THE SOURCE

UNDERGRADUATE 2026 EDITION

"This Is Omega"

ΩΨΦ
MIGHTY 9TH D
ARKANSAS • LOUISIANA
OKLAHOMA • TEXAS

MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

IT IS MY HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOU THE UNDERGRADUATE 2026 EDITION OF THE SOURCE. THIS PUBLICATION CELEBRATES YOUR LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND THE IMPACT YOU ARE MAKING THROUGHOUT THE MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT. THE UNDERGRADUATE EXPERIENCE IS A CRITICAL TIME OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND IT IS WHERE OUR FRATERNITY BEGAN. THE WORK YOU DO TODAY IS HELPING SHAPE NOT ONLY YOUR FUTURE, BUT THE FUTURE OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. YOUR ACADEMIC SUCCESS, CAMPUS LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND COMMITMENT TO ONE ANOTHER DEMONSTRATE THE TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL OF OUR UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERHOOD.

THIS SOURCE WILL SHOWCASE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, RECOGNIZE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS, AND PRESERVE THESE STORIES FOR GENERATIONS OF OMEGA MEN TO COME. THE FUTURE OF THE MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT IS BRIGHT BECAUSE OF BROTHERS LIKE YOU. KEEP LEADING. KEEP SERVING. KEEP ACHIEVING. KEEP TELLING OUR STORY.

FRATERNALLY,

BRO. MARCUS MCCOY
NINTH DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
MARCUSMCCOY

Message From Our District Representative

Greetings Brothers,

This Undergraduate Edition of the Source is close to my heart. I want to express how extremely proud I am of the impact you are making on your campuses, in your communities, and across the District. You are not simply preparing to lead Omega; you are leading it now.

Every decision you make, every program you execute, every community you impact, and every Brother you inspire becomes part of the legacy you will leave behind. The future of our Fraternity is not some distant moment. You shape it with what you do today.

I challenge each of you to embrace your responsibility as an Undergraduate Brother. Lead with courage. Pursue excellence. Serve with purpose. And never be afraid to raise the standard. Your chapter is more than a letter on a charter. It is a platform to create change, develop leaders, strengthen communities, and demonstrate what it means to be an Omega Man. The future is watching. The legacy is yours to build.

In Friendship,

Bro. David "Petro" Washington, Jr.
28th Ninth District Representative

MESSAGE FROM OUR UNDERGRADUATE EDITOR OF THE SOURCE

GREETINGS BROTHERS,

WELCOME TO THIS SPECIAL UNDERGRADUATE EDITION OF THE SOURCE. AS UNDERGRADUATES, WE ARE THE LIFEBLOOD OF OUR FRATERNITY, THE GENERATION ENTRUSTED WITH CARRYING OMEGA'S TORCH INTO THE FUTURE. THROUGH SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE, LEADERSHIP, AND PERSEVERANCE, WE KEEP OMEGA'S BLOODLINE STRONG WHILE RENEWING THE ENTHUSIASM AND COMMITMENT THAT HAVE DEFINED OUR BELOVED FRATERNITY FOR GENERATIONS. THE MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A PLACE WHERE YOUNG MEN RISE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE. THE STORIES IN THESE PAGES HIGHLIGHT BROTHERS MAKING AN IMPACT ON THEIR CAMPUSES, IN THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND THROUGHOUT OUR DISTRICT. THEIR EFFORTS REMIND US THAT THE FUTURE OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC. IS BRIGHT BECAUSE OF THE WORK BEING DONE TODAY. AS WE CONTINUE TO STRIVE, PERSEVERE, AND SERVE OMEGA, LET US REMAIN COMMITTED TO BUILDING UPON THE LEGACY ENTRUSTED TO US BY THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE. TOGETHER, WE HONOR OUR PAST WHILE SHAPING AN EVEN GREATER FUTURE.

FRATERNALLY,

BRO. JAMALL FRANKLIN JR.
UNDERGRADUATE EDITOR OF THE SOURCE

THE LEGACY WE BUILD

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OKLAHOMA • TEXAS

THE MIGHTY 9TH DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE MIGHTY 9TH

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Ninth District Representative

Bernard Clayton Jr.
First Vice-District Representative

Kobe Kelson
Second Vice-District Representative

Teddrick Johnson
District Keeper of Records and Seal

Andrew Wilborn
District Keeper of Finance

Jimmy Morris
District Counselor

Marcus McCoy
District Director of Public Relations

Alphonse Matthews
District Chaplain

Van Newborn
Immediate Past District Representative

Michael Williams
District Marshal

Lloyd Clark
LA Graduate Representative

David Williams
OK Graduate Representative

Chantlor Dorsey
AR Undergraduate Representative

Shamar Gongara
OK Undergraduate Representative

Bethel Addo
TX Undergraduate Representative

THE SOURCE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT

SEND ARTICLES TO 9THDOPR@GMAIL.COM

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AT LARGE - BROTHER KIVEN ROBERSON

SECOND VICE-DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

BROTHER KOBE KELSON

KOBE D. KELSON IS A PUBLIC SERVANT, COMMUNITY LEADER, AND ADVOCATE FROM WHITE CASTLE, LOUISIANA, DEDICATED TO CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, PUBLIC POLICY, EDUCATION, MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS, AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT. HE STUDIED POLITICAL SCIENCE AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE AND IS CURRENTLY A SENIOR AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY.

KELSON SERVES AS A LEGISLATIVE AIDE TO LOUISIANA STATE REPRESENTATIVE TERRY C. LANDRY JR. AND WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE IBERVILLE PARISH DEMOCRATIC PARISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN 2026. HE IS ALSO A PROUD MEMBER OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC., INITIATED THROUGH THE BETA SIGMA CHAPTER, AND CURRENTLY SERVES AS SECOND VICE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT.

AN ENTREPRENEUR AND MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE, KELSON FOUNDED KELSON GRAPHICS AND BRANDING LLC IN 2020. HIS WORK ACROSS GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE REFLECTS HIS COMMITMENT TO CREATING STRONGER COMMUNITIES AND DEVELOPING FUTURE LEADERS.

KELSON ASPIRES TO BECOME A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED NONPROFIT AND PUBLIC-SECTOR LEADER AND TO SERVE IN AN ELECTED OFFICE. FOR HIM, LEADERSHIP IS MORE THAN HOLDING A POSITION. IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE.

ARKANSAS UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

BROTHER CHANTLOR DORSEY

MY NAME IS CHANTLOR DORSEY, AND I AM FROM PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS. I AM CURRENTLY A STUDENT-ATHLETE AT ARKANSAS BAPTIST COLLEGE, WHERE I AM MAJORING IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION WITH A CONCENTRATION IN SPORTS MANAGEMENT. I PLAY BASEBALL AND CURRENTLY PLAY SECOND BASE. BEING A STUDENT-ATHLETE HAS TAUGHT ME A LOT ABOUT DISCIPLINE, TEAMWORK, LEADERSHIP, AND STAYING COMMITTED EVEN WHEN THINGS GET DIFFICULT.

I AM ALSO A PROUD MEMBER OF OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC., THROUGH THE ALPHA DELTA PI CHAPTER AT ARKANSAS BAPTIST COLLEGE. I CURRENTLY SERVE AS BASILEUS OF MY CHAPTER AND AS THE ARKANSAS UNDERGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE NINTH DISTRICT. IN THIS ROLE, I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPRESENT UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS THROUGHOUT ARKANSAS AND HELP MAKE SURE THEIR VOICES AND NEEDS ARE HEARD. BEING ABLE TO SERVE MY BROTHERS AND REPRESENT MY STATE IS SOMETHING I TAKE A LOT OF PRIDE IN.

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL, BASEBALL, AND FRATERNITY RESPONSIBILITIES, I ENJOY FISHING, LISTENING TO MUSIC, SPENDING TIME WITH MY FAMILY, AND JUST ENJOYING LIFE. I AM A HANDS-ON PERSON AND A HANDS-ON LEARNER, SO I ENJOY EXPERIENCES THAT ALLOW ME TO LEARN, GROW, AND CHALLENGE MYSELF.

OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

BROTHER SHAMAR GONGARA

I WAS RAISED ON THE SOUTHSIDE OF HOUSTON, TEXAS. MY MAJOR HOBBIES ARE PLAYING IN THE BAND, GRILLING, TEACHING KIDS, AND PLAYING BASEBALL. I'M A MUSIC EDUCATION MAJOR AT LANGSTON UNIVERSITY, AND MY PLANS AFTER GRADUATION ARE TO WORK IN A SCHOOL DISTRICT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS BY BECOMING A BLACK MALE TEACHER.

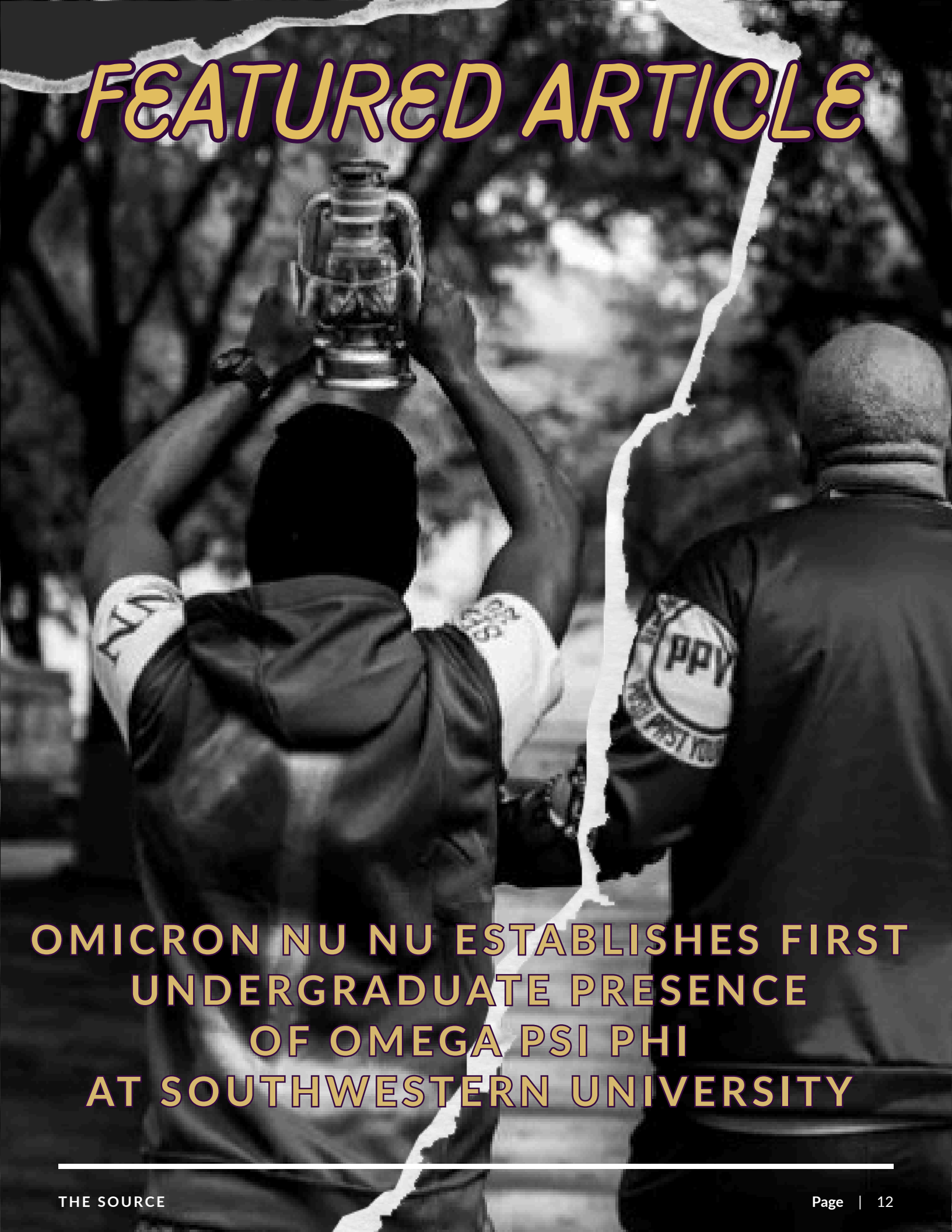
I AM A 2025 INITIATE OF THE PHI PSI CHAPTER. I WAS HONORED TO BE BROUGHT INTO THE FRATERNITY BY ONE OF THE GREATEST BROTHERS EVER, BROTHER JALEN MARTIN, WHO SERVED AS AN UNDERGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ON THE GRAND COUNCIL. I'M TRULY APPRECIATIVE OF SERVING IN THE OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE POSITION, AND I ALSO PLAN ON RUNNING FOR DISTRICT- AND GRAND-LEVEL POSITIONS IN THE FUTURE.

