

A portrait of Kathryn Clark Childers, an older woman with short, wavy, light-colored hair, wearing black-rimmed glasses and a white blazer. She is smiling and has her hands clasped in front of her. She is wearing a large ring on her left hand and a watch on her right wrist.

# THE Rescuer

## SPECIAL AGENT CHILDERS

*Kathryn Clark Childers' history-making path, where she became one of the first female Secret Service special agents.*

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Spring 2022

GAMMA PHI BETA

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*get in touch*

Send us snail mail, join our newsletter and find us on social.



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Gamma Phi Beta



GammaPhiBeta.org



ON THE COVER Kathryn Clark Childers (Colorado-Boulder)

Photo by Lillian Reitz

# DEAR *Sisters*

I have been counting down the days for Convention 2022 ever since Virtual Convention 2020. And while Virtual Convention was both an impressive event and effective for our organization's purposes, the best part of any Convention is getting to connect with sisters from around the world under one roof — to see old friends and make new ones. After so much screentime over the past two years, I can't tell you how ready I am for face-to-face interactions again.

Whether you are a longtime Conventioneer or a first-time attendee, I recommend you check out page 26 of this issue. There you will find a tentative schedule of every Convention event. One of my personal favorites is the Confirmed Conventioneers parade, a joyous celebration of sisterhood. As I cheer, dance and celebrate with my sisters this year, I will be donning 19 carnations on my hat. How many will you have?

Beyond the auxiliary events, Convention is a critical time where we celebrate our points of pride, observe our sacred rituals and conduct official Sorority business. It is where we vote on the next group of leaders to move our organization forward. The 2020-22 Nominating Committee did an incredible job slating an experienced group of officers for the 2022-24 International Council and Nominating Committee. You can learn more about the Nominating Committee's process and more on page 8.

Remember, sisters, that everything is better *As Long As We're Together*. I look forward to gathering with you all in St. Louis next month!

In IIKE,

*Barbie Chadwick*

**Barbie Chadwick**  
Foundation Chairwoman



## WHO IS BARBIE?

Barbie Chadwick is currently serving as the Foundation Chairwoman on the Gamma Phi Beta Foundation Board of Trustees. She has held numerous volunteer roles in the past, including Facilities Management Company Chairwoman, Collegiate Vice President on International Council and served on the Nominating Committee.

A member of Alpha Theta Chapter at Vanderbilt University, Barbie earned a bachelor's degree in English. She worked in the nonprofit field for more than 30 years before retiring from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Middle Tennessee in 2019.

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## PANCAKES OR WAFFLES

Pancakes

## CITY OR COUNTRYSIDE

Definitely countryside

## HAVE A PLAN OR GO WITH THE FLOW

Have a plan but go with the flow if it doesn't work as planned

# A Lifesaving Skill: CPR

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, more commonly known as CPR, is an important life skill to possess. Understanding CPR at even the most pedestrian level can be lifesaving for a loved one or stranger during a cardiac or breathing emergency. Many reputable organizations offer in-person and online CPR training and certification courses to help you feel secure in your skill set. Until you enroll in a class, use this step-by-step guide to kickstart your CPR training.

## **STEP 1: CHECK**

Check the scene for safety. If it is unsafe, remove yourself from scene immediately and call 911 for help. If it is safe to proceed, check the victim for consciousness by tapping their shoulder and shouting, "Are you okay?"

## **STEP 2: CALL**

If the victim is unresponsive, alert a bystander to call 911 before performing chest compressions. Call 911 if you are alone with the victim first before administering compressions.

## **STEP 3: CARE**

Care for the victim by following the CABD's (Compression, Airway, Breathing, Defibrillation) of CPR.

**COMPRESSION:** Immediately begin 30 chest compressions at a rate of 100-120 per minute and a depth of at least two inches. Remember the following compression techniques:

- Your hand position: Place one hand on top of the other and interlock fingers. The heel of your bottom hand goes directly on top of the victim's sternum.

- Your body position: Shoulders should be directly over hands; keep elbows locked.
- Allow the victim's chest to return to a normal position after each compression. To keep a steady speed, say, "One and two and three and four and five..." to yourself while giving compressions.

**AIRWAY:** After 30 compressions, open the victim's airway with the head-tilt/chin-lift method and deliver two breaths.

- Place one hand on the victim's forehead and the other under their chin.
- Gently push down on their forehead while lifting their chin to open their airway.

**BREATHING:** Pinch the victim's nose and deliver two breaths, lasting about one second each. Let the chest rise and fall before delivering the next breath.

**DEFIBRILLATION:** Continue cycles of 30 chest compressions followed by two breaths until emergency medical services (EMS) or an automated external defibrillator (AED) arrives. Use an AED as soon as one becomes available to you.

*Note: This guide provides CPR techniques for an adult victim (age 9, or the start of puberty, and up). Please refer to the sources on the next page for compression techniques for children and infants.*

Find a course near you, or enroll in one online by visiting:

- **American Red Cross.**
- **American Heart Association.**
- **Emergency First Response.**
- **American Safety Training Institute.**



# A CAREER SPENT *Building Strong Girls*

Teresa Tisserat (Denver) has spent her career empowering young girls and women, having worked for various nonprofits, including Gamma Phi Beta and Girls on the Run (GOTR).



Meet Teresa Tisserat (Denver). Teresa worked at Gamma Phi Beta International Headquarters (IH) for eight years in the Marketing department. During her tenure at IH, she created Moonball, our signature (and incredibly successful) philanthropy event that

raises funds for GOTR. In April 2021, Teresa departed IH as the director of marketing to pursue her current role as the director of digital marketing and e-commerce for GOTR International\*. From 2001, when she first joined Gamma Phi Beta, to working as a marketing executive for organizations that empower women and girls, female empowerment has been a constant motif in her life. To commemorate our 10th anniversary with GOTR as our philanthropic partner, we tapped Teresa to share more about her unique work experiences, having served at both organizations, and why Building Strong Girls is impactful to her.

## **WHEN DID YOU FIRST LEARN ABOUT GOTR?**

Summer 2012. While I didn't attend Convention that year, when the big announcement happened, I saw updates online that we had a new philanthropic partner!

## **DO YOU WISH YOU EXPERIENCED GOTR AS A COLLEGIAN?**

1,000% percent. I joined Gamma Phi because of the authentic conversations and people I met during recruitment and not for the philanthropy. While Gamma Phi's former partners also do amazing work for today's youth, camping was not appealing to me. Today, I love that my sisters can relate to a cause that they can see themselves in — they can think about how their role models inspired them and how they can be that for GOTR participants.

*Camp Fire and Girl Guides of Canada were the Sorority's philanthropic partners when Teresa was a collegian.*

## **DO YOU FEEL LIKE GAMMA PHI BETA'S PHILANTHROPY HAS GROWN STRONGER SINCE GOTR BECAME OUR PHILANTHROPIC PARTNER?**

*Absolutely! The introduction of Building Strong Girls as the philanthropic focus was key. It launched when our partnership with GOTR was announced, so double the excitement! Since Gamma Phi Beta is where so many women have found their sense of home, a place to belong and be their confident, authentic selves, our philanthropic efforts became aligned with who we are as a sisterhood. If we are strong, confident women, Building Strong Girls is essential.*

## **WHAT ABOUT GIRLS ON THE RUN AND GAMMA PHI BETA MAKE SENSE TOGETHER AS PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS?**

*Today's youth need strong role models. Gamma Phi Betas are exactly that. And one day, I hope every GOTR participant can grow up to be a Gamma Phi and have their full-circle moment!*

## **TELL US MORE ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN CREATING AND LAUNCHING MOONBALL.**

*We started an amazing partnership with a new philanthropy partner, GOTR, and needed a new event that could bring them brand awareness while financially supporting their cause — all while making philanthropy work something Gamma Phi Betas would want to do for life. I was up for the challenge! Thus began my multi-year research project, where I observed common philanthropy themes and developed concepts, surveyed ingoing and outgoing philanthropy chairwomen, facilitated focus groups and beyond all before I could orchestrate a pilot program at collegiate chapters featuring different Moonball sports. I was able to see history made by attending each of the pilot chapter's first-ever Moonball event. It was amazing to see how well-received and enthusiastic both our chapters and their communities were about this new event. Moonball is one of my proudest career moments due to its lasting impact!*

*I have to give credit where credit is due. Moonball would not have been possible without the amazing*

support of sisters and co-workers who believed in a vision, approved research and pilots and provided the encouragement needed for such a large-scale organizational change. Shout out to Krista Davis (Bowling Green), Autumn L. Hansen (Idaho), Dr. Mindy Sutton (Southern Methodist), Maureen Walker and Tori Peckarsky (Minnesota-Twin Cities), former IH employees, and the volunteers and staff who still manage it today.

**DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU BRING A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE TO YOUR CURRENT ROLE AT GOTR INTERNATIONAL SINCE YOU WORKED FOR GAMMA PHI BETA?**

Definitely. At Gamma Phi Beta, it was so inspiring to see how much money we could collectively raise and how many women came together to volunteer — and now, I feel the impact!

**DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD HAVE APPLIED FOR YOUR CURRENT POSITION HAD GAMMA PHI BETA NOT BEEN A PART OF YOUR LIFE?**

I don't think my love for GOTR would be what it is today without Gamma Phi Beta, so I'd have to say no. Coming across the job posting was a serendipitous moment for me, as I was challenging myself with the following question: "What's next? How else can I make an impact?" And there it was! Another fun moment was when I had the opportunity to interview a nonprofit leader about their marketing communications during grad school. The person I interviewed is now my boss, GOTR International Engagement Officer Theresa Miller!

**HISTORICALLY, YOU'VE WORKED FOR NONPROFITS WITH A FOCUS ON BUILDING STRONG WOMEN AND GIRLS. WHY IS THIS WORK IMPORTANT TO YOU?**

Before Gamma Phi Beta and GOTR, I worked for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) on child abuse and neglect cases, primarily those that involved sexual abuse. And before that, as an art consultant in the healthcare industry (with a focus on patient-centered care and art in healing). For me, ensuring girls and women have a voice and are confident to use it is my why.

