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THE **SOUNDTRACK**
OF YOUR LIFE





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THE ELEUSIS OF CHI OMEGA

www.TheEleusis.com

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CHI OMEGA
FRATERNITY *Flourish.*





Letitia Niemeier Fulkerson
National President

The Soundtracks of Chi Omega

Why is it that no matter how much time goes by we never forget the lyrics to our favorite songs? On behalf of those of us who didn't practice the piano or couldn't make the proper sound out of a flute, we salute our Chi Omega Sisters who bring music into our lives!

Music has always been an important part of Chi Omega's history and traditions—especially when we gather for meetings and celebrations. At Chi Omega's Convention in June, the Convention Chorus performed at every meal and event; the songs were beautiful, fun, and inspirational. The Convention Chorus was enhanced this year thanks to a generous endowed fund through the Chi Omega Foundation, which provided funding for extra singers. My favorite Convention tradition is the serenade of the Governing Council after the closing banquet. More than a thousand voices sang Chi Omega favorites like *The Owl*, *The Carnation*; *Chi Omega Yours Forever*; *Pass It On*; and *Shades*. By singing together, we span geography and generations to blend as one voice and one Sisterhood, forever bonded in friendship.

There's no better way to show how music creates bonds of friendship than by singing in a Chi Omega song circle. Look around the circle and see eyes crinkling from smiling, holding hands with arms crossed right over left, and the emotion in voices. After the final song ends but before we let go, we give a squeeze to each other's hands as if to say, "You are special to me and I'm proud to be your Chi Omega Sister." I have found myself laughing with others

on more than one occasion due to an unplanned "solo" that occurred when I was visiting a chapter and joined in their singing only to discover that their version has a little different tempo or ending than mine!

When I speak at Chi Omega events, I often close by reciting the words to one of my favorite Chi Omega songs, *Are You Listening?* To me, this song speaks of respect for the past, pride in the present, and the need for each of us to be involved in the future for Chi Omega to remain strong.

*Are you listening? Chi O's calling you from a day gone by
You are part of all her yesterdays; hold your head up high
Building her tomorrows on the spirit of the past
Are you listening? Chi O's calling you
Answer and her spirit will last*

What's your favorite Chi Omega song? Does it remind you of the days of recruitment, Eleusinia, or candle passings? Did you sing it as a lullaby to your child? In the end, Chi Omega songs take you back to a memorable place in time and remind you of the benefits and opportunities ever present in our Fraternity.

Let's sing about it!

Letitia Fulkerson

BRIEFLY

New Regional Alumnae Director for the Plains/Mountain Region

Amy Mettenbrink Gizinski has been appointed the new regional alumnae director (RAD) for the Plains/Mountains Region. Amy is an initiate of **Zeta Delta/U of Nebraska-Omaha** and a member of the **Omaha Alumnae Chapter**, for which she served as president from 2006–2008. She is a senior media planning analyst for Oriental Trading Company. Her professional experience includes building relationships with individuals and managing brands and products. These skills are a perfect fit to sup-

port Chi Omega alumnae chapters of varying sizes in the Plains/Mountain Region states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Please welcome Amy at PlainsMountainRAD@gmail.com.

New Regional Alumnae Director for the Northeast Region

Natalie Nicholas has been appointed the new regional alumnae director (RAD) for the Northeast Region. Natalie is an initiate of **Upsilon Mu/John Carroll U** and a member of the **Pittsburgh Alumnae Chapter**, where she serves as the programming director. Prior to moving to Pittsburgh she was involved in the **Cleveland West Alumnae Chapter**. She is a senior product manager for KeyBank. Her professional experience includes managing strategy development and implementation, leading and managing associates, facilitating strategy sessions, and delivering sales training. These skills are a perfect fit to support alumnae chapters in the Northeast states of Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Please welcome Natalie at ChiONortheastRAD@gmail.com.



Convention 2010

Mission & Vision

Chi Omega's mission and vision statements are the guidelines for the national leadership as programs are developed.

OUR MISSION

Chi Omega is an intergenerational women's organization forever committed to our founding purposes:

- Friendship
- Personal integrity
- Service to others
- Academic excellence and intellectual pursuits
- Community and campus involvement
- Personal and career development

OUR VISION

Sisters inspired by our values who serve the world while keeping Chi Omega ever at heart.

Online

Chi Omega's websites provide many ways for you to stay connected with our Sisterhood. Throughout *The Eleusis* you will find the mouse symbol pictured here, which will direct you to supplemental online resources on our website and across the Internet. Please use the web addresses below to help you find important Chi Omega information.



Correspondence

Because we can't imagine a strong Sisterhood without you, your active involvement in Chi Omega is essential. Look for this writing icon throughout *The Eleusis*; it is a call to action — asking you to submit letters, information, or other correspondence necessary to communicate to the family and friends of the Chi Omega community.



CHI OMEGA WEBSITE
www.ChiOmega.com

CHI OMEGA MEMBER SITE
www.ChiOmega.com/EveryDay

CHI OMEGA NEW MEMBER SITE
<http://nm.ChiOmega.com>

THE ELEUSIS ONLINE
www.TheEleusis.com

CHI OMEGA LEARNING CENTER
<http://lc.ChiOmega.com>

CHI OMEGA FOUNDATION
www.ChiOmega.com

MERCHANDISE: CHI O CREATIONS
www.ChiOmega.com/Shopping

CHANGE PERSONAL INFORMATION
www.ChiOmega.com/EveryDay

Chi Omega's values instill in members a sense of purpose and determination to reach for their goals while remaining connected to those who came before. These are the stories of our Sisters who remind us that **no matter what the arena, Chi Omegas flourish!**



Dr. Anne Broughton Kerr

University President and Campus Curator

Dr. Anne Broughton Kerr has been president of Florida Southern College (FSC) since 2004. Located in Lakeland, the school offers 50 programs of study, small classes, and opportunities to develop leadership outside the classroom.

While Anne enjoys the typical perks and challenges that come with her position, unlike other college/university presidents she is also curator for the world's largest single-site collection of Frank Lloyd Wright structures, which draws 30,000 visitors annually to the college. Over-

shadowed by his homes and studios elsewhere, FSC is the only campus Wright designed, and while it is the single

largest collection of the famed architect's work, it may also be among his least known, making Anne's job of finding funds for the renovation particularly challenging.

Anne Kerr is overseeing restoration of the largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright buildings, keeping them as working parts of a college rather than museum pieces.

Over a 20-year period, from the 1930s to the 1950s, Wright created a master plan for the campus and designed and built a complex of 12 buildings around a spectacular central fountain, the Water Dome, and connected them all by a network of covered walkways. These historic structures are now in disrepair due to years of deferred maintenance and a climate that has not been kind. "In Florida, there's no way they could have stood the test

of time, but during his era there was no research for him to know that," says Anne.

The historical significance of the campus's architecture has resulted in FSC's recent addition to the World Monuments Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites, which also includes the Taj Mahal, the Great Wall of China, and Machu Picchu. Anne says this designation is central to her preservation efforts.

In June 2006, the college began restoration following a thorough analysis to determine how to respect their historic integrity while meeting the demands and conveniences of modern-day uses. Progress is ongoing.

Anne's bachelor's degree is from Mercer U, where she was initiated by **Psi Gamma Chapter**. Of her Chi Omega experience she says, "I enjoyed every minute and found it helpful in my early leadership education. College leadership experiences can be transforming and I value all I learned from my Chi Omega Sisters and advisors." Anne received her master's and doctorate degrees from Florida State U.

Her 25 years of experience in university administration includes serving as assistant dean of students at the U of Central Florida, vice president at Rollins College, and most recently as vice president at the U of Richmond.

Gamma Girls Joined the Circus

Sarah Kate Donnelly and Lindsay Weber performed with the Florida State U (FSU) Flying High Circus during all four of their college years. The spring 2010 graduates met as freshmen after becoming new members of **Gamma Chapter**, then realized both had signed up to join the circus. Quickly they became best friends, trapeze mates, and Sisters. "We had many great big-top adventures together," says Sarah Kate.

Established in 1947, the FSU Circus is an extra-curricular program for enrolled, degree-seeking students. Shows are three-ring aerial-and-stage presentations. No animals are involved and the entertainment is suitable for all ages. The 130 student performers rig all their equipment, sew their own costumes, manage lighting and produce sound for performances, and set up the big-top tent on campus. The FSU Circus is one of two collegiate circuses in the nation; the other is at Illinois State U.

View the trapeze acrobatics of these Sisters at www.TheEleusis.com>Flourish.



Aerial artists Sarah Kate Donnelly, left, and Lindsay Weber.

Courtney Noelle is a Girl ExtraOrdinaire!

Clothing empire Girl ExtraOrdinaire started with a novel idea: Yes, it is good to be the bride, but shouldn't it also be good to be the bridesmaid?

With this inspiration, aspiring fashion designers Courtney Noelle Ratliff-Maddox, Chi Zeta/Colorado State U, and her business partner and best friend, Tiffany Bressan Corbett, set out to change the adage "Always a bridesmaid, never a bride" into something fun and positive.



Courtney Noelle, right, and business partner Tiffany Corbett

Combining their unique and fun flair for the hip and trendy with their first-hand understanding of the fashion pressures young women face, Courtney and Tiffany founded Girl ExtraOrdinaire in 2003.

"We had a hard time at first, because no one wanted to buy into our idea of T-shirts for a bride. No one had done that," recalls Courtney. "We were pioneering a whole new demand in the market." Perseverance paid off when the young women, who were then just 22 and 24 years old, found investors who saw the potential in their idea to sell wholesale bridal T-shirts, tank tops, and accessories to wedding stores across the country.

They slowly built their brand, securing accounts like TheKnot.com and the Wedding Channel, while keeping a positive attitude. Their biggest break came when Trista Rehn of "The Bachelorette" wore a Girl ExtraOrdinaire pink tank top with the word "Bride" in rhinestones during her televised wedding rehearsal. Overnight, the sparkly shirt became a best seller.

Today, Girl ExtraOrdinaire is a clothing empire, designing and manufacturing clothes for women, men, children, and dogs. Its creations are seen on young and hip celebrities and on a variety of television shows, and are found on more than 700 Internet retail sites and in specialty boutiques and department stores. Particularly popular are the creative wedding accessories, which include pompoms and megaphones that can be used to cheer at a bachelorette party; tote bags that can be custom-designed with a girl's name; and a ring brooch that dresses up purses or jackets.

The company's positive attitude is evident outside of the design room, too. Courtney and Tiffany work with St. Jude Research Hospital and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Last year Make-A-Wish® child Taylor was a featured model in the Girl ExtraOrdinaire catalog.

Earlier this year, Courtney and Tiffany received the Distinguished Graduate of the Last Decade (Gold) Award from their alma mater, Colorado State U, where the pair studied fashion design and apparel production and were known for pushing the creative boundaries. The coveted award recognizes a recent graduate for accomplishments made in the area of career, service, and/or volunteer efforts that have brought honor to the individual and to Colorado State U.

Discover more about Girl ExtraOrdinaire at www.girleo.com.

Musical Wordsmithing Career in Full Bloom

If you've watched television during the past year, you've undoubtedly heard Debra Gussin's work. She's the clever lyricist responsible for the words to the musical series of commercials for AnnualCreditReport.com.

Debra didn't plan to have a career in the music industry. After graduating from Syracuse U, where she was initiated into Chi Omega by Upsilon Alpha Chapter, she was a successful television producer for programs such as ABC's *Wide World of Sports*, *Fox Sports News*, *Daytime Emmy Awards*, *Wolfgang Puck*, and *Dr. Phil*.

While launching the National Geographic Channel, one of Debra's colleagues introduced her to lyricist Marty Panzer. Although she had never written a song, she enrolled in his master class at U of California-Los Angeles (UCLA) Extension. It was a decision that revealed unknown talents and has refocused her life.

The following year Debra won the first Concord Records & Barry Manilow Scholarship For Writing Lyrics That Succeed & Endure. After winning two more scholarships, Debra was honored with a Lifetime Barry Manilow Scholarship Award.

Taking a sabbatical from her television career, she left *Dr. Phil* to focus on song writing full time. The gamble paid off as among the prestigious awards Debra has won in 2010 are the Grand Prize and the Lennon Award in the John Lennon Song Contest, Country Music category.

It was the Federal Trade Commission that commissioned Debra to write lyrics for their AnnualCreditReport.com commercials. She's also co-written songs with actor/composer Don Grady for *BOOMER: JazRokPop*, and has written lyrics for a short musical produced off-Broadway.

Her new song, *This Is Our Time*, was selected as the official graduation song of UCLA Extension. Its world premiere performance was at UCLA's Royce Hall on the Westwood, California, campus on June 29, 2010.

Debra is currently writing the lyrics for *TURMOIL! A New Musical*, and serves on the Academy for New Musical Theatre's Board of Directors.

Knitting Hobby Becomes Booming Business

Are you like most women who can't resist adding yet another purse to an already bulging collection? Are you always looking for the perfect handbag—one with lots of compartments for eyeglasses, a cell phone, hand lotion, address book, lipstick, a snack, and keys? And at the same time, do you require it to be stylish enough for you to avoid being labeled “the bag lady?”

If the description fits, you'll appreciate the efforts by Miss Priss Purses to please many different tastes. Besides purses, the company designs and sells beach bags, totes, clutches, and Bible covers made from a variety of materials, including upholstery fabric and faux leather.

The idea for the business, founded in 2007, grew from a knitting group of Sandy Miller Mellis, **Chi Epsilon/U of Evansville**; Dana Nussmeier Hale, **Alpha Delta/Indiana State U**, Chi Epsilon affiliate; and their friends Linda Mand and Pam Lené. The women would get together to knit or sew purses for themselves. Soon, people began inquiring about the source and availability of the specially designed purses.

Encouraged, the foursome decided to make as many purses as possible for an open house to see how many they could sell. Of the approximately 200 bags the women made for the open house, 123 sold in about two hours.

That success prompted the women to hold home parties to sell more of their products. After succeeding at that, they began offering the items to area boutiques. It grew from there.

Today, Miss Priss Purses is owned by Sandy and Linda who still design the products, which are now manufactured in Kentucky. Dana and Pam are former business partners.

Miss Priss Purses and other products are sold mostly through Midwestern boutiques and online at www.missprisspurses4u.com.



Lisa Morris Viselli



Sisters attending the planning meeting are initiates of six Chi Omega chapters. Pictured from the left they are, in front: Karen Davis Hopkins and Helen Harpe Harper, **Alpha Beta/Auburn U**; Monica Duffey Cameron, **Zeta Zeta/Samford U**; Jenni Jordan Foster, **Alpha Beta/Auburn U**. Standing: Rebekah McCain Crenshaw, **Beta Beta/Washington State U**; Rosemary JackTalbot, **Epsilon Alpha/U of Oklahoma**; Samantha Franck, **Lambda Delta/Kent State U**; Hollie Kemp Farmer, **Iota Kappa/Troy U**.

Chi Omega Alumnae Chapter Established for Columbus, Georgia Area

Alumnae living in the area of Columbus, Georgia and in east Alabama now have a Chi Omega alumnae chapter where they can connect with Sisters, make a difference in their communities, and have fun. Seven women, along with Rosemary Talbott, the Southeast regional alumnae director, were members of the planning committee that met earlier this year.

“There are more than 250 women in this area who are Chi Omega alumnae,” said Rosemary. “They will have great fun together and will benefit the area by continuing the tradition of service for which Chi Omega is known.”

Chi Omega alumnae in the area may get more information by contacting the group at chiomegaalumsofwaegal@gmail.com.



Xi Gamma Alumna Launches Writing/Marketing Company

Lisa Morris Viselli, an award-winning marketing and communications professional with 17 years of experience, has launched her own company, Write Brained LLC, to provide copy writing and copy editing, and to develop and implement strategic marketing plans and materials for business-to-business and business-to-consumer companies.

“I started Write Brained with the belief that authentic, genuine communication inspires trust, and that consistent messaging can effect change to opinions, decisions, perceptions and the bottom line,” said Lisa, a resident of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Lisa has agency, corporate, and nonprofit experience and has worked with Fortune 500 companies and mom-and-pop shops. She graduated from **Michigan State U**, where she was initiated by **Xi Gamma Chapter**. Contact Write Brained via www.writebrainedco.com.



Tops in Scholarship

Chi Omega has 17 chapters with winter terms. With all chapters reporting, the Fraternity's winter 2010 GPA is 3.2872. Our chapters ranked number one on their campuses are listed here, along with the 16 chapters with GPAs of 3.0 and greater.

#1 on campus

Gamma Lambda/Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Nu Alpha/Stanford U
Omicron Mu/California Polytechnic State U–San Luis Obispo
Rho Mu/DePaul U
Tau Alpha/Ohio U
Xi Lambda/Washington & Lee U

1 Chapter With a GPA of 3.74

Nu Alpha/Stanford U

1 Chapter With a GPA of 3.55

Xi/Northwestern U

5 Chapters With GPAs of 3.4–3.5

Alpha/U of Washington
Gamma Beta/U of California–Los Angeles
Rho Mu/DePaul U
Upsilon Lambda/Hanover College
Xi Lambda/Washington & Lee U

6 Chapters With GPAs of 3.20–3.29

Delta Alpha/U of Tennessee–Chattanooga
Gamma Lambda/Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Kappa Lambda/U of California–San Diego
Pi Alpha/U of Cincinnati
Tau Alpha/Ohio U
Zeta Alpha/Ohio State U

2 Chapters With GPAs of 3.10–3.19

Psi Alpha/U of Oregon
Sigma Beta/Montana State U

2 Chapters With GPAs of 3.00–3.09

Beta Kappa/California State Polytechnic U–Pomona
Omicron Mu/California Polytechnic State U–San Luis Obispo



Lin Dunn, center, wearing glasses and dressed in all black, was surrounded by her Sisters as she was inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame.

Fever Coach Inducted into Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame

Many Chi Omegas joined Lin Dunn, Xi Zeta/U of Tennessee–Martin, as she was inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame on February 19, 2010, in Nashville. Lin is head coach of Indiana Fever, the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) team. She entered last season's WNBA playoffs as coach of the East's top-seeded team, eventually guiding the team to its first-ever appearance in a WNBA finals championship series.

Lin has a resume that includes four decades of coaching at the highest levels. Since her collegiate coaching career began at Austin Peay State U in 1970, she has put together a remarkable 25-year record that includes a .635 career winning percentage (447–257) at four schools. She left three of those schools—Purdue U, Miami U, and Austin Peay State U—as the winningest coach in program history. She was previously inducted into the athletic halls of fame at both Miami U and Austin Peay State U.

Nationally, Lin served on USA basketball staffs for the 1992 Olympics and the 1990 gold medal-winning World Championship and Goodwill Games teams. She was head coach of the 1995 bronze medal-winning USA Jones Cup team and for eight years was on the USA basketball team selection committee.

Lin was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame on April 24, 2010 and will be inducted into the U of Tennessee–Martin Sports Hall of Fame this fall.

Fulbright Recipient Teaching in Southeast Asia

Jamie Giles, Beta Gamma/U of Louisville, has received a Fulbright Scholarship for the 2010–2011 academic year. She is teaching English in Thailand.

Jamie graduated in May 2010 with a degree in political science. As an undergraduate Sister, Jamie served as Beta Gamma's director of campus activities and G.T.B.

The Fulbright Student Program, funded by the U.S. Department of State, is a prestigious international educational exchange program that includes partnerships with more than 155 countries. Participants are selected for their academic merit, ability to serve as cultural ambassadors, and leadership potential. They study, conduct research, or teach abroad for one year.

Looking for Collectibles? Try Jackie Sharbrough's Urban Market Houston

The Urban Market Houston Antique Show has become *the event* for area dealers and bargain hunters alike looking to spend a day perusing interesting objects, antiques, artwork, designer and decorator collectibles, and other unique merchandise. Owner Jackie Sharbrough, **Iota Alpha/Southern Methodist U**, has created the feel of a Paris flea market with tents and wide, grassy walkways for the shows. There are also food and beverages available, a farmers' market, and Golden Beginnings Golden Retriever Rescue offers dogs for adoption.

Called "a collector's mecca" by the *Houston Chronicle*, the shows have become all-day events, with early birds lined up looking for the booths of their favorite vendors, who come from all over the country. Some vendors have shopped throughout Europe for years; others have booths filled with antique home and garden items that can't be found anywhere else.

The Urban Market began six years ago as a sidewalk sale, where interior designers and antique dealers could market excess inventory. It quickly grew so large that it needed to become a full-time business rather than a sideline event as initially established.

Enter Jackie, an antique dealer. "When the Urban Market started, I would go with friends and I thought it was the greatest thing ever," she says. "When I heard the show was available, negotiations ensued and within a week I was the new owner. . . . I am thrilled to be able to continue the event, which is now held in February, May, and November each year.

