

# The Phota

## THE FRATERNITY AND SORORITY NEWSLETTER

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

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### SERVICE/PHILANTHROPY

On January 16, Valparaiso University honored Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr through a day on. The convocation speaker was State Senator Eddie Melton who is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

The Fraternity and Sorority community had the opportunity to participate in a new community service issue by partnering with Student Life who hosted US Hunger to pack meals for those experiencing food insecurity in Northwest Indiana. The Food Research & Action Center estimates that around 3.8% of households experienced low food security in 2021, which means that these households were choosing to skip meals.

Together we were able to package 20,000 meals for residents of Northwest Indiana!



### Academics

This past month, the members of our fraternity and sorority community returned to campus to begin classes for the Spring 2023 semester. As the new semester begins, we would like to highlight the fraternity chapter and sorority chapter that hit the books real hard last semester.

Congratulations to the sisters of Sigma Lambda Gamma for achieving the highest GPA performance amongst all chapters. Sigma Chi achieved the highest GPA of all fraternities.

As we step forward into this next semester, we wish everyone good luck in their classes and hope to see the community hard at work in the classroom.



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

2-1 Defamation Project • 2-4 Kappa Kappa Gamma's Kappa Krush • 2-12 Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Serenading • 2-18 Phi Kappa Psi Chili Cook-Off • 2-19 Phi Kappa Psi Founder's Day • 2-19 Gamma Phi Beta Moonball • 2-26 Sigma Pi Founder's Day



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

With the start of the new semester, our fraternity and sorority community got to welcome over 150 new members to the Fraternity and Sorority community.

After a busy first week back to campus, primary recruitment for the Panhellenic community kicked off on January 9 at recruitment orientation. On Sunday, January 15, 98 new members were welcomed to the sorority community.

For our fraternities, we celebrated our Bid Signing Ceremony at Mueller Hall on January 15 and welcomed 68 new members into our fraternity community.

We are excited to welcome all of these great new members into our community. We cannot wait to see their impact on the community.



## LEADERSHIP

In the second half of this month, the leaders of our fraternity and sorority community had our annual Leadership Retreat at Camp Raybird.

At Camp Raybird, the newly-transitioned presidents and council members of the community were able to learn more about one another through innovative bonding activities. Through this, they were able to better communicate with one another, and meet each other.

The leaders of our community also took an extensive amount of time discussing what kinds of goals they would like to set for the future of our community.

It wasn't all just business and learning however as these leaders got to enjoying hanging out with one another at Camp Raybird and even have smores by the fire. Although it was a bit chilly! We are very excited to see the goals set by those at Camp Raybird come to life within the fraternity and sorority community.