**PLEASE SHARE A CELEBRATORY MESSAGE IN HONOR OF OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY WITH GOTR AS OUR PHILANTHROPIC PARTNER.**

During the past decade, GOTR and Gamma Phi Beta have provided strong, confident role models to millions of girls. These girls, now at different stages of their lives — some are in middle school, high school and even college — have unlocked their power and inner strength, know their potential and are accomplishing great things. Investing in girls is important, and I love how both Gamma Phi Beta and GOTR understands this. It's my hope this partnership will continue forever. Here's to #10YearsStronger!

*\*Since this article was written, Teresa Tisserat has moved on to her next professional venture.*



Moonball debuts at Convention 2016.



Delta Delta (California State-Fullerton) participated in the Moonball pilot.



# The Nominating Committee

A crash course on the committee responsible for slating the Sorority's leaders each biennium

The Nominating Committee (NC) plays a vital role in the success of our sisterhood by identifying, recruiting and slating qualified candidates for election each biennium to serve on the following boards: the NC and International Council (IC). Delegates who attend Convention vote on these candidates, determining who will lead our organization for the next two years.



The NC is comprised of seven elected alumnae members, two-appointed collegiate delegates

and one appointed chairwoman. During 2020-22, those members were:

- Tanya N. Jordan (Purdue), Nominating Committee Chairwoman
- Shannon Bradley (Nebraska-Lincoln), Nominating Committee Member
- Dori Farah (Oklahoma City), Nominating Committee Member
- Carly Foerster (Chapman), Nominating Committee Member
- Amy Geist (Jacksonville), Nominating Committee Member
- Linda Johnson (Vanderbilt), Nominating Committee Member
- Harper Matthews (Pepperdine), Nominating Committee Member
- Mary Jo Silsby (Oklahoma City), Nominating Committee Member
- Alexa Bell (Wittenberg), Collegiate Delegate
- Gracie Williams (Nebraska-Lincoln), Collegiate Delegate

## IMPROVING THE PROCESS

Over the past two years, the current NC enacted many changes to build upon improvements initiated by the previous teams. The largest was a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion. Because unconscious bias is real and can permeate any process left to operate by default, the NC worked diligently to mitigate it by auditing the path of leadership for our Sorority. Doing so created a more inclusive applicant experience and diversified the pool of candidates for elected service. Here are some specific steps the NC took to enact this change:

- Engaged in conversation and participated in education programming on unconscious bias
- Conducted a thorough process and material audit that included:
  - Redacting applicants' biographic information
  - Removing the recommendation letter requirement
  - Using more inclusion language in applications
  - Codifying interview questions and creating rubrics to increase consistency in application and interview evaluation
- Connected with alumnae through Facebook affinity groups and at the Belonging, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Summit and REAL Leadership Retreat
- Asked belonging, equity, diversity and inclusion-related questions in applications

Timeline  
of the NC  
process



## 2022-24 SLATED CANDIDATES

After interviewing and reviewing more than 25 applications, the current NC confidently presented the following slate of candidates for 2020-24. These candidates represent a broad range of personal and professional experiences; strengths in Gamma Phi Beta member competencies; social and professional identities; and leadership and skills honed both in Sorority and external roles.

## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

- Autumn L. Hansen (Idaho), International President
- Crissy Buchanan Carlisle (Alabama), Vice President
- Judy E. Graham (Oklahoma), Vice President
- Teresa Jones Haney (Northern Arizona), Vice President
- Lillian Hillstrand Lammers (Denver), Vice President
- Victoria Lopez-Herrera (St. John's – Alumnae Initiate), Vice President
- Fran Mayfield Stevenson (Kansas State), Vice President

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Bree Brownlee (Alma)
- Lindsay Young Champion (Southern Methodist)
- Jennifer Kurumada Chaung (California-Berkeley)
- Kelly Brown Dunne (William & Mary)
- Tamara Sprull Rudnicki (Jacksonville)
- Chandra Claasen Soule (Nebraska-Lincoln)
- Marlo Edwards Tapley (Colorado-Boulder)

To learn more about the NC, visit [GammaPhiBeta.org/NominatingCommittee](https://GammaPhiBeta.org/NominatingCommittee).

## WHAT ENCOURAGED YOU TO APPLY FOR THE NC?

*In most of my past volunteer roles, I have had an opportunity to make an impact on collegians and alumnae at a local or regional level by focusing on operations. With the Nominating Committee role, not only did I get to work with wonderfully talented and thoughtful leaders, but I also felt I had an opportunity to make an impact on the Sorority as a whole.*

—Shannon Bradley (Nebraska-Lincoln)

## HOW IS SERVING ON THE NC MEANINGFUL TO YOU?

*Serving on the Nominating Committee has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Though I am a collegian, I always felt heard, respected and encouraged to share my opinions on this committee. I gained confidence, friendships and a wealth of skills that will benefit me as I move into the professional world. I am privileged to work with this incredible team, and I am truly grateful for this experience.*

—Alexa Bell (Whittenberg)

## WHAT HAVE YOU ENJOYED MOST ABOUT WORKING WITH THIS TEAM?

*These are some of the most thoughtful critical thinkers I have worked with, and I am continuously amazed by their talent and dedication. They have approached every task with care, consideration and courage. Their work over the past two years will have a lasting impact on our sisterhood.*

—Tanya N. Jordan (Purdue)

## OF ALL THE CHANGES YOUR COMMITTEE MADE OVER THE PAST

January 10, 2022  
Applicant interviews begin

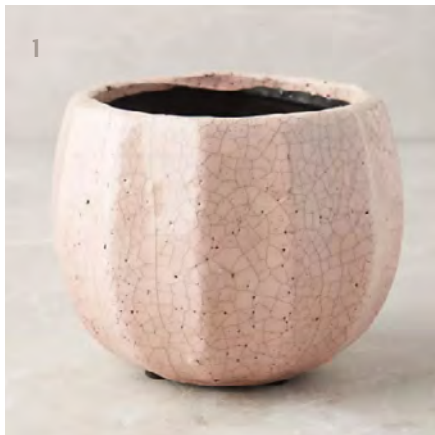
February 28, 2022  
Slate announced/  
published to membership

March 1, 2022  
Collegiate NC delegate  
application close

January 6, 2022  
Applicants notified of  
their application status

February 24-27, 2022  
NC meeting to slate  
candidates

Convention 2022  
Elections conducted  
during business session.



## *treat yourself*

1. Anthropologie | Ridged Terracotta Pot in Pink \$28
2. Natty Garden | Tapered Ceramic Pot in Blue \$17-50\*
3. Merilee Imagined (Etsy) | Sedona Planter \$20+\*\*
4. Target | Earthenware Planter in Cream \$20
5. Urban Outfitters | Estrella Planter and Tray \$24

*\*Support Black-owned businesses!*

*\*\*Support small businesses!*

*Products and prices were compiled in March 2022 and are subject to change.*





# 150 Years

## Gamma Phi Beta

Gamma Phi Beta's sesquicentennial celebration — **that's 150 years!** — is quickly approaching. This milestone event will celebrate our Sorority's cherished history, foster pride and connect members worldwide. Keep an eye out for communications surrounding our 150th celebration soon.

# Then and Now

Members Amanda Brehm Valentine and Gabby Khodadad joined Gamma Phi Beta at Beta Xi Chapter at The Ohio State University (OSU) in Columbus, Ohio. Amanda joined in 2014 — she was part of the first new member class to join Beta Xi when it was reinstalled in 2014. For the past three years, Amanda has been an active member of Memphis Alumnae Chapter. Gabby joined in 2021, and she is currently studying journalism at OSU. The two sat down with us to recount their college and sorority experiences.



## AMANDA BREHM VALENTINE

## GABBY KHODADAD

I remember walking back to my dorm room with two other sisters who lived close to me after our chapter's first G-Phi event. We chatted and stood in the snow before parting ways. That was the first time I remember meeting my two best friends and future maid of honor and bridesmaid.

### FAVORITE GAMMA PHI BETA MEMORY AS A COLLEGIAN?

My favorite memory so far was our first date party because I loved coming together with my sisters for my first, in-person social function due to COVID-19. I am so excited for future social events and to recreate amazing experiences with my sisters.

Crop tops, high-waisted jeans, leggings and oversized sweatshirts.

### POPULAR TRENDS ON CAMPUS WERE/ARE...

Claw clips! Everyone is putting their hair up with them.

FaceTime, family group chats and holiday trips back home to see family.

### HOW DID/DO YOU COMMUNICATE WITH LOVED ONES BACK HOME?

I normally text or FaceTime my family and friends a couple times a week.

Mostly rap music, Justin Bieber and anything you could dance to!

### WHAT MUSIC WERE/ARE STUDENTS LISTENING TO?

A lot of sisters recently went to see Harry Styles in concert, so he is a big one. Also, a lot of us enjoy listening to today's top 40 and country music.

Personally, Justin Timberlake has always been my fav since NSYNC.

### CELEB CRUSHES?

Greg Grippo and Andrew Spencer from "The Bachelor" and Jimmy Sotos on OSU's men's basketball team.

Do you know two sisters who initiated at the same chapter, just with seven or more years between them? Email [TheCrescent@gammaphibeta.org](mailto:TheCrescent@gammaphibeta.org) for a chance to see them featured on this page in the future!



# THE SECOND ANNUAL BELONGING, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION *Summit*

By Director of Education Jenny Campfield

In February 2022, more than 2,000 members of the Gamma Phi Beta family gathered virtually for the second Belonging, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (BEDI) Summit. The BEDI Summit was established in February 2021 for the sole purpose of creating a more just, equitable and loving Gamma Phi Beta. This ambitious task of moving Gamma Phi Beta toward a more inclusive sisterhood is accomplished by providing members with access to keynote speakers, interactive breakout rooms facilitated by industry-leading facilitators, dialogue with Sorority leaders, digital educational resources and more.

