

#### **EDITORIAL STAFF**

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# SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Kappas gave a warm welcome to our newest chapter's delegate, **Chase Cohen** from Theta Delta Chapter, Seton Hall.

Linda Carruthers, Alpha Iota, represented Alumna Initiates.



### **HEAD OF THE FLOCK**



Putting on Convention is no small feat. Convention Chairman Collett Rangitsch, Wyoming; Convention Vice Chairman Cori Woods, Richmond; and their team of dedicated volunteers, including the Desert Alumnae Association members, led by Helen McHugh, Tulsa, made it look easy.

This Convention Committee didn't have it easy either. They planned an entire sesquicentennial celebration only to have to pivot to a virtual business meeting in June 2020. Then they planned our first gathering in four years in Palm Desert, California. These women worked tirelessly to ensure everything was perfect — from the 107-page Convention Protocol Manual with charts and diagrams to sourcing local flowers for the decorations and greeting us at the airport to the Staging Committee who kept things running smoothly. We cannot thank them enough.

"One of the many gifts given to the Fraternity is the wonderful leadership provided by Collett, Cori, their amazing team, and the local Palm Desert Chairman, Helen McHugh," said Fraternity President **Gail Owen**, *Monmouth*. "They have once again proven that Kappas can pull together a major convention by orchestrating the events and activities for three days with grace, poise and humor."



#### s'more about the artist

Norma immigrated to the U.S. when she was nine years old and fell in love with the soft and pillowy marshmallows made here. Nine years later, Norma was introduced to s'mores at a Kappa cookout with her freshman pledge class. "I still vividly remember how special it was to be roasting marshmallows and singing songs with my fellow Kappas," says Norma.

Norma explains that the "Ode to Marshmallows" sculpture is about finding joy in the small things every day, such as the simple pleasure of eating a marshmallow.

Want to hear more from the artist? Download the Otocast app and search "Palm Desert El Paseo Sculpture" exhibition to listen to Norma's narration of the piece.

## FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Since the early 1900s, the Fraternity has honored members who have died during the biennium at the Memorial Service. Since we met virtually in 2020, the Memorial Service in Palm Desert, California, included two biennia, 2018–22, to honor those we've loved and lost.



## AN EXCERPT FROM THE 2022 PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE OF **GAIL SIMPSON OWEN**, MONMOUTH

appa just completed one of the most challenging biennia in its 152-year history. There was no road map as the world faced a global virus and essentially stopped. We all stayed home and hunkered down waiting for this too to pass. As I reflect on the past two years, I recall some of the questions that kept me up at night: How can we preserve what's essential to Kappa when we can't see each other? How can we continue to meet the needs and preserve

the safety of our members, and those to come, in the midst of a pandemic? In a season of innumerable judgment calls, there was no playbook and there were no easy answers. But yet, here we are.

Despite the challenges, we lifted our heads, looked out at the landscape and forged ahead together. We turned to one another — our sisters, our staff, our extraordinary Kappa team. We were forced to think differently and adjust to the new reality while adapting to meet the needs of our organization. We moved our gatherings to Zoom. We focused on our members and the wider community by turning our philanthropic efforts to mental health and well-being. We led the way in creating virtual Recruitment and virtual Initiation.

Among the many lessons the pandemic taught us is that we must think and act differently when the current model is no longer effective. We learned to be flexible to meet our chapters' needs and to offer more opportunities for alumna engagement across the U.S. and Canada.

As we've focused on our strategic priorities, we are called to keep going and growing on behalf of our members. As an organization with our longevity, it's more important than ever to be courageous, adventurous and bold. Like our Founders, together, we can face any obstacles and challenges in our path.

So what does the future hold for us? There are challenges, but if you embody Kappa's value of optimism, you know that our future is bright. After all, our sisterhood plays an important role in the lives of college students and alumnae. At an age when students seek more purpose in life, they also seek a sense of belonging. For alumna members, you know the power of a diverse group of members coming together to support each other throughout their lives. Kappa can fill those needs just as it has done for the past 152 years.

How we choose to create our future is up to us. The most valuable resource that all Kappas have is each other. As a multigenerational organization, the answers to Kappa's future lie within each of us. Without collaboration, our growth is limited to our own perspectives. If the pandemic taught us anything it is that our fates are intimately intertwined with each other and Kappa's future is ours to build together.



# BYLAWS, STANDING RULES AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The business of Convention included voting upon a full revision of the Fraternity *Bylaws* and *Standing Rules* presented by the Bylaws Committee, comprised of Bylaws Chairman **Meredith Clapp Perlman**, *Emory*, and committee members **Carmen Crocker Mincy**, *Vermont*; **Tracy Nadzieja**, *Arizona State*; and **Ann Stafford Truesdell**, *Ohio Wesleyan*. The last full review and revision of the *Bylaws* and *Standing Rules* took place in 2004.

The revised documents included amendments solicited during 2018–20 and 2020–22, as amendments were not brought forward during Kappa's virtual Convention in 2020. Significant changes to our newly revised Fraternity documents include:

- A new, scalable chapter officer structure.
- The term limit for District Directors increased to three terms of two years.
- The alumna per capita fee increased \$10 from the current \$25 to \$35.
- The collegiate per capita fee increased \$5 from \$92 to \$97.
- There will be an automatic cost of living adjustment of fees annually based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, capped at a 10% increase.
- Elections of Fraternity Council and District Directors will take place electronically prior to Convention.

These newly revised documents took effect at the end of Convention.

The Fraternity's *Articles of Incorporation* were also amended to better reflect Kappa's strategic plan commitment to engaging alumna members throughout their lives.

#### 2022 RESOLUTIONS

- To evaluate the current volunteer structure.
- To allocate Fraternity time and resources to creating dynamic education and programming with a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion.
- To develop curriculum for upcoming Fraternity training initiatives and meetings that include Kappa-specific content for chapters, associations and volunteers.
- To identify an annual mechanism to seek member feedback on the Fraternity Policies.
- The Leadership Education and Development Committee and staff will explore membership database systems to better support the work of the Fraternity.
- The appointment of a task force to assess the financial viability of the current headquarters office and consider alternative spaces for current and future needs.

#### THE BEAUTY IN BELONGING

#### 2022 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

How do you find balance between being unique and fitting in? The truth is, once you accept all parts of yourself, you'll find belonging anywhere you go. Nidhi Tewari, LCSW reminded us of this.

She spoke about the importance of community and belonging, saying they're both strongly aligned to self-perceived mental health. Tewari discussed the impact they have on one's mental health, sharing her own experience with the anxiety as a child who was singled out based on her skin color. With Tewari's insight, Kappas learned how adjusting to others' unique needs allows for greater success as leaders and invites more authentic connections to be made.









# THE MAGIC OF CONVENTION

It's only fitting we had our own Kappa concert in the Coachella Valley on Friday night. Bonus: Ours featured a sea of blue and blue and the largest "Oh, Pat!"



















# CELEBRATING CHANGEMAKERS

#### PHILANTHROPIC PARTNER LUNCHEON

We were joined by several of our philanthropic partners, including Active Minds, The Jed Foundation, Mental Health America and the National Eating Disorders Association, during lunch on Saturday, June 25. Philanthropy Chairman **Lisa Breen**, *UCLA*, hosted a panel discussion with the partners in attendance, covering various mental health topics.



When it comes to mental health, there are common misconceptions. For example, mental health is not one size fits all and it's vital to remember that people are not defined based on their mental health challenges. As Kappas become advocates for mental health, we can be bold in making a change in the communities around us. As Fraternity Vice President Mary Pat Rooney, Drake, said: "We're just getting started."

The partners were available throughout Convention to continue the conversation around mental health and build momentum as we pursue lives fully lived.





### DELIGHT IN THE DETAILS

Finds from Kappa's pop-up shop, including Marketplace and Blue Owl Boutique.









# TIME TRAVEL, ANYONE?

With items from The Stewart House Museum and Kappa's archives, members explored our history firsthand. Literally. We also got a sneak peek of Kappa's newest museum touchscreen for a virtual tour of The Stewart House Museum.

Throughout Convention, Kappas could travel through time — from the founding of Kappa to when women entered the workplace — at the Tradition of Leadership: Education to Enfranchisement and Enfranchisement to Employment exhibits. Smithsonian Curator Emerita Edith P. Mayo, George Washington, brought the bold trailblazers to life and inspired today's members.



# 2022-24

### FRATERNITY OFFICERS

The new officers who will boldly lead our organization for the next biennium were installed Saturday, June 25.

president

**Mary Pat Rooney**, *Drake* 

treasurer

**Kyle Donnelly**, UC Riverside

vice presidents

Maria Brown, Valparaiso

Nancy Campbell, Florida State

Barb Goettelman, Syracuse

Liz Wong, Waterloo



#### district directors

**Emily Barclay**, Butler

Chelsea Bellew, Denison

**Amy Collins**, *Mississippi* 

Rebecca Cullen, Central Florida

Traci Evans, UC Riverside

Sam Fetcho, Illinois Wesleyan

Alex Gregory, Central Florida

Mary Hendrick, Oklahoma

Cassidy Kuhlmann, Valparaiso

**Casie Lindsly**, *Emory* 

Emily Logue, Central Florida

Bailee Myers, Illinois Wesleyan

Tracy Nadzieja, Arizona State

Lynne Whinnem, Georgia Southern







# A TAPESTRY OF

sisterhood

Considered to be the highest honor the Fraternity can bestow upon a member, the Loyalty Award was established in 1956 and is presented each biennium at Convention. When the first award was presented, **Helen Cornish Hutchinson**, *Oklahoma*, said: "The beginning of the Kappa experience must come in the chapter; continue in alumna work and close only with life itself. This is a tremendous force, spread over a long period of time, with almost awe-inspiring opportunities for direction and inspiration ... If I were to choose one Kappa quality, I think it would be loyalty to the Fraternity, for Kappa loyalty implies the acceptance and execution of Kappa ideals."

Barbara "Barb" Adams Goettelman, Syracuse, exemplifies loyalty to Kappa through the many volunteer roles she's held over the past 28 years.

After starting her career in broadcast journalism, Barb's passion for service led her to become a "professional volunteer" who advocates and supports numerous causes in the Denver area. In addition to her local and Kappa volunteer roles, Barb also serves the National Panhellenic Conference as an Area Adviser.

When she has a rare free moment, Barb loves to read and walk, and she enjoys anything to do with the arts, particularly ballet. She looks forward to family trips to Montana and the San Juan Mountains, where she can relax with a cup of coffee with almond creamer.

Kappas who've had the opportunity to work with Barb say she truly personifies Kappa's ideals. When asked, she's accepted numerous challenging roles within the Fraternity with unwavering strength, passion and positivity. She has the unique ability to see the good in every situation. Through her positive attitude, grace and understanding, Barb has been a role model for countless collegiate and alumna members.

In her remarks during the award presentation, Barb gave the following advice: "Make yourself your priority. It's not being selfish. It's your longevity to continue to make a difference for good and all that is good and true and beautiful for yourself, your family, your local community, and this Fraternity that we are so blessed to have in our hands."

Barb resides in Englewood, Colorado, with her husband, Scott, who surprised Barb at the Loyalty Award presentation ceremony. They are the parents of three children: Matt, Colby and Abby.

When asked what she loves most about Kappa, it's fitting that Barb, a Kappa who exhibits the desire to serve and is loyal to the ideals of our sisterhood, said, "Meeting and making friendships within our sisterhood. We have such a rich tapestry of amazing women in our organization."



# PASSION AND

# PURPOSE

#### 2022 ALUMNAE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

For 77 years, Kappa has recognized trailblazing members with the Alumnae Achievement Award. This tradition originated at the 1946 Convention. Celebrated recipients have had successes in dozens of industries — from business and journalism to entertainment, engineering and medicine. Fraternity Vice President Mary Pat Rooney, *Drake*, announced this year's recipients. "The honorees are bold. They inspire others. They make an impact. They embody what it is to be a Kappa by dreaming boldly and living fully into their potential, which is limitless."



**NYAKIO GRIECO** 

**OKLAHOMA** 

Founder of Nyakio Beauty; co-founder of Thirteen Lune; activist

**DEBRA HOURY, M.D., MPH** 

**EMORY** 

Acting principal deputy director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## "[The recipients] embody what it is to be a Kappa by dreaming boldly and living fully into their potential, which is limitless."

— Mary Pat Rooney, Drake



#### **CANDACE KENDLE, PH.D.**

CINCINNATI

Retired chairman and CEO of Kendle International Inc.; president and co-founder of readaloud.org



#### **MARILYN LODEN**

SYRACUSE

Recently retired management consultant; author; diversity advocate



#### **KELLEY O'HARA**

STANFORD

FIFA Women's World Cup champion; Olympic gold medalist; plays for the Washington Spirit in the National Women's Soccer League



# A CONVERSATION WITH

# NYAKIO GRIECO

MOTHER. ENTREPRENEUR.
2022 ALUMNAE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT.

In an intimate conversation with **Nyakio Grieco**, *Oklahoma*, Kappas learned about her trailblazing journey to make beauty and fashion more inclusive.

In 2020, when the world was experiencing a racial reckoning, Nyakio chose to turn her pain into purpose. As a Black beauty entrepreneur, Nyakio saw her name on hundreds of lists to support black business owners. She was blown away by all of the brands she hadn't heard of before. Inspired, Nyakio co-founded Thirteen Lune, an e-commerce destination that celebrates the beauty of community and creates a space for allyship. With 90% of Thirteen Lune's brands coming from Black and Brown creators, it's bridging the gap of inclusivity and creating generational black wealth, she explained.

As Nyakio shared her journey as an entrepreneur, she spoke about the challenges Black female entrepreneurs

face. She shared that Black women are the fastest-growing group of entrepreneurs, but receive little to no investment capital.

Nyakio has become a trailblazer and is working to level the playing field. She wants to show the next generation that they can do it too. "The old paradigm is going down swinging. Our job is to create new paradigms," she says.

On Instagram, Nyakio shared what a profound impact Kappa has had on her life. "I am deeply grateful for the forever friendships, support, inspiration, and confidence this sisterhood has blessed me with," she said. "And thank you to all you powerful young college women I had the privilege to meet for your courage, confidence and wisdom. I feel hopeful for all you're going to do to collectively heal this country!"

# lighting THE WAY

#### **CANDLELIGHT BANQUET**

Candlelight Banquet was truly a magical experience after four long years apart. We wrapped up a weekend of fun, friendship and Fraternity. "When we come together like this, all of us in one place with Kappa at the top of our list for a few days, focusing on moving this organization forward and honoring its incredible legacy, there's truly nothing like it," said Convention Toastmistress **Ella Gaumer Vieira**, *UC Riverside*.

After a delicious surf and turf dinner, we honored and thanked the four Fraternity Council members who completed their terms of service this weekend: Amy Sutton, Nebraska; Leah DeCesare, Syracuse; Nancy Eyermann Foland, Tulsa; and Gail Simpson Owen, Monmouth.



The closing of candlelight marks the beginning of a new biennium. Looking forward to Kappa's bright future, we welcomed the bold leaders of the new Fraternity Council. Before passing the Fraternity jewelry to **Mary Pat Rooney**, *Drake*, Gail reminded attendees to never underestimate their power to make a difference. You can do so much when you dream boldly and live fully.



# THE DESERT IS CALLING

Convention 2024 is gonna be hot, hot, hot. We'll see you in the valley of the sun at the 75th Biennial Convention at the JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa in Phoenix, Arizona.

Save the date: June 27-29, 2024.



# CONVENTION BY THE NUMBERS



















KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA
74<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION