

alpha phi alpha history

alpha phi alpha history is a compelling journey through the origins, growth, and enduring legacy of the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African American men. This article explores the critical milestones in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.'s development, from its founding at Cornell University in 1906 to its pivotal role in the Civil Rights Movement and ongoing influence in education, leadership, and social justice initiatives. Readers will gain insight into the fraternity's founding principles, its notable members, major programs, and the profound impact Alpha Phi Alpha has had on African American communities and the broader American society. Whether you are a member, a prospective member, a historian, or simply interested in African American history, this comprehensive resource will provide an authoritative and engaging overview of alpha phi alpha history, highlighting the fraternity's traditions, evolution, and continuing contributions to society.

- Origins and Founding of Alpha Phi Alpha
- Founding Principles and Early Development
- Expansion and Nationalization
- Impact on African American History and the Civil Rights Movement
- Notable Members and Leadership
- Alpha Phi Alpha's Major Programs and Initiatives
- Legacy and Continuing Influence

Origins and Founding of Alpha Phi Alpha

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. traces its roots to the early 20th century, when African American students at predominantly white institutions faced severe racial prejudice and social isolation. The fraternity was founded at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, on December 4, 1906, by seven visionary students known as the "Seven Jewels." These founders—Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy—sought to create a supportive brotherhood dedicated to scholarship, leadership, and service.

The establishment of Alpha Phi Alpha marked a pivotal moment in African American collegiate life. At a time when opportunities were limited, the fraternity provided a sense of unity and purpose for Black students, empowering them to succeed academically and contribute to their communities. The founding of Alpha Phi Alpha set the stage for the emergence of other Black Greek-letter organizations, influencing the landscape of higher education and African American civic engagement for generations to come.

Founding Principles and Early Development

The Seven Jewels and Their Vision

The fraternity's founding fathers, known as the Seven Jewels, were committed to academic excellence, mutual support, and uplifting the African American community. Their vision was to foster brotherhood, encourage scholarship, and develop leaders who would serve as beacons of hope and progress both on campus and beyond. They adopted the motto "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All," reflecting their commitment to leadership and service.

Establishing Organizational Structure

In its formative years, Alpha Phi Alpha developed a strong organizational framework that would sustain its growth. The fraternity adopted a constitution, rituals, and a formal membership process. Regular meetings and the creation of the Alpha Chapter at Cornell provided a foundation for future expansion. The early years were marked by a focus on academic support, social activities, and laying the groundwork for a national brotherhood.

- Commitment to academic achievement
- Supportive brotherhood
- Emphasis on leadership and community service
- Establishment of traditions and rituals

Expansion and Nationalization

Spreading to Other Campuses

Alpha Phi Alpha quickly extended its reach beyond Cornell University. Within a few years, the fraternity chartered chapters at other leading institutions, including Howard University, Virginia Union University, and the University of Michigan. This expansion reflected both the need for support among African American students nationwide and the fraternity's commitment to building a national movement.

Becoming a National Organization

The fraternity's transformation from a single chapter to a national organization was marked by the

establishment of the General Organization in 1908. This structure allowed for coordinated growth, the organization of annual conventions, and the creation of a national leadership hierarchy. Alpha Phi Alpha's nationalization empowered it to address issues affecting African Americans on a larger scale, including educational inequality, discrimination, and community advancement.

Impact on African American History and the Civil Rights Movement

Role in Social Justice and Civil Rights

Alpha Phi Alpha played a critical role in the struggle for civil rights and social justice throughout the 20th century. The fraternity's members were actively involved in landmark movements and organizations, including the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and the March on Washington. Alpha Phi Alpha's commitment to "manly deeds, scholarship, and love for all mankind" positioned it as a driving force in the fight against segregation and discrimination.

Key Contributions and Initiatives

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha participated in voter registration drives, education initiatives, and advocacy for fair housing and employment. The fraternity's national programs, such as "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People," emphasized the importance of political participation and civic responsibility. Alpha Phi Alpha helped shape the leadership cadre of the Civil Rights era, producing influential leaders who championed equality and justice.

Notable Members and Leadership

Prominent Alphas in History

Alpha Phi Alpha boasts an illustrious roster of members who have made significant contributions to politics, education, science, the arts, and public service. These individuals have upheld the fraternity's ideals and served as role models for future generations.

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. – Civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate
- Thurgood Marshall – First African American U.S. Supreme Court Justice
- Paul Robeson – Scholar, athlete, actor, and activist
- Adam Clayton Powell Jr. – Influential U.S. Congressman

- Edward Brooke – First African American popularly elected to the U.S. Senate
- Jesse Owens – Olympic track and field gold medalist

Leadership and Organizational Development

The fraternity's leadership structure, including the General President, Board of Directors, and regional officers, has ensured effective governance and the implementation of impactful programs. Alpha Phi Alpha's leaders have prioritized education, mentorship, and community uplift, shaping the fraternity's enduring legacy.

Alpha Phi Alpha's Major Programs and Initiatives

Signature National Programs

Alpha Phi Alpha has developed a range of national programs that promote education, leadership development, and social justice. These initiatives reflect the fraternity's mission to uplift communities and empower individuals.

1. Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College – Encourages academic achievement and college enrollment among youth
2. Project Alpha – Provides education and mentoring on responsible manhood and teen pregnancy prevention
3. A Voteless People is a Hopeless People – Promotes voter education and participation in civic affairs
4. Brother's Keeper – Offers support to elderly and vulnerable fraternity members and their families

Community Engagement and Philanthropy

Alpha Phi Alpha's commitment to service is demonstrated through partnerships, scholarships, mentoring programs, and community outreach. The fraternity continues to champion causes such as educational equity, public health, and economic empowerment, making a tangible impact in communities across the nation.

Legacy and Continuing Influence

Enduring Impact on Higher Education and Society

The legacy of alpha phi alpha history is evident in its sustained influence on higher education, African American leadership, and social progress. The fraternity's ideals of scholarship, service, and brotherhood have inspired generations of men to lead with integrity and purpose. Alpha Phi Alpha's presence on college campuses and in local communities continues to foster leadership development and civic engagement.

Alpha Phi Alpha in the 21st Century

Today, Alpha Phi Alpha remains a respected organization, adapting to new challenges while upholding its founding principles. The fraternity's ongoing initiatives in education reform, mentorship, and social justice ensure that it remains a vital force for positive change. Alpha Phi Alpha's history is not only a story of past achievements but also a foundation for future progress and leadership in the African American community and beyond.

Q: When and where was Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. founded?

A: Alpha Phi Alpha was founded on December 4, 1906, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

Q: Who are the Seven Jewels of Alpha Phi Alpha?

A: The Seven Jewels are the fraternity's founders: Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy.

Q: What are the core principles of Alpha Phi Alpha?

A: The core principles are scholarship, manly deeds, and love for all mankind, with a focus on leadership, service, and the upliftment of the African American community.

Q: How did Alpha Phi Alpha contribute to the Civil Rights Movement?

A: Alpha Phi Alpha played a significant role by supporting civil rights organizations, producing influential leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., organizing voter registration drives, and participating in key events such as the March on Washington.

Q: What are some of Alpha Phi Alpha's major national programs?

A: Major programs include Go-to-High-School, Go-to-College, Project Alpha, A Voteless People is a Hopeless People, and Brother's Keeper.

Q: Who are some notable members of Alpha Phi Alpha?

A: Notable members include Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Paul Robeson, Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Edward Brooke, and Jesse Owens.

Q: What is the significance of Alpha Phi Alpha's motto?

A: The motto "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All" emphasizes the fraternity's commitment to leadership, service, and transcending adversity.

Q: How has Alpha Phi Alpha impacted higher education?

A: Alpha Phi Alpha has promoted academic excellence, provided mentorship and scholarships, and fostered leadership development among African American students nationwide.

Q: What is "Project Alpha" and its purpose?

A: Project Alpha is a national program that educates young men about responsible manhood, teen pregnancy prevention, and sexual health.

Q: How does Alpha Phi Alpha continue to influence society today?

A: Alpha Phi Alpha remains active in education, social justice, and community service, adapting its programs to address modern challenges while upholding its historic mission.

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Alpha Phi Alpha History: A Legacy of Brotherhood and Service

Introduction:

Delving into the rich tapestry of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.'s history is like embarking on a journey through the heart of African American achievement. This post will explore the significant milestones, influential figures, and enduring impact of this groundbreaking organization, providing a comprehensive look at its evolution from its humble beginnings to its present-day global influence. Prepare to discover the untold stories of resilience, leadership, and unwavering dedication that have defined Alpha Phi Alpha's legacy. We'll unravel the "Alpha Phi Alpha history" narrative, addressing key moments and their significance in shaping the fraternity and broader society.

The Genesis of Alpha Phi Alpha: A Seed of Change (1906)

The year was 1906. Segregation was rampant, and opportunities for Black Americans were severely limited. Amidst this climate of adversity, at Cornell University, a group of ambitious and forward-thinking young men – Eugene Kinckle Jones, Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Abram L. Harris – recognized the urgent need for a fraternity dedicated to uplifting Black men. Their shared vision of brotherhood, scholarship, and service became the bedrock upon which Alpha Phi Alpha was founded. This moment stands as a pivotal point in "Alpha Phi Alpha history," marking the beginning of a profound legacy.

The Founding Fathers: Visionaries of a New Era

Each founding member brought unique talents and perspectives. Eugene Kinckle Jones, for instance, would later become a prominent civil rights leader, showcasing the fraternity's commitment to social justice from its very inception. The group's selection of the Greek letters Alpha and Phi reflected a desire for excellence and achievement, underscoring the importance of education and intellectual pursuit as tools for progress within the Alpha Phi Alpha history narrative.

Early Years and the Fight for Civil Rights

The early decades of Alpha Phi Alpha's existence were marked by a relentless pursuit of educational and social advancement for Black Americans. The fraternity actively fought against segregation and

discrimination, providing crucial support for those seeking a better life. This involved advocacy for equal rights, and active participation in various social and political movements.

