



Alpha Zeta Chapter NEWS

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.

"Professional Business Women Propelled by Ingenuity: Intentional Purpose"

#Designed1929 #Driven2023-2027 #Distinction2029

2024-2025 Vol. 3

February –April

Journalist: Soror Cheryl Watts



Greetings, Sorors, the 2024-2025 sorority year is off to a great start for Alpha Zeta. Kudos to all members of the chapter who helped make the 45th Central Regional Conference a memorable one. Let us continue to grow closer together in our service to Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. and the greater St. Louis metropolitan community.

February

Black History Month

The Black History Month Committee, chaired by Soror Cheryl Watts and co-chaired by Soror Stephanie Terry, kept Alpha Zeta Chapter members on the move with a wide variety of activities to explore and experience, with weekly reminders sent via *Turtle Connection*. The Worship Fellowship, Soul Food Meal, Griot Museum of Black History, and High School Music Trivia events were the “hits” of the month! View the Black History Month slideshow on our [website](#)!



Worshipping Together



At the Griot Museum



At the Jazz Museum



Read-In @ Gibson Elem.



Soul Food Luncheon



Our host: Jazz Museum
Curator
Bernie Hayes

Membership - Spring Informational



On Sunday, February 16th, Dean of Intake Soror Lillian Blackshear-Summers and the Membership Committee held a Spring Informational at the Sheraton Westport Chalet to meet and greet more than 20 women interested in Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., Alpha Zeta Chapter. Potential members were informed of what membership in Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., entails, including its history, programs, community service and the expectations of the chapter. A new group of Lomepas will become New Alpha Zetans around Founder's Day; watch for news of Lomepa and Membership Committee activities on the *Turtle*

Connection.



Future Iota Leaders (FIL)



On Sunday, February 17, 2025, members of Alpha Zeta Chapter led by Soror Barbara Sharp held an informational meeting for youth (and their parents) interested in becoming members of Future Iota Leaders, the youth affiliate program of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. The event, including light refreshments, was held at the Florissant Empowerment Center, 9420 West Florissant Avenue.

March

45th Central Regional Conference

Alpha Zeta Chapter served as the Host Chapter for the 45th Central Regional Conference, held March 13 – 17 at the Crowne Plaza St. Louis Hotel. Seventy-eight (78) Sorors were registered for the conference, also attended by Iota's 24th National President, Charlotte D. Berry.

The conference began with a tour of St. Louis including the historic African American neighborhood, The Ville, St. Louis' HBCU, Harris-Stowe State University, the St. Louis

Archdiocese's traditionally African American high school, Cardinal Ritter College Preparatory High School, St. Louis University, Washington University, Forest Park, and the Gateway Arch National Park, including a trip to the top of the Gateway Arch. The Community Service project collected money and items such as baby formula, diapers and other needed items for the St. Louis Crisis Nursery. Conference first-timers lit up their entrance dancing to "Boots On The Ground" complete with lighted fans and cowboy hats while Sorors waved lighted tassels.

Soror Ada Johnson moderated an excellent panel discussion on how artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming daily life across generations and industries for the Education Forum. For the Leadership Forum, Soror Deletra Hudson of Eta Alpha Chapter presented an interactive workshop, "100-Year Wealth Plan", which included strategies to help Sorors plan financially for themselves and their generations to come. The Hospitality Room, manned by Soror Lillian Blackshear-Summers and committee, scored a home run on 314 Day: more than 70 Sorors were served lunch and dinner with St. Louis traditional favorite foods and beverages, and Soror Lakeisha Turner created a wonderful display of the many activities that Alpha Zeta Chapter has been involved in over the years. Friday's weather went from a warm Spring day to a scary, stormy afternoon and early evening of severe storms and damaging tornadoes in the St. Louis area, but calm and camaraderie prevailed. Saturday night's theme for the Awards Banquet was "Mardi Gras," for which Sorors had the opportunity to create their own Mardi Gras masks.

