

**SIGMA GAMMA RHO**

**Eta Xi Sigma Chapter**

**OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS**

**2003-2004**  
**Media Kit**

# SIGMA GAMMA RHO

## Eta Xi Sigma Chapter

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OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS

## w e l c o m e

Welcome to the Eta Xi Sigma Graduate Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. We are committed to the service of this organization through dedication & excellence!

Here, you will find valuable information about the sorority on the national and local levels. This year shall prove to be a prosperous one and we welcome you to join us. Please feel free to visit us online as well for more information at <http://etaxisigma.tripod.com>.

### Request more information

Please use the form below to request information about Sigma Gamma Rho or to receive updates for Eta Xi Sigma's upcoming events.



## SIGMA GAMMA RHO Eta Xi Sigma Request Form

Please fill out the following fields and mail to:

Eta Xi Sigma Alumnae Chapter - P.O. Box 522, Oak Lawn, IL 60454

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENING PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ DAY PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one: I prefer to be contacted at my:  e-mail address  day phone  evening phone)

#### CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- I am a reactivating soror
- I am a prospective member
- Please send me information about the Sorority & Chapter
- Please send me updates of your upcoming events

Thank you for your interest. Please feel free to visit us at <http://etaxisigma.tripod.com>  
or e-mail us at [etaxisigma@yahoo.com](mailto:etaxisigma@yahoo.com)

## about eta xi sigma

On August 16, 1992, forty six women chartered one of the largest graduate chapters in Sigma Gamma Rho history, Eta Xi Sigma Chapter in Oak Lawn, Illinois. These women, some formerly of Delta Sigma Chapter, saw a need to expand their horizons, especially as their numbers grew. Change is never easy, but the growth of Sigma Gamma Rho outweighed any doubts we had.

### A "Who's Who in Sigma"

Eta Xi Sigma's membership includes life members, a "Who's Who in Sigma" recipient, a Past Grand Basileus, Past Grand Second Anti-Basilei, Regional Syntaki, Past Grand Epistoleus, Undergraduate Campus Coordinators, a Past Executive Director, a Past Regional Rhoer Advisor, and sorors who have past and currently hold local, regional, and national chairmanships. These women provide an avenue for developing leadership skills as well as professional growth through networking, especially for undergraduates.

### 2003-2004 Executive Board

<b>Basileus:</b>	Soror Sandra Kelly
<b>1st Anti-Basileus:</b>	Soror Sydney Stewart
<b>2nd Anti-Basileus:</b>	Soror Jacqueline Stevenson-Storey
<b>3rd Anti-Basileus:</b>	Soror Kimberly Hardy
<b>Tamiochus:</b>	Soror Trenika Smith
<b>Grammateus:</b>	Soror JoAnn Hawkins-White
<b>Anti-Grammateus:</b>	Soror Tiffany Hightower
<b>Asst. Anti-Grammateus:</b>	Soror Onetta Davis
<b>Epistoleus:</b>	Soror Stephanie Spencer
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms:</b>	Soror Victoria Jackson

### Contact Information

Eta Xi Sigma Chapter  
*Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.*  
P.O. Box 522  
Oak Lawn, IL 60454  
etaxisigma@yahoo.com  
<http://etaxisigma.tripod.com>

## sorority history

### The Legacy Begins...

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. was founded by seven prestigious school teachers that wanted to make a difference in their community and shared a dream of a legacy for greater service and achievement through higher education. Promoting unity among women is the legacy that bonds over 72,000 Sigma women today. Seven became 72,000 because somebody cared and somebody worked, and somebody had a vision. Today, the vision has grown into a reality. And, the reality has become a way of life. These women – Mary Lou Allison, Bessie M. Downey, Hattie M. Dulin, Nannie Mae Gahn, Dorothy Hanley, Cubena McClure, and Vivian White - dared to dream of such a legacy because they were dedicated to the boys and girls for whom they sought to provide richness in life. To attain this, they felt deeply that certain definite needs must be met – higher education, living by the highest ethical standards and rendering unselfish service to make a better society.