Alpha Phi Alpha and the Harlem Renaissance

The Harlem Renaissance witnessed a flourishing of Black artistic and intellectual expression. Alpha Phi Alpha members played a pivotal role in this cultural explosion, contributing to literature, music, and the arts, further cementing their role in the narrative of "Alpha Phi Alpha history." Their involvement in this vibrant cultural movement significantly broadened the fraternity's reach and influence.

Mid-20th Century: Expanding Influence and National Impact

The mid-20th century saw Alpha Phi Alpha's influence expand significantly. The fraternity's members became increasingly involved in national politics and civil rights activism, playing critical roles in landmark movements such as the Civil Rights Movement. The fraternity's commitment to social action solidified its position as a leading voice for social justice and equality.

Notable Alpha Men: Leaders in Their Fields

Throughout its history, Alpha Phi Alpha has boasted a remarkable roster of accomplished members. From renowned figures like Martin Luther King Jr., Thurgood Marshall, and Jackie Robinson, to countless other influential leaders in academia, the arts, and politics, these individuals have shaped the very fabric of American society. Their contributions significantly enrich the ongoing saga of "Alpha Phi Alpha history".

Alpha Phi Alpha in the Modern Era: Global Reach and Continued Service

Today, Alpha Phi Alpha maintains a significant global presence, with chapters spanning the United States and several international locations. The fraternity continues its unwavering commitment to service, scholarship, and leadership development. It remains a powerful force for positive change, upholding its founding principles in a rapidly evolving world.

The Future of Alpha Phi Alpha

The fraternity's ongoing focus on education, community engagement, and social justice underscores its enduring relevance in the 21st century. Alpha Phi Alpha's rich legacy continues to inspire future generations of men to pursue excellence and strive for a more equitable world. Understanding "Alpha Phi Alpha history" is crucial to appreciating its continued relevance and future trajectory.

Conclusion

The history of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., is more than just a chronicle of events; it's a testament to the power of brotherhood, the pursuit of excellence, and the unwavering commitment to social justice. From its humble beginnings to its global impact, Alpha Phi Alpha has consistently played a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of American society, leaving an indelible mark on the pursuit of equality and opportunity for all. Understanding this rich history is essential for appreciating the fraternity's enduring influence and its continued contribution to society.

FAQs

1. Who were the founders of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.? The fraternity was founded by fourteen men at Cornell University in 1906. These included Eugene Kinckle Jones, Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Abram L. Harris.
2. What are the core principles of Alpha Phi Alpha? The fraternity's core principles are manhood, scholarship, and service. These values guide its activities and shape its members' commitment to social responsibility.
3. How can I learn more about Alpha Phi Alpha's history? You can explore their official website, which provides an in-depth account of the fraternity's history, as well as various books and academic papers exploring Alpha Phi Alpha's impact.
4. What significant contributions have Alpha Phi Alpha members made to society? Alpha Phi Alpha members have played crucial roles in various fields, including civil rights activism, education, politics, the arts, and sciences. Many members have risen to positions of national and international prominence, significantly influencing social, political, and cultural landscapes.

5. Does Alpha Phi Alpha have a presence internationally? Yes, Alpha Phi Alpha has a global presence with chapters in various countries around the world, extending its reach and commitment to service beyond the United States.

alpha phi alpha history: Jewels Darrius Jerome Gourdine, 2006-06-24 Explore the planning and founding of the literary society that would one day become Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. This is a fascinating novel about seven of the greatest contributors to African American collegiate and graduate life...-- P. [4] of cover.

alpha phi alpha history: Alpha Phi Alpha Gregory Parks, Stefan M. Bradley, 2012 On December 4, 1906, on Cornell University's campus, seven black men founded one of the greatest and most enduring organizations in American history. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. has brought together and shaped such esteemed men as Martin Luther King Jr., Cornel West, Thurgood Marshall, Wes Moore, W. E. B. DuBois, Roland Martin, and Paul Robeson. "Born in the shadow of slavery and on the lap of disenfranchisement," Alpha Phi Alpha—like other black Greek-letter organizations—was founded to instill a spirit of high academic achievement and intellectualism, foster meaningful and lifelong ties, and racially uplift those brothers who would be initiated into its ranks. In Alpha Phi Alpha, Gregory S. Parks, Stefan M. Bradley, and other contributing authors analyze the fraternity and its members' fidelity to the founding precepts set forth in 1906. They discuss the identity established by the fraternity at its inception, the challenges of protecting the image and brand, and how the organization can identify and train future Alpha men to uphold the standards of an outstanding African American fraternity. Drawing on organizational identity theory and a diverse array of methodologies, the authors raise and answer questions that are relevant not only to Alpha Phi Alpha but to all black Greek-letter organizations.

