



# The Yard



October 3, 2013, Issue 2.1

## Feature Story: Homecoming 2013

By Tajah Ebram, ΔΣΘ, Editor in Chief

Welcome back to The Yard! We are excited for yet another year of great events, community service and opportunities to engage the campus community in all that the divine nine has in store.

With that said, homecoming season is upon us! Get ready for an unparalleled celebration. The department of fraternity and sorority life is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary and of course the National Pan Hellenic Council will be a part of the exciting centennial celebration through our rich D9 tradition of stepping. So be on the lookout for our Step Showcase on Friday October 25 at 7pm. The show will take place on McKeldin Mall this year. Also, come celebrate with us at our annual NPHC Homecoming Tailgate, which will be on the Nyumburu patio, Saturday October 26 at 12pm. And you know we can't engage in these festivities without making it our first priority to serve the community. Join us for a Walk to Protect Children (against bullying) on the morning of the Tailgate at 8am on Paint Branch Parkway! Go to [goodknight.org](http://goodknight.org) to register.

The NPHC has so many great things to come for the year, including awesome opportunities to serve and to build community here on our very own Yard! We will also be hosting a "Meet the NPHC Greeks" on October 17 at 7pm. Follow us on twitter @therealnphc for more details about all these events and more.

## October Events

- \*Every Tuesday, Study Halls (ΑΦΑ)
- \*Every Wednesday, Study Halls (ΦΒΣ)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-Belly Dancing (ΣΓΡ)
- 5<sup>th</sup>-My Brother's Keeper (ΑΦΑ)
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Breast Cancer Walk, DC (ΔΣΘ & ΣΓΡ)
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Fellowship with ZTA (ΚΑΨ)
- 9<sup>th</sup>-Ice Cold Cuts (ΑΦΑ)
- 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>-Family Weekend Service (ΣΓΡ)
- 16<sup>th</sup>- DSTressed (ΔΣΘ)
- 17<sup>th</sup> ESA Documentary, Hoff Theatre (SGR)
- 25<sup>th</sup>-Homecoming step show (NPHC)
- 26<sup>th</sup>, AIDS Walk DC (ΔΣΘ, ΑΦΑ & ΣΓΡ)
- 26<sup>th</sup>-NPHC Tailgate
- 28<sup>th</sup>, Getting the Job Series: Dress the Part (ΔΣΘ)
- 30<sup>th</sup>- Voteless People is a Hopeless People (ΑΦΑ)



## Chapter Spotlight: "Sigma Gamma Rho"

By Faith Deredge, ΣΓΡ

Welcome back Terps! I hope everyone's first few weeks have gone well and you all are looking forward to this fun filled semester! As we prepare for the new season and all the excitement coming this month, I am going to give you another reason to be excited about October! I am pleased to introduce the Elegant Eta Beta Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated as The Yard's chapter of the month. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated was founded on the beautiful campus of Butler University on November 12, 1922 by seven illustrious school teachers. We were chartered on this lovely campus on April 3, 1976. We are proud to say that we are the ONLY historically African American sorority to be founded at a predominately white institution. Our motto is, "Greater service, greater progress," and we achieve this through sisterhood, scholarship, and service. Since 1922, our main focus has been on education, especially of youth, however, we do not limit ourselves to just this. We are partnered with several national organizations such as the March of Dimes, National Urban League, National Council of Negro Women, and Africare just to name a few. We also run our own national programs that help serve the community. Just recently our chapter collected supplies for OPERTAION BigBookBag, which makes school supplies available for under privileged youth.

Now that you know a little background about our organization, we would like to announce some events coming your way this month. This Thursday October 3, 2013, join us while we host a professional belly dancer to teach us her techniques in the Charles Carroll Room located in the Stamp Student Union at 7pm you WON'T want to miss this! On October 17 at 6 pm we are co sponsoring a documentary being showed by the Ethiopian Student Association titled Sincerely Ethiopia located in the Hoff Theatre of Stamp Student Union. We hope to see some new faces and are looking forward to what's in store for this semester!

