

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY: A CENTURY OF SERVICE AND SISTERHOOD

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KEYWORDS: ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY, ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, AKA HISTORY, BLACK SORORITY HISTORY, AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY, HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCUs), SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA IMPACT.

ABSTRACT: THIS ARTICLE PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA (AKA) HISTORY, TRACING ITS ORIGINS, EVOLUTION, AND ENDURING IMPACT ON AMERICAN SOCIETY. IT EXPLORES THE CHALLENGES THE SORORITY FACED IN ITS EARLY YEARS, ITS PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, AND ITS CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE, AND SISTERHOOD. THE ARTICLE ALSO ANALYZES THE OPPORTUNITIES AND ADVANCEMENTS AKA HAS ACHIEVED WHILE HIGHLIGHTING ITS LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION.

INTRODUCTION: ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED (AKA) STANDS AS A PILLAR OF STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE WITHIN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND BEYOND. UNDERSTANDING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY IS CRUCIAL TO APPRECIATING THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE BLACK WOMEN HAVE PLAYED IN SHAPING AMERICAN SOCIETY. FOUNDED AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY IN 1908, AKA'S JOURNEY HAS BEEN MARKED BY BOTH REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AND THE PERSISTENT STRUGGLE AGAINST RACIAL AND GENDER INEQUALITY. THIS IN-DEPTH EXPLORATION OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY WILL DELVE INTO THE SORORITY'S FOUNING, ITS EVOLUTION THROUGHOUT THE 20TH AND 21ST CENTURIES, AND ITS ENDURING LEGACY OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP.

I. THE GENESIS OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY: FOUNING AND EARLY YEARS (1908-1930s)

THE ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY BEGAN AMIDST THE UNIQUE SOCIO-POLITICAL LANDSCAPE OF EARLY 20TH-CENTURY AMERICA. ESTABLISHED ON JANUARY 15, 1908, AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AKA WAS FOUNDED BY NINE REMARKABLE WOMEN— ETHEL HEDGEMAN LYLE, BEULAH BURKE, PAULINE EVANS, MAUDE CUNEY, MARY CHURCH TERRELL (HONORARY), LILLIE MAE HARRIS, LUCILE BLUFORD, AND GRACE BUSH. THESE PIONEERING WOMEN SOUGHT TO ESTABLISH AN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE INTELLECTUAL AND SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN, PARTICULARLY WITHIN THE CONFINES OF A SEGREGATED SOCIETY. THEIR INITIAL EFFORTS FOCUSED ON ESTABLISHING A PRESENCE WITHIN THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY AND PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR FELLOW STUDENTS. THE EARLY YEARS OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY WERE CHARACTERIZED BY A STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARSHIP, PROMOTING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AMONG ITS MEMBERS.

THE CHALLENGES FACING THESE WOMEN WERE IMMENSE. THE PERVERSIVE RACISM AND SEXISM OF THE TIME LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR BLACK WOMEN IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE. ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY DEMONSTRATES THAT THE FOUNDERS' VISION REQUIRED UNWAVERING DETERMINATION AND AN UNSHAKEABLE BELIEF IN THEIR COLLECTIVE POWER. NAVIGATING THE RACIAL AND SOCIAL BARRIERS OF THE ERA TESTED THE STRENGTH AND RESOLVE OF THE SORORITY'S MEMBERS, SHAPING THE VALUES AND RESILIENCE THAT DEFINE AKA'S IDENTITY TO THIS DAY.

II. ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT (1940s-1960s)

THE MID-20TH CENTURY WITNESSED THE RISE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, A PIVOTAL ERA THAT INDELIBLY SHAPED ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY. AKA MEMBERS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE STRUGGLE FOR RACIAL EQUALITY, DEMONSTRATING THEIR COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL JUSTICE BEYOND THE CONFINES OF THEIR SORORITY ACTIVITIES. MANY AKA MEMBERS WERE AT

THE FOREFRONT OF VARIOUS CIVIL RIGHTS INITIATIVES, ENGAGING IN VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES, PARTICIPATING IN PEACEFUL PROTESTS, AND PROVIDING SUPPORT TO THE MOVEMENT'S LEADERS. THEIR INVOLVEMENT UNDERSCORES THE SORORITY'S DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY UPLIFTMENT AND ITS UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE. ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY DURING THIS TIME SHOWCASES THE COURAGE AND DETERMINATION OF BLACK WOMEN IN CONFRONTING SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION.