alpha phi alpha history: African American Fraternities and Sororities Tamara L. Brown, Gregory S. Parks, Clarenda M. Phillips, 2012-02-29 The rich history and social significance of the "Divine Nine" African American Greek-letter organizations is explored in this comprehensive anthology. In the long tradition of African American benevolent and secret societies, intercollegiate African American fraternities and sororities have strong traditions of fostering brotherhood and sisterhood among their members, exerting considerable influence in the African American community and being in the forefront of civic action, community service, and philanthropy. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Toni Morrison, Arthur Ashe, and Sarah Vaughn are just a few of the trailblazing members of these organizations. African American Fraternities and Sororities places the history of these organizations in context, linking them to other movements and organizations that predated them and tying their history to the Civil Rights movement. It explores various cultural aspects of the organizations, such as auxiliary groups, branding, calls, and stepping, and highlights the unique role of African American sororities.

alpha phi alpha history: It's in the Action C. T. Vivian, Steve Fiffer, 2021-03-16 The wisdom acquired during C. T. Vivian's lifetime is generously shared in *It's In the Action*, the civil rights legend's memoir of his early life and time in the civil rights movement. Vivian worked hand-in-hand with the movement's most famous figures, including Martin Luther King Jr. and John Lewis, and his contributions were no less vital to the successes of nonviolent resistance. Bearing a foreword from Andrew Young, *It's In the Action* is an important addition to civil rights history from Vivian and co-author Steve Fiffer. C. T. Vivian's life was never defined by the discrimination and hardship he faced, although there were many instances of both throughout his lifetime. The late civil rights leader instead focused on his faith in God and his steadfast belief in nonviolence, extending these principles nationwide as a member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. *It's In the Action* contains Vivian's recollections, ranging from finding religion at the young age of five to his imprisonment as part of the Freedom Rides. The late civil rights leader's heart wrenching and inspiring stories from a lifetime of nonviolent activism come just in time for a new generation of activists, similarly responding to systems of injustice, violence, and oppression. *It's In the Action* is a

record of a life dedicated to selflessness and morality, qualities achieved by Vivian that we can all aspire to.

alpha phi alpha history: The Divine Nine Lawrence C. Ross, 2001-01-01 From the creation of the first black fraternity at Cornell in 1906 to the present day, a fascinating history of America's nine black fraternities and sororities explores the roles of these organizations in shaping generations of African-American leaders. Reissue.

alpha phi alpha history: Black Greek 101 Walter M. Kimbrough, 2023-09-12 Black Greek 101 analyzes the customs, culture, and challenges facing historically Black fraternal organizations. The text provides a history of Black Greek organizations beyond the nine major organizations, examining the pledging practice, the growth of fraternalism outside of the mainstream organizations, the vivid culture and practices of the groups, and challenges for the future.

alpha phi alpha history: A History of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in Illinois Charles Smoot, 2018-04-07 On an ice cold Monday in February of 1910, six men would continue a tradition begun in Ithaca, New York and brought Alpha Phi Alpha to the state of Illinois. This volume seeks to shed a light on the accomplishments of the brothers, chapters and structure that has helped Alpha Phi Alpha continue to be one of the most influential African American organizations in the world.

alpha phi alpha history: Tussle at the Top Vincent Windrow, 2018-09-10 This book features years of research on both the competition between and the member-collaboration of Omega Psi Phi and Alpha Phi Alpha. These two storied Black Greek fraternities have contributed mightily to society through its respective organizational thrusts and the achievements of their members. This work highlights both and provides detailed and interesting research on the many personalities that have been initiated through both fraternities and the ways in which they have particularly impacted the struggles and challenges of African Americans.

alpha phi alpha history: Black Greek-letter Organizations in the Twenty-First Century Gregory S. Parks, 2008-06-13 During the twentieth century, black Greek-Letter organizations (BGLOs) united college students dedicated to excellence, fostered kinship, and uplifted African Americans. Members of these organizations include remarkable and influential individuals such as Martin Luther King Jr., Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, novelist Toni Morrison, and Wall Street pioneer Reginald F. Lewis. Despite the profound influence of these groups, many now question the continuing relevance of BGLOs, arguing that their golden age has passed. Partly because of their perceived link to hip-hop culture, black fraternities and sororities have been unfairly reduced to a media stereotype—a world of hazing without any real substance. The general public knows very little about BGLOs, and surprisingly the members themselves often do not have a thorough understanding of their history and culture or of the issues currently facing their organizations. To foster a greater engagement with the history and contributions of BGLOs, *Black Greek-Letter Organizations in the Twenty-first Century: Our Fight Has Just Begun* brings together an impressive group of authors to explore the contributions and continuing possibilities of BGLOs and their members. Editor Gregory S. Parks and the contributing authors provide historical context for the development of BGLOs, exploring their service activities as well as their relationships with other prominent African American institutions. The book examines BGLOs' responses to a number of contemporary issues, including non-black membership, homosexuality within BGLOs, and the perception of BGLOs as educated gangs. As illustrated by the organized response of BGLO members to the racial injustice they observed in Jena, Louisiana, these organizations still have a vital mission. Both internally and externally, BGLOs struggle to forge a relevant identity for the new century. Internally, these groups wrestle with many issues, including hazing, homophobia, petty intergroup competition, and the difficulty of bridging the divide between college and alumni members. Externally, BGLOs face the challenge of rededicating themselves to their communities and leading an aggressive campaign against modern forms of racism, sexism, and other types of fear-driven behavior. By embracing the history of these organizations and exploring their continuing viability and relevance, *Black Greek-Letter Organizations in the Twenty-first Century* demonstrates that BGLOs can create a positive and enduring future and that their most important work lies ahead.

