

# Executive Summary

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.



Established 1963  
Baltimore, MD



## A Brief Synopsis of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. is a national service fraternity that continues to remain true to the original purpose envisioned by its twelve founders. That purpose being "the development and perpetuation of scholarship, leadership, citizenship, fidelity and brotherhood among men." Founded on September 19, 1963, the fraternity today consists of over 325 undergraduate and alumni chapters with approximately 50,000 members in 38 states and the District of Columbia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Quidbo, Choco Colombia. The fraternity colors are Charcoal Brown and Gilded Gold.

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. is one of the 'Divine 9' National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) member organizations. Iota was inducted into the NPHC in February 1997, joining the original Black Greek-letter organizations that were the 'Elite 8.' While the fraternity's membership is primarily African-American, membership is not restricted by race, creed, or national origin. The fraternity is also a member of the North American Interfraternity Conference, an international organization of over 60 national fraternities with a combined membership of over six million individuals.

From its inception, Iota has recognized the need for strong leadership at every level of the fraternity. The national governing body is the Grand Council, consisting of the International Grand Polaris, the International Grand Vice Polaris, the International 2nd Grand Vice Polaris, the International Grand Treasurer and the International Grand Secretary. Grand Council members also include the fraternity's intermediate officers, the Director of Undergraduate Affairs, Director of Graduate Affairs, Director of Marketing, Director of Regional Affairs, Director of Community Impact, Director of Communications, Director of Technology, Director of Intake, Director of Training and Development, Director of Recruitment, Director of Military Affairs, National Chaplain, General Counsel and the fraternity's Executive Director.

Through our history and across the nation, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. has come to represent excellence in all of our endeavors. We are and shall remain, dedicated to our founders' motto "Building a Tradition, Not Resting Upon One." It takes a Man!

### OUR SERVICE INITIATIVES

As Iota has grown, it has endeavored to maintain a standard of excellence and leadership on campus and in the community. In 1992, the fraternity established the National Iota Foundation, a Tax-Exempt entity whose purpose is to assist the needy through scholarships and other financial assistance. Since its creation, the foundation has distributed over \$250,000 in programs and services. The fraternity has also created the IOTA Youth Alliance, a program developed specifically, to address the needs of young African - American males.



In addition to these National initiatives, individual chapters of Iota Phi Theta involve themselves in activities that allow members the opportunity to give of themselves and enrich the lives of others.

A partial listing of involvements undertaken by Iota Phi Theta chapters includes:

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

The National Sickle Cell Foundation

The United Negro College Fund

Big Brothers of America

American Red Cross

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

While this list is by no means exhaustive, it highlights the type of community involvement and spirit that exists within the Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., brotherhood. The Fraternity understands that its primary mission should be to service as an enabler for the empowerment of the African - American community and as a continuing source of positive images and assistance for our youth.

★★★★★★ SOME NOTABLE IOTA MEN ★★★★★★

Media & Entertainment:

T.C. Carson - Television Actor, "Living Single"

Spencer Christian - Weather Anchorman, "Good Morning America"

Michael Frisby - Senior White House correspondent, "The Wall Street Journal"

Business:

Zemira Jones - President & General Manager, WLS Radio (Chicago)

Raymond Grady - Chief Operating Officer, Evanston Hospital (Illinois)

Shelley Stewart - Executive Vice-President, United Technologies Corporation

Politics & Government:

Theodore Stephens - Circuit Judge, East Orange, New Jersey

Elias Dorsey, Jr. - Commissioner of Housing, Baltimore, Maryland

Billy Ocasio - City Councilman, Chicago, Illinois

Rep. Bobby Rush - (D-IL), Member of the U.S. House of Representatives

Sports:

Calvin Murphy - NBA Hall-of-Famer (formerly of the Houston Rockets)

Elvin Hayes - NBA Hall-of-Famer (formerly of the Washington Bullets)

Mike McLeese - Head Basketball Coach, Howard University

## IOTA PHI THETA AT A GLANCE

Founding Date:  
September 19, 1963

Founding Place:  
Morgan State University - Baltimore, Maryland

Purpose:  
“The Development and Perpetuation of Scholarship, Leadership, Citizenship, Fidelity, and Brotherhood among Men.”

Motto:  
“Building A Tradition, Not Resting Upon One”

Official Colors:  
Charcoal Brown & Gilded Gold

Number of Chapters:  
223 Undergraduate / 102 Graduate

Number of Initiated Members:  
Approximately 50,000

National Governing Body:  
The Grand Council,  
Grand Polaris, Grand Vice-Polaris, 2nd Grand Vice Polaris,  
Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and Board of Directors

National Service Initiatives:  
National Iota Foundation  
St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

National Affiliation:  
The National Interfraternity Conference (NIC)  
The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)

Internet Presence:  
<http://www.iotaphitheta.org> (National Website)