III. EXPANSION AND EVOLUTION OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY (1970s-PRESENT)

THE LATTER HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY AND THE BEGINNING OF THE 21ST CENTURY SAW SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION AND EVOLUTION IN ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY. THE SORORITY EXPANDED ITS MEMBERSHIP BASE NATIONWIDE AND INTERNATIONALLY, ESTABLISHING CHAPTERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND ABROAD. FURTHERMORE, AKA CONTINUED TO ADAPT ITS PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES TO MEET THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF ITS MEMBERS AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY. THE FOCUS ON SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE, AND SISTERHOOD REMAINED CENTRAL, BUT NEW PROGRAMS WERE DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS CONTEMPORARY ISSUES SUCH AS HIV/AIDS AWARENESS, HEALTH DISPARITIES, AND EDUCATIONAL INEQUITIES. ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY EXEMPLIFIES THE SORORITY'S ADAPTABILITY AND COMMITMENT TO REMAIN RELEVANT IN A CONSTANTLY CHANGING SOCIAL LANDSCAPE. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF VARIOUS PROGRAMS DEDICATED TO LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, YOUTH MENTORSHIP, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FURTHER SOLIDIFIED AKA'S COMMITMENT TO EMPOWERING FUTURE GENERATIONS.

IV. THE ENDURING LEGACY OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY IS A TESTAMENT TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF COLLECTIVE ACTION AND UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO SERVICE. THE SORORITY'S COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE, AND SISTERHOOD HAS CREATED A POWERFUL LEGACY THAT CONTINUES TO INSPIRE GENERATIONS OF BLACK WOMEN. THROUGH ITS VARIOUS INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS, AKA HAS SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE WITHIN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION. THE ENDURING IMPACT OF AKA ON AMERICAN SOCIETY IS UNDENIABLE, AND ITS HISTORY SERVES AS AN INVALUABLE RESOURCE FOR UNDERSTANDING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BLACK WOMEN TO THE SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPE OF THE UNITED STATES.

CONCLUSION: THE ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY IS A RICH AND COMPLEX TAPESTRY WOVEN FROM THE THREADS OF RESILIENCE, DEDICATION, AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO SERVICE. FROM ITS HUMBLE BEGINNINGS AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY TO ITS GLOBAL PRESENCE TODAY, AKA'S JOURNEY REFLECTS THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF SISTERHOOD AND THE ENDURING SPIRIT OF BLACK WOMEN WHO HAVE CONSISTENTLY STRIVED TO CREATE A MORE JUST AND EQUITABLE WORLD. UNDERSTANDING ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA HISTORY IS NOT MERELY AN ACADEMIC EXERCISE; IT IS A TESTAMENT TO THE POWER OF COLLECTIVE ACTION AND THE ENDURING LEGACY OF A SORORITY THAT HAS CONSISTENTLY CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF EDUCATION, EQUALITY, AND SERVICE.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs):

1. WHO FOUNDED ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA? ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA WAS FOUNDED BY NINE WOMEN AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY IN 1908.
2. WHAT ARE THE CORE VALUES OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA? THE CORE VALUES ARE SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE, FELLOWSHIP, AND SISTERHOOD.
3. WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT? AKA MEMBERS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES, PEACEFUL PROTESTS, AND PROVIDED SUPPORT TO CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS.
4. WHAT ARE SOME OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA'S MAJOR PHILANTHROPIC INITIATIVES? AKA SUPPORTS NUMEROUS INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.
5. HOW CAN I JOIN ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA? MEMBERSHIP IS BY INVITATION ONLY, TYPICALLY THROUGH THE SORORITY'S COLLEGIATE OR ALUMNAE CHAPTERS.
6. WHAT IS THE INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA? AKA HAS CHAPTERS IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES AROUND

THE WORLD.

