



The Yard



National Pan-Hellenic Council
μορφωνία της σκέψης και της δράσης

October 6, 2014, Issue 3.1

Feature Story: Welcome Back 2014

By, Logan Nelson ΔΣΘ, Editor in Chief

The Yard is back in full effect! We are excited for all of the great events that will be coming this October. Aside from the variety of programs held by the individual chapters of the divine nine, the National Pan Hellenic Council is putting a new spin on things.

With our theme of the year being Greek Unity, we kicked off our first event in September. The "NPHC Mixer" was held in the Nyumburu Cultural Center with all of the current divine nine chapters on the yard. The attendees enjoyed a range of activities, food, and got a glimpse into the many things that the NPHC wants to accomplish this year. We are excited to announce endless community service opportunities, a Fall NPHC Week, and other events that will allow the UMD NPHC Chapter to connect with other NPHC chapters in the area.

The next major event will be Homecoming Week! Get ready for a week long of thrilling events for both alumnae and current UMD students. You are no stranger to the traditional Step Showcase held every year. This year, the showcase will be held on October 16 at 7pm. We have worked hard to bring you an amazing show and we are sure that we will not disappoint. The show will take place in the Stamp Colony Ballroom. The fun does not stop there, come celebrate with us at our annual NPHC Homecoming Tailgate, which will be held on the Nyumburu patio, Saturday October 18 at 9am.

The NPHC has great things in store for the 2014-2015 school year. Look out for great opportunities to serve and fellowship with the divine nine organizations on UMD's campus. Help us promote Greek unity on the yard! For more updates on our different events and initiatives for the year, follow us on twitter @therealnphc!

October Events

- *Every Tuesday, Study Halls (ΚΑΨ)
- *Every Tuesday & Thursday, Study Halls (ΑΦΑ)
- 6th- Silent Killer: STI Prevention (AKA)
- 7th-75 Shades of Beauty (AKA)
- 7th-Getting The Job Series: Resume Workshop (ΔΣΘ)
- 11th-Training For Excellence
- 15th-"It's Complicated" (ΣΓΡ & ΚΑΨ)
- 16th-Homecoming Step Show (NPHC)
- 18th-NPHC Tailgate
- 20th-Mental Health Awareness (AKA)
- 21st-Teach for America (ΣΓΡ)
- 24th-TerpsKouture 4 Kure Fashion Show (AKA)
- 25th-AIDS Walk DC (ΔΣΘ, ΑΦΑ & ΣΓΡ)
- 29th- Empowerment Workshop (ΚΑΨ)



Chapter Spotlight: "Sigma Gamma Rho"

By Jordan Brunson, ΣΓΡ

Well, hey there Terps! Welcome back and we hope everyone is having a great start to their fall semester. As you all patiently await all of the fun events coming up this semester, be on the look out for the Elegant Eta Beta Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated! Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated was founded on the Campus of Butler University on November 12, 1922 by seven illustrious school teachers. On April 3, 1976, we were chartered on the campus of University of Maryland, College Park by our first nine charter members. In addition to overcoming great trials to get our sorority founded, we are the ONLY historically African American sorority to be founded at a predominately white institution. We are an organization that mainly focuses on education, especially of youth, but that by no means defines us. Our motto is "Greater Service, Greater Progress," and we achieve this through our three binding principles: Sisterhood, Scholarship, and Service. At present, we are partnered with a number of nationally recognized organizations including but not limited to the National Urban League, National Council of Negro Women, March of Dimes, and Africare. In addition to this, we also run our own national programs that strive to provide service to the community.

Now that we have given you a look into our beautiful organization, we would like to give you some information on our upcoming events. On October 8, 2014, we will be cosponsoring an event with The Black Business Association on Financial Literacy from 5-6pm in the Van Munching Building, room 1335. We will also be performing at the STEP Into Terps, an event sponsored by the Student Empowerment Project on October 9th, 2014 at 7pm. There will be free bowling, a prize raffle, and all donations will be given to Martha's Table.

