



Fifty Years of Radiance Honoring Iota Lambda Chapter: Celebrating Legacy, Sisterhood & Service

Spoken Word Poem By: Herisa Stanislaus (lota Lambda, Spring 2009)

When I first saw the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha walking tall at the University of Florida

They didn't just wear salmon pink and apple green

They wore purpose - poised, powerful, magnetic

They turned scholarship into impact and made leadership look like light

I said to myself: I want to be like them That's how legacy begins With admiration, with action

When we crossed, we stood on the shoulders of women who walked in grace And joined an illustrious sisterhood who didn't just attend the University of Florida but transformed it

We are a lineage stitched from Scholarship, Service, and Sisterhood Chartered on May 17 th , 1975 by a group of twenty-five women determined to succeed

We are the creative hands behind impactful Skee-Week programs
The loud cheers behind step show and stroll off wins
The bonds formed in dorm rooms that became lifelines

We are the feeling of pride from the first time we were of service under the banner of
The lota Lambda chapter
The excitement from attending our first Greek event, road trip, and regional
conferences

We are the joy when winning awards For Highest GPA, Chapter of the Year, Community service, and winning regional Awards for our AKAdemics and programs

We exude excellence and we win - Period

We served with purpose
We led with passion
As Civil Rights Leaders and Social Justice Advocates

We fought for this chapter to be recognized, reinstated, and revered And when we were tested, we returned, Stronger, brighter, bolder

In the 90s, there were only 2,000 Black Students out of 40,000 But we were united

Black Greek life wasn't just active It was vital and we had institutional backing Because administrators saw our impact

Throughout the years
Unity has been our heartbeat
Leadership our pulse and
Every Soror a force to remember

From Broward Hall basement parties to becoming Student Body President, Cabinet Directors, Reitz Scholars, Ronald E. McNair Scholars, Pageant winners, Florida Blue Key Members and more

To earning advanced degrees in medicine, law, engineering, public health and beyond, then progressing to Deans, Directors, Doctors, and Politicians Service stitched into every decision

We have always stood at the intersection of brilliance and care
We've shown up through loss, through literal crashes, through conflict, petty
arguments,
Through triumph

Through teaching with love and holding each other when life turns new pages and all the while we lifted as we climbed

Because to be part of lota Lambda Is to carry a calling
To exude excellence
To make the room shift when you enter
Not with volume
But with vision

Fifty powerful years, And we're still shining Still rising Still us

We are lota Lambda
More than a chapter
A legacy.
We did that.
And we'll keep doing it
Together.

Chant: I-O-T-A L-A-M-B-D-A lota Lambda Chapter of AKA, and **IL**ove it!





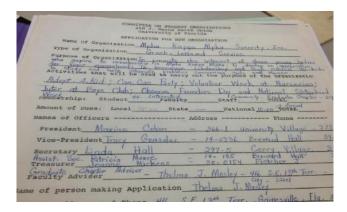
I. International Sorority History

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated[®] (AKA), an international service organization, was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-educated women and celebrated 117 years of sisterhood and service in 2025. AKA was founded on a mission of five basic tenets that have remained unchanged since the sorority's inception. The mission of AKA is:

- to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards,
- to promote unity and friendship among college women,
- to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature,
- to maintain a progressive interest in college life,
- and to be of "Service to All Mankind.

II. The Chartering of the lota Lambda chapter

Building on the effort of AKA's founders, 25 women charted the lota Lambda chapter on May 17, 1975 on the campus of the University of Florida (UF). The chapter's founding was particularly significant within the historical context of UF.



Application for a new student organization at UF.

Between 1945 and 1958, UF systematically denied admission to every Black student who applied. It was not until 1962 that UF admitted its first Black undergraduates. Racial tensions persisted on campus and within the Gainesville community despite the formal end of segregation, so Black students, seeking solace and community, forged strong support systems. The desire for a sense of belonging and cultural pride led to the establishment of Black Greek-letter organizations at UF.

The lota Lambda chapter was chartered under the guidance of the Eta Tau Omega Chapter. The initiation process was a collaborative effort, involving undergraduate members from other Florida institutions, including Bethune-Cookman College, Edward Waters College, and Florida A&M University. The process at that time differed significantly from today's practices. Instead of the modern "coming out show" or "probate", prospective members, known as "ivies," were publicly identified on campus by the ivy leaves they were on their shirts. They were expected to protect their ivies, often seen holding their right hand

over their hearts. A popular chant of the time was, "ivies are high-minded, work all day and don't mind it."

III. The 25 Pearls of Distinction

lota Lambda's charter members, known as the 25 Pearls of Distinction, consisted of 25 women who were sophomores and juniors at the time of their initial interest. By the time of their initiation, most were juniors and seniors. Notably, many of these women had familial connections to the sorority and were considered "legacies" under the sorority's legacy clause. While the process began with 26 women, one woman withdrew before initiation. Dr. Norma Solomon White served as the international president of the sorority when the chapter was chartered.

The 25 Pearls of Distinction established a foundation of service and sisterhood. They held community car washes to raise money and engaged in service projects at local nursing homes and elementary schools. The chapter cultivated strong ties within UF's Black Greek-letter community. The Zeta Phi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated regarded the AKAs as "unofficial sisters" and the Theta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, welcomed the chapter with open arms. Many members of the 25 Pearls of Distinction had prior affiliations as Kappa Sweethearts.

To celebrate their initiation into the sorority, the 25 Pearls of Distinction participated in a public dance presentation on "The Set" (at the time, Little Hall).



Members of 25 Pearls of Distinction.

1`Gloria Postell served as the chapter's first president following its chartering. She presided over chapter meetings and was strict about rules due to her legal aspirations. While there was no formal dress code or rules of conduct for how members should maintain themselves, the chapter upheld a high standard of decorum in public settings. In practice, this looked like members arriving fashionably late to parties, bringing their own drinks (and not drinking from party-provided drinks), and leaving before the event was over. The chapter was known for its distinctive style, which was often made by chapter members who stayed up all night to make matching outfits.

The 25 Pearls of Distinction consisted of the following women: Alicia Beck, Angela Bruton, Angela Shuman, Barbara Ann Debose, Cynthia Parker, Cynthia Wester, Debra Wardell, Della Smith, Georgetta Sellers, Gloria Postell, Harriet Carter, Hettie Sirmans, Jamia Wilson, Joann Mickens, LaNedra Abrams, Marilyn Wadley, Maxine Cohen, Maxine Jenkins, Patricia Jones, Patricia Kitchen, Patricia Moore, Sandra King, Shirley Smith, Tracy Gonzalez, Vera Richardson.



25 Pearls of Distinction Spring 1975

As noted in Part One above, the 25 Pearls of Distinction consisted of the following women:

Alicia Beck Angela Bruton Angela Shuman Barbara Ann Debose Cynthia Parker Cynthia Wester Debra Wardell Della Smith Georgetta Sellers Gloria Postell **Harriet Carter Hettie Sirmans** Jamia Wilson Joann Mickens LaNedra Abrams Marilyn Wadley Maxine Cohen Maxine Jenkins Patricia Jones Patricia Kitchen Patricia Moore Sandra King Shirley Smith Tracy Gonzalez Vera Richardson









Utopia Spring 1976

In Spring 1976, under the leadership of then-President Gloria Postell, the lota Lambda chapter initiated members of the Utopia line.

Utopia's members reflected diverse backgrounds, with selection based on service to humanity, dedication, interest in working with people, and a commitment to community.

During this period, members dedicated themselves to serving the Black community, which faced numerous challenges. Members proudly displayed their sorority colors at campus events attended by other students, including members of various Black Greek-letter organizations. Service initiatives included volunteering at local nursing homes and participating in charitable endeavors.

While chapter members appreciated the support and sisterhood that the sorority offered, the chapter navigated significant racial challenges within the greater Gainesville and UF community. While the experience of racism varied, the Institute of Black Culture served as a vital support system for students. One incident involved a chapter member being subjected to a racially motivated act while walking with a white roommate. In another instance, some chapter members did not receive the class grades that they worked hard to earn.

Utopia Members:

Renalia Smith Dubose
Joyce Henderson
Charlene Holmes
Marlene Reed
Paulette Sellers Stallworth (IBTW)
Rynlee Winsome Webb (IBTW)







Elegance at its Prime Winter 1977

Comprised of 11 dynamic and forward-thinking women, the Winter 1977 line, known as Elegance at is Prime, was the 3rd line to be initiated into the lota Lambda chapter.

During a period of limited racial inclusivity, the lota Lambda chapter provided a vital sense of community for Black women at UF. With only three historically Black sororities on campus, the chapter fostered a strong bond of sisterhood. emphasizing camaraderie and shared experiences. Members presented a unified front, attending classes and social events together, creating a close-knit support chapter's emphasis on system. The scholarship and service distinguished them, establishing a standard of academic excellence and community engagement.





The chapter's commitment to academic success was paramount, with members prioritizing study and mutual support. Their graduate advisor played a pivotal role, encouraging members to maintain high GPAs and engage actively in the Black community. Service initiatives, such as volunteering at the Sunland Training Center, reflected their dedication to community upliftment.

The bonds of sisterhood, scholarship, and service formed the core of the lota Lambda experience, transcending the collegiate years. Members of Elegance at its Prime achieved personal and professional success, with notable alumnae holding advanced degrees and establishing successful careers. The line is known to have set a high standard for continuing the lota Lambda legacy.

Elegance at its Prime Members:

Sherrina Ford Cassandra Williams Jacquelyn Randall Deborah DeVaughn Patricia Oats Mari-Esther Fussell
Bettye King
Romona Wright
Arlene Sawyer
Gennett Johnson

Robin Wiggins

Exquisite Shades of Ebony Fall 1977

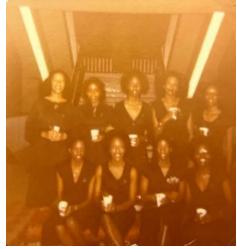
On January 8, 1978, lota Lambda welcomed nine new members, forming the Exquisite Shades of Ebony line, to carry on its legacy. These women, united by diverse motivations, found a sense of family within the sorority, particularly significant on a campus with limited Black student representation. A primary focus was maintaining academic excellence, aiming to surpass the GPA standards of other sororities and serve the campus community. This commitment sought to prevent any criticism of the organization's presence on a predominantly white campus.

The Exquisite Shades of Ebony dedicated themselves to community service, with volunteering at the hospital with children being a favorite activity. During the 1970s, "The Set" served as a central social hub, fostering connections within the Black community. Chapter members looked forward to spending time with other Black students and members of the Black Greek-letter community.

Exquisite Shades of Ebony Members:

Jamie Toney
Kay Heck
Pamela Walker
Pamela Edwards
Marjorie Cunningham
Wayner Singleton
LaVerne Newsome
Eleanor Forbes
Kathy Williams

Exclusive Ladies of Sophistication Spring 1978





the chapter's fifth line. These nine members embodied the qualities that the sorority and left a lasting impact on the UF campus. The Exquisite Ladies of Sophistication demonstrated a strong sense of sisterhood, fostering close bonds through shared experiences.

The lota Lambda chapter attracted women of intelligence, integrity, and prestige, exemplified by the Exquisite Ladies of Sophistication,

One member notes that she recalls always being together, sleeping in each other's rooms, sewing outfits together, and staying up until late hours washing and pressing hair. While pledging, they would pick ivies, sing to their big sisters, and walk through campus together.





Crawford served as president during her junior and senior years at UF, where she led the chapter under the supervision of graduate advisor Juanita Mosley.

One notable tradition of the chapter during this



period was the end of the year banquet, which was designed to celebrate the achievements of chapter members. The banquet recognized academic excellence, community service, and contributions to the chapter.

Exclusive Ladies of Sophistication Members:

Ralphilia Compton-Oliver Desiree P. Green Ann Henderson Shirley A. James Tanya A. Clark-Perry Carol A. Leggett Yolanda R. Gaines-Crawford **Deborah Wiggins** Yvonne D. Young

Radiant Emeralds of Mahogany Spring 1979

Initiated in the Spring of 1979, Radiant Emeralds of Mahogany is the sixth line in the lota Lambda Ivy Vine. Their Dean of Pledges was Tanya Clark-Perry. The *Radiant Emeralds of Mahogany* were chosen to uphold

the standards of AKA under the supervision of graduate advisor Thelma Mosley.



