

President's Message



Lola Mercedes Parker "HERSTORY"

Lola Mercedes Parker, founder of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc, was born in Little Rock, Arkansas to Mr. and Mrs. John H. Smith around 1900. After finishing elementary school, she and her family moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where she completed high school. In 1919, she became a resident of Chicago, Illinois, where she began her post secondary education, culminating with graduation from Chicago Business College. In 1922 she married William S. Parker. Two children were born of this union, both of whom preceded their parents in death.

In 1929, while employed as secretary to Rev. L. K. Williams, then president of the National Baptist Convention, she founded Iota Phi Lambda. Its aim: "To encourage young women to enter the Business Field by means of business training". Lola M. Parker was founder of a premier sorority and its National President from 1929 to 1946 and President-Emeritus until her demise in 1987.

Subsequent to her employment with Dr. Williams, Mrs. Parker held many important positions: Administrative Assistant to Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell; Director of Women's Activities; Chicago Negro Chamber of Commerce; first Negro Department Manager at R.H. Donnelley Corporation; Secretary-Treasurer, Business and Professional Association's Credit Union; and Business manager, South Parkway YWCA.

In 1935, as the sorority's National President, she was instrumental in Iota Phi Lambda Sorority being present when Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune held the historic first meeting of the National Council of Negro Women on December 5, 1935, in Harlem. The sorority was one of three sororities present, along with representation from other national organizations.

She was active in many national and community organizations including member of Olivet Baptist Church; served as National Vice-President to the Women's Army for National Defense; National Council of Negro Women, co-organizer of the first Chicago Section; Life Member NAACP; People's Welfare Organization; YWCA; and many national and local organizations engaged in civic endeavors for racial, educational and economic progress.

Lola Mercedes Parker died on March 19, 1987, and was buried in Lincoln Cemetery, 12300 Kedzie Avenue, Blue Island, Illinois.

A Piece of Iota History,
Carolyn Jones
President

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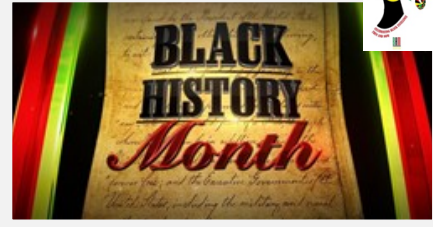
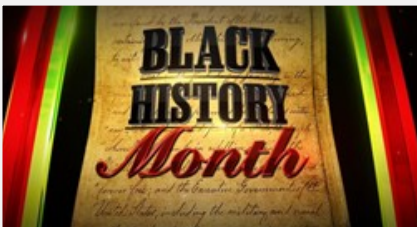
Alpha Kappa Celebrates Black History Month!



Black History Month
February 1-28,
2018



Alpha Kappa Celebrates Iota Phi Lambda's History!



Mary McLeod Bethune was one of the leading activists in African American history, rivaling the likes of W. E. B. Du Bois, Booker T. Washington, and Frederick Douglass. Bethune's career began in Daytona, Florida where, in 1904, she founded a school for the domestic education of young girls. The school quickly grew capturing the attention of Booker T. Washington as well as the black press. By the mid 1920s Bethune's tiny school for five students was a thriving coed college. Despite economic hardships during the Great Depression the college managed to stay open and her reputation as a leader in education expanded. In addition to her role as college president, Bethune founded and presided over several of the most important organizations for black women at that time, including the National Association of Colored Women (NACW) and the National Council of Negro Women. In 1939 Bethune became director-in-charge of Negro Affairs in the New Deal National Youth Administration (NYA). She reached even greater heights as a leader when she was appointed as a top advisor and organizer in the Federal Council on Negro Affairs, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet." Bethune's relationships with both F.D.R. and Eleanor Roosevelt opened unprecedented doors for African Americans—both men and women.

Tell Them We Are Rising!



The Story
of
Black
Colleges and
Universities

The rich history of America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) began before the end of slavery, flourished in the 20th century, and profoundly influenced the course of the nation for over 150 years — yet remains largely unknown. With *Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Black Colleges and Universities*, the latest documentary from Stanley Nelson (*Black Panthers*, *Freedom Riders*) and Marco Williams, the powerful story of the rise, influence, and evolution of HBCUs



Alpha Kappa Celebrates Local Black History!