alpha phi alpha history: The History of Alpha Phi Alpha Delta Lambda Chapter Ronald a Mills Sr, Joseph T Durham Ed D, Jr Ph D Lopez D Matthews, 2019-05-23 Delta Lambda Chapter was born during a particularly active period in American history, which saw African Americans increasingly active in the struggle for civil rights. The black middle class saw their fortunes slowly rise even in the face of extreme racism and prejudice. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity was beginning to connect brothers who finished college but wanted to remain active with their fraternity; they joined what became known as graduate chapters (now alumni chapters). It was in the spirit of fraternity that Delta Lambda chapter was born on May 23, 1919. The charter members chose to form a chapter to build a closer bond between brothers in the city. With the motto, Watch Us Grow, in their statement to the fraternity, the men announced that they felt the 'call' of closer union and wanted to develop a better understanding and organization amongst the brothers in the city. The trailblazers of Delta Lambda were Brothers William Norman Bishop, Simeon Saunders Booker, Heyward Elbert Caldwell, Raymond Tunstall Carpenter, Reverend Beal Elliott, Walter Benjamin Garvin, James Henry Hilburn, James Jay Garland McRae, Carl James Murphy, Louis Hezekiah Russell, and Joseph Lincoln Shelton. For two consecutive years, 1999 - 2000, Delta Lambda was chosen as the Eastern Region's Chapter of the Year and represented the Eastern Region at both the Dallas and Atlanta General Conventions. The Chapter won the Atlanta competition in 2000, thus being named the Millennium Alumni Chapter of the Year. Today, the roster of Delta Lambda is equally star-studded. Among our ranks are physicians, ministers, public servants, school teachers and administrators, lawyers, dentists, entrepreneurs, college professors and administrators, and retired personnel from many areas of community life. This volume of the fraternal history of Alpha Phi Alpha delves into the history Delta Lambda Chapter of and the biographies of its charter members and, presidents and noteworthy members.

alpha phi alpha history: Brothers and Sisters Craig LaRon Torbenson, Gregory Parks, 2009 The 1950s are arguably the watershed era in the civil rights movement with the landmark Supreme Court decision of Brown v. Board of Education in 1954, the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955, and the desegregation of Little Rock (Arkansas) High School in 1957. It was during this period--1955 to be exact--that sociologist Alfred M. Lee published his seminal work *Fraternities without Brotherhood: A Study of Prejudice on the American Campus*. Lee's book was the first and last book to explore diversity within college fraternal groups. More than fifty years later, Craig L. Torbenson and Gregory S. Parks revisit this issue more broadly in their edited volume *Brothers and Sisters: Diversity in College Fraternities and Sororities*. This volume draws from a variety of disciplines in an attempt to provide a holistic analysis of diversity within collegiate fraternal life. It also brings a wide range of scholarly approaches to the inquiry of diversity within college fraternities and sororities. It explores not only from whence these groups have come but where they are currently situated and what issues arise as they progress.

alpha phi alpha history: Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities , 1898

alpha phi alpha history: Alpha Phi Alpha Gregory S. Parks, 2012-01-27 On December 4, 1906, on Cornell University's campus, seven black men founded one of the greatest and most enduring organizations in American history. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. has brought together and shaped such esteemed men as Martin Luther King Jr., Cornel West, Thurgood Marshall, Wes Moore, W. E. B. DuBois, Roland Martin, and Paul Robeson. Born in the shadow of slavery and on the lap of disenfranchisement, Alpha Phi Alpha—like other black Greek-letter organizations—was founded to instill a spirit of high academic achievement and intellectualism, foster meaningful and lifelong ties, and racially uplift those brothers who would be initiated into its ranks. In *Alpha Phi Alpha*, Gregory S. Parks, Stefan M. Bradley, and other contributing authors analyze the fraternity and its members' fidelity to the founding precepts set forth in 1906. They discuss the identity established by the fraternity at its inception, the challenges of protecting the image and brand, and how the organization can identify and train future Alpha men to uphold the standards of an outstanding African American fraternity. Drawing on organizational identity theory and a diverse array of methodologies, the authors raise and answer questions that are relevant not only to Alpha Phi Alpha

but to all black Greek-letter organizations.

alpha phi alpha history: *Address to the Alumni* Langdon C. Stewardson, 1910

alpha phi alpha history: *Having Our Say* Sarah L. Delany, A. Elizabeth Delany, Amy Hill Hearth, 2023-01-03 Warm, feisty, and intelligent, the Delany sisters speak their mind in a book that is at once a vital historical record and a moving portrait of two remarkable women who continued to love, laugh, and embrace life after over a hundred years of living side by side. Their sharp memories tell us about the post-Reconstruction South and Booker T. Washington, Harlem's Golden Age and Langston Hughes, W. E. B. Du Bois and Paul Robeson. Bessie Delany breaks barriers to become a dentist; Sadie Delany quietly integrates the New York City system as a high school teacher. Their extraordinary story makes an important contribution to our nation's heritage—and an indelible impression on our lives.