"Above all," says Jackie, "it's always fun to shop, visit with friends, partake of the terrific variety of food and drink, and discover treasures at unbelievable prices."

You'll find more about the Urban Market, plus the location and directions, at www.theurbanmarkethouston.com.

New Online Community Benefits Business Executives

Carrie Strathman Jacobs, a life transition coach and initiate of **Nu Zeta Chapter** at **Emporia State U**, has launched the Global Institute of Visionary Entrepreneurs (GIVE) at www.give-connect.com. The online community allows members to interact with and mentor one another, download teleseminars, and more. "The site helps them profit personally and monetarily from their visions and thereby change the world," says Carrie, who hopes to soon form a leadership group and hold workshops and conferences.

"GIVE developed as I was coaching executives to create a richer life, both personally and professionally," explains Carrie. "They were excited and grateful for the successes they've had, but something was missing and they couldn't always define it."

Geared toward professionals, GIVE is not just for its members. The general public is invited to visit GIVE's website, too.



Lucie Hartmann, left, and new law school grad Rizza Palmares

Coveted Law School Leadership Position Filled by Chi Omegas

The Mercer U School of Law has back-to-back student body presidents who are Chi Omegas! Rizza Palmares served as Student Bar Association president from 2009–2010. She is an initiate of **Psi Gamma/Mercer U**. Her successor, now in office, is Lucie Hartmann, **Chi/Transylvania U**. The Student Bar Association president is the most highly coveted student leadership position and is tasked with representing the student body and Mercer on local and national levels.



Amy Heldman Tibert

Music for Therapy, Enrichment, Fun!

Rise and Sing! Sounds like a joyful way to start your day. And joy and song are just what Amy Heldman Tibert brings to her young students—plus a lot of fun, much of it with a defined, therapeutic purpose.

Amy developed her business, Rise and Sing, to provide individual and group music therapy to children having special needs such as autism, developmental disabilities, cerebral palsy, mental retardation, and speech and language disorders. She also teaches parent-and-me and preschool music-enrichment classes for typically developing children, ages 4 months to 5 years, and offers private home classes for infants and toddlers.

And Amy loves parties—children's parties, that is. For birthday celebrations and other special-event occasions, she provides and manages the entertainment: bubbles, instrument playing, musical story time, parachute activities, movement and dancing, drumming, lots of singing, and other interactive activities.

Amy earned a bachelor of music degree in music therapy from **Arizona State U**, where she was initiated by **Psi Epsilon Chapter**. Following an internship and clinical training, she became a board-certified music therapist in 2003.

Originally from the Chicago area, Amy resides in Southern California with her husband and their 4-year-old son.

You are invited to discover more about Amy and Rise and Sing at www.riseandsing.com.

Eta Alumna Heads National Retail Chain

The HoneyBaked Ham Company of Georgia announced the promotion of Maggie Michaels DeCan to the role of senior vice president of store operations. In her new role Maggie has full responsibility for store performance, market presence, and leading corporate culture in HoneyBaked Ham's 301 company-owned and franchise stores. She will continue her management of the human resource, Internet technology, and real estate functions.

Maggie started her career in retail operations with Macy's and Belk department stores. She went on to Circuit City, where she became director of human resources and a member of the executive leadership team for the Southern division. After joining HoneyBaked in 2002, she served as vice president of support services and human resources.

Maggie's leadership extends to her volunteer work, too. The State PTA of Georgia honored her this year with its prestigious Visionary Leadership Award for leading commu-



Maggie Michaels DeCan

nity-wide efforts to engage parents during school redistricting. She now serves as president of the Roswell North Elementary Educational Foundation, which she helped establish in 2009. She is past president of the Woodstock, Georgia Junior Service League, and is an active member of Georgia State U's Human Resource Executive Roundtable and the Women's Foodservice Forum, an organization committed to developing future female business leaders. She is a member of the Chi Omega Foundation 1895 Society.

An initiate of Eta Chapter at the U of Michigan, Maggie says, "the leadership skills I gained by serving as G.H. and Panhellenic president established a solid foundation of confidence and communication abilities that have paved the way for a flourishing career, as well as the ability to juggle multiple commitments while maintaining a strong family and community involvement."

Chi Lambda Senior Named Outstanding Orientation Leader at Winthrop U

Victoria (Tori) McLean received Winthrop U's 2010 Outstanding Orientation Leader Award, presented in June during the event's closing banquet. Tori is an initiate of Chi Lambda Chapter on the Winthrop U campus.

One of 15 student orientation leaders, Tori managed four two-day summer sessions, introducing 20 newcomers to the campus at each session. To prepare, she attended Friday afternoon training sessions during the spring semester plus a full week of training in June prior to orientation.

According to Winthrop's program advisor for new student and parent programs, Miranda Johnson Knight, Xi Delta/U of Toledo, the residential life staff member working with new-student orientation, "the award is very prestigious as all orientation leaders are excellent role models and outstanding representatives of the university."

The Outstanding Orientation Leader Award recipient is chosen annually by a vote of peers and staff. "Everyone loved Tori," says Miranda. "She worked hard, and the days



Tori McLean, left, and Miranda Knight

were long—up to 18 hours each. Her attitude was always positive, and if something needed to be done, she volunteered. . . . Orientation leaders are some of the university's best students. For Tori to receive this award means she is the best of the best."

Chi Omegas Are Student Government Presidents

At the U of South Alabama, Kimberly Proctor, Beta Theta, is president of the Student Government Association (SGA). A senior majoring in history and English and the recipient of the Albert Schweitzer Scholarship, she was previously SGA vice president and senator. She is a housing residence-life advisor and holds memberships in Phi Alpha Theta history honor society, the Pre-Law Club, Order of Omega Greek honor society, and Mortar Board.

She is listed in *Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities*.

At Oklahoma State U, Kelly Lynn Offutt was elected student body president in April this year and is serving in that office for the 2010–2011 academic year. She is also G.T.B. of her initiating chapter, Tau Beta. A photo of Kelly is posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Flourish.

Alumna Launches Party-Inspiration Website

Courtney Dial loves to entertain. While a student at Vanderbilt U, where she was initiated by Sigma Epsilon Chapter, she hosted countless parties for her friends and family and quickly became noted for memorable events.

After graduating with a degree in communication and subsequently earning a master's degree in organization leadership, she decided to share her excitement for party planning with the world. She launched Pizzazzerie at <http://pizzazzerie.com>, hoping to spark imagination and help people create unforgettable parties, gourmet recipes, and do-it-yourself projects.

Check out Courtney's website, where you'll find wedding showcases, gift and gourmet guides, interviews, party ideas, recipes, and much more.

Featured Online Only

The annual spring awards season was again generous to Chi Omegas. We feature some award recipients online:

OUTSTANDING SENIORS

- Teresa Goering, Pi Gamma/U of New Mexico
- Lauren Hensley, Phi Theta/East Central U
- Mary Elizabeth Duarte, Lambda/U of Kansas

GREEK AWARDS

- Epsilon Theta/Morehead State U
- Emily Fritze, Zeta Beta/U of Arizona
- Anita Fritz Cory, Iota Zeta/U of Nebraska-Kearney

DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

- Virginia Chandler Dykes, Iota Alpha/Southern Methodist U

Details of these recipients and their awards are posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Flourish.



POWDERPUFF CHAMPS. For the fourth consecutive year, Zeta Chapter claimed the championship trophy in the U of Colorado's annual powderpuff football competition. Team members pictured above are, from the left, Victoria Blackstock, Natalie Lucini, and Megan Davis.

New Chi Omega Chapters Will Flourish

Since our founding, our Fraternity has sought national growth, offering the Chi Omega experience to outstanding young women from coast to coast. We're proud to announce two new chapters will colonize this fall.



University of Rochester Rush Rhees Library. —Photo by Jeff Keesom

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

Located in western New York, the U of Rochester is one of the country's top-tier research universities, drawing outstanding students from across the country and around the world.

UR has a flourishing Greek system. More than 23% of students belong to a fraternity or sorority. The university administration values the role fraternal organizations play in campus life and actively markets the benefits of membership to prospective students and their parents. The growth of

the Panhellenic community is exciting and we are most impressed with the university's reputation and high academic standards.

There is a Chi Omega alumnae chapter in Rochester and a strong community of Chi Omega alumnae in the area who have pledged their time and support to this new chapter.

About the University of Rochester

- Location: Rochester, New York
- Undergraduate enrollment: 5,335
- Type: Private research university
- Mascot: Yellowjacket
- Colors: Dandelion Yellow and Rochester Blue
- Ranked a top national university by *US News and World Reports*
- Motto: *Meliora* (ever better)
- Average size of sorority chapters on campus: 53
- Housing for sorority members: No houses. Members live together on university-owned dorm floors.
- University website: www.rochester.edu

Timeline for our new chapter

- Early September: Public relations and marketing on campus
- Late September: Recruitment of new chapter members
- September 26: Bid Day for new chapter
- National consultant living in Rochester to assist: Laura Dee
- December 11: Installation of the Xi Mu Chapter of Chi Omega



KRISTI ROWAN HUMPHREYS, Theta Kappa/Baylor U, has earned a Ph.D. in humanities at the U of Texas–Dallas and is now assistant professor of humanities at Alabama State U–Montgomery. Pictured with Kristi after her graduation ceremony on a rainy afternoon are her son, Rowan, and husband, Chris.

Vocalist Wins National Competition

Sonia Rippe placed first in the Upperclassmen Division of the National Association for Teachers of Singing, Musical Theater category, in the mid-South regional competition. The annual competitions are designed to assist vocalists as they prepare to launch professional careers.

A Memphis native, Sonia performed four songs from musicals of different eras: *See, I'm Smiling*, from *The Last Five Years*; *Bewitched*, from *Pal Joey*; *I Speak Six Languages*, from *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; and *A Change in Me*, from *Beauty and the Beast*.

A student at the **U of Tennessee–Chattanooga** and an initiate of **Delta Alpha Chapter**, Sonia has been a member of the Chamber Singers for three and a half years. She toured Austria, recorded composer-arranger-conductor Roland Carter's CD *In Bright Mansions*, and performed with the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Chorus. She also participates in other music-related activities, such as productions with the Chattanooga Theater Center and performances in the Phi Mu Alpha Symphonia All-Sing competition with her Delta Alpha Sisters.

You can read about other musicians who are Chi Omega Sisters at www.TheEleusis.com>Flourish.

If you live near one of these campuses and want an opportunity to become involved or need more information, contact Amanda Werner, director of extension, at AWerner@ChiOmega.com or 901/748-8600.



Dumbach Hall, Loyola University Chicago.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

Chi Omega is honored to be starting a new chapter at Loyola U Chicago, not just because Loyola is such a highly respected institution, but because Loyola and Chi Omega share the same core values.

"Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives" is the Loyola promise to its students. It is accomplished by weaving together learning, justice, and faith. In much the same way, Chi Omega prepares members to lead extraordinary lives. The Fraternity's six purposes align with the mission of Loyola's Greek community: "service, leadership, diversity, scholarship, and the spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood."

There are five Chi Omega alumnae chapters in the greater Chicago area and more than 4,500 alumnae living within 30 miles of the campus. Many Sisters have stepped forward to offer their help to this new chapter, including collegiate members of **Rho Mu/DePaul U**, also located in Chicago, and **Xi/Northwestern U**, in nearby Evanston.

About Loyola University Chicago

- Location: Chicago, Illinois
- Undergraduate enrollment: 10,124
- Type: Private, founded in 1870 as St. Ignatius College; the nation's largest Jesuit Catholic university and the only one located in Chicago
- Mascot: Loyola University Wolf
- Colors: Black, Gold, Maroon
- Ranked a top national university and a "best value" for education by *US News and World Reports*
- Average size of sorority chapters on campus: 120
- Housing for sorority members: No houses. Chapters meet on campus in classrooms.
- University website: www.luc.edu

Timeline for our new chapter

- Late September: Public relations and marketing on campus
- Late September: Recruitment of new chapter members
- October 2: Bid Day for new chapter
- National consultant living in Chicago to assist: Julie Mickelson
- January 2011: Installation of the **Lambda Mu Chapter** of Chi Omega

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This column features Sisters who embody the spirit of Chi Omega. They work earnestly and speak kindly, are womanly always and discouraged never. They are **role models, leaders, and friends**. They are proud to say, “*I am a Chi Omega!*” 15



Dr. Linda Cowan, soprano, holds degrees in music education from Indiana U of Pennsylvania, and master's and doctorate degrees in performance from Indiana State U and Rutgers U. She is an associate professor in music at West Liberty U, where she serves as a Nu Theta advisor, as well as advisor to Alpha Chi, a national honorary scholarship society. She is the West Virginia Governor for the National Association of Teachers of Singing, and most recently served as vocal master teacher at the West Virginia Governor's School for the Arts in the summers of 2008–2010. She also presents concerts and master classes.

—Photo by Jared Thompson

The 24–7 Gig

—by Dr. Linda Cowan, Nu Theta/West Liberty U

My life as a college music professor has been so fulfilling and rewarding. Anyone involved with music understands that it is not your job, it is your life's work, and in my life's work I strive to uphold the purposes of Chi Omega. Community service, career development, scholarship, and participation in campus activities are all required to perform my job well.

I came to Chi Omega not as an undergraduate, but much later, as a special initiate. I thank the ladies of Nu Theta who arranged my initiation in 2006. What a unique gift! As I grew to learn about Chi Omega, I discovered this amazing Fraternity, and I fell in love with being a loyal and proud member.

**In music, just as in Chi Omega,
working closely with others builds lasting
friendships that go beyond the classroom.**

Chi Omega's purposes define my life as a college professor. In music, because you work so closely together, you form lasting friendships that go beyond the classroom. Through private voice lessons, opera and musical theater workshops, and diction classes, I really get to know my students. When I directed West Liberty's production of *Seussical*, there were five Chi Omega Sisters in leading roles! In my role as a chapter advisor, I am full of admiration for the women I have counseled and taught and I am full of hope and expectation for the future that these women are creating.

Living a musician's life means a lot of time management—something that for me takes a lot of extra energy. But being a musician, educator, and a Chi Omega is a 24–7 gig. You get used to the pace. The concept of “weekend” is foreign to me. On Sundays I go from singing in the church

choir, to university concerts, extra lessons, and meetings in the afternoon to Chi Omega meetings at night. What's a day of rest? I think sometimes my car should be called the Nissan “flourish!”

I'll never forget the time I was wearing my Chi Omega badge and, as master teacher in vocal music, doing auditions for Governor's School for the Arts. As I entered the audition room to prepare, a man held the door open for me, saying, “I'd always hold the door for a Chi Omega gal.” I wasn't expecting the recognition that comes from being a Chi Omega.

My students also know I'm passionate about Chi Omega and give me owl-themed gifts. One student gave me an owl necklace as thanks for summer voice lessons.

Since becoming a Chi Omega, I have found that the bonds of sisterhood are vitally important to a balanced life. Before Chi Omega, I undervalued my female friendships. I now make the time to celebrate them in my life. This is the most important lesson I've learned through Chi Omega.

It's a daily delicate balance and I don't pretend to get it right all the time. But as I look back, some of my fondest memories involve Chi Omega, mostly advising students and making lifelong friendships.

I am so proud of the work we do, and I will keep striving to live the purpose-filled life.

Chi Omega has been a leader among Greek organizations since the early 1900s. The tradition continues today. In this column, *Greeks Speak*, you'll find information about the latest developments and accomplishments in the inter-fraternal world and how Chi Omega is making a difference.

Chi Omega-Sponsored Songfests and Karaoke Benefit Charities, Unite Greeks and Campus Communities



After the November 2009 songfest at the U of Southern Mississippi are, from the top, Epsilon Delta collegians Kimberly-Joy Lockley, Jordan Randall, and Chelsea Fenton.

College students across the country are taking to the stage as overflow audiences vie for seats in arenas, coliseums, and ballrooms to witness lighthearted musical entertainment and support a designated charity.

Usually referred to as a songfest or karaoke, Chi Omega chapters and other Greek organizations sponsor these events on many campuses. We thought you'd enjoy reading about three Chi Omega chapters that sponsor these kinds of events.

A 45-Year Tradition at the U of South Alabama

Chi Omega Songfest, the longest-standing tradition at the U of South Alabama, has been a 45-year fall staple for the school's Greek community. Recently it has grown to include the campus community as well.

As an indication of the event's importance and popularity, the 2010 show will be held in October during parents' weekend and the night before a big football game. To accommodate an audience of more than 1,000 spectators, the venue is the campus basketball arena in the USA Mitchell Center.

According to Laura Jo Adams, Beta Theta Chapter's director of community service, "All the Greek groups plus a growing number of campus organizations compete for coveted trophies in three classes: sororities, fraternities, and independents. The awards are prestigious and provide a year's worth of bragging rights for winners."

A karaoke-style song-and-dance competition, groups of 40–80 costumed performers prepare and perform two songs and choreographed dances that reflect the year's theme, which is selected by the chapter and announced two weeks prior to the event. "Previous themes," says Laura Jo, "have been *Absolute 80's*, *Now!*, *That's What I Call Songfest*, *Broadway*, and *Disney*.

"The variety is wonderful," she continues. "There are near Broadway-worthy performances by the women with comedic relief from the men. Plus we have an emcee who personifies the theme. For the *Absolute 80's*-themed year, we had a Madonna impersonator."

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® is the event's beneficiary. There are no ticket sales but donations—the primary source of income—are requested from audience members as they enter the arena. Sales of raffle tickets, program advertisements, and Songfest t-shirts also generate funds.

In 2008 the chapter raised more than \$9,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. With the addition of a silent auction in 2009 the women raised in excess of \$11,000.

"It's a lot of work to present this show every year," says Laura Jo. "But being able to help grant wishes to children is worth every minute. We also reap great public-relations benefits. The chapter is commended every year by staff, professors, deans, even the university president. Beta Theta takes the spotlight once a year and brings awareness to the Make-A-Wish Foundation."

Make-A-Wish® Child Presents Most-Prized Award at the U of Southern Mississippi

Chi Omega Songfest at the U of Southern Mississippi is a 59-year-old tradition. Held annually in November, it's also the oldest philanthropic event on campus and kicks off the Christmas season in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Last year, 15 Greek groups participated in the choral competition held on campus at the Reed Green Coliseum.

A charity benefit, funds raised are donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. To remind the audience and performers of the real purpose behind the event, Ali Blackledge, director of community service for Epsilon Delta, relates that "Each year a Make-A-Wish child is our guest

On many campuses, old-time campus hi-jinx, vaudeville, and talent shows have been transformed into charity events sponsored and supported by Greek organizations.

judge. A special award is presented by that child to his or her favorite group. It is the most sought-after award of the evening.”

Admission to Songfest is free. Funds are raised by members who generate support and solicit sponsorships from the Hattiesburg community and their hometowns. A raffle brings in additional income. In recent years an average of \$25,000 has been raised.

“It’s the support of the city of Hattiesburg, the university community, and Greek organizations that makes Songfest so successful,” says Ali. “It is a highly anticipated event that everyone looks forward to each year. . . . And the chapter is rewarded by the personal interaction we have with children from the Make-A-Wish Foundation.”

Fraternity Men Provide Laughs and Generate Funds at the U of Colorado–Boulder

Chi-O Karaoke also benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation®. Established much more recently than similar events at the U of South Alabama and U of Southern Mississippi, it is quickly becoming one of the most highly anticipated fall-semester events among Greeks on the campus of the U of Colorado–Boulder.

Anna Zook, director of community service for Zeta Chapter, says “Every group contributes in some way to the success of Chi-O Karaoke. The men perform and more than 500 audience members pack the campus’s University Memorial Center Ballroom to cheer for their favorites.”

Tickets are \$5 at the door. For the privilege of performing, participants pay \$10. In recent years the event has brought in more than \$5,000 for Make-A-Wish and also provided donations to the charities of the performing fraternities.

The evening’s entertainment features two-minute song-and-dance performances by each of the campus’s 11 fraternities. Performers number from four to 20 men in each group.

In much the same way that music unites Chi Omegas, music also unites Greek and university communities.

During those two minutes, Zeta Chapter members circulate through the aisles passing giant buckets to be filled by audience donations to the performing fraternity. At the same time judges mark their score cards.

At the end of the event the winning group is announced and for the ensuing year can brag about having the title of Chi-O Karaoke Champs.

“Chi-O Karaoke is a unique fundraising event at the U of Colorado,” says Anna. “It’s enthusiastically supported by the Greeks and even by the community. . . . We are able to produce an event that has performances, dancing, and laughter—all to raise money and awareness for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. At the same time, preparing for the event strengthens the bonds between Sisters and we all gain a sense of satisfaction knowing that the event makes a difference in the lives of wish kids.”

Photos from the musical events sponsored by Zeta/U of Colorado–Boulder and Epsilon Delta/U of Southern Mississippi are available for viewing at www.TheEleusis.com>Greeks Speak.