The Radiant Emeralds of Mahogany demonstrated a profound commitment to upholding the legacy of AKA. Despite the historical context, the line made a significant impact on the campus community. The line was actively involved on campus, collaborating with other student organizations. Community service initiatives included volunteering at a local Gainesville nursing home, and primary fundraising efforts were car washes. The annual end-of-year awards banquet was a memorable event. This line's dedication to service and sisterhood left an enduring mark on the chapter's history.

Radiant Emeralds of Mahogany Members:

Vernelda Filer
Kim Holzendorf
Stephanie Rutledge
Elvia Singleton
Janice Spann-Givens
Emily Strapp (IBTW)
Elaine Yates
Deborah Calhoun Gant
Robin King
Sherrill Owens (IBTW)







Divine Genesis Spring 1980



The Spring 1980 line of the lota Lambda chapter, known as Divine Genesis, marked a significant turning point, embodying the very essence of its name: "the origin or coming into being of something." This line ushered in a new decade and a fresh perspective, revitalizing the chapter.

The Divine Genesis legacy is rooted in their desire to expand the chapter's horizons. Prior lines had often focused on members from specific academic disciplines, primarily mathematics and biological sciences, emphasizing scholastic achievement. While upholding the sorority's commitment to high academic standards, Divine Genesis introduced a new emphasis on diversity. This diversity manifested in their varied

academic pursuits, diverse majors, and extensive campus involvement, a legacy that continues to shape the chapter today.

As their time to guide new members approached, they sought individuals who reflected similar qualities: strong character, high moral standards, discretion, academic excellence, and active involvement. Recognizing the significance of their own diverse backgrounds, they prioritized academic variety and broad engagement in potential new members.

Events like the Pink Ice ball and the creative "Who Shot JR?" party fostered community engagement and raised funds for their initiatives. Their participation in intramural sports, notably as the first line to do so, also added to their campus presence. These events, combined with their service initiatives, solidified

their reputation as a dynamic and impactful line. For community service, members participated in road cleanups, volunteered at hospitals and local schools, and other charitable activities. In recognition of their efforts, many members were tapped into Florida Blue Key and graduated with honors.

The impact of Divine Genesis extends beyond their time at UF. Their enduring legacy is characterized by unwavering dedication to the sorority and a deep commitment to service.

Divine Genesis Members:

Regina Bobo-Jackson Trivel Cooper-McKire Celeste E. Cornileus Rhonda Campbell Culver Carolyn Devoe Pamela Denise Prier Campbell Rhonda
Jacqueline H. Shiflet
Linda M. Thomas
Sharon Andrews Wilson
Jacquelyn D. Wright

Divine Genesis Commemorative Video: https://youtu.be/UnZS2dNjQvg?si=wmiKvA_e1I3VyDTX

18 Classic Jades Spring 1982

The 18 Classic Jades forged an enduring legacy within lota Lambda, defined by their exceptional sisterhood and unwavering dedication. Their bond fostered a unity that streamlined chapter business and amplified their collective impact.

In selecting new members, the 18 Classic Jades prioritized qualities that would enrich the chapter: ambition, dedication, vibrant personality, strong leadership, and academic excellence. These attributes, they believed, were essential for meaningful contributions to lota Lambda's continued success.

Their accomplishments at UF extended beyond academic goals, demonstrating a commitment to exceeding expectations in both college and life. More importantly, they cultivated a sisterhood that provided unwavering support and enduring connection. This bond, a testament to their shared experiences, remains a cornerstone of their legacy.

18 Classic Jades Members:

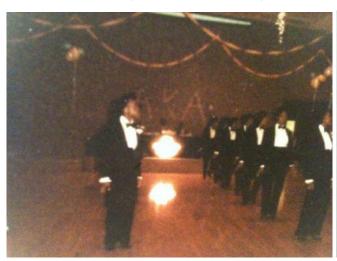
Pamela Bob Sarita Brooks Lora Chennault Francenia N. Crawford Angela Ferguson Valerie D. Green Glevcia Green-Heyward Julia Louise Johnson Diane Mosley Alicia Nelson Cato Ava Parker Lolitta M. Thornton **Autumn Tolliver** Cynthia Toney Juanna Lynette Wasserman **Bobbie Watson** Cathy Williams Brenda Bivens Wilson





Rare Creations Spring 1983

The 10 women of the Rare Creations line left an indelible mark on the UF campus and the Gainesville community. Their involvement permeated every aspect of campus life, characterized by a grace and dedication that distinguished them among their peers.





The campus environment was intimate, with a close-knit Black student population. This fostered a strong sense of unity and mutual support among the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) organizations and the Black Student Assembly (BSU). Collaborative efforts were common, with organizations supporting each other's events and taking turns hosting gatherings at the Institute of Black Culture. A highlight of the year was the annual black-tie social hosted by each organization, with lota Lambda's Spring event, the Pink Ice Ball, being a particularly anticipated occasion. It was often viewed as the event of the year, where everyone showed u[looking their best.

Rare Creations Members:

Sherreé Anderson
Charmaine Bromfield
Lisa Michelle Brown
Lolita Files
Rhonda German
Andrea Pinkney
Valrie Reid
Betty Davis Reliford
Jacquatte Lenora Rolle
Charneta Claudetta Scott

20 Precious Gems Spring 1984

The Spring 1984 line, 20 Precious Gems, brought 20 dynamic and charismatic women to the lota Lambda chapter. These women, with their strong leadership qualities, were poised to leave an indelible mark on the UF campus.



During their time in lota Lambda, the chapter was influenced by the national leadership of the 21st international president, Faye Bryant, who emphasized "power" and national engagement. Inspired by her initiatives, including voter registration drives, the 20 Precious Gems actively encouraged student involvement in voting and political awareness. With the guidance of experienced mentors, they excelled in both philanthropic and social endeavors, notably co-hosting the Pink Ice Ball with the Theta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

These 20 women were indeed precious gems, not only upholding the chapter's legacy but also setting a new standard for future lines. They held prominent leadership roles within lota Lambda and across UF, with one member, Pamela Bingham, achieving the historic position of the first Black woman to be elected the president of the student body. Their presence at UF exemplified the core values of sisterhood, scholarship, and service and their commitment to AKA extends beyond their collegiate years. They remain active in sorority affairs, viewing their initiation as a deeply positive and rewarding experience.

20 Precious Gems Members:

Anita Caldwell
Carolyn Collins
Karen Greene
Rochelle Lane
Lucindy Cooper

Rachelle Collins
Sherie Harris
Vershelle Powell
Sandra Byrd
Carrol Wilcox

Mary Wilson
Andrea Wade
Tracie Latimore
Donna Mosley
Deirdre Shoemake

Daneen Farrow
Penny Rockle
Brenda Marshall
Debra Gilcrest
Pamela Bingham

10 Eloquent Emeralds Spring 1985



On March 10, 1985, 10 women known as 10 Eloquent Emeralds, were initiated in the lota Lambda chapter. The 10 Eloquent Emeralds were initiated under the guidance of Tracie Latimer, their Dean of Pledges. Yvonne Rawls served as the graduate advisor.

In 1985, the chapter was well known throughout the Gainesville community for its pervasive and continued efforts to improve the area. Their efforts were so noteworthy that they were acknowledged in the 1985 UF newsletter.

Excerpted from newsletter:

"Through constant fundraising, members contributed to the Cleveland Job Corps Center and the United Negro College Fund. In a joint effort with Omega Psi Phi fraternity, the AKA'S organized 'Jump Rope for Heart,' from which all proceeds, went to the American Heart Association. AKAs also sponsored an Ice-Cream-A-Thon through which members took pledges on a per scoop basis. Money raised went toward finding a cure for Lupus, a rare skin disease.



At their annual banquet, the Pink Ice Ball, AKAs honored their outstanding as well as raised money with the sale of the banquet tickets. The ticket profits were awarded to a local high school student in the form of a scholarship. These Alpha Kappa Alpha sisters show their unity not only in sisterhood, but in dress."

Members of 10 Eloquent Emeralds:

Iris M. Hankerson Jacobs
Sophia Regina Collins Stallworth
Ginger A. Johnson Gibbs
Bridgette Price
Cecelia L. Knowles
Karla Alston
Carla D. Sorrells Morris
Felicia Roberts
Petrease Manning
Camille Hamilton





Spectrum of Sophisticates Spring 1986



The women of the 12th line, the Spectrum of Sophisticates, made an immediate and significant impact upon their arrival. The chapter sought unique and sincere women, and the 9 members of this line undoubtedly embodied these qualities.

True to the expectations of AKA women, the Spectrum of Sophisticates quickly demonstrated the values of AKA. Their academic excellence was evident as they achieved the third-highest GPA on campus, even among non-Black sororities. Beyond academics, these

Beyond academics, these women actively amplified the presence of their line and lota Lambda as a whole. Their participation in events like the spring 1988 anti-apartheid march, where their proudly carried an AKA banner, resulted in recognition in the UF newspaper.





The Spectrum of Sophisticates extended their involvement beyond the chapter, with each member holding leadership roles in various campus clubs and activities, alongside dedicated community service projects off-campus. This collective engagement strengthened the chapter's reputation and visibility.

Among their signature contributions to the chapter were the spring ball and annual calendar, which highlighted members of Black Greek-letter organizations. Additionally, the Spectrum of Sophisticates actively engaged in diverse activities and service initiatives, including assisting with carnival setup, visiting homes of disabled adults, and organizing monthly fundraising dances at fraternity houses. Despite their size, the 9 members of the Spectrum of Sophisticates proved that the magnitude of their

impact stemmed from the depth of their commitment, setting a powerful precedent for future AKA women in the chapter.

Members of Spectrum of Sophisticates:

Sandy Lamar Williamson (IBTW)
Octavia Johnson
Evelyn R. Douglas
Karen L. Cooper
Marilyn D. Jones
Erica L. Richardson (IBTW)
Bobbie K Richardson-Campbell
Bobbi Williams
Lenora E Small-Wright

9 Rays of Rare Essence Spring 1987

In the Spring of 1987, 9 intelligent, beautiful, and powerful women, known as the 9 Rays of Rare Essence, were initiated into the chapter. Though each woman hailed from different walks of life, their collective strength led to extraordinary achievements on the UF campus and within the broader community.

At the time the 9 Rays of Rare Essence joined AKA, the Black Greek-letter community's presence was less prominent, with the NPHC primarily focusing on regular meetings rather than large-scale events. However, the annual "Soul Bowl," a flag football tournament among NPHC fraternities and sororities featuring a DJ, vendors, and food, made a significant impact both on and off campus. While the NPHC's overall campus visibility was still developing, AKA maintained a strong presence through large community service initiatives and their signature Pink Ice Ball. This commitment to community engagement and campus involvement has remained a lasting hallmark of the chapter. Notably, the chapter excelled in campus leadership. One of the members, Veronica Valdez, served as UF student body vice-president.





Members of 9 Rays of Rare Essence:

Lorraine Austin
Michelle Austin
Katrina Farrow
Tammy Betton McKendrick
Stephanie Austin
Robin Young (IBTW)
Kathia Ledford
Sharon Moran McLean
Veronica Valdez

31 Eminent Shades of Elegance Spring 1988

In the Spring of 1988, the chapter welcomed 31 women who were all dedicated to making the UF campus and the Gainesville community a better place.

The 31 Eminent Shades of Elegance were drawn to AKA because of the strong sisterhood among its members. The chapter's significant involvement in the Gainesville community and various leadership positions on campus further inspired their desire to become AKA women. After initiation, they bonded by hosting annual socials, sleepovers, and retreats exclusively for members. At the time of their initiation, they were the largest line in lota Lambda's history.

Key events hosted by the chapter during this time included the Pink Ice Ball and collaborations with members of the Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council. Funds raised from these programs were donated to Sickle Cell Anemia and Cancer foundations, among other charitable causes. Events were also held with members of the NPHC, such as P&G Weekend, featuring picnics, game nights, and pool parties.

Marilyn Williams and Jacqueline Bell each served as president of the chapter.

