

THE PHOTA



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



Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority Awards 2018

The 2017-2018 Fraternity and Sorority Awards Ceremony was an evening to celebrate the many accomplishments of the chapters and individual fraternity and sorority members. This year's award recipients include:

President's Award for Excellence in Fraternity and Sorority Life
Sigma Phi Epsilon and Chi Omega

Kyle James Carson Fraternity Man of the Year
Jonathan Schildwachter, Pi Kappa Alpha

Dean Dolores Ruosch Sorority Woman of the Year
Karina Calvillo, Sigma Lambda Gamma

Outstanding Fraternity and Sorority Chapter President
Jacob Van Horn, Phi Delta Theta and Elise Stonebraker, Chi Omega

Samantha Salvador Living Your Values Award
Tyler Matulis, Sigma Chi and Hilary Van Oss, Kappa Delta

Outstanding Fraternity and Sorority Emerging Leader
Rodrigo Serrano, Lambda Chi Alpha
Thespina Dabagia, Gamma Phi Beta

George T. Kilavos Outstanding Chapter Advisor
Cassidy Kuhlmann, Kappa Kappa Gamma

Mark R. Schwehn, Ph.D. Outstanding Faculty Advisor
Bonnie Dahlke Goebbert, Phi Kappa Psi

Alan Harre Ph.D. Civic Engagement Award
Phi Kappa Psi

Values in Action Award
Sigma Chi

Most Improved Chapter
Pi Beta Phi



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June: *FOCUS Orientation Sessions*
June 28: *Sigma Chi Founders Day*

Chapter Spotlight:

Phi Delta Theta

Phi Delta Theta, with raging determination, are winners of Greek Week for the 2017-2018 academic year! While their motto for the week was simply “we tried” coined by brothers Jacob Van Horn and Aaron Pevitz, they certainly showed that a smaller chapter can prevail and come out victorious in the end.

Phi Delta Theta won the Greek Week Blood Drive competition with more than 30 percent of the chapter donating blood and other members volunteering. Phi Delta Theta also placed in Greek Olympics and SongFest, and had the most points for the Social Media Contest. The chapter participated in every event for the week, bringing them in with the top point total of all fraternities and sororities!

The men of Phi Delta Theta now hold the Greek Week trophy, and they do not plan on giving it back easily. Next year, expect these men to come back stronger and even more determined, firing another exciting and competitive Greek Week. Overall, we would like to thank all the chapters for their participation, and congratulations to the men of Phi Delta Theta once again!



Twelve Outstanding Seniors Receive University Leadership and Service Award

Valparaíso University honored 18 graduating seniors with the Outstanding Leadership and Service Award in April, and 12 of the award recipients are members of fraternities and sororities. Each one of these members has made their mark on their chapter as well as the fraternity and sorority community, and we celebrate each of their accomplishments!



Front Row: Ashita Bhatnagar of Gamma Phi Beta, Katie Karstensen of Kappa Delta, Angelys Torres of Sigma Lambda Gamma, Maddie Nieter of Gamma Phi Beta, Hannah Sergent of Chi Omega, and Ahmad Muhammad of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. **Second Row:** E.J. Dubinsky of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Elisa Espinosa of Kappa Kappa Gamma, Sam Macy of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Kelsey Stallter of Chi Omega, Brooke LeFevre of Chi Omega, and John Penshorn of Sigma Phi Epsilon!

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

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