. You can learn of events and meeting from various campus event calendars, sign-up on chapter's email list, follow chapters on social media, and look for flyers around campus. Just remember to be yourself.



LEARN MORE If interested in learning more take advantage of reading the following books to gain a deeper understanding of the impact and history of these organizations. As well as checking out organization web sites and learn about their history, major programs and initiatives, and purpose. Use this to determine which organizations you pursue membership in.

- Ross, L. (2000). **The divine nine: The history of African-American fraternities and sororities**. New York: Kensington Books.
- Kimbrough, W. M. (2003). **Black Greek 101: The culture, customs, and challenges of Black fraternities and sororities**. Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickson University Press.
- Torbenson, C.L., & Parks, G. (2009). **Brothers and sisters: Diversity in college fraternities and sororities**. Associated University Press.

*All three of these books are available for check out from The Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement.

SERVICE HOURS Giving back to the community is an important facet of culturally based fraternal organizations. Chapters volunteer weekly, monthly, and annually in areas of need in the community. Consider maintaining a consistent volunteer relationship with one organization.

RECOMMENDATIONS Many of the chapters require letters of recommendation as a requirement for membership. The recommendation letters can come from mentors, employers, professors, as well as members from the organization. Be sure to remain in contact with people you know and develop key relationships with faculty and staff on campus.

INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP Another requirement, by some of the chapters, is your current involvement on campus or in the community. Find an organization to join and be an active participant by serving on a committee or in a leadership position.

STAY ENGAGED NPHC Organizations utilize social media, as well as, campus promotional services to let the public know about their upcoming events. Being engaged within the community is a perfect way to learn more information about a specific organization you may be interested in. The path to joining is a unique journey to making a lifelong commitment, so enjoy it!

TRADITIONS & ACTIVITIES

GREEKFEST The National Pan-Hellenic Council hosts a celebration of the history of NPHC, annually. This competitive step show highlights their skills in the art of stepping and helps showcase NPHC to the Iowa State University community.

MEET THE GREEKS The National Pan-Hellenic Council hosts promotional opportunities for students interested in joining one of their organizations each semester. Students can learn more about the history and values of these organizations and find out more information about next steps to join.

NPHC 101 NPHC 101 is hosted by NPHC each year as an opportunity for those who are interested in joining the council to learn more about each organization in NPHC, how to join, and learn about NPHC.

NPHC WEEK NPHC Week is a celebration that focuses on the core values of NPHC. Members and guests participate in community service activities and educational sessions throughout the week. This is one of the best opportunities to learn more about NPHC and how member organizations support the Iowa State and Ames communities.

YARD SHOW Iowa State's National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations will put on individual performances showcasing steps and strolls that are specific to their individual organizations.



NPHC History

The National Pan-Hellenic Council also referred to as the Divine 9 was founded May 10th, 1930 in Washington D.C. NPHC was created to promote unity among its member organizations and address problems of mutual interest to those organizations. All 9 of NPHC organizations were created during a period when African Americans were being denied essential rights and privileges. Racial isolation on predominantly white campuses and social barriers of class on all campuses created a need for African Americans to align themselves with other individuals sharing common goals and ideals. With the realization of such a need, these (Black) Greek-lettered organization movements took on the persona of a haven and outlet, which could foster brotherhood and sisterhood, scholarship and service to others that helps bring about change in the Black Community.

FAQ

Q: I'm worried about managing my time being a member A fraternity. How much time does chapter membership take?

Similar to other clubs and organizations, the more time you dedicate to membership, the more opportunities and adventures you will experience. The time commitment varies from chapter to chapter. The first semester is generally a weekly meeting when members go through the chapter's member education program. The majority of the chapter new member programs are six to eight weeks; these programs allow the member an opportunity to develop their leadership and time management skills, learn about the history of the organization, develop friendships and become more involved. Each chapter has a weekly chapter meeting and other required events, including initiation, recruitment and philanthropic activities throughout the year.

Q: Why are there some things sorority and fraternity members can't talk about? What's the big secret?

Fraternity and sorority members often participate in ceremonies while becoming an active member of that organization. These ceremonies often are referred to as rituals. Sorority and fraternities pride themselves on the rituals that their chapters were founded upon. These rituals are full of the traditions and values that make the chapters unique, having been conducted for many years. These rituals should not be confused with hazing and other inappropriate activities.

Q: What will I get from a sorority or fraternity that I would not get from any other college organization?