We asked Sisters how they incorporate music into their life. We are pleased to share their answers with you in another offering of Pearls of Wisdom, **great ideas for Chi Omegas from Chi Omegas.**

Professional Musicians

Samantha Franck, Lambda Delta/Kent State U

Music uplifts me, moving me for reasons I cannot explain or understand and, when my voice is the instrument, making me feel alive like nothing else can. I love it so much that I'm putting my 20+ year career in corporate America on the shelf and moving to New York to pursue my passion for musical theater. For the full story, check out my blog: www.blameitonbarrymanilow.wordpress.com.

Tammy Smith Kirk, Epsilon Gamma/U of Tulsa

Music IS my life. Since 1991, I've been secretary-treasurer of Local 94, American Federation of Musicians (AFM) and for four years was an international executive officer for the AFM. As a local officer, I've participated in contract negotiations for symphony, opera, concert-band, and musical-theater musicians. We enable musicians to have more control over wages and working conditions. I am a professional flutist in the Rosestone Trio and have performed all across the country, most notably in 1997 at the Mid-Atlantic States inaugural ball for Bill Clinton.

**Melissa Halderman Treziok,
Gamma Delta/San Diego State U**

As owner of Dance Society, a dance studio in San Diego, California, I will tell you that music plays a huge part in my business and in my life. It is the inspiration for my creative expression. Music sets the tone for each dance move and allows me to create an entire story or experience through the art of dance. Even in tap, when we often dance without music, the sounds of our feet become the music and we are the musicians.

Connie-Lu Berg, Phi/U of Southern California

I am a retired music teacher but haven't retired from making music. I landed my first job as an organist when I was a college freshman. Today I prepare eight pieces each week to play at two churches. I perform during social hour for the Retired Teachers' Association and there are

For the spring 2011 issue of *The Eleusis*, we'd like to know your best advice for the first day on a new job. Reply in no more than 75 words to:

TheEleusis@
ChiOmega.
com. Include

your first, maiden and married names, chapter, and initiation year. Deadline: November 15.

weddings, funerals, and golden anniversaries, too, not to mention occasional gigs for conventions, club meetings, and fundraisers.

**Donna Dirksing Doran,
Chi/Transylvania U**

I am an elementary music specialist in Cincinnati. I have written ancillary materials for the McGraw-Hill music textbook series and frequently present workshops and clinics. Additionally, I am the education director for the Linton Chamber Music Series Peanut Butter and Jam Sessions and am on the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's Advisory Committee for Education.

Jane VanSickle Samford, Epsilon Gamma/U of Tulsa

I am a violinist and pianist and teach orchestra at Austin Academy in Garland Independent School District in Garland, Texas. Our school is a fine-arts magnet and serves 6–8 grades. There are 175 pupils in our orchestra program. They compete and perform at a very high level and have a great record of superior ratings and best-in-class awards. With my husband, also a professional musician, I play at churches on the weekends and perform with a string quartet at weddings and parties.

Moms and Kids

Dawn Hunsicker Brewer, Eta Gamma/U of South Carolina

My 20-month-old daughter loves to dance! I'm a stay-at-home mom and try to make every day special and fun. We listen and dance to the music of The Beatles, Paul Simon, Harry Connick, Jr., Frank Sinatra, and Annie Lennox, and we dance to silly nursery-rhyme songs. I want her to grow up listening to all genres. Nothing makes my daughter smile more than dancing in her pajamas in the morning! When she's older, I hope these songs serve as a memorable soundtrack to her fun-filled childhood.

Cathy Lake Black, Xi Zeta/U of Tennessee—Martin

When my son was a baby and couldn't sleep, I sang *Shades* to him. Now he plays guitar and sings and wants to be a rock star. Maybe he will marry a Chi O.

An Entertaining Party Game

Annette Iacovetti Radogna,

Gamma Delta/San Diego State U

One of my favorite ways to incorporate music in my life is when we are entertaining. We put on a digital music channel that plays oldies and we guess the artist and titles, inevitably sharing our memories, "this song reminds me of . . ." In fact, last night I heard a song that took me back to my three dearest Chi O Sisters, sitting on the floor of our room in the chapter house, singing, laughing . . . having good times!

Musical Memories and Family Fun

Linda Sahlberg Gagnier, Alpha/U of Washington

Music was an important part of my sorority life. I am 63 years old now and can still sing the recruitment song, *"Chi Omega, Chi O Chi, We will love you 'til we die! We have friendship bonds so true. Come on in, they're here for you. Chi O! Chi O! Chi O! Chi O!"* Oh so much fun!

Cynthia Metzler, Beta Delta/Thiel College

Growing up there was always music in my house. I danced around the kitchen with my grandmother at Christmas while singing carols and I used to polka through the house with my Nan. I like to keep those traditions alive every day. Even when I am at work, I have a song in my heart and I let it carry me through the day.

Allison Alderson DeMarcus, Kappa Beta/Rhodes College

I am very fortunate to have music in my home every day. I married a man who not only makes music for a living (Jay DeMarcus of Rascal Flatts), but also chooses music as his hobby. We have a recording studio in our home, often have some of Nashville's most talented songwriters in our living room, and I coerce my sweet husband to play the piano for me from time to time. Needless to say, I have been very spoiled being surrounded by the beauty of music on a daily basis. I am always amazed to hear a song being created in its rawest form and hear a simple melody and lyrics as they are transformed into a finished, commercial product.



Allison DeMarcus and husband, Jay, performed recently at the Miss Tennessee pageant.

A Relaxation Technique

Michelle Dennis Carter, Gamma Zeta/U of Arkansas–Little Rock

I use music to relax. As a mother of two children and the wife of an unemployed husband, life can be very stressful. Music helps me escape the worries I have. When I was in college, I used music to help me study. I love all kinds of genres, but my favorite is contemporary Christian music. It helps me realize that there is a higher power that will make everything all right.

Workout to the Beat

Sherri Hull Gericke, Rho Alpha/U of Missouri–Columbia

I just retired after 35 years of teaching physical education. During the winter months when we were in the gym, I used upbeat music every day. Students listened to a variety of music, from my favorite oldies, disco, pop, or rock, to country. Many times music started and ended an activity. I used it during warm-ups, running, relays, tag, basketball, and volleyball games. It always motivated students and me!

Michelle Judd, Phi Mu/Lehigh U

I listen to music when I stretch and when I go for short runs. The beat keeps me motivated and enthusiastic.

Choir Vocalists

Carmen Breen-Lopez, Mu Kappa/Duke U

I make time for music by singing in my parish's choir. We rehearse twice a week and it gives me the chance to practice my craft among a group of seasoned singers who have a range of talent but are equal in enthusiasm!



Debbie Patterson Pappas is a member of the Raleigh (North Carolina) Junior League Chorus.

Debbie Patterson Pappas, Rho Zeta/East Carolina U

I incorporate music in my life by being a member of the Raleigh Junior League Chorus. Every December we perform at rehabilitation centers, retirement homes, and other places where people want to be uplifted and feel good about hearing old, familiar songs. It's a blessing to see other people touched by our singing, especially when they join in. Also, being with these women brings back memories of Chi O Sisters singing together!

Jamie Smith, Psi Gamma/Mercer U

I sing with my church choir and perform in community theatre here in Savannah, Georgia. Music has always been in my life. My father was our elementary school music teacher and there was always music playing in our house. I played piano and clarinet growing up. I first discovered my natural ability to harmonize while singing Chi Omega songs and had solos in our skits. Music will always be an important part of my life.

Music in the Workplace

Meredith Eisz Haase, Kappa Lambda/U of California–San Diego

An avid country music fan, I listen to my favorite artists throughout my work day on Pandora. Anyone notice the lyrics in Rascal Flatt's *Unstoppable*? They include, "It's a helping hand when you need it most." So great!

What do Chi Omegas think? How different are our collegiate and alumnae experiences? Where do we go and what do we do? To satisfy our curiosity and as a bridge across generations and miles, this column features our members' **perspectives on various subjects.**



"What is/was your favorite song and why?" is the Side By Side topic we're exploring in this issue of *The Eleusis*. When responses began to arrive, we quickly noticed that alumnae and collegians replied from very different perspectives: Alumnae overwhelmingly (88%) wrote about songs that brought back memories of fun times during college, especially with their Chi Omega Sisters; on the other hand, slightly more than half (53%) of our collegians mentioned their Sisters in their reply and none recounted specific memories of great group activities or events. (*Initiation years are listed with our respondents' chapters and schools.*)

ALUMNAE

Any song by **The Lettermen**, such as *The Way You Look Tonight*. My senior year, they came to West Virginia U for a concert. We sat on the front row and sang along. After the concert, we went back to the house and played all their albums (33½ rpms!) in to the wee hours of the night.

Every night after dinner we'd go upstairs and dance the "Chi-O Twine" to *Sugar Pie Honey Bunch* by **The Four Tops**. Such fun and great memories!

Was there ever a party where they didn't play *We Are Family* by **Sister Sledge**? Any self-respecting Chi O would jump to her feet and sing with all her Sisters! We thought the song was written just for us!

Girls Just Want To Have Fun by **Cyndi Lauper**. Our whole chapter would take over the dance floor when that song was played.

It had been a particularly long day during fall recruitment in the late '80s at the U of California–Davis. Membership selection was going well into the late evening. At about 1 a.m., when we really needed a break, we flipped on the stereo. AC/DC's *Shook Me All Night Long* came on. My Sisters and I can never hear that song again without recalling that moment!

Magali Ferare, 2007
Nu Alpha/Stanford U

Karen Vannoy Smittle, 1963
Theta/West Virginia U

Marilyn Klucher Schmid, 1970
Lambda Delta/Kent State U

Terah Phillips, 2008
Lambda Kappa/
Huntingdon College

Clare Whitney Kent, 1980
Mu Beta/U of Georgia

Cathy Harrell Shook, 1983
Rho Delta/U of Texas–El Paso

Lily Parkinson, 2008
Eta Delta /U of Florida

Cheryl Blankenship Kupras,
1987, Omicron Kappa/
U of California–Davis

Lindsey Wilson, 2008
Rho Epsilon/Texas Christian U

COLLEGIANS

City by **Sara Bareilles**. I appreciate music that touches me, that can put me in a place, a time, and a mood when I hear it. When I studied in Paris and had a few homesick moments of longing for my Sisters, my family, my school, that song resonated with my fears and my dreams, and I felt less alone. Now when I listen to it, it takes me back to Paris and some of the best moments of my life in college.

One Day You Will by **Lady Antebellum**. With billions of songs to choose from, it's hard to choose just one. I have a new favorite song each week but *One Day You Will* is one of my all-time favorites. It makes me look ahead and get excited about what the future will hold, because even though millions of things that happen now do not make sense—one day they will.

For Good, from the musical *Wicked*, because of its lyrics "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good." Last week, when my Chi O Sister and best friend at the university, Megan Iseman, and I were talking about how our friendship has made us better people, she started singing those lyrics.

Lay 'Em Down by **Need To Breathe**. I love the beat and rhythm but also the lyrics, which relate to people of all backgrounds.

ALUMNAE

Any song with a good beat would bring all of the Sisters out into the hall carrying their desk chairs, which we'd dance on. What a great study break and time with my Sisters! Long live chair dancing!

I have always loved *Shades*. When my daughter was an infant I was at a loss for a soothing lullaby to sing to her and found myself singing *Shades*. She's 5 now and it's one of her favorites and often requested. Hopefully someday it will mean as much to her as it does to me.

A Whole New World from the movie *Aladdin*. Zeta Theta Sister Kelly Campbell Valente sang it during recruitment and her rendition was absolutely beautiful. I still tear up every time I hear it.

Copacabana by Barry Manilow—sung Chi O style! It was what we would sing when serenading the residence halls, fraternities, and other sororities to invite them to our beginning-of-the-year party, Chi Oahu. It was sung from the early years in our chapter's history (Upsilon Lambda was established in 1987) and the collegians still sing it today.

My favorite song is *I Hope You Dance* by Lee Ann Womack. I love the song's message and it always makes me think about my mom. She was an initiate of Epsilon Alpha/U of Oklahoma and is now enrolled in Omega Chapter. She was a lifelong dancer and I know Mom would want me to live life to the fullest!

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun by Cindy Lauper. My college memories are filled with images of my Chi O Sisters laughing, helping others, and building long-lasting friendships. This song describes the best four years of my life (well, I'm only 29!). I had fun no matter what I was doing as long as I had Chi Os around me. College academics were challenging; it was nice to belong to a sorority that provided a variety of activities so we could let loose and be ourselves! I'm still proud to wear my letters.

Our Sisters had a unique dance to *Boogie Shoes* by KC and the Sunshine Band. I remember at every major function, especially at Formal, we would make sure that the disc jockey would have it with him. As soon as the music started playing, we all went nuts and every Sister got up to do our dance to *Boogie Shoes*. I still do it to this day every time I hear the song.

Home by Bonnie Raitt was a song we always sang at formals, semi-formals, and weddings. It represented how Chi Omega and our Sisters made us feel and always brought on lots of happy tears! We also loved to sing a *Total Eclipse of the Heart* by Bonnie Tyler—loudly!

Kelly Moss, 2009
Chi Lambda/Winthrop U

Michelle Akers Berg, 1990
Mu Zeta/Adrian College

Emily Jameson, 2009
Zeta Theta/Middle Tennessee
State U

Tamra Davenport Scheibelhofer,
1991, Eta Kappa/
Missouri U of Science & Tech.

Joyce Varela Gandy, 1994
Zeta Theta/Middle Tenn. St. U

Kayla Schubert, 2009
Rho Mu/DePaul U

Sara Cicchinelli, 2009
Xi Delta/U of Toledo

Dawn Doup, 1995
Upsilon Lambda/Hanover Col.

Stephanie Farr, 2009
Lambda Delta/Kent State U

Shannon Higgins Durden, 1996
Gamma Zeta/U of Arkansas—
Little Rock

Lauren Williams, 2009
Chi Delta/Millsaps College

Megan Wilson, 2010
Epsilon Gamma/U of Tulsa

Heather Bates-DeBord, 1999
Kappa Delta/Bowling Green
State U

Leah Schmidt, 2010
Mu Gamma/
Culver-Stockton College

Traci Pizzi, 2000
Theta Lambda/Wingate U

Katie Garrett, 2005
Zeta Kappa/U of
North Carolina—Greensboro

COLLEGIANS

When I'm With You by Best Coast. It's a fun song that reminds me of my favorite Sisters, and it's a great song to get ready to.

The House That Built Me by Miranda Lambert. The artist has a unique, beautiful voice and the lyrics touch my heart, bringing back memories of my childhood.

Meaning by Gavin DeGraw. Aside from the song's very sweet melody, this is my favorite song at the moment because of what I believe the song is saying. When I hear it, I am reminded that in this life we will make mistakes and question the paths we have taken, but one thing will always remain stable and true: We are surrounded by people who love us no matter what. For me, those people are my Sisters in Chi Omega, and whenever I hear this song I can't help but think of them.

Settlin' by Sugarland. This song encourages me in my personal and academic life to strive for everything imaginable and to leave nothing behind. "*I ain't settlin' for anything less than everything!*"

Not The Same by Ben Folds. The reason I picked this song is because Ben Folds is an amazing artist, songwriter, and musician. He is a fabulous pianist and I am really inspired by his music!

Change Your Mind by Sister Hazel. When they performed at Millsaps College, a group of Chi Os attended together and had so much fun. This song in particular is upbeat and catchy and I love its variety of harmonies. Most of all, I love the message: Be yourself and live each day to the fullest!

Haven't Met You Yet by Michael Bublé. I usually have a ton of favorite songs and they change as I hear new ones. But right now I love this song. It's so cute, encouraging, and fun! Not to mention his voice is phenomenal!

Free by the Zac Brown Band. I love the song because of its great messages about love and life: You don't need a lot of things to make you happy; in fact, the simple things and being free is what makes life meaningful.

The number of responses to this question was much greater than usual and we regret not having space to publish them all. You are invited to read every answer at www.TheEleusis.com>Side By Side.

What is the most unusual job you've ever had? Reply in 75 words or less to TheEleusis@ChiOmega.com. Include your first, maiden, and married names, chapter, and initiation year. Deadline: November 15.

Chi Omegas contribute significant time and financial resources, consistently and wholeheartedly, to causes greater than themselves. **Chi Omegas make a difference every day**—in their homes, businesses, schools, and communities. Helping Hands is dedicated to these extraordinary women.

Xi Sister Supports North America's Oldest Music Festival, Major Funds for Arts Education

—by Casey Regan Braun, Xi/Northwestern U

Kathy Ingraham, Xi/Northwestern U, believes that music is a gift we give our children. In her role as president of Ravinia Associates, a group of emerging leaders in Chicago dedicated to supporting the musical arts, Kathy is working to make sure more young children receive that gift.

“When we teach our children music, that is not the only skill we teach them,” she explained. “They learn not only notes and rhythm, but fractions and math. They learn in an orchestra that every person has their own part to play and each part is important no matter how small it may seem. That when we play together we can make something bigger than ourselves.”

“When we teach our children music, that is not the only skill we teach them. . . . It's the synthesis of so many things.” —Kathy Ingraham

Ravinia Associates works to support the Ravinia Festival, the oldest music festival in North America and the summer home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, by raising funds, increasing awareness, and developing a younger audience for classical music. The group's signature fundraiser, Festa Ravinia, provides funding for Ravinia Festival and its REACH*TEACH*PLAY education programs, which serve more than 75,000 people each year.

Kathy first got involved with the group through her law firm and found it to be a way to enhance her artistic side while helping others. She was hooked as soon as she went into the schools that benefit from REACH*TEACH*PLAY and saw the effect it had on the children.

“It's the synthesis of so many things. You are helping children who are the future of our country. You see the music teachers in the schools and the joy they bring to the children. Through music they are helping teach young children art, math, and history and building self confidence.”



Kathy Ingraham and husband, James Jacobson, at Festa Ravinia 2010. The 18th annual fundraiser held April 24, 2010, raised a record \$220,000 to help fund Ravinia's REACH*TEACH*PLAY education programs. —Photo by Patrick Gipson/Ravinia Festival

As president of Ravinia Associates, her main push has been to recruit more members because she believes a group's greatest strength is its members. “If you can inspire others to be a part of the group and then encourage everyone to do one thing, you'll be better as an organization,” she said.

“Kathy has been an incredible member of the Ravinia Family and an inspiring leader of the Ravinia Associates,” said Amy Schrage, associate director of public relations for Ravinia Festival. “Her involvement stretches beyond just her volunteered time. She truly believes in Ravinia and our mission as a not-for-profit arts organization.”

Kathy stresses the importance of finding room in your life to give to others. “If you do something you really enjoy, the giving is easy and the rewards are exponential.”

For more information on the Ravinia Festival and Ravinia Associates, please go online to www.ravinia.org/Associates.aspx.

Louise Nippert: Cincinnati's Generous Patron of Musical Arts

Classical music in Cincinnati will remain one of the Queen City's crown jewels, thanks to an \$85 million gift from Louise Dieterle Nippert, Pi Alpha/U of Cincinnati.

As announced in December 2009, the Louise Dieterle Nippert Musical Arts Fund will help maintain the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (CSO) as a major, full-time professional orchestra. It also will allow the Cincinnati Opera to continue a 90-year collaboration with the Cincinnati Symphony and enable dancers to pirouette to live music at Cincinnati Ballet well into the future.

A deep love of classical music prompted Louise's gift, which is the largest single gift to any Cincinnati arts organization and one of the largest ever in the United States.

Few people who see the 99-year-old philanthropist in her box at Music Hall without fail, week after week, with her eyes focused on the symphony, the opera, the Pops, or the May Festival, realize that Louise and her late husband, Louis Nippert, are responsible for quietly underwriting many Cincinnati institutions to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Louise's most recent arts-focused philanthropic projects have included buying the red blazers for the Cincinnati Pops musicians and underwriting a \$1.5 million acoustic shell for the symphony. For years, she has quietly supported opera singers who trained at the U of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. Many of her gifts have been given anonymously.

Louise's devotion to the CSO and her belief in its pivotal position in the city's musical life was expressed in her remarks upon being named a "Great Living Cincinnati" by the Cincinnati Regional Chamber in 1995: "The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra is most important to me because it is the basis for all the good musical things that happen here."

Born and raised in Cincinnati and a professionally trained vocalist, Louise calls music her greatest love. The 1934 graduate of the U of Cincinnati noted, "When I went to the university, there was no credit given for music at all in the liberal arts college. And that's one reason why I've worked so hard."

Louise has also been a loyal supporter of the Chi Omega Foundation and she attended Conventions at the Greenbrier. Her two sisters, Gertrude Dieterle Blades and Doris Dieterle Van Fossen, were also initiates of Pi Alpha; both are now enrolled in Omega Chapter. In 2008, Louise was presented the Roselyn T. Dabbs Philanthropist Award in celebration of her philanthropic leadership in her community and Chi Omega.