Alpha Kappa Chapter Black History Seminar



*Elwanda Conway, Pamela Denmon,
Linda Taylor, Lillian Parker,
Marion Godine, Hope Wiley,
Fay Hudson, Daisy Hall*



*Bobbie Ammons, Linda Cannon,
Bertha Moore, Rosetta Davis,
Vivian White, Alma Banks,
Annie Crockett*



*Elwanda Conway, Renita Royal,
Sylvia Reece, Joanna Lockridge,
Sucelia Crowe, Ruth Taylor,
Sharon Derouselle*



*Rosemary Wycoff, Shondra Taylor,
Pauletta Hooper, Marlise Armstrong,
Seandra Naborne, Connie Anglin,
Vida Herbert*

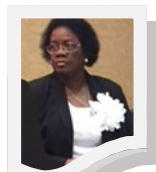
Legacy Sorors Linda Cannon and Seandra Naborne treated the membership to a fantastic Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. 89 years historical journey! The number 1929 representing the year of the birth of Iota was depicted with the photos of the members of Alpha Kappa Chapter. The sorors gave a historical perspective of the sorority. The presentation ended with a couple of quizzes on local Iota trivia provided by the chapter's Pelatai. And, it was all topped off with scrumptious soul food!



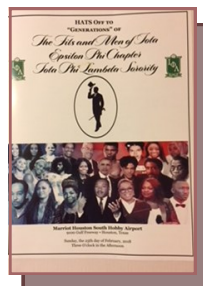


Houston Area Iota Chapters

The Epsilon Phi Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. saluted the "Generations" of FIL and Men of Iota. The Men of Iota and male FIL members presented a program of dance, song, and male fashion awesomeness!

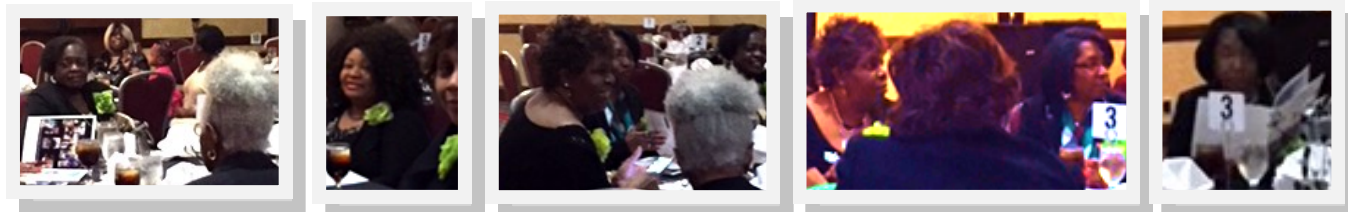


AUDREY
DAVIS
PRESIDENT

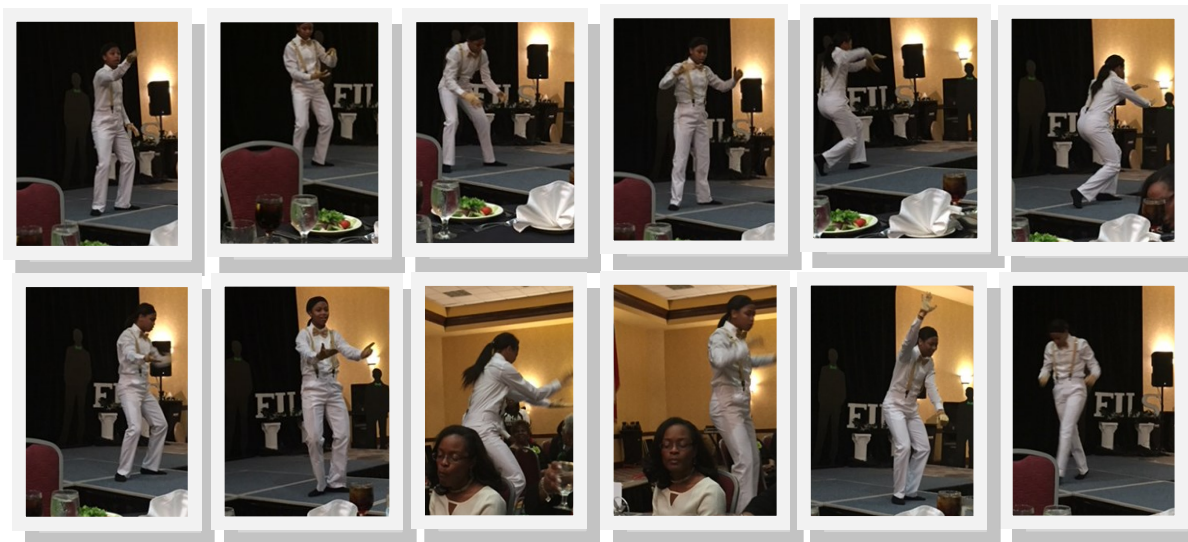


DR. ALBERT
LEMONS
MC

Alpha Kappa Chapter purchased a table of eleven to attend this affair! Fantastic presentation!