### Sigma Facts...

**Founded:** November 12, 1922 at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana

**Colors:** Royal Blue & Gold

**Publication:** The Aurora

**Slogan:** Greater Service, Greater Progress

**Flower:** Yellow Tea Rose

**Mascot:** French Toy Poodle

### Just A Few Notable Sigma Women...

**Soror Merri Dee** - Television personality, WGN-TV

**Soror Lorraine E. Hale, Ph.D.** - Executive Director Hale House Center, Inc. New York

**Soror Cynthia Horner** - Magazine Editor of "Right On" Magazine

**Soror Anna Maria Horsford** - Actress "Amen", "Friday", "Wayans Bros."

**Soror Janetta James, a.k.a. Ms. Dupre**- Radio Personality, The Tom Joyner Morning Show

**Soror Brenda Joysmith** - Artist

## sorority history cont.

### More Notable Sigma Women...

**Soror Leighann Lord** - Comedian

**Soror Marilyn McCoo**- Singer/Entertainer, The 5th Dimension

**Soror Mother Love** - Radio Personality, Author, and ex-Host of "Forgive or Forget"

**Soror Maysa** - Jazz Artist

**Soror Nancy E. McCormick** - Executive Assistant to U.S. Representative and NAACP President Kweisi Mfume

**Soror Hattie McDaniels** - First African-American Actress to win an Oscar- Best Supporting Actress in "Gone with the Wind"

**Soror Victoria Rowell** - Actress "The Young and the Restless", "Diagnosis Murder" and Foster care activist

**Soror Ruth V. Sims** - Administrator, National Projects Director of the NAACP

**Soror April Sinclair** - Author of *Coffee Will Make You Black* and *Ain't Goin' Be The Same Fool Twice*

**Soror Chizu Shindo Suzuki** - Japanese Artist and Writer

**Soror Mary Washington** - First African-American CPA

**Soror Rosa Page Welch** - Famed Mezzo Soprano & Lecturer, "Ambassador of Goodwill" in interracial relations

**Soror Ruth Whitehead Whaley** - First African-American woman to actively practice law in the U.S.

**Soror Ruth Russell Williams** - Artist and Entrepreneur, Her artwork is sold at JCPenney, Nordstroms & Michaels nationally and internationally. Her works include The Baptism, Family Reunion, The Graduation, Old Time Revival, & Kitchen Beautician. She created the promotional artwork, BigBookBag for our sorority's current project of the same name.

**Soror Tonya Lee Williams** - Actress, "The Young and the Restless"

## community service

Sigma Gamma Rho aims to achieve great heights in excellence and serve its community as well. Currently, the women of Sigma Gamma Rho participate in various national projects; those being:

### Operation BigBookBag

This project is the sorority's newest community service venture and was set up in conjunction with the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Inc. It was developed in 1996 by Past Grand Basileus Dr. LaRona Morris. With this project, members of Sigma Gamma Rho work to get supplies to needy school children.

### Mwanamugimu Essay Contest

Increasing the knowledge of young people about the historical and contemporary development of African nations, is the primary goal of this project. The secondary goal of the program seeks to improve the writing and research skills of students. The Mwanamugimu (pronounced wan-nah-moo-gee-moo) project allows local chapters to sponsor essay contest where students are awarded annually.

### Project Africa

75% of the food produced in Africa are grown with the aid of African women. These women spend countless hours bending over to pick grain and manually grind them day in and day out. With the help of Sigma Gamma Rho, in conjunction with Africare, African women are put at ease while aiding in the production of the food supply. The cooperative efforts, through this project, is to provide funds to purchase diesel-powered and hand-operated grain grinders and other agricultural assistance that enable women of Zimbabwe, the major food providers, to significantly reduce the time and labor needed to process grain.

### Project Reassurance

Responding to the concerns of the high-risk health problems of teen-age pregnancies is the goal of this project. Through Project Reassurance, Sigma Gamma Rho and the National Foundation/March of Dimes help young mothers by assisting them in planning for family living; acquainting them with community health and social resources; and by providing them with guidance in adjusting to parenthood.

## community service, cont.

### Wee Savers

The importance of financial stability is increasing with the times. With economics the way they are today, more African Americans need to dedicate themselves to investing in their future. As more people become aware of the obsolescence of social security, we must learn to fend for ourselves. Sigma Gamma Rho has dedicated itself to focusing on expanding the knowledge of young people about effectively managing personal finances and making wise investment decisions.