Collegian Starts Business to Fund Education for African Orphans

When collegiate Sister Lauren Ray, Xi Kappa/Texas A&M U, traveled to Kampala, Uganda on a mission trip last summer, the poverty and hopelessness of the orphans that she witnessed moved her to action. She came up with a plan: She would help finance the education of one child at a time by marketing jewelry created by Ugandan women living in the ghetto outside the city.

To cover the \$100 a month fees, this business-honors major launched a website as the vehicle to sell the unique paper-bead jewelry. Note cards are also available. T-shirts designed with artwork by the children at the orphanage will be added to the inventory.

"In Uganda, I met countless African girls who are not able to attend school because they cannot afford the fees," says Lauren. "It is very expensive and almost impossible for most families to fund a secondary-school education."

Before her fundraising plan was in place, Lauren found a young girl she wanted to support: 14-year-old Filda, whose parents died of AIDS. Filda lives in an orphanage and funds are needed to continue her education at a nearby school. Filda is the oldest child and the only teenager at the orphanage. Thus far, Lauren has generated enough money to pay for one year of Filda's schooling.

For information about Lauren's project and to view and purchase products that support her cause, you are invited to visit www.bethejoy.com.

Wishin' On The Wildside in Tucson

The Sisters of Zeta Beta raised \$8,500 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation® by hosting a country-music benefit concert on the front lawn of their chapter house at the U of Arizona. The women worked hard to ensure the entire Greek and university communities were involved in the event. Local businesses donated merchandise and gift certificates for raffle prizes.

In addition to the funds raised for the Make-A-Wish Foundation as a result of the event, the chapter won "1st Place Outstanding Philanthropy" and "1st Place Outstanding Event/Program" at the U of Arizona's Greek Awards.

Photos of Zeta Beta Sisters taken during the concert are posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Helping Hands.



Lauren Ray hugs a young friend in Kampala, Uganda. Lauren is wearing the beads she is selling to fund education for orphaned girls in Uganda.



Chi Theta Chapter Sisters from the left are Jaime Byrnes, Lissa Maxwell wearing her award around her neck, and Cara Arnold.

Woman of the Year Honors Her Sisters' Mothers

Lissa Maxwell was named 2010 Woman of the Year by the Tennessee Chapter of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society on June 3 this year. Over the course of that organization's 10-week 2010 spring competition, Lissa raised almost \$40,000 for the charity. An initiate of **Chi Theta** at **Western Kentucky U**, Lissa participated in the annual event in honor of two Chi Theta Sisters, Cara Thomasson Arnold and Jaime Lehnus Byrnes, who lost their mothers to multiple myeloma.

Alpha Beta Sisters Give Jaden a Happy Send-off

Wish child Jaden's mother thinks the party for her 4-year-old son was like five Christmases rolled into one. The young boy knew he was going to spend the April afternoon with 11 of his friends at Frog Legs, the indoor inflatable play zone in Opelika, Alabama, but he had no idea he was also in for a pirate-themed pizza party with cake and gifts hosted by the **Auburn U** Chi Omegas.

The wish party was held several weeks before Jaden's wish to go to the *Walt Disney World*® Resort was granted.

According to Katy Mac Tweedy, philanthropy director for **Alpha Beta Chapter**, the Sisters host an annual Walk for a Wish to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Georgia and Alabama. This year, an incentive was added to their fundraising effort: The class raising the most money would get to attend Jaden's wish-granting party. The charity event raised \$50,000 and the juniors got to party with Jaden.

According to Katy, chapter members had not previously participated in a wish party. Now "we hope to do this every year because it's incredible."

Caroline Sunday, who attended Jaden's party as a member of the junior class, said "watching Jaden get overjoyed opening present after present helped put things into perspective for me and my Sisters. We work so hard to raise the money . . . and to see him makes it all worth it."

Sisters Vote for Pepsi Project, Help Upgrade Classrooms in Racine, Wisconsin

—by Kim Harrod Wendt, Beta Lambda/Carthage College

I teach 8th grade science at Mitchell Middle School, an urban public school in Racine, Wisconsin. I submitted a proposal to the Pepsi Refresh Project (www.refresheverything.com/) last April to upgrade our 1970's-era science classrooms. It was selected as one of almost 400 that went online for one month of nationwide public voting. If we were one of the 10 most voted on projects, we would receive \$50,000 to help make our project a reality.

As a part of my marketing strategy, I reached out through my Chi Omega network. If there was a time I needed Sisterly love and support, this was it.

Because they've never won anything, my students were skeptical. Then support flooded in. Chi Omegas were voting and leaving encouraging comments such as "With Sisterly love" or "XO supports Mitchell Middle School!"

My students were overwhelmed that people who didn't know them were supporting their cause. Explaining to them what it means to be a Chi Omega for life was something I never thought I would share as a part of this project. It was a lesson about community and lasting bonds that my students rarely experience.

We finished third in the voting and received a check for \$50,000 from Pepsi on June 3. Construction to upgrade our classrooms began on June 21.

I sent thank you cards to everyone who responded to my plea for votes, especially my **Beta Lambda Chapter** Sisters. All their efforts to make a difference are deeply appreciated.

For details of our journey visit www.refresheverything.com/constructionforinstruction. A photo of the ground breaking is posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Helping Hands.

Kristen Kosinski Changes Lives in Kenya

After witnessing firsthand that most women in the Wamba area of the Samburu District, Kenya, must spend the majority of each day searching for water and the water they find is often contaminated, Kristen Kosinski set out to correct the problem and



Kristen Kosinski and women from the Samburu District of Kenya.

change lives. In 2005, she founded a nonprofit organization, The Samburu Project, to provide easy access to safe drinking water and more for communities in that area.

With safe drinking water as a foundation, Kristen believes that other aspects of community life can be positively affected, including education, health care, income generation, and women's empowerment. As of April 2010, Kristen's organization had installed 25 clean-water wells and was preparing to provide another 25 wells.

Kristen earned a degree in speech communication from **Pennsylvania State U**, where she was initiated by **Nu Gamma Chapter**. You may read more of her inspiring story at www.TheEleusis.com>Helping Hands.



FEEDING THE HUNGRY. Lauren Lundquist Mason, Psi Gamma/Mercer U, left, and Hillery Moore Odum, Zeta Zeta/Samford U, prepared sweet potatoes at the Feeding the Hungry event sponsored by the First Baptist Church of McDonough, Georgia. More than 1,000 needy community residents enjoyed a delicious meal and also received groceries and clothing.

World Cup Wish Granted by Psi Zeta Collegians

The collegians of **Psi Zeta/U of Houston** helped grant Maddy's wish to go to the World Cup in South Africa. The chapter also planned a soccer-themed party to help send her on her journey. Maddy was even presented with an official team jersey during a pregame show at a Houston Dynamo professional soccer game. A photo of the presentation is at www.TheEleusis.com>Helping Hands.

Maddy's mother, Angela, commented that, "We had a wonderful time . . . with the Chi Omegas. It was an absolutely perfect evening for everyone. The Sisters were very warm, inviting, genuine, and receptive to Maddy. I could go on and on about how much we enjoyed their company and the evening."



CHI O ALUMNAE VOLUNTEER FOR THE GEORGIA GOVERNOR'S MANSION. Pictured at a luncheon, these Sisters are, from the left, in front, Margie Clarke Bowyer, Zeta/U of Colorado–Boulder; Janet Cohoon Robertson, Xi/Northwestern U; Mary Staflin Scheible, Chi Beta/Purdue U; and Brenda Eaton Bedingfield, Tau/U of Mississippi. In back are Mary Purdue, first lady of Georgia; Cynthia McKellar Day, Epsilon Delta/U of Southern Mississippi; JoAnn Mobley Overstreet, Mu Beta/U of Georgia; Ann Lindsey Smith, Phi Gamma/Louisiana State U; Sally Yarbrough, Xi/Northwestern U; and Shirley Townsend, Eta Gamma/U of South Carolina.

Upsilon Beta Hosts Fashion Show Fundraiser to Benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation®

On April 22, the **Rollins College** community came out to support a Make-A-Wish Foundation Fashion Show co-hosted by the Sisters of **Upsilon Beta** at Rollins. The show featured 50 outfits modeled by members of Rollins's Greek-life organizations. Winter Park merchants helped with the show's production; many were sponsors. Faculty, staff, and students were invited to join the fun and more than 300 tickets were sold. Funds raised were donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Central and Northern Florida.

Katie Murphy, the chapter's community service chair, felt a great sense of accomplishment. "Our event was successful because of the commitment and involvement of the entire Greek-life community. I was personally moved by the enthusiasm shown by faculty, staff, and the many students who came to support our efforts."

Helping Hands in Honduras

—by Ginger Creed Wade, Psi/U of Arkansas–Fayetteville

For my daughter, Elizabeth Ann (EA) Wade, it was her Chi Omega affiliation that sparked an affection for Honduras and her service there. In 2009, encouraged by a **Zeta Zeta** Sister, EA participated in a spring-break mission trip to Honduras. She visited orphanages and hospitals, played with children, and did construction work. EA loved Honduras and its people and was eager to return.

Later that semester, women with ties to a ministry in Honduras spoke to the chapter about Mi Esperanza ("My Hope"), which provides support and job-skills training, including sewing, to poverty-stricken Honduran women. Realizing that her passion for clothing and accessories design would be an asset to Mi Esperanza, EA accepted an invitation to work there as a summer intern. Too bad that political unrest forced her early return to the States.

Back home, EA decided to continue helping Mi Esperanza. With a sewing machine and an assortment of materials purchased at a second-hand store, she designed and made dresses, which she then sold. By the time EA returned to **Samford U** for the fall 2009 semester, she had raised \$1,000 for her Honduran friends.

EA returned alone to Honduras in spring 2010. There, she designed and painted canvas bags, which the ladies sewed. The bags were a hit, selling out just after EA returned home. Painting and shipping additional canvas bags to the women was EA's summer 2010 project. Her next trip to Honduras has not been scheduled, but it will be in 2011.


Photos of EA in Honduras and of her products are posted at www.TheEleusis.com. Information on Mi Esperanza is at www.thewomenofmyhope.org.

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Forever COMMITTED

THE STATE OF CHI OMEGA FRATERNITY 2009–2010

Chi Omega remains *forever committed* to providing the best possible experience for undergraduate members and opportunities for alumnae to connect and develop.

In fall 2008, Chi Omega began its latest round of strategic planning; that process included significant surveys and conversations with members. Many of the successes in this report are a direct result of that feedback. Also included are a summary of the Fraternity's finances and some of the challenges facing the organization.

Chi Omega by the Numbers*

Initiated members: **301,403**

Collegiate chapters: **171**

Undergraduate members: **16,659**

This number has remained about the same for the last several years.

New members pledged during the 2009–2010 academic year: **6,371**

This number is down about 5% from last year but is significantly higher than four years ago. Chi Omega pledges more women every year than any other National Panhellenic Conference sorority.

Members initiated during 2009–10 academic year: **5,687** *Historically, of the women who pledge, more than 90% are initiated. Scholarship is the primary reason women don't initiate. Chi Omega requires new members to make grades before initiating.*

Members graduated in spring 2010: **4,539** *This number has increased in recent years, primarily due to better reporting methods via the Chi Omega Chapter Dashboard.*

Alumnae chapters: **234**

Living alumnae: **227,258**

Our alumnae base has grown larger as alumnae live longer, healthier lives.

Number of "lost" Sisters: **47,204**

The number of members without up-

dated contact information has remained the same for the last several years. Despite better technology and more ways to stay in touch, many members do not update their contact information with Chi Omega when they move or change names.

* As of June 1, 2010



Progress Toward Our Vision in 2009–2010

300,000th Member. In early 2010 Chi Omega initiated its 300,000th member. Chi Omega is the first—and to date the only—national sorority to reach this milestone. A large membership base means that there are Chi Omegas in every town and city in the country. Wherever they live, our members have a ready-made network of friendship and support.

Partnership with Billhighway. Chi Omega partnered with Billhighway (www.billhighway.com) to provide financial and accounting services for collegiate chapters. Billhighway is a web-based financial management tool that does billing and collections, cash management, and budget management. Members and parents can view bills and pay dues and fees online; advisors and house corporation volunteers can see up-to-the minute reports about the financial health of the chapter. Every dollar counts! With tools like Billhighway, chapters will collect every dollar owed and be able to account for every dollar they spend.

Life-Saving Enhancements to Chapter Facilities. In 2007 Chi Omega announced a nationwide initiative to install fire-suppression systems in all Chi Omega-owned facilities by 2011. Through financing provided by the national Fraternity, house corporations are installing fire sprinkler systems and

other devices that will save lives and make houses safer.

Mission and Vision Statements. At Convention 2010 Chi Omega unveiled revised mission and vision statements. An article on pages 34–35 in this issue of *The Eleusis* describes those statements in detail and their significance for the organization.

Revised Bylaws. Chi Omega completed a comprehensive historical review of governing documents and presented bylaws revisions at Convention in June 2010. The bylaws were last revised and published in 1992. This project is of significant importance, as it guarantees that Chi Omega is in compliance with applicable laws for nonprofit corporations and that the right structure is in place to be successful far into the future.

Quality Professional Staff. Chi Omega has exceptional women working at the Executive Headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee. Chi Omega prides itself in being an outstanding employer and able to attract top-notch talent. There are almost 50 women, most of them members of Chi Omega, who work daily to provide customer service and support to members, chapters, parents, college and university administrators, donors, and others.

Prevention Excellence Award. Chi Omega's alcohol-education efforts were

honored with the Prevention Excellence Award. This annual award recognizes fraternal organizations that have achieved excellence in alcohol-abuse prevention efforts, thus significantly improving the quality of their members' lives. The award is given by Outside The Classroom and was presented during the annual meeting of high-level university administrators. The award comes with a \$10,000 gift that will be used to further Chi Omega's alcohol- and risk-management education for undergraduates.

New Module of the Nancy Walton Laurie Leadership Institute of Chi Omega. In early 2010 Chi Omega unveiled the newest educational module: Cultivating Your Leadership: Competence, Compassion, Courage, Commitment. This topic focuses on Chi Omega's particular brand of leadership, which is a combination of passion and an ability to make courageous decisions. Twenty local leaders from 20 different chapters participated in the flagship session of this training.

Ritual Education Team. There is a new team of volunteers that will travel to collegiate chapters and assist them with training and implementation of Chi Omega's ceremonies and ritual. The initiation ceremony is beautiful and meaningful; every member should experience it that way.



Developing our Volunteers

The Chi Omega experience lives far beyond the undergraduate years. Every day countless women give their time and talents to our Sisterhood. During the last year the following number of volunteers served in these roles:

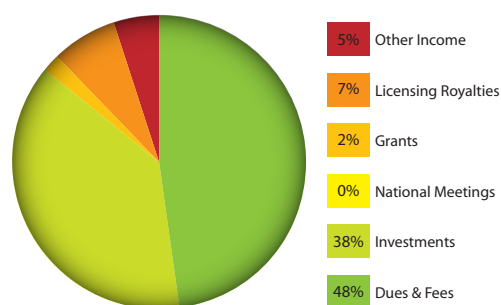
- Collegiate chapter advisors: **1,455**
- House corporation board members: **785**
- Alumnae chapter officers: **1,084**
- State and local recruitment volunteers: **692**
- National teams, committees, and task forces: **289**

Based on feedback from strategic planning, during the last year there was focused attention on the selection, training, and rotation of volunteers who serve on national teams, committees, and task forces. Every member should have a chance to serve when the time is right for her; be adequately trained for her role; and experience a feeling of success in her work. *Volunteer training and development will always be a priority for Chi Omega.*

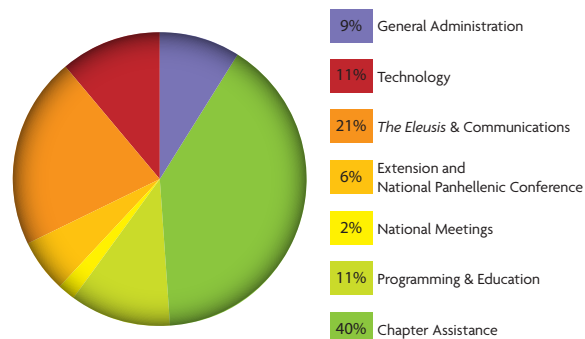
Finances

Chi Omega's finances are healthy due to prudent and strategic decision making by the Governing Council and other senior leaders. Fraternity revenue comes primarily from undergraduate dues and fees. In 2009, annual membership dues and the new member fee increased, as approved at Convention 2008. However, dues and fees cannot continue to increase beyond members' ability to pay; to keep the membership experience affordable Chi Omega needs to maximize other revenue sources such as grants from the Chi Omega Foundation.

2009–2010 Revenue



2009–2010 Expenses





Challenges Facing Chi Omega

Like any organization, Chi Omega faces challenges. Fortunately, the Fraternity has programs in place to address those challenges. The Governing Council believes these are the most significant challenges facing Chi Omega:

Keeping undergraduate members safe. Women in college today face myriad challenges. Chi Omega wants its members to make smart decisions about alcohol, prescription and illegal drugs, relationships, and their physical and mental health.

Staying financially strong. Chi Omega's major source of funding is dues and fees paid by undergraduate members. It is a challenge to keep the membership experience affordable and still provide high-quality member services. Recent economic conditions have forced the Governing Council to scale back on planned

projects and extend the timeline for implementation of new initiatives. The Fraternity is grateful for the Chi Omega Foundation grants and direct gifts that support current programs.

Alumnae involvement. Adult women have more demands on their time than ever before. They care for families, pursue careers, and serve their communities. Chi Omega needs to remain relevant in the lives of members of all generations. As a volunteer-driven organization, it is critical that alumnae understand that Chi Omega needs their skills, talent, and time. Collegiate chapters depend on the wise, experienced advice provided by chapter advisors and house corporation board members. Alumnae chapters need women to serve in leadership roles and as members-at-large.

Looking to the Future

Chi Omega's leaders blend a respect for our history with a desire to move the organization forward. To that end, there are several significant initiatives planned for the coming year:

GreekLifeEdu for all undergraduate members. During the 2010–2011 academic year, all Chi Omega undergraduates will take GreekLifeEdu, an online customized training course that deals with topics such as alcohol use and abuse and hazing. This program is funded through a grant from the Chi Omega Foundation.

New platform for online training. Thousands of members complete online training courses annually via the Leading the Way Learning Center, which is accessible from the Chi Omega EveryDay web site. In the coming year Chi Omega will partner with online training experts to enhance those systems and deliver more—and more timely—training for undergraduate and

alumnae members. The Chi Omega Foundation is actively seeking donations to fund this project.

Enhanced support for alumnae. Three Chi Omega Today presentations are planned (see sidebar on page 60). Chi Omega's volunteer regional alumnae directors have ambitious travel plans to provide support to alumnae chapters and individual alumnae.

More listening to the needs of alumnae members. In early 2011 Chi Omega will undertake a comprehensive survey of the alumnae base to determine which member benefits and services are most meaningful to them. This effort will produce a comprehensive strategic plan aimed at creating and keeping energized alumnae who will contribute to Chi Omega with their time, talent, and dollars and keep Chi Omega “ever at heart.” **E**





Commit to Staying Connected

Public site: www.ChiOmega.com

Find information for students, parents, friends, family, and media / Donate to the Chi Omega Foundation / Shop at Chi O Creations



Eleusis site: www.TheEleusis.com

Read supplemental articles not found in the magazine / Share Chi Omega updates with your Sisters / Submit photos and personal news about jobs, reunions, weddings, and births



Member site:

www.ChiOmega.com/EveryDay

Find information about Chi Omega's leaders / Find recruitment information / Use our online directory, "Find a Chi O," to search for your Sisters, search for a chapter, and find out where to send recruitment information / Help find lost Sisters (members without a valid mailing address in our database) / Update your personal information



Learning Center—Life Skills Library:

<http://lc.ChiOmega.com>

Find information on topics important to today's women / Develop personal life skills / Read about Chi Omega alumnae / Confirm Chi Omega's relevance to women of all ages



MISSION & VISION



MISSION

Chi Omega is an intergenerational women's organization forever committed to our founding purposes:

- Friendship
- Personal integrity
- Service to others
- Academic excellence and intellectual pursuits
- Community and campus involvement
- Personal and career development

VISION

Sisters inspired by our values who serve the world while keeping Chi Omega ever at heart.

Chi Omega's Mission and Vision

Chi Omega's MISSION statement describes *who we are*. This statement is used for many public audiences such as visitors to our web sites, university presidents and campus professionals, and the media. This is a great way to describe Chi Omega to people—like parents of new members—who might not be familiar with sororities. The VISION statement is a description of the organization in the future; it's *where we're headed*. The Governing Council and other national leaders use this future vision to guide decisions about the direction of the organization, new programs, and member benefits.