Coming to college is one of the major life changes that you will go through. Joining a sorority or fraternity chapter will help make the transition easier. Developing lifelong friendships with the members in the chapters helps make the campus seem smaller. For many members, these chapters become a home away from home. In addition to the friendship, every chapter is dedicated to enhancing academics, civic engagement, leadership and social justice.

Q: What do sororities and fraternities mean by “do your research”?

Doing your research simply means educating yourself on the organizations in NPHC so you can make the best choice for you. It is important to review national web sites to learn about the organizations history, programs and initiatives that are important the organization, and how the organization gives back to their community. Each organization was founded with a unique purpose, educating yourself will help you understand the council, the organizations in it, and ultimately find the organization that aligns most with your values and interest.

Q: As a family member, how can I support my student?

It is important for family members to continue to be a support system for their student. One of the key components for the support is empowering students as they navigate the sorority and fraternity experience. Encourage your student to gather as much information as possible before they make the decision to join a fraternal organization. It is important that you discuss financial obligations and the time commitment before your student enters a recruitment or intake process with a fraternity or sorority. This will be an exciting time of new experiences in your student's life and your support will be invaluable.

Tips for supporting your student during the recruitment/intake process:

- Allow your student to make their own decision.
- Learn as much as you can about sorority and fraternity life and the membership experience.
- Keep an open mind.
- Talk to your student about the financial obligations and membership requirements.
- Just because you're a sorority or fraternity alumna, doesn't mean your student is interested in the opportunity.
- Just because you're a member of a sorority or fraternity doesn't mean that organization is best for your student, let them find the organization that best suits them.
- Keep the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement contact information available. Please contact us if you have questions.

TERMS TO KNOW

ACTIVE MEMBER: a fully initiated undergraduate member of a sorority/fraternity.

ALUMNI/ALUMNA: an initiated sorority/fraternity member who has completed their course of study and graduated from the university.

BEDROOM-STYLE LIVING: similar to the traditional residence hall.

BID: a formal invitation given by a chapter asking a prospective member to join the chapter.

CALLS: a unique vocal expression attributed to an organization. Calls are special to members and should not be replicated by non-members.

CHAPTER: the local membership of an inter/national fraternal organization.

COLD AIRS: a large, common sleeping quarter with bunked beds. Traditionally windows are kept open year-round, but recently many cold airs are heated/cooled appropriate to the season. Chapter members have two to three people within one living quarters separate from cold airs.

COLLEGIATE PANHELLENIC COUNCIL (CPC): the governing body for all Iowa State University sororities in the National Panhellenic Conference and one affiliate group.

COLONY: a fraternal membership that has received approval from the University Committee on Fraternities and Sororities and recognition from one of the governing councils but is in a trial period with their inter/national organization.

CONTINUOUS OPEN BIDDING: an informal process of recruitment that some Collegiate Panhellenic Council chapters will engage in each academic year.

CROSSING: a term used to indicate that a new member has been fully initiated into a group.

FRATERNITY: a Greek-letter sisterhood, siblinghood or brotherhood.

GREEK: the name applied to affiliated sorority and fraternity members.

HAND SIGN: a symbol or gesture made with the hands to signify an organization. Hand signs are special to members and should not be replicated by non-members.

INFORMATIONAL: a forum for individuals interested in seeking more information about a particular sorority or fraternity.

INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL (IFC): the governing body for 30 Iowa State University fraternities; many groups are members of the North-American Interfraternity Conference.

INITIATION/ACTIVATION: the traditional ritual or formal ceremony of induction that marks the transition to full membership in a sorority/fraternity.

LEGACY: a prospective member whose grandparents, mother/father or sister/brother is an alumni of a sorority/fraternity.

LINE: group of individuals going through the membership intake process. Another term is new member class.

MEMBERSHIP INTAKE PROCESS (MIP): a process by which interested persons become members of most MGC and NPHC organizations. Generally characterized by an informational meeting, an application process, an interview or series of interviews and an educational process.

MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL (MGC): the governing body for fraternities and sororities at Iowa State with culture and identity as a foundation.

NATIONAL APIDA PANHELLENIC ASSOCIATION: National APIDA Panhellenic Association (NAPA) is a collective group of leaders within the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American community who work together to advocate, collaborate, and educate their members and constituency for the greater good.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LATINO FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS (NALFO): The National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO) is an umbrella council for 16 Latino Greek Letter Organizations established in 1998.

NATIONAL PANHELLENIC CONFERENCE (NPC): an organization composed of 26 member women's sororities.

NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL (NPHC): a national governing organization of nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities. Iowa State University has a local council to help govern the chapters represented on campus. This council is also called the Divine Nine.