The 31 Eminent Shades of Elegance consistently united for chapter business, maintaining professionalism and high standards that exemplified the qualities of an AKA woman. Their lasting legacy was one of building cohesiveness among strong, educated leaders, demonstrating that high academic achievement and extensive involvement within and beyond the sorority were both attainable.

31 Eminent Shades of Elegance Members:

Raevondolyn Townsend Sonja Saunders Leah Bobo Devon Yvette King Bonita Young Carmen Smith Larette Jackson Lisa Mitchell Laurie Scott Penelope "Penny" Anderson Katrina Dionne Scott Veronica Anita Smith Jacqueline AnnMarie Bell Darlene Smith Sundi Cook Jacqueline Jones

Lynnsonia Harris
Eugia Littlejohn Meminger
Veronia McBride
Anne Townsend
Tammy Lyons
Lovetta Williams
Valecia Brooks
La Jones
Marcy Pinkney
Marilyn Williams
Melanie Barrington
Kimberly Bonner
Kimberly Gail Canady
Candace Lewis
Theresa Odenweller

13 Reflections of Refined Grace Spring 1989

In the spring of 1989, 13 young women became members of AKA and the chapter. These women were

innovators with a collective vision of bettering the chapter by increasing its visibility in the community through outreach to the underprivileged. With this vision already in mind, these 13 women heightened their goals with their newfound sisterhood, serving with a refined grace that aptly defines their line.

At that time, the chapter's main event was the signature Pink Ice Ball, an annual dance/party, along with a community service event called "Get Out and Vote." The line has maintained connections, meeting approximately every ten years. Past gatherings included a tenth-year anniversary trip to Martha's Vineyard, a seventeenth-anniversary trip to Washington, D.C., and smaller group reunions for the centennial in 2008 and in San Francisco in 2012.



13 Reflections of Refined Grace Members:

Aurelia K. Alexander
Sophia Benjamin
Kimberly Clarke
Bery Delacruz
Kimberly Hall
Natalie Smith Hardeman
Katherine Hernandez Jackson
Jessie M. Jacques
Monica P. Saunders
Julie Sneed
Lindene Stewart
Valerie D. Testman
Tanya Davis Wilson





Eight Images of Enchantment Spring 1990

On March 11, 1990, 8 Images of Enchantment embarked on a journey that would forever change their lives and leave a legacy on the UF campus. They were ladies who exhibited their intelligence by managing their time and by maintaining academic excellence with a high overall GPA.



Eight Images of Enchantment Members:

Angela Patrice
Felicia Austin-Tolliver
Keisha Arnold Johnson
Patrice Martin Weston
Marya Williams-Barnes
Twila Burns Nealy
Donna Patterson
Kendra Rice Parlock

16 Silhouettes of Sophistication Spring 1991

It was on a sunny spring day in 1991 when 16 young women were initiated into the lota Lambda chapter. During their time in the chapter, these women collectively left a mark, further shaping the chapter while being transformed by the experience of membership. Aptly naming their line the 16 Silhouettes of Sophistication, these dynamic women sought to continue the legacy of their prophytes and uphold the divine image both on the campus and in the community.

16 Silhouettes of Sophistication Members:

Lisa Smith Allison Teague Sheora McKnight Christina Lewis Renee Rawls Latasha Gethers Camille Coke Yvette Stubbs Dionne Jones Kandis Baker Sharaine Glover **Tanoy Williams** Tracey Jackson Cahedra Matthews Lisa Bellamy Kimberly Moore (IBTW)









20 Pearls of Nubian Elegance Spring 1994



The 20 Pearls of Nubian Elegance became the chapter's 18th line in the spring of 1994. They worked extremely hard to revamp the chapter image, both internally and externally. These women were diligent, talented, and, most of all, excited to be part of something greater than themselves.

During their time in the chapter, the 20 Pearls of Nubian Elegance were among the most prominent women on campus. They held many leadership positions and were heavily involved in student organizations, including the Black Student Union, the Association of Black Communicators, Florida Cicerones, Gator Girls, UF Ambassadors, and the Florida gymnastics team.

Additionally, they excelled academically in demanding majors such as advertising, business, English, engineering, education, and journalism. The 20 Pearls of Nubian Elegance knew how to handle their responsibilities and have fun creating memories along the way; it is no surprise that they received honors from Florida Blue Key and the UF Hall of Fame.

Gina Scott served as president of the chapter, guiding the chapter in the necessary direction to continue the legacy of those who came before her. She pushed the chapter to new heights by setting goals and achieving them. She also was a Leadership Fellow participant.

The 20 Pearls of Nubian Elegance became lota Lambda's 18th line in the spring of 1994. As a resurrection line they worked extremely hard to revamp the chapter image internally and externally. These women were diligent, talented, and most of all excited to be a part of something greater than them.



20 Pearls of Nubian Elegance Members:

Olukemi Amondi
Hope Williams Calhoun
Ami V. Desamours
Kia Ellis
Tanza Hanna
Shannon Nichole Latimer
Tracie L. Lowe
Carol NaTasha Mangum
Aisha N. Mannings
Michelle L. Marbra

Trenell R. Mooring
Kelly Mouzon
Joahn Jenkins Poole
Fritzlaine Mathias Powell
Gina Scott
Sara Sidner
Cheryl D. Williams
Joan Teresa Williams
Michelle Taylor Willis
Andrea Katrice Woods

Legacy of Distinction Spring 1995

The Spring 1995 line, Legacy of Distinction, was the 19th line to be initiated into the chapter. The new additions to the chapter were 9 outgoing, determined, and hardworking ladies. One of two active NPHC sororities on campus at the time, the spotlight was always on AKA and they were known for their high prestige and influence. The members of Legacy of Distinction were excited to join AKA and were eager and ready to continue its legacy.

The chapter was financially sound and held many fundraisers with proceeds donated to national initiatives under the sorority's national program, which focused on organ donation and proficiency in



math and science. Funds also supported chapter events. Chapter finances were divided into operations and fundraising accounts, separating money for chapter business from donations.

Legacy of Distinction was known for its panel discussions for the campus at large, a popular program format at UF at the time. These discussions featured a chosen topic, a guest speaker with expertise, and lively audience participation. The chapter also conducted many community service projects, including volunteering at the Gainesville Detention Center, where members interacted with the girls through conversation and activities, serving as positive role models. This experience was described as mutually beneficial. Another service project involved tutoring young children in math and science, aligning with the national platform. Legacy of Distinction also hosted parties and step shows to raise money, which supported events like the "Mr. Ivy" male pageant, which awarded scholarships. A unique social event involved purchasing and giving away 100-150 movie tickets to students for a "movie night," a popular activity at the time.

Legacy of Distinction left a significant mark on the UF campus and set an even higher standard of excellence for subsequent lines. Their presence as AKA women, through their leadership within the chapter and on campus, was impactful and they have continued to excel post-UF.

Legacy of Distinction Members:

Natasha Jean Baptise Natalie Eustache Elena Tahal Damita Ferguson Yolanda Parker Roxanne Glinton Everose Phillias Ann Davis Deanna Shaw

8 Heiresses to the Illustrious Pearls Spring 1996

The 20th line on the lota Lambda ivy vine is the Spring 1996 line - 8 Heiresses to the Illustrious Pearls.

Before becoming members of AKA, the women recognized the chapter's strong presence at UF and were excited to join the organization. During their time in the chapter, the women worked hard to implement all their programming initiatives. They also worked to maintain the chapter's sound financial status, following the practice of previous lines by using two separate accounts: a fundraising account and an operations account. Funds not used for chapter operations were donated to organizations and institutions in support of national initiatives.



During their time in the chapter, members of the 8 Heiresses to the Illustrious Pearls served in the following roles: Deborah Hector (Ivy Leaf Reporter); Marie Bien- Aime (Hostess, Historian, and Parliamentarian); Debra-Kaye Laing (Vice-President); Maekah Bromfield (Keeper of the Door and Assistant Secretary); and Anitra Dupuch (Fundraising Chair).

The 8 Heiresses to the Illustrious Pearls, like the lines before them, had a significant presence on campus. Beyond their involvement in AKA, they participated in various organizations on and off campus. Their signature events included the Mr. Divine Pageant, the Pink Ice Ball, Soul Food Night, Social Graces, Setting It Off Right, and

AKA(ex)ercise, Playas Party, Talent Night, Breakfast on the Set, Tea Rose Surprise, and Skee Wee Socials.

They also participated in numerous forums on important issues facing students and the Black community at the time. They often collaborated with other organizations, most often the members of the Theta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, for events like Golden Affair. Off campus, they participated in numerous service projects aligned with the national platform and initiatives, partnering with Habitat for Humanity, Ronald McDonald House, Alachua Nursing Home (Blood Pressure Screening and Bone Marrow Drive), American Red Cross, Kennedy Home, and the Juvenile Detention Center.

Members of the 8 Heiresses to the Illustrious Pearls:

Nakiya Mobley
Deborah Hector
Anitra Dupuch
Marie Bien- Aime
Dana Smith
Debra-Kaye Laing
Maekah Bromfield
Cydne Clayton

13 Triumphs of the 12th Hour Spring 1997

On April 25, 1997, 13 illustrious women were initiated into the lota Lambda chapter of AKA. These women were dedicated to serving their community and were extremely involved both on campus and off.



The women loved their sorority and reflected that love by actively participating in its growth and development. These ladies helped to set the chapter's standard of high scholastic achievement and dedicated community service involvement that continues to be a staple of the chapter today.

The 13 Triumphs of the 12th Hour were active participants in campus activities. Members served as preview staffers and Florida Cicerones, participated in the gospel choir, served in leadership roles within the Black Student Union and Students Taking Action Against Racism (STAAR), and mentored girls as part of Big Sisters Little Sisters, among other things. During their time in the chapter, one member, Tina-Gaye Bernard, was chosen to participate in the Leadership Fellows program during her time in the chapter and was mentioned in an article recognizing the Leadership Fellows in an edition of the Ivy Leaf. In addition, Millicent Daniels was selected as a Presidential Scholar and a J. Wayne Reitz Union Scholar.

Members of 13 Triumphs of the 12th Hour:

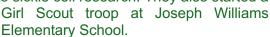
Karen R. Brice
Alicia M. Brown
Millicent Elizabeth Daniels
Tori A. King
Jocelyn Mari Moore
Darlene Rema
Kenya Robinson
Phaedra Redding Sakwe
Tina-Gaye S. Bernard
Leesa S. Washington
Nadia Williams
Richanda Williams
Willisha Williams

49 ABIKU Spring 2002

In Spring 2002, the lota Lambda chapter presented 49 ABIKU. Known throughout the chapter's history as the resurrection line, 49 ABIKU redefined the campus. Their campus events, community service projects, and awards continued the excellence expected of AKA women.



Having been inactive for several years, the entire campus anticipated the return of the AKAs, and the members of 49 ABIKU were determined to make an impact. Their signature programming included "Setting U Off Right," Ivy Reading AKAdemy, and Skee-Week programming. During their first Skee-Week, they hosted a spades tournament where all proceeds were donated to sickle cell research. They also started a





Notably, 49 ABIKU adopted a large portion of Archer Road through the Adopt-The-Road program, setting the stage for future road cleanups. Their community service efforts also included volunteering at Bailey Village, Altrusa House, and a Father/Daughter dance at Lincoln Middle School. During their time in the chapter, members of 49 ABIKU won the Black Greek Extravaganza step show held at UF.

During their time in the chapter, members served in various leadership roles,

including the following: Nona C Collins (President); Genette Britt (Vice-President); and Jasmine Sainvilus (Parliamentarian).

In addition to community service events, programming, and sisterly bonding, 49 ABIKU also achieved academic success, with many members inducted into honor societies and serving as presidents of various organizations. The chapter also held the highest NPHC GPA for many consecutive semesters.



The women of 49 ABIKU made a significant impact on the UF campus, and years later, they continue to excel in their respective fields. They are leaders in fields such as nursing, therapy, law, medicine, lobbying, entrepreneurship, public speaking, and senior administration.

