

Epsilon Chi EXpress

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IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.

Epsilon Chi Chapter

EXceptional Women Doing EXtraordinary Things



Share



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President's Message



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Greetings Sorors,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. We are now into the Christmas holiday season. As you are purchasing gifts for your loved ones, pick up an extra toy or gift for someone who is less fortunate.

Chapter Birthdays
Entrepreneur Corner
Wellness Tips
Financial Tips
Regional and National News
EX Officers
Let's Support National!

Calendar of Events

Epsilon Chi Chapter Meeting

December 8, 2018

"Cozy Christmas Raffle" monies & tickets DUE

December 8, 2018

Drawing of the "Cozy Christmas Raffle"

Winner Announced

December 15, 2018

Correspondence Month

December 2018

Epsilon Chi Chapter Meeting

January 12, 2019

Executive Committee Meeting

January 26, 2019

Fredda Witherspoon National Scholarship Due

January 31, 2019

Alma L Mackey Scholarship Due

January 31, 2019

Our five newly inducted Sorors are working and not shirking. They are serious about their commitment to the sorority and settling into the committees for which they have chosen to serve. Madam Vice President and I are delighted to see all of the planning and implementation that is taking place in the committees. The committee chairs and co-chairs are exemplifying their leadership skills.

Epsilon Chi welcomes Soror Rahlita Thornton to our chapter. Soror Thornton was inducted in an undergraduate chapter at Texas Southern University. We look forward to working with you in the sorority and building a lifelong friendship.

During the month of November, Epsilon Chi Chapter celebrated American Education Week by recognizing the bus drivers of the Katy Independent School District, who are responsible for getting students to and from school safely. These hard-working men and women were treated with a continental breakfast on one of the coldest days of the year. They were very appreciative.

Although Epsilon Chi Chapter is busy planning and implementing programs and projects that will advance the aims and ideals of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., we have fun also. Using our analytical, methodical and critical thinking skills, we had to work as a team to escape two rooms at Paniq Escape Room Houston. It was challenging, but fun. Our Christmas Social was a time for us to eat, relax, laugh and bond as sisters. A good time was had by all.

We are excited about our newly organized FIL club. FIL officers were installed and we look forward to seeing their growth and develop as leaders. It was gratifying to witness the FILS conduct their first official meeting.

Epsilon Chi Chapter is always looking for opportunities to network and build relationships in Katy and West Houston. Soror Vanessa Williams assisted us in this mission by inviting Epsilon Chi Chapter to the Typhoon Texas Holiday Happy Hour. We were able to identify opportunities to forge new partnerships with the Katy business community.

Our 501(c)(3) nonprofit has a new name. The name has been changed from Acorn to EXcellence, Inc. to Acorn to EXcellence Foundation. The board of the Acorn to EXcellence Foundation has been working hard to put the

infrastructure in place to successfully seek corporate sponsorships and apply for grants.

The year 2018 is coming to an end. Relax, enjoy the holidays and come back in 2019 with a renewed vigor to serve, encourage, inspire, nurture and assist.

In Sisterhood & Service,

Gloria Davis | Epsilon Chi Chapter President

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES



EPSILON CHI CELEBRATES AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK WITH BREAKFAST AT THE BUS BARN

IN recognition of American Education Week, Epsilon Chi Chapter celebrated by serving Breakfast At the Bus Barn (BABB) with the bus drivers, mechanics and office staff. Sorors Pamela Willams and Eureka Patton served 17 dozen donuts, 10 gallons of coffee, donated by Starbuck's in Spring, TX and 10 boxes hot chocolate to 200 employees. The drivers, mechanics and office staff were very appreciative of the act of kindness by our chapter community service project.



EPSILON CHI RAISES FUNDS WITH #GIVINGTUESDAY

In observance of GivingTuesday, Epsilon Chi partnered with our non-profit Acorn to EXcellence, Inc. to raise money for the Pregnancy Help Center of West Houston (PHC) to support meeting the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of anyone experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. The IMAP committee received \$90.88 from the #GivingTuesday Campaign and will use funds to purchase used maternity and inspirational books to donate to Pregnancy Help Center of West Houston.



EPSILON CHI CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Epsilon Chi Chapter gathered together for our 2018 Christmas Party. There was food, fun, dancing, and laughter as we gathered to celebrate the season.



EPSILON CHI NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Epsilon Chi Chapter held its new member orientation where a variety of sorority and chapter information was disseminated and discussed. We are excited to welcome Sorors Moore, Shaw, Williams, Patton and Dottrey into the sisterhood and look forward as they share their talents while developing into an EXtraordinary Iota Woman.