TEXAS UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

BROTHER BETHEL ADDO

MY NAME IS BETHEL ADJEI ADDO. I AM FROM GHANA, WEST AFRICA, AND GREW UP IN THE DFW AREA. I AM A 2025 INITIATE OF THE SIGMA LAMBDA CHAPTER. I LOVE SERVING THE COMMUNITY, PUTTING A SMILE ON PEOPLE'S FACES, WORKING OUT, PLAYING SPORTS, AND SPENDING TIME WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY. IN COLLEGE, I AM MAJORING IN EXERCISE SCIENCE, AND I PLAN TO BECOME AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST AS ONE OF MY MANY ENDEAVORS.

FEATURED ARTICLE



OMICRON NU NU ESTABLISHES FIRST UNDERGRADUATE PRESENCE OF OMEGA PSI PHI AT SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

OMICRON NU NU ESTABLISHES FIRST UNDERGRADUATE PRESENCE OF OMEGA PSI PHI AT SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

The Omicron Nu Nu Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., proudly announces a historic milestone in the Fraternity's expansion within Central Texas. On April 19, 2026, the Chapter initiated Brother Ethan Sledge, officially establishing the first Undergraduate Omega Man at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. Brother Sledge's initiation marks a defining moment for the university. He is the first member of a Black fraternity ever initiated on the Southwestern campus and only the second NPHC-Affiliated student represented at the institution. With this achievement, Omega Psi Phi becomes the first NPHC Fraternity formally recognized at Southwestern University.

A junior majoring in History with minors in Race and Ethnic Studies and International Studies, Brother Sledge is a standout student-athlete and campus leader. He competes on the track and field team and serves in leadership roles within Voices Inspiring Black Excellence (VIBE) and the Black Student Union. Brother Sledge also continues a proud NPHC family legacy. His older sister is a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and as the youngest of four children, he draws strength from his close-knit family and the Christian foundation instilled by his parents.

BY:BRO. JAVVI LEWIS

CONTINUED

Throughout his collegiate journey, Brother Sledge has demonstrated exceptional leadership, character, and perseverance. He is widely respected as a vocal yet humble leader who uplifts his peers and leads by example. His path into Omega as a solo initiate of Spring 2026 reflects the determination and excellence that define the Fraternity.

This historic expansion was made possible through the support of Southwestern University President Laura Skandera Trombley, Ph.D., Bro. Ronald Swain, Ed. D., University Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Life, and the university's administration, whose partnership helped bring Omega Psi Phi to a campus where Black Greek-Letter representation has been limited. The campus is excited about Omega Psi Phi coming to Southwestern and young Brother Ethan Sledge to help lead the way. Congratulations to Brother Ethan Sledge and the Omicron Nu Nu Chapter!

WELCOME TO
Arkansas
THE NATURAL STATE
BUCKLE UP FOR SAFETY

From Good to Great: Building a Stronger Alpha Delta Pi

By: Brother Chantlor Dorsey / Alpha Delta Pi / Arkansas Baptist College

The Alpha Delta Pi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., at Arkansas Baptist College continues to build a legacy rooted in perseverance, brotherhood, scholarship, and service. Throughout the years, the chapter has faced challenges that tested its strength and resilience, yet the brothers of Alpha Delta Pi have remained committed to elevating the standard and creating a stronger foundation for future generations. Today, the chapter is focused on moving from good to great by strengthening its presence on campus, increasing community involvement, and developing impactful leaders. Under the leadership of the current Spring '2025 administration, Alpha Delta Pi has worked diligently to reestablish consistency, accountability, and visibility throughout the campus and surrounding community. The chapter has emphasized the importance of brotherhood by encouraging active participation, academic excellence, and personal growth among its members. Through chapter meetings, service initiatives, and campus engagement, the brothers continue to demonstrate what it means to uphold the cardinal principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Continued

In addition to strengthening internal operations, Alpha Delta Pi has focused heavily on serving others. Whether through mentoring students, participating in community service projects, supporting campus events, or promoting positive change within Arkansas Baptist College, the chapter continues to make a meaningful impact. These efforts reflect the chapter's commitment to not only serving the Fraternity but also uplifting the entire Little Rock area. As Alpha Delta Pi looks toward the future, the chapter remains determined to continue building a culture of excellence. The goal is not simply to uphold tradition, but to expand upon it by creating opportunities for growth, leadership, and achievement. Every brother understands that success is built through dedication, unity, and purpose. By working together and remaining committed to the vision of the Fraternity, Alpha Delta Pi is proving that greatness is not achieved overnight—it is built day by day. The brothers of Alpha Delta Pi proudly continue the mission of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. while striving to leave a lasting legacy at Arkansas Baptist College. Through hard work, perseverance, and an unwavering commitment to excellence, the chapter continues its journey from good to great.

Growing More Than Lawns: Bro. Jaydin Arroyos Is Cultivating a Legacy of Service

By: Brother Timothy R. Williams

Gamma Eta / University of Arkansas

Success isn't always measured by the size of a business. It can also be measured by the lives it touches. For Bro. Jaydin Arroyos, a 2026 initiate of the Gamma Eta Chapter, entrepreneurship has become a vehicle for honoring family, serving the community, and inspiring others to dream bigger. Earlier this year, Bro. Arroyos took the stage during the University of Arkansas' Made @ U of A pitch competition, hosted by the Office of Entrepreneurship & Innovation. Competing alongside fellow student entrepreneurs, he earned a third-place finish, advancing to the next round of competition where his company's logo was displayed on the video board inside Razorback Stadium. More importantly, the experience connected him with mentors, business leaders, and opportunities that continue to fuel his entrepreneurial journey.

His impressive performance also earned him a coveted spot in the Office of Entrepreneurship & Innovation's 10-week Summer Business Incubator. The competitive program provides funding for participants to work full-time on their businesses while receiving mentorship, professional development, and access to a network of experienced entrepreneurs committed to helping them succeed. At the center of Bro. Arroyos' journey is JTA Lawn Care, a business he founded in January 2025. Named in memory of his late father, Joaquin Town Arroyos, the company represents much more than lawn maintenance. It serves as a living tribute to his father's legacy while reflecting the values that continue to guide Bro. Arroyos every day.

JTA Lawn Care delivers quality lawn care and property services at prices that families can afford, but its mission extends well beyond curb appeal. Each month, the company donates five percent of its profits and matches customer tips to support individuals experiencing homelessness throughout Northwest Arkansas. The business also offers year-round discounts to teachers, nurses, military members, law enforcement officers, first responders, and others whose careers are rooted in serving their communities. Elderly residents and individuals facing difficult financial circumstances are also among those the company strives to assist. For Bro. Arroyos, every yard represents an opportunity to make a difference. His work demonstrates that business can be built on compassion just as much as it can be built on ambition.

As JTA Lawn Care continues to grow, so does its impact. Through innovation, servant leadership, and an unwavering commitment to giving back, Bro. Jaydin Arroyos is proving that the greatest success comes not only from building a business, but from building a better community. In his own words, "At the end of the day, each lawn we cut isn't just a service—it's an impact." Those words capture the heart of his mission and the legacy he is cultivating one lawn, one customer, and one act of service at a time.

9TH DISTRICT UNDERGRADUATE SUMMIT AT GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY

9TH DISTRICT UNDERGRADUATE SUMMIT AT GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY

BY: ANTAVIAN BRINSON / GAMMA GAMMA CHAPTER / GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY

On August 28–30, 2026, the Brothers of the Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. had the honor of hosting the 9th District Undergraduate Summit at Grambling State University. The three-day gathering brought together undergraduate brothers from across the 9th District for a weekend centered on fellowship, leadership, brotherhood, and the continued development of undergraduate members of the fraternity.

The summit officially began on the morning of August 29 as undergraduate brothers arrived at the Jacob T. Stewart Building on the campus of Grambling State University. By approximately 7:00 a.m., brothers began gathering at the building, creating an atmosphere of fellowship and excitement for the activities ahead. The morning provided an opportunity for brothers from different chapters and universities to reconnect, meet new brothers, and build relationships before the official meetings began.

The undergraduate brothers of Gamma Gamma played an important role in welcoming the attendees. As brothers arrived, they were provided with breakfast, allowing everyone to fellowship and prepare for the day's activities. The breakfast was more than simply a meal; it created an informal environment where brothers could engage in conversation, exchange experiences, and strengthen the bonds that connect members of the fraternity.

In addition to providing breakfast, the Brothers of Gamma Gamma assisted with the distribution of gifts that Brother Kobe Kelson had arranged for the undergraduate brothers attending the summit. The gesture demonstrated the spirit of generosity and brotherhood that characterized the event. Gamma Gamma members helped ensure that the gifts were distributed to the brothers in attendance, adding another meaningful element to the opening of the summit.

CONTINUED

OPENING MEETING:THE REGISTRATION CHALLENGE AND ELECTRIFYING MARCH

Prior to the 9th District Undergraduate Summit, District Representative Brother David “Petro” Washington challenged the undergraduate body to surpass the registration numbers from the previous undergraduate summit. The challenge created an additional sense of excitement and motivation leading into the weekend, as the brothers were encouraged to demonstrate their commitment and participation by achieving a higher level of attendance.

Brother Washington further motivated the undergraduate brothers by making a commitment that if the registration goal was reached, he would set out a march for the undergraduate body. His challenge gave the brothers an additional incentive to participate and helped build anticipation for the summit before it officially began.

Following roll call during the summit, it was confirmed that the registration goal had been reached. Brother District Representative Petro Washington followed through on his commitment and set out an electrifying march that immediately energized the entire undergraduate body. His enthusiasm and leadership invigorated the brothers in attendance and created an unforgettable moment of unity and excitement.

The march served as more than just a celebration of reaching the registration goal. It demonstrated the power of collective participation and highlighted the energy, pride, and brotherhood of the 9th District's undergraduate members. The enthusiasm displayed by Brother Washington and the undergraduate brothers established a powerful tone for the remainder of the summit and reinforced the importance of answering the call to brotherhood.

At approximately 9:00 a.m., the first official meeting of the summit began. The meeting provided an opportunity for the undergraduate brothers to come together and hear remarks from district leadership. Brother District Representative David Petro Washington gave his regards to the brothers in attendance and welcomed them to the summit.

CONTINUED

Following his remarks, Brother Washington opened the floor for other brothers to speak, allowing members in attendance to offer their own greetings and acknowledgments. This portion of the meeting reinforced the importance of communication and participation within the fraternity. Brothers were given an opportunity to address the gathering, recognize fellow members, and contribute to the collective atmosphere of the summit.

The opening meeting served as an important foundation for the remainder of the weekend. Rather than simply being an administrative gathering, the meeting emphasized the importance of undergraduate involvement, leadership, communication, and maintaining strong relationships among brothers throughout the 9th District. After hours of discussion and fellowship, the first meeting concluded at around Noon. Brothers were then given a break before reconvening for the next major activity of the day.

CONTINUED

FELLOWSHIP AND TAILGATE

Following the conclusion of the morning meeting, the brothers had time to take a break and prepare for the afternoon's activities. The break allowed attendees to relax after the early start while continuing to fellowship with brothers from throughout the district. The next major gathering was the tailgate, which provided another opportunity for brothers, students, and members of the Grambling State University community to come together in a more relaxed and social setting. After spending the morning participating in meetings and discussions, the tailgate allowed undergraduate brothers to continue building relationships through fellowship and shared experiences. The transition from the informal morning meeting to the tailgate highlighted an important aspect of the summit: the balance between organizational development and brotherhood. While meetings provided an opportunity for leadership, communication, and fraternity business, social activities allowed brothers to strengthen personal relationships and create lasting memories.

