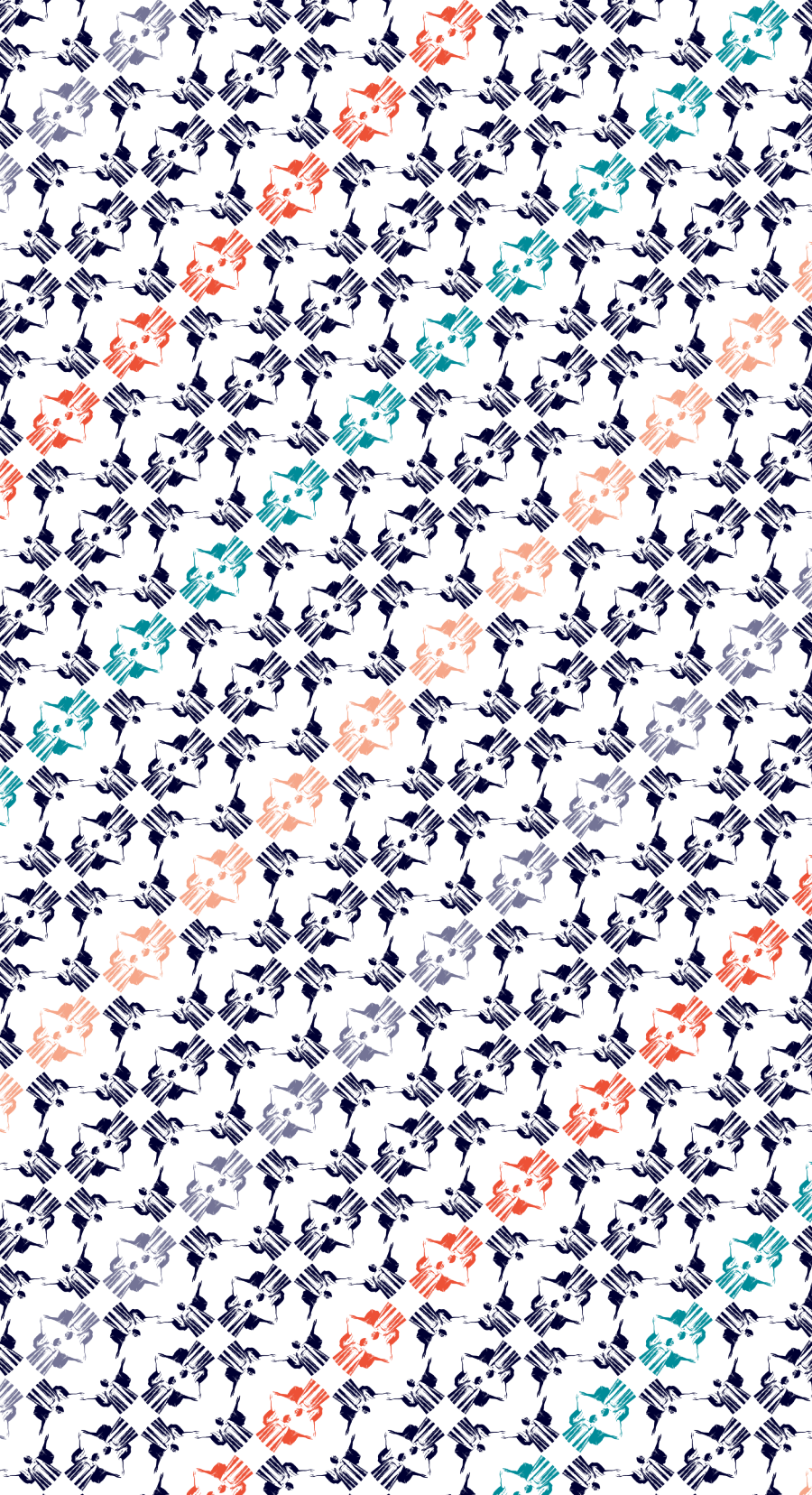




CULTURAL

FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

at the UNIVERSITY of ILLINOIS at URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



CULTURAL FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is home to more than 30 culturally affiliated fraternities and sororities, many of which have a rich history on our campus. The first cultural fraternities and sororities were established at Illinois more than 100 years ago and continue to be a vital part of student life.