EPSILON CHI ESCAPES THE PANIQ ROOM

Epsilon Chi Chapter had a great time at Paniq Room Houston. One group had to escape the Chainsaw Massacre Room and the other group had to escape the Wild West Room. Each group had to work as a team to escape. It was challenging, but fun.



SORORS SPOTLIGHTS



Soror Donna Mitchell was re-elected to serve on the 2019 Federation of Houston Professional Women (FHPW) executive board where she will serve another term as the administrative assistant. FHPW unites women from diverse member organizations to enrich personal and professional relationships and expand leadership, partnerships, and educational opportunities. Soror Mitchell is proud to represent the Epsilon Chi Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. and build pathways to help women achieve their aspirations.



Epsilon Chi Chapter is happy to welcome back our sister, Soror Sheri Marshall. Soror Marshall is a charter member of the Epsilon Chi Chapter and joined Iota in 2009. She is a past chapter president and manages/owns two companies: Umovait-Wecleanit Enterprises and Best Choice Mobile Notary. Soror Marshall has been recognized throughout Austin for her entrepreneurial fortitude and the many leadership positions she holds with other organizations. She resides in Austin with her husband and has 2 adult children and 2 grandkids. You were missed Soror Sheri, glad to have you back!



Epsilon Chi is happy to welcome Soror Rahlita Thornton back to Iota Phi! Soror Thornton is an attorney with almost 30 years experience along with her sister at her practice Thornton & Thornton. She is a TSU graduate and was initiated into Iota Phi Lambda Sorority as an undergrad in the mid 80's. Her hobbies are weight training, reading, Facebooking, watching Dr. Oz to keep track of health information and cycling. She began the Houston Ladies Cycling Club which now has 400 ladies of multicultural backgrounds. Soror Thornton has 3 adult children and resides in Missouri City with her husband. Welcome back Soror!



FIL SPOTLIGHTS



On December 3, 2018, Epsilon Chi installed our FIL officers at their monthly FIL meeting. The FIL Officers are: Kya Carpenter – President, Aaliyah Herbert-Cyres – VicePresident, Kennedy Mitchell – Recording Secretary, Kayla Mosley – Correspondence Secretary, Isaiah Copeland – Treasurer and Alexys James – Historian. The FILs began development of their group shirt in their first meeting. Congratulations to all of our FILs in leadership roles!





FIL Kayla Mosley donated her slightly used bicycle to Chain Reaction Ministries. Chain Reaction Ministries (CRM) was started at Memorial Drive Christian Church in Houston, Texas in December 2009. Their mission is to restore and re-build old or broken bicycles and donate them to those in need. CRM had humble beginnings by answering a call by Westside Homeless Partnership (WHP) for used bikes for kids in their program. The program has since grown to three more cities and has delivered more than 4,200 bikes. The spokes of this ministry extend to: First Christian Church – Oklahoma City (Oct 2013), First Christian Church – Baton Rouge, LA (July 2014) First Christian Church & Waterway – Bentonville, AR (June 2015).



FIL Kayla Mosley volunteered at Gigi's Playhouse for their Cooking Club as participants learned how to chop, slice and dice, measurements and follow a recipe. Gigi's Playhouse is a group of dedicated family members excited to bring GiGi's Playhouse to our own backyard. GiGi's Playhouse is a unique Down syndrome organization providing a permanent brick and mortar location offering direct educational and therapeutic programs to individuals with Down syndrome, their families and the community.



FIL Kya Carpenter completed volunteer training at Gigi's Playhouse. FIL Carpenter has a passion for helping and working with individuals with Special Needs. She's excited to get started!



COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT



This month, Epsilon Chi spotlights our mighty Membership Committee. Special thanks to the mighty membership committee: Soror Wanda McKinnies, Soror Tonya Tompkins and Soror Donna Mitchell for your time and commitment as we orchestrated an induction ceremony and new member presentation with style and grace. It was the goal of the Dean of Intake, Soror Donna Mitchell, with the team effort of the Epsilon Chi Chapter to obtain 20 members in two years. We have achieved that goal and now have 21 members! Epsilon Chi has truly lived up to the Iota Creed "Working and not Shirking".



CHAPTER BIRTHDAYS



Epsilon Chi wishes a very happy birthday to Sorors Tanesha Mosley (Dec. 22), Redessa Shaw (Dec. 25) and Vanessa Hawkins (Dec. 28)!

(Not pictured Soror Vanessa Hawkins)



ENTREPRENEUR CORNER



In this section we highlight EX Members that have their own business. This month we highlight Soror Eureka Patton. (Click flyer for more information.)