7. WHAT ROLE DID HBCUS PLAY IN ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA'S HISTORY? HBCUS, PARTICULARLY HOWARD UNIVERSITY, SERVED AS THE FOUNDATION FOR AKA'S ESTABLISHMENT AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT.
8. HOW HAS ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA ADAPTED TO SOCIETAL CHANGES THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY? AKA HAS CONSISTENTLY ADAPTED ITS PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES TO ADDRESS EVOLVING SOCIETAL NEEDS.
9. WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA? AKA CONTINUES TO EVOLVE AND EXPAND ITS IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE, MAINTAINING ITS COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARSHIP, SERVICE, AND SISTERHOOD.

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9. "ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA AND THE ARTS: PROMOTING CREATIVE EXPRESSION AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION": DISCUSSES AKA'S SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS AND ITS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE CULTURAL AWARENESS.

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EDITOR: DR. AISHA WILLIAMS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY. DR. WILLIAMS IS A LEADING EXPERT IN THE STUDY OF BLACK WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL INFLUENCE.

 **alpha kappa alpha history: Past is Prologue** Marjorie H. Parker, 1999-01-01
alpha kappa alpha history: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, the Mid-Atlantic

Region Linda Simmons-Henry, 2014-02

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alpha kappa alpha history: *The Divine Nine* Lawrence C. Ross, 2001-01-01 From the creation of the first black fraternity at Cornell in 1906 to the present day, a fascinating history of America's nine black fraternities and sororities explores the roles of these organizations in shaping generations of African-American leaders. Reissue.

alpha kappa alpha history: *Pearls of Service* Earnestine Green McNealey, 2006

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alpha kappa alpha history: The Legacy of the Pacesetters of Tau Omega Chapter, ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC? TAU OMEGA CHAPTER et.al, 2014 The Legacy of the Pacesetters of Tau Omega Chapter, a timeless service to the Harlem community and beyond is a comprehensive recording of this Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority chapter's 88 year history in the village of Harlem. The authors combed through hundreds of documents and pictures from various resources. The book goes beyond chronological facts to provide a heartfelt interpretation of its past. They are confident that members reading this document will be inspired to continue their legacy and be proud of knowing who they were, who they are and the basis of their history and traditions.

alpha kappa alpha history: *Countless Connecting Threads* Deborah G. Douglas, Ariel Weinberg, 2013 [T]hese countless connecting threads, woven into one indissoluble texture, form that ever-enlarging web which is the blended product of the world's scientific and industrial activity. -- William Barton Rogers, 1860, *Objects and Plan of an Institute of Technology* Inspired by an exhibition of 150 objects created by the MIT Museum to mark MIT's sesquicentennial, this lavishly illustrated volume is a unique collection of visual and written meditations about the making and meaning of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The story of MIT is more than a simple tale of a founder's vision. It is greater than the sum of all the stories that have been or are yet to be told by the hundreds of thousands who have a direct personal connection with the Institute. Yet, with the assistance of the collective intelligence of the MIT community, the Museum was able to capture some of those countless connecting threads -- from a towering module for the first real-time digital computer to the famous Baker House Piano Drop. Part history, part catalog, part souvenir, *Countless Connecting Threads* invites readers to (re)discover, through some of the Institute's most evocative objects, the essence of the vast and varied tapestry that is MIT.

alpha kappa alpha history: *History, Heritage and Timeless Service 1955-2013* Zeta Omicron Omega Chapter, 2014-01-03 This a history book of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Zeta Omicron Omega Chapter in Kinston, N. C. . This is a written documentation of innumerable hours of service to the community. Within this book you will learn about Zeta Omicron Omega Chapter through international and chapter programs, donations, and hours of volunteering service to all mankind.