GAME DAY FELLOWSHIP AND A VICTORIOUS START

Following the afternoon tailgate, the excitement continued as kickoff for the football game approached at 6:00 p.m. As part of the evening's fellowship, Brother District Representative Petro Washington generously gifted each brother in attendance a ticket to the game. This gesture allowed the undergraduate brothers to experience the game together while continuing the fellowship that had defined the summit throughout the day. As the brothers made their way into the stadium, the energy and excitement kept building. Throughout the game, brothers fellowshipped, cheered for the team, and proudly supported the Grambling State University G-Men. The evening held even greater significance for the Brothers of Gamma Gamma, as three of their own brothers actively contributed to the game-day experience. The Gamma Gamma brothers represented the chapter in three different capacities: Brother Dylan Smith (Football Staff), Brother Frank Moss Jr. (Student-Athlete) & Brother Lorenzo Richardson (Marching Band). The brothers in attendance enthusiastically supported all three Gamma Gamma members as they represented Grambling State University on the field and throughout the stadium. Their involvement provided an opportunity for the undergraduate body to celebrate not only the university but also the accomplishments and contributions of their fellow brothers.

CONTINUED

GAMMA GAMMA'S ROLE

The success of the summit was supported by the efforts of the undergraduate brothers of Gamma Gamma. Hosting an event of this nature requires preparation, organization, cooperation, and attention to detail. From preparing and distributing breakfast to assisting with the distribution of gifts and helping welcome visiting brothers, Gamma Gamma members contributed to creating a welcoming environment for the attendees. Their involvement reflected the responsibilities that come with hosting a district-level event. The brothers demonstrated that successful fraternity events depend not only on those who lead the meetings but also on the members who work behind the scenes to ensure that attendees are welcomed, fed, informed, and able to participate in the scheduled activities.

A WEEKEND CENTERED ON BROTHERHOOD

The opening day of the 9th District Undergraduate Summit demonstrated the importance of bringing undergraduate brothers together. From the early-morning fellowship at the Jacob T. Stewart Building to the opening meeting and afternoon tailgate, the day's activities created multiple opportunities for brothers to connect. The presence of District Representative David Petro Washington and the opportunity for brothers to address the gathering also reinforced the importance of leadership and communication within the 9th District. Meanwhile, the breakfast and gifts provided to attendees demonstrated the spirit of generosity and hospitality that helped set the tone for the summit.

As the first day progressed, the Brothers of Gamma Gamma continued to represent Grambling State University and their chapter by supporting the summit and helping create an environment where undergraduate brothers could fellowship, learn, and strengthen their connections. The 2026 9th District Undergraduate Summit at Grambling State University ultimately represented more than a scheduled fraternity gathering. It was an opportunity for undergraduate brothers to come together, strengthen their relationships, recognize leadership, and participate in activities that promoted the principles of brotherhood and service. The efforts of Gamma Gamma, combined with the participation of brothers from throughout the 9th District, helped make August 29 a meaningful beginning to a weekend dedicated to undergraduate development and fraternity fellowship.

CONTINUED

SUNDAY CHURCH FELLOWSHIP AND SUMMIT CLOSING

On Sunday, August 30, 2026, the Brothers of Gamma Gamma continued the spirit of fellowship by inviting all brothers attending the 9th District Undergraduate Summit to join them for church fellowship at Zion Traveler Baptist Church. The Sunday service served as a meaningful way to bring the summit weekend to a close while allowing brothers to gather together in worship and fellowship.

The service began promptly at 9:00 a.m., with brothers from throughout the 9th District coming together to participate in the morning worship service. Following the activities and meetings of the previous day, the church fellowship provided the brothers with an opportunity to reflect, connect, and continue building the bonds of brotherhood in a different setting.

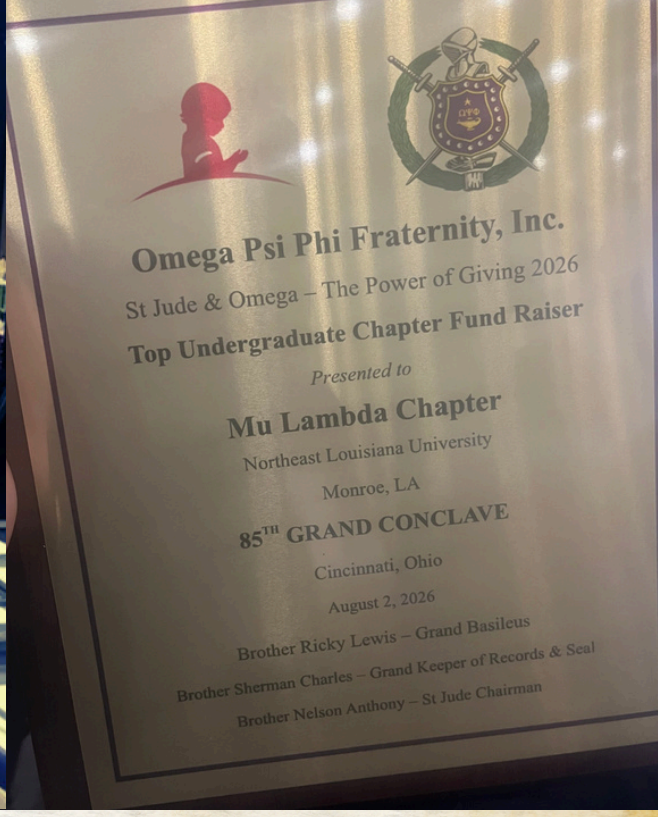
After the conclusion of the service, the brothers remained together to fellowship and spend additional time with one another before departing. The weekend concluded with the brothers gathering for a group photograph, capturing a memorable moment from the 9th District Undergraduate Summit and commemorating the brotherhood and fellowship shared throughout the weekend.

The Sunday church fellowship was a fitting conclusion to a weekend centered on brotherhood, leadership, fellowship, and unity. From the opening activities on Saturday morning at Grambling State University to the final fellowship at Zion Traveler Baptist Church, the 9th District Undergraduate Summit provided brothers with an opportunity to connect with one another, strengthen their relationships, and create lasting memories.

On the evening of November 17, 1911, Omega Psi Phi was founded inside the Science Building (later renamed Thirkield Hall) at Howard University, located in Washington, D.C. The founders were three undergraduates — Edgar Amos Love, Oscar James Cooper, and Frank Coleman. Joining them was their faculty adviser, Ernest Everett Just.

THERE IS POWER IN KNOWING THAT NOBODY CAN EVER TAKE AWAY OUR EDUCATION!!!
I FEEL THAT! THAT IS REAL! THAT IS SOMETHING WE EARNED!!

Welcome to Louisiana
Bienvenue en Louisiane
Keep Louisiana Beautiful
TCNJ



St. Jude Power of Giving: Mu Lambda Makes An International Impact

By: Brother Jaquerrious Brown / Mu Lambda / University of Louisiana-Monroe

The Power of Giving campaign connects Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.'s long-standing tradition of service with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's mission to advance research and support families whose children are receiving treatment. For the Mu Lambda Chapter, the campaign turned brotherhood and community support into measurable impact. Mu Lambda raised an impressive $2,678.00, the highest amount among undergraduate chapters of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. worldwide, according to the chapter's recognition of the campaign results.

The chapter's fundraising efforts earned recognition at both the district and international levels. Mu Lambda was recognized as the top-donating undergraduate chapter in the Ninth District. In addition, the chapter was recently recognized internationally during the 85th Grand Conclave of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on August 2, 2026, in Cincinnati, Ohio, highlighting the significance of its contribution on the international stage. This achievement represents more than a fundraising total. It demonstrates what can happen when brothers, campus supporters, and community members unite behind a cause greater than themselves. Through its participation in the Power of Giving campaign, Mu Lambda continued Omega's tradition of uplifting communities through meaningful service and philanthropy.

For families facing childhood illness, St. Jude's mission extends beyond medical treatment. Through groundbreaking research, comprehensive care, and support for families, St. Jude works to make an extraordinarily difficult journey more manageable. Mu Lambda's contribution adds valuable resources to that mission while demonstrating the chapter's commitment to service, compassion, and collective action. With only six brothers on campus, the chapter's fundraising achievement further reflects the power of purpose-driven brotherhood and the impact a small group can make when committed to a cause larger than itself.
For Mu Lambda, the Power of Giving campaign was more than a fundraiser; it was an opportunity to serve, give, and make a difference. MU LAMBDA THAT'S NO LIE!!!!

Mu Lambda Sweeps ULM RSO/Greek Life Awards Banquet

By: Brother Jaquerrious Brown / Mu Lambda / University of Louisiana-Monroe

The Mu Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated is building a powerful legacy on the campus of the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) rooted in brotherhood, achievement, scholarship, and service. Following the initiation of its Fall 2024 and Fall 2025 members, Mu Lambda has entered a period of renewed energy and purpose. As one of the smallest Greek organizations on campus, with only six brothers, the chapter has embraced the responsibility of representing both Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and ULM. Despite its small numbers, Mu Lambda has strengthened its presence on campus while remaining committed to serving the surrounding Monroe community.

Over the past year, Mu Lambda's commitment has been demonstrated through action. Brothers have participated in campus programs, collaborative initiatives, community service projects, leadership activities, and scholarship-focused programming. Rather than viewing involvement as a checklist, the chapter has made service, leadership, and academic excellence central to its identity. That commitment was recognized on April 29, 2026, when the ULM Office of Greek Life honored Mu Lambda with multiple awards at its annual RSO Greek Life Awards Banquet. The chapter was also recognized for achieving the highest GPA among all fraternities on the ULM campus for two consecutive semesters, further demonstrating the brothers' commitment to academic excellence and achievement.

Mu Lambda received the following honors:

- Greek & Greek Collaborative Program of the Year
- Greek & Non-Greek Collaborative Program of the Year
- NPHC Fraternity Community Service Award
- NPHC Academic Excellence Award
- NPHC Fraternity Chapter of the Year
- NPHC Fraternity Member of the Year (Bro. Jaquerrious Brown)
-

These honors tell a larger story. Mu Lambda is not simply participating in campus life; it is helping shape and set the standard on the campus of ULM. As Mu Lambda continues to grow, its brothers remain committed to upholding the principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and leaving a lasting impact at ULM and throughout the Monroe community. Mu Lambda is not only building a chapter; it is building a legacy. MU LAMBDA THAT'S NO LIE!!!!

Brother Keymoni Coleman
2026 Graduate of Dillard University
Theta Sigma Chapter

9TH DISTRICT FOUNDER'S AWARD SCHOLARSHIP

By: Brother John Ellis III / Theta Kappa / Louisiana State University

At the 89th Ninth District Meeting, Bro. William Barksdale was awarded the 9th District Founder's Award Scholarship in recognition of his academic achievement, leadership, and dedication to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. This prestigious honor reflects Bro. Barksdale's commitment to excellence both inside and outside of the classroom, as well as his continued efforts to represent Theta Kappa Chapter with professionalism and pride. A Junior from Piscataway, New Jersey, Bro. Barksdale is currently pursuing a degree in Sports Administration with a concentration in Sports Commerce at Louisiana State University, where he maintains a 4.0 GPA. Through his academic pursuits and campus involvement, he has consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic, leadership ability, and passion for professional growth. His ability to balance academics, fraternity responsibilities, and personal development has made him a respected and dependable presence within the chapter. Currently serving as the Keeper of Records and Seal for Theta Kappa, Bro. Barksdale plays a vital role in maintaining the organization and operations of the chapter. In this position, he has shown strong attention to detail, accountability, and dedication to ensuring that Theta Kappa continues to operate efficiently and professionally. His service and commitment behind the scenes have contributed greatly to the chapter's continued growth and success. In addition to his responsibilities within the chapter, Bro. Barksdale is also an active presence on the NPHC Accountability Board, where he works to help uphold standards and positively contribute to the Greek Life community at LSU.

Bro. Barksdale has also served as a Resident Assistant, further demonstrating his commitment to leadership and service on LSU's campus. In this role, he has worked to mentor, guide, and support students while helping foster a positive and welcoming living environment. His ability to communicate effectively, lead by example, and build relationships has allowed him to positively impact students both within and outside of the fraternity. Beyond his leadership and scholarship, Bro. Barksdale has become known for his ability to build genuine relationships and strengthen connections throughout Omega. He consistently serves as a bridge builder between Theta Kappa and chapters from across the country, helping foster unity, communication, and brotherhood wherever he goes. Through networking, collaboration, and genuine support for fellow brothers, he has helped create meaningful relationships that extend far beyond LSU's campus. His ability to connect with people and positively represent Theta Kappa has left a lasting impression on brothers throughout the fraternity.