49 ABIKU Members:

Kaara Honer Petra Watson ShaJuana Neal Gian King Tiffany Jones Gloria Bowens Qiana Smith Keri-Ane DaCosta Tarsha Luke Jo-Ann Daniel Kandyce Chambers Jeanene Griffin Christine James Tianna Robinson LillieMarie Harvey Ronique Bundrage-Smith Nikola Patterson Moyah Panda Heaven Beiene-Carthon Katrice Crawford Donnidra Johnson Rachel Waithe Nandi Witter Crystale Dasher Talaina Brown

Woodly Lovinsky Cecelia Hubbart Tiffany Williams Kyante Shaw Jennifer Mann Alison Cooper Tiffany Brown Krista Howard Renee Sterling Jasmine Sainvilus **Cheriane Therveus** Leona Levv Cynthia Speights Monica McMillan Angela Zabawa Charmika Bros Nona Jones Natoushka Trenard Takeemah Youngblood Jennifer Gauthier Jasmine Ervin-Gardner **Tarolyn Williams** Genette Britt Melissa Crum

16 Pearls of the Phoenix Fall 2003

The illustrious ladies of 16 Pearls of the Phoenix, initiated in fall 2003, had the saying "what kind of chapter would lota Lambda be if all sorors were just like me?" printed across the bottom of every meeting agenda. This quote was a direct reminder that they were a reflection of each other and the women of AKA. This empowered them to perform at their fullest potential to achieve every goal set in mind, including the biggest one, being of service to ALL mankind.





Chapter programming focused on forums concerning date rape and cardiovascular health and awareness, financial literacy workshops (AKAnomics), Ivy AKAdemy, Setting U Off Right, book clubs, etiquette classes, and post-grad preparedness workshops. The chapter also held fundraisers such as the annual Pink Ice Ball, a Quarter Carnival with Delta Zeta (a sorority in the Panhellenic Council), car washes, and parties. Service projects included voter registration drives, road clean ups, and volunteering with the Girls Scouts, among other things.

The chapter understood the importance of proper protocol, ethics, and organization and worked hard to create a culture where these were a priority for each member. During their time in the chapter, members served in the following roles: Jennifer Bonds (President), Amanda Speights (Vice-President) Lisa Brown (Secretary and Ivy Leaf Reporter), Keishee Hill (Treasurer), Monique Dieuvil (Keeper of the Door), Allyson Tolbert (Hostess and Membership Chair), Natalia Napolean (Constitution and By-Laws Chair), Karen Derby (Vice-President and Programming Chair), Moreya Kelsey (NPHC Delegate), and Danielle Mullings (Skee-Week Director). The chapter was consistently awarded the highest GPA at UF and they were also recognized as the Chapter of the Year.

16 Pearls of the Phoenix Members:

Karen Derby
Andrea Dunn
Victoria Randle
Vanisia Harris

Kristen Cohen Monique Dieuvil Moreya Kelsey Lisa Brown

Amanda Speights Keishee Hill Jennifer Bonds Danielle Mullings Amy K. Howard Tiffany Allen Natalia Napolean Allyson Tolbert

19 Jades of Jendayi Spring 2005

The illustrious ladies of the Spring 2005 line, 19 Jades of Jendayi, became AKA women on March 13, 2005. Prior to joining, many were excited about the sisterhood, the honor of representing such a prestigious organization and becoming a part of something greater than themselves.



Soon after crossing, 19 Jades of Jendayi took the campus by storm. Extensive planning went into creating an impressive compilation of programming events that would transform the community. Among these was Pink Ice, Men's Appreciation Week, Battle of the Sexes, Skee Week, working with the Girl Scouts, and the Health Summit. Although all of the programming events had healthy turnouts, Pink Ice was extremely well attended. The chapter maintained two budgets – operational and community – for putting on events and philanthropies.

Above all, this lovely group of ladies placed service at the forefront of their priorities. The IVY Reading AKAdemy topped the list, having an impressive impact on the Gainesville community. With so much enthusiasm and passion for service, the chapter was recognized by Pegeen Hanrahan, the then-current mayor of Gainesville, for "supporting the community through hundreds of service projects, maintaining academic excellence, visionary leadership, and a sisterly bond that defies all others".





lota Lambda had an overall positive relationship with the student body during this time period as well. Cosponsorships flourished and the Set, formally known as Turlington plaza, was the popular gathering place for UF organizations. Greek-letter organizations, especially the AKAs, used the area to pass out information for events and put on step shows. It served not only as a lively common area to showcase the talent of Greek-letter organization members but it also ensured that Black Greek life was constantly visible. The chapter hosted many events with other NPHC organizations such as a forum on healthy relations with Omega Psi Phi and "You are my Sister's Keeper" with Delta Sigma Theta.



19 Jades of Jendayi's membership intake process enabled them to bond through mutual appreciation of the organization's rich history and by undertaking special projects that involved knowing everything about your line sisters – from their birthday to their favorite food. Various road trips were also taken to enrich the bonding experience. Time was allocated towards not only deepening the sisterhood, but towards resolving chapter conflict. Many gained a thorough understanding of the bonding process and how it can be established through common experiences and a shared vision of being an AKA.

To this day, the 19 Jades of Jendayi continue to keep in contact with one another and better their relationships. These women have left an impressive legacy behind. Some of the chapter's accolades included the following: Highest GPA (SARC), Most Active Members (UF NPHC), Highest Chapter GPA (UF NPHC), Chapter of the Year (UF Greek Awards), Outstanding President (UF Greek Awards), and Greek Woman of the Year (UF Greek Awards). In additional, members of 19 Jades of Jendayi were inducted into the UF Hall of Fame, tapped in the Florida Blue Key, and were selected a Reitz Scholars. Jamie Davis was also selected to participate in the Leadership Fellows program during her time in the chapter. Simply put, the 19 Jades of Jendayi set the bar for what being an AKA entails. They are living examples of being the best and succeeding in all your endeavors.

19 Jades of Jendayi Members:

Jennifer Coxb – BA Apprentice Nyshel Burke - Mikrophone Cheka Alicia Philip – Tug-a-War Chimira Edwards (IBTW) – Airwick Lisa Clarke - Lose My Breath Judith Brown - The Riddler Rolanda Joanice - Sister Akt 2k5 Jamie Davis - Ride or Die Meagan de Silva – Y & R Shanda Harvey – SpeAKA Boxx Ashley Jones – Faux Pas Kelli Murray - A.W.O.L. Latia Wade – Fully Kommitted Vanessa Goodwin - Lady Renaissance Lauren DuBose - Kan't Wait Eni Njoh – K/O CHS Tolu Adebanjo – En Pointe Belkis Plata – The Remix Likecia Luckey – Stand Up

37 S.E.C.R.E.T.S. of the Ivy Vine Spring 2007

On April 15th, 2007, the 37 S.E.C.R.E.T.S. of the Ivy Vine were initiated into the lota Lambda chapter of AKA. During this time, Black Greek life at UF seemed to be at its prime and the NPHC had strong pride in upholding the legacy of their respective organizations by keeping the chapter grade point averages up to par and being of service to the greater Gainesville community.



Theta Sigma Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated), Pretty Nasty (co-hosted with the Omicron Zeta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated), Mad Hatter Tea Party (co-hosted with Delta Zeta Sorority), and the High Society Tea Party (co-hosted with Delta Gamma Sorority). The chapter put a ton of effort and thought into their programs to ensure that they genuinely served to educate and support the black community at UF - not just serve as a platform for interested ladies to get to know them.

AKA's were the most prominent women on campus, with many of the most prestigious awards and positions on campus being held by women of the chapter. A few accolades include the following:

The 37 S.E.C.R.E.T.S. of the Ivy Vine excelled at programming at not only UF but in the greater Gainesville community as well. To further the sorority's mission of service to all mankind, the chapter stayed active in the community through service programs including Prime Time After School Tutoring, Go Green, Think Pink Ink Cartridge Recycling Drive, A Day of Hope Donation Drive for Haiti, Krafts for a Kause (letter writing for soldiers and sick kids), Pillow Talk Sex Health Panel, AKArobics, Gentleman's Gala Men's Appreciation Event, Pleasant Place Baby Shower, and monthly road cleanups. The chapter also held numerous events with other Greek-letter organizations such as the Pink Ice Ball (co-hosted with the



- Reitz Scholars: Yordanos Eyoel, Vanessa Douyon, Gina Lewis
- Ms. Black and Gold: Vanessa Douyon (2008); Gina Lewis (2010)
- UF Homecoming Queen: Vanessa Douyon
- Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars: Yordanos Eyoel, Vanessa Douyon
- College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Ambassadors: AuVian Williams
- Women's Leadership Conference Director: Yordanos Eyoel
- Recurso Trip Director: Aria Jefferson
- Soulfest Director: Aria Woodley
- Presidential Hosts: Vanessa Douyon and Danielle Liverpool
- Preview Staffers: Gina Lewis, Kamaria Jordan, Vanessa Douyon, Jamie Davis
- Florida Cicerones: Ashley James, Aria Woodley, Gina Lewis, Vanessa Douyon (Past President), Denita Clark
- Florida Blue Key: Vanessa Douyon and Aria Woodley

The chapter was also recognized as the Stroll-Off Champions for Black Greek Extravaganza.





In addition to their programming, service, and leadership efforts, 37 S.E.C.R.E.T.S shared a sisterly bond like none other. If they said they were going to do something, they did it as a majority.

Following graduation, 37 S.E.C.R.E.T.S. took the world by storm, attending top-rated graduate programs and beginning their corporate careers.

37 S.E.C.R.E.T.S. of the Ivy Vine Members:

Sade Barnes - MDna Denita Clara Bearden - Colorblind Brennin Brown - Hallmark LaTesha Campbell - PCS Courtney Coleman - Duplikate Petra Dix - Violet Nicole Tiffany Douglas - Orbit Vanessa Douyon - Operator Joanna Duncan - Singer Yordanos Eyoel – K9 Nkem Ezeamama - Inferno Ashley Viola Gantt - Xception Sakira Noelle Hadley-Seay - RSVP Jaclyn Harris - Pepto Jasmyne N. James Henderson – Elle Woods Aria Jefferson - Take Two Kamaria Jordan - Fishtale Natalie Williams King – Grade A Gina Lewis – Mouse Trap

Danielle Liverpool – Part Time Tiahna Luckie - Teacher's Pet Tamekia Massaline - Check' n Go LaQuandela R. Mayweather – Lucky Charm Ta'Shae D. McKinnon - Repo NaKeshia Pulley Melvin - CEO Anika Navaroli - Kontroversy Courtney Richardson-Jones - 301 Micaela L. Seals - Close Call Shaunessy Showers - Perjury Lydia R. Simpson - Waldo Lauren Thornton - Geico Ashley James Weaver - Calico Amanda Garnett Williams - Flash AuVian Williams - Smackers Brandi S. Williams Jones - Amtrak Myra Leonette Wilson Aria Woodley - Motions ArNelle Renee Wright - Nitrous Oxide

48 Pearls of SAnKofA Spring 2009



The 26th line of the lota Lambda chapter was presented to the world on April 9, 2009 and was one of the largest lines to come through the chapter. With 48 new additions, the chapter continued the standard of being a prominent fixture and representation of a model organization. The introduction of the 48 Pearls of SAnKofA was a momentous moment in lota Lambda history.

The structure of the chapter meetings included a strict parliamentary procedure that included rules of debate and multiple points that chapter members were to follow. During their time in the chapter, multiple ladies of 48 Pearls of Sankofa held leadership positions.

The presence of 48 Pearls of Sankofa was also greatly felt on UF's campus. They were members of multiple different student organizations, that included but were not limited to the Florida Cicerones, Florida Blue Key, UF McNair Scholars Program, National Society of Black Engineers, Beta Eta Sigma, Student Government, Minority Business Society, Florida Leadership Academy, Eta Sigma Gamma, ACCENT Speakers Bureau, and many served as ambassadors for their respective colleges.

In addition to organizational involvement, service and social events also proved to be a positive platform for 48 Pearls of Sankofa. Some of the events they hosted and participated in were Setting U Off Right, FISS Greek Fest and Step Show, Pink Ice Ball, NPHC Week, Date Auction and Fish Fry, Black Greek Extravaganza, numerous Book Klub events, Valentine's Day Bash with other NPHC organizations, The Ladies Only Luncheon as well as Skee Week and Fall Mini Week social and service events.

They also participated in service events on and off campus that included assisting with the MLK walk, feeding the homeless, participation in the march of dimes, collecting donations for Heifer International, collecting school supplies for students in Alachua County, sponsoring a Girl Scout troupe, volunteering at the Boys and Girls Club, and mentoring students at the Passage Family Church afterschool program.