## 2022 BEDI SUMMIT CHANGES

The second iteration of the BEDI Summit incorporated a variety of changes in response to attendee feedback following the inaugural event. These changes included:

- Dividing programming over two days to create a more accessible event schedule.
- Providing access to Day One programming at no cost to all collegians whose chapters successfully registered all required attendees.
- Creating a brand new Day Two curriculum designed to empower chapter and volunteer leaders to engage with their leadership roles from a BEDI lens.
- Offering new educational content based on attendee requests. This included content on sex, gender, gender identity and orientation, strategies for creating change, intersectionality and more.
- Including a live panel with Gamma Phi Beta leaders to enable attendees to participate in a conversation with organizational leaders.
- Providing attendees multiple avenues for giving feedback, including a live Q&A feature, three event assessments, a post-event follow-up and questions asked through the general Gamma Phi Beta email.
- Giving organizational updates on BEDI work taking place at the chapter, regional and international levels.



## THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

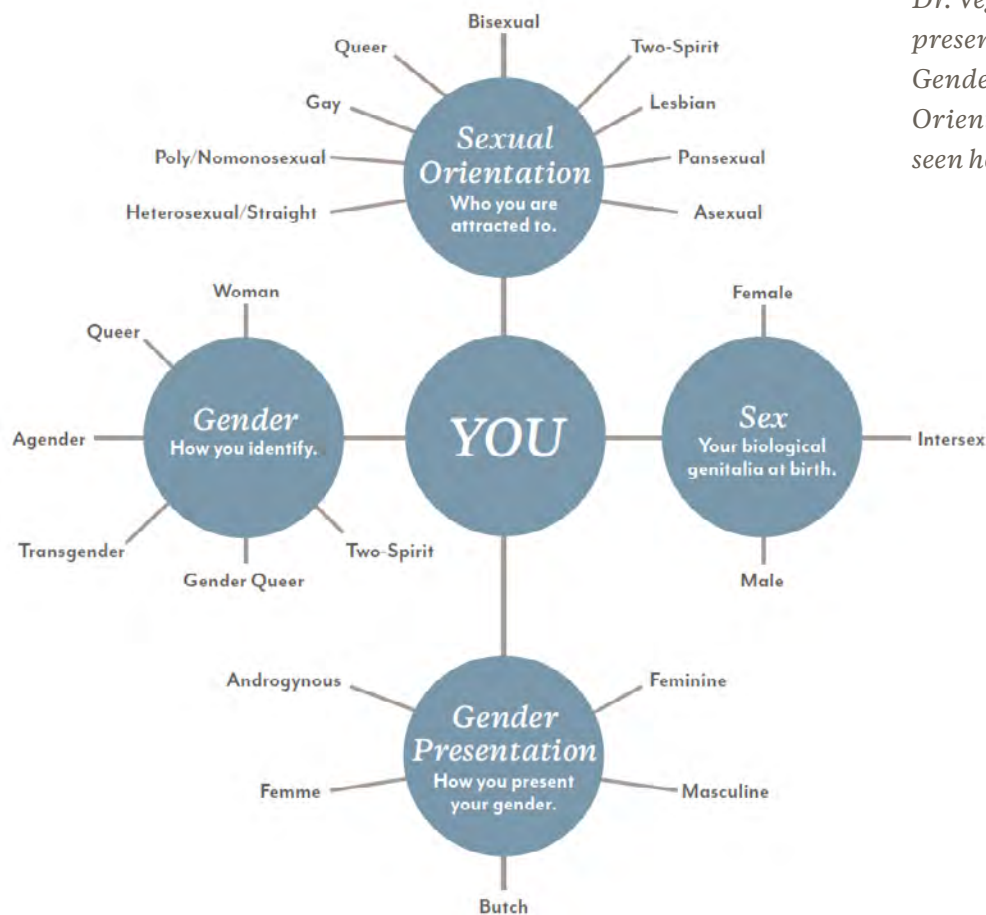
### DR. GISELA VEGA

One of the most exciting changes to the 2022 BEDI Summit was the expansion of the event's curriculum to include new BEDI perspectives, including Dr. Gisela Vega's perspective. Dr. Vega was the event's first keynote speaker. She shared her academic and personal expertise in the areas of sex, gender, gender identity and orientation. Dr. Vega currently serves as the director of the LGBTQ Student Center at the University of Miami, where she is also an adjunct faculty member in the gender and sexuality studies department. Previously, she served as the inaugural full-time professional for Florida International University's LGBTQIA initiatives program. She was also a contributing writer of the recent book "Advising Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer College Students." Dr. Vegas obtained her Doctor of Education from Florida International University, where she tailored her academic research toward the experiences of LGBTQ college students.

During Dr. Vega's keynote address, she challenged BEDI Summit attendees to expand their notions of the LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, asexual and more) experience through personal storytelling, sharing facts about the community and presenting a variety of theoretical models. Dr. Vega vulnerably and lovingly shared her own coming out story with attendees and explored what it was like for her to navigate being a Latina woman, the president of her sorority, an undergraduate college

student and more while also making sense of her orientation. She then explored a variety of models, including a model she helped to create that empowers learners to challenge the notion that one aspect of a person's identity is a prerequisite for another aspect of their identity. This includes challenging misconceptions that a gay man presents as feminine or a transgender woman is attracted to transgender or cisgender women.

*Dr. Vega presented The Sex Gender Identity Orientation Model seen here.*



## 2022 BEDI SUMMIT FAST FACTS



**1,550**  
registrants



**2,261**  
unique views



**Viewers from**  
**4 countries**



**7,560**  
hours of viewing



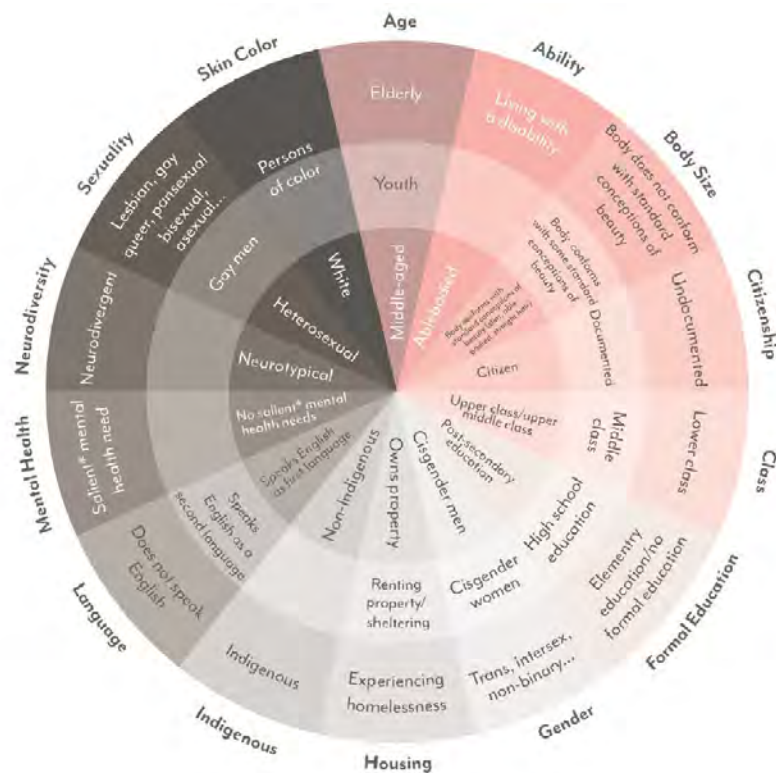
### **VICTORIA ALEXANDER**

Additionally, the 2022 BEDI Summit provided new perspectives on the history of fraternity and sorority life (FSL) and how the FSL community has been an agent of positive and negative change for members of underrepresented communities. Guiding attendees through this conversation was Victoria Alexander. Victoria is a diversity, equity and inclusion practitioner whose passions are rooted in anti-racist pedagogy, critical consciousness building and experiences of Black students in predominantly white spaces. Victoria has geared her work toward investigating the role of racism and anti-racism in a multitude of spaces, empowering people to analyze their identities and positions within systems of power and challenging myths regarding the historical and present-day distributions of power. She is a doctoral student at the University of Maryland and a professional speaker with Campus Speak.



During Victoria's keynote address, she moved BEDI Summit attendees through a comprehensive and engaging chronology of fraternity and sorority history while highlighting how the FSL industry has been an agent of liberation and oppression for marginalized groups. Victoria then presented practical ways sorority members can be agents of change within their organizations. Like challenging what kinds of femininity are celebrated, questioning dominant cultural practices chapters engage in

and exploring which religious observances are honored in chapter operational structures. She also empowered attendees to examine their responsibility in creating more equitable spaces by moving them through The Privilege Wheel Model (below). Groups of people given power and groups of people stripped of power are reflected in this model. People with power are at the center of the model, and people without power are toward the outside of the model.



## CONTINUED LEARNING

While the BEDI Summit is certainly an exciting time within the rhythms of Gamma Phi Beta life, it isn't the only way for Gamma Phi Betas to increase their BEDI knowledge. If you want to learn more about belonging, equity, diversity and inclusion, or how you can make impactful and necessary BEDI change within and outside your Sorority, consider exploring the following:

- **About BEDI.** Learn more about Gamma Phi Beta's BEDI framework by visiting [GammaPhiBeta.org](https://GammaPhiBeta.org) > Membership > Belonging and Inclusion > About BEDI.
- **BEDI Resources.** Explore resources to increase your BEDI understanding and create BEDI change by visiting [GammaPhiBeta.org](https://GammaPhiBeta.org) > Membership > Belonging and Inclusion > BEDI Resources.
- **BEDI Summit.** Stay up to date on future BEDI Summit programming by visiting [GammaPhiBeta.org](https://GammaPhiBeta.org) > About Us > Events > BEDI Summit.

# Chapter Sweet Chapter



## EPSILON NU (Chapman)

Beyond Building Strong Girls and supporting Girls on the Run, members of Epsilon Nu Chapter (Chapman) donate their time and talents around their campus' community of Orange, California. An example of this was last October when 50 sisters showed up to support Love Orange Day, where residents of Orange give back to their community through service projects every year.