NATIONAL MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL (NMGC): The National Multicultural Greek Council is an umbrella council for a coalition of Multicultural Greek-letter organizations (MGLOs) established in 1998. The NMGC serves in an advisory capacity to its member organizations. Each member organization is autonomous as a Greek-letter society.

NEOPHYTE (NEO): A term some organizations use to refer to a new member of a sorority or fraternity.

NEW MEMBER: a prospective member from the time the member accepts a bid to affiliate until the time the member is initiated. Each organization and council use a variety of terms to identify their new members as new members.

NEW MEMBER PRESENTATION: a presentation where new members of many MGC and NPHC organizations present themselves as initiated members of their organizations to the campus community.

NEW MEMBER PROGRAM: the education and resources chapters provide to new members to help them be successful in the organization and in the classroom. Typically chapters teach about the history and values of the organization.

NORTH-AMERICAN INTERFRATERNITY CONFERENCE (NIC): an organization composed of 50+ national member men's fraternities.

PARAPHERNALIA: articles of clothing, accessories, props, or jewelry that a member may wear or possess that shows pride in their organization.

PHILANTHROPY: a charitable fundraiser sponsored by a fraternity or sorority.

POTENTIAL MEMBERS: undergraduate students interested in becoming a member of a sorority/fraternity.

RECRUITMENT: the continual process of encouraging men and women to become members of the sorority and fraternity community.

SALUTING: similar to military-style of greeting, members of an organization can praise a particular member within their organization or to honor the organization's past and current accomplishments.

SOROR: another term used to refer to one's sorority sister.

SORORITY: a Greek-letter siblinghood or sisterhood.

STROLLING: organization members move together in a line expressing pride for their organization. In this line, members may express their pride through use of their organization's call, sign or historical information, ritual/custom dances, etc. All of this is done through movements that are unique to a particular organization and should not be mimicked.

SUITE-STYLE LIVING: three to six people sharing a common living space.

THE OFFICE OF SORORITY AND FRATERNITY ENGAGEMENT: University staff offering support and resources to the four governing councils and 60+ chapters on campus.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

UNIVERSITY SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

The sorority and fraternity community is supported by Iowa State University through administrative resources and collaborative support. While each of the local chapters and governing councils are self-governing organizations, the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement serves as the link between the fraternities and sororities and Iowa State University. Staff in the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement provide resources and support for the sorority and fraternity governing councils, inter/national organizations, local advisers, and prospective students. The Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement staff also utilizes a liaison structure for the individual chapters, which pair up a staff member with each chapter to receive direct support concerning individual chapter needs. The Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement is a unit within the Dean of Students Office, which is part of the Division of Student Affairs. Many staff and faculty members serve in advisory positions to our sorority and fraternity chapters.

GREEK ALPHABET

A	alpha	Θ	theta	Ρ	rho
B	beta	Ι	iota	Σ	sigma
Γ	gamma	Κ	kappa	Τ	tau
Δ	delta	Λ	lambda	Υ	upsilon
E	epsilon	Μ	mu	Φ	phi
Z	zeta	Ν	nu	Χ	chi
H	eta	Ξ	xi	Ψ	psi
		Ο	omicron	Ω	omega
		Π	pi		

ANTI-HAZING POLICY

Iowa State University has a zero-tolerance policy regarding hazing. The sorority and fraternity community shares the university's definition of hazing in the Iowa State University Student Code of Conduct, which includes hazing as any intentional, knowing, or reckless action, request, or creation of circumstances that may include, but is not limited to, the following; endangers the mental or physical health or safety of any person; or causes or presents a substantial risk of physical injury, serious mental distress, or personal humiliation to any individual; or involves any act solely based on the classification status of a student; or involves the damage, destruction or removal of public or private property; or involves impairment of physical liberties, such as sensory deprivation, kidnapping, isolation, sleep or meal deprivation, and personal servitude; involves a violation of local, state, or federal law or university policy; or otherwise creates an interference with academic endeavors, and is in connection or associated with initiation or admission into, or continued membership in, or elevating status within any recognized student organization or group affiliated with the university, including but not limited to, any student, campus, fraternal, academic, honorary, musical, athletic, or military organization. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of hazing are not neutral acts, they are violations of this section.

Each student will sign that they understands this policy when they sign their membership acceptance card (bid card) with the chapter that they join. Hazing may be reported to the Office of Sorority and Fraternity Engagement, the Office of Student Conduct, Iowa State Police Department, or the Dean of Student Office, which is part of the Division of Student Affairs. Many staff and faculty members serve in advisory positions to our sorority and fraternity chapters.

