



A Letter from the Outgoing House Corporation President

Hello sisters!

Back in 2001, I was a relatively new mom who elected to leave my career. As I settled into life with a baby, there came a time when I realized I needed a little something else to do. I was five years past graduation and it felt only natural to turn back to ADPi.

I received a call from someone and they asked me if I'd step in as the recruitment advisor at the Zeta Theta Chapter at Illinois State University. Without hesitation, I said "yes." (And then I had to explain to my husband what I'd just done!)

This theme of saying "yes" when it would have made much more sense to say "no" has really been the story of my life as an ADPi. I didn't join the chapter until my junior year of college, at a time when that was far from the norm. As a junior, I didn't have the "need" for a sorority that most college students may have in terms of making friends and finding a place on a large campus.

But I had watched my sorority friends wistfully from the sidelines for two years, and I saw the deeper value in being part of a sisterhood. And as luck would have it, I benefitted from a brand new

"quota plus" system in the fall of my junior year that allowed sororities to accept juniors without giving up a slot in their quota. And though it didn't make much sense, ADPi and I both said "yes."

Since that call in 2001, I have spent more time than not volunteering with ADPi in some capacity. In terms of alumnae involvement, I have covered the spectrum of possibilities from chapter advising to the district team to the housing corporation. I've been to District Leadership Conferences, two Grand Conventions, and even a Leadership Summit one summer.

The extent of my alumnae involvement has far exceeded that of my collegiate experience and I am so blessed because of it.

Last fall, I made the decision to step back from ADPi once again. We all know how hectic our lives can be and how easily we can begin to feel overwhelmed. That baby I had in 2001 is now 17 and will be graduating high school next year. I have three other children as well, along with two jobs and a few other volunteer responsibilities in my hometown. I felt myself being spread too thin. I'll bet we've all been there.

I know that my time with ADPi is not done. Someday, the right need and opportunity will come along again. And it might make more sense to say "no," but I will say "yes."

I wonder, have you thought about getting involved with ADPi? There is always a need for alumnae involvement, and in many ways, I think the need is greater today than ever. The collegiate sorority experience has changed so much in the past two decades, and more than ever, our chapters need us. They NEED us. They need to see the embodiment of our motto in action, to know that we mean it when we say, "We live for each other." There are endless ways you can give back and benefit. Attend Founder's Day for a start. Maybe come to the alumnae work weekend this summer. Are you close enough to help with recruitment?

The path of least resistance is to say no. But the path to extraordinary experiences starts with "yes." I hope you'll take that first step.

Love and Violets,
Shannon Tebben-Sandoval '94
Outgoing House Corporation President



From the Desk of House Corporation President Anna Miller

Hello sisters!

First, an introduction. My name is Anna Miller, I am the new president of the housing corporation for the Sigma Chapter. I came home to Alpha Delta Pi at Epsilon Omicron, Murray State University. I was involved with this chapter's housing corporation for nearly three years. It was a big learning curve for me, as my chapter did not have a house. I have loved getting to know the ins and outs of the house. There is so much life and excitement surrounded in those walls, and this home's history never ceases to leave me in awe! My favorite part of being on the board thus far is hearing stories from the women that have lived in the house. You all have put a lot of spirit into that building!

I just returned from our District Leadership Conference in Rosemont, Illinois. We are currently seeing a trend across the country of women desiring to live in campus housing or private apartments. At the core of housing corporation,

we want to turn the tides on this! We want to provide an environment that is safe, inviting, and warm for our members to enjoy. The balance between historic and modern updates is difficult, but we are striving toward it.

Some of the updates over the past year include several new windows, which in our custom-built house is more difficult than many may think! We are preparing for a new boiler to be installed this summer, which is our big project for the summer. The major project and a big focus for 2017 was rolling out a brand new meal plan and system for the house. This allows more flexibility for the women living out of house to have various meals in the home and at a more cost efficient system for both the women and housing corporation. College Chefs, the company that
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A Note from the Chapter President

Sisters,

My name is Brittany Kiss and I am the 2018 president of Sigma Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi. I am currently a sophomore double majoring in dietetics and Spanish and minoring in chemistry, on the pre-medical school track. My ultimate goal in life is to make a positive impact on others, so I would like to become a clinical dietitian and develop relationships with patients to really make a difference in their lives. I would then like to attend medical school to further influence others' lives. Though this might be a rather ambitious life plan, I'm someone that truly loves to be busy and dream big.