Chi Omega's Mission and Vision Explained

The mission's opening of an **INTERGENERATIONAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION** incorporates the critical aspects of lifetime membership and that Chi Omega is a women's fraternity. It values the women who serve as mentors and role models and the importance of doing that for the next generation of Chi Omega.

FOREVER COMMITTED states our steadfastness and dedication to our six purposes for all of our lives. Women join Chi Omega for friendship and fun; those bonds of friendship provide a lifetime of support.

The **FOUNDING PURPOSES** are a re-statement of Chi Omega's six purposes, which are the values upon which the organization was founded in 1895. The six purposes have been reworded slightly for a general audience. This order is purposeful, with friendship first.

The vision statement's first word—**SISTERS**—says that we are more than just a “club.” We are part of a fraternal organization—a family—and conveys that Chi Omega is a network of women and friends.

INSPIRED BY OUR VALUES means that Chi Omega's six purposes serve as guideposts for our members' lives, both during and after college.

The phrase **WHO SERVE THE WORLD** reiterates our purpose of service to others. The Fraternity prepares its members for broader service all around the globe.

EVER AT HEART is taken from the Chi Omega Symphony, which our members hold dear. It means that no matter where our members go or whatever path they choose in life, they take Chi Omega with them. It is also a charge to each Sister to always represent the organization with pride and dignity.

Download small color posters of the mission and vision from www.ChiOmega/EveryDay>Resource Center>Mission and Vision. Print them for your home and office. **E**



If your life were a movie, what kinds of music would be on the soundtrack? Lullabies, childhood melodies, holiday carols, religious anthems? Certainly the music you danced and sang to that somehow define the stages of your life.

What is this hook music has on us? Why can we so easily associate it with major life events and relationships? Read on to discover the power of music. Then enjoy a look at the music of Chi Omega.

THE SOUNDTRACK OF YOUR LIFE



Musing on the Power of Music

PAGE 38

Music isn't just entertainment. Music plays an important part in the major events in our lives and it's also good for us emotionally, physically, and spiritually.



The Value of Music in Education

—by Leslie Dowler Ring, Nu Zeta/Emporia State University

Many schools are cutting their music programs because of cuts in their budgets. This isn't just happening in poorer school districts; it is happening in large districts across the country, including magnet schools for the arts. When magnet schools for the arts start cutting music, you know there is a problem.

Music educator Leslie Ring explains the compelling reasons for keeping music education in our schools.

PAGE 41



Leslie Ring

Musically Yours, Chi Omega!

—by Lyn Harris, Chi Omega National Archivist

From the beginning, there was music: peppy recruitment songs, tempered ritual harmonies, and raucous ditties sung just for fun. Regardless of its genre, the music of Chi Omega brings us joy and unites us in Sisterhood and friendship.

Here's the fascinating and fun history of the music that Chi Omegas cherish.

PAGE 43



Musing on the THE POWER OF MUSIC

MUSIC PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE MAJOR EVENTS IN OUR LIVES: CHILDHOOD, BIRTHDAYS, COLLEGE, GRADUATIONS, CHI OMEGA, HOLIDAYS, WEDDINGS, END-OF-LIFE REMEMBRANCES, AND MORE.

Most of us can't remember life without music played on a radio, phonograph records, cassette tapes, or compact discs. One simple melody instantly reminds us of our childhood while a dreamy ballad turns our thoughts to memories of a summer love.

Music plays an important part in the major events in our lives: childhood, birthdays, holidays, college, Chi Omega, graduations, weddings, end-of-life remembrances, and more. And why not? Music is a powerful reminder of those special events and relationships.

We all know from personal experience that music can make us feel happy, enchanted, inspired, wistful, excited, empowered, comforted, heroic. But music has an even more astonishing power, one you may have suspected: Music is good for you emotionally, physically, and spiritually.

Playing on Our Emotions

Who has not had the experience of suddenly humming or moving to the rhythm of a tune first heard long ago? You may not remember all

the words but the melody and many of the lyrics are indelibly hard wired into your brain.

Music generates memories, as we all have experienced, to the point where we don't even have to hear a song. We just think of it and memories flood in. It may be *I Love You Truly* performed during the preference ceremony by your soon-to-be Chi Omega Sisters, or *Shades* sung at your last Eleusinian celebration as an undergraduate. Perhaps it's the song you danced to at a fraternity formal with the person who later became your spouse that still stirs your passions. Maybe it's the tune that was playing as you danced with your new spouse at your wedding reception. It may be a song or two sung by your favorite entertainer whose performance you attended to celebrate your 30th birthday.

Think about the ways in which music plays with our emotions. When you hear a driving, in-your-face rock song, aren't you immediately transported to a scene or an emotion that corresponds to the mood of the music? Perhaps the classic *Born to Be Wild* comes on the radio and

Hard Wired for Music

While music is generally considered a product of our society and culture, scientific findings show that many aspects of music are part of our human biological nature. By studying people and animals worldwide, researchers have found that basic musical actions in humans are "known" and not "taught."

Researchers cite four points as evidence of the relationship between music and human nature:

- Other animals are musical. Monkeys can follow patterns of musical pitches and determine the fundamental pitch of a musical series.
- Music is universal. Across cultures and continents, people communicate with music.
- Musical behaviors appear early in life. Toddlers make up play songs and follow the beat

of music. Infants can discriminate between different pitches, remember the contour of melodies, and comprehend rhythm.

- The human brain is organized to process music. The brain contains cells specifically sensitive to pure tone pitch, complex harmonic relationships, rhythm, and melodic contour. When listening to a song, the right hemisphere of the brain processes the melody while the left hemi-

you're suddenly zooming down the highway on a fantasy road trip. Or you hear the opening chords of *Amazing Grace* and you're swept up in visions of loss and sorrow.

Consider the connection between music and entertainment. Film composers are handsomely rewarded for their ability to shift our emotions from moment to moment. Music such as John Williams's *Star Wars* theme can make us practically march out of the theater, shoulders thrown back, determined to vanquish our enemies. Our self-confidence has been affected, and it's as much due to the movie music as the movie story and visuals. If you close your eyes in an action, horror, or thriller movie, you can pretty much tell what's happening on the screen by the music alone. The same is true for romance and comedy films.

A Tonic for the Body

No one questions the power of music to uplift and rejuvenate. For instance, studies show:

- Music can be especially beneficial for the elderly in nursing homes, autistic children, and those with life-threatening illnesses.

- Music therapy may improve the mental state and functioning in people with schizophrenia, help premature infants learn to nurse better, benefit stroke patients as they recover impaired speech, and aid partially paralyzed patients in working to enhance motor skills.
- Hospitalized children who play, sing, and create music demonstrate a more significant improvement in immune response compared to children who do not get music therapy.
- Listening to music can ease pain, lessen the anxiety of patients awaiting surgery, reduce the need for sedation during surgery, and significantly lower the heart rates and regulate the blood pressures and respiration rates of patients who undergo surgery.
- Music therapy can boost the immune system, improve mental focus, diminish depression, and create a feeling of well-being.

—continues

MUSIC IS NOT JUST ENTERTAINMENT. IT'S GOOD FOR BODY AND SOUL.

sphere processes language. The brain treats the melody as a separate set of "data."

So what's going on between us and music? What hook does music have on us?

Research suggests that our ability and tendency to keep time with music is something we inherited from our earliest ancestors. We don't know why evolution endowed our brains with

the ability to make music. What is clear is that the brain is abundantly wired to process music.

Neurologist Dr. Oliver Sacks, in his latest book, *Musicophilia*, says that "music shares many features with spoken language, and our brains are particularly developed to process the rapid tones and segments of sound that are common to both." Some researchers, he says, believe that in primitive cultures, music and speech were

indistinct. Other researchers debate what came first in evolution: speech or song.

Scientists at the Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) have found dramatic evidence on brain scans that the chills, or a visceral feeling of awe, that people report while listening to their favorite music are real. Music that a

—continues

Musing on the THE POWER OF MUSIC

MUSIC NOT ONLY AFFECTS OUR ABILITY TO HEAL BUT ALSO OUR ENERGY LEVELS.

Music not only affects our ability to heal but also our energy levels. Think of music and exercise: Lots of people listen to upbeat, fast-paced music to keep themselves going during their workouts. Music can also be used to set the pace of workout with repetitive movements.

According to sport psychologist Costas Karageorghis of Brunel University in England, music reduces your perception of how hard you are working by about 10 percent during low-to-moderate intensity activity. During high-intensity activity, music doesn't work as well because your brain begins demanding that you pay attention to physiological stress signals.

Food for Your Spirit

Music has a mysterious power, too. It touches the soul, feeds our inner life, elevates our consciousness, and uplifts the spirit.

One need not be religious to feel the spiritual power of music for it reaches into a part of the human experience that has no ties to religious preferences. Sounds that literally vibrate through the physical bodies of both the musician and the listener have transformative

qualities that contribute to the awakening and development of spiritual consciousness.

Because of this transcendent power, music has been used in religious contexts since prehistoric times. Cultures universally have employed sound, both vocal and instrumental, to summon the spirits of unseen realms, praise the divine, and awaken the mind to sublime states of spiritual awareness.

Therapy for Life

Music is therapy, purely and simply. It does for us what almost nothing else can do. It can take you away mentally, charge your emotions and stir your imagination, bind your wounds, rejuvenate your spirit, positively affect your health, infuse your being with joy, and make you cry—all in one sitting.

The next time you hear a favorite melody from your childhood or sing *Shades* with your Sisters, don't hold your reactions in check. Feel the music fully. It does your whole body good. **E**

person likes activates both the higher, thinking centers in the brain's cortex, and, perhaps more important, the "ancient circuitry, the motivation and reward system," said experimental psychologist Robert Zatorre, a member of the MNI team. It's this ancient part of the brain that also governs the basic drives for food, water, and sex, that suggests the brain may consider music on a par with these crucial drives.

Resources:

The Mozart Effect: Tapping the Power of Music to Heal the Body, Strengthen the Mind and Unlock the Creative Spirit (Don Campbell)

The Power of Music (from *A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe* by Michael Schneider) <http://www.lightbridgemusic.com/power.htm>

The Power of Music (Judy Foreman)
http://www.boston.com/yourlife/health/articles/2007/10/29/the_power_of_music/

Music Has Biological Roots in Humans (From *The Music in Our Minds* by Norman M. Weinberger. Published in *Educational Leadership*, Vol. 56, No. 3: November 1998)
<http://www.berksmusic.com/whymusic/whymusicbiologicalroots.html>

How Music Feeds and Steers Your Imagination (Amy Fries)
<http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/the-power-daydreaming/200907/how-music-feeds-and-steers-your-imagination>

The Power of Music Lyrics (Gerald David Greene)
<http://www.buzzle.com/editorials/11-11-2005-81135.asp>



The Value of MUSIC IN EDUCATION

Compelling reasons to keep music education in our schools.

—by Leslie Dowler Ring, Nu Zeta/Emporia State University

I sing and play all day. That's my job. I am an elementary music teacher with visions and goals for the 600 students I teach weekly at my public school in Tyler, Texas.

I have just finished singing *London Bridge* for the 50th time this week during my kindergarten classes. Yes, the students are learning a fun song, but my real purpose is to assist them in the development of their brains, improve their fine-motor skills, work at problem solving and cooperation, and discover how to be successful risk-takers.

We are music-making with a purpose and I have no time to waste. Brain research demonstrates that synapses, the connections between brain cells, grow stronger with use and atrophy if they are not used. Music making provides vigorous exercise for brain cells and their connections. In fact, it would be difficult to find another activity that engages so many of the brain's systems. Brains are being developed and enhanced every time a student participates in my music class.

Does music really make you smarter as suggested in the 1993 *Mozart Effect* study? (University of California-Irvine) Experts aren't sure, although some positive effects have been reported. Listening to Mozart may not make you smarter but it is known that a rich environment makes a difference with the development of your brain. Your brain is in "use-it-or-lose-it" mode and music activities change the brain by developing more critical neural connections.

Yearly, high school SAT scores of students who took part in music instruction surpass students with no music training. In 2008, students with four or more years of music study received an average score 29 points higher on reading, 22 points higher on math, and 29 points higher on writing sections of the SAT. (College Board SAT, 2008 College-Bound Seniors: Total Group Profile Report)

Part of the direct value of playing music comes from gains in spatial reasoning, a building block for higher-level math and science skills. Spatial learners tend to progress in fields of engineering, design, construction, art, and other occupations that involve comparisons and symmetrical relationships. My two boys had many years of musical training as children. Justin is a successful civil engineer and Brandon is a creative advertising/graphics designer. Their skills are marketable and needed in this ever-changing job market.

My granddaughter, Audrey, is in kindergarten this year and will graduate from high school in 2024. What can I teach students like her that will be valuable in 13 years?

She will certainly have access to millions of facts, figures, and concepts and will be flooded with data but I will be concentrating on other skills. I develop my lessons to create more in-depth authentic music learning and not just useless trivia. We spend class time analyzing and critiquing what is being learned and we take time to ponder, reflect, and explore. Knowledge is no longer the key as everyone has

access to it through computers and the Internet. (*A Whole New Mind*, by Daniel Pink)

I believe students like Audrey will be successful because they have experienced how to be creative. Students will have played different instruments, composed music and/or lyrics to songs, or developed interesting rhythm patterns.

They will know how to work as a team member and be familiar with group successes by participating in a choir or instrumental ensembles. A new problem will demand these young students analyze and critique the situation and then decide on a solution.

Music study develops skills that are necessary in the workplace. It focuses on doing as opposed to observing and teaches students how to perform, literally, anywhere in the world. Employers are looking for these types of students: thinkers, creative problem-solvers, students with people skills, creativity, and collaborators.

I have been teaching elementary music for 25 years and certainly understand the academic side but I really teach for the joy it brings my students and me. Music is about discovering our capacity to feel, the experience of being moved, and enriching one's life. For many students, a visual or performing arts course is the place where they feel the most accepted, acknowledged, connected, and productive. They can easily see a reachable end product and experience self-discipline and self-confidence on a daily basis.

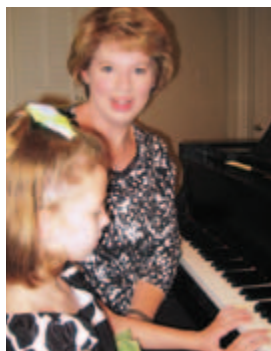
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MUSIC STUDY DEVELOPS SKILLS THAT ARE NECESSARY IN THE WORKPLACE.

PART OF THE DIRECT VALUE OF PLAYING MUSIC COMES FROM GAINS IN SPATIAL REASONING, A BUILDING BLOCK FOR HIGHER-LEVEL MATH AND SCIENCE SKILLS.

All music teachers have stories about students who would not have succeeded if not for their involvement in the arts. I fondly remember “Tasha.” Two years ago she came to my school as a 5th grader with very little academic success and a bad attitude about being in another new school. However, Tasha had the gift of a beautiful singing voice and joined our elementary choir. Immediately she felt acceptance by the other students, as music can be a powerful equalizer. I was her mentor for the year and her academics were a constant struggle but when she sang, she was successful and in control of her life. We both cried with joy when she passed her end-of-year assessment tests. What did I do? I gave her a place to feel like a winner, a place to shine, a place to experience personal accomplishments.

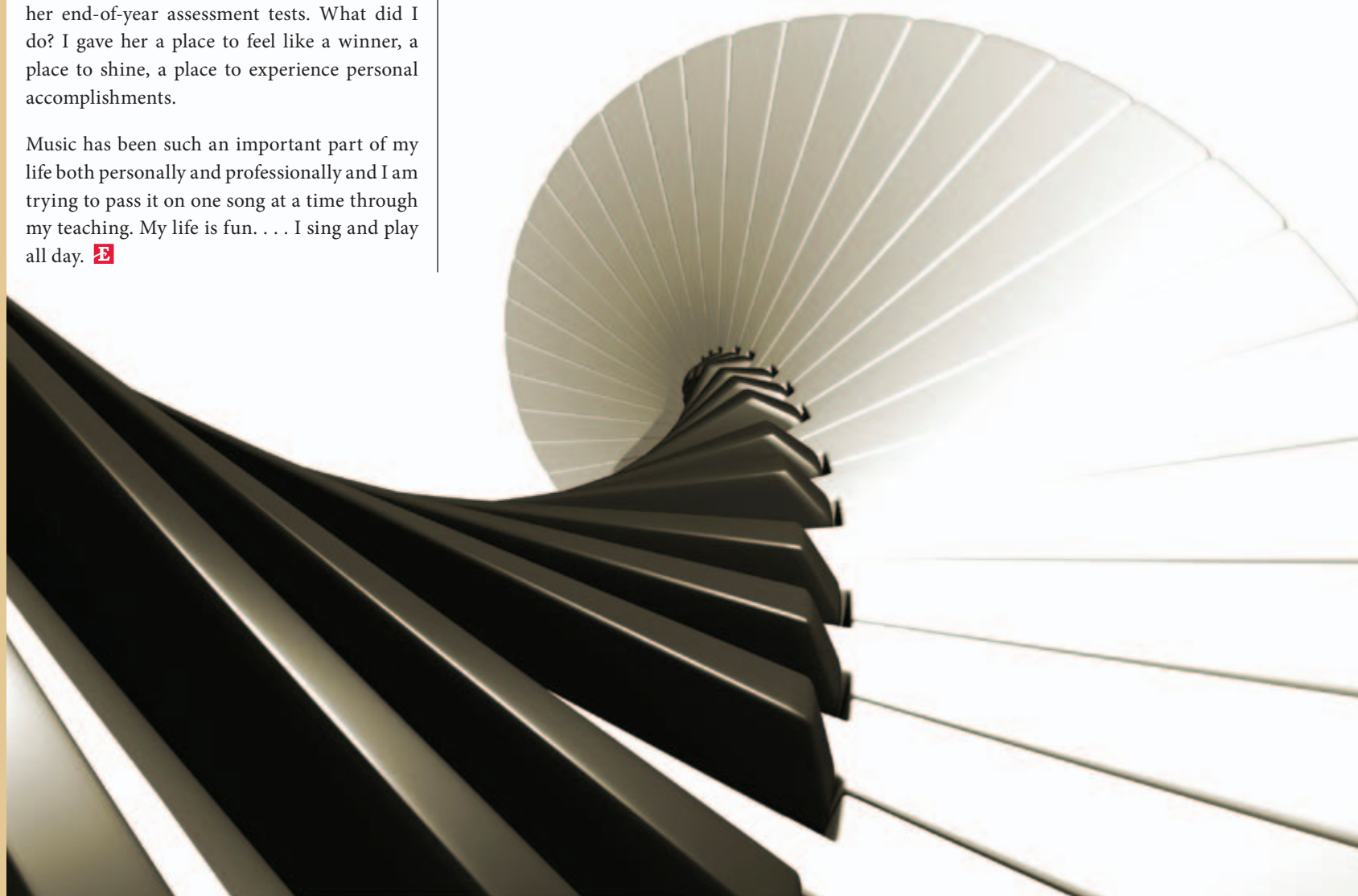
Music has been such an important part of my life both personally and professionally and I am trying to pass it on one song at a time through my teaching. My life is fun. . . . I sing and play all day. **E**



Leslie Ring and her granddaughter, Audrey.

Author Leslie Dowler Ring earned a bachelor of music education degree from Emporia State University, where she was initiated by Nu Zeta Chapter and served as G.H. Since graduation, Leslie has been active in five different Chi Omega alumnae chapters as her family relocated around the United States. Today she belongs to the Tyler, Texas Alumnae Chapter and has served as its president.

Additional community activities include her church choir, Young Audiences of East Texas (Arts Education), and the East Texas Symphony Orchestra League. She is a honorary life member of the Texas PTA. Leslie's Chi Omega “family” includes her twin, Linda Dowler Smith, also a Nu Zeta initiate, and nieces Hilary Smith Wingate and Allison Smith, both initiates of Lambda Chapter at the University of Kansas.



MUSICALLY YOURS

Musically Yours, Chi Omega!

—by Lyn Harris, Chi Omega National Archivist

Remember the peppy songs of recruitment, the tempered songs of rituals, the raucous songs sung during retreats that made us laugh together just for fun? Here's a quick look at how many of our favorites have become an essential part of Chi Omega.



Convention 1988 featured Chi Omega In Concert songbooks for every delegate.

FROM THE BEGINNING THERE WAS MUSIC.

Members: Go online to hear Chi Omega songs at www.ChiOmega.com/Everyday>InteractiveTools> videos and fun stuff. A webinar about Chi Omega's song history will be available online after October 5.



Music from Broadway show tunes to rap—it's all been used to promote Chi Omega! For 115 years, Chi Omegas have created lyrics adapted to popular songs of the day.