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ME **Message Envy.**

*Offer available between November 26, 2018 through December 31, 2018. Promotional voucher redeemable at participating Message Envy franchised locations nationwide by March 31, 2019. Voucher has no cash value. Each voucher is valid towards one (1) free enhancement with qualifying gift card purchase within the same transaction during the promotional period of November 26, 2018 - December 31, 2018 and is only while supplies last. Voucher is for promotional purposes only and is not valid for the Hot Stone Therapy enhancement, or in conjunction with any other offers. Voucher may not be replaced if lost or stolen. Original voucher must be present upon check-in. Voucher does not include gratuity. Offer not available for gift card purchases made online or with any other authorized Message Envy gift card retailer outside of the franchised location. Rates and services may vary by location and session. For a specific list of services, check with specific franchised location or see MessageEnvy.com. Additional taxes and fees may apply. Other rules may apply. See location for details. Each location is independently owned and operated. TERMS AND CONDITIONS ARE APPLIED TO VOUCHERS. ©2018 Message Envy Franchising, LLC. ME 4364
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WELLNESS TIP OF THE MONTH



Get ahead on your New Year's resolutions. One important habit to get into, especially this time of year: **practicing gratitude.**

Research has consistently uncovered that feeling grateful can improve both your physical and emotional well-being. One study done at the University of California, Davis, for example, found that people who routinely count their blessings report better moods, healthier coping behaviors, fewer physical symptoms and overall more life happiness than those who don't.

Click the image below to learn more.



FINANCIAL TIP OF THE MONTH



How to Save \$500 This Month?

Be a ruthless saver.

If money is tight and you need to drastically reduce your budget, here are some strategies to start saving right away. Putting even one of these ideas into practice should give your finances some much-needed breathing room, but if you adopt all of them, as long as your income remains steady, you could be looking at an extra \$500 – or more – this month.
By Geoff Williams, Contributor, www.usanews.com

Click below to learn more.



REGIONAL AND NATIONAL NEWS



REGIONAL NEWS

Alma I Mackey Scholoship Deadline - January 31, 2019

Chapter Reports Due to Assistant Southwestern Region Director (w/documentation) - February 22, 2019

Chapter Reports Due to Southwestern Region Director (w/o documentation) - February 22, 2019

Dwala Brown Technology Awarded Applications Due - February 22, 2019

72nd Southwestern Region Conference Registration Deadline - February 28, 2019

Hotel Reservation Deadline - February 28, 2019

72nd Southwestern Region Conference (Conference Focus "The Power of Sisterhood") (Conference Challenge "Each One Bring One") - March 28-31, 2019

Scrapbooks/Crazy Hats Due - March 29, 2019

NATIONAL NEWS

The Fredda Witherspon National Scholarship Deadline - January 31, 2019

Mid Winter Board Meeting - Washington, D.C. - January 24-27, 2019

National FIL Scholarship Deadline - February 28, 2019

Dorethea N. Hornbuckle National Scholarship Deadline - March 15, 2019

Alice P. Allen National Scholarship Deadline - April, 1, 2019

Founder's Day - June 1, 2019

National Convention - Shreveport, LA - July 24-28, 2019

2018-2019 EPSILON CHI CHAPTER OFFICERS



President - Soror Gloria Davis

Vice President - Soror Katrina Warren

Recording Secretary - Soror Tonya Tompkins

Corresponding Secretary - Soror Brandy Edwards

Financial Secretary - Soror Adria James

Treasurer - Soror Wanda McKinnies

Journalist - Soror Tanesha Mosley

Dean of Intake - Soror Donna Mitchell



LET'S SUPPORT NATIONAL!



LOLA MERCEDES PARKER FOUNDATION
(Click emblem below for more information.)



The Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation for the Economic Empowerment of Business and Professional Women (LMPF) is committed to the professional development of youth and women within our communities.

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SORORITY MEETING

2nd Saturday of every Month
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

EPSILON CHI CHAPTER

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Katy, Texas 77491

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FACEBOOK - [facebook.com/lotaEpsilonChi](https://www.facebook.com/lotaEpsilonChi)

TWITTER - [@lotaEpsilonChi](https://twitter.com/lotaEpsilonChi)

NATIONAL THEME

Business and Professional Women : Furthering the Dream of Economic Independence

Stephanie Dilworth - 22nd National President

REGIONAL THEME

Affirming the Legacy, Bonding in Sisterhood and Committing to Business

Vahnita D. Loud - Southwestern Regional Director

National Headquarters

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This message was sent for the sole purpose of testing a draft message.