alpha phi alpha history: *The History of Alpha Phi Alpha* Paul E. Brown, Lopez D. Matthews, Frederick Nickens, 2017-03-11 Although organized in 1932, the history of the Eastern Region of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity can be traced to the beginnings of the Fraternity. The region, also known as AlphaEast, is home to some of the oldest chapters in the fraternity. Founded December 4, 1906, the fraternity's first chapter, Alpha, is seated in Ithaca, New York at Cornell University. Comprising over 18,500 brothers, the Eastern Region of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity has become a shining example of what is known as the work of Alpha. Chapters within the region have supported community groups, provided scholarships to African American youth, and created non-profit organizations to support the community. The region comprises seven districts that cover eleven states - Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia - Washington D.C., and the international areas of Bermuda, Germany, Liberia, South Africa and the United Kingdom (London). The members of the region have founded organizations and universities. They have changed the course of African American history through their work in the Civil Rights movement. Members have made lasting contributions to the fabric of the fraternity and the nation. Brothers like Martin Luther King, Jr., Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., and Charles Hamilton Houston made great strides in the arena of Civil Rights. Brothers like Brother Lutrelle Fleming Palmer, Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, and Samuel Myers, Sr. have made great contributions to the field of education. Through the various chapter foundations which have been established, the brothers and chapters within the region have left their mark on local communities. AlphaEast has truly lived up to its motto, First of All, Leading the Way.

alpha phi alpha history: *Past is Prologue* Marjorie H. Parker, 1999-01-01

alpha phi alpha history: *History of Sigma Pi Phi, First of the Negro-American Greek-letter Fraternities* Charles Harris Wesley, 1954

alpha phi alpha history: *The Things They Carried* Tim O'Brien, 2009-10-13 A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, *The Things They Carried* is a ground-breaking meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling. *The Things They Carried* depicts the men of Alpha Company: Jimmy Cross, Henry Dobbins, Rat Kiley, Mitchell Sanders, Norman Bowker, Kiowa, and the character Tim O'Brien, who has survived his tour in Vietnam to become a father and writer at the age of forty-three. Taught everywhere—from high school classrooms to graduate seminars in creative writing—it has become required reading for any American and continues to challenge readers in their perceptions of fact and fiction, war and peace, courage and fear and longing. *The Things They Carried* won France's prestigious Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger and the Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize; it was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

alpha phi alpha history: *The History of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity* Herman Dreer, 1940

alpha phi alpha history: *Jackie Robinson* Arnold Rampersad, 2011-06-08 The extraordinary life of Jackie Robinson is illuminated as never before in this full-scale biography by Arnold Rampersad, who was chosen by Jack's widow, Rachel, to tell her husband's story, and was given unprecedented access to his private papers. We are brought closer than we have ever been to the

great ballplayer, a man of courage and quality who became a pivotal figure in the areas of race and civil rights. Born in the rural South, the son of a sharecropper, Robinson was reared in southern California. We see him blossom there as a student-athlete as he struggled against poverty and racism to uphold the beliefs instilled in him by his mother--faith in family, education, America, and God. We follow Robinson through World War II, when, in the first wave of racial integration in the armed forces, he was commissioned as an officer, then court-martialed after refusing to move to the back of a bus. After he plays in the Negro National League, we watch the opening of an all-American drama as, late in 1945, Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers recognized Jack as the right player to break baseball's color barrier--and the game was forever changed. Jack's never-before-published letters open up his relationship with his family, especially his wife, Rachel, whom he married just as his perilous venture of integrating baseball began. Her memories are a major resource of the narrative as we learn about the severe harassment Robinson endured from teammates and opponents alike; about death threats and exclusion; about joy and remarkable success. We watch his courageous response to abuse, first as a stoic endurer, then as a fighter who epitomized courage and defiance. We see his growing friendship with white players like Pee Wee Reese and the black teammates who followed in his footsteps, and his embrace by Brooklyn's fans. We follow his blazing career: 1947, Rookie of the Year; 1949, Most Valuable Player; six pennants in ten seasons, and 1962, induction into the Hall of Fame. But sports were merely one aspect of his life. We see his business ventures, his leading role in the community, his early support of Martin Luther King Jr., his commitment to the civil rights movement at a crucial stage in its evolution; his controversial associations with Eisenhower, Kennedy, Nixon, Humphrey, Goldwater, Nelson Rockefeller, and Malcolm X. Rampersad's magnificent biography leaves us with an indelible image of a principled man who was passionate in his loyalties and opinions: a baseball player who could focus a crowd's attention as no one before or since; an activist at the crossroads of his people's struggle; a dedicated family man whose last years were plagued by illness and tragedy, and who died prematurely at fifty-two. He was a pathfinder, an American hero, and he now has the biography he deserves.