Outside of LSU, Bro. Barksdale continues his commitment to mentorship and service within his hometown community. During the summers, he serves as a youth baseball coach back home, dedicating his time to mentoring and developing young children both on and off the field. Through his leadership, patience, and positive example, he helps instill discipline, confidence, teamwork, and character into the next generation. Receiving the Founder's Award Scholarship at the 89th Ninth District Meeting is a testament to Bro. Barksdale's hard work, character, leadership, and potential for future success. He continues to embody the values and principles of Omega through his scholarship, service, leadership, and dedication to uplifting those around him while representing the fraternity in a positive and impactful manner.

2025 NPHC PRESIDENT OF THE YEAR

By: Brother John Ellis III / Theta Kappa / Louisiana State University

On April 8th, 2026, Bro. Jaylen Boyd was awarded the 2025 NPHC President of the Year Award by LSU Greek Life, a recognition that truly reflected the impact, leadership, and respect he earned throughout his time serving the LSU community. Known across campus for his presence, discipline, and ability to lead with purpose, Bro. Boyd established himself as one of the most influential student leaders within Greek Life. His hard work and dedication toward creating meaningful change within the NPHC community set a standard that will be remembered long after his administration.

Serving two terms as Basileus of Theta Kappa Chapter, Bro. Boyd demonstrated an unmatched level of commitment and consistency in leadership. Throughout both terms, he helped lead the chapter through tremendous growth, increased visibility, and continued success on LSU's campus. Under his leadership, Theta Kappa was named the 2024 NPHC Chapter of the Year, an accomplishment that reflected the countless hours, sacrifices, and effort he poured into ensuring the chapter operated at a high level in every area. From scholarship and service to campus involvement and brotherhood, Bro. Boyd pushed the chapter to pursue excellence in all aspects.

Bro. Boyd's leadership style brought structure, accountability, and discipline while also inspiring brothers to grow personally, professionally, and academically. He was never satisfied with simply meeting expectations and consistently challenged those around him to become better men and stronger leaders. His influence extended far beyond chapter meetings and events, as he became a mentor, role model, and source of guidance for many younger brothers within Theta Kappa.

His stern leadership style was balanced by a genuine investment in the success and development of others, which earned him tremendous respect not only within the fraternity, but across the entire LSU campus community. Students, faculty, and fellow Greek leaders recognized the way he carried himself and the standard he upheld as a representative of Omega Psi Phi.

More importantly, Bro. Boyd consistently embodied the principles of Omega Psi Phi through his actions, character, and leadership. He represented Theta Kappa with professionalism, confidence, integrity, and pride, continuously setting the example for what a Man of Omega is supposed to be. His legacy as Basileus is one defined by excellence, impact, and transformation, and his leadership will continue to influence the chapter for years to come.

Brother Boris Combest Jr.
2026 Graduate of Grambling State University
Gamma Gamma Chapter

OKLAHOMA
ROUTE
66

SIGMA KAPPA CHAPTER SPOTLIGHTS UNDERGRADUATE EXCELLENCE: BROTHER JAYLEN RIDER DOMINATES AT UCO

BY: BROTHER JAYLEN RIDER / SIGMA KAPPA CHAPTER / UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

The Brothers of the Sigma Kappa Chapter, located in Edmond, Oklahoma, are proud to celebrate and highlight a monumental season of undergraduate excellence, leadership, and innovation led by Chapter Brother Jaylen Rider at the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO). Demonstrating the core tenets of scholarship and perseverance, Brother Rider recently took center stage at the 22nd annual Love's Entrepreneur's Cup Business Plan Competition, securing a historic sweep of awards.

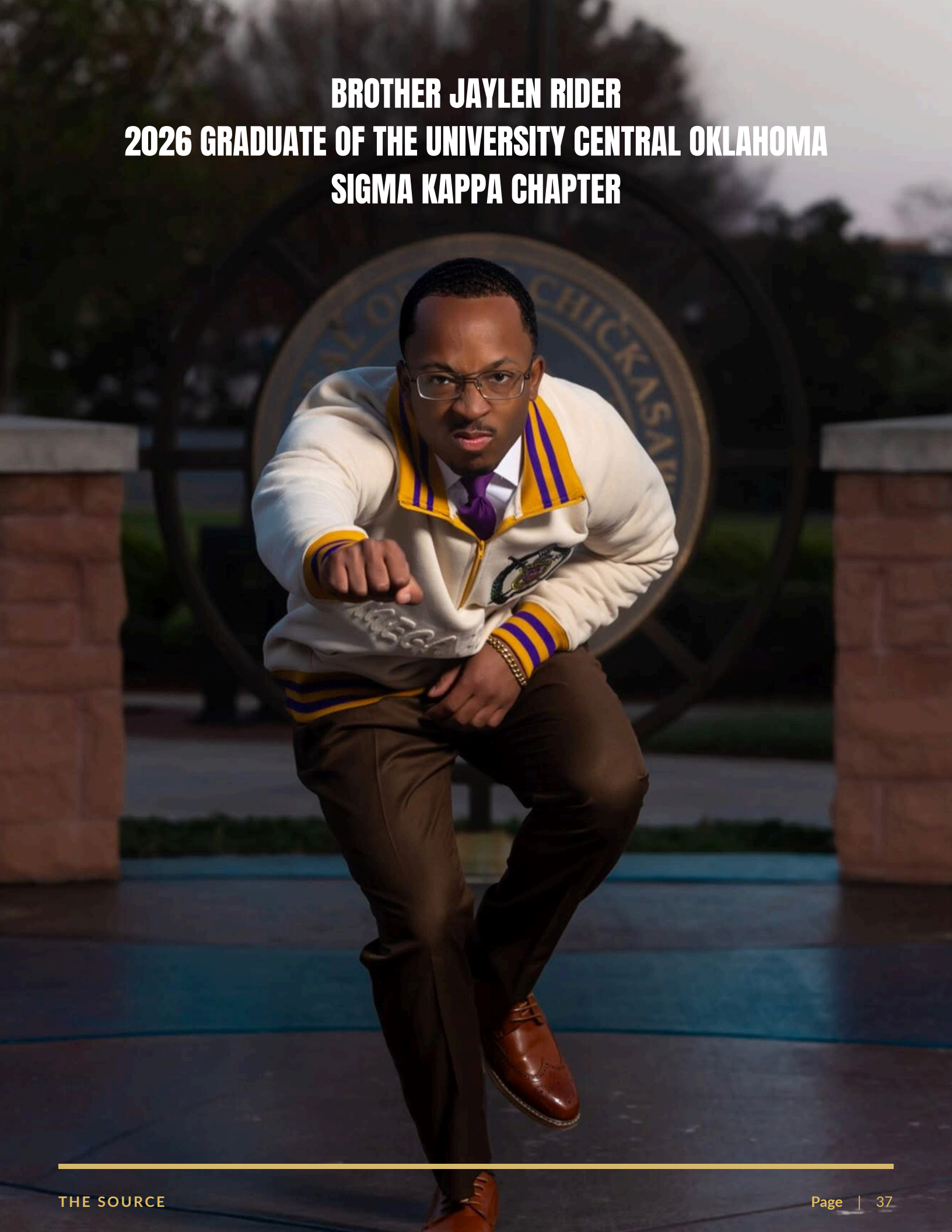
The statewide collegiate competition, managed by Innovation to Enterprise (i2E), simulates the rigorous, real-world process of researching markets, writing comprehensive business plans, and pitching directly to potential investors. Representing the very best of UCO's tech-forward spirit, Brother Rider, a computer science major minoring in management information systems, earned the top honors in the intense 90-second pitch competition, securing a $2,000 cash prize.

Additionally, as part of "Team ASA," Rider and teammate Alex Nguyen claimed second place overall in the high-growth undergraduate division, earning a massive $20,000 prize. Their winning venture, ASA, is a cutting-edge, AI-powered platform designed to provide K-12 educators with real-time, practical guidance on handling classroom challenges. Reflecting his dedication to academic growth, Rider scaled this venture while balancing his roles as a UCO TRIO SSS participant and a prestigious TRIO McNair Scholar.

Adding to this historic CHAPTER'S momentum, Brother Rider was highly honored for his outstanding campus and fraternal guidance. In recognition of his stellar leadership, operational success, and dedication to the fraternity's high ideals, Brother Rider was officially awarded UCO's "President of the Year." Cementing a legacy of campus-wide impact, he was also deemed the university's "Most Prestigious Greek Member," receiving a distinguished award recognizing his exceptional influence. Faculty advisor for the competition, Mark Steele, praised the team's unmatched execution, stating, "Jaylen and Alex didn't just show up to i2E; they took over... Their win is a direct reflection of the newly rejuvenated AI-based Professional Sales program."

Whether through pioneering AI technology or capturing top-tier individual leadership accolades on campus, the Mighty Ninth District continues to foster undergraduate brothers who dominate in their respective fields. The Sigma Kappa Chapter salutes Brother Jaylen Rider for truly rewriting the standard of excellence, leadership, and uplift in the Edmond community.

BROTHER JAYLEN RIDER
2026 GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
SIGMA KAPPA CHAPTER



DO YOU KNOW WHAT IS OWT???
FRIENDSHIP!
FRIENSHIP!
FRIENDSHIP!
FRIENDSHIP!

The 9th District Marchdown: Who Will Reign Supreme?

The 9th District Marchdown: Who Will Reign Supreme?

ON APRIL 3, 2026, AT 8 P.M., THE BROTHERS OF THE MIGHTY NINTH DISTRICT GATHERED IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, FOR ONE OF THE MOST ANTICIPATED AND ELECTRIFYING EVENTS OF THE 89TH NINTH DISTRICT MEETING–THE MARCHDOWN. WITH THE THEME "WHO WILL REIGN SUPREME?", THE EVENING DELIVERED EXACTLY WHAT THE AUDIENCE CAME EXPECTING: ENERGY, EXCITEMENT, CREATIVITY, AND AN UNFORGETTABLE DISPLAY OF BROTHERHOOD.

FOR THOSE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE TRADITION, A MARCHDOWN IS A STEP SHOW WHERE PARTICIPATING TEAMS COMBINE SYNCHRONIZED MOVEMENT, MUSIC, PRECISION, AND CROWD ENGAGEMENT TO ENTERTAIN THE AUDIENCE WHILE COMPETING FOR THE TITLE OF CHAMPION. ON THIS NIGHT, SEVERAL TEAMS STEPPED FORWARD READY TO MAKE THEIR MARK, AND FROM THE OPENING PERFORMANCE, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE COMPETITION WOULD BE INTENSE.

THE ATMOSPHERE INSIDE THE VENUE WAS ELECTRIC. EACH TEAM BROUGHT ITS OWN STYLE AND PERSONALITY TO THE FLOOR, SHOWCASING THE PREPARATION, DISCIPLINE, AND TEAMWORK REQUIRED TO EXECUTE A SUCCESSFUL PERFORMANCE. PRECISION AND TIMING WERE CRITICAL, BUT SO WAS THE ABILITY TO CONNECT WITH THE CROWD. THE BROTHERS DELIVERED ON ALL FRONTS, CREATING MOMENT AFTER MOMENT THAT KEPT THE AUDIENCE ENGAGED THROUGHOUT THE EVENING.

ONE OF THE MOST MEMORABLE MOMENTS CAME DURING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE THETA THETA CHAPTER. AT ONE POINT, A MEMBER APPEARED TO FAINT DURING THE ROUTINE. AS MEMBERS OF THE CROWD BEGAN MOVING TOWARD HIM TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, THE UNEXPECTED HAPPENED. THE BROTHER SUDDENLY ROSE TO HIS FEET AND EXECUTED A BACKFLIP, REVEALING THAT THE ENTIRE SEQUENCE HAD BEEN PART OF THE PERFORMANCE.

BY: BRO. JAMALL FRANKLIN JR.

Continued

THE REACTION WAS IMMEDIATE. THE CROWD ERUPTED, TRANSFORMING AN ALREADY INTENSE ATMOSPHERE INTO AN ABSOLUTE FRENZY. CHEERS, LAUGHTER, AND EXCITEMENT FILLED THE VENUE AS EVERYONE REALIZED THEY HAD JUST WITNESSED ONE OF THE NIGHT'S MOST DRAMATIC MOMENTS. IT WAS THE KIND OF PERFORMANCE MOMENT THAT CANNOT FULLY BE CAPTURED IN A PHOTOGRAPH OR DESCRIBED IN A RECAP—YOU TRULY HAD TO BE THERE TO EXPERIENCE IT.