After helping to revitalize the presence of the chapter, on campus and in the community, lota Lambda was awarded the NPHC Chapter of the Year Award. Prestigious awards were also given to Kayla Morse who was inducted into the 2011 UF Division of Student Affairs Hall of Fame and was



awarded the SAVANT Aaron Bernstein President's Award. Marcella Gregory was awarded the Freddie L. Groomes-McClendon "Caring Award" and Dynora Pierre-Louis competed and was crowned the 2010 Sunshine State Perfect Miss. Both Dynora and Kayla also won the Mayme E. Williams Outstanding Undergraduate Soror Award at the South Atlantic Regional Conference. Excelling both on and off the field, Danielle Williams participated in sprinting events for the UF Women's Track and Field team where she finished her career with two first place victories and three Southeastern Conference Championships.

48 Pearls of Sankofa worked hard to plan their events to meet high standards. Programming was different from other organizations as the use of promotion and exposure transitioned from flyers and posters to a

non-paper, electronic only method. Vowing to not use paper products for promotional purposes provided a "green" approach towards environmental sustainability.



The ladies of 48 Pearls of Sankofa dedicated their lives to be women of AKA They continued on their paths to success and that is evident in their lives after being members of lota Lambda. The 48 Pearls of sAnKofA have enjoyed careers as attorneys, insurance underwriters. event designers, entrepreneurs. dentists. career coordinators. engineers, teachers, processors, registered nurses, budget analysts, behavioral health providers, and program coordinators. Their drive to continue the greatness before them and leave a legacy to be remembered at the UF was accomplished. They left their legacy behind not only by what they did as a group and for AKA, but through the light of knowledge that they passed on to the lines that they ushered in.

48 Pearls of SAnKofA Members:

Naomi Renelus - Favor Carmen Danielle Smith – Kannon Ball Kiara Burroughs – Jane Doe Chelsea Lewis - Minnie Mouse Portia Stamps - Cinderella Danielle Williams – Draft Pick Jonelle Pollard - MIA Dynora Pierre-Louis - Dial Tone Whitney Luster – TRU Beauty MaRissa Glinton – IDK Dionne A. Williams – Private Ivy Marissa Mullins – Pop-N-Lock Kendra Sylvester - Silent Thunder Herisa S. Stanislaus – Hide-N-Seek Shayla Ellis - Shut Down Janae McFadden - Mathematik

Jasmine Ford – Miss Daisy Alexandra Cohen - Konniption Ashanti McBride - TGIF Kimone Codner - S.O.T.I.V. Jazmine Rivera - Mouthpiece Danielle Porter - Newskaster Laura Wilcox - Slippin Brittany Moore - Falsetto Kayla Morse - Curiosity Zannia Carty - Doze-N Jasmine Brumby - Redex Marcella Gregory – Hil-AIR-y Liana Woodley - Blackjack Amina Lowery - Paparazzi Danielle Tubbs - unarmed Alyson Celauro - Twelfth Hour

Yvena Lesperance – Extra KeAira C. Gamble - Whoville? Ashlie Tarpley - PoofAKA Michelle Cunningham - V.I.P. Kristen Yarbrough - Ludacris Cydney Hargro - BI-INK Anitra Raiford – Target Copy Adria McKire - Reactivate Sade Stanton - Blender Jennifer Thomas - PavPal Lauren Wilson – Photo-Op Shelly D. Taylor – U-Got-Mail Veronica Johnson - Elmyra LaTorria Mosely – Archer Beauty Kertesha Riley – Semi-Annual Camara Samuel - Carlton

Fall 2010 30 Pearls of Prolification



On November 21, 2021, the 30 Pearls of Prolification (affectionately known as 30 POP) arrived on the UF campus and left a legacy of greatness that has yet to be forgotten. 30 POP's group of dynamic women maintained a large presence both on the UF campus and in the Gainesville community. These women held leadership positions in numerous student organizations and sought to support other organizations on campus by having a big presence during their major events. 30 POP's membership chair was Dionne Williams and their Co-Membership Chair was Marcella Gregory. The graduate advisor at the time was Dionne McGraw.

30 POP's main programming events occurred during Skee Week and Mini Week. Key events that were hosted by the chapter during 30 POP's reign included Financial Infiltration: Codes to AKAnomic Success, Kombat Training (a domestic violence forum), Catch Me If You Can (a fitness event), AmerAKAn Dream (a political forum), and various book clubs. All of 30 POP's events had a large turnout which speaks to their ability to work together to bring innovative

programming to the UF community.

In addition, 30 POP was committed to service and often volunteered at local homeless shelters, participated in road cleanups, mentored young girls, organized food and clothing drives, raised funds for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, and hosted voter registration drives. They often collaborated with other UF Greek-letter organizations in their service projects and other social events. Notably, 30 POP excelled at raising funds for the chapter and often hosted sold-out parties and social events at local Gainesville establishments. A 30 POP party was not one to be missed.





30 POP brought the chapter to new heights and raised the standard for what it meant to be a woman of AKA. Under 30 POP's leadership, lota Lambda won more awards at both the UF Greek Awards and at the South Atlantic Regional Conference than any other line in chapter history. They also made improvements in everything from attendance at events to having a greater presence on campus.

Women of 30 POP included the UF Homecoming Queen (Auriel Rolle-Polk), UF Hall of Fame Inductees (Aynesse Geffrard, Sabine Justilien), Student Government Vice President (Sabine Justilien), Student Government Senator (Alicia Holden), Student Government Cabinet and Agency Chairs, McNair Scholars, Preview Staffers (Sitota Douglas), inductees of Florida Blue Key, Florida Cicerones (Auriel Rolle-Polk, Shenele Pettis), Reitz Scholars, Florida Leadership Academy (Alicia Holden, Aynesse Geffrard), First Year Florida Peer Leaders (Alicia Holden), BSU Leadership Development Institute participants and directors, Black Student Union officers, and members of countless other prominent student organizations and honorary societies.

Members of 30 POP won the Mayme E. Williams Most Outstanding Undergraduate Award (Alicia Holden in 2012 and Auriel Rolle-Polk in 2013), the Homie Regulus Basileus Award (Aynesse Geffrard), and the Deloris Oliver Service to All Mankind Award. Alicia Holden was also selected as a Leadership Fellow during her time in the chapter.

When looking for new members, 30 POP looked for women who carried themselves with sincerity and who could balance

involvement with academics. 30 POP wanted women they could trust, that embodied the purpose and motto of AKA, and who understood their role within the chapter. New members were initiated based on the needs of lota Lambda.

Ever Climbing, Reaching with Timeless vice

30 POP women have gone on to share their many talents with the world. They are physicians, attorneys, nurses, accountants, marketers, entrepreneurs, social justice advocates, and more. The 30 Pearls of Prolification are continuing to take on the world with their exciting careers and accomplishments, and are showing women everywhere what it truly means to be a woman of AKA.

30 Pearls of Prolification Members:

Kedra Herbert - Duracell
Breona Herring - O.P.I.
Shayla Davis - Limelight
Ashley Wright - Hollywood
Amber Atkinson - Conair
Sabine Justilien - Poetik Justice
Kahina Louis - Conspiracy
Elle Newbold - Curveball
Justine Williams - Check'In
Gabriella Eddington - Political
Asia Jones - Decepticon
Joshlynn Clark - Wallstreet
Alana Morrell - Underkover
Sitota Douglas - Gold Mine
Alana Cato - Capitol Hill

Tania Paul - Hard Rock
Courtney Gilmore - I.C.U.
Victoria Johnson - G.I. JANE
Mikaela Pitcan - Rekonstruction
Devon Vickers - Korporate
Amber Quince - Laffy Taffy
Alicia Holden - Icebox
Aynesse Geffrard - Sokrates
Danielle Young - INCOGNITO
Gail Ohaegbulam - Dorothy
Auriel Rolle-Polk - First Lady
Solange Colin - Mannequin
Shenele Pettis - Pinky Promise
Tiffany Albury - On Kall
Jennifer Oxilien - Little Engine

24 Legacies of Baroda Spring 2012

In Spring 2012, the 24 Legacies of Baroda were the 28th line to join the lota Lambda chapter. Under the leadership of then-president Aynesse Geffrard, Auriel Rolle-Polk and Alicia Holden served as the Membership Chair and Co-Chair, respectively.



The 24 Legacies of Baroda strived to create a presence on campus and in the community that made AKA supreme in service to ALL mankind. Through different events and service projects such as participating in the Martin Luther King parade and Voter Registration, this line was sure to leave their mark in the Gainesville community. They also actively participated in the Emerging Young Leaders Program (one of the major initiatives set by the National President), along with the Magnificent Mu Upsilon Omega chapter, to help mentor young girls and prepare them to become young women of greatness. Meanwhile, on campus, they put on quality programming such as a forum on colorism entitled *She's Pretty for a Dark Skinned Girl*, to spread awareness of issues that affect the Black community, and more specifically Black women. "The event that was most impactful on the campus...was the *Pillow Talk* because it allowed women to openly express how they felt through personal experiences while having a voice that could empower others" (Jenkins, 2013). However, it was indisputably agreed upon that all of the various programs they facilitated, such as *Setting U ofF Right, Pink pantry, Skee-Week, Man Hunt, Pillow Talk*, etc., were used as a means to fulfill the purpose of AKA by positively impacting the campus and the community by being Pioneers, Enablers, Advancers, Leaders, and Samaritans.



Due to the line staying active and putting their best foot forward in all their undertakings, they were able to gain accolades across campus, including many of the UF Greek Awards and South Atlantic Regional Conference Awards. They were also able to gain recognition for the chapter and set a standard of excellence through their personal accomplishments as well, such as being Preview Staffers, holding leadership positions on UF's campus in many organizations (such as Student Government, Black Student Union, etc.), enrolling in various Graduate Programs, Teach For America, Competitive Internships, UF Pharmacy School, NYU Law School, and Careers in Fortune 500 Companies. Thus, they continued to uphold the standards of lota Lambda, painting UF's campus Salmon Pink and Apple Green, while paving the way for their Spring 2013 successors, Prodigies of Hedera.

24 Legacies of Baroda Members:

Brandi Rosier - NovAKAne
Shantrell Jenkins - Snapback
Carlie Powell - Kleopatra
Ebony Robinson - Cameo
Tershone Phillips - Slick Rick
Yasmin Small - Mr. Rogers
Cheyenne Marchan - Anomally
Nancy Paul - Ilmatic
Lorena Silva - TKO
Nicole Franklin - paraDIME
Victoria McNeil - Check Mate
Melanie Walker - EnKore

Erika Williams - E=m(Skee)²
Monique Harris - Picasso
Joylisa Scott - FACE-OFF
Chelsea Slater - FABulous
Tiffany Joseph - Penny Proud"
Jasmine Givens - U-Turn"
Joy King - Blindside
Kanetra Wright - TLC
Alexandra Jackson - MapQuest
Takiyah Tuggerson - Kolgate
Emmy Etienne - Butterkup
Kimberly Gant - Twista

Prodigies of Hedera Spring 2013

On March 24, 2013, the Prodigies of Hedera (POH) were initiated as the 29th line of the lota Lambda Ivy Vine. The 29 young ladies of POH pursued a variety of educational paths, with majors ranging from Biology (Pre-Med), Nursing, and Business to Sociology, Psychology, and Hospitality Management. They were also highly involved and accomplished on campus, serving as leaders in various organizations such as Student Government, Florida Cicerones, Gator Girls, Gator Band, Gator Cheerleading, NPHC, SISTUHS, and the Black Student Union.









While on campus, POH cultivated a strong presence within the UF community and built strong bonds with other organizations. They hosted very successful programming, including signature Fall Week and Skee-Week events like PinKtober, The IL, An IL Original: Pink is the New Black, and Setting U ofF Right: Playing your Cards Right for Success, as they maintained their visibility on campus. One of their notable community service events on campus was hosted in partnership with a sorority in the Pan-Hellenic Council (Delta Delta Delta), and they achieved the highest GPA among all Greek councils (NPHC, IFC, PC, MGC) during their time on campus.