Cultural affiliations reflect a historical aspect on which an organization was founded. Pride, respect and an appreciation for the culture are expectations for members who chose to join one of these organizations. Our chapters provide a number of options for those interested in the intersection of culture and fraternal organizations.

Our cultural organizations are affiliated with the following cultures:

- **Asian**
- **Black**
- **Latino/a**
- **Multicultural**
- **South Asian**

While these organizations place an emphasis on their respective cultures, their membership is not exclusive to students who identify with the particular culture. Membership is open to any student who is interested in joining.

WHAT ARE FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES?

Getting Started with the Basics

Fraternities and sororities are social clubs created with the intent of bringing like-minded people together for one or more purposes. The first fraternity was founded in 1776 at the College of William & Mary. Initially created as philosophical societies, these organizations paved the way for students to organize around a set of common values. In the mid-1800s, women's fraternities (often referred to as sororities) were established. In the early 1900s, the first Black Greek Letter Organizations or BGLOs emerged at Cornell University and Howard University. Toward the mid to late 1900s, we saw the development of more cultural fraternal organizations based on Asian, Latino/a, Multicultural and South Asian-interest.

For almost 150 years, Illinois has been home to fraternities and sororities. With a student population consisting of more than 7,750 undergraduate students in more than 90 fraternal organizations, fraternities and sororities are considered an integral part of student life.

SO WHAT MAKES FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES DIFFERENT THAN A GENERAL REGISTERED STUDENT ORGANIZATION?

Fraternal organizations engage in activities which include academic, professional and personal development, philanthropies to raise money for those in need, community service, and social development. While similar to a general student organization, there are two aspects which make fraternal organizations unique – they are values-based and your membership is for life!

Values Based

Fraternal organizations are values-based meaning their origination or purpose for existing is grounded in its founding values. These values are espoused throughout an organization's programs and initiatives. While many organizations openly share their English translated values, many express their values through an acronym of Greek or Latin letters.

Membership for Life

Upon initiation into a fraternity or sorority, you become a member for life. The intent with lifetime membership is to emphasize the importance of joining something bigger than yourself while also enjoying the privileges afforded by such organizations. Due to the historic aspects and vast membership, your network of members can provide countless connections throughout the country and world.





WHEN CAN I JOIN AND WHAT ARE SOME OF THE REQUIREMENTS?

All fraternities and sororities maintain particular requirements regarding membership selection or intake. Due to the variety of requirements, we encourage you to ask what specific expectations each individual organization has in order to become a member. More specifically, the three areas most fraternities and sororities will expect you to have requirements fulfilled will be the following:

Year in School

Eligibility to join a fraternity or sorority is dependent upon the individual organization. Many organizations allow first-semester, first-year students to join, while some organizations require students to have completed a particular number of credit hours (typically equivalent to the status of a second-semester freshman or sophomore).

Scholastic Achievement

While all fraternal organizations place an emphasis on academic success, many have particular requirements regarding a minimum grade point average which must be attained prior to joining. These minimum requirements may be based on previous semester, cumulative or even high school GPAs.

Community Service

Many of the culturally-based organizations, especially those which place an emphasis on service, may have an expectation for prospective members to have been engaged in a form of community service.

RECRUITMENT AND FINDING THE RIGHT ORGANIZATION

Recruitment and Membership Intake

The majority of fraternities and sororities at Illinois engage in informal recruitment or membership intake throughout the year. This method of recruitment occurs during the fall semester, spring semester, summer or ongoing basis throughout the year. Certainly based on the preference of an organization, it is important to ask questions of organizations you are interested in joining to see when they will be open for membership.

Some fraternities and sororities will host events ranging from informational sessions where you can learn more about the organization to general social events such as community service, cookouts, and/or game nights. Your attendance at these events is optional unless otherwise indicated. Regardless of the event, the most important thing you can do as a prospective member is to meet and get to know as many of the current members as possible.

Finding the Right Organization for You

As a young adult, selecting which organization you would like to join as a lifelong member can seem overwhelming. However, through intentional interactions, finding the right fit is simply a matter of knowing what feels right. Each student's journey into a fraternity or sorority is different and rightly so. With many options to select from with different letters, colors, mascots, and mottos, the best decision to join can be found in finding a group of people who you know will be a great fit for you. "People join people," is the saying we encourage students to keep in mind when pursuing a fraternal organization for membership.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

Cost

Dues typically cover national fees for materials, programming, and insurance while local fees cover expenses at the campus level. Each individual fraternity/sorority sets and collects its own membership dues; therefore, while looking into which organization is right for you, be sure to ask about associated costs. All organizations should be able to provide you with a list detailing how your dues are expensed.