From the beginning there was music. Chi Omegas were encouraged to write poems and songs about the Fraternity; sometimes contests were held at early Conventions to pick the best new song; collegiate chapters published collections of songs; and in every early issue of *The Eleusis* the lyrics to new songs were printed.

The first songbook of Chi Omega was compiled by Jessie Parker of Lambda Chapter/

University of Kansas in 1903. It was a cardinal-and-straw-bound booklet of 20 songs written by chapter members. Lambda sent a copy to every chapter.

National committees prepared songbooks published and distributed in 1905 and 1912. The latter contains much original music.

From chapter to chapter, state to state, the music of our beloved Fraternity varies. But whether it's at candlelights, recruitment parties, parents' weekends, reunions or a member's wedding reception, singing the songs of Chi Omega brings us joy and unites us in Sisterhood and friendship.

Musically Yours, Chi Omega!

Panhellenic Toast

One of the oldest songs still used today by some chapters is the *Panhellenic Toast* written by Jean Porterfield, Nu/University of Wisconsin, and sung to the tune of Yale College's *Our Director*.

*Here's to Kappa Gamma,
And Gamma Phi
To the D.G. anchor,
And the arrow of Pi Beta Phi,
To Delta Delta Delta
Theta and Alpha Phi,
But here's to Chi Omega,
For we love thee!*

This toast was first published in *The Eleusis* in 1907. Through the years, the names of additional NPC groups were added to the song.

It has been tradition at some gatherings for each member to stand in her chair with one foot on the table during the last verse of the *Panhellenic Toast* song. I've also seen this done with the *Bum Bum Song*. Legend has it that early members of Chi Omega started this tradition (long before risk management concerns!) and it was considered quite shocking that the girls were thereby exposing their ankles.

The Bum Bum Song

Many members have perhaps not heard this early song, which came from **Sigma Chapter at Randolph-Macon Woman's College** and was published in the second issue of *The Eleusis* in 1900. A member of the chapter composed it impromptu during a picnic celebrating Founders Day. It is to the tune of a song sung by Eli Banana, a secret society at the **University of Virginia**.

*... We came to college, we came for knowledge
And perhaps, a little fun.
It's not the first time, nor yet
The last time
That together we'll all be on our
Jolly good bum, bum, bum . . .*

In later years when this song was sung, attendees would raise their water glass in one hand and a spoon in the other, clinking their glass on the words: "bum, bum, bum!"

Music is always an important aspect of Chi Omega Conventions.

Chi Omega Loyalty Song

Mary Love Collins (S.H. 1910–52) had one song she encouraged everyone to adopt: the *Chi Omega Loyalty Song*. It was her favorite! Alice E. Shurtleff, Xi/Northwestern University, wrote the lyrics and the music, which won first place in the song contest at the 1910 Convention. It was published in the 1912 *Chi Omega Songbook*. Some of the words:

*The breeze comes sighing from the west,
The moon shines soft above;
Come sisters gather hand in hand . . .*

My Chi Omega Sweetheart, a waltz song, was published by Collegiate Music Co. in 1927. Copies sold for fifty cents each. The music was by Jack Hutchings, a Sigma Chi, with words by Reed Vetterli and Max Prentice. Since this was a commercial undertaking and not composed by Chi Omegas, the Governing Council voted that it was not an official song to be used in college songbooks. When the publisher contacted Mary Love and asked if Chi Omega would purchase the rights to the song, she declined. He urged her to reconsider since the popularity of the song was second only to *Sweetheart of Sigma Chi*. Mary Love felt that it would set an unwise precedent, for who would be next with a plan to commercialize Chi Omega?

Perhaps in response to the previous song, *Sweetheart of Chi Omega* was written by Beth Whitney, Xi Alpha/University of Utah, and published in 1928. The inside cover of the sheet music features a photo from the 1928 Convention of five members and one very lucky gentleman!



In 1940, big-band legend Tommy Dorsey made a recording of favorite sorority songs. Mary Love made sure the *Loyalty Song* was among those he recorded.



Hair of Gold

Quite a popular number with many chapters was *Hair of Gold*, written sometime in the 1950s–1960s. The lyrics changed in some chapters during the 1980s. Instead of singing “*She went to college and she married a fellow, now she’s knitting booties in red and yellow!*” They would sing some variation of “*She graduated and got a PhD and now she’s president of the company!*”

Recruitment Favorites


The origin of the best-loved recruitment song, *Do Do Do Do Wop Wop*, is unknown. Some chapters sang it slowly, but most made it into almost a cheer. It also underwent some changes over the years. The original lyrics: “*You don’t have to have money, fine clothes or anything. All you have to do is pledge Chi O and listen to the rushees sing . . .*” became “*Chi Omega Chi Chi Chi Omega, so long remember us we hope you go Chi O . . .*”

In the early years, songbooks were published and distributed regularly. In 1962, **Psi Chapter** at the **University of Arkansas–Fayetteville** produced an album of Chi Omega songs. It included many favorites. At the 1988 Convention, “Chi Omega in Concert,” a comprehensive pamphlet of lyrics, was accompanied by a cassette tape and given to all chapters. A professionally produced song tape was also distributed at the 1992 Convention. This was in addition to a new recruitment manual and contained new songs including *Red Hot* and *Chi O Lasts Forever*. We have the **Rho Epsilon Chapter** at **Texas Christian University** to thank for the origin of the *Red Hot* song and recruitment-party theme.

Chi Omega Yours Forever

The lyrics to *Chi Omega Yours Forever* were composed by the 1937 **Chi Beta/Purdue University** graduating class and set to the melody of **Cornell University’s** alma mater. This now-beloved favorite was created and presented as a class present to the chapter at its senior banquet. The words and sentiments were a combined effort and the Sisters were very pleased with the chapter’s response.

Shades

Chi Omega’s best-loved and most-enduring song tradition has to be *Shades*. The lyrics were written by Kathleen “Pete” Johnson Barnard, **Upsilon Alpha Chapter/Syracuse University**, class of 1949. When the song was written, she called it the *Chi Omega Seniors Song*. The music to *Shades* was composed by Horace Lozier, a member of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. Mr. Lozier also wrote lyrics to the same music used by his fraternity; it was called *The Old Porch Chairs*. *Shades* first appeared in print in a songbook that is undated and shows no evidence of which chapter had it printed. 

CHI OMEGA SONGS BRING US JOY AND THEY UNITE US IN SISTERHOOD AND FRIENDSHIP.

Many talented women have assumed the role of unofficial song leader of Chi Omega. No one held that post more admirably or for a longer period of time than Mary Ruth Fogel Ferris, **Lambda/University of Kansas**. Not only would Mary Ruth organize music for Convention, but she would rise at a moment’s notice during the business meetings to lead the delegates in song while the tellers were counting the ballots! She can certainly be credited with preserving the Fraternity’s song heritage. Mary Ruth entered Omega Chapter in 1986.

The 1937 graduates of Chi Beta/Purdue University, who wrote *Chi Omega Yours Forever*.





Chi Omega

CONVENTION 2010

THE VALUE OF SISTERHOOD

Grande Lakes Resort, Orlando

June 26—June 30



There's only one way to describe Chi Omega Convention 2010: It was STRAWSOME!!

More than 1,200 Chi Omegas and guests met in Orlando in June to celebrate the accomplishments of the biennium and conduct the business of the Fraternity. The theme, The Value of Sisterhood, reflected the educational programming on chapter financial operations and focused on the value placed on friendships created through Chi Omega. As announced by S.H. Letitia Fulkerson during the opening general session, the new mission and vision (see pages 34–35) were also a unifying theme to the four days spent together.

The opening session included the traditional parade of chapters. As part of the Convention roll call, every collegiate chapter president parades through the aisles carrying her chapter's banner as a point of pride about her chapter is read. You may read these points of pride at www.TheEleusis.com/Convention.

The most important Fraternity business happens during Convention. This year a comprehensive revision to the Fraternity's bylaws was presented and adopted. During the last biennium, the S.H. appointed a task force to review the bylaws and propose revisions to bring them up to date while staying true to Chi Omega's founding purposes and values. Changes were made for consistency to better reflect current operating procedures and to comply with applicable laws. Three substantive changes were adopted:

- The process for Governing Council nominations from the floor of the Convention was clarified to affirm the work of the Nominations Committee in properly evaluating candidates before the slate is proposed.
- Clarification that the Governing Council has the authority to expel an alumna member, if warranted, on rare occasion.
- Changing the public title of the S.M. back to the historical title of National Ritual Officer.

Other important business included reports to the Convention delegates about projects and initiatives worked on during the biennium and the election of the Supreme Governing Council.

One of the highlights of Convention was the Ann Lee Konneker Keynote Address of Chi Omega, presented by Ann Bastianelli, **Theta Beta/Indiana University**. Ann is president and CEO of Anthology Consulting and an expert in interpreting trends in corporate and consumer behavior. Her theme, "What's Your Story?" challenged delegates to consider how actions and words shape reputations and lives. Ann's inspirational words helped the audience understand that their daily actions contribute to defining their personal brand and the actions of all Sisters can influence the Chi Omega brand.

Honoring the accomplishments of our chapters and members is an important part of Chi Omega Convention. During several events, awards were presented for outstanding achievement to alumnae chapters, individual alumnae, and collegiate chapters in addition to the Awards of Excellence and Achievement earned by our collegiate chapters. Find out if your chapter won an award at www.TheEleusis.com/Convention.

Convention isn't just about workshops, meetings, and banquets. It's also about FUN, including Revelry, our traditional evening of skits and songs. There were also off-site events for alumnae and guests, including golf and a tour of Bok Tower, a stunning historic home with gardens designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

Everyone left Convention with new memories, new friends, and a true understanding of what it means to belong to such an outstanding organization.

Chi Omega Convention 2010, continues



Members of the Governing Council for the 2010–2012 biennium are, from the left, S.N.V. Laura Miller, S.T.B. Joellyn Sullivan, S.H. Letitia Fulkerson, S.K.A. Jane Tankersley, and S.M. Kate Scattergood.

Convention Elects A New Governing Council

Our Fraternity flourishes today because of the untiring efforts and wisdom of Governing Council members during the past century. This body is responsible for making policy and for the governance of Fraternity business. Council members are volunteers who work with the Executive Headquarters staff, national consultants, national teams and committees, National Panhellenic Conference delegates, the Foundation, Chi O Creations, and other volunteers.

These outstanding Sisters will serve on the Governing Council for the 2010–2012 biennium.

Letitia Niemeier Fulkerson has been elected to a second term as S.H./national president • **Zeta Alpha/The Ohio State University** • bachelor's degree, business administration in computer and information science • owns a State Farm Insurance agency • lives in Cincinnati, Ohio with her husband, Mike

Joellyn Forrester Sullivan, S.T.B./national vice president • **Kappa Beta/Rhodes College** • bachelor's degrees, biology • a physical therapist and owner of Silky O'Sullivan's restaurant • lives in Memphis with her husband, Tom

Jane McWilliams Tankersley, S.K.A./national secretary • **Epsilon Delta/University of Southern Mississippi** • bachelor's degree, music, with a minor in clothing and textiles and fashion merchandising • worked in the retail merchandising industry, is a professional flutist • lives in Stuart, Florida with her husband, Jerry

Laura Shrode Miller, S.N.V./national treasurer • **Rho Epsilon /Texas Christian University** • bachelor's degree, marketing • market president for Liberty Bank • lives in Fort Worth with husband, Tod • two sons, one daughter-in-law

Convention Sponsors

Chi Omega gratefully acknowledges these sponsors for their support of Convention 2010.

Carnation Sponsors

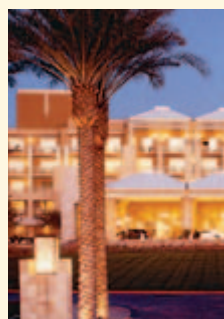
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Convention Slide Show

See your chapter, your Sisters, the events, the beautiful resort. Go to www.TheEleusis.com/Convention.




See You At Convention 2012

Mark your calendar and plan to join your Sisters July 11–15 at the beautiful JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa in Phoenix, Arizona.

Kate Chipley Scattergood, S.M./national ritual officer • **Alpha Kappa/North Carolina State University** • bachelor's degree, psychology • master's degree, student personnel services and counseling, **Virginia Tech University** • teaches preschool • lives in Cary, North Carolina with her husband, Tom, and their three children

Chi Omega appreciates the commitment of these Sisters and looks forward to the next two years of their collective leadership!

Learn more about these outstanding Sisters at www.TheEleusis.com/Convention. 

Presented to honor extraordinary service to our Fraternity, the President's Award is Chi Omega's most prestigious recognition. Recipients are selected by the national president and the award is presented at the President's Award banquet.



Martha Bradshaw

Martha Bradshaw Receives President's Award for Service to Chi Omega

Martha was initiated by **Psi Chapter/University of Arkansas** and served as chapter president. As an alumna, Martha was an advisor to **Sigma Epsilon/Vanderbilt University**. From 1992–2005, she worked for the Chi Omega Foundation as vice president for development; in that role, she traveled the country meeting alumnae and generating support for the Foundation. She was instrumental in raising money to build the Chi Omega Executive Headquarters, which

was dedicated in 1995. She also sought major endowment gifts for the *A Loyalty to Sisterhood Campaign*, the most successful campaign by a women's fraternal organization to date. Martha joined the Chi Omega Foundation Board of Trustees in 2005 and continues her service.

Martha lives outside of Nashville, Tennessee with her husband, Jim, a retired physician. They have four children and eleven grandchildren.



Betty Whelchel



Jane Hirt

The Chi Omega Foundation presented the Malinda Jolley Mortin Woman of Achievement Award of Chi Omega to two Sisters. This award recognizes outstanding achievements of alumnae.

Chi Omega Foundation Honors Two Sisters for Professional Achievement

Betty Whelchel, **Mu Beta/University of Georgia**, is a world leader in fiscal policy. As the Americas' general counsel for BNP Paribas, Corporate and Investment Banking, she is responsible for legal coverage of the bank's corporate and investment banking activities in North and South America. Betty previously was with the U.S. Treasury Department Legal Honors Program, the law firm Shearman and Sterling, and Deutsche Bank AG, where she served as global general counsel for Deutsche's asset management division. Betty lives in Brooklyn, New York with her husband and their daughter.

Jane Hirt, **Kappa/University of Nebraska-Lincoln**, is the managing editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, one of the country's largest newspapers. Earlier she was the founding editor of *RedEye*, the *Tribune's* daily newspaper for young professionals. Considered an innovative industry success, *RedEye* was recognized in 2006 with *Editor & Publisher's* "10 That Do It Right," and Jane was named one of "40 Under 40" by *Crain's Chicago Business* that same year. Jane serves as scholarship advisor to **Xi Chapter** at **Northwestern University**.

Carol Heller Recognized for a Lifetime of Philanthropy

Carol Franklin Heller, **Iota/University of Texas**, was presented the Roselyn T. Dabbs Philanthropist Award during the Woman of Achievement banquet. This award recognizes Sisters whose significant philanthropic efforts have benefitted Chi Omega and their communities. In 2007, Carol and her husband, Jeff, issued a \$25,000 challenge grant for The 1895 Society, the Chi Omega Foundation's premier giving group. Exceeding expectations, significant funds were raised for the Annual Fund.



Carol Heller

An Interview With Model Initiate Julia Glenn Bradley

Julia Glenn Bradley's model initiation ceremony was beautifully performed by members of **Epsilon Delta Chapter** at the **University of Southern Mississippi**.

The Owl, the Convention's daily newsletter, ran a fun interview with Julia on the day of her initiation. It is excerpted here in part.



Julia Glenn Bradley

Q: Describe the moment during recruitment that you just KNEW you wanted to be a Chi Omega.

A: When I walked into the house on the first day of recruitment I knew I wanted to be a Chi O because I felt comfortable as I began talking to members.

Q: What's your favorite song on your iPod?

A: John Mayer's new CD, *Battle Studies*. Also, I love season 1, *Glee* soundtrack.

Complete this sentence. I admire . . . my mom. She manages to successfully juggle a full-time career, two children, and volunteer work.

You are invited to read the entire interview online at www.TheEleusis.com/Convention.



Anna Callaway, Omicron Zeta
Arkansas State University



Anna Marie Coons, Kappa Beta
Rhodes College



Laura Daniel, Xi Kappa
Texas A&M University



Laura Dee, Lambda Beta
University of Rhode Island

*For our collegiate chapters,
Chi Omega's national consultants will help compose*

SYMPHONIES FOR SUCCESS



Sarah Jackson, Psi Mu
University of Central Florida

One of Chi Omega's 13 national consultants will visit your collegiate chapter this year. She will bring new rhythms and fresh lyrics and help your executive board, cardinal cabinet directors, and advisors compose goals and orchestrate ways to achieve them. Meet these consultants here as they discuss the music they listen to most.

Traveling this year are four second-year consultants, nine new consultants, and 13 iPods—each the personal property of one of our consultants. When we asked, “What’s the most-played song on your iPod,” an interesting variety of answers was received.

Anna Callaway selected Kenny Loggins’s *Foot-loose*, the title song from the movie of the same name. “This is the theme song to my life,” she says. “Perfect when I need to enjoy some ‘me’ time and for a pick-me-up.” Brette Henderson’s most-played song, *Unwritten* by Natasha Bedingfield, is also, as Brette says, “a song that always perks up my mood.”

First-year consultant Molly Onufer picked two songs she says are appropriate for almost any celebration: *September* by Earth, Wind & Fire and *Old Time Rock & Roll* by Bob Seger. “I like

them because I love to dance and I don’t think I’ve ever met anyone who hasn’t tapped a toe or full-out burst into dancing and singing when hearing these songs! They just emanate fun and happiness. They are the tunes I belt out while in my car.”

To learn more about each of our 2010–2011 national consultants, go to www.TheEleusis.com.



Also noting sing-along songs as their most-played are Magan McCarter and Rachel Noble. “*Don’t Stop Believin’* by Journey is, by far, my favorite,” says Magan. “I can’t help but sing it at the top of my lungs every time I hear it.” For Rachel, hearing *Drops of Jupiter* by Train makes her break into song, and she knows every word.

Various musical genres were mentioned by our consultants. The synth-pop standard *Forever Young* by Alphaville, which celebrates the virtues of youth, is a favorite of Laura Dee. *Stay*, a ballad by Sugarland, and *Shower the People*, a contemporary classic by James Taylor, are most-played on Kathleen Hillen’s iPod.

Sometimes we find music to be inspirational and motivating. Such is the case for Carolyn Goodwin and Kristen Eden. Taylor Swift’s *Fearless* is Carolyn’s favorite. Her reason? “Being a national consultant last year helped me become much more fearless, and the support of my Chi Omega Sisters allows me to take risks and be myself.”

Animal by Ke\$ha is Kristen’s favorite. She says, “It’s about living life to the fullest and cherishing those aspects of life that could be lost with-



Kristen Eden, Upsilon Beta
Rollins College



Carolyn Goodwin, Tau Delta
Gettysburg College



Brette Henderson, Mu
University of California–Berkeley



Kathleen Hillen, Omicron Lambda
Birmingham-Southern College



Magan McCarter, Alpha Alpha
University of North Texas



Julie Mickelson, Psi Beta
University of Iowa



Rachel Noble, Beta Gamma
University of Louisville



Molly Onufer, Upsilon Mu
John Carroll University

out a moment's notice. I recently moved to New York, away from my family in Florida. During the weeks before my departure, this song was my anthem to remind me to soak up all of the joyous moments with my family."


Several consultants mentioned movie and television music as their most-played iPod favorites. Julie Mickelson listens to the theme song from the movie *The Departed*, performed by Dropkick Murphys. "I can't go running without it popping up on one of my play lists," she says. Two consultants selected the music from the television show *Glee* as their favorite. "It's all I listen to these days," says Laura Daniel, and "I love that show!" says Sarah Jackson.

Music that evokes fond memories was selected by Anna Coons. "Marc Cohn's *Walking in Memphis* always puts a smile on my face," she says. In addition to the Chi Omega Executive Headquarters being located in Memphis, my initiating chapter, Kappa Beta at Rhodes College, is there, too. When I hear the song I am reminded of my wonderful friends and great memories made in Memphis."

While our consultants have demonstrated diverse musical preferences, all demonstrate a thorough knowledge of our Fraternity and look forward to helping our collegiate chapters create and perform new symphonies for successes in the 2010–2011 academic year.

Might national consulting be for you?

Are you graduating soon? Do you like to travel? Do you like meeting new people and making an impact? Do you have a passion for Chi Omega? If you answered YES to all these questions, you should apply to be a Chi Omega national consultant! National consultants gain many valuable life skills while meeting new people, delivering recipes for success to Chi Omega's leaders, and having fun.

Applications for the 2011–2012 academic year are due January 15, 2011. To learn more about the national consultant program, please visit www.ChiOmega.com/EveryDay or call the Executive Headquarters at 901/748-8600. 