Alpha Zeta Chapter Awards

1 st Place – Chapter Achievement	1 st Place – Conference Attendance (23)
1 st Place – Chapter Growth	Certificate of Appreciation – WOTY Candidate
Certificate of Recognition – Chapter Newsletters	Plaque as Host of 45 th Central Regional Conference

Congratulations to Soror Cynthia Warren; she was elected to the office of Central Region Assistant Director. On Sunday, the Inspirational Service featured the inaugural performance of the Alpha Zeta Choir followed by a powerful and inspiring message, "Help a Sista Out," delivered by the Reverend Renee T. Johnson, pastor of Murchison Tabernacle CME church.

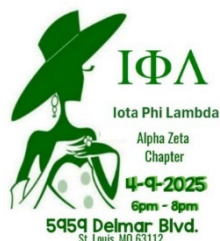
Kudos, Kudos, Kudos, Applause to Soror Paula Sams, Chair, and members of the Regional Conference Planning Committee for such a well-executed and memorable regional conference!

Make sure that you view the slideshow of pictures on our website!

April

Charter Day

Alpha Zeta was chartered on April 9, 1937. To celebrate this auspicious day, the Charter Day Committee, chaired by Soror Paula Sams, held a painting event at St. Louis



STLOUISARTWORKS

ArtWorks. Sorors had the opportunity to create their own custom-painted artwork or t-shirts in a fun atmosphere highlighted by great food, socializing and Sisterhood. View the slideshow of event pictures on our [website](#)!



BUSINESS MONTH UPCOMING EVENTS



1 TUESDAY APRIL, 2025	SMALL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS 5:00 – 7:00 PM Shannon James Delrose Place 1000 St. Cyr Road, Bldg. B St. Louis, MO 63137
8 TUESDAY APRIL, 2025	PATHWAYS2HOMEOWNERSHIP 6:00 – 8:30 PM Urban League Zoom ID 526 994 3635 Password: 424154
10 THURSDAY APRIL, 2025	LUNCH AND LEARN PRIVATE EVENT 11:00 – 12:30 PM Dr. Paula Sams Cardinal Ritter College Prep 701 N. Spring Ave. St. Louis, MO 63108
12 SATURDAY APRIL, 2025	YOUNG BIZ KIDZ MARKETPLACE 11:00 – 2:00 PM Arriel Biggs Urban League Peter H. Bunce Water Tower Campus Gym 2125 Bissell Street, St. Louis, MO 63107
16 WEDNESDAY APRIL, 2025	LUNCH AND LEARN PRIVATE EVENT 11:00 – 12:30 PM Dr. Paula Sams University City High School 7401 Balson Ave. University City, MO 63130
16 WEDNESDAY APRIL, 2025	AI FINANCIAL WORKSHOP/NETWORKING 5:30 – 7:30 PM Entrepreneur Center Aleta Grimes-Mitchell Urban League Metro St. Louis 1408 N. Kingshighway Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63113
27 SUNDAY APRIL, 2025	15TH ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER 4:00 – 8:00 PM Live Music by Rhoda G Sheraton Westport Chalet 191 Westport Plaza Drive Maryland Heights, MO 63146

www.iota-stlouis.org

Business Month

April is Business Month, and Alpha Zeta celebrates its commitment to this national program of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. The Business Month Committee, led by Soror Paula Carey-Moore, Chair, and Soror Latavia Jones, Co-Chair, put together an ambitious calendar of events involving chapter members, youth and the public. The month of activities was culminated by one of Alpha Zeta's signature events, The Emerald Awards dinner. View the slideshow of event pictures on our [website!](http://www.iota-stlouis.org)





Psst:

Mental Health Awareness Month is May:

May 10 – *Team Turtle Girls* - NAMI Walk – Creve Coeur Park

May 17 - Turtle Trivia Journey to Healing – Urban League Water Tower Campus

May 18 – *Alpha Zeta Struts*: Annie Malone May Day Parade (sorry – cancelled due to the tornado!)

May 22 – ‘A Color Purple’ Podcast Panel

Coming Soon:

- A NEW Lomepa Club is now working towards becoming our new Sorors this Spring.
- June 1 – Founder’s Day celebration
- July 28 – August 3:

**96TH ANNIVERSARY
CALL TO CONVENTION | HYATT CRYSTAL CITY, VA**

“Propelled by Ingenuity: Rising to the Challenge of Tomorrow”

Host Chapter | Gamma Chapter of Washington, DC

DC, Maryland & Virginia

Soror Charlotte D Berry, National President

iota1929.org