



Alpha Zeta

Chapter NEWS

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.

“Professional Business Women Propelled by Ingenuity: Intentional Purpose”

#Designed1929 #Driven2023-2027 #Distinction2029

2024-2025 Vol. 2

November – January

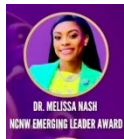
Journalist: Soror Cheryl Watts



Greetings, Sorors, the 2024-2025 sorority year is off to a great start for Alpha Zeta. A reminder or two: Alpha Zeta is the host chapter for the upcoming Central Regional Conference (March 13-16). Our Planning Chair, Soror Paula Sams needs help from all of us. Let us continue to grow closer together in our service to Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. and the greater St. Louis metropolitan community.

November

Honors, Honors, Honors bestowed Upon Our Distinguished Sorors!



NCNW Member Recognition

Soror Dr. Melissa Nash was honored with an NCNW Emerging Leader Award at the NCNW Gateway Metropolitan Section’s “St. Louis Hidden Treasures Anchors of the Community Awards” Luncheon on Saturday, November 2, 2024.



NCNW Anchor in the Community

Soror Judy Ferguson Shaw was an honoree at the NCNW Gateway Metropolitan Section’s “St. Louis Hidden Treasures Anchors of the Community Awards” Luncheon on Saturday, November 2, 2024.



Salute to Homer G. Phillips Nurses

Soror Jane Ward was honored on Saturday, November 16, 2024, for her nursing service at the “Salute to the Nurses” of the historic Homer G. Phillips Hospital.

Congratulations to our Sorors for their dedication and service to the St. Louis community!

Ellis Jerome Shaw Day of Opportunities



On Sunday, November 10th, a number of chapter members manned a booth space at the first annual Ellis Jerome Shaw Day of Opportunities, sponsored by the Ellis Jerome Shaw Foundation created by Soror Judy Ferguson Shaw and her family in honor of her late husband, Ellis Shaw. Information about

membership in Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., and its programs, including youth opportunities (Future Iota Leaders) and scholarships was made available. Contact information of potential new sorority members, FIL, and students interested in our scholarship opportunities was collected.

New Chapter Chartered: Eta Gamma



On Sunday, November 17, 2024, members of Alpha Zeta Chapter assisted in and attended the chartering of a new Central Region chapter, Eta Gamma, in a hybrid ceremony led by Central Regional Director Dr. Cheryl Scott. The fourteen charter members of the new chapter included former Alpha Zeta members Dorlita Adams, Miranda Avant-Elliott, Chantal Casey, Robyn Greenlee, and Tina Phillips, and the nine new Sorors of the “9 E.L.I.T.E. Emeralds” line inducted that evening.

Welcome, Eta Gamma!



American Education Week

On Saturday, November 23, 2024, Alpha Zeta Chapter held its 43rd Annual “Apple for the Teacher” Awards Luncheon at the St. Louis Airport Marriott Hotel. This signature event, chaired by Soror Paula Sams, honored twenty-two educators from the St. Louis metropolitan area for their dedication and service to children. More than 300 guests attended, including members of our local sister chapters, Zeta Nu, Eta Alpha, and Eta Gamma.



The Class of 2024

Front Row: Ms. Teresa Harris, Mrs. Tyra Hall, Mrs. Kathryn Hall, Mr. Herman Gordon, Mr. Riebeil Durley-Petty, Mrs. Brittney Dickson, Dr. Niketia Coleman, Dr. Azalia Carter, Ms. Lamika Cannon, Mr. Travis Brown, Jr., and Mrs. Danette Baker

2nd Row: Dr. Michael Triplett, Dr. Dawn Towles-Richards, Ms. Crystal Spearman, Dr. Latricia Singleton-Clark, Mrs. Yakasi Penny, Mr. Gerold Nave, Jr., Mrs. Fallon MacNeil-Swait, Dr. Catina Lyles, Ms. Kasia Landa, Ms. Jennifer Hutchinson, Dr. Tawana Hughes

Lomepa Club – Fall 2024



Soror Lillian Blackshear-Summers, Dean of Intake, and the Membership Committee prepared The Infinite 8 for their introduction to Alpha Zeta Chapter, including attendance and service at the 43rd Annual “Apple for the Teacher” Awards Luncheon. These ladies are already busy learning about Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., and Alpha Zeta Chapter through engaging activities with their Big Sisters in attendance, as well as planning a community service event in December and an online popcorn sale as a fundraiser to donate funds to the chapter’s general scholarship fund. Their induction is tentatively planned for January 2025.

December

The month of December is a month in which the Sorors of Alpha Zeta chapter give their time and treasures to others in need, as well as joining in a joyous celebration of our Sisterhood.

This year, the chapter once again participated in the annual Hopewell Mental Health Center’s annual Toy Giveaway where Sorors delivered and helped distribute donated toys and gifts for children along with “Santa” and “Mrs. Claus.” Special Guest: Our own Soror Dr. Amanda L. Murphy, founder and CEO of the Amanda Lockett Murphy Hopewell Mental Health Center for over 40 years.



The chapter also adopted a family through the St. Louis Public Schools’ Students in Transition Program suggested by Soror Stephanie Piatt-Terry. Sorors Cobbs took on the task of shopping for the family of seven, with five children (four foster children) and mom and dad. Two outfits for each child, socks, a few toys for the two youngest children, and family games were donated by Soror Paula Sams, and the parents were given personal care gift sets. A \$250 gift card to purchase additional items that the family may need for the holiday season (food, etc.) was donated by Soror Piatt-Terry.

Our Lomepa Club also put their community service efforts into a Toy Giveaway for Lomepa Cynthia Bennett's agency, Journey Against Domestic and Sexual Abuse (JADASA).



And *THEN* there was the Holiday Social, replete with a mimosa bar, live saxophone music, the laughter, hilarity and fierce competition of fun games and gifts, gifts, gifts galore.



January

January's weather was atrocious, but that didn't stop Alpha Zeta Chapter from welcoming the *Infinite 8* on Saturday, January 11, 2025 into the Sisterhood of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.!



Soror Dr. Cynthia Bennett
#7 Safaree



Soror Bennetta Blackshear
#3 Purple Reign



Soror Ashley Carey
#1 Premiere Enas



Soror LaToya Carey
#5 Prime Legacy



Soror Mary Millender
#6 Merry-Mary



Soror Roxanne Reese
#2 Forti2ude



Soror Krystal Wilson
#8 WARRIOR

Infinite 8
January 11, 2025



Job well done, Dean Lillian and Membership Committee!

REMINDER:



Our 2025 Black History Calendar of Activities begins Friday, January 31st with the University City Community Book Study Kick-Off at the Emerson Center, Harris-Stowe State University. Please contact Soror Paula Sams for information regarding registration.

Check our website, www.iota-stlouis.org/newsevents for the full calendar of events, and the Turtle Connection for weekly reminders. Contact Soror Cheryl Watts, Chair, or Soror Stephanie Piatt-Terry, Co-Chair, for further information.

Always Upward and Onward as Professional Businesswomen!