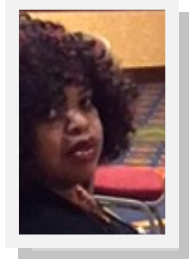


Awesome Dance!!

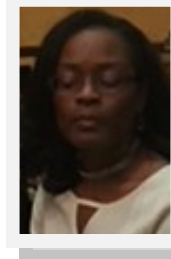


Awesome Song!!

MADELINE CRAWFORD
EPSILON SIGMA



DONNA MITCHELL
EPSILON CHI

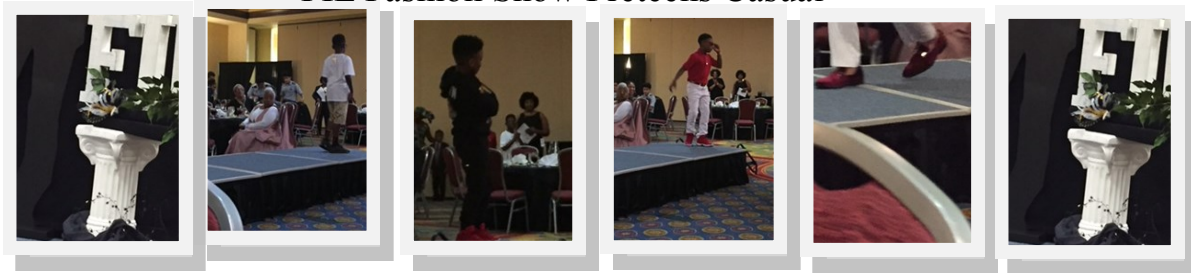


Alpha Kappa Celebrates Local Black History!

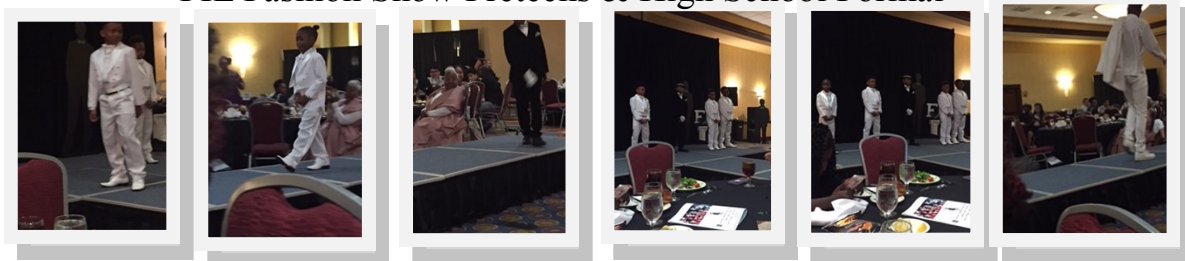


MOI and FIL Fashion Show continues...