In addition to being widely recognized at UF, POH also made waves in the sorority at the local and regional levels soon after being initiated. Regionally, POH helped host the 2013 South Atlantic Cluster III Conference in Gainesville, FL alongside the Mu Upsilon Omega Chapter. Members of POH held key leadership positions in the planning process, such as serving as the Steering Committee Chief of Staff, Registration, Awards, Music, and Technology Chairmen for this conference.

POH is no stranger to accolades, consistently sweeping awards both on and off campus. In 2013, at the Undergraduate Roundup, members Deina Bossa and Brittney Fields were awarded the highest GPA in the South Atlantic Region. On campus, Nichelle Davis received the Student Government Outstanding Cabinet of the Year Award while serving as the Leadership Development Cabinet Director. Brittney Fields earned the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award from UF's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Office. Jordan Bates, Gianna McNealy, and Nichelle Davis were inducted into the Order of Omega Leadership Honor Society. Nichelle Davis also received the UF Presidential Service Award and was tapped into Florida Blue Key that Spring.

By the spring of 2014, additional members from the line emerged to take on notable leadership roles. Rik'ki Jackson served as the Assistant Director of Soulfest, Shardé Pettis as the Executive Director of UF's first homecoming step show, and Taylor Hayes as the 61st SARC Undergraduate Conference Chairman. During the 61st SARC, Shannska Attis won the Mayme E. Williams Most Outstanding Undergraduate Soror Award, and Nichelle Davis won the Deloris H. Oliver Service to All Mankind Award.



In Fall 2014, POH received eight prestigious awards at the University of Florida's Annual Greek Awards. These included Highest GPA for the Spring Semester, Outstanding Scholarship Program, and the Greek Collaboration Award with Delta Delta Sorority. Sha'va Newsome was named NPHC Outstanding Chapter President of the Year, Gianna McNealy received the Dr. Michael Bowie Involvement Award, Jordan Bates won NPHC Outstanding Risk Management, and Taylor Hayes was awarded the NPHC Samuel Taylor Greek Person of the Year. Additionally, then-Graduate Advisor Jerri Richardson was awarded NPHC Advisor of the Year.

Keeping with the momentum, Spring 2015 brought another round of SARC accolades – Danielle Harvey: Delores H. Oliver Service to All Mankind Award, Sha'va Newsome: Homie Regulus President Award, Rik'ki Jackson: Fredrica S. Wilson Sisterly Relations Award, Taylor Hayes: Mayme E. Williams Most Outstanding

Sister Award, Brittany Kelly: Vertelle M. Middleton Most Promising Undergraduate Sister Award. Taylor Hayes was also appointed to the South Atlantic's Undergraduate Activities Committee and selected as a Leadership Fellow. Sharde Pettis and Rik'ki Jackson were elected NPHC President and Secretary, respectively.

Closing out a successful reign on campus, Sharde Pettis won the Mayme E. Williams Most Outstanding Undergraduate Sister Award at the 63rd SARC, marking three consecutive years of POH winning this award. She was also inducted into the UF Hall of Fame along with Brittney Kelly.



Prodigies of Hedera Members:

Shannska Atis "pACEmaker"
Gianna McNealy "Emoji"
Kharissa Smith "vindiKated"
Tantaneya Williams "Type K"
Lauren Crawford "I.C.E."
Alexandra Benoit "Pink Palette"
Danielle Clark "PaniK Room"
J. Taylor Hayes "Double Mint"
Rik'Ki Jackson "Siri"
Natalya Sangster "Mona Lisa"
Sha'va Newsome "Konkrete Rose"
Taiwo Idowu "Pandora"
Javeen Thomas "Cool Runnings"
Keyane Haile "STACCATO"
Danielle Lyons "Sarabi"

Netanya Wynn "Spellcheck"
Jordan Bates "KLASSFIED"
Shanté Shedrick "E.P."
Danielle Harvey "Stunt Double"
Chelsea Harris "Siren"
Brittney Fields "Call of Duty"
Aoleonne Joseph "Kim Possible"
Brittany Kelly "Encyklopedia"
Brittany Johnson "I am Legend"
Nyekeva Black "Ghost Whisperer"
Shardé Pettis "Knight Watch"
Deidre Hilliard "Cross-Stitch"
Deina Bossa "Lady Liberty"
Nichelle Davis "Ellipsis"

31 P.R.I.M.E. Fall 2014

On Sunday, November 2, 2014 at 7:08pm, 31 ambitious women joined the lota Lambda Ivy Vine. Revealed to the world by a presentation that amassed a viewing of over 50,000, 31 P.R.I.M.E. set the tone for what would become a legacy of groundbreaking efforts. As sorority sisters, they worked collectively to demonstrate a dedication to sisterhood, scholarship, and service on campus and throughout the greater Gainesville community.





31 P.R.I.M.E.'s mission was to preserve the rich legacy of lota Lambda while advancing its impact. Not only did they show a sense of leadership, but their campus involvement illustrated their array of passions and interests. Its members consisted of presidents of the Black Student Union, National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), Club Creole, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA), and many others. Other organizational involvement included Black History Month, Institute of Black Culture, Leadership Development Institute, Black Community Awards, Florida Cicerones, Florida Invitational Step Show (FISS), the Gator Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of People (NAACAP), SISTUHS, W.R.A.P.S., Colored Jamaican America Student Association (JAMSA), FEM Finesse Dance Troupe, and UF Club Rowing. Its members created organizations like Being A Girl (B.A.G.) and programming designed to assist incoming UF transfer students. 31 P.R.I.M.E. truly left no stone on the UF campus unturned.

Their flurry of involvement on campus seamlessly aligned with the values AKA. In turn, this influenced the various programming and service initiatives on behalf of the chapter. 31 P.R.I.M.E. became well-known for addressing relevant concerns on campus and speaking to greater societal issues

through forums, interactive workshops, and volunteering opportunities. During their time in chapter, police violence across the United States erupted a movement that highlighted the various injustices plaguing Black communities. As a historically-Black sorority on a predominantly white campus (that had its own racist past), they made their voices known. In response, these women designed and sold t-shirts touting "Black Culture is Not Couture" and "#[insert name here]" as an act of resistance and advocacy. Partial proceeds from this fundraising effort went an organization providing resources for families who had been victimized by violence.



These 31 women remained consistent in upholding lota Lambda's dedication to longstanding service initiatives such as roadside cleanups, promoting voter registration, and the MLK Day of Service. They put their own stamp on service by creating a longitudinal relationship with the Pace Center for Girls. Their work together covered many different domains: social enrichment via slumber parties and creating a safe space for open dialogue; education via college preparatory workshops and weekly philanthropy via donation of prom dresses for girls in need. Their time in the chapter also involved regular tutoring by working with the Boys & Girls Club and

participating in the national ASCEND initiative focused on college and career readiness for 9th-12th grade students.

They spent many hours in stroll practice together, learning new routines and crafting performances that would take 1st place in every stroll competition they participated in. Outside of chapter activities, sisters often spent time together sharing meals, studying, exploring the local Gainesville area, and traveling. After over a decade of sisterhood, they remind each other and the world, "it's always P.R.I.M.E. time!"

31 P.R.I.M.E. Members:

Nadira Lilman "Quarterback" lanthea Mobley "Komatose" Christina Redwine "Kustom Made"* Allison Mitchell "Un4gettable" Morgan Billinger "Kaptivating" Tanisha Bennett "Camouflage"* Sherry Glover "Disclaimer" Laura Johnson "Catalyst" Ebony Carter "Executive" Israel Taylor "The Kure" Danielle Robinson-Pierre "PinK Print" Monique Samuels "Erudite" Raegan Daley "Double Take" Erica Comer ".Kom" Shrisa Reid-Renaud "Kingdom Come" Ravenne Aponte "Ambush"

Kaleena Crooks "Crescendo"
Diesha Cole "Improv"
Jordan Boatwright "High Klass"
Jade Scott "Awakening"
Amanda Mortimer "Retina Display"
Alexis Booker "NDA"
Miriam Brown "Poise N' Ivy"
Aretha Boakye-Donkor "ArKhive"
Ashley Ortiz "Kovert"
Nikail Francis "Atlas"
Roxanne Eugene "Proclamation"
Diane Lebon "TBD"
Kelsea Grant "Clarify"
Asja Long "Imminent"

*No longer a member of AKA.

Divine Metamorphosis Spring 2016



It was a "divine time" when 33 women were initiated on March 20, 2016. A vine so beautiful, grown by trailblazers, strengthened by leaders, and flourished by women of excellence.



The Spring 2016 line - lovingly known as Divine Metamorphosis - epitomized excellence, leadership, and transformation. These phenomenal women left an indelible mark on the University of Florida campus, serving as trailblazers across multiple arenas. This line represented a powerful transformation within lota Lambda – a rebirth marked by resilience, refinement, and sisterhood. With deep roots in tradition and a forward-thinking spirit, these women embodied a new chapter of campus leadership, poised to serve and uplift.

Their involvement spanned the highest levels of campus leadership and community impact. Among their distinguished

ranks were Presidents of SISTUHS and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), along with the Vice President of the Geomatics Student Association, Gator Football Ambassadors, Florida Cicerones, leaders and members of the NAACP, Club Creole, FYF Peer Leaders, Fashion X-Clusive, Black Student Union, PAACT mentors, NPHC Executive Board, and even a UF Cheerleader. These women not only represented the legacy of AKA but elevated the standard of what it meant to lead with poise, purpose, and power.



The chapter brought creativity and meaning to their programming, from hosting the elegant Mr. 1908 Pageant to organizing numerous Roadside Cleanups, voter registration drives, and fall community service weeks with resonant themes like American Horror Story and IL Network News. Their Skee Weeks stood out with inventive themes like the lvy League and Pearls & Ivies, capturing the attention and participation of the campus community.

Supporting academic excellence remained a cornerstone of the chapter's mission. The chapter hosted recurring Study Nights, providing a welcoming and structured environment where members and students could focus on their academic goals. These gatherings fostered collaboration, mentorship, and a shared commitment to scholastic achievement within the UF community.

lota Lambda hosted an empowering brunch that created a space for open dialogue surrounding the unique experiences of Black women. Through curated discussions, members and guests engaged in meaningful conversations about identity, resilience,



and leadership. As part of the chapter's social impact, attendees donated toiletries and hygiene products for individuals experiencing homelessness. These contributions reflected their dedication to service and upliftment, ensuring dignity and care reach even the most underserved in our community.

As national conversations around sexual violence and empowerment gained momentum during the rise of the #MeToo movement, lota Lambda stood on the front lines. Hosting events centered on Sexual Health, Sexual Assault and Harassment Awareness, and Self-Defense, creating safe spaces for education, advocacy, and healing.

Divine Metamorphosis not only uplifted the lota Lambda chapter but also elevated the spirit of UF through their excellence in leadership, academic achievement, and sisterhood. The legacy of Divine Metamorphosis is one of transformation, impact, and enduring Ivy.

Divine Metamorphosis Members:

Simone Girard "DireKtor's Cut" Atiya Dorsey "T.O.O." Aviance McKenzie "RhetoriK" Christine Bien-Aime "Conqueror" Tierra Forbes "ClapbacK" Sade Awe "Jumpstart" Ashley Hall "Versailles" Candice Davis* Haeden Roberson "Exposure" Jalyn Stallworth "Kaleidoscope" (IBTW) Kelsey Young "Training Day" Haley Lewis "Pinky and the Brain" Ashley Broughton "Ritz Carlton" Camila Camargo-Williams "Monarch" Kimberly Mondestin * Valandrea Smith Meralin "Richter Scale" Anyoliny Sánchez "KeepsaKe"

Rickia Crawford "Esquire" Ketsia Jean-Charles "Compass" Zoë Lewis "Dream Catcher" Malaz Idris "Divergent" Ashley Vernet Clement "Certified" Ashley Mirtyl "In FoKus" Nandi Smith "Agenda" Daniela Gonzalez* Shayla Wright "Apex" Sasha Douge "Muse" Jenny Joseph* Faith Morgan "Horizon" Jayla Bradley "Expon3ntia1" Britnee McCoy-Davis "All-InKlusive" Sophonie Hyppolite "Editorial" DanTasia Welch "Home Run"

*No longer a member of AKA.