AS THE PERFORMANCES CONTINUED, EACH TEAM MADE ITS CASE FOR THE CROWN. THE COMPETITION SHOWCASED NOT ONLY INDIVIDUAL TALENT BUT ALSO THE POWER OF TEAMWORK, PREPARATION, AND CREATIVITY. YET, AS THE THEME REMINDED EVERYONE, THERE COULD ULTIMATELY BE ONLY ONE WINNER.

WHEN THE FINAL PERFORMANCES CONCLUDED, THE ALPHA DELTA LAMBDA CHAPTER EMERGED VICTORIOUS AND WAS CROWNED THE CHAMPION OF THE 89TH NINTH DISTRICT MEETING MARCHDOWN. THEIR MARCHING ABILITY, COMBINED WITH EXCEPTIONAL CROWD CONTROL, SYNCHRONIZATION, AND PRECISION, SEPARATED THEM FROM THE COMPETITION AND EARNED THEM THE DISTINCTION OF REIGNING SUPREME.

THE MARCHDOWN WAS MORE THAN A STEP SHOW. IT WAS A CELEBRATION OF TALENT, BROTHERHOOD, COMPETITION, AND THE ABILITY OF OMEGA MEN TO CREATE MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES TOGETHER. FROM THE OPENING STEP TO THE FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT, THE BROTHERS GAVE THE MIGHTY NINTH AN EVENING TO REMEMBER.

AND WHEN THE QUESTION WAS FINALLY ANSWERED—WHO WILL REIGN SUPREME?—THE ANSWER WAS CLEAR: ALPHA DELTA LAMBDA.

Welcome to Texas
DRIVE FRIENDLY- THE TEXAS WAY

Uplift Beyond the Yard: Service, Leadership, Perseverance, and Community Impact

By: Brother Christopher T. Holloway Jr / Theta Chapter / Wiley University

Since the Fall of 2023, service has played an important role in my development as a collegiate leader and member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Through chapter programs, community partnerships, mentorship, and my own nonprofit organization, I have learned that leadership is demonstrated through responsibility, consistency, sacrifice, and a willingness to create opportunities for others. My commitment to community service began before my journey in Omega. In 2020, I founded The 9721469 Project, a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving the Dallas community. The organization has provided opportunities to support children, families, individuals experiencing homelessness, and others in need. Its signature Week of Service brings volunteers and community members together to address multiple community needs through clothing drives, outreach, and other service initiatives.

Omega Psi Phi has strengthened my understanding that our letters carry expectations. The Cardinal Principle of Uplift challenges us not simply to talk about service, but to practice it. My service has included clothing drives, assisting individuals experiencing homelessness, volunteering with the Salvation Army, working with children and families, and mentoring young people. These experiences have reinforced my belief that service should be consistent rather than limited to special occasions. Partnerships and mentorship have also shaped my approach. Working with organizations such as the Salvation Army and Buckeye Trail Commons Head Start has shown me that sustainable impact rarely comes from one individual or organization. I have learned that knowledge, time, encouragement, and representation are resources that can help young people grow and succeed.

My journey has also required perseverance. While continuing my education and working toward graduation in May 2027, I have navigated personal adversity, including the loss of my father. I am documenting that journey in a book about adversity, education, service, growth, and transformation. For me, Uplift means more than wearing the letters. It means leaving evidence that I lived by them. Dallas raised us. Now it is our responsibility to pour back into Dallas. Follow The 9721469 Project on Instagram at @the9721469 to stay connected with upcoming service projects, volunteer opportunities, community initiatives, and ways to support our mission throughout Dallas.

BROTHER ANDRE WARE
2026 GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
OMEGA THETA CHAPTER

Building Queens, Developing Leaders: The Impact of the Miss Omega Psi Phi Scholarship Pageant

Texas Christian College

The work of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated, extends far beyond the letters, colors, and traditions that represent the organization. At its best, Omega is about developing men who understand that leadership is measured not only by what they accomplish individually, but also by how effectively they prepare others to succeed. I present to you the Miss Omega Psi Phi Scholarship Pageant. One place where collegiate women are in a setting designed to highlight scholarship, confidence, talent, leadership, and service. At the center of this year's efforts were Brothers Jaeden McCarthy and Bethel Addo, both of whom are 2025 initiates of the Sigma Lambda Chapter, whose work behind the scenes helped turn the pageant from an idea into a structured and meaningful experience.

The ladies who competed were Tiahni Gillespie, Ruby Madero Marquez, Za'Karya Smith, and the winner, Joy Ottun. The Miss Omega Psi Phi Scholarship Pageant represents an opportunity to uplift collegiate African American women while providing financial support for their educational goals. Similar Omega Psi Phi pageants have historically incorporated scholarships, fundraising, community involvement, talent, presentation, and question-and-answer components, demonstrating that the competition is about much more than appearance.

As a member of the Sigma Lambda Chapter and a leader on the TCU campus, McCarthy took on the responsibility of helping direct and organize the Miss Omega Scholarship Pageant. He has publicly reflected on the pageant as one of the major campus events he helped host and direct during his undergraduate experience. His approach reflected an important principle of Omega Psi Phi. The strongest leaders do not wait until the moment of performance to begin leading. Brother Bethel Addo also contributed to the preparation and development of the pageant. Addo's involvement represents that behind-the-scenes commitment. Preparing contestants, helping organize the program, supporting rehearsals, communicating expectations, and assisting with the important details of the event.

Year of Service, Leadership, and Scholarship

By: Brother Jovonni Owens / Eta Theta Chapter / University of Texas at Austin

Throughout the 2025–2026 academic year, the Eta Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. at The University of Texas at Austin demonstrated that undergraduate leadership extends far beyond campus meetings and social events. Guided by the fraternity's Cardinal Principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift, the chapter invested in the lives of students, strengthened partnerships throughout the Austin community, and created meaningful opportunities for service, education, and brotherhood. From mentoring incoming freshmen to educating local youth, supporting families in need, and celebrating academic excellence, Eta Theta remained committed to making a lasting impact both on campus and beyond.

Investing in Students and Building Community

The academic year began with a focus on welcoming and supporting Black students as they transitioned to life at The University of Texas. Recognizing that Black students represent a relatively small percentage of the university's student population, the chapter intentionally worked to create spaces where students could build meaningful relationships and find a sense of belonging from their very first days on campus. During Freshman MOOV-In, brothers volunteered to assist incoming students as they moved into their residence halls, helping families navigate move-in day while introducing students to campus resources and organizations. These early interactions helped establish relationships that extended well beyond move-in weekend.

The chapter's commitment to mentorship continued through New Black Student Weekend (NBSW), where Brother Deondre Askew served as a team lead responsible for mentoring and guiding incoming students throughout the program. Brothers Jovonni Owens, Chandler Minton, and Joseph Roland-Magaji also volunteered during the weekend, helping students build community, become familiar with campus life, and develop connections that would support their academic and personal success. Throughout the year, Eta Theta continued strengthening the Black student community by hosting football gameday tailgates, creating opportunities for fellowship among students, alumni, and community members. The chapter also helped organize the university's unofficial Black Homecoming celebration, which welcomed more than 1,000 students, alumni, and supporters for a week centered on fellowship, networking, cultural celebration, and mentorship across generations of Longhorns.

Continued

February further reflected the chapter's commitment to community-building through a Week of Joy that balanced fellowship with education. A Skate Night brought students together in a fun and welcoming environment, while Brother Joseph Roland-Magaji led a financial literacy workshop focused on responsible credit card use and healthy financial habits. Together, these programs demonstrated that uplifting students means investing in both their personal well-being and their future success.

Serving the Austin Community

Service remained the foundation of Eta Theta's programming throughout the year, with brothers dedicating their time and talents to projects that addressed meaningful needs across the Austin community. Brother Chandler Minton organized a campus blood drive that engaged more than 25 donors, helping provide lifesaving blood donations while encouraging students to serve others through a simple but impactful act. The chapter also partnered with LifeWorks during a home-improvement initiative that assisted more than 10 families transitioning into safe and affordable housing. By volunteering their time to improve living environments, brothers helped create welcoming spaces for families beginning new chapters in their lives. During Mental Health Awareness initiatives, Eta Theta assembled and distributed 75 wellness bags to women across campus, promoting self-care, wellness, and emotional support while encouraging conversations surrounding mental health. Achievement Week further highlighted the chapter's dedication to service through a campus clothing drive, volunteer efforts with the Pease Park Conservancy, and a food drive supporting families during the Thanksgiving season. One of the chapter's most impactful outreach efforts occurred during Black History Month, when brothers visited five schools throughout the Austin area to share the history and legacy of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Beyond discussing the fraternity's contributions, brothers encouraged students to pursue academic excellence, embrace leadership opportunities, and recognize the importance of serving their communities. These visits allowed Eta Theta to positively influence hundreds of young students while reinforcing the fraternity's longstanding commitment to youth development.

Sustaining Excellence Through Innovation

Strong programming requires strong stewardship. Throughout the year, Eta Theta demonstrated that undergraduate chapters can successfully support meaningful programming through creative fundraising and responsible planning. A chapter chicken fundraiser generated between $500 and $1,000 to help fund future service projects, educational programming, and chapter initiatives. The fundraiser not only strengthened chapter resources but also reflected the creativity and teamwork that continue to define Eta Theta's approach to undergraduate leadership.

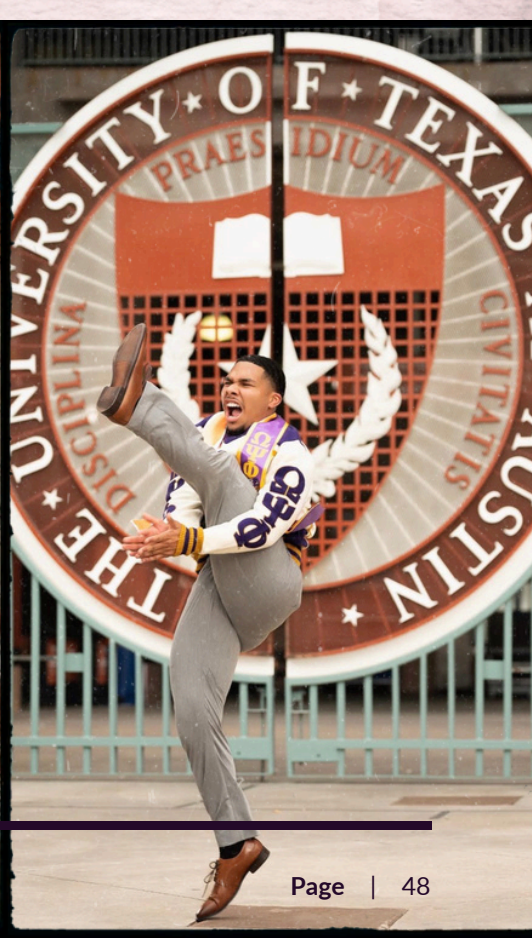
Scholarship in Action

The chapter's commitment to scholarship extended beyond academic achievement and was reflected in the accomplishments of its members throughout the year. During the spring semester, Eta Theta celebrated the graduation of three brothers, each earning a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, demonstrating the chapter's continued emphasis on academic excellence. That commitment was also recognized beyond the university. Brother Jovonni Owens was honored as the Central Texas Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year by the Epsilon Iota and Omicron Nu Nu Chapters before later being recognized as the Ninth District Scholar of the Year during the 89th Ninth District Meeting. These achievements reflected not only individual accomplishment but also the chapter's culture of scholarship, leadership, and service.

Continued

Looking Ahead

The 2025–2026 academic year reflected what undergraduate leadership can accomplish when service, scholarship, and brotherhood work together toward a common purpose. Whether mentoring incoming students, strengthening the Black community at The University of Texas, serving families throughout Austin, promoting financial literacy, educating local youth, or celebrating academic achievement, the Eta Theta Chapter remained committed to living the principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. As the chapter looks toward another year of service, Eta Theta remains dedicated to expanding its impact, developing future leaders, and continuing to represent the Mighty Ninth District with excellence, purpose, and pride.



Spring & Summer Initiatives

By: Brother Lester Arnaud, IV / Nu Delta Delta Chapter / Texas A&M University

As the academic year ended at Texas A&M University, the Brothers of the Nu Delta Delta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. remained committed to serving both our campus and the Bryan-College Station community. Rather than slowing down after a busy school year, we found new opportunities to demonstrate that service is not just a program. It is a commitment we carry throughout the year. Guided by our chapter's motto, NDDforthePeople, we remain dedicated to living our Creed through meaningful acts of service. Brothers Cade Mitchell, Amari Wright, Lester Arnaud, IV, and Nehemiah Childs proudly represented Nu Delta Delta throughout each of our spring and summer service initiatives. Together, the four Brothers demonstrated the values of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. through consistent service to both the Texas A&M campus and the Bryan-College Station community.