For this reason, I am involved with several other organizations on campus besides ADPi, including IlliniThon Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon, CHAARG (a women's empowerment health and wellness organization), American Medical Student Association, Student Dietetics Association, and am a barista at Espresso Royale, a coffee shop conveniently located directly across from our chapter house.

Of all of my commitments, Alpha Delta Pi is something that I am extremely passionate about. The women I have met through the sorority both in my chapter and outside of it have been without a doubt some of the most amazing people I have ever met. I admire each and every one of them. This fuels my drive to make my mark on our organization one that makes the women around me proud. In my opinion, the best way to do this is to have a clear vision for what I want to accomplish during my time in office.

To me, the most important thing about any organization is the wellbeing and satisfaction of its members. Because of this, my plan is to create more opportunities for the women to benefit from the organization through things such as sisterhood, professional development, personal development, and philanthropy, to name a few. My executive committee and I derived plans from this goal to improve the overall morale of the chapter and get the women as involved as we are.

I am so incredibly honored to be able to serve these women and this organization. I love Sigma and am consistently humbled and proud to be representing them at an organizational and national level. Having the constant support of my sisters is a feeling that cannot be described, and I am reminded every day (in the corniest way possible) that we truly do live for each other.

Love & Violets,
Brittany Kiss '16, Chapter President
sigma.adpi@gmail.com

Save the Date: Founder's Day, Sunday, April 29, 2018

From the Desk of House Corporation President Anna Miller

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provides our in-home catering, has been great to work with on this project and are very excited to move forward with this, even discussing it as a future for other homes across the country. **Leticia Pickens '01**, Housing Corporation's financial vice president, spent a lot of time researching and implementing this great program, and we have her to thank!

April 29 will be our annual meeting in conjunction with Founder's Day. The board would be nothing short of overjoyed to see some different faces come to our annual meeting! You can come learn about new projects happening at the house, discuss plans, and ask any questions you may have for us! Please consider joining us for brunch (we won't even make you swipe your meal plan card!) and stay for the meeting.

Thanks,
Anna Miller '08, President • sigma.housingcorp@gmail.com

Sigma of Alpha Delta Pi 2017 Campaign Update

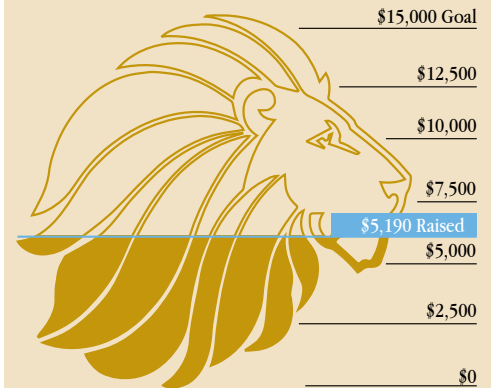
Thanks to generous contributions from 54 sisters, we have raised over \$5,100 so far. This means we are now 35% of the way to our \$15,000 goal!

If you haven't made your pledge yet, please do so today and help us reach our goal! Your gift will allow us to renovate all five bathrooms and provide continued repairs to a home we all cherish.

To pledge your support for our sisters today, simply visit sigmaofadpi.com and click "Support the Campaign."

By making a financial donation to Sigma of Alpha Delta Pi, you are ensuring the home of our sisters is one that will stand for another hundred years. Any donation makes a difference and we appreciate your investment in Alpha Delta Pi.

Thank you for supporting our sisters. Together we are Sigma Strong.





Sister to Sister

Have you recently had a baby? Did you recently get married? Have you won a scholarship? Are you going to grad school? Have you had an exciting life event or a fun vacation? We want to know! Share your news with sisters by sending your update and a picture to sigma.bousingcorps@gmail.com. You could be showcased in a future edition of the *Sigma Star*!



Anastasia Guletsky '08 and Bob Kelly married September 13, 2017, in Chicago. Violets were worn by all ADPis in attendance!



Kim Klein '09 and John Garavaglia married on October 13, 2017, in Lemont, IL. Sisters Taylor Murphy '09 and Bobbie Butler '10 were bridesmaids.