alpha phi alpha history: Songs of Alpha Delta Phi Alpha Delta Phi, 1896

alpha phi alpha history: Thurgood Marshall Juan Williams, 2011-06-22 A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK • The definitive biography of the great lawyer and Supreme Court justice, from the bestselling author of *Eyes on the Prize* "Magisterial . . . in Williams' richly detailed portrait, Marshall emerges as a born rebel."—Jack E. White, *Time* Thurgood Marshall was the twentieth century's great architect of American race relations. His victory in the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, the landmark Supreme Court case outlawing school segregation in the United States, would have made him a historic figure even if he had never been appointed as the first African-American to serve on the Supreme Court. He had a fierce will to change America, which led to clashes with Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and Robert F. Kennedy. Most surprising was Marshall's secret and controversial relationship with the FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover. Based on eight years of research and interviews with over 150 sources, *Thurgood Marshall* is the sweeping and inspirational story of an enduring figure in American life who rose from the descendants of slaves to become an American hero.

alpha phi alpha history: Faithful to the Task at Hand Carroll L.L. Miller, Anne S.

Pruitt-Logan, 2012-06-28 Born just twenty years after the end of slavery and orphaned at the age of five, Lucy Diggs Slowe (1885–1937) became a seventeen-time tennis champion and the first African American woman to win a major sports title, a founder of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, and the first Dean of Women at Howard University. She provided leadership and service in a wide range of organizations concerned with improving the conditions of women, African Americans, and other disadvantaged groups and also participated in peace activism. Among her many accomplishments, she created the first junior high school for black students in Washington, DC. In this long overdue biography, Carroll L. L. Miller and Anne S. Pruitt-Logan tell the remarkable story of Slowe's steadfast determination working her way through college, earning respect as a teacher and dean, and standing up to Howard's President and Board of Trustees in insisting on equal treatment of

women. Along the way, the authors weave together recurring themes in African American history: the impact of racism, the importance of education, the role of sports, and gender inequality.

alpha phi alpha history: Charles H. Wesley Charles Harris Wesley, 1997

alpha phi alpha history: The Collapse of The Confederacy Prof. Charles H. Wesley, 2016-08-09 In 1937, in his ground-breaking *The Collapse of the Confederacy*, the African American historian Charles H. Wesley (1891-1987) took a bold step in rewriting the history of the Confederate South by asserting that the new nation failed because of underlying internal and social factors. Looking beyond military events to explain the Confederacy's demise, Wesley challenged conventional interpretations and argued that, by 1865, the supposedly unified South had "lost its will to fight." Though neglected today by scholars and students of the Civil War, Wesley ranked as one of the leading African American historians, educational administrators, and public speakers of the first half of the twentieth century.

alpha phi alpha history: The Columbia Guide to African American History Since 1939 Robert L. Harris, Rosalyn Terborg-Penn, 2006 This book is a multifaceted approach to understanding the central developments in African American history since 1939. It combines a historical overview of key personalities and movements with essays by leading scholars on specific facets of the African American experience, a chronology of events, and a guide to further study. Marian Anderson's famous 1939 concert in front of the Lincoln Memorial was a watershed moment in the struggle for racial justice. Beginning with this event, the editors chart the historical efforts of African Americans to address racism and inequality. They explore the rise of the Civil Rights and Black Power movements and the national and international contexts that shaped their ideologies and methods; consider how changes in immigration patterns have complicated the conventional black/white dichotomy in U.S. society; discuss the often uneasy coexistence between a growing African American middle class and a persistent and sizable underclass; and address the complexity of the contemporary African American experience. Contributors consider specific issues in African American life, including the effects of the postindustrial economy and the influence of music, military service, sports, literature, culture, business, and the politics of self-designation, e.g., Colored vs. Negro, Black vs. African American. While emphasizing political and social developments, this volume also illuminates important economic, military, and cultural themes. An invaluable resource, *The Columbia Guide to African American History Since 1939* provides a thorough understanding of a crucial historical period.

alpha phi alpha history: Black Haze, Second Edition Ricky L. Jones, 2015-06-27 Expanded and revised edition of the first book devoted solely to black fraternity hazing. Are black men naturally violent? Do they define manhood in the same way as their counterparts across lines of race? Are black Greek-letter fraternities among the most dangerous student organizations on American college and university campuses? Can their often-dangerous initiation processes be stopped or even modified and, if not, what should be done about them? In this second edition of *Black Haze*, Ricky L. Jones takes on these questions and more. The first edition was an enlightening and sometimes disturbing examination of American men's quest for acceptance, comfort, reaffirmation, and manhood in a world where their footing is often unstable. In this new edition Jones not only provides masterful philosophical and ethical analyses but he also forces the engagement of a terrifying real world process that damages and kills students with all too frequent regularity. With a revealing new preface and stunning afterword, Jones immerses the reader in an intriguing and dark world marked by hypermasculinity, unapologetic brutality, and sometimes death. He offers a compelling book that ranges well beyond the subject of hazing—one that yields perplexing questions and demands difficult choices as we move forward in addressing issues surrounding fraternities, violent hazing, black men, and American society. *Black Haze* is a landmark study on hazing culture within black Greek-letter organizations. With an insider's eye and scholar's touch, Jones masterfully captures the emic contours, complexities, and contradictions of black fraternity hazing as ritual act and cultural practice. This text is at once rigorous and accessible, theoretical and practical, classic and urgent. Anyone interested in understanding hazing,