"We recognize that it is such a privilege to have the ability to live and study in Southern California for college, and we show our gratitude in part by giving back to the Chapman and Orange communities through events like Love Orange Day," former Epsilon Nu Chapter President Cassandra Sopko\* says.

Epsilon Nu Chapter was the only Greek chapter representing Chapman University at Love Orange Day 2021. Sisters did a myriad of service activities for the day, including volunteering with the TLC Public Charter School Mural Project, Youth Center of Orange Fun Run and Nature Center Winter

Preparation Project. They also organized the Meaningful Marketplace donations, prepared meals for homeless neighbors with Mary's Kitchen and participated in the Love Orange Kick-Off Team.

The level of excitement and eagerness to give back was Cassandra's favorite memory of the day. She says, "Everyone was genuinely excited to participate, and many members expressed that they would continue to volunteer with [local] organizations in the future."

Read more about Epsilon Nu's participation in Love Orange Day 2021 by visiting [Bit.ly/GPBLoveOrange](https://bit.ly/GPBLoveOrange).

*\*Cassandra Sopko was the chapter president of Epsilon Nu Chapter when members participated in Love Orange Day 2021. She now holds the role of parliamentarian, with the new chapter president being Abigail Ageshen.*

## 1. VISITOR TIP

Check out Old Towne Orange, known as The Orange Circle by locals. It's home to various shops, including antique stores, restaurants and other small businesses frequented by students and visitors alike.

## 2. MEET PETE

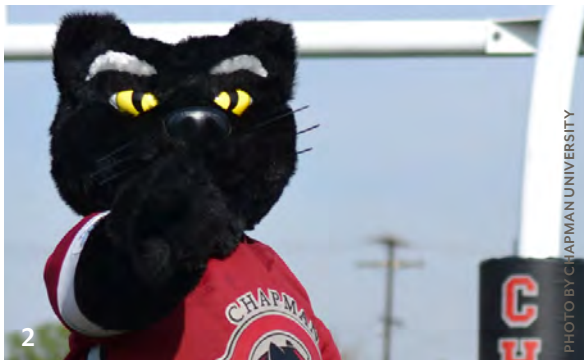
Born on June 25, 1925, Pete the Panther is Chapman University's mascot and chief cheer officer. While Pete attends all the University's sporting events, football games are his favorite, as he adds, "Everyone wants to take pictures of me (I feel so popular)!"

## 3. GAMMA PHI-OWNED

Epsilon Nu members love to shop at Laurenly Clothing Boutique in Old Towne Orange — a few chapter sisters even work there. From women's clothing to accessories to home decor, Laurenly, established by Lauren Miller Hernandez (Chapman) in June 2010, has it all.

## 4. COFFEE TIME

Philz Coffee earns the title as the best go-to hangout spot off-campus among Epsilon Nu members.



EXPLORE *Orange*



# Special Agent *Childers*

How embracing life's challenges led trailblazer Kathryn Clark Childers down a history-making path, where she became one of the first female Secret Service special agents.

*By Elizabeth Liberatore*

According to Webster's New World College Dictionary, the term trailblazer is a pioneer in any field. Trailblazers are synonymous with risk-takers, as they pursue paths that don't presently exist. This act of leadership allows others to follow in their footsteps. Trailblazers challenge the status quo through their actions, rewriting phrases like "This is how it's always been" to "This is how it could be."

Kathryn Clark Childers (Colorado-Boulder) has always been a this-is-how-it-could-be kind of person. In 1971, she made history as one of the first five female United States Secret Service special agents. Accompanying her 1,100 male colleagues, Kathryn shot holes in the glass ceiling of her time, tracking down counterfeiters, working undercover and protecting the president and other world leaders.

In her debut book, "Scared Fearless," she recounts what it was like to be an unlikely agent in a government agency who shattered barriers so that other women could follow.

### A Natural Leader

Kathryn attended the University of Colorado-Boulder, two hours outside of her hometown of Pueblo, Colorado. She earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education as a fallback plan, as she says, "I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life when I went to college. Because I came from great teacher stock, I knew I would at least be good at it."

Kathryn decided to pursue Greek life in college and didn't know what to expect from recruitment. And though the process was unfamiliar and somewhat intimidating, she did it anyway, hoping to make new friends. She got that plus more when she joined Beta Rho Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta.

"[Becoming a Gamma Phi] was the best thing I ever did. I connected with smart, funny and talented women from across the country. They became my family members at a huge university far from my home, and some remain that way today. I feel certain that I took more away from my

experience as a collegiate member than I gave," Kathryn explains.

Aside from Gamma Phi Beta, Kathryn joined other campus organizations and stepped into leadership positions quickly. Some of her first leadership titles included secretary of The Associated Women Students, commissioner of the University's student government and Panhellenic president from 1968-69.



"My involvement in Gamma Phi Beta, Panhellenic and other CU-Boulder organizations created who I would become. I got to work alongside diverse women of all backgrounds and beliefs and learned how to speak effectively to groups, both large and small," Kathryn says.

After graduating in 1969, an eager Kathryn was ready to make a difference in the professional world like she had in college. However, jobs for women were limited, especially in change-making industries like politics and business. Yet, because of her tenacious spirit and networking prowess, she landed a staff position in Washington, D.C., working on the Colorado Congressman's team. From this role, an unlikely opportunity presented itself to her next.



*Front row (left to right): Executive protect service officer, Special Agent Kathryn Clark Childers, Special Agent Vincent Mroz, Special Agent Laurie Anderson and executive protect service officer. Back row (left to right): Special Agent Phyllis Shantz, Special Agent Holly Hufschmidt and Special Agent Sue Ann Baker.*

### Pistol Packin' Nanny

No one knows the exact trajectory their life will take, including Kathryn. She just hoped whatever jobs she took, “interesting” would be part of the descriptions. In 1971, the U.S. Secret Service — a now 156-year-old elite government agency — recruited Kathryn as one of its first five female secret service agents. Interesting doesn’t even begin to describe this history-making gig of hers. Kathryn took undercover assignments in New York, Washington, Los Angeles and Miami, performed counterfeit investigations and attended state dinners with world leaders like Prince Juan Carlos of Spain and Indira Gandhi. She traveled with former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

and protected her and former President John F. Kennedy’s children, Caroline and John F. Jr., around the clock. She disguised her .357 Magnum revolver on her person at all times, earning her the nickname “Pistol Packin’ Nanny” by the Kennedys.

The U.S. Secret Service was the first federal law enforcement agency that appointed women into the ranks of special agents in the ‘70s. In addition to Kathryn, those first female agents were Laurie Anderson, Sue Ann Baker, Holly Hufschmidt and Phyllis Shantz. Because of them, more than 500 women serve in the federal law enforcement community today.





"I was genuinely afraid that [the five of us] might fail because we were the first, and I was not necessarily the best. Fortunately, we were not the last; we succeeded in opening doors for women," Kathryn says.

In December 2021, the U.S. Secret Service celebrated its 50th anniversary of the appointment of the first five female special agents to its ranks and released a commemorative video in honor of the occasion. Kathryn, Laurie, Sue Ann, Holly and Phyllis were the event's honorees.



Watch the video here:  
[YouTu.be/GST\\_aCXsZT4](https://youtu.be/GST_aCXsZT4).

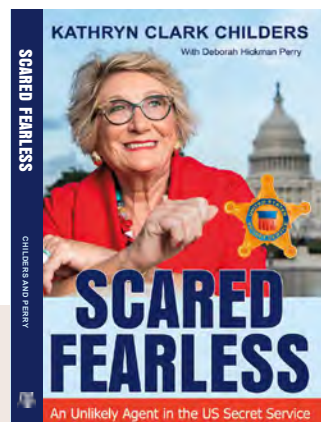
### Life Beyond the Badge

Kathryn served in the U.S. Secret Service for two years before moving to Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1973, with her husband Dr. Cecil A. Childers. She threw herself into public service work in her new community, volunteering at multiple nonprofits and launching countless initiatives. One was First Friday, a breast cancer awareness program that has provided free screening mammograms to more than 20,000 women in the Corpus Christi area.

Beyond volunteerism, Kathryn held other interesting job titles after retiring from her special agent duties, many of which fell under broadcast journalism. She adds, "I became the first woman in south Texas to host a morning television show, "Morning Magazine," on Channel 3. With no background in radio and television, I became a producer, writer and interviewer in TV, another male-dominated world at the time."

After 18-years on the air, she later became an entrepreneur with the launch of her publishing company, RedCab Media Productions. RedCab produced and sold a series of popular coffee table books and a children's book about the first significant snowfall in south Texas. In August 2021, Kathryn added "author" to

her resume with the release of her debut book, "Scared Fearless: An Unlikely Agent in the U.S. Secret Service." Both lighthearted and informative, Kathryn chronicles the obstacles and joys of being a secret service agent and woman in the early '70s. Her father's lifelong mantra, "Just do it scared," resonated with Kathryn throughout her life, which inspired the name of her book.



Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Texas A&M University Press sell "Scared Fearless." It is also available on Kathryn's website at [KathrynChilders.com](https://KathrynChilders.com).

Nowadays, Kathryn travels the world as a professional speaker. She's given her keynote address, aptly named "Do It Scared!" to nonprofit organizations, Fortune 500 companies, fundraising events and college campuses. In her speech, she shares more about her trailblazing path and book and how embracing obstacles and fears enabled her to constantly learn and reinvent herself.

"Try the things that scare you because that is what you talk about when you're old." Kathryn concludes by saying, "I've had an interesting and, most of the time, fun life because of this. So, don't duck!"

To learn more about Kathryn, visit [KathrynChilders.com](https://KathrynChilders.com).



