

THE PHOTA



The Phota (the Greek word for lights) is a publication of the Valparaiso University Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils



Fifth Annual Dance Marathon Raises More Than \$69,000 For The Kids

On April Fools Day 2017, 551 students took to The ARC to dance for twelve hours for the kids at Lurie Children's Hospital. "I'm overwhelmed with hopefulness after 2017 DM. I am reminded everyday how gracious the students at Valparaiso University are. Thank you to everyone who attended! Remember, Dance Marathon is not a once a year thing. For these kids and their families it is an everyday thing. It has been such a blessing in my life to serve as the overall director for Dance Marathon" -Shannon Egan (Kappa Deleta) Overall Director of Dance Marathon 2017.

Raising an astounding \$69,872.05, the event raised more than ever before! The 2017 ValpoDM Miracle Cup Winner was the women of Gamma Phi Beta raising \$11,467.41! Congratulations to all dancers and thank you to all of the fraternities and sororities that participated this year! #FTK



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 28: *Pi Beta Phi Founders Day*
- April 28: *Phi Sigma Kappa SourceStock*
- April 29: *SALT Color for a Cause*
- May 1: *Order of Omega Life After College event*
- May 2: *Fraternity and Sorority Awards Ceremony*
- May 5: *UPC Spring Concert*
- May 9: *Last Day of Class*
- May 20: *Commencement 2017*



Chapter Spotlight:

Chi Omega

Laughter, cheering, and the thud of basketballs on the court was all that could be heard in Valparaiso University's ARC during Chi Omega's philanthropy event, Swishes for Wishes. This past February, the 3-on-3 basketball tournament attracted a variety of different sororities and fraternities for one powerful cause: the ability to grant a "wish" for a child with a life-threatening illness.

The event benefited the Make A Wish Foundation, which helps to secure special, individualized experiences for ill children. This year, Swishes for Wishes helped grant the "wish" of Chi Omega's wish kid, a four-year-old girl named Aiyana. Although Aiyana suffers from a Wilm's tumor, a treatable form of kidney cancer, her spunky, pink-loving personality shone when she visited the chapter this past semester. The sisters in Chi Omega played board games, laughed, and spent an afternoon with Aiyana, whose "wish" was to visit Disney World. Fortunately, Chi Omega was able to fulfill Aiyana's wish.

With the help of Valparaiso's student body, family members of the sorority, and the hardworking sisters themselves, Chi Omega raised a grand total of \$11,808.08. Kelsey Stallter, philanthropy chair and a senior in Chi Omega, hopes that the chapter can continue to work hard. "We love Make a Wish because we get to instill hope in children who have seen darker days, and show them that their dreams are possible."



Pi Beta Phi Celebrates 150 Years with a Visit from the Ring Ching Roadshow



In 2017, Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women will celebrate 150 years of sisterhood. To celebrate their sisterhood, Pi Beta Phi is spending two years on the road, gathering stories from coast to coast with the Ring Ching Roadshow. The term "Ring Ching" comes from the beloved Pi Beta Phi song "Ring, Ching, Ching." The Roadshow came to Valpo in February!

The name Libbie, the Pi Beta Phi car, is in honor of Pi Beta Phi Founder Libbie Brook Gaddis. Libbie was the youngest founder and established Pi Beta Phi's second chapter at Iowa Wesleyan University. Of sincere friendship she said, "for while there are deeper and holier relations than that of Pi Beta Phi, still nothing purer or lovelier graces the name of friendship."



Have a story to share in the next issue of *The Phota*?

Contact:

Ashley Smith or Alec Chase

Panhellenic and IFC Vice Presidents of Public Relations

panhellenic.publicrelations@valpo.edu or ifc.publicrelations@valpo.edu



VALPO FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

valpo.edu/greek • Vol. 5 Issue 2