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www.umdhbssgrho.wix.com/sigma E-mail: umdhb.membership@gmail.com

Quote of the Month

"It's about being able to provide a service to people and being able to live a purpose larger than myself, that's really what motivates me."

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
Joy Collins-Profet





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A Perfect 10

By Brianna Conyers, AKA

To know Ms. Aarrayn Jourdin Perez was to be a witness to a true passion for helping others. An Upper Marlboro native, this rising senior translated her work in her church and local community into a life of involvement here at the University of Maryland. Her contributions and achievements are epic in scope. AJP served as NPHC Delegate and President of Sister2Sister. She was an honor student, a member of Tau Sigma Honor Society and a member of the Echelon Fashion Society. She was also a dedicated volunteer for Widow's Pantry and a cheerleading coach for young girls. Her love for service ultimately led her to become a highly involved and beloved member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Theta Nu Chapter, of which she was initiated on November 10, 2013.



But Aarrayn's love for the community was no one-sided affair; the community loved Aarrayn back. One need only look to the multitude of family members, sorors and friends that hold Aarrayn, and her memory, in such high esteem. Aarrayn may not be here in her physical form, but her legacy of love and selflessness, will live on forever through the people that she touched with her effervescent spirit. She had an infectious demeanor and a megawatt smile, of which she shared generously with all that she came into contact with.

Her untimely passing on August 15, 2014, is a harsh reminder that this life is short. Let us remember Aarrayn by embodying her diligence through a reenergized approach for serving others, as she did so faithfully. In the words of Mahatma Gandhi, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." There is no question that Aarrayn found herself during her time here, and we will forever be grateful that she did.

Training For Excellence

By Sydney Sims, ΔΣΘ

Due to the hard work and dedication of NPHC members during the 2013-2014 school year, the council was awarded a \$15,000 grant sponsored by Moving Maryland Forward under the Office of Diversity and Inclusion for a new mentoring program entitled Training for Excellence (TFE). TFE will use the acquired grant money to host 11th and 12th grade students on campus for monthly workshops. Each session will target aspects of the college application process, a minority college student's experience, and fun activities that create a lasting bond between mentors and mentees. Currently the council is partnering with Potomac High School and Frederick Douglass High School, both of which are located in Prince George's County.

The first workshop held in September focused on the application process, where a representative from Kaplan was present. All participants received free notebooks, pens, as well as lunch. Following the workshop, students attended the football game vs. West Virginia University. All members of NPHC are invited to volunteer at each monthly workshop as mentors.

Highlights of future programs include resume writing, financial aid information, public speaking, a campus tour, a community service project, Block Show, and an end of year celebration. Since the initial grant was a one-time award, the program must search for new and recurring initiatives to financially sustain the program. Be on the look out for information on more fundraising opportunities!

"Konversations"

By Jon Reynolds, KAΨ, Internal Vice President

Throughout the fall semester, the Theta Theta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. will be hosting professional and personal development workshops entitled, "Konversations". The purpose of these workshops is to bolster the personal and professional development of the members of the chapter as well as the community. Half of the workshops will be privately held for members of the Theta Theta chapter, with the remaining workshops being opened to the entire campus community. In the month of September, two workshops were held. The first workshop was presented exclusively to the members of the chapter. It included a discussion led by the Director of the Department of Fraternity and Sorority Life, Matt Supple, and the Director of the Stamp Student Union, Dr. Marsha Guenzler-Stevens. The discussion was about student leadership and being leaders in the Greek community on campus. The second workshop was entitled "Kolors" and was open to the entire campus and was facilitated by the Peer Leadership Council (PLC). The workshop featured activities that allowed participants to discover their "true colors", or personality styles and types.

The next workshops open to the campus community will be held on October 29th and December 3rd. The October 29th workshop is an empowerment workshop focusing on professional development and the December 3rd workshop topic has yet to be decided.

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