

# THE PHOTA



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



## Phi Kappa Psi Focuses on Service for Annual PhiPsi 500 Event

Choosing to emphasize community service for this year's event, the men of Phi Kappa Psi hosted their annual Phi Psi 500 in the form of a week-long service competition in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Valparaiso. All fraternity and sorority chapters were invited to participate, and the fraternity or sorority with the highest participation of average service hours for the week would be awarded \$500 to the philanthropy of their choice. The event took place during the week of October 23-27.

Participants were encouraged to participate in community service initiatives throughout the entire week, and chapters were asked to organize or continue their own service projects. Additional volunteer opportunities were provided throughout the week to participants at the Boys & Girls Club, where over 150 volunteers organized activities, helped with homework, and assisted with a fall festival and Halloween party.

The Phi Psi 500 Week of Service far surpassed its goal, with 195 participants from 14 organizations completing 773 hours of community service in one week. This estimated economic impact of this service is \$18,211 to the local Valparaiso community.

The women of Sigma Lambda Gamma won the competition with an average of 4.75 hours per member completed during the week. The men of Phi Kappa Psi look forward to growing the event, and are especially eager to continue to develop a long-lasting relationship with the Boys & Girls Club.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF PORTER COUNTY

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 23: *Thanksgiving*  
November 29: *IFC and Panhellenic Elections*  
November 30: *Christ College F&S Life Panel*  
December 7: *Sigma Lambda Gamma New Member Show*  
December 8: *Sigma Phi Epsilon SigEp Christmas*  
December 10: *Fall Commencement*  
December 11 – 15: *Final Exams*  
December 22 – January 1: *University Closed*

# Chapter Spotlight:

## Sigma Lambda Gamma

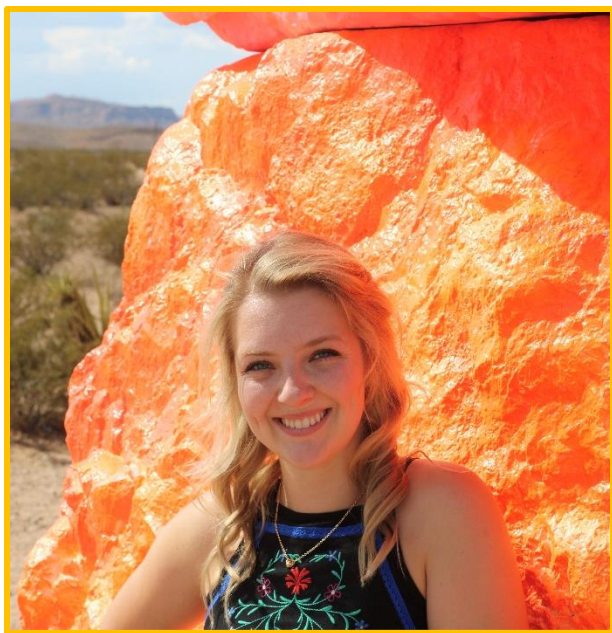
In the summer of 2017, Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc. hosted their National Sisterhood Retreat in Nashville, TN. Karina Calvillo and Michelle Villanueva were able to attend and interact with sisters from across the nation, and work personally with the headquarters staff. While engaging in numerous workshops and lectures, the sisters learned many new and exciting things to take back to their chapter for this coming year.

During the Sisterhood Retreat, the Delta Zeta chapter received the Excellence Award for Standards of Distinction. This is the national organizations second highest award given to chapters that are meeting all of the expectations held for the academic school year. The women of the Delta Zeta chapter have worked tremendously hard in the last year to reach chapter status and meet the expectations of the Valparaíso community and the national organization. The women are honored by this accomplishment and hope to not only maintain in high standing, but also strive to reach the highest level of recognition in the year to come.



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### Chi Omega President Receives the Jan Boyd Blackwell Leading with Integrity Award



Elise Stonebraker, President of the Alpha Lambda chapter of Chi Omega, was awarded the Chi Omega Jan Boyd Blackwell Leading with Integrity Award for 2017. The Blackwell Award is given to a Chi Omega collegiate leader who has demonstrated a courageous spirit of service and has upheld the values of Chi Omega during a challenging time while leading her chapter.

Elise was nominated by Danielle LaPointe, chapter advisor for Chi Omega and Carrie Whittier, Assistant Dean of Students due to the tremendous leadership Elise demonstrated in the spring of 2017 following the tragic loss of a member of Chi Omega.

“I am truly honored to have received the Jan Boyd Blackwell Leading with Integrity Award from my national organization, Chi Omega Fraternity. Receiving this award does not erase the hardship that Alpha Lambda had to face last year, but receiving this award comes as a reminder to keep moving onward and upward. I am so thankful to be receiving this award out of the many courageous Chi Omega leaders across the nation” Elise shared.

Chi Omega Fraternity awards the Jan Boyd Blackwell Leading with Integrity Award annually, and includes a \$500 scholarship. Elise was notified by the Chi Omega National President this summer of her receiving this tremendous honor.



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

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