Audrey Pienton '10 and Jon Seaman married in Chicago on February 17, 2018. Sigma sisters Emily Setchell '10, Ewa Kaszuba '10, and Westin Siemsgluz '10 were bridesmaids.



Christi (Harrison) Malek '06 welcomed a legacy, Theresa Mae Malek, on October 30, 2017.



Sarah (Patterson) Brew '06 and her husband, Ryan, welcomed a beautiful little girl, Ellie Rose Brew, on May 4, 2017.



Tara (Frey) Marchinski '06 welcomed a legacy, Emerson Reese Marchinski, on October 18, 2017.

Alumna Spotlight: Lynn Okura Bey '06



We are proud to spotlight alumna Lynn Okura Bey! Lynn lives in Chicago and runs her own jewelry company, Kono & Sono, as well as works as a producer at Oprah.com.

Name: Lynn Okura Bey

Year Graduated: 2005

Jewelry Business Name: Kono & Sono

Website: KonoandSono.com

Job: Producer at Oprah.com for the Oprah Winfrey Network

How has your time in ADPi influenced your life and/or friendships?

ADPi has had the biggest impact on my life. I met my husband because of the sorority! He was a "kitchen boy" — do they still have those? I also met the absolute greatest group of girls in ADPi, who are still my closest friends. Some I see all the time and others live far away, but we're all super connected and lifelong friends. It's pretty amazing to think how much of a lasting effect the house has had on my life.

What inspired you to create Kono & Sono and what can you tell us about your business?

I come from an artistic family and have always had a creative side and a desire to create art. Jewelry was the perfect medium for me because I'm drawn to fashion and design, plus I love the keepsake nature and sentiment of jewelry. I started out by taking metalsmithing classes at Lillstreet Art Studio in Chicago and have been hooked ever since.



What have been your biggest successes as a small business owner?

My biggest success was the day I launched *KonoandSono.com*, and the moments I feel the most rewarded are when I see someone wearing one of my pieces. It never gets old!

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SIGMA STAR

Spring 2018

Visit our Alumnae
Website at
sigmaofadpi.com!

Visit *sigmaofadpi.com*, the official
Sigma Chapter website, to:

- Learn more about the chapter
- Search for alumnae
- Update your contact information
- Find out about upcoming events
- Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, promotion, etc.)

Stay Connected with Sigma Chapter!

Facebook: Sigma Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi

Instagram: @illinoisadpi

Twitter: @illinoisadpi

Tumblr: illinoisadpi.tumblr.com

Chapter Website: *sigmaofadpi.wixsite.com/uiuc*

Save the Date!

Pi's Pitch In, Sigma's annual alumnae reunion at the chapter house, will be held July 13-15, 2018. Be on the lookout for an email with additional information!



Jill Marino '01, Cheryl Stevenson Connelley '01, Leticia Pickens '01, and Beth Terpstra '02 tailgating at Homecoming 2017, celebrating 150 years of Illinois!

Lynn Okura Bey '06

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What is your favorite piece in your collection?

My signature piece, and the one I personally find myself wearing the most, is the Diamond Pendant. Like most of my jewelry it's made through a process called lost wax casting, which is a very old (and very cool) metalsmithing technique. I carved a model of the pendant from wax, created a mold, and poured the metal myself to make first piece. It's a solid bronze diamond that hangs on a long, 14k gold-filled chain. I swear to you, it enhances every outfit. A lot of my ADPI sisters own this necklace, which I love.

Tell us about working for Harpo Studios and the Oprah Winfrey Network and what kind of content you're managing and producing.

I've worked for Oprah on and off for about 10 years now. As a digital producer I write and edit content for

the website, *Oprab.com*. When I first began in my early 20s, I worked on digital content for The Oprah Winfrey Show, up until the very last episode. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime job experience. Now, I work for the Oprah Winfrey Network—and instead of one show, we support an entire network of shows, even though the mission and core values for *Oprab.com* have remained the same. The digital world, on the other hand, has changed dramatically over the past decade (understatement of the century), so it's been interesting to grow alongside that.

What can we find you doing in your spare time?

My other job title is mom, so all my spare time is spent running after my two-year-old twin boys, Archer and Graham. They're bonkers!