*Everything  
is better...* AS LONG AS WE'RE **Together**

ΓΦΒ CONVENTION 2022  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

In-person Convention resumes this year (woohoo!), as sisters from around the globe will gather in St. Louis, Missouri, from June 23–25 for Convention 2022! The Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch, which overlooks the city's iconic Gateway Arch, will host our members as we conduct official Sorority business, observe our sacred rituals and embrace our True and Constant sisterhood. Here's a look at the exciting happenings slated for Convention 2022. To see a detailed Convention schedule, visit [GammaPhiBeta.org/About-Us/Convention/Schedule-Highlights](https://GammaPhiBeta.org/About-Us/Convention/Schedule-Highlights).

### Thursday, June 23



#### Welcome Dinner at 6 p.m.

Join us as our Convention arrangements chairwoman sets the tone for the week with a Meet Me in St. Louis-themed Welcome Dinner. From St. Louis-inspired cuisine to decor to entertainment, the Welcome Dinner is the perfect way to open our 80th Convention.



#### Opening Ceremonies and Business Session at 8:30 p.m.\*

It wouldn't be Convention without some treasured kick-off ceremonies. Here's what you can expect:

- Opening business meeting ritual
- Roll call of chapters (flag processional)
- Call to order
- Parliamentary procedure
- Approval of Convention rules and program
- Appointment of Convention committees
- International President Autumn Hansen's State of the Sorority address

### Friday, June 24



#### Coffee and Conversation at 7 a.m.

Enjoy the St. Louis sunrise with a cup of Joe in hand while connecting with sisters. Fruit, pastries, coffee and juice will be available.



#### Business Session at 8:30 a.m.\*

### **150 Years of Sisterhood Luncheon at 12:15 p.m.\***

After a long morning of Sorority business, satiate your appetite at this exciting lunch where we will reveal our 150th celebration plans. Learn about the eight reception cities, Convention 2024 city and what we have in store for our 150th Founders Day.

### **Business Session at 2 p.m.\***

### **Confirmed Conventioneers at 6 p.m.**

Whether it's your first or fourteen Confirmed Conventioneers, join your sisters in a fun celebration of sisterhood! Enjoy food stations, DJs, entertainment and so much more. Don't forget to don the official Convention hat!

## Saturday, June 25

### **Coffee and Conversation at 7:30 a.m.**

### **Business Session at 9 a.m.\***

### **Awards Luncheon at 11:45 a.m.\***

Learn about the phenomenal accomplishments of our collegiate and alumnae chapters over the past biennium, and join us in celebrating our award winners.

### **Keynote Speaker Tianna Faye Soto at 2 p.m.\***

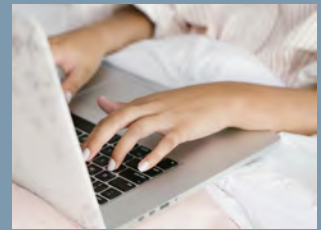
Tianna Faye Soto's speech, "She Who Runs With the Wolves," teaches women how to tap into their wild side — a side with an incredible amount of unfettered passion, intuition and wisdom. Tianna, like most women, lost sight of her power, which allowed anxiety, depression and feelings of unfulfillment to creep into her life. She rediscovered her wildness, that authentic voice of hers, through practices like yoga, mindfulness and meditation. Now, she supports and empowers other women to do the same. Utilizing her expertise in mental health, psychology and holistic wellness, Tianna helps women, especially college-aged women, create strategies that amplify their voices and cultivate confidence in conversations, relationships and moments of decision-making. Don't miss out on her thought-provoking speech, one that will equip you with the skills and tools you need to live an aligned life as a wild woman.

### **Memorial and Initiation Services at 4 p.m.**

Reaffirm your commitment to Gamma Phi Beta as we celebrate our ritual and memorialize sisters we have lost over the biennium.

### **Pink Carnation Banquet at 7:30 p.m.**

At this Fly Me to the Moon-themed event, join sisters for a special night as we honor our outgoing IC members and install our newly elected IC that will serve from 2022-24.



\*Event will be broadcasted virtually. All virtual programming will be available through the Convention mobile app.



For more information and to register for Convention 2022, visit [GammaPhiBeta.org/Convention](https://GammaPhiBeta.org/Convention).



Learn more about Tianna by visiting her website, [TiannaFaye.com](https://TiannaFaye.com).

# TRUE AND CONSTANT

Maryland-born, California-raised Betsy R. Rosenthal (California-Berkeley) started her career as a civil rights attorney. When she and her husband had their second child, Betsy's demanding career, which required travel and evening meetings, consumed too much time and energy away from her kids. After seven years, she left the practice of law to pursue her lifelong passion for writing and to be more of a hands-on mom. "I like to think that attending law school and working as a lawyer was simply a detour for me," she says. Her first published works were personal essays that appeared in publications such as the *Los Angeles Times*, *Mothering* magazine and *The Baltimore Sun*, to name a few. Betsy also writes poetry and has ghost authored two books and penned seven children's books. Her newest and first historical fiction for children ages 9-13, "When Lightnin' Struck," came out in February. Readers follow the story of James, an 11-year-old boy who struggles to find his purpose in life and discovers a family secret along the way. Betsy graciously stepped away from her computer (a feat when you're a writer whose creative juices are flowing!) to chat with us about her writing career and latest book.



## 1 DID YOU ALWAYS WANT TO BECOME A CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHOR?

*Not really. My dream from childhood was to be a revered author and poet, but I hadn't thought about which genre. Naively, I thought I'd write the next great American novel. And I certainly hadn't considered the bumpy road I'd have to travel to pursue writing and publishing.*

## 2 WHAT INSPIRES YOUR STORIES?

*Most of the essays I've written have been inspired by the antics of my three kids and husband. Each one of the picture books has in some way or another been seeded by a scenario involving my kids. Also, I've tried to weave into every book some special interest of mine, such as badminton for instance. My first middle-grade novel [for ages 8-12] is based entirely on my mom's childhood growing up during the Depression in a family of 12 children. I always wanted to capture my mom's and her siblings' memories in a book. It became more important to me than ever after my mom was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, and I knew that her memories would soon fade.*

## 3 HOW LONG DID YOU WORK ON "WHEN LIGHTNIN' STRUCK"?

*Because I did extensive research on the historical period and had to learn what I could about the setting of the story — Odessa, Texas — and the ancestral backgrounds of the characters, I spent well over 10 years on the research and writing of this book. I even visited Gerona, Spain, as part of my research (you'll understand the reference if you read the book!).*



#### 4 DO YOU EVER GO ON BOOK TOURS?

Before the pandemic, I traveled to libraries, schools and bookstores in California (with one visit to Baltimore) to talk about my books. I also did presentations at local venues in Southern California. Most recently, I participated in a virtual book event for the L.A. Public Library.

#### 5 WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT BEING A WRITER?

I love the process. Every time I sit down to work on a story or poem, it's as if I'm doing a difficult puzzle. I enjoy the challenge of figuring out what fits where, what is the perfect turn of phrase to use, and what is the next piece of the story or line of the poem. I like taking a bunch of disparate words, sentences and ideas and cohesively assembling them so that a complete picture emerges.

#### 6 WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON CURRENTLY?

I'm working on a novelization of a humorous screenplay about a koala. I'm also revising my novel for adults that I've worked on for more than 20 years. I'm motivated to complete it because the setting is none other than the University of California, Berkeley, my alma mater.

#### 7 WHAT DO YOU NEED TO HAVE A PRODUCTIVE WRITING SESSION?

The first is BIC (butt in chair), something I remind myself often, and the second is a cup of coffee in one of my special mugs. My favorite mug reads, "Everyone except the voices in my head needs to leave me alone so I can write."

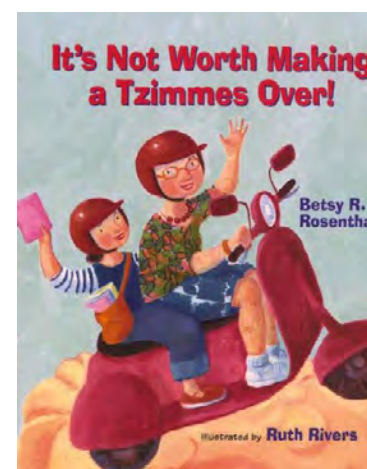
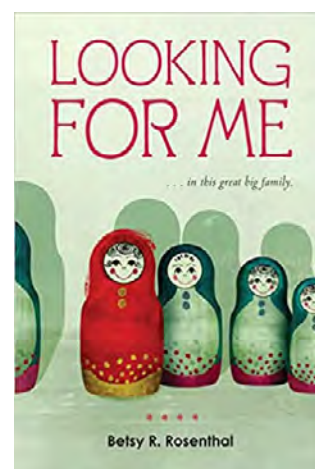
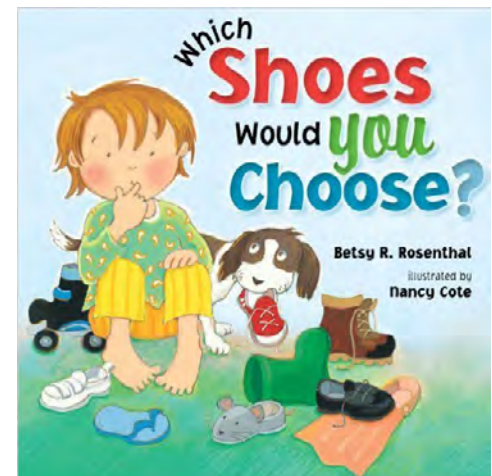
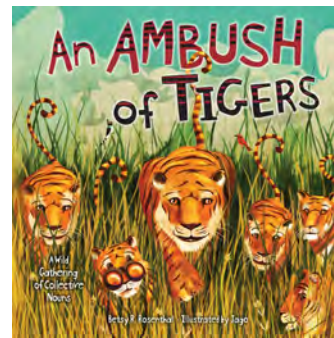
#### 8 HOW DO YOU UNWIND AFTER A LONG DAY?

I'll cook dinner, and often my husband and I will plop on the couch and watch a favorite TV show (or two or three or...). We're perfecting the art of binge-watching!

#### 9 DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN A FEW WORDS OR PHRASES.

I'm tenacious, industrious, curious, creative and overly inquisitive, as evidenced by my relentless interrogations (just ask my family). On second thought, don't ask them.