BY THE NUMBERS

We surveyed our consultants about their musical talents and discovered a number are quite accomplished and many play several instruments while others claim to have little musical ability. One pianist was successful in regional competitions and a clarinetist was a section leader in her high school marching band. On the other hand, we were amused to find that one of our drummers beats out rhythms on her car's steering wheel rather than on a traditional instrument, and the expenditure of too much air caused one of our flautists to faint while playing. Here is a tally of the musical instruments studied at some time, for various lengths of time, and with varying degrees of success, by our consultants:

7	Piano	2	Flute
4	Drums	2	Guitar
3	Voice	1	Violin
2	Viola	1	Tambourine
2	Clarinet		

CHI OMEGA FOUNDATION



Programs Supported by the Foundation in 2010

Fraternity Grants:

- The Nancy Walton Laurie Leadership Institute of Chi Omega
- Substance Abuse and Awareness Toolkit
- Life Skills Training Speakers Bureau for collegiate chapters
- Risk Management Education Toolkit
- National Advisory Training Team
- Awards of Excellence and Achievement
- Convention Chorus
- Convention Educational Programming

Educational Area Housing Grants

Sisterhood Fund Grants

Computer and Technology Purchases

National Scholarship Recipients:

Featured on next page

Endowed Fund Scholarships

Four Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute Awards (UIFI)

Executive Headquarters Preservation

Invest in the talents of our Chi Omegas! Your 2010 gift to the Chi Omega Foundation is tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law. The Chi Omega Foundation is a qualified tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. For more information, please visit www.ChiOmega.com or send an e-mail to Foundation@ChiOmega.com or call 901/748-8600. Our Chi Omega Foundation address is 3395 Players Club Parkway, Memphis TN 38125.



Jennifer Taylor, Zeta Zeta G.M., and Terra Garmon, Zeta Zeta G.H., benefit from leadership training at Convention made possible by Foundation donors.

The State of the Chi Omega Foundation

For 28 years, the Chi Omega Foundation has been led by alumnae presidents, who much like highly skilled orchestra maestros, have deftly sought out and worked alongside the very best in leadership talent for the Foundation.

Jane Wickard Rogers, **Psi/U of Arkansas**, headed up our Foundation for a decade with her unique style of a vigorous work ethic coupled with a deep love for our Fraternity and its programs. Her expertise honed in senior management positions in the worlds of nonprofits, government agencies, political campaigns, and development served her well during her service. During her tenure as Foundation president, Jane has impressed donors and friends alike and her passionate approach to her job has helped placed our Foundation in a highly desirable ranking in the Greek world. We thank Jane for all of the countless ways in which she has made our Foundation thrive. Jane will continue trustee service through summer 2011 as immediate past president.

Another faithful leader completed her years of Chi Omega Foundation trustee service in 2010: Mary Ann Hancock Frugé, **Tau/U of Mississippi**. Prior to her six-year Foundation position, she served for 12 years on the Fraternity's Governing Council, including six years as Fraternity president. For almost two decades, Mary Ann has devoted her talents and expertise to national-level Chi Omega strategic planning and program execution. For this and for all her many other contributions to our Fraternity's success, we offer her our heartfelt thanks.

As we celebrate the service and leadership shown by Jane and Mary Ann, we welcome new Foundation President Shelley Eubanks Potter, **Xi Kappa/Texas A&M U**. Shelley, who has a long history of national, regional, and chapter

service for our Fraternity—including her most recent position as national vice president—continues our strong leadership legacy. She has played a major role in recent Fraternity strategic planning, especially as it involves strengthening our nationwide volunteer participation. Professionally, Shelley is a landscape architect and one of her greatest joys was designing the gardens for our Executive Headquarters.

Shelley is joined on the Chi Omega Foundation Board of Trustees by two new members: Lynn Horak McBee, **Iota/U of Texas**, and Sharon Weitzel Popp, **Chi Zeta/Colorado State U**. A well-known Dallas-area community leader, Lynn is a consultant for New England Biolabs, a privately held biotechnology firm. Sharon has served as chair of the Nancy Walton Laurie Leadership Institute of Chi Omega and is a senior vice president for Senomyx, Inc., a biotech company. Sharon resides in Carlsbad, California.

The most significant triumph during the past year is the steadfast nature of our supporters. . . . you stayed committed to our educational mission by giving generously and enthusiastically.

During this biennium, our Foundation listened to you and launched several underwriting programs and opportunities. Our board and staff have been on the road, meeting with alumnae and friends to discuss projects they may be interested in supporting. In addition to having naming opportunities for the Laurie Leadership Institute, and the sponsorship of a regional director office, we asked donors to cover regional GreekLifeEdu programs. Due to the support of many, all collegiate chapters will receive GreekLifeEdu this fall—a first!

The most significant triumph during the past year is the steadfast nature of our supporters. During an uncertain economy, you stayed committed to our educational mission by giving generously and enthusiastically. In turn, we responded to your desire to keep our programs first-class by taking some difficult and yet essential administrative steps. This belt-tightening was necessary to assure maximum benefits for all our members.

The Chi Omega Foundation remains vibrant because of its leadership tradition and the faithful support of our donors. We have continued our pattern of keeping all investments on a steady course this year and our new leadership is committed to this successful attitude. In this regard, Foundation leaders will continue our policy of investing your dollars conservatively and wisely so that Chi Omegas today and in the future can benefit from Fraternity programs.

THE 2010 CHI OMEGA NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Alumnae Educational Grant Recipients

Alumnae age 24 years and older pursuing educational initiatives

Tess Barkett Allen, Sigma Alpha/Miami U
 Lauren Nicole Bakian, Kappa Alpha/Kansas State U
 Kimberly Shawn Clements, Theta Theta/U of South Florida
 Ashley Jahraus, Theta Beta/Indiana U
 Sarah Kirk Kohl, Gamma Kappa/Western Illinois U
 Mary Margaret Pavelka, Kappa/U of Nebraska-Lincoln
 April Leigh Powell, Epsilon Zeta/Stephen F. Austin State U
 Natalie Raquel Rosado, Theta Theta/U of South Florida
 Melissa Rose Savia, Psi Kappa/Clemson U
 Courtney Marie Sowell, Eta Gamma/U of South Carolina

Mary Love Collins Memorial Scholarship Recipients

Full-time graduate study

Alessandra Jenri Ainsworth, Lambda/U of Kansas
 Laura Elizabeth Heuermann, Zeta Delta/U of Nebraska-Omaha
 Michelle Elise Peach, Phi Delta/Mississippi State U
 Emily Cassidy Peterson, Beta Gamma/U of Louisville
 Casey Jay Potter, Iota Alpha/Southern Methodist U

Elizabeth Carmichael Orman Memorial Scholarship Recipients

Financial assistance for their senior year

Casey Lynn Dubuque, Mu Alpha/U of New Hampshire
 Maggie N. Henderson, Upsilon Mu/John Carroll U
 Kayla Jayne Meadows, Kappa Zeta/Texas Tech U
 Meagan Lindsay Shanks, Iota Gamma/Centenary College
 Brittany Ann Solner, Mu Beta/U of Georgia

2010 Selection Committee Members

Committee Chair: Joan Nelson Hancock, Zeta/U of Colorado

Alumnae Educational Grant

Jennifer Mueller Alderdice, Kappa Alpha/Kansas State U
 Stephanie Chantillis Bray, Iota Alpha/Southern Methodist U
 Jocelyn Schiedel, Eta Lambda/American U

Mary Love Collins Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Gail J. Fullerton, Kappa/U of Nebraska-Lincoln
 Dr. Barbara N. Hale, Upsilon Alpha/Syracuse U
 Dr. Frances B. Rushing, Delta Alpha/U of Tennessee-Chattanooga

Elizabeth Carmichael Orman Memorial Scholarship

Susan Miller Bush, Pi/U of Tennessee-Knoxville
 Dr. Donna Chapa Crowe, Chi Lambda/Winthrop U
 Deanna Tanner Okun, Alpha Gamma/Utah State U

You'll find downloadable applications for these scholarships at www.ChiOmega.com/EveryDay or contact the Foundation at 3395 Players Club Parkway, Memphis TN 38125; 901/748-8600 or Foundation@ChiOmega.com. Applications are due in February 2011.



Chi Omega Foundation Endowed Funds

Donors have chosen to establish and may continue to contribute toward endowed funds in honor of chapters, family members, and loved ones. Earnings from these funds will support program needs as specified by donors and chapter leadership. The following is a summary of funds established. Names in bold have been endowed in the last year.

NATIONAL ENDOWED FUNDS

Winnie Bowker Fund
 Chi Omega Choral Fund
 Mary Love Collins Memorial Scholarship
 William and Margaret Watts Denton Parliamentary Procedure Fund
 Christelle Ferguson/Helen Gordon Leadership Development Fund
 Mary Ruth Ferris Fund
Engineering Impact – Bobbie Banaszak Gleiter Scholarship Fund
 The Roselyn Harris Alumnae Scholarship
 Headquarters Preservation Fund
 Elizabeth Carmichael Orman Memorial Scholarship
Rowdy and Lucky Shain Scholarship Fund
 Nellie Lewis Springer Chi Omega Scholarship for Interior Design
 University of Arkansas-Greek Theatre Fund

ALUMNAE OR COLLEGIATE CHAPTER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Alpha Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Alpha Alpha Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Alpha Beta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Alpha Gamma Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Pat Bailey Scholarship Fund (Alpha Kappa)
 Lillian L. Smith Leadership Award (Alpha Kappa)
 Alpha Zeta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Jacquelyn Mercer Lucchese/Alpha Zeta Chapter Scholarship
 Beta Alpha Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Beta Alpha House Corporation Scholarship Fund
 Beta Beta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Beta Delta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 FRCE Scholarship Fund (Beta Delta)
 Laurel Wreath of Beta Gamma Scholarship Fund
 Beta Kappa Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Sharon Matusevicius Scholarship Fund (Beta Lambda)
 Beta Theta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Garnett Eva Gayle Chi Chapter Scholarship Fund

Chi Alpha Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Jill Semplinski Nelson Memorial Scholarship Fund (Chi Beta)
 Victoria Milea Shelli Memorial Scholarship (Chi Beta)
 Angie Manguno Memorial Scholarship Fund (Chi Delta)
 Chi Epsilon Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Chi Gamma Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Chi Kappa Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Chi Lambda Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Chi O-Hio Scholarship Fund
 Joyce S. Wilder Scholarship Fund (Chi Theta)
 Cleveland-East Chi Omega Alumnae Scholarship Fund
 Cleveland-West Chi Omega Alumnae Scholarship Fund
 Chi Omega Alumnae of Dallas Chi O Christmas Market Endowed Scholarship Fund
 Charlotte M Crawford (Dayton Alumnae)
 Starr T. Klein/Delta Alpha Honorary Scholarship Fund
 Delta Delta Educational Fund
 Marie Green Meacham Honorary Scholarship Fund (Delta Theta)
 Doane-Deer Foundation Scholarship
 Jacqueline Boulogne Brashears Memorial Scholarship Fund (Epsilon Alpha)
 Molly Shi Boren Scholarship Fund (Epsilon Alpha)
 Epsilon Beta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Guion Griffis Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund (Epsilon Beta)
 Mary Dayne Gregg Scholarship Fund (Epsilon Delta)
 Mary Mlecko Scholarship (Epsilon Lambda)
 Epsilon Theta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Epsilon Zeta Chapter Scholarship Fund
 Chiara Levin Memorial Scholarship - Eta Chapter
 Eliza Ann Roark Scholarship (Eta)
 June Shugg Carter Chi Omega Spirit Scholarship (Eta Alpha)
 Louise Moen Scholarship Fund for the Eta Beta Chapter
 Ann H. Jones and Jackie T. McGriff Scholarship (Eta Delta)
 Eta Delta Chapter Scholarship Fund

Elizabeth Sechen Hansen
Memorial Scholarship Fund
for Eta Delta

Eta Gamma Symphony Sister
Scholarship Fund

**Marilyn Morgan Memorial
Scholarship (Eta Gamma)**

Leslie Sonnabend Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Eta
Kappa)

Eta Lambda Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Mary Helen Derby Scholarship
by Chi Omega Community
Charities (Ft. Worth
Alumnae)

Gamma Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Marissa Leanne Witham
Scholarship Fund for
Gamma Beta Chapter

Gamma Kappa Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Gamma Lambda Chapter
Scholarship

Gamma Theta Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Houston Alumnae Scholarship
Fund

**Joni Hruska Fichter Scholarship
(Houston Area Collegians)**

Iota Chapter Scholarship Fund

Iota Alpha Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Iota Delta Chapter Scholarship

Jennifer Carol White Memorial
Scholarship for Iota Gamma

Iota Zeta Chapter Scholarship
Fund

June Barber Scholarship Fund
(Kansas City Alumnae)

Kappa Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Kappa Alpha Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Amilee Robinson Fair
Scholarship Fund (Kappa
Beta)

Diane McMillan Wellford
Honorary Scholarship Fund
(Kappa Beta)

Kappa Beta Educational Fund

Shanon Wise Marks/Kappa
Delta Memorial Scholarship
Fund

Kappa Lambda Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Kappa Zeta Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Lambda Alpha Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Ann Walters Scholarship Fund
(Lambda Delta)

Betsey Gamble Feinour
Memorial Symphony
Scholarship Fund (Lambda
Gamma)

Mary Ann Rodeheaver
Scholarship Fund (Lambda
Gamma)

Lambda Kappa Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Lambda Zeta Chapter
Scholarship

Carlene Traub Ware Endowed
Scholarship Fund (Midland
Texas Alumnae)

Golden Mu Scholarship

Kate Jeter/Mu Beta Memorial
Scholarship Fund

Mu Beta Chapter Scholarship

Mu Gamma Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Krishna Vara Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Mu
Kappa)

Mu Lambda Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Mu Zeta Scholarship Fund

Nashville Chi Omega Alumnae
Association Scholarship

Nu Chapter Scholarship Fund

Nu Alpha Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Nu Beta Eloise Tarwater
Scholarship Fund

Kirk Bell Cocke Hassell
Scholarship Fund (Gamma
and Nu Beta)

Helen Foster Everitt - Nu
Gamma Scholarship Fund

Eileen G. Brown - Nu Lambda
Scholarship Fund

Omicron Beta Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Yetive Winslow Bryant
Scholarship Fund (Omicron
Beta)

Omicron Kappa Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Omicron Lambda Scholarship
in Honor of Jan McKenzie
Wells

Diane Neale Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Omicron
Theta)

Omicron Zeta Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Dorothy Fink Memorial/Phi
Beta Scholarship Fund

Mary Virginia Simrall
Scholarship Fund (Phi
Delta)

**Lindsay Gillilan Memorial
Fund (Phi Epsilon)**

Leah Hipple McKay Scholarship
(Phi Gamma)

Phi Kappa Chapter Scholarship

Phi Lambda Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Phi Theta Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Philadelphia Chapter Alumnae
Scholarship

Helen Baker Dance Scholarship
Fund (Pi)

Pi Alpha Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Pi Beta Charter Members
Memorial Scholarship Fund

Pi Delta Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Pi Delta/Sarah Hobbs
Elmendorf Symphony
Scholarship

Pi Delta/Sarah Hobbs
Elmendorf Academic
Scholarship

Pi Epsilon Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Pi Gamma Chapter Scholarship

Pi Kappa Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Sally Gaines Chambers
Scholarship Fund for Psi
Chapter of Chi Omega

Psi Beta Chapter Scholarship

Psi Delta Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Joan Mueller Etter Scholarship
(Psi Epsilon)

Psi Gamma Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Psi Kappa Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Psi Mu Symphony Scholarship

Psi Theta Chapter Scholarship

Psi Zeta House Corporation
Scholarship Fund

Rho Alpha Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Laura Shrode Miller Honorary
Scholarship Fund (Rho
Epsilon)

Rho Epsilon Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Rho Gamma Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Rho Lambda Chapter
Scholarship

Margaret Manley Carter
Memorial Scholarship Fund
(Rho Zeta)

Cile Robertson Ambrose Sigma
Epsilon Scholarship Fund

Sigma Kappa Chapter
Scholarship

Sigma Lambda Chapter
Scholarship

Tau Memorial Fund

Tau Alpha Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Tau Beta Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Laura LaRue Franta Scholarship
Fund (Tau Gamma)

Tau Gamma Educational Fund

Beth Middleton Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Tau
Kappa)

Theta Centennial Scholarship
Fund

Theta Alpha Scholarship Fund

Judy Bird Memorial Fund
(Theta Kappa)

Theta Kappa Scholarship Fund

Fae Beth Hobbs Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Theta
Zeta)

Upsilon Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Upsilon Lambda Chapter
Scholarship Fund

Upsilon Zeta Chapter
Scholarship

Claudine V. Mason Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Xi)

Patricia Stickroth Miller
Scholarship Fund (Xi Delta)

Xi Delta Chapter Scholarship

Xi Gamma Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Xi Kappa Educational Fund

Xi Lambda Chapter Scholarship

Xi Zeta Chapter Scholarship

Zeta Chapter Scholarship

Susan A. Deubner Edwards
Kennedy Scholarship Fund
(Zeta Alpha)

The Legacy Scholarships in
Memory of Marian C. Kirk
(Zeta Alpha)

The Sandys' Award (Zeta Alpha)

Corky Halpenny Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Zeta Beta)

Zeta Beta Chapter Scholarship
Fund

Zeta Delta Founding Advisors
Memorial Scholarship Fund

Jean R. Spell/Zeta Gamma
Honorary Scholarship Fund

Starr Hill Honorary Scholarship
for Zeta Kappa

Julie Marie Hansen Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Zeta
Lambda)

Maia Cory Witzl Memorial
Scholarship Fund (Zeta
Lambda)

Zeta Theta Scholar Award
and Ethel Switzer Howard
Symphony Scholarship Fund

Zeta Zeta Anniversary
Scholarship

Zeta Zeta Chapter Scholarship
Fund

**A LOYALTY TO SISTERHOOD
FUNDS**

Anonymous Fund (2)

Leisa Johnson Austin Fund

Diana Vorsanger Beran Fund

Bethell Family Fund

Jan Boyd Blackwell Fund

Barbara Goodrich Boone Fund

Martha Mann Bradshaw Fund

Barbara and Robert Bromberg
Fund

A Senior Loyalty Chair for Sue
Walk Burnett

René Brooks Cameron Fund

Cash Family Fund - Honoring
Four Generations of Chi
Omegas

Esther Rutland Clark Memorial
Fund

Sis Hoey Collins National
Consultant of Chi Omega

Sandra McAdams Connor Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Kim Siebers
Cornet

Marguerite Hornor Corvin
Fund

Patti Cook Crews National
Consultant of Chi Omega

Roselyn T. Dabbs Fund

A Senior Loyalty Chair for
The 5 Society in Honor of
Roselyn Dabbs

Susan Ross DeDeyn Fund

Alicia Williams Doherty
Memorial Fund

Leslie Grayson Dunavon Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Geyer Wise
Dybesland

Lizabeth Keating Emrick Fund

Mary Peery Fife Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Martha
Dale Richie Fritts

A Loyalty Chair for Mary Ann
Hancock Frugé

Barbara Bolik Gagner Fund

Margaret Gray Gall Fund

Doris Howard Gray and Trisha
Wilson Fund

Karen Elaine Gray Fund

Sally Prock Green Fund

Ann Weaver Gresham Fund

Joan Nelson Hancock Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Cordia
Barton Harrington

Lyn Harris Psi Gamma Fund

A Senior Loyalty Chair for
Mary Donnelly Haskell

Kirk Bell Cocke Hassell
Memorial Fund

Sally Holloman Hederman
Fund

A Distinguished Loyalty Chair
for Gertrude Hendra

A Senior Loyalty Chair for
Ruth Noyes Hobbs and Judy
McAdams DeRoek

Krissi Holman Helping Others
Fund

Grace Ann House Fund

Jervis Family Fund

A Distinguished Loyalty
Chair for Mary E. Wallace
Klosterman and Kathryn
Wallace Craig

Ann Lee Konneker Keynote
Address of Chi Omega

Nancy Walton Laurie
Leadership Institute of Chi
Omega

Loyalty to Chi Omega Fund

Loyalty to Sisterhood Fund

Marion and Leland Majors
Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Nancy
Peery Marriott

Lynn Horak McBee Fund

Pam Knudson McCallum Fund

Cleta Deatherage Mitchell Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Pamela
Palmer Montesi

Malinda Jolley Mortin Woman
of Achievement Award of
Chi Omega

Jean Mermoud Mrasek Fund

Craighill Nicholas Fund

Louise Dieterle Nippert Fund

Emily Gaines Norwick National
Consultant of Chi Omega

Leslie Blackwell Oliver Fund

Penberthy Family Fund

Emmie Lela Gramling
Perkinson Fund

Marcia Whitwell Persons
Loyalty Fund

A Loyal Phi Alpha Alumna
Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Rena Elder
Pilalas

Judy Goff Pittman Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Sharon
Weitzel Popp

Shelley Eubanks Potter
Landscape Fund

Peggy Barr Rinehart Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Sue Morten
Rogers

Jane Wickard Rogers Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Melanie
and John Shain

A Loyalty Chair for Cathy Wray
Shepherd

Ruth Stanlie Smith Silver Fund

A Distinguished Loyalty Chair
for Bobbie Caffee Smith

Katherine Hahn Smith Fund

Katherine Hinds Smythe
National Consultant of Chi
Omega

Jean R. Spell - Headquarters
Preservation Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Cynthia
Spencer Sterrett

Stevenson Loyalty Fund

Nana Bachtel Stewart Fund

Alma Hagman Stolp National
Consultant of Chi Omega

A Loyalty Chair for Joellyn
Forrester Sullivan

A Loyalty Chair for Jane
McWilliams Tankersley

Chanetta Perdue Terrell Fund

A Loyalty Chair for Julie
Borchers Thoma

Misty Whitson Tyree Fund

Mary Youmans Udouj Fund

Paula Van Ness Fund

Jeanne Scott Varnell Leadership
Development Fund

Frances Brindley Veller
National Consultant of Chi
Omega

Rita Hill Williams and Jessie
Hill Van Dyke Fund

Catherine Tucker Wilson
Memorial Fund

Kittie Ruth Matthews Wimbish
Fund

Chi Omega is for a lifetime. Our collegiate years are only the beginning of our Chi Omega experience. Every day across America, **Sisters are connecting with each other**. We invite you to share in their stories and send us your own. We invite you to connect: *Chi O, ever after, we'll remember you.*



WHEN THE U OF TENNESSEE “Big Orange Caravan” stopped in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, there was a special reception held for U of Tennessee–Martin alumni. The guest speaker was Lady Vols head coach Pat Head Summitt, Xi Zeta/U of Tennessee–Martin, a recipient of the Malinda Jolley Mortin Woman of Achievement Award of Chi Omega. Coach Summitt’s presentation provided insight into her career and was peppered with stories of her Chi Omega Sisters. Pictured above from the left are Xi Zetas Lori Wolfe Smeby, Pat Summitt, Shari Lashlee Moore, and Tracey Stuard Harness.