Sigma Gamma Rho's goal is to continue to uplift the community through its projects and create new ideas to continue to motivate people throughout the world. Ideally, our future will remain bright, allowing the members of Sigma Gamma Rho and those affected by us, to benefit greatly through Sisterhood, Scholarship, & Greater Service.

## sigma principles

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority's aim is to enhance the quality of life within the community. Public service, leadership development and education of youth are the hallmark of the organization's programs and activities. Sigma Gamma Rho addresses concerns that impact society educationally, civically, and economically.

### Sisterhood

From seven young teachers, Sigma Gamma Rho has become an international service organization comprised of women from every profession. Sigma Gamma Rho offers its members opportunities to develop their unique talents through leadership training and involvement in sorority activities. Sorority activities provide an atmosphere where friendships and professional contacts are developed which often lead to bonds that last a lifetime. Sigma women are dedicated to helping each other and their personal success is recognized in the Aurora (the official publication of the sorority) and through various awards.

### Scholarship

In a time when education for African Americans was difficult to attain, the founders of Sigma Gamma Rho became educators. They believed that the self-respect, knowledge and discipline gained through study would help individuals to recognize their duty and responsibility for their society. Thus, Sigma Gamma Rho was founded on the precept of education and continues to promote and encourage high scholastic attainment. In addition to annual scholarships awarded by local alumnae chapters, in 1984 the National Education Fund was created. The Fund was designed to insure perpetual support for its commitment to education and for research in education, health and related fields.

### Service

Sigma Gamma Rho's commitment to service is expressed in its slogan, "Greater Service, Greater Progress." The sorority has a proud history of offering service wherever chapters exist as well as service globally. Through active participation in programs and through networking with other organizations such as the National Council of Negro Women, Urban League and the NAACP, Sigma's legacy of service to improve the quality of life for all mankind continues.



### event calendar

#### SEPTEMBER

- 21** Chapter Meeting
- 25** Volunteer at Beethoven

#### OCTOBER

- 05** NPHC Meeting (SGRho hosting)
- 12** Rhoer Informational
- 18** Chapter Meeting
  - Spa Raffle
- 23** Volunteer at Beethoven
- 26** Giordanos Social

#### NOVEMBER

- 01** Area Workshop
- 02** NPHC Meeting
- 09** Founder's Day Celebration at the Hyatt Regency
- 15** Chapter Meeting
  - Thanksgiving Baskets
  - Sigma Round-up
  - *Aurora* Submissions
- 16** Rhoer Inductions
- 20** Volunteer at Beethoven
- 22** Clothing drive benefiting Casa Notre Dame.

#### DECEMBER

- Adopt-a-Family
- 07** NPHC Meeting
- 19** Christmas Carolling
- 20** Chapter Meeting
  - Christmas Social

#### JANUARY

- 04** NPHC Meeting
- 17** Chapter Meeting
  - Carver Day

#### FEBRUARY

- 01** NPHC Meeting
- 08** Ecumenical Service
- 14** Wee Savers
- 21** Chapter Meeting
- 28** Black Male Appreciation

# SIGMA GAMMA RHO

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### event calendar

#### MARCH

- 06** Youth Symposium
- 07** NPHC Meeting
- 14** *Aurora* Submissions
- 20** **Chapter Meeting**
  - Regional Reports due

#### APRIL

- 03** Sister-to-Sister Fair
- 04** NPHC Meeting
- 10** **Chapter Meeting**
  - Office Nominations
- 16-18** **Regional Meeting**  
St. Louis, MO
- 30** National Scholarship  
Deadline

#### MAY

- 01** Rhomania
- 02** NPHC Meeting
- 15** **Chapter Meeting**
  - Elections
- 28** Club 22

#### JUNE

- 04-06** NPHC Weekend  
St. Louis, MO
- 12** SCDAI Walk-a-Thon/  
Health Fair  
Rhoer Bowling Party
- 19** **Chapter Meeting**
  - Installation of  
Officers
  - Awards Luncheon

#### JULY

- 11** Picnic in the Park
- 15** *Aurora* Submissions
- 16-20** **Boule- Memphis, TN**

#### AUGUST