During final examinations, the Brothers recognized the stress many students experience while preparing for exams. To encourage and support our fellow Aggies, the chapter purchased and distributed more than $100 worth of Chick-fil-A meals to students studying across campus. What began as a simple gesture became an opportunity to lift spirits, encourage perseverance, and remind students that their hard work had not gone unnoticed. A warm meal and a few words of encouragement went a long way during one of the busiest weeks of the semester. Our commitment to service also extended beyond campus through volunteer work at the Brazos Church Pantry. The Brothers organized food, stocked shelves, loaded groceries into vehicles, and served families throughout Brazos Valley. Every task helped make the pantry's operation more efficient while ensuring community members were treated with dignity, compassion, and respect. The experience reinforced our commitment to serving others while reflecting the principles that define our Brotherhood.

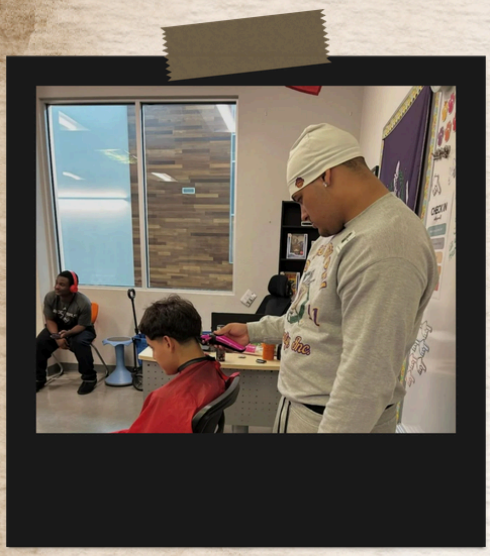
Following graduation, Nu Delta Delta continued its annual Q Haul initiative. For more than a week, the Brothers volunteered their time to help students move out of residence halls and apartments across the Texas A&M campus completely free of charge. From carrying furniture and heavy boxes to loading vehicles and assisting students and their families throughout the move-out process, the chapter was proud to ease the burden during one of the busiest times of the year. The event strengthened our presence on campus and reflected our commitment to serving others without expecting anything in return. The dedication displayed by Brothers throughout these initiatives exemplifies the principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. As we continue to grow, Nu Delta Delta remains committed to our watchword, strengthening our communities and proving every day what #NDDforthePeople truly means.

Haircut Service Initiative

By: Brother Brandon Neal / Xi Delta Chapter / Texas State University

On May 18, 2026, from 9 am to 11 am members of the Xi Delta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated participated in the Haircut Service Initiative in Buda, Texas. This community outreach event was designed to provide free haircuts to local students before the conclusion of the school year while also creating an opportunity to mentor and encourage young people. Through this effort, five students received complimentary haircuts, helping them enter the summer with a renewed sense of confidence and professionalism.

While the haircuts themselves were an important aspect of the event, the initiative extended far beyond providing grooming services. During the appointments, meaningful conversations were held with each student regarding the importance of education, leadership, goal setting, and personal development. Students were encouraged to think about their futures, explore opportunities for higher education, and understand the value of becoming leaders within their schools and communities. These discussions allowed the brothers to make a personal connection with the youth while providing guidance that could positively influence their future decisions.



The event also addressed a practical need within the community. For many families, especially those facing financial challenges, expenses such as haircuts can create additional strain on household budgets. By providing these services free of charge, the initiative helped alleviate a necessary expense while ensuring that students could maintain a clean and professional appearance. This not only improved confidence but also reinforced the importance of self-presentation and personal responsibility. The impact of the Haircut Service Initiative was both immediate and long-lasting. The students benefited from receiving a needed service while gaining valuable insight about education and leadership. Additionally, the event demonstrated that positive mentorship can occur in everyday settings and that community service can take many forms. By combining practical assistance with meaningful mentorship, the brothers of Xi Delta Chapter exemplified Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's commitment to uplifting youth and investing in the next generation of leaders.

This initiative reflects the fraternity's dedication to service, leadership development, and community engagement. Through their efforts, the brothers not only provided a valuable service but also inspired young students to think critically about their future educational and leadership opportunities.

Student Moving Assistance Initiative

By: Brother Brandon Neal / Xi Delta Chapter / Texas State University

On May 14 and May 20, 2026, from 3 pm to 5 pm the brothers of the Xi Delta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated participated in a moving assistance initiative designed to support students during the end-of-semester transition period. Recognizing that many students face logistical and financial challenges when moving out of their residences, Brothers Amy, Harris, Bazile, Rodgers, Neal, and Rivers volunteered their time and physical effort to assist two students in need throughout the moving process.

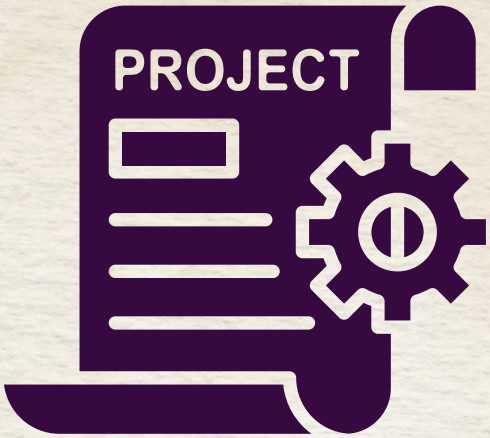
During both service dates, the brothers assisted with packing, lifting, loading, transporting, and organizing personal belongings. Moving can be a stressful and physically demanding experience, particularly for students who may not have access to transportation, family support, or additional help. By volunteering their time and energy, the brothers were able to significantly reduce the burden placed on the students and ensure that the move-out process was completed efficiently and safely. Their assistance helped prevent potential injuries, reduced stress, and provided much-needed support during a busy and often overwhelming period of the academic year.

Beyond the physical work involved, the event demonstrated the importance of community and brotherhood. The students receiving assistance experienced firsthand the values of service and support that Omega Psi Phi Fraternity seeks to promote. The brothers not only helped move belongings but also served as positive role models who showed that there are individuals and organizations within San Marcos that genuinely care about the well-being of students. Small acts of service such as these can have a significant impact by making individuals feel valued, supported, and connected to their community.

The overall impact of this initiative extended beyond the immediate task of moving furniture and personal belongings. It strengthened the connection between Xi Delta Chapter and the student population while reinforcing the fraternity's commitment to serving others whenever a need arises. Through this effort, the brothers demonstrated that service does not always require large-scale events; sometimes the greatest impact comes from helping individuals overcome everyday challenges. This initiative successfully embodied the fraternity's mission of uplifting the communities it serves through leadership, compassion, and action.

Southside Community Center Service Project

By: Brother Brandon Neal / Xi Delta Chapter / Texas State University



On May 12, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the brothers of the Xi Delta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated participated in a community service initiative at the Southside Community Center in San Marcos, Texas. This event was organized to support the shelter's daily operations and improve the quality of life for the individuals and families who rely on its services. Brothers Amy, Harris, Phipps, Bazile, Rodgers, Mercedes, Neal, and Rivers dedicated seven hours of service to ensuring the facility was clean, organized, and prepared to continue serving members of the community.

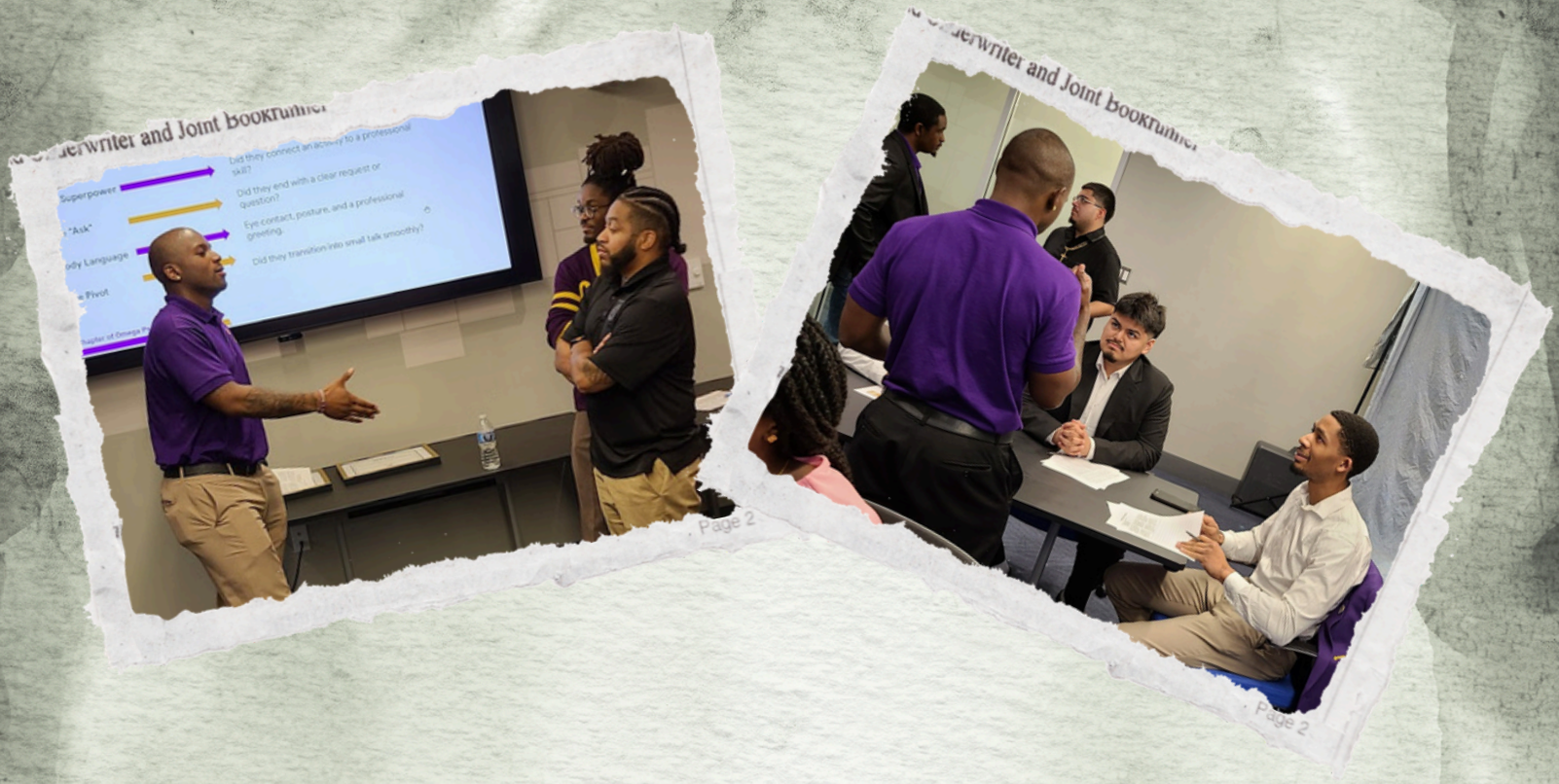
Throughout the day, the brothers completed numerous projects that directly improved the shelter's functionality and living conditions. Volunteers cleaned and restored three residential rooms, organized all available linens and bedding supplies, thoroughly cleaned five bathrooms, and unloaded and sorted over thirty boxes of donated goods. In addition, the brothers cleaned and sanitized the shelter's kitchen and dining areas to ensure that residents could safely enjoy their meals in a clean and welcoming environment. These tasks required teamwork, dedication, and attention to detail, all of which were demonstrated throughout the service project.

The impact of this event extended far beyond the completion of physical tasks. By cleaning and preparing living spaces, the brothers helped increase the shelter's capacity to house additional individuals in need. The sanitation of bathrooms and common areas provided residents with safer and healthier facilities, while the organization of donated goods improved the shelter's ability to distribute resources efficiently. Furthermore, the service project helped strengthen the relationship between the Xi Delta Chapter and the Southside Community Center, establishing a foundation for future partnerships and continued community engagement.

This event exemplified Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's commitment to uplifting underserved populations through meaningful service. The dedication shown by the brothers reflected the fraternity's principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift, while creating a lasting positive impact on the San Marcos community.