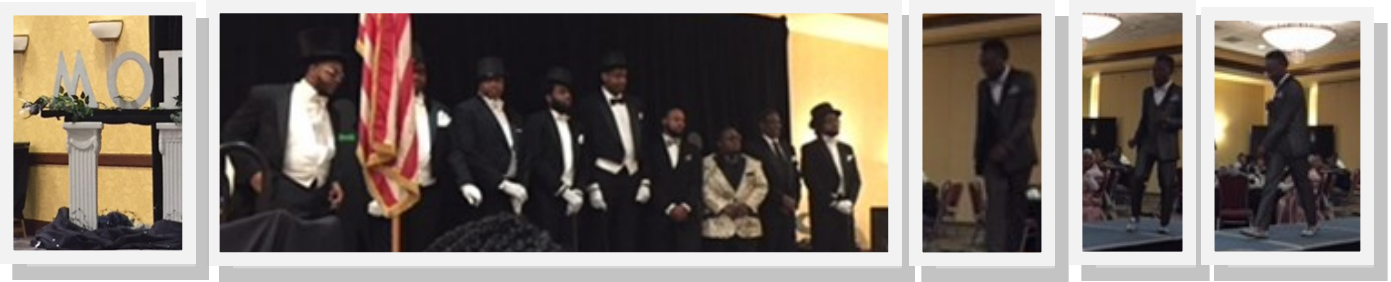
FIL Fashion Show Preteens Casual



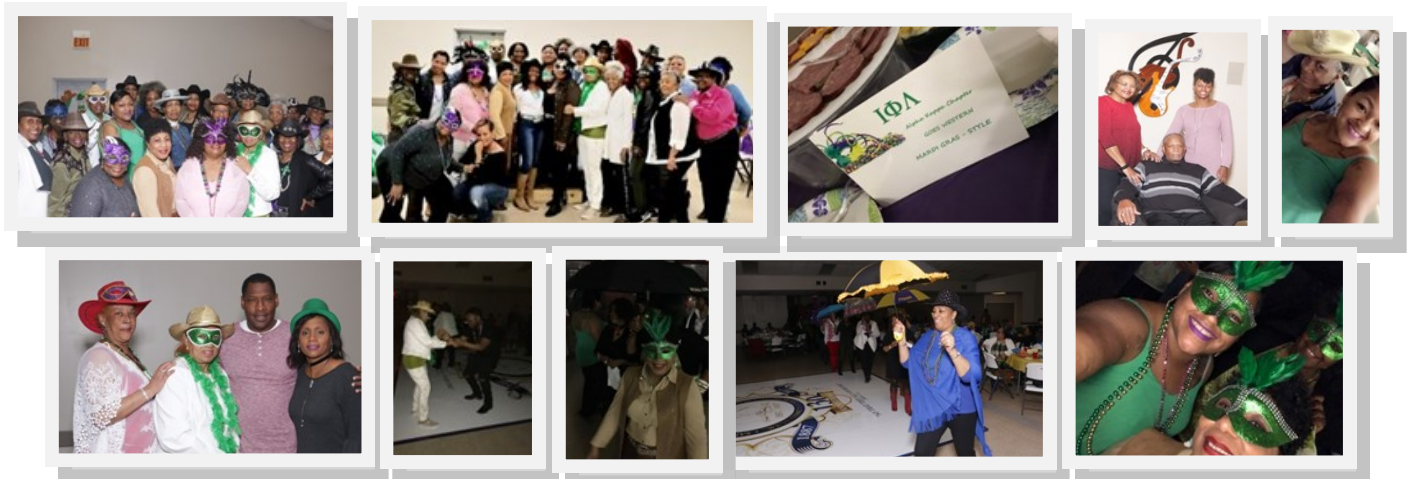
FIL Fashion Show Preteens & High School Formal



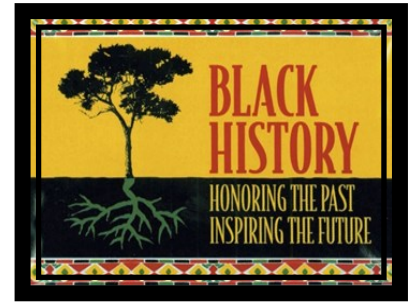
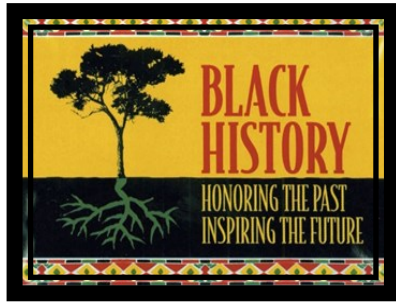
MOI Fashion Show Formal



Alpha Kappa's Go Western Dance



Annually, Alpha Kappa honors the Houston Go Western history with a Scholarship fundraiser! It's a fun affair with western boots, ten gallon hats and line dancing! Ya-hoo!



The Black History Month 2018 theme, “African Americans in Times of War,” marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I and honors the roles that black Americans have played in warfare, from the American Revolution to the present day.

Soror Annie Crockett and Man of Iota Lewis Crockett attended the Buffalo Soldier Gala.

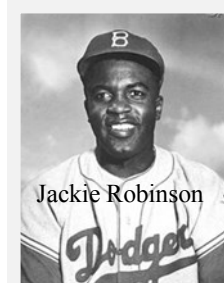


BLACK HISTORY

MEN OF COLOR
To Arms! To Arms!
NOW OR NEVER
THREE YEARS' SERVICE!
 BATTLES OF LIBERTY AND THE UNION
FAIL NOW, & OUR RACE IS DOOMED
 SILENCE THE TONGUE OF CALUMNY
VALOR AND HEROISM
 PORT HUDSON AND MILLIKEN'S BEND.
 ARE FREEMEN LESS BRAVE THAN SLAVES
OUR LAST OPPORTUNITY HAS COME
 MEN OF COLOR, BROTHERS AND FATHERS!
WE APPEAL TO YOU!
STRIVE NOW!



Frederick Douglass at 200: Still Bringing the Thunder



Jackie Robinson

And Still I Rise
 Maya Angelou, 1928 - 2014

You may write me down in history
 With your bitter, twisted lies,
 You may tread me in the very dirt
 But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?
 Why are you beset with gloom?
 'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells
 Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns,
 With the certainty of tides,
 Just like hopes springing high,
 Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?
 Bowed head and lowered eyes?
 Shoulders falling down like teardrops,
 Weakened by my soulful cries?