34 M.E.R.A.K.I. Spring 2018

On Saturday, March 24, 2018, 34 influential women were initiated into the lota Lambda chapter, forming the illustrious line known as 34 M.E.R.A.K.I. These women embodied leadership, service, and academic excellence, leaving a lasting impact on the UF campus and the surrounding Gainesville community. Before and throughout their membership, the ladies of 34 M.E.R.A.K.I. were known for their eloquence, tenacity, and unwavering dedication to uplifting others through purpose-driven work.



Their innovation and collective efforts contributed to the chapter's recognition with numerous accolades, including:

- Highest GPA in the South Atlantic Region
- Florida Greek Awards Chapter of the Year (2018)
- Outstanding Chapter and Most Improved Chapter (2019)
- 2nd Place at the 2018 South Atlantic Regional Conference Step Show
- 1st Place at the 2018 UF Battle of the Greeks Step Show





Members of 34 M.E.R.A.K.I. held influential leadership roles across campus, including positions within Florida Cicerones, Florida Blue Key, First Year Florida, Campus Diplomats, Multicultural Association of Pre-Health Students (MAPS) Vice President, Gators of Tomorrow, Streetlight, FACES President, Fashion X-Clusive Director, Reitz Scholars, SISTUHS Inc. President, UF RecSports, UF Supreme Court, UF Homecoming Queen, and UF Hall of Fame. Their influence extended far beyond just the chapter.

Through thoughtfully curated programs such as "Kamp IL" (Spring 2018 Skee Week), "Prettier Things" (Fall 2018), "Oceans 08" (Spring 2019 Skee Week), "Pieces of You" (Fall 2019), and "Pink Table Talk," 34

M.E.R.A.K.I. consistently demonstrated a deep commitment to sisterhood, empowerment, and community enrichment. In celebration of their 3rd AKAversary, 34 M.E.R.A.K.I. also awarded two \$1,300 scholarships to deserving students, demonstrating their intentional investment in the next generation of leaders. Additionally, 34 M.E.R.A.K.I. took initiative to revitalize and redesign the chapter website, resulting in improved user experience, accessibility, and engagement. Their enduring legacy remains a powerful testament to the strength of unity.

34 M.E.R.A.K.I. Members:

Sutrah Joseph - Killswitch* Ashley Victor - SparK Kenisha Mitchell - ExeKution* Genesis Triplett - Kinetic Olla Mohamed - Primavera Krystina Derby - ChecKmate Nyla White - Pitch Perfect Olamide Mustapha - Engine* Amberlyn Etienne - Cloud 9* Amairany Hughes - DIMEnsion Tatiana White - Renaissance Altagracia Marte - Kaliber* Chanice Howard - Haiku Shamarria Morrison - Peripheral Alyssa Bethencourt - Kommander in Chief Charisse Spence - Mirage Janelle Rolle - Nirvana

Nadia Labossiere - Affinity Arnae Holcomb - Mogul Maxine Harrell - Technicality* Christyna Conway - EleKtrify Milan Lanier - Instrumental Gabriella Alexis - Counteract Jireh Davis - Justified Chelsey Vincent - Jigsaw Darriel Sanders - Odyssey Quenesha Ross - Clairvoyant Kimbria Brown - Q.T. Shayla Bell-Francis - Tranquil Asa Garcia - Katapult Kirstyn Beamon - Enigma Ashlyn Jackson - Kandid Makayla Mills - Pretty AnalytiK Deja Blunt - Kourt Vision

*No longer a member of AKA.

17 K.A.I.R.O.S. Fall 2019



17 K.A.I.R.O.S. was the first line in chapter history to experience the unique challenge of transitioning from traditional, in-person sorority programming to fully virtual operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This shift required creativity, resilience, and unwavering sisterhood. Although the circumstances were unprecedented, 17 K.A.I.R.O.S. rose to the occasion and proved that sisterhood transcends physical spaces. Through innovation and determination, the line continued to engage the chapter and broader

On November 17, 2019, a distinguished group of seventeen women were initiated into AKA as the line known as 17 K.A.I.R.O.S. As the thirty-third line in the lota Lambda ivy vine, 17 K.A.I.R.O.S. was formed with purpose, vision, and unity. Each member was called forth in a pivotal moment: one that aligned with the divine timing and intentionality the name "K.A.I.R.O.S." represents. From their inception, 17 K.A.I.R.O.S. embodied the principles of scholarship, sisterhood, and service that are the foundation of AKA.



community. Members of the line supported sorors across the region in planning the fully virtual 2021 South Atlantic Regional Conference (SARC). This endeavor showcased their adaptability and leadership. The chapter remained compliant with evolving guidelines from UF, the South Atlantic Region and international guidance, setting an example of integrity and responsibility.



The women of 17 K.A.I.R.O.S. not only preserved the elite legacy of the chapter, they expanded it. They embraced leadership as a form of service, striving to uplift the chapter, the university, and each other. As a result of their collective efforts, lota Lambda earned multiple honors at UF's Greek Awards, including *Chapter of the Year, Outstanding Virtual Program, Outstanding Educational Program,* and *Highest Chapter GPA* (twice). This is a testament to their academic excellence and commitment to meaningful engagement.

17 K.A.I.R.O.S. has produced some of the most recognized student leaders on campus, including the Women's Student Association's President (Michaela Poitivien), UF Hall of Fame inductees (Giovanna Mompremier and Sarah Louis), the 2021–2022 Student Government Treasurer (Giovanna Mompremier), 2020-2021 NAACP President (Sarah Louis) and several members of prestigious organizations such as Florida Blue Key (Jania Lowe, Lauren Ferguson, Giovanna Mompremier, and Sarah Louis), and the Student Government Cabinet, Florida Cicerones, Reitz Scholars, and Greek Ambassadors. These accolades not only reflect their individual achievements but the power of sisterhood to cultivate leadership, purpose, and impact.

The legacy of 17 K.A.I.R.O.S. is one of innovation, resilience, and sisterhood. They joined the sorority during a time of uncertainty and emerged stronger. They have added to the Ivy Vine of the chapter not just by what they accomplished, but by how they supported one another, uplifted their community, and honored the values of AKA.



The journey of 17 K.A.I.R.O.S. is far from over. Their legacy, built on the pillars of scholarship, sisterhood, and service, will continue to inspire future generations of AKA women for years to come.

17 K.A.I.R.O.S. Members: Jania Lowe "Encryption" Ariel Dykes "T.U.T.U." Doreen Derac "Shockwave"* Amber O'Hara "Vitality" Daziah Scurry "Intercom" Alina McCloud "Eden" Lauren Ferguson "ProphetiK" Ashia Hightower "Elevate" Serenity McNair "FINEprint" Nadia Rossin "MatriX" Giovanna Mompremier "Lotus" Vanessa Nevy "Keystone"* Mical Estifanos "Algorithm" Michaela Poitevien "Liberate" Hannah Wilson "Phoenix" Dominique Barnes "HydrauliK" Sarah Louis "Korundum"

Reflections of Iridescence Fall 2021

The Fall 2021 semester at UF was characterized by the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing, which marked a new mode engagement for Greek-lettered organizations. This did not stop the arrival of Reflections of Iridescence on November 14, 2021— and in fact, it created opportunities for innovations in sisterhood, scholarship, and service. These 18 vibrant women were under the brought in leadership Membership Chairman, Sarah Louis "Korundum," and Assistant Membership Chairman, Alina McCloud, "Eden."



Upon joining the organization, these women jumped straight into action. They took home the trophy at the



Florida Invitational Step Show in February and carried that momentum into March with a successful Apple technology-themed Skee Week, "The Ivy Release." Highlights of the week included a glasses donation drive benefiting Lions Club International and a self-defense class. Their impact on campus extended beyond chapter activities. Their line included presidents of Black Student Union, Hope Meals, Pre-Optometry Pupils, Big Sister Little Sister, and LADIES, Inc.; vice presidents of Multicultural Association of Pre-Health Students, the National Society of Black Women in Medicine, SISTUHS, Inc.—and many more. The goal was to maintain a consistent presence on campus and to remain actively engaged in the Black community, both through formal leadership roles and informal mentorship and social involvement.



By the end of the Spring 2022 semester, ten of the women graduated, but the line's efforts continued. Signature programs included the continuation of Pillow TalK, a virtual rendition of Setting U of(F) Right, and the introduction of new traditions such as volunteering with Pace Center for Girls and a hygiene product donation drive. The eight women remaining in the chapter stayed deeply involved in campus Greek life—not only within the Divine Nine but also through co-hosted events with Panhellenic sororities. At the time, lota Lambda was one of the few chapters to walk the

bridge across council lines, embracing the broader mission of community service. Despite a smaller membership, they successfully hosted the award-winning IvyBowl Skee Week, which included a campuswide PowderPuff game uniting the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Council, Interfraternity Council, and Multicultural Greek Council.

They also partnered with the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program to host an event at The Cotton Club, addressing UF's role in racial disparities in Gainesville and emphasizing the preservation of African American history in the area. Their event, OverKome, was featured in the Gainesville Sun and has since served as a foundation for ongoing collaboration between the chapter and local community partners. In



recognition of their sustained engagement with Fall weeks such as "The Oh So Pretty Girls of lota Lambda," where they hosted events highlighting food insecurity, service and civic and social justice, the chapter was honored with the Chapter of the Year award at the Florida Greek Awards and five ladies from the line were inducted into UF's Hall of Fame.

The success of Reflections of Iridescence didn't just stop at UF but spread regionally and nationally. At the 70th South Atlantic Regional Conference, they received recognition for their contributions to the Education Advancement Foundation, which provides scholarships and community development grants. Additionally, they had the pleasure of being honored 6 awards on the regional level for their unique and intentional programming and execution of service events. During this conference the current chapter president was recognized with the Homie Regulus President Award.

In celebration of their second AKAversary on November 14, 2023, they headed to Nashville, Tennessee where



they engaged in sisterhood activities, line dancing, and a philanthropic project. They had the pleasure of being the first donors to grant a foster child's Christmas wish list to the Monroe Harding Foundation this holiday season. The Monroe Harding Foundation, located in Nashville, Tennessee, addresses the requirements of children and young adults in or transitioning out of state custody. They furnish resources in the realms of Homes, Healing, and Opportunities through Engagement for children, young adults, and families. The Monroe Harding is the only agency in Middle Tennessee offering a wide range of services to support current and former foster youth, spanning from birth to 26, and also catering to other vulnerable young adults.

Reflections of Iridescence Members:

Victoria Laws - "Spectrum"
Kaysey Boscico - "Sensei"
Brandyn Brown-White - "Shot Kaller"
Tyra Smith - "4tress"
Rickia Clark - "QuintessentlaL"
Crystal Jones - "MAJOR K.E.Y."
Myla Smith - "The ProKtor"
Kristen Louder - "Under8ed"
Alicia Burris - "Vibranium"

Sayge Brown - "EmboDIMEnt"
Genesis Bivens - "Ignite"
Ama-Birago Fosu - "Belladonna"
Victoria Baldwin - "pink slip"
Brittney Louis - "P.E.T.R.A."
Sophia De La Cruz - "ILluminous"
Morgan Powell - "MosaiK"
Sherise Tracey - "ImperiaL"
Taylor Tarver - "fairyTAIL"

Enchantments of Akoya Spring 2023



Enchantments of Akoya line were initiated into AKA. The Enchantments of Akoya consisted of a line of 19 women devised under the vision of their prophytes to continue the hard work of lota Lambda. They were brought together forged through excellence, resilience, and an unwavering devotion to sisterhood. service, and scholarship. Led with grace and grit by membership chairman Ama-Birago Fosu and membership co-Hartman. chairman Myla Enchantments of Akoya brought new energy to the chapter, building upon the foundation laid by their

On April 10th, 2023, the ladies of the

predecessors.