REUNION IN AUSTRALIA. Pictured from the left are Chi Beta/Purdue U initiates Dai-Wen “Dee” Zhang, Kaitlin Hines, Emily Payne, and Megan Watson. The Sisters recently experienced together the fun night-life in Sydney, Australia. Kaitlin, Emily, and Megan studied, interned, and traveled in Australia last summer and were thrilled to spend some time with their Sister Dee, an Australian native who became a Chi Omega while studying at Purdue U in 2009–2010.

Branch Added to Chi Omega Family Tree

The phrase “Chi O Sister” took on a new meaning for one family last fall when Eta Delta/U of Florida had its initiation. Among those becoming members was freshman Ivie Thomas, who was the model initiate.

Ivie knew Chi Os were all over her family tree, but didn’t know that several were also model initiates. Ivie’s grandmother, Anne Futch McClure Whidden, was model initiate of her Gamma/Florida State U new member class in 1954. Anne’s three daughters are Chi Os, too: Lisa McClure Shaw (Ivie’s aunt) was model initiate of Gamma’s 1997 new member class; Lisa’s twin, Linda McClure Johnson, was initiated on the same day, also by Gamma Chapter; and Martha McClure Thomas, Ivie’s mother, was model initiate of the Alpha Zeta/Texas State U new member class in 1980.

Martha surprised Ivie by not just attending her initiation, but by getting her grandmother and aunt there for the event, too. Ivie was initiated with her grandmother’s Chi Omega badge.

Another special aspect of this initiation is that Gamma Chapter helped with the chartering of Eta Delta Chapter. “We didn’t remember this until a member of Eta Delta Chapter spoke about it. There are connections all over the place and that’s exciting,” said Ivie’s grandmother.

For Anne, Martha, and Lisa, this extra connection made Ivie’s initiation even more meaningful. “So many memories came flooding back to all of us,” said Martha. “You don’t realize how special it is to have a daughter pledge the same sorority until it happens. I told her I just wanted her to be happy. Our family is just thrilled. We are very excited that Ivie is not only a daughter, granddaughter, and niece, but a Chi O Sister, too.”

To view a photo of this Chi Omega family, go to www.TheEleusis.com>Toasts and Singing.

Reunions Featured on the Web

- While traveling to China with the Raleigh (North Carolina) Chamber of Commerce, six women realized they are all Chi Omegas!
- Ann Herrick Farren, Saralu Mills Thornton, JoLayne Warren Antry, Marion Wortley Scott, and Marilyn Inhofe Davis, all 1948 graduates of **Epsilon Gamma/U of Tulsa**, celebrate their birthdays together.
- Attending the 2010 Eleusinian celebration in Nashville, Tennessee, were Jane Evans Sharp, **Tau/U of Mississippi**, and her daughter, Sarah Sharp, **Sigma Epsilon/Vanderbilt U**. Jane is Sigma Epsilon's financial advisor. Sarah attends graduate school in Memphis.
- The 1975 graduates of **Rho Zeta/East Carolina U** had their 2010 annual reunion in Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Iota Sisters from the **U of Texas–Austin** had their 29th consecutive annual reunion at “The Other Place” on the Comal River in New Braunfels, Texas.
- Six alumnae from **Omicron Chapter's** 1990 new member class at the **U of Illinois** had a girls' weekend in Lake Geneva.

You'll find the details of these reunions at www.TheEleusis.com>Toasts and Singing.



A BIRTHDAY REUNION. Anne Pokoski, center front wearing blue, hosted a reunion at her St. Louis home on October 16, 2009 for Rho Alphas/U of Missouri–Columbia who graduated in the years just before and after 1982. “When I turned 50,” says Anne, “I had the urge to reconnect with all of these fabulous women, many of whom I had not seen in almost 30 years. What a great success! About 35 Sisters attended, several from out of state. We had a blast!” This photo, with a caption identifying those pictured, is posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Toasts and Singing.



From the left: Tiffany Usry Jones, Emily Cole, Kristy Sharpe Boyd, and Holly Bradberry Wilds.

Mississippi in March

Four Sisters initiated in 2003 by **Phi Delta/Mississippi State U**, now separated by many miles, enjoyed a reunion last March. Hostessing was Tiffany Usry Jones, who lives in Clinton, Mississippi. Attending were Emily Cole, from Nashville, Tennessee; Kristy Sharpe Boyd, from Denver; and Holly Bradberry Wilds, from Minot, North Dakota.

Two of the women brought their babies to the reunion. Introducing their legacies were the hostess, Tiffany, with Brantley, and Holly, with Abby. Photos of these mothers and daughters are posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Toasts and Singing.



WEEKEND IN CHICAGO. Three former roommates, all Sisters of **Upsilon Lambda Chapter** at Hanover College, enjoyed a long weekend of catching up and making wonderful new memories during a spring 2010 reunion in Chicago. Pictured above, they are Ann-Morgan Carter Krueger, Amanda Staines Peterson, and Nicole Hill; they traveled from Ohio, Texas, and Idaho respectively. While Second City comedy, “The Bean,” and the view from the John Hancock Tower were impressive, the highlight of the weekend was the time spent with each other.

Reunion of Mid-Sixties Epsilon Alpha Sisters

Cherry Kay Griffith Clifford and Betty (BJ) Albitz-Robinson hosted a luncheon reunion for their U of Oklahoma/Epsilon Alpha Sisters initiated from 1963–1966. The party was held in the Clifford home in Oklahoma City.

Guests were asked to bring a “cold salad to share with cool Sisters.” Chicken noodle soup, typical sorority-house fare at Epsilon Alpha in the ’60s, was also served.

The music was compact discs by folk singer-songwriter and recording artist K.C. Clifford, daughter of the hostess.

For centerpieces on the tables, the hostesses created cake-ball bouquets and antique flower jars filled with yellow daisies.

“Many of the 16 of us had not seen each other since college,” said Cherry. “The conversations took off as if we had never been separated. It was a precious opportunity for good fellowship with treasured Sisters. BJ and I plan to host another luncheon, and we are very hopeful that even more of our dear Sisters can attend.”

Photos of this reunion may be viewed at www.TheEleusis.com > Toasts and Singing.



REUNION ON THE LAKE. Ten Sisters of Sigma Kappa Chapter/Austin Peay State U enjoyed a reunion at Kentucky Lake in Paris Landing, Tennessee. The hostess was Amanda Bridge Powers, who opened her lake house to the group. What fun they had boating, eating, looking at photos, and sitting on the deck until the wee hours of the morning remembering, recalling, and recollecting. Pictured from the left in front are: Kristi Wyatt Cherry, JoDee Wall Wright, Bonnie Little Bowers; in back are Susan Aurich, Lexi Hellums Jobe, Jamie Nance Coleman, Amanda Bridges Powers, Kimberly Hurst Beals, Kimberly Crawford Rains, Stacey Baggett Hagewood.



CONVENTION SURPRISE REUNION. Cousins Lindsay Armstrong, a collegiate member at Zeta Beta/U of Arizona, left, and Heather Achenbach Balas, an alumna of Beta Delta/Thiel College, hadn't seen one another for many years and neither knew the other is a Chi Omega. At the Fraternity's recent Convention in Orlando, “I saw a Sister walk in,” says Heather, “and thought she looked like my cousin. So I went over to say hi—and it was Lindsay!”

What Next for the Phi Gamma Nine?

Nine Phi Gamma Sisters from Louisiana State U held their second reunion in May 2010 at Orange Beach, Alabama. Initiation dates range from 1970–1972. Attending were Claire Picheloup Gisclair, Sheila Richardson, Jane “Pickle” Pumpelly Brumby, Margaret Foret LaBorde, Karleen Mackey Gremillion, Mary Ann McDuff, Flora Yerger Tucker, Jackie Fontenot Robins, and Betsy Dale Holleman.



SISTERS CELEBRATE IN DALLAS. Three Phi Gamma/Louisiana State U alumnae initiated in 1975 get together to celebrate each other's birthdays. From the left are Dallas residents Marge Terry, Carol Weyman, and Mary Louise Carstens Hopson, pictured on the occasion of Carol's birthday this year.

The Sisters' first reunion was held in 2005 but that site was subsequently destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. At their second reunion in 2010, the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was threatening to come ashore. What will happen at their next reunion?

A photo of these Sisters is posted at www.TheEleusis.com > Toasts and Singing.



From the left are Lori Gordon Spencer, Alice Pyatt Barrett, Lauren Redeker, Marti Campbell, Peg Wright Emerson, and Evelyn Sprague.

Chi Omega Responds!

—by Lauren Redeker, Phi Mu/Lehigh U

We all know that being a member of Chi Omega means forever friendships, loyalty, and connections across the ages. But these values were more apparent than ever on July 13, 2010 for six Chi Omega Sisters in Fort Myers, Florida. We learned that you can have a joyous “reunion” with a Sister you’ve never met.

It’s important to know where it all began. I opened my summer 2010 issue of *The Eleusis*, looking forward to my dose of Chi O news and goings-on. Little did I know this would be the beginning of an extra-special occasion.

As I made my way through the cover story, “Celebrating a Day in the Life of Chi Omega,” I came upon a picture of Evelyn Poggenburg Beattie Sprague, a 1930 initiate of **Iota Beta/Hunter College**. She was in a lovely retirement community, Shell Point, in Fort Myers and in the accompanying caption she asked if there were other Chi Os in the area. As luck would have it, the Lee County Alumnae Chapter, which includes the Fort Myers community in which Evelyn lives, is very active and we are always looking to meet new Sisters!

When Ft. Myers, Florida alumnae read in *The Eleusis*
that a Sister living in the area was seeking other Chi Omegas,
the women sprang into action. Here is their heartwarming story.

Within two days, the e-mails and phone calls began, headed by our alumnae chapter president, Sue Morten Rogers, **Sigma Alpha/Miami U**, who placed calls and wrote e-mails from her summer home in New Jersey.

First, we gathered information. Was Evelyn on our mailing list? What was her phone number? In which building in Shell Point did she live? Could she have visitors?

Next, we arranged for five members of our alumnae board to visit her: Lori Gordon Spencer, **Upsilon Delta/U of Miami**, our chapter’s historian/photographer; Marti Campbell, **Epsilon Theta/Morehead State U**, treasurer; Alice Pyatt Barrett, **Phi Epsilon/Ball State**

U, Panhellenic representative; and Peg Wright Emerson, **Sigma Alpha/Miami U**.

On the evening of our visit, we stopped for an early meal at a local restaurant, where we soon realized that our ages spanned the generations. I’m in my 30s and the oldest among us is in her 80s. Being in her 90s, Evelyn completes the span.

We excitedly headed to Shell Point, not knowing quite what to expect. We took a yellow balloon and white carnations tied with red and yellow ribbons.

As we walked into Evelyn’s room, we were delighted to see her look of pure joy and surprise when we introduced ourselves as her Chi Omega Sisters. We settled in for an hour of pleasant conversation and an exchange of wonderful memories.

We learned that one of Evelyn’s relatives submitted the photo to *The Eleusis*; she regularly receives letters and phone calls from family and friends; she moved to Fort Myers for the warm weather; and she was both a kindergarten teacher and a high school English teacher.

We also discovered that her 99th birthday was the next day—a wonderful coincidence! Two special events in one.

Time sped by as we chatted and took photos. A smile seemed permanently affixed to Evelyn’s face as she made the best comment of the night: “It’s amazing, at 98, that Chi Omega resuscitates!”

With her blue eyes, snow-white hair, and rosy cheeks, Evelyn is a sweetheart of a lady. We knew this would be an evening she would not soon forget. Neither would any of us.

Though Evelyn’s family is not able to visit her very often, Alice made a good point when she said, “Now you have a family!” After all, isn’t that what Chi Omega has become to each of us . . . a second family?

When we come to a point in our lives when we worry about being alone, it’s comforting to know that there is always a constant we can depend on: Chi Omega Sisterhood.

Chi Omega Today Is Coming Your Way!

Chi Omega Today is a special event that brings national leaders to your city to give a short presentation about Chi Omega's latest successes and accomplishments. Hosted by alumnae chapters, this is a great way to generate interest in the area alumnae chapter and learn more about why Chi Omega is as relevant today as it was when you were in school.

Chi Omega Today is coming to these cities:

- October 23, 2010
Puget Sound, Washington (Seattle area)
- January 13, 2011
Phoenix, Arizona
- January 18, 2011
Charlotte, North Carolina

For the exact times and locations and to RSVP go to www.ChiOmega.com/EveryDay>Events or call the Executive Headquarters at 901/748-8600.

Can't come but would like to connect with Sisters in your area? Please contact the alumnae president for your area:

- Puget Sound: Jen Masar, jenmasar@gmail.com
- Phoenix: Lindsay Barnes, lbarnes36@yahoo.com
- Charlotte: Samantha Starling, samrstar@windstream.net



REUNION AT THE BEACH. Twenty-six Phi Gamma/Louisiana State U Sisters from the new member classes of 1974 and 1975 enjoyed a second reunion at the beach in Gulf Shores, Alabama. The Sisters are planning a third reunion in Gulf Shores in 2011. This photo and a caption identifying the attendees are posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Toasts and Singing.



BIG APPLE REUNION. Seven Eta Lambda/American U Sisters living in the Philadelphia-New York City-New Jersey area met in Manhattan last February for brunch and catching-up. Pictured from the left, they are Jackie Strzepek, Dena Helf, Jeannine Scherzer, Lacey Belinfante, Katie Bradshaw, Eleni Thomas, and Kate Reilly Droske.

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Sisters Travel with Chi O to Explore Provence, France

—by Sarah Longino Thornton, Tau/U of Mississippi

A region of magical cities and romantic villages, Provence has inspired countless writers and artists. So it was, too, for Chi Omegas who ventured there last May to soak up its history, culture, and laid-back French atmosphere.

From our beautiful hotel in Aix-en-Provence, we ventured to Le Luberon, Arles, Avignon, and the villages of Roussillon and Gordes. Everywhere were charming outdoor cafés and markets filled with French cheeses, fresh fish,

local crafts, and lavender products of all kinds. Local foods were eagerly sampled!

We explored the beauty of the Cours Mirabeau; visited Paul Cezanne's favorite painting site; walked through the magnificent Palais des Papes; and gazed awe-struck at the magnificent Roman ruins.

Our tour ended with promises of ongoing friendship with the wonderful Chi Omega Sisters we met on this trip.



The details and a slide show of this fabulous tour of Provence are posted at www.TheEleusis.com>Toasts and Singing





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READER'S GUIDE

The Eleusis is the official publication of Chi Omega Fraternity, in continuous publication since 1899. Its mission is to connect Chi Omegas to the national organization by promoting our common experiences, communicating the state of the Fraternity, affirming our values and purposes, highlighting our success stories, and providing resources for the development of women.

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Collegians: During the academic year, your chapter receives copies of the magazine for distribution to members. The summer issue is delivered to your home address.

Alumnae: Chi Omega Fraternity believes that membership in Chi Omega is for a lifetime and is committed to distributing *The Eleusis* to all members without subscriber fees. Please keep your address up to date at www.chiomega.com/everyday.

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APPEAR IN *The Eleusis*

Chi Omega encourages members to submit stories, news or content ideas to *The Eleusis*. Please send text via e-mail, fax or the U.S. mail, digital images via e-mail, and traditional glossy photos by U.S. mail.

Because of the volume of mail received and the space constraints in our magazine, it is possible your material may not be used or that it will appear several issues later than you expect. Every effort is made to include date-sensitive items in a timely manner.

Submissions must include:

- Your first, maiden, and last names, chapter and school, mailing address; telephone and fax numbers; e-mail address; and the date.
- The first, maiden, and last names; chapter and school of all Sisters in your article and photo caption(s).

Photo requirements:

- Traditional, glossy-finished photos from film/35mm camera.
- Self-scanned and digital-camera images with resolutions of at least 300 ppi (pixels per inch) at a minimum image size of 4" x 6". Digital photographers must use at least a 3.2-megapixel camera with the highest-quality settings selected: The resolution must be set on large, while the compression setting must be set on superfine. Capturing a picture in a small-resolution setting then increasing the file size in a photo-management program does not work. File formats accepted are jpeg (maximum quality), eps and tif. Do not reduce the size or initial quality of the image before transmitting it. *Note:* Even if your photos meet these requirements, they may not be suitable for print production.
- Prints prepared from your digital files by a professional developer may or may not be suitable. Each must be evaluated individually.

Images that will not be used:

- Pictures containing hand-held beverage containers of any kind.
- Pictures showing cluttered dining tables or with glassware that may be construed to contain alcoholic beverages.
- Pictures in which subjects are wearing sunglasses over their eyes or questionable attire.
- Pictures of brides. (Because of the high number of wedding photos received, only alumnae who have held significant local or national positions may have wedding photos considered for publication.)
- Images produced by desktop or inkjet printers.
- Pictures taken with camera phones. They are not of print quality.
- Images clipped or scanned from magazines or newspapers.
- Photocopies from a Xerox or Docutech.
- Tiny pictures clipped from composites or snapshots.

DEADLINES

Spring issue: October 15

Summer issue: February 15

Fall/Winter issue: June 15



MANY MEMORIES

Lucia di Lammermoor
Josephine Antoine
Metropolitan Opera 1948

1948

Josephine Antoine, Zeta/U of Colorado, was a leading soprano with the New York Metropolitan Opera Company from 1936–1947. She is pictured here during a 1948 performance of Gaetano Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. She also sang for the Chicago, San Francisco, Cincinnati, and Chautauqua Operas. After retiring from the Met in 1947, she taught at Indiana U, U of Colorado, U of Texas, Arizona State U, and Eastman School of Music at the U of Rochester. —Photograph courtesy of the Ruth T. Watanabe Rare Books and Special Collections Department, Sibley Music Library, Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York.

flourish!

Lucia di Lammermoor
M.V.

The Eleusis of Chi Omega

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THE RIZZUTO SISTERS ARE MULBERRY LANE, a pop music vocal group and all initiates of Zeta Delta/U of Nebraska–Omaha. “We’ve been sisters since birth and Chi Omega Sisters since college,” says Rachel. “We have come to realize that Sisterhood is like music: It can make us brave, brighten our day, change our perspective, and provide joy. Chi Omega helped shape each of us individually, steering us to become responsible, caring, and compassionate people. As all Chi Os know, the road of life is easier with a Sister along for the ride!” Clockwise from the top are Rachel, Bo, Allie Kat, and Jaymie. Read more about Mulberry Lane at www.MulberryLane.com. —Photo by Jen Storey



I AM A CHI OMEGA

Yesterday, today, and tomorrow. I am an individual, but I recognize that I am part of a larger whole. I am proud of my Sisters. We make a difference. We invite you to connect.