To learn more about Betsy and her books, visit [BetsyRosenthal.com](http://BetsyRosenthal.com).



# Chapter Sweet Chapter



## **ALPHA EPSILON** (Arizona)

Gamma Phi Beta officially landed in The Grand Canyon State on April 29, 1992, with the installation of Alpha Epsilon Chapter at the University of Arizona (UA), making it the Sorority's 29th collegiate chapter out of 190 in total.

In April, Alpha Epsilon celebrated a centenarian milestone — 100 years in Gamma Phi! That's 100 years of members observing our sacred rituals, embracing our True and Constant sisterhood and creating cherished, lifelong memories. To celebrate, Alpha Epsilon sisters Rylee Holland (RH) and Aislinn Menke (AM) reflected on their chapter and being part of our circle of sisterhood.

### **WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR CHAPTER?**

RH: "I love how accepting the women are and how safe I feel when I walk into my chapter facility. I love the friendships I have created,

and I am eager to continue to build strong girls and grow as a leader."

AM: "I love my chapter because without it, I wouldn't be the person I am today. My sisters constantly encourage me to do my best and are there for me when I need it."

### **WHAT'S ONE THING ABOUT GAMMA PHI BETA YOU APPRECIATE?**

RH: "Our philanthropy. I feel that it is important for girls and women to realize how loved and valued they are along with feeling empowered through Girls on the Run."

AM: "Living in the chapter facility with my sisters. I've made so many new friends and have a supportive friend group, which is something I never had before. I'm so thankful for Gamma Phi, and I'm so glad it has become my new home."



### 1. THE COOLEST CATS

Meet Wilbur and Wilma Wildcat, UA's official mascots. They married on November 21, 1986, before a UA and Arizona State University football game and have been inseparable ever since.

### 2. WHAT'S TRENDING?

Flip-flops! Students can be found wearing sandals year-round, even in the winter months, due to Arizona's sunny and warm climate.

### 3. DRUM ROLL, PLEASE

Beyond athletics, UA students are proud of their nationally acclaimed marching band, The Pride of Arizona.

### 4. SWINDLERS

Alpha Epsilon sisters like to shop at this local boutique, which sells clothes, vintage finds, accessories and more.

PHOTO BY UA ATHLETICS



PHOTO BY THE PRIDE OF ARIZONA FACEBOOK PAGE



EXPLORE Tucson

# Helpful Houseplants

Houseplants add something special to any space. Plus, with the house-planting boom of 2020, retailers have seriously upped their planter game — gone are the days of the one (basic) terracotta planter! On the topic, check out our favorite planters in Gamma Phi Vibes (page 10). Beyond their aesthetic appeal and fun accessories, houseplants yield health benefits to us humans, like stress reduction. Here's a deeper dive into what these quiet wonders have to offer.

## Sharpening Focus

The presence of a houseplant in a work or school environment will boost attentiveness and sharpen focus. The Royal College of Agriculture in Cirencester, England, conducted a study that proves this. Researchers divided students into four classrooms: one with a live plant, one with a fake plant, one with a photograph of a plant and one with no plant. After studying brain scans of each group, students who studied in the classroom with a live plant demonstrated 70% greater attentiveness than those in the other classrooms. Moral of the story? Get yourself a houseplant wherever your work and study, and watch your to-do list shrink!

## Reducing Stress and Fatigue

Color psychology tells us that green, the dominant color of the natural world, is the most restful and relaxing shade for the human eye. Green evokes balance and a sense of calm. If our nervous system feels all out of sorts, or we find ourselves experiencing a caffeine crash, a retreat outdoors is often the perfect

remedy. You can also achieve this by bringing the outdoors inside. One houseplant is all you need to help combat fatigue and reduce physiological and psychological stressors that trigger us daily.

## Purifying Air

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are emitted into the air both indoors and outdoors from several products and activities. Inside, cleaning agents, paint, craft supplies, printers, among other things,

create VOCs that build up over time and can lead to issues like skin and eye irritation and difficulty breathing. Unlike us, houseplants benefit from VOCs. Their soil absorbs up to 87% of VOCs in the air, converting the toxins into food and energy. Not only do houseplants have our backs by kindly purifying the air we breathe with us asking, but they are quite self-sufficient.

## Improving Mood

Houseplants do much more for us than solely make our spaces look pretty. If we focus longer, feel less stressed and breathe better with them around, then our mood inevitably improves, too. Before you run to buy one (or five) houseplants to reap all their incredible benefits, assess your living situation. Do you have pets? Children? If so, consult the [ASPCA](#) and [National Capital Poison Control Center](#) to learn more

about which plants might cause harm to you and your loved ones.

Sources: Bioadvanced, Healthline, Color Psychology, American Lung Association and WebMD



## The Resilient Ones

Here are resilient houseplants that are hard to kill for those without a green thumb.

- Golden Pothos
- Sensation Peace Lily
- Velvet Leaf Philodendron
- Rabbit's Foot Fern



# A Modern Take

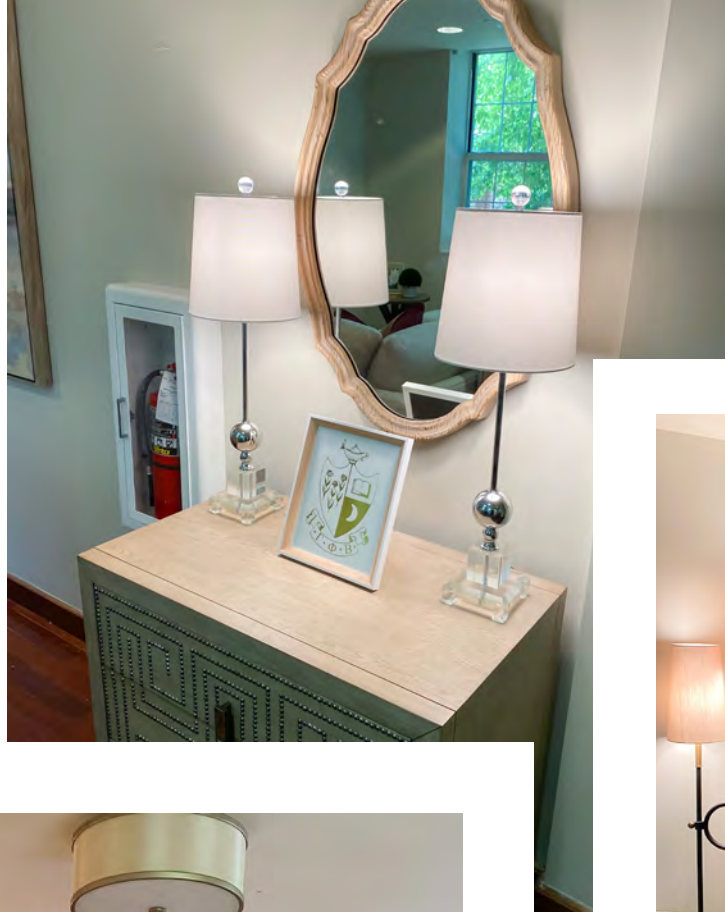
A much-needed renovation of Epsilon Theta Chapter's facility brings it to the 21st century

Epsilon Theta Chapter's facility at Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina, had never received any updates or renovations since its 1988 installation. While the facility itself had moved spaces over the years, the interiors were always stuck in the '80s (think graphic patterns, geometric shapes and balloon curtains). That is until the Facilities Management Company partnered with Lexington-based design company PDR Interiors to bring the facility to the present day.

The facility's kitchen, chapter room and dining space required the most attention, receiving cosmetic improvements, new furniture and appliances, freshly painted walls and modern accents. The project started in spring 2021 and was completed this past February, with minor delays due to supply shortages. Nonetheless, Epsilon Theta members were elated with the results. Facilities Management Company Manager Joel Saslaw, who oversaw the project, adds, "The updates brought great pride to our members; they were so excited to show off their new spaces!"

*Liz Toombs and Erika Ross of PDR Interiors were featured in the winter 2021 issue of The Crescent. Read more about them at [GPBArchives.org](https://www.gpbarchives.org) > 2020-59 > 2021 > Winter (pages 35-36)*







# MARTA LOMBARDI BROWN'S *Everlasting Legacy*



Few people come into your life and leave an imprint on your heart forever. Maybe it was the consolation they gave freely or their contagious kindness to all. Perhaps they could make you laugh, like really laugh, until your stomach

hurt, and they challenged you to think in new ways. Or the way you two could go months or years without talking and pick up where you left off one day as if time never passed.

Marta Lombardi Brown was all of the above, plus some. As an active alumna for more than 75 years, Marta left imprints on the hearts of many sisters — sisters from her generation and spanning to Generation Z, our membership's youngest. These imprints are Marta's legacy — a reminder to those who carry them that while she is no longer physically here, spiritually, her spunk, vigor and love for her Sorority and sisters persist.

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Marta, a legacy, joined Gamma Phi Beta at Boston University in 1947, where she was the vice president of her chapter as a collegian. Her involvement in Gamma Phi Beta didn't stop at the commencement stage — far from it.

In the late '80s, she served as the auctioneer for the Gamma Phi Beta Foundation at Convention. The Foundation until then had raised little for scholarships, grants and sisters in need at Conventions. Marta, who was natural on stage and captured everyone's attention, quickly changed that.

"Marta knew how to put 'fun' back into fundraising," Cinda Lucas (Southern California), a longtime friend and sister who gave Marta's eulogy, says. "If you didn't know Marta before the Foundation auction, you knew who she was afterward."

*Cinda Lucas shares her beautiful eulogy for Marta in the January 2022 Foundation newsletter. Read it here:*  
[Bit.ly/MartaBrown](https://bit.ly/MartaBrown)

Marta attended and was actively involved in 25 Conventions. At Convention 2018 in Dallas, Texas, Marta, whose hat was adorned with the most carnations that year, got to lead the Confirmed Conventioneers parade. Clad in a t-shirt that read "Clara Warden's Pledge Sister," she was smiling ear-to-ear and giving members high-fives during the lively celebration. Cinda adds, "She was giving the Queen's wave the entire time and was probably loving every minute of it."