**Connect with us:** Instagram: @HBPrettyPoodles Twitter: @HBPrettyPoodles Facebook: UMDSGRHOS [www.umdhsgrho.wix.com/sigma](http://www.umdhsgrho.wix.com/sigma) E-mail: [umdhb.membership@gmail.com](mailto:umdhb.membership@gmail.com)

## Quote of the Month

*"you can best fight any existing evil from the inside"*

-Hattie McDaniel  
Sigma Gamma Rho





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## Deltas in Paris

By Maya Macon, ΔΣΘ

From September 15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, members of the Kappa Phi chapter of Delta Sigma Theta traveled to Paris, France to perform in Fashion Week 2013 for American Paris-based high fashion designer, Rick Owens. The show was a hit to say the least. We took Paris by storm and created an internet frenzy over the step routine we performed at the runway show. There were no "real" models, just normal African-American women stepping. What was second nature to us, had never been seen before in Paris, let alone on a high fashion runway. We made history and more is to come from the project including a documentary film featuring the members of Kappa Phi. Photographer Danielle Levitt is currently the brains behind that operation. Since the runway performance, we have been featured on websites, shows, etc. including Huffington Post, E! News, NYTimes and VOGUE to name a few!



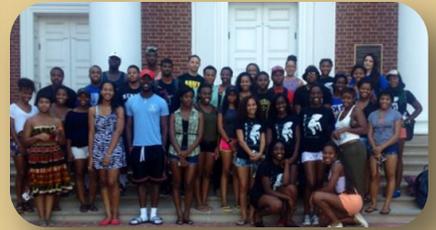
Rick Owens & Cameron Mitchell (KΦ)



## Remembering 9/11

By Donnell Robinson, ΦΒΣ

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the Epsilon Psi chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Incorporated held a 9/11 remembrance walk cosponsored by members of Alpha Phi Alpha, Sigma Gamma Rho, and STEPP. Beginning with a prayer and a moment of silence, the program was held to bring members of the community together for a common purpose—the remembrance of the brave heroes who lost their lives on this tragic day in 2001. Forty people participated and everyone walked in unison to the local Rita's where we then cooled off by enjoying Rita's ice. A portion of the proceeds from the Rita's fundraiser were sent to the Wounded Warrior's Project, a project dedicated to the empowerment and honoring of wounded warriors in the armed services.



## Pre-K to Prison Pipeline: A Symposium

By Wendell Alston, ΑΦΑ, VP of External Affairs

On Monday September 9<sup>th</sup> the Iota Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha co-sponsored with the African American Studies Department on a symposium entitled, "Pre-K to Prison Pipeline: Changing the Odds for Boys of Color." We hoped to inspire conversations during this symposium that would not only describe the problem regarding education and young black men, but also address prevention, recovery, and the successful educational engagement of boys of color so that the Pre-K to Prison cycle can be broken. As such, the topics for this symposium included problems with school discipline and "zero-tolerance" policies, the relation of over incarceration trends to African American social outcomes, the development of culturally "competent" school staff and family and community determinants of educational disengagement or juvenile incarceration. We also touched on issues of urban neighborhoods as sites of high incarceration risks for black boys.

The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Ruth Zambrana, a professor in the Department of Women's Studies at UMD. The panel also featured many distinguished guests including Dr. Pedro Noguera and Dr. Peter L. Agnew, both Professors of Education at New York University; Dr. Oscar Barbarin, Professor at Tulane University; Lila L. and Douglas J. Hertz, both Chairs of the Dept. of Psychology at Tulane University; Dr. Becky Pettit, Professor of Sociology at the University of Washington and Dr. Howard Stevenson, Professor of Education and Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.



ΑΦΑ with Dr. Stevenson



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