Time Commitment

Membership intake or new member education can be anywhere between 4-12 weeks depending on the organization. During this time, you'll learn more about the national organization and its history, the local chapter, and other items each national fraternity/sorority expects its members to know as a condition of membership. A good estimate for time to set aside would be around 4-5 hours a week. Once initiated, your time commitment with the chapter is what you make it to be.

ASIAN FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

About Asian-Interest Fraternities & Sororities

Asian-interest fraternities and sororities have a rich history dating back to the early 20th Century. However, it wasn't until the 1980's, during the time of an increased Asian American student population, that many of the initial organizations began to expand and form chapters on college campuses throughout the country. Asian-interest fraternal organizations focus on developing leaders with an interest in the Asian/Asian American community. These organizations engage in community service and philanthropic endeavors while also providing personal and professional development opportunities for their individual members.



Asian-Interest Fraternities & Sororities at Illinois

The first Asian-interest fraternity and sorority were founded at Illinois in 1997 and 2000 respectively. Since their chartering, our community has grown to include six organizations with a vibrant student population.

To learn more about our Asian-interest fraternities and sororities, visit fsaffairs.illinois.edu/join.

Fraternities

Chi Sigma Tau National Fraternity, Inc.

Kappa Pi Beta Fraternity, Inc.

Lambda Phi Epsilon International Fraternity, Inc.

Sororities

alpha Kappa Delta Phi International Sorority, Inc.

Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.

Sigma Psi Zeta Sorority, Inc.



BLACK FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

About Black Fraternities & Sororities

The first Black Greek Letter Organizations or BGLOs began in the early 1900s as clubs for Black students to collaborate on academic achievement, engage in service, and establish bonds of friendship. Today, BGLOs are among some of the largest fraternities and sororities worldwide with hundreds of chapters. Students who engage in a BGLO will benefit from personal and professional development, the advancement of social issues, service to the community, and first-rate leadership opportunities.



Black Fraternities & Sororities at Illinois

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has been home to BGLOs for more than 100 years. Many of the organization's first chapters were founded on our campus. With such a rich history at Illinois, our students enjoy networking with prominent alumni while belonging to an organization which has made a tremendous impact on the campus.

To learn more about our Black fraternities and sororities, visit fsaffairs.illinois.edu/join.

Fraternities

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Sororities

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.



LATINO/A FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

About Latino/a Fraternities & Sororities

Latino/a fraternities and sororities are organizations founded with the pride of Latino culture. While all fraternal organizations are open to men and women regardless of race, ethnicity, creed or national origin, these fraternities and sororities focus on the uplift of the Latino community. Promoting service and philanthropy, these organizations provide great opportunities for its members to grow through personal and professional development.



Latino/a Fraternities & Sororities at Illinois

Latino/a fraternities and sororities have made Illinois home since 1988. Our eleven organizations provide grand opportunities for any student.

To learn more about our Latino/a fraternities and sororities, visit fsaffairs.illinois.edu/join.

Coed

Alpha Psi Lambda National, Inc.

Fraternities

Lambda Upsilon Lambda Fraternity, Inc.

Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity, Inc.

Phi Iota Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Sigma Lambda Beta Int'l Fraternity, Inc.

Sororities

Alpha Pi Sigma Sorority, Inc.

Gamma Phi Omega Int'l Sorority, Inc.

Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc.

Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc.

Hermanidad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc.

Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority, Inc.



MULTICULTURAL FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

About Multicultural Fraternities & Sororities

Multicultural fraternities and sororities are unique organizations which incorporate an appreciation of multiple different cultures as part of their membership. Multicultural awareness as well as service are foundational values of these fraternal organizations. Advancement in higher education, personal development and brotherhood/sisterhood are additional pillars which guide these organizations.

Multicultural Fraternities & Sororities at Illinois

There are three multicultural organizations on campus. The first multicultural group to join the campus was Sigma Lambda Gamma Sorority, Inc. in 1992. Following them, Omega Delta National Fraternity, Inc. was founded at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign making them the Alpha Chapter of their organization and members of the Interfraternity Council. Eight years later, the Alpha Sigma chapter of Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc. was chartered at Illinois making it the first multicultural organization to be a part of the United Greek Council.