Marta was an active member of San Fernando Valley Alumnae Chapter and La Jolla Alumnae Chapter. She even served as the president of both. Marta found ways to remain engaged with collegians throughout her alumnae membership. One example was when she gave a virtual presentation to Eta Chi Chapter (California State-San Marcos) in May 2021 on our Core Value Loyalty and what it means to be a True and Constant friend.

Reminding the chapter that their membership doesn't end after graduation, Marta elaborated to say, "Don't ever forget this: You are not 'was' a Gamma Phi. You are and will be one until the day you leave this earth. You are a Gamma Phi now and forever, and the easiest thing you can do to show your loyalty to our Sorority is to pay your yearly dues."

Six months after this presentation, Marta passed away at age 96. A celebration of her life and legacy took place on January 22, 2022, in her home of San Diego, California. Many Gamma Phis were in attendance to honor such a well-loved and revered member of our sisterhood.

Marta truly epitomized what it means to be a True and Constant friend, and we are better today because of her.



# LIFE LOYAL

Life Loyal is a special program available for all Gamma Phi Beta members to continue their lifelong support of our beloved Sorority beyond their collegiate years while receiving exclusive benefits. This is just one way to continue your lifetime involvement as a member of Gamma Phi Beta while fulfilling your financial obligations with an easy, one-time payment. The dedication of our alumnae members who continue to be involved and financially supportive helps ensure the future of our traditions and sisterhood.

*Thank you to the following sisters who joined Life Loyal between November 1, 2021, through January 31, 2022.*



An old photo of Kylie Rios as a toddler at her Aunt Paula's wedding.

## SISTER Shoutout

### KYLIE RIOS

#### EPSILON GAMMA (San Diego)

Recent University of San Diego graduate Kylie Rios received the gift of Life Loyal from her Aunt Paula Gay Luebsen (California-Santa Cruz), who understands that sisterhood travels beyond a college campus. She says to her niece, "In the decades that I have been an alumna, from LA to Chicago to Houston, I've always been able to count on my Gamma Phi sister alumnae — and now you will, too!" In response to her aunt's generosity, Kylie, who graduated this spring with a degree in electrical engineering, says, "This [gift] from my Auntie Paula ensures that I can continue my involvement with the [sisterhood] we both love so much. I feel honored to be part of my aunt's legacy, and I cannot wait to meet more sisters post-grad!"

**ALPHA (Syracuse)**  
Katherine Frohman  
Mallory Vachon

**GAMMA (Wisconsin-Madison)**  
Frances Taylor

**EPSILON (Northwestern)**  
Sarah Stelle Carty

**ETA (California-Berkeley)**  
Theresa Samaniego Epstein  
Sheri Salloway Yarosh

**THETA (Denver)**  
Martha Phillips Whitmore

**KAPPA (Minnesota-Twin Cities)**  
Kaitlyn Ho  
Carrie Hildebrandt Schleis

**LAMBDA (University of Washington)**  
Sarah Thompson Ray

**NU (Oregon)**  
Mary Vukasin Barnekoff

**TAU (Colorado State)**  
Sandra Brewick Whitaker

**OMEGA (Iowa State)**  
Abigail Miller

**ALPHA ALPHA (Toronto)**  
Lea Tanner Willis

**ALPHA BETA (North Dakota)**  
Ceanne Evans  
Robin Heine  
Betty Hennessy  
Joanne Evans Kobetsky

**ALPHA EPSILON (Arizona)**  
Anne Lory Ginch

**ALPHA ETA (Ohio Wesleyan)**  
Sarah Church

**ALPHA NU (Wittenberg)**  
Laura Ashbrook

**ALPHA TAU (McGill)**  
Sylvie Theriault

**ALPHA UPSILON (Penn State)**  
Megan Creedon Penrice

**ALPHA CHI (William & Mary)**  
Stacy Graves Stec

**BETA ALPHA (Southern California)**  
Jan Seymour Zonne

**BETA GAMMA (Bowling Green)**  
Cynthia Koppenhafer Bogner  
Mary Jo Lipovec Mlakar  
Amanda Little Redfern

**BETA DELTA (Michigan State)**  
Maria Hostettler

**BETA LAMBDA (San Diego State)**  
Heidi Matthies Dodd  
Stephanie Hubbell

**BETA MU (Florida State)**  
Krista Schroth

**BETA SIGMA (Washington State)**  
Christine Connors

**BETA PHI (Indiana)**  
Alison Sloan

**BETA PSI (Oklahoma State)**  
Kimberly Scott Moore

**GAMMA GAMMA (Wisconsin-Milwaukee)**  
Danielle Callero

**GAMMA EPSILON (Puget Sound)**  
Chloe Brew

**GAMMA SIGMA (Western Michigan)**  
Linda Karsted Newton

**GAMMA TAU (St. Louis)**  
Catherine Couter Zito

**GAMMA CHI (Texas State-San Marcos)**  
Natalie Panella

**GAMMA PSI (Northern Iowa)**  
Bethany Happe

**DELTA GAMMA (Nebraska-Omaha)**  
Michelle McKenzie Richman

**DELTA ETA (California-Irvine)**  
Elbret Bebla

**DELTA NU (Missouri State)**  
Sabrina Limback  
Kristin Whitaker

**DELTA SIGMA (Florida Institute of Technology)**  
Christie-Jane Fennell

**DELTA OMEGA (Oakland)**  
Erica Oestman Wolf

**EPSILON BETA (Alma)**  
Amanda Schafer

**EPSILON GAMMA (San Diego)**  
Kylie Rios

**EPSILON ETA (Bridgewater State)**  
Kathryn Greene Chandler

**EPSILON KAPPA (California State-Chico)**  
Jennifer Bell Roe

**EPSILON LAMBDA (Alabama)**  
Nikki Schell Leonard  
Emma Warner

**EPSILON NU (Chapman)**  
Lindsay Hennig  
Hillary Gamache Reichman  
Sheri Lehman Wilson

**EPSILON PI (George Mason)**  
Rachel Ermalinski

**ZETA DELTA (Southeast Missouri State)**  
Megyn Payne  
Kaitlyn Pulliam

**ZETA KAPPA (Southern Indiana)**  
Jean Cunningham Blanton

**ZETA LAMBDA (Texas A&M-Corpus Christi)**  
Kaylin Landrum

**ZETA RHO (Texas A&M-College Station)**  
Lauren McMahon Neill

**ZETA CHI (Texas Christian)**  
Mavourneen Carr  
Emilie Galvan

**ETA BETA (Florida Southern)**  
Kristyn Farrand Jensen  
Jessica Koenig Taylor

**ETA LAMBDA (Central Florida)**  
Jacqueline Baron  
Taya Britten

**ETA XI (Florida)**  
Savanna Ewers

**ETA SIGMA (Central Missouri)**  
Heather Buckingham Puls

Two young women, graduates, are smiling and waving at the camera. They are wearing black graduation caps with gold and red tassels. The woman on the left is wearing a white lace gown with a pink sash. The woman on the right is wearing a white gown with a pink sash. They are standing in front of a large, red brick building with many windows.

# SPONSOR A *Senior*

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# *in our* HEARTS

*We acknowledge the passing of the following members and celebrate their part in our circle of sisterhood. This list reflects notifications received at International Headquarters between November 1, 2021, and January 31, 2022. First, maiden, last names and year of Initiation are listed for each deceased member.*

*Honor a sister with an In Memory Gift. To make an In Memory Gift, visit [GammaPhiBeta.org/Donate](https://GammaPhiBeta.org/Donate) or call 303.800.2890. View Memorial gifts online at [GammaPhiBeta.org/InMemory](https://GammaPhiBeta.org/InMemory).*

## **ALPHA** (*Syracuse*)

Rochelle Morra Bass, 1976  
Linda Smith Mallan, 1962  
Kathleen Kennedy Norton, 1959  
Kristen Oja, 2010  
Charlotte Easterbrook Stafford, 1952

## **BETA** (*Michigan*)

Linda Harrison Bertrand, 1969  
Carol Purdy Groninger, 1965  
Eleanor Johnson Tuttle, 1953

## **GAMMA** (*Wisconsin-Madison*)

Mary Perreault Adams, 1956  
Louise Rowlands Carroll, 1945

## **DELTA** (*Boston*)

Marta Lombardi Brown, 1947

## **ETA** (*California-Berkeley*)

Patricia Quinn Anderson, 1960  
Ann Christiansen Dorst, 1950  
Constance Bissell Olson, 1948

## **KAPPA** (*Minnesota-Twin Cities*)

Katherine Kierland Herberger, 1930  
Carla Kopietz Paxton, 1956

## **LAMBDA** (*University of Washington*)

Patricia Boyle Burrus, 1949

## **XI** (*Idaho*)

Catherine Curtis Melgard, 1954

## **OMICRON**

(*Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*)  
Margaret Engel Brockhouse, 1945  
Phyllis Clayton McClatchie, 1940  
Gloria Pagliarulo Rohr, 1945

## **PI** (*Nebraska-Lincoln*)

Barbara Rountree Bacon, 1960  
Carol Erdman Wood, 1947

## **RHO** (*Iowa*)

Alice Fickel Burton, 1957

## **SIGMA** (*Kansas*)

Marjorie Fischer Dozier, 1963  
Virginia Cheal Farrar, 1959  
Lyn Havens Holiday, 1956  
Elizabeth Hall Reid, 1943

## **TAU** (*Colorado State*)

Mary Petter Schmunk, 1948  
Rosemary Lichty Visnak, 1946

## **PSI** (*Oklahoma*)

Helen Weed Maher, 1954  
Alice Reynolds Pratt, 1941  
Paula Martin Rutherford, 1961  
Karen Stuart White, 1996