Pivot & Shoot" Professional Development Workshop

By: Brother Xzavier Washington
/ Nu Kappa Chapter / Southern Methodist University



In a steadfast commitment to collegiate excellence and career readiness, the Nu Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. recently hosted "Pivot & Shoot," a comprehensive professional development workshop held during the chapter's annual Omega Week. The event, led by Bro. Xavier Wright (2-26-NK) and Chapter Advisor Jon Killen (1-05-NK), drew over 20 students eager to sharpen their professional edge and prepare for the competitive global marketplace. The workshop centered on the vital skill of the Elevator Pitch—a 30- to 60-second introduction designed to leave a lasting impression on industry professionals. Attendees were guided through the four core components of a successful pitch:

- The Hook: Clearly stating one's name, major, and current academic status.
- The Value: Articulating a "Superpower"—the underlying cognitive or behavioral strength behind their achievements.
- The Connection: Explaining the specific interest in a company or individual.
- The Ask: Defining the desired next step, such as a LinkedIn connection or an informational interview.

"A 'Superpower' isn't just a task you did; it's the underlying strength that makes you good at that task," the facilitators noted, encouraging students to speak with confidence by understanding the "why" behind their skills.

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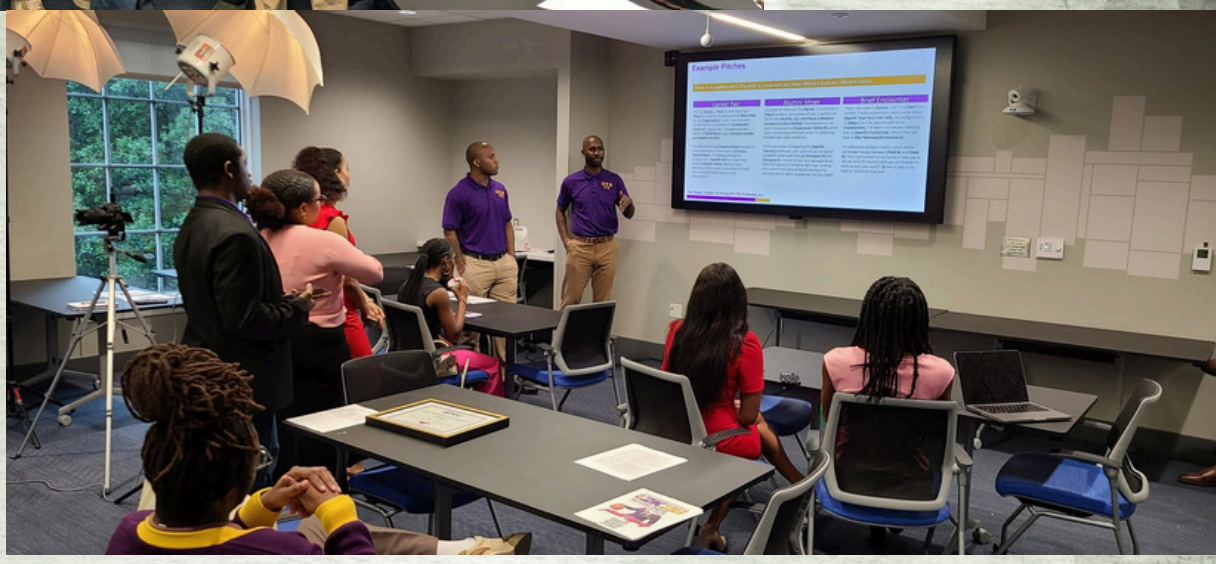

The "Pivot & Shoot" experience went beyond theory, utilizing a tiered practice model to build student confidence:

• Peer-to-Peer Practice: Students first practiced their pitches with one another to refine their delivery, timing, and "the cringe test".

• Networking with Alumni: Participants then engaged in networking conversations with brothers from the Theta Alpha Graduate Chapter, applying "Bridge-Building" techniques to turn dead-end responses into meaningful dialogues.

• Professional Presence: Recognizing that first impressions are vital, Bro. Frank Dayton provided free professional headshots for all 20+ attendees, ensuring their "digital handshake" matched their in-person professionalism.

Building Bridges to the Future

To sustain the conversation, students were taught the "Open-Ended Rule," focusing on hooks that keep the dialogue moving. This included asking insightful questions such as, "If you were in my shoes as a student today, what's one skill you'd be focusing on?"—a technique that asks for advice as a form of professional flattery. By bridging the gap between collegiate life and professional careers, the Nu Kappa Chapter continues to uphold the fraternity's cardinal principles, ensuring that the next generation of leaders is prepared to pivot through challenges and shoot for success.

Nu Kappa Chapter Reclaims the Hilltop: Wins Community Impact Award at SMU Campus Awards

By: Brother Xzavier Washington
/ Nu Kappa Chapter / Southern Methodist University

The return of the Nu Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. to Southern Methodist University has been defined by a relentless commitment to service and advocacy. This month, that dedication was recognized on a university-wide scale as the chapter was honored with the Community Impact Award at the annual SMU Campus Awards Ceremony. The award serves as a testament to a chapter that has consistently exceeded the expectations of its international organization by actively advancing the fraternity's core mandated initiatives.

Advancing the Mandates: Mentorship and Social Action

• Fatherhood and Mentoring: Nu Kappa has established a consistent presence in youth development through the Omega S.T.E.M. and Omega Sparks programs, focusing on academic enrichment and the growth of young boys in the DFW area. This commitment extends to direct school-based support, including the chapter's ongoing volunteering at Russell P. Schupmann Elementary in Red Oak, where Brothers serve as positive role models and classroom mentors.
• Mental Health: On campus and in the community, Nu Kappa prioritized wellness through a multi-faceted advocacy approach. The chapter hosted a Men's Mental Health event specifically focused on the unique challenges faced by Black men at SMU and organized a campus pop-up event to quiz students on mental health facts and available resources. Additionally, the brothers extended their impact by volunteering at the Mindfield Minority Mental Health Fair, supporting broader efforts to bridge the gap in mental health equity.
• Food Assistance Partnerships: In alignment with the fraternity's Social Action mandate, Nu Kappa focused heavily on resource equity and community stability. The chapter formed vital partnerships with organizations such as Cornerstone Church, Brother Bill's Helping Hand, and Empowering the Masses. Through these collaborations, members provided hands-on assistance in distributing food and essential resources to underserved populations, ensuring immediate relief for local families.
• Expanded Community Advocacy: The chapter's service footprint extended into various sectors of community health and housing. This included organizing a Campus Blood Drive to support local healthcare systems and volunteering at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore, where Brothers dedicated time to stocking shelves and assembling furniture to support affordable housing initiatives in the Dallas area.

A Foundation of Collaboration

• Theta Alpha Graduate Partnership: Central to Nu Kappa's success is its strategic integration with the Theta Alpha Graduate Chapter. This synergy allowed the undergraduate Brothers to scale their impact across the metroplex, participating in a wide array of regional service events. Key collaborations included the recurring YMCA Food Distribution programs, high-impact Back to School Supply Drives, and the annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drive, which together provided critical resources and nutritional support to hundreds of families across North Texas.

By reclaiming their place at SMU through resilience and a commitment to "deeds, not words," the men of Nu Kappa have proven that impact is measured by intentionality rather than headcount. In a year defined by its return, Nu Kappa has set a new standard for student organizations on the Hilltop.

Honoring Black History Through Brotherhood, Leadership, and Service

By: Brother Jalen Johnson / Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter / University of Texas at San Antonio

Throughout Black History Month, the brothers of the Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. brought the spirit of Black history directly into local classrooms, dedicating four consecutive days to educating and inspiring students across the San Antonio community. Between February 23 and February 27, the chapter visited four local schools on February 23, 25, 26, and 27, demonstrating its unwavering commitment to mentorship, leadership, and community service.

Each visit served as an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of African Americans while encouraging students to recognize their own potential to become tomorrow's leaders. Through engaging discussions and interactive presentations, the brothers connected the lessons of Black history with the importance of education, character, and service.

Students were introduced to the rich legacy of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., founded on November 17, 1911, at Howard University as the first international fraternal organization established on the campus of a historically Black college or university. For more than a century, the Fraternity has produced leaders dedicated to strengthening communities and advancing opportunities through service and scholarship.

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During each of the four visits, the brothers highlighted Omega Psi Phi's Four Cardinal Principles—Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift—illustrating how these values have guided generations of influential men who have made lasting contributions to society. Students were encouraged to pursue academic excellence, embrace leadership opportunities, and understand that true success is measured not only by personal achievement but also by one's willingness to uplift others.

The four-day outreach initiative underscored the chapter's belief that Black History Month is more than a celebration of the past—it is an opportunity to inspire future generations. By sharing stories of resilience, innovation, and leadership, the brothers challenged students to see themselves as future scholars, professionals, entrepreneurs, public servants, and community leaders capable of making a lasting impact. "Black history is a living legacy," shared members of the chapter. "Our goal is to inspire young people to understand that they have the power to shape history through education, integrity, leadership, and service."

The Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter extends its sincere gratitude to the administrators, teachers, staff, and students who welcomed the brothers during each of the visits on February 23rd, 25th, 26th, and 27th. Their enthusiasm and engagement made every presentation meaningful and reinforced a shared commitment to investing in the next generation.

As Black History Month concluded, the brothers reflected on the significance of these four days of outreach and the relationships built within the schools they visited. While February provides a dedicated time to celebrate Black history, Alpha Delta Lambda remains committed to honoring that legacy throughout the year by continuing to mentor youth, serve the community, and exemplify the Fraternity's enduring principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift.

Relentless by Name, Relentless by Nature: Brother Aidan Arnold Continues to Leave His Mark

By: Brother Jalen Johnson / Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter / University of Texas at San Antonio

Leadership is often measured not by titles held, but by lives impacted. Few embody that principle more completely than Brother Aidan Arnold, whose remarkable journey through Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. has become a powerful testament to perseverance, servant leadership, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Known throughout the Brotherhood as "Relentless (1)," Brother Arnold has consistently lived up to his line name. Initiated through the Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter in the Fall of 2023, he quickly emerged as one of the Ninth District's most influential undergraduate leaders. Now transitioning to the Omicron Gamma Gamma Chapter, he carries with him a legacy of achievement that will continue to inspire generations of Omega men.

In a relatively short period, Brother Arnold established himself as a transformative leader within the Ninth District. Most recently, completing his term as the Ninth District 2nd Vice District Representative, he demonstrated exceptional vision, professionalism, and dedication while representing undergraduate brothers across the district. Before serving in that role, he successfully led Alpha Delta Lambda as Basileus, helping cultivate a culture centered on scholarship, service, and brotherhood.

His commitment extended well beyond elected office. Brother Arnold played an active role on both the Ninth District Social Action Committee and the History & Archives Committee, contributing to impactful community service initiatives while preserving the rich legacy of the Mighty Ninth District. His leadership produced extraordinary results. Under Brother Arnold's influence, Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter earned some of the fraternity's highest honors, including 2023–2024 Undergraduate Chapter of the Year, 2024–2025 Undergraduate Chapter of the Year, and 2024–2025 Undergraduate Social Action Chapter of the Year. Individually, he was recognized as both the 2024–2025 Psi Alpha Chapter Undergraduate Omega Man of the Year and the prestigious 2024–2025 Ninth District Omega Man of the Year, affirming his reputation as one of the fraternity's premier young leaders.

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His leadership also reached beyond Omega Psi Phi. During the 2024–2025 academic year, Brother Arnold served as President of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), strengthening collaboration among the Divine Nine while continuing his service to the Ninth District into the 2025–2026 fraternal year. Behind every great leader is a foundation built on purpose, mentorship, and legacy.

For Brother Arnold, that foundation began with the influence of his father, whose example first inspired his interest in Omega Psi Phi. Along his journey, he was further shaped by the guidance and wisdom of Brothers Kevin Grant, Sheldon Jones, Milton Fields, Jamal Hasty, Anthony Sutton, and Joseph Freeman. Their mentorship reinforced the fraternity's core values and challenged him to become the leader he is today. To Brother Arnold, Omega is far more than an organization—it is family. "It became the brotherhood I was searching for," he reflects, describing an experience that has continually challenged him to grow while providing lifelong friendships and accountability. That same relentless pursuit of excellence extends into his professional life.