masculinity, BGLOs, or black cultural practice must read this book! □ □ Marc Lamont Hill, coauthor of *The Classroom and the Cell: Conversations on Black Life in America* □ *Black Haze* is a compelling survey of black Greek-letter organizations, their history, purpose, and their most damning traditions. This is an examination of how the virtues of brotherhood and civic service coexist with brutal violence and cruelty within some of the oldest organizations in black America. Professor Jones has produced a vital contribution about a crucial and enduring problem. □ □ William Jelani Cobb, author of *The Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress* □ *Ricky Jones's Black Haze* is an important study of black male identity development. By examining black men's relationship with fraternities, he uncovers larger and brilliantly penetrating insights into issues of masculinity and political identity among African American males in the post-civil rights era. □ □ Peniel E. Joseph, author of *Waiting 'Til the Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of Black Power in America* □ *Black Haze* is a riveting coup de grâce against ritualized violence in black fraternities. The second edition of *Black Haze* is the most penetrating, illuminating, and articulate sociopolitical and cultural analysis of the chilling legacy of violence in black Greek-letter fraternities. As one of the world's leading authorities on black masculinity and organizations, Ricky Jones intelligently confronts traditional verities, social norms, and myths that seek to justify and continue ritualized violence in black fraternities through the courageous prism of a reformed insider dedicated to the preservation of black dignity and life. □ □ Jeremy I. Levitt, author of *Black Women and International Law: Deliberate Interactions, Movements and Actions Praise for the First Edition* □ provides valuable insights into the reasoning behind hazing, a practice that extends into the realms of sports and even high school, and is relevant for not only fraternity members and officials, but the general public as well. □ □ *The Griot* □ an important contribution because of the skillful manner in which Jones incorporates and critically analyzes relevant literature and other related scholarly writings Jones, himself a member of Kappa Alpha Psi, offers personal observations as well as first-hand views and perceptions of hazing. □ □ *Journal of College Student Development*

alpha phi alpha history: Upending the Ivory Tower Stefan M. Bradley, 2021-01-19 Winner, 2019 Anna Julia Cooper and C.L.R. James Award, given by the National Council for Black Studies Finalist, 2019 Pauli Murray Book Prize in Black Intellectual History, given by the African American Intellectual History Society Winner, 2019 Outstanding Book Award, given by the History of Education Society The inspiring story of the black students, faculty, and administrators who forever changed America's leading educational institutions and paved the way for social justice and racial progress The eight elite institutions that comprise the Ivy League, sometimes known as the Ancient Eight—Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Penn, Columbia, Brown, Dartmouth, and Cornell—are American stalwarts that have profoundly influenced history and culture by producing the nation's and the world's leaders. The few black students who attended Ivy League schools in the decades following WWII not only went on to greatly influence black America and the nation in general, but unquestionably awakened these most traditional and selective of American spaces. In the twentieth century, black youth were in the vanguard of the black freedom movement and educational reform. *Upending the Ivory Tower* illuminates how the Black Power movement, which was borne out of an effort to edify the most disfranchised of the black masses, also took root in the hallowed halls of America's most esteemed institutions of higher education. Between the close of WWII and 1975, the civil rights and Black Power movements transformed the demographics and operation of the Ivy League on and off campus. As desegregators and racial pioneers, black students, staff, and faculty used their status in the black intelligentsia to enhance their predominantly white institutions while advancing black freedom. Although they were often marginalized because of their race and class, the newcomers altered educational policies and inserted blackness into the curricula and culture of the unabashedly exclusive and starkly white schools. This book attempts to complete the narrative of higher education history, while adding a much needed nuance to the history of the Black Power movement. It tells the stories of those students, professors, staff, and administrators who pushed for change at the risk of losing what privilege they had. Putting their status, and sometimes even their lives, in jeopardy, black activists negotiated, protested, and demonstrated to create opportunities for

the generations that followed. The enrichments these change agents made endure in the diversity initiatives and activism surrounding issues of race that exist in the modern Ivy League. Upending the Ivory Tower not only informs the civil rights and Black Power movements of the postwar era but also provides critical context for the Black Lives Matter movement that is growing in the streets and on campuses throughout the country today. As higher education continues to be a catalyst for change, there is no one better to inform today's activists than those who transformed our country's past and paved the way for its future.

alpha phi alpha history: *The Anacostia Story, 1608-1930* Louise Daniel Hutchinson, 1977

alpha phi alpha history: Wrongs of Passage Hank Nuwer, 2001 Explores the problems of hazing and binge drinking at fraternities and sororities on American college campuses, telling the stories of some of the young people who have been seriously injured or died as a result of such behaviors; and offers a list of recommendations for reform.

alpha phi alpha history: Impure Migration Mir Yarfitz, 2019-04-04 Impure Migration investigates the period from the 1890s until the 1930s, when prostitution was a legal institution in Argentina and the international community knew its capital city Buenos Aires as the center of the sex industry. At the same time, pogroms and anti-Semitic discrimination left thousands of Eastern