## **OMEGA** (*Iowa State*)

Jill Smith Huels, 1968  
Jean McKee Jervis, 1957  
Karla Baur Tillotson, 1953

## **ALPHA ALPHA** (*Toronto*)

Elizabeth Carney Holden, 1935  
Zia Creet Pollock, 1937

## **ALPHA BETA** (*North Dakota*)

Ruth Mehl Gunderson, 1945  
Constance Belsheim Stennes, 1964

## **ALPHA GAMMA** (*Nevada*)

Patricia Furchner Fuss, 1947

## **ALPHA DELTA**

(*Missouri-Columbia*)  
Jennifer Borron Furla, 1980  
Jean Osborn Keeth, 1946  
Marlyn Ameling Schulze, 1957  
Marianne Hill Vahlkamp, 1951

## **ALPHA EPSILON** (*Arizona*)

Anne Gillmore Low, 1945

## **ALPHA ZETA** (*Texas-Austin*)

Winifred Evans Alexander, 1947  
Patricia Pietravalle Choyce, 1948  
Dorace Caldwell Guin, 1944  
Grace Wiegand Jones, 1946

## **ALPHA ETA** (*Ohio Wesleyan*)

Bette Vierke Kyler, 1946  
Dorothy Harmer McDonald, 1945  
Sue Poulton, 1957  
Donna Stolberg, 1969

## **ALPHA IOTA**

(*California-Los Angeles*)  
Phyllis Smith, 1945  
Mary Jane Bentley Storrs, 1949

## **ALPHA XI** (*Southern Methodist*)

Marjorie White Giles, 1941  
Elizabeth Parsons Thompson, 1947

## **ALPHA OMICRON**

(*North Dakota State*)  
Edith Arneson Dawson, 1946  
Beatrice Jones Kartenson, 1946

## **ALPHA PI** (*West Virginia*)

Carol Zinkus Bell, 1961

## **ALPHA RHO**

(*Birmingham-Southern*)  
Elise Berthon, 1950

## **ALPHA SIGMA**

(*Randolph-Macon*)  
June Shinkle Powell, 1936

## **ALPHA TAU** (*McGill*)

Kay Bennett, 2012

## **ALPHA PHI** (*Colorado College*)

Mary Beekley Gibson, 1949  
Patricia Hill Holm, 1947  
Ruth Richardson, 1960  
Phyllis Stephens Vivian, 1941

**ALPHA CHI** (*William & Mary*)  
Elizabeth Moore Alexander, 1939  
Jay Weldon, 1962

**ALPHA PSI** (*Lake Forest*)  
Corinne Stafford Van Horn, 1955

**ALPHA OMEGA**  
(*Western Ontario*)  
Marion Douglas Barry, 1941  
Elizabeth MacKenzie Burns, 1939  
Elizabeth Walker Butterill, 1939  
Margaret Laing Graham, 1946

**BETA ALPHA**  
(*Southern California*)  
Dorothy Rounsavell Tubbesing, 1947

**BETA BETA** (*Maryland*)  
Barbara Adamson White, 1946  
Barbara Harding White, 1969

**BETA GAMMA** (*Bowling Green*)  
Mary Craigmile Becks, 1944

**BETA DELTA** (*Michigan State*)  
Mildred Runnells Martin, 1952

**BETA EPSILON** (*Miami-Ohio*)  
Laura Green Durand, 1949  
Betty Hopkins Schumm, 1948

**BETA ZETA** (*Kent State*)  
Mary Averill Becherer, 1947  
Martha Cardinal, 1949

**BETA ETA** (*Bradley*)  
Jean Ballantyne Miller, 1958

**BETA THETA** (*San Jose State*)  
Lynda Newman Petru, 1962

**BETA KAPPA** (*Arizona State*)  
Marcia McConoughey Fisher, 1951  
Carolyn Diestler Rockwell, 1963

**BETA MU** (*Florida State*)  
Hellen Ireland Guttinger, 1958

**BETA NU** (*Vermont*)  
Hetty White Andrews, 1953

**BETA XI** (*Ohio State*)  
Carol Judson Cass, 1958  
Donna Burdge Gerlach, 1964

**BETA OMICRON**  
(*Oklahoma City*)  
Ashley Studebaker Kellert, 2001

Abbey Renner, 2015

**BETA PI** (*Indiana State*)  
Nancy Phillips Bassett, 1959  
JoAnn Wolfe Ridenour, 1960  
Martha Spears Sweeney, 1952

**BETA RHO** (*Colorado-Boulder*)  
Jacqueline Wright, 1974

**BETA TAU** (*Texas Tech*)  
Carolyn Cox Tautfest, 1967

**BETA UPSILON** (*Kansas State*)  
Jean Shoop Hixson, 1962

**BETA PHI** (*Indiana*)  
Joan McHaffie Jackson, 1967

**BETA PSI** (*Oklahoma State*)  
Melba Quick Spurrier, 1979

**GAMMA GAMMA**  
(*Wisconsin-Milwaukee*)  
Janis Sheahan Frank, 1963

**GAMMA ZETA**  
(*Texas A&M-Commerce*)  
Jane White Myers, 1966

**GAMMA THETA**  
(*University of the Pacific*)  
Claudia Merrick Olsen, 1967

**GAMMA OMICRON**  
(*Kentucky*)  
Linda Finomore Koeth, 1973  
Eydie Moles Rymer, 1977

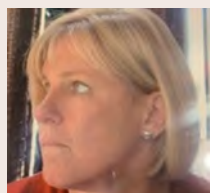
**DELTA GAMMA**  
(*Nebraska-Omaha*)  
Mary Kula Sullivan, 1970

**DELTA NU** (*Missouri State*)  
Layne Stober McDaniel, 1977

**ZETA OMEGA** (*Kennesaw State*)  
Kate Jones, 2021

#### Corrections and Clarifications

In the winter 2022 issue of *The Crescent*, Meghan Voisine, 2020, was incorrectly listed under Beta Theta Chapter. Megan joined Gamma Phi Beta at Eta Theta Chapter (Connecticut) and was an active Eta Theta member until her passing.



### CAROL PURDY GRONINGER

**BETA**  
(*Michigan, 1965*)

Carol Purdy Groninger was born in Akron, Ohio, and grew up in Cleveland Heights. She attended the University of Michigan and joined our sisterhood at Beta Chapter. After earning a bachelor's degree in nursing, Carol worked as a nurse at University Hospitals in Cleveland. In 1969, she married Donald L. Groninger, and together, they had three children (Jenny, Adam and Greg). In 1992, Carol and her family relocated southside, settling in Nashville, Tennessee. Despite this, Carol, an Ohio native, remained loyal to her team, the Cleveland Guardians. She continued her studies at the Vanderbilt University of Nursing, earning a master's degree in 1997. Shortly after, she worked in Nashville as a psychiatric nurse practitioner until her retirement. In addition to her family, friends and patients, Carol loved horses.



### KATE JONES

**ZETA OMEGA**  
(*Kennesaw State, 2021*)

Smart, funny, quick-witted, and kindhearted Kate Jones of Atlanta, Georgia, was the type of friend you wanted in your corner. Community involvement was everything to her. She participated in several community groups, like her local church's choir, Voice of Truth, and Girl Scouts. Kate was planning to become a troop leader to continue to empower girls through the organization's mission and vision. After years of assisting at after-school programs, Kate felt called to teaching early in life. A freshman at Kennesaw State University, she was studying to become an elementary school teacher — she hoped to teach second graders after college. Kate joined Gamma Phi Beta at Zeta Omega Chapter and, as her online obituary states, "She was loving her newfound sisterhood."

# BUILDING ON *Yesterday*



*Top: Alpha Epsilon Chapter facility circa 1922  
Right: Alpha Epsilon Chapter facility today*



## 1922

### 100 YEARS OF ALPHA EPSILON CHAPTER

As mentioned on page 30, Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta at the University of Arizona (UA) in Tucson, Arizona, turned 100 years old in April. To celebrate, here's a look at the chapter's humble beginnings.

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The year was 1922. Delta Rho had been a local sorority at UA for three years before applying for a Gamma Phi Beta Charter. After an investigation by Denver alumnae members, the petition of Delta Rho was granted by Convention vote. Headed by Eleanor Dennison (Denver, 1922), Denver alumnae installed Alpha Epsilon Chapter (Arizona), the 29th chapter of Gamma Phi Beta, and welcomed 22 former members of Delta Rho into the Sorority's circle of sisterhood.

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## Parents

While our members are in college, their copy of *The Crescent* is sent to your home address — we hope you enjoy reading our magazine, too! If your daughter is no longer in college, or is no longer living with you, feel free to send us her new address by emailing [TheCrescent@gammaphibeta.org](mailto:TheCrescent@gammaphibeta.org).

## Join Our Green Team!

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## Looking to connect with a sister?

Visit [GammaPhiBeta.org/Find-A-Member](http://GammaPhiBeta.org/Find-A-Member) for a full directory of Gamma Phi Beta members!

2022 Called,  
and It Wants  
Your Stories

We need content for the summer and fall 2022 issues of *The Crescent*. Please send us your story ideas to [TheCrescent@gammaphibeta.org](mailto:TheCrescent@gammaphibeta.org) or fill out the form at [GammaPhiBeta.org/Forms/The-Crescent-Story-Ideas](http://GammaPhiBeta.org/Forms/The-Crescent-Story-Ideas). We are interested in stories about the achievements and activities of individual members and chapters, sisterhood and friends, sisters making an impact in the world, etc. While we accept content submissions year-round, please keep in mind the following dates for a chance to see your story in a 2022 issue.

### SUMMER 2022 ISSUE

Drop date: Middle/End of August

Content Needed By: Early June

### FALL 2022 ISSUE

Drop date: Middle/End of November

Content Needed By: End of August

# SWEET SUMMER STYLES



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#ADDY | I. Forever Ring, #001RS | J. Crown Pearl Double Letter Guard, #0600 | K. Crest Guard  
with Enamel, #9006 | L. Recording Secretary Dangle, #08 | M. Chapter President Dangle, #01A  
N. One World One Heart Dangle #1W1H | O. 10K Lavalier and gold-filled Snake Chain, #L2649  
P. Lyanna Necklace, #LYANNA