Among their ranks stood the Student Body Vice President, President, and Vice Presidents of the Black Student Union, and Executive Vice President and Parliamentarian of the National Panhellenic Council, who carefully shaped the community with intention. They guided tours as Cicerones, and reigned as Miss University of Florida, Homecoming Queen, and Miss Phi Beta Sigma for the State of Florida (and Zeta Kappa Chapter). They also thrived in UF official athletics, serving as members of the UF Cheer Team and the UF Volleyball Team. They brought campus to life as key directors and committee members of hallmark university events such as GatorNights, Soulfest, Homecoming, and Gator Growl. Additionally, they led academic societies and programs such as Pre-Optometry Pupils (president), Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity (vice-president), Black Women Leaders in Law (president), First Gen Promise Scholars, PAACT Coordinators, Medi-Gators (vice-president), and Medi-Futures (co-founder), making an impact across many disciplines. They also took on leadership in organizations dedicated to fellowship and uplifting others and have been honored as Reitz Scholars, Lead Reitz



Scholars,





As of May 2025, three of these women have been inducted into the University of Florida Hall of Fame. This is a testament to a line that did not just lead, but redefined what leadership looks like. Together, they embody a new era of leadership rooted in identity, driven by purpose, and destined for legacy.

While in chapter, their efforts were recognized with multiple accolades that included: Highest Chapter GPA

for Fall 2023; Greek Excellence in Scholarship and Programming. 2023; First Place at the 2023 South Atlantic Regional Step Show; Awardees of the Service to All Mankind Award; Awardees of Undergraduate Scholars for the South Atlantic Regional Conference; Highest Fall Chapter GPA for Fall 2024; Excellence in Cross-Council Greek Award 2024-2025; Excellence in Leadership Programming Greek Award 2024-2025; and Excellence in Educational Programming Greek Award 2024-2025.

Through their impactful Skee Week "The Ivy Theatre" in 2024, the line gave back to the Black arts by raising funds and sponsoring a student trip to a Broadway show for youth from Star Center Theatre in Gainesville, FL. This initiative not only celebrated artistic excellence but expanded cultural exposure for young creatives in the community, reinforcing the chapter's belief in art as activism and empowerment. During "Setting U Off Right" 2024 Mini Week: Investigation IL, the chapter helped students become more comfortable with utilizing campus resources through partnerships with Study Edge, UF Police Department, One Stop Enrollment Services, and the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships. The Fall 2024, their "Pretty & Pink" Fall



Week celebrated Black fashion, sustainability, professionalism, and intellectual property rights and resulted in the donations of over 100 items to Partnership for Strong Families. Under the initiative "Uplift Our Local Community," members partnered with the nonprofit Her Natural Wreath, providing free hairstyles for young girls and educating Gainesville families on natural hair care techniques, reinforcing self-confidence and cultural pride. In addition, on April 11th, 2024, the chapter also installed a Take a Book, Leave a Book Library at the Caring and Sharing Learning School in Alachua County, donating over 30 books and reading to elementary students. This continues to date and aims to spark a lifelong love for learning and literacy.

Enchantments of Akoya Members:

Daesha Holmes "The KORE pIACE"
Symone Alford "Affidavit"
Paris Richardson "Heavy Hitter"
Briana Toussaint "Helix"
Keziah Moses "Inquisition"
Chineyeyah Bryant "A.T.H.E.N.A."
Kayla Sibble "Primrose"
Laila Thomas "Cur8ed"
Treasure Ray "P.A.R.A.G.O.N."
Shadé Gousse "WinX"

Alayah Hill "Ethereal"
Laura Thomas "PinK D.N.A."
Hillary Aina "Resurgence"
Makayla Raphael "Seraphina"
Norr Hylton "I.R.I.S."
Casey Glymph "Ardent"
Noel Phanord "T.Y.P.E. O"
Savannah Dix "Renovate"
Gabrielle Essix "Colosseum"

Harmonies of Lyra Fall 2024

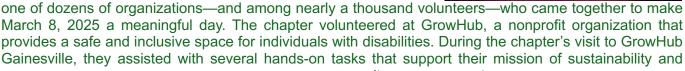


The Fall 2024 semester marked a new era on UF's campus when 17 women were initiated on November 3, 2024. This line was called Harmonies of Lyra and was brought into the sorority under the leadership of Membership Chairman, Hillary Aina, and Assistant Membership Chairman, Briana Toussaint. These women came onto campus with a mission to forge a new path in a time where the political state of the world was uncertain.

During Skee Week 2025, they centered the theme around

Grey's Anatomy. Not simply as a pop culture reference, but as a critical framework to explore the deeply entrenched disparities within our healthcare system. This creative concept allowed the chapter to shine a spotlight on the urgent need for equitable healthcare, particularly for Black communities. The chapter's programming focused heavily on Black women's health, with maternal health workshops and wellness sessions. The chapter addressed systemic challenges families face when navigating healthcare through educational panels and discussions that highlighted how the lack of affordable care creates both emotional and financial strain. These spaces provided our members and attendees with education, support, and empowerment around issues too often overlooked.

During the annual Big Event, the chapter joined fellow organizations in a moment of community reflection, recognizing the collective impact they were about to make through service. Iota Lambda was



community empowerment.



Following the momentum of Spring week, one of the chapter's most significant achievements was the revival of the Mr. 1908 Scholarship Pageant. This event was a cultural staple that was brought back to life after years of absence. This legacy event required vision, resilience, and a deep commitment to excellence. The pageant celebrated leadership, scholarship, and service, and offered financial support to deserving students. More than just a program, it became a symbol of what it means to honor tradition while pushing it forward. It was a defining moment for our chapter and a testament to our ability to rebuild and reimagine.

Across all these initiatives, the Harmonies of Lyra ensured to maintain the high standards of excellence that our predecessors established many years ago. The chapter invested countless hours behind the scenes, working through challenges, innovating in real time, and showing unwavering dedication to our community and our mission.





Harmonies of Lyra Members:

Savannah Wilkes - AglLity
Janelle Maurice - Double Jeopardy
Kennedy Holland - Pivot Pointe
Shanice David - Erylis
Eunice Pierre - In Cinq
Alexandria Antoine - Kamikaze
Alexis Cooley - Polaris
Destiny Jennings - EnKapsul8
Tonia Miller - Tranquilizer

Ahmari Miller - Inertia Keisha Joseph - Oasis Tamia Kennedy - RiKochet Lalia Holliday - Geode Megan Pierre - Empyrean Chelsea Liberte - Evolve Skye Johnkins - Ember Jayla Bailey - Echo







AKA-mplishments and Fun Facts

Iota Lambda Legacies

Joann Mickens Johnson (Spring 1975) and Brittany Johnson Griddine (Spring 2013)
Renalia Smith Dubose (Spring 1976) and Lauren DuBose (Spring 2005)
Deborah Calhoun Gant (Spring 1979) and Kimberly Gant (Spring 2012)
Janice Spann-Givens (Spring 1979) and Jasmine Givens (Spring 2012)
Carolyn Devoe-Turner (Spring 1980) and Sakira Noelle Hadley-Seay (Spring 2007)
Alicia Nelson Cato (Spring 1982) and Alana Cato (Spring 2010)
Jacquatte Lenora Rolle (Spring 1983) and Janelle Rolle Davis (Spring 2018)
Petra Watson McEwan (Spring 2002) and Savannah Wilkes (Fall 2024)

AKA Leadership Fellows

Gina Scott (Spring 1994)
Tina Gaye-Bernard (Spring 1997)
Jamie Davis (Spring 2005)
Alicia Holden (Fall 2010)
Taylor Hayes (Spring 2013)

AKA South Atlantic Region Appointments

SARC Undergraduate Conference Chairman

61st SARC – Taylor Hayes (Spring 2013)

<u>Leadership Development Institute Undergraduate Co-Chair</u>

Kaysey Boscico (Fall 2021)

UF Homecoming Queens

Vanessa Douyon (Spring 2007) Auriel Rolle-Polk (Fall 2010) Janelle Rolle (Spring 2018) Laura Thomas (Spring 2023)

UF Hall of Fame

Veronica Valdez (Spring 1987)
Latasha Gethers (Spring 1991)
Gina Scott (Spring 1994)
Kelli Murray (Spring 2005)
Lisa Danielle Clarke (Spring 2005)
Yordanos Eyoel (Spring 2007)
Vanessa Douyon (Spring 2007)
Kayla Morse (Spring 2009)
Aynesse Geffrard (Fall 2010)
Sabine Justilien (Fall 2010)
Tiffany Joseph (Spring 2012)
Shardé Pettis (Spring 2013)

Brittany Kelly (Spring 2013)
Miriam Brown (Fall 2014)
Janelle Rolle (Spring 2018)
Sarah Louis (Fall 2019)
Giovanna Mompremier (Fall 2019)
Sherise Tracey (Fall 2021)
Ama-Birago Fosu (Fall 2021)
Myla Hartman (Fall 2021)
Sophia De La Cruz (Fall 2021)
Kaysey Boscico (Fall 2021)16
Paris Richardson (Spring 2023)
Laura Thomas (Spring 2023)

UF Student Government Leadership

<u>Student Body President</u> Pamela Bingham (Spring 1984)

Student Body Vice-President
Veronica Valdez (Spring 1987)
Vanessa Goodwin (Spring 2005)
Sabine Justilien (Fall 2010)
Laura Thomas (Spring 2023)

<u>Student Body Treasurer</u> Giovanna Mompremier (Fall 2019)

And countless other accolades, awards and accomplishments...

The lota Lambda chapter SETS the standard!



ETA TAU OMEGA CHAPTER

Soror LaKay Banks
Soror Alberta Brown
Soror Willie M. Cochran
Soror Eva Cole
Soror Nancy Coleman
*Soror Leslie Cosby
Soror Billie Green
Soror Claronell Griffin
Soror Miriam Hampton
Soror Mildred Hill
Soror Bettye Jennings

Soror Juanita Jones
Soror Bernice Lewis
Soror Eva Long
Soror Catherine Mickle
*Soror Eula Miller
Soror Juanita Mosley
Soror Betty Polite
Soror Gwendolyn Sims
Soror A. Pearl Speights
Soror Rosemarie Turk
Soror Pauline Vereen

*Life Member



IOTA LAMBDA CHAPTER

Soror LeNedra Abrams Soror Patricia Moore Soror Alicia Beck Soror Cynthia Parker Soror Angela Brutton Soror Gloria Postell Soror Harriet Carter Soror Vera Richardson Soror Maxine Cohen Soror Georgetta Sellers Soror Barbara Debose Soror Angela Shuman Soror Tracy Gonzalez Soror Hettie Sirmans Soror Maxine Jenkins Soror Della Smith Soror Patricia Jones Soror Shirley Smith Soror Sandra King Soror Marilyn Wadley Soror Patricia Kitchen Soror Debra Wardell Soror Joan Mickens Soror Cynthia Wester

Soror Jamia Wilson

ETA TAU OMEGA CHAPTER

OF

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.

Celebrates

THE CHARTERING

OF

IOTA LAMBDA CHAPTER

1908 - 1975



Saturday, May 17, 1975
Eight O'clock
University of Florida
J. Wayne Reitz Union Ballroom E
Gainesville, Florida





It pursues these broad objectives through a series of program activities which have dual implementation. While this may be described as a national or local focus, the promotion proceeds with mutual assistance provided by each of the organizational constituencies.

At the National Level our program for the next two years will extend the PIN (Personal Involvement Now) Program to include OUTREACH COMMUNICATION. The component parts include: (1) In-service Reading Workshops for Sorors, (2) support to the United Negro College Fund and (3) Consumer Education Trade Shows. The remaining focuses are continuation of Educational Grants, Cleveland Job Corps Center, and Leadership Training.

In addition to financial support to the National Program, Eta Tau Omega assists volunteer organizations with community health services; awards certificates to high school senior girls for high scholastic achievement; citizens in Ocala-Gainesville communities for outstanding services rendered to the community; awards a scholarship to deserving students in the Ocala-Gainesville communities.

The entire Alpha Kappa Alpha Family extends its congratulations to our new chapter.

Preiude	Sofor Betty Jennings
Processional	Iota Lambda Chapter
Selection	Audience
Invocation	Rev. W. M. Ferguson
Selection	A K A Ensemble
Occasion	Soror Juanita Jones
Solo	Soror Bettye Jennings
History of lota Lambda	Soror Gloria Postell
Selection	A K A Ensemble Ocala—Sorors
Presentation of Regional Dire	ctorSoror A. Pearl Speights
	Soror Norma S. White outh Atlantic Regional Director
Greetings from University Fa	milyDr. Thomas G. Goodall Miss Robin Engleman Mrs. Loyce K. Sparkman
Acknowledgements	Soror Juanita Mosley
Sorority Hymn	
Benediction	Rev. C. J. Johnson