After earning a Bachelor of Science in Construction Science and Management, Brother Arnold secured a full-time position with Austin Commercial in Dallas, Texas, following a successful internship. As he begins his career in commercial construction, he carries with him the same discipline and work ethic that distinguished his undergraduate leadership. Yet perhaps his greatest passion lies in serving others. Brother Arnold is deeply committed to mentoring young people, promoting fatherhood initiatives, and combating illiteracy. He believes meaningful change begins with intentional leadership, consistent presence, and the willingness to invest in future generations. Whether mentoring aspiring professionals, participating in community outreach, or supporting charitable initiatives, his mission remains the same: to leave every community stronger than he found it. His philosophy on brotherhood reflects that same commitment.

Brotherhood, he says, means family a bond built on accountability, encouragement, and genuine care for one another. Through daily communication, active participation, and authentic relationships, he strives to strengthen the fraternity one interaction at a time. When asked what advice he would offer younger brothers, his response mirrors the determination that earned him the name "Relentless." "Choose your creed and stick to it. Be precise, be quick, be methodical, be relentless." It is a philosophy rooted in discipline, purpose, and action—a mindset that has guided every step of his journey. Away from fraternity responsibilities, Brother Arnold enjoys fishing, hunting, traveling, and cheering on his beloved Houston Astros. A devout Catholic, he credits his faith as the cornerstone of his character and the source of the values that continue to guide his personal and professional growth. As he closes one chapter and begins another, Brother Arnold leaves the Brotherhood with a challenge that perfectly captures his servant's heart:

"In a world filled with negativity, why not be the change you want to see? It's easy to be everything else, but real work starts with being genuinely good." Those words summarize not only his message but his legacy. Through distinguished leadership, tireless service, professional excellence, and an unwavering commitment to uplifting others, Brother Aidan Arnold has demonstrated what it truly means to embody the principles of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. His journey reminds us that greatness is not achieved by circumstance—it is earned through consistency, humility, and relentless dedication. We proudly salute Brother Aidan Michael Arnold for his outstanding leadership, remarkable achievements, and steadfast commitment to the Brotherhood and the communities he serves. His story is not simply one of success—it is the story of a man who has chosen, every day, to be Relentless.

LIFTING AS WE CLIMB: MENTORING, PASSING THE BATON, AND BEING "MY BROTHER'S KEEPER"

BY: BROTHER PAUL D. ADAMS, PH.D.

POET NELSON HENDERSON STATED IN 1962, "THE TRUE MEANING OF LIFE IS TO PLANT TREES, UNDER WHOSE SHADE WE DO NOT EVER EXPECT TO SIT." IT IS UNDER THIS BACKDROP THAT WE, THE MIGHTY 9TH DISTRICT, TAKE TIME TO HONOR OUR UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS FOR THE WORK THEY DO ON THEIR RESPECTIVE UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE CAMPUSES. HOWEVER, WE MUST NOT FORGET TO CONTINUE TO BUILD THE PILLARS OF OUR BRIDGES. WE MUST CONTINUE OUR JOURNEYS AS GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL MEN OF OMEGA TO HELP OUR UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS WHO ARE FOLLOWING US.

HAVE WE, AS GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL BROTHERS, LOST THE SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO DEVELOP THE KIND OF SHOULDERS WE HAVE STOOD ON TO GET TO WHERE WE ARE, SO THAT ONE DAY OUR YOUNGER BROTHERS CAN STAND ON OURS IF AND WHEN NEEDED AS "MY BROTHER'S KEEPER," TO BE READY TO RECEIVE THE "BATON" OF LEADERSHIP IN OUR FRATERNITY AND THEIR COMMUNITIES WHEN IT IS TIME? WE MUST ALL BE "MY BROTHER'S KEEPER." WE OWE IT NOT ONLY TO OUR BROTHERHOOD, BUT TO OUR FAMILIES, OUR COMMUNITIES, AND THIS NATION TO NOT ONLY BE OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER, BUT TO HELP THEM BECOME BETTER THAN WHAT WE SEE FOR OURSELVES. WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT OUR "BRIDGE BUILDERS" DID THIS FOR US.

AS GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL BROTHERS, I THINK ANOTHER COMPONENT OF BEING "MY BROTHER'S KEEPER" ENTAILS US SERVING AS SHINING EXAMPLES OF "MANHOOD" FOR OUR UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS. WE MUST PROTECT AND REPRESENT OUR OMEGA BRAND AS PROUD AND POSITIVE MEN TO ALL UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS THAT WE MEET. I BELIEVE THAT WE, AS GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL OMEGA MEN, CAN ACCOMPLISH OUR CAREER-RELATED GOALS WHILE, IN OUR OWN WAYS, HELPING TO MOLD, SHAPE, GUIDE, AND MENTOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF OUR BROTHERHOOD. LET'S GUIDE AND HELP MOLD OUR UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS NOT TO FEAR BEING OWTSTANDING, FOR THIS IS WHAT WE SHOULD ALL STRIVE TO BE.

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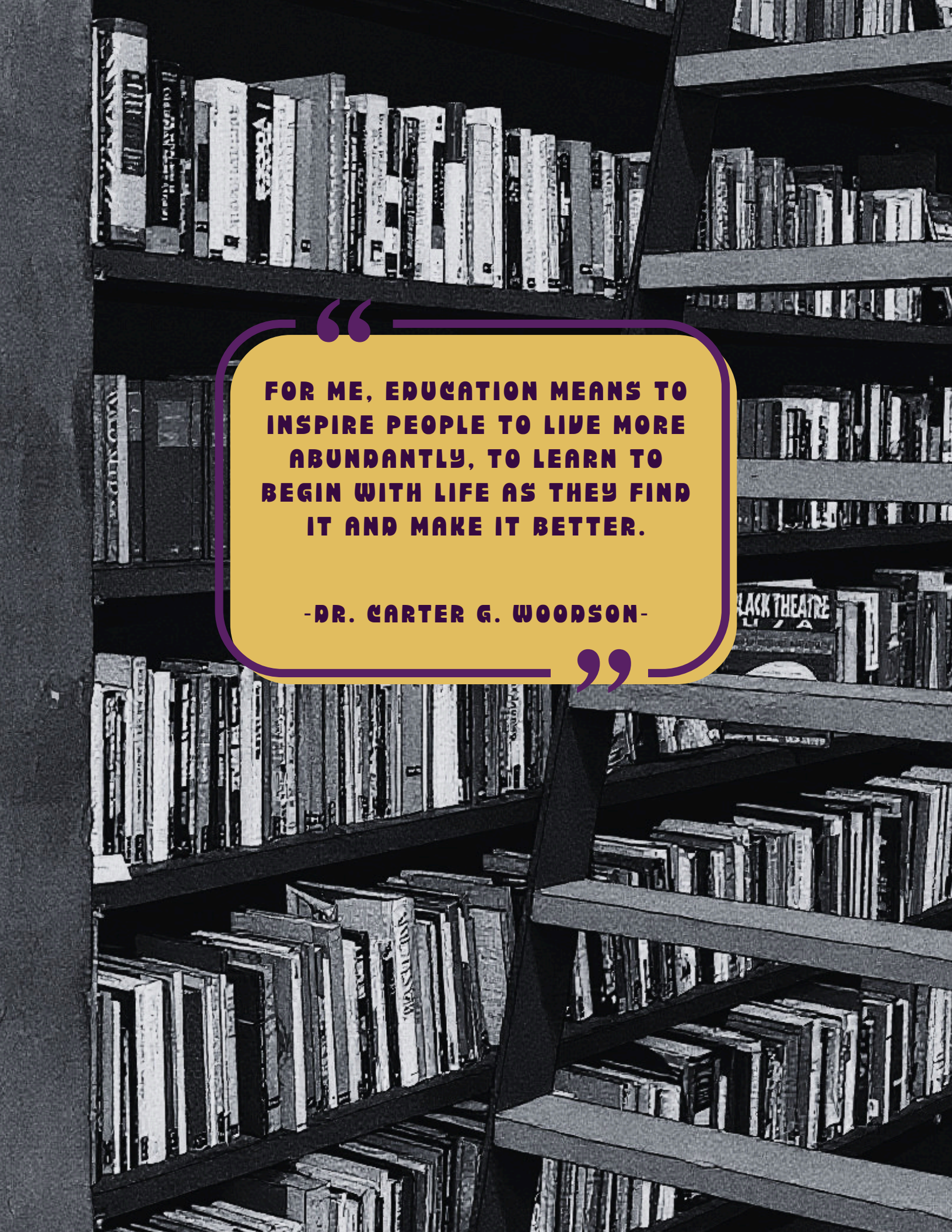
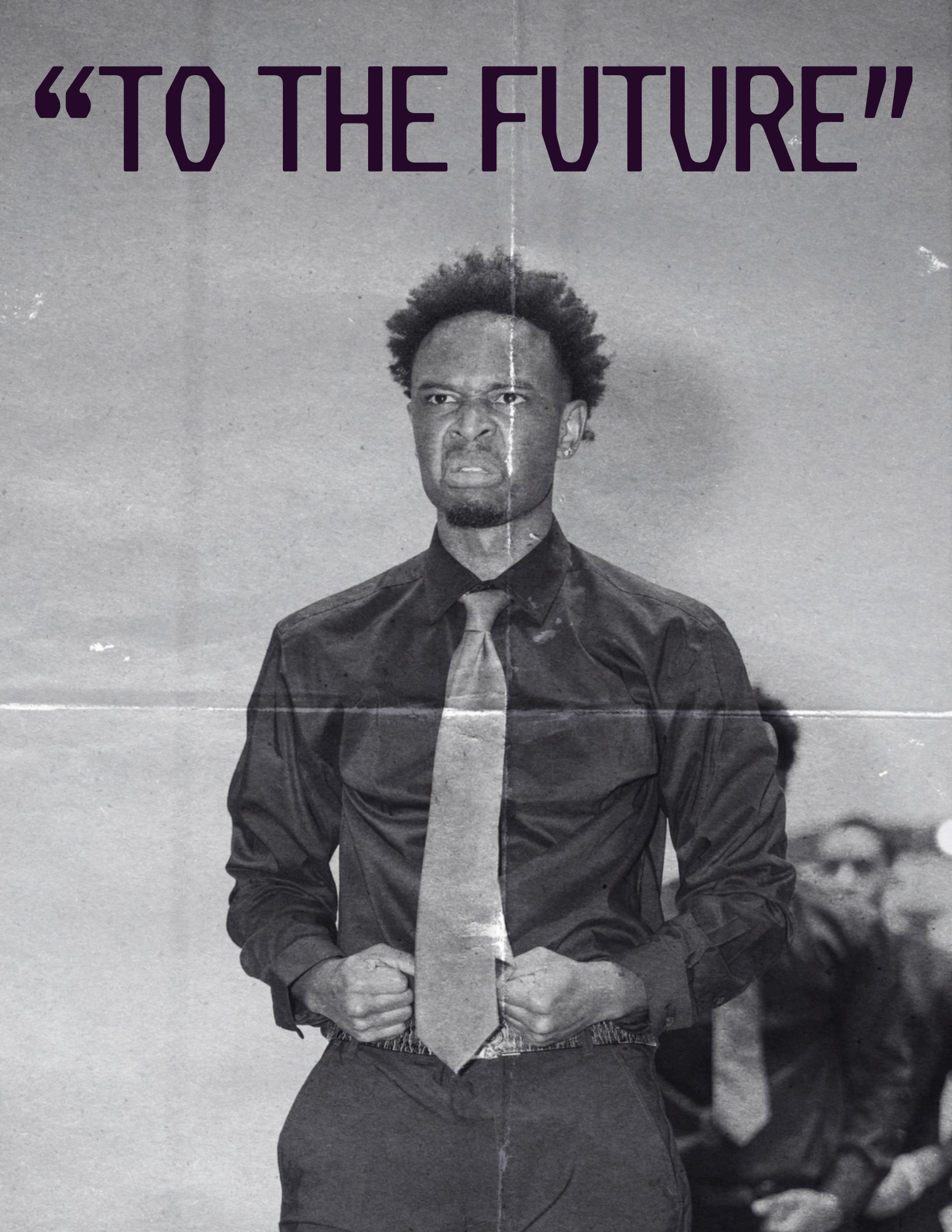

“FOR ME, EDUCATION MEANS TO INSPIRE PEOPLE TO LIVE MORE ABUNDANTLY, TO LEARN TO BEGIN WITH LIFE AS THEY FIND IT AND MAKE IT BETTER.”
-DR. CARTER G. WOODSON-

“TO THE FUTURE”