alpha kappa alpha history: *Timeless History and Service of the Iota Omega Chapter, Alpha*

Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Colita Fairfax, 2017-12-08 History of Iota Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha

alpha kappa alpha history: African American Fraternities and Sororities Tamara L. Brown, Gregory S. Parks, Clarendia M. Phillips, 2012-02-29 The rich history and social significance of the "Divine Nine" African American Greek-letter organizations is explored in this comprehensive anthology. In the long tradition of African American benevolent and secret societies, intercollegiate African American fraternities and sororities have strong traditions of fostering brotherhood and sisterhood among their members, exerting considerable influence in the African American community and being in the forefront of civic action, community service, and philanthropy. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Toni Morrison, Arthur Ashe, and Sarah Vaughn are just a few of the trailblazing members of these organizations. *African American Fraternities and Sororities* places the history of these organizations in context, linking them to other movements and organizations that predated them and tying their history to the Civil Rights movement. It explores various cultural aspects of the organizations, such as auxiliary groups, branding, calls, and stepping, and highlights the unique role of African American sororities.

alpha kappa alpha history: Faithful to the Task at Hand Carroll L.L. Miller, Anne S. Pruitt-Logan, 2012-06-28 Born just twenty years after the end of slavery and orphaned at the age of five, Lucy Diggs Slowe (1885–1937) became a seventeen-time tennis champion and the first African American woman to win a major sports title, a founder of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and the first Dean of Women at Howard University. She provided leadership and service in a wide range of organizations concerned with improving the conditions of women, African Americans, and other disadvantaged groups and also participated in peace activism. Among her many accomplishments, she created the first junior high school for black students in Washington, DC. In this long overdue biography, Carroll L. L. Miller and Anne S. Pruitt-Logan tell the remarkable story of Slowe's steadfast determination working her way through college, earning respect as a teacher and dean, and standing up to Howard's President and Board of Trustees in insisting on equal treatment of women. Along the way, the authors weave together recurring themes in African American history: the impact of racism, the importance of education, the role of sports, and gender inequality.

alpha kappa alpha history: Hold High the Torch! Omega Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, 2022-04 A comprehensive history of the Omega Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. The one-volume history provides detailed information about the chapter's History, Operations and Governance, Programs, Leadership, and Membership.

alpha kappa alpha history: *Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Gamma Delta Omega Chapter* Fannie Chamblis Bullock, 2014-04-11 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Gamma Delta Omega chapter has been an intricate part of the Portsmouth, Virginia community for about 75 years. This book is our first chapter history book done in conjunction with the rest of the sorority. One sorority writing their timeless histories for publication in 2014. It details the chapter history, biographies of former and current presidents, the chapter's growth, governance, national and local programs through the years.

alpha kappa alpha history: The Far Western Region's History of Timeless Service Barbara D. Trotter, Robin R. Thomas, Diane E. Peete, Natalie Bunkley, 2014-04-12 In 1920, college student Ida Louise Jackson conceived of organizing a chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley for young Negro college women. An interest club was formed, and in 1921 the National Office dispatched Soror Inez Wood Fairfax to the Northern California area to organize and to officiate the chartering of the first Alpha Kappa Alpha chapter west of the Mississippi river, Rho chapter. The book is presented chronologically with the Undergraduate chapters, Graduate chapters and Regional Directors presented together in a unified timeline which mirrors the development of the Far Western Region. Regional Director Barbara Denson Trotter's dynamic leadership focused on a theme of doing "Big Things" within the Far Western Region. Undergraduates have been doing "big things" in the programs and leadership of AKA. In the first two years of this administration, the Far Western Region undergraduates have

increased participation in the AKA Leadership Fellows Program, and have been selected for the prestigious AKA-Arbor Day Internship Program and Peace Corps Campus Ambassador program. Undergraduates have blossomed in Undergraduate Cluster Co-Coordinator positions. Graduate chapters of the Far Western Region have also been recognized for doing "big things." Between 2012 and 2014 seven chapters were selected as Signature Sites as part of the MLK Service for Peace Program.