Does my haughtiness offend you?
 Don't you take it awful hard
 'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines
 Diggin' in my own backyard.

You may shoot me with your words,
 You may cut me with your eyes,
 You may kill me with your hatefulness,
 But still, like air, I'll rise.

facebook.com/CodiePeevany

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

South Union Missionary Baptist Church (SUMBC) Academic Tutorials & Enrichment held their Black History Festivities on Tuesday, February 27, 2018. Participants were treated to some of the best soul food in H-Town along with tutorial assistance with homework. The highlight of the evening was when Jadon Cooper, 14 years of age, son of William & Bridgette Cooper shared his story about being being a MX Motorcross Rider & Member of Team Blomfield MX. During the conversation, Jadon talked about being obedient and discipline. He developed the love of the sport from riding with his dad and decided to take it to another level. Also, present and sharing his story was Damien Davis, Man of Iota that started his own tutoring business (Mr. Home-



Participants were able to view YouTube videos of Jadon's competitions (jadoncooper.com). Soror Linda Raye Taylor and Pelati Agnes Eglin serves as a volunteers. Youth are encouraged to take advantage of the help offered at SUMBC monthly. He developed the love of the sport from riding with his dad and decided to take it to another level. Also, present and sharing his story was Damien Davis, Man of Iota that started his own tutoring business (Mr. Homework) to assist the youth of today. Participants were able to view YouTube videos of Jadon's competitions (jadoncooper.com). Soror Linda Raye Taylor and Pelati Agnes Eglin serves as a volunteers. Youth are encouraged to take advantage of the help offered at SUMBC monthly.



Community

Pelati In the Community

South Early College High School served as the host venue for the Celebrity Waiter's Dinner/Jazz Concert on Saturday, February 10, 2018 where proceeds will benefit the senior classes of South Early College and Worthing High School. Award winner recording artist, Vel Lewis provided the entertainment for the evening while local celebrities served as waiters for the 3-course dinner and Jazz Concert. Waiters included Dr. A. Allen, State Representative, L. A. Allen, Jr., State Board of Education, S. Gourrier, Principal, South Early and Dr. K. Campbell, Principal, Worthing. Tiffany Mouton, Pelati is the senior class sponsor, assisted by Soror Linda Taylor. Also in attendance were Marcel Beroit, Pelati along with other community members, family and friends. A touch of elegance was added when local FILS



In Memoriam



Alpha Kappa Charter Member Earnestyne Leonard

“A Pillar of Style and Grace”

1935-2018

Praying for friends
to comfort you,
faith to uphold you,
and loving memories
to heal your heart.



**IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.-
ALPHA KAPPA CHAPTER**

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Annie Crockett, Journalist
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Get on Board! Join the Adventure!

We're on the web!
www.alphakappachapter.com
iotaswr.org

IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. is the first African American Greek-lettered business sorority established by African American business women. There are now more than 100 chapters with membership numbering more than 5,000 in 85 cities and the US Virgin Islands. Iota Phi Lambda is not an NPHC sorority and dual membership within Iota Phi Lambda Sorority and NPHC sororities is allowed.

Motto: "Upward and Onward in Efficient Service"

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. was founded in Chicago, Illinois, June 1929 by Lola Mercedes Parker and six other ladies, all of whom were engaged in the field of business. Her vision was to establish an organization which would offset the result caused by the great depression.

PURPOSE

(1) unite a sisterhood qualified business and professional women, (2) promote increased interest in business education among young ladies high school and college through planned programs and scholarships, (3) encourage leadership development through educational opportunities, (4) establish and promote civil and social service activities for youth and adults.

AIM

To make worthwhile contributions to our increasingly global society, promote the pursuit of excellence in all worthy endeavors among youth and adults, and develop leadership expertise among business and professional women.

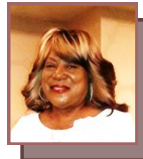


Founder Lola Mercedes Parker

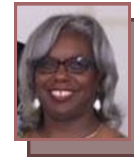
What's Next?



Carolyn Jones
Chapter President



Vahnita Loud
Southwestern Regional Director



Stephanie Dillworth
National President

March is
National Women's
History Month

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National Women's
History Month

March is
National Women's
History Month

"Get on Board and join the adventure!"

Affirming the Legacy, Bonding in Sisterhood and Committing to Business"

*"Business and Professional
Women Furthering the
Dream of Economic
Independence"*