To learn more about our multicultural fraternities and sororities, visit fsaffairs.illinois.edu/join.

Fraternities

Omega Delta National Fraternity, Inc.
Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, Inc.



Sororities

*Sigma Lambda Gamma
National Sorority, Inc.*



SOUTH ASIAN FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

About South Asian Fraternities & Sororities

South Asian-interest fraternities and sororities are some of the newest and fastest growing fraternal organizations in the nation. With a focus on the diversity of South Asian cultures, these organizations offer great opportunities for students to be engaged in leadership, service, philanthropy, personal and professional development opportunities while creating everlasting bonds of friendship.



South Asian Fraternities & Sororities at Illinois

There are five South Asian-interest fraternal organizations at Illinois. The first was founded in 2002 adding to the rich history of fraternities and sororities of the campus.

To learn more about our South Asian-interest fraternities and sororities, visit fsaffairs.illinois.edu/join.

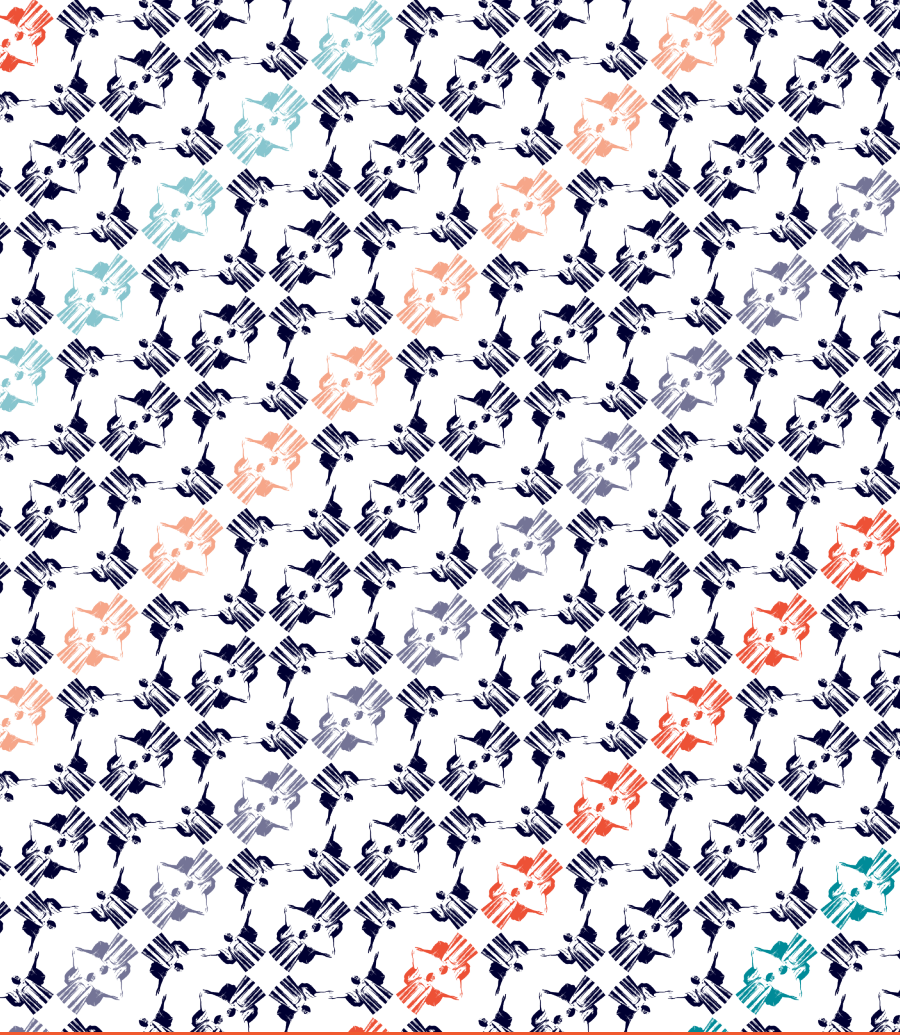
Fraternities

Alpha Iota Omicron Fraternity, Inc.
Beta Chi Theta National Fraternity, Inc.
Sigma Beta Rho Fraternity, Inc.

Sororities

Delta Kappa Delta Sorority, Inc.
Delta Phi Omega Sorority, Inc.





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