alpha kappa alpha history: Kappa Alpha Psi Secrets Itty Bitnique, 2014-07-26 This collectible little history study book includes the unauthorized history of Kappa Alpha Psi with a COLLECTIBLE BOOK COVER. It includes information about the origin of the organization, founders, traditions, and secret college greek nomenclature.

alpha kappa alpha history: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Lambda Phi Omega Chapter History: a Photo Memoir Lauren R. Harrison, 2021-03-14

alpha kappa alpha history: Seasons of Sisterhood Cynthia F. Reaves, 2014-06-06 Seasons of Sisterhood provides meditations for daily living inspired by the words of the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. Founded in 1908 on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is the oldest Greek-lettered organization established by African American college-educated women. Since its founding, the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority have pursued a mission of service designed to promote unity among women and enhance the social stature of African Americans. The words of these women are powerful and inspiring - especially given the context of the social and political times in which they lived. Moreover, the messages that these women sought to convey have as much meaning and impact for today's reader as they did when they were first shared. Celebrate the history and contributions of the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority through meditations inspired by their words.

alpha kappa alpha history: Jewels Darrius Jerome Gourdine, 2006-06-24 Explore the planning and founding of the literary society that would one day become Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. This is a fascinating novel about seven of the greatest contributors to African American collegiate and graduate life...-- P. [4] of cover.

alpha kappa alpha history: Nellie Quander, an Alpha Kappa Alpha Pearl Rohulamin Quander, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Quander Historical Society, Inc, Howard University, 2008

alpha kappa alpha history: The Quander Quality James W. W, Rohulamin Quander, 2010 Diabetes can be a devastating disease, causing multiple degenerative conditions over the course of a person's life. Juvenile diabetes can be especially difficult because it strikes children. To live for 80 years with diabetes is a triumph that could only result from dedicated self-discipline, determination, and tenacity. These very qualities allowed James W. Quander, the author of this educational and inspirational autobiography, to live a full life into his 80s in spite of a prognosis to die before age ten. Diagnosed in 1924 with diabetes shortly before turning six, at a time when insulin injection was a new procedure, there was a stigma attached to having this disease. He kept his Big Secret until his senior years, in spite of hospitalizations and near-death experiences. Then, in an effort to educate others about living with diabetes, he often participated in personal and media interviews, and was featured in the Washington Post, Diabetes Forecast, Successful Living with Diabetes, and the Diabetic News.

alpha kappa alpha history: The Quanders Rohulamin Quander, 2021-04-12 Short of the Book Title The selected title of this book, The Quanders - Since 1684: An Enduring African American Legacy, is self-explanatory and becomes more so once the reader delves into the content. Tracing the legacy of Henry Quando and Margrett Pugg, his wife, and their progeny, from 1684 to the present, unfolds a story of triumph and sustained accomplishment beyond and in spite of whatever racially-inspired obstacles were placed as inhibitors on the road to success. Description of the Work The Quanders - Since 1684: An Enduring African America Legacy introduces stories that constitute the Quander family legacy as one of the oldest consistently documented African American families in the United States. This is not so much an African American story, as it is an American history story, written from an African American perspective. It features examples of faith, strength,

focus, character, and triumph emerging from and beyond a series of imposed stumbling blocks. As well, the author acknowledges the contributions of those who came before and builds upon their achievements and successes to the benefit of future generations. While most Americans respect our nation and its Founding Fathers who made it a reality, the Quander story expands the scope of that recognition by painting smaller parallel stories addressing what else was ongoing, i.e., incidences, events, setbacks, the cumulative effect of which helped us, as people of African descent, to hold our heads just as high as other communities. Indeed, we too shared in the building of this great nation and in seeking to fulfill the American Dream.

alpha kappa alpha history: Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities , 1927

alpha kappa alpha history: Black Greek 101 Walter M. Kimbrough, 2023-09-12 Black Greek 101 analyzes the customs, culture, and challenges facing historically Black fraternal organizations. The text provides a history of Black Greek organizations beyond the nine major organizations, examining the pledging practice, the growth of fraternalism outside of the mainstream organizations, the vivid culture and practices of the groups, and challenges for the future.

alpha kappa alpha history: In Search of Sisterhood Paula J. Giddings, 2009-10-06 In Search of Sisterhood is the definitive history of the largest Black women's organization in the United States, and is filled with compelling, fascinating anecdotes told by the Delta Sigma Theta members themselves, illustrated with rare early photographs of the Delta women. This book contains the story of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority (DST), and details the increasing involvement of Black women in the political, social, and economic affairs of America. Founded at a time when liberal arts education was widely seen as either futile, dangerous, or impractical for Blacks—and especially Black women—DST is, in Giddings's words, a compelling reflection of Black women's aspirations for themselves and for society. Giddings notes that unlike other organizations with racial goals, Delta Sigma Theta was created to change and benefit individuals rather than society. As a sorority, it was formed to bring women together as sisters, but at the same time to address the divisive, often class-related issues confronting Black women in our society. There is, in Giddings's eyes, a tension between these goals that makes Delta Sigma Theta a fascinating microcosm of the struggles of Black women and their organizations. DST members have included Mary McLeod Bethune, Mary Church Terrell, Margaret Murray Washington, Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan, and, on the cultural side, Leontyne Price, Lena Horne, Ruby Dee, Judith Jamison, and Roberta Flack.

alpha kappa alpha history: Having Our Say Sarah L. Delany, A. Elizabeth Delany, Amy Hill Hearth, 2023-01-03 Warm, feisty, and intelligent, the Delany sisters speak their mind in a book that is at once a vital historical record and a moving portrait of two remarkable women who continued to love, laugh, and embrace life after over a hundred years of living side by side. Their sharp memories tell us about the post-Reconstruction South and Booker T. Washington, Harlem's Golden Age and Langston Hughes, W. E. B. Du Bois and Paul Robeson. Bessie Delany breaks barriers to become a dentist; Sadie Delany quietly integrates the New York City system as a high school teacher. Their extraordinary story makes an important contribution to our nation's heritage—and an indelible impression on our lives.

alpha kappa alpha history: Alpha Kappa Alpha Through the Years, 1908-1988 Marjorie H. Parker, 1990

alpha kappa alpha history: The Things They Carried Tim O'Brien, 2009-10-13 A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, The Things They Carried is a ground-breaking meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling. The Things They Carried depicts the men of Alpha Company: Jimmy Cross, Henry Dobbins, Rat Kiley, Mitchell Sanders, Norman Bowker, Kiowa, and the character Tim O'Brien, who has survived his tour in Vietnam to become a father and writer at the age of forty-three. Taught everywhere—from high school classrooms to graduate seminars in creative writing—it has become required reading for any American and continues to challenge readers in their perceptions of fact and fiction, war and peace, courage and fear and longing. The Things They Carried won France's prestigious Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger and the Chicago

Tribune Heartland Prize; it was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

alpha kappa alpha history: Black Greek-Letter Organizations 2.0 Matthew W. Hughey, Gregory S. Parks, 2011-02-18 At the turn of the twentieth century, black fraternities and sororities, also known as Black Greek-Letter Organizations (BGLOs), were an integral part of what W.E.B. Du Bois called the "talented tenth." This was the top ten percent of the black community that would serve as a cadre of educated, upper-class, motivated individuals who acquired the professional credentials, skills, and capital to assist the race to attain socioeconomic parity. Today, however, BGLOs struggle to find their place and direction in a world drastically different from the one that witnessed their genesis. In recent years, there has been a growing body of scholarship on BGLOs. This collection of essays seeks to push those who think about BGLOs to engage in more critically and empirically based analysis. This book also seeks to move BGLO members and those who work with them beyond conclusions based on hunches, conventional wisdom, intuition, and personal experience. In addition to a rich range of scholars, this volume includes a kind of call and response feature between scholars and prominent members of the BGLO community.

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