

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc Chapter of Xi Omega Omega Celebrates It's First Greek Fest Event

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On August 12, 2023, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Chapter of Xi Omega Omega celebrated its first Greek Fest event in Walterboro that was hosted on the Colleton County Middle School track. The festival was open to the community, and included vendors and other sororities/fraternities from surrounding areas.

The event was created to educate the community about the presence of the Greek organizations commonly referred to as the "Divine 9" and what they do, while providing an opportunity to fellowship with other local organizations. Sorority President, Sylvia Williams stated on the purpose of the important milestone, "The event was planned to help break the stereotype that certain organizations don't get along with each other-we do. We are all in our organizations for the same reasons."

The chapter's history in Walterboro, dating back to its charter in 1983, made the city an ideal location for the festivities. The sorority as a whole, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. was founded in 1908, and is known for being the first Greek letter organization for college educated black women. More recently, the legacy includes community service projects such as hand stitching dresses for African school-aged girls, creating Power Pack meals for students to consume over the weekend, homeless initiatives, food drives, scholarships, and a wide range of other services.

The goal of the latest Greek Fest event was to keep the tradition of meeting and fellowship with both seasoned and present members. The event began with a short prayer, followed by music, various door prizes, and food vendors from all parts of South Carolina. The children enjoyed cold frozen treats and jump castles. A moment was also established for all sororities and fraternities to introduce themselves while describing what they do within the community.

In the next four months, the chapter will be looking for youth from ages 11-13 for the Youth Leadership Institute. The mentorship program is a youth-led and highly interactive leadership development program to help empower and engage participants. If you have a child you would like to see participate, reach out to the chapter members by looking up the chapter locator for your area on www.aka1908.com.

The next event will be the 40th chapter event on November 18, 2023, which is open to the public.

Currently, members are working on a Winter Service project, and more details will be announced at a later date. If anyone would be open to membership, it is by invitation only on a

graduate level. College students currently who are enrolled can check with their undergraduate chapter for more information.

There are currently plans underway for preparation for next year's event. To be a vendor or provide representation for your fraternity or sorority, the community is encouraged to reach out to any chapter member for more information on how to be involved. If you would like to be a sponsor or provide a donation, reach out to the chapter president, Sylvia Williams, at xiomegaomega@gmail.com.

Special thanks go out to the community, vendors, sponsors, fraternities, sororities, and members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc who all worked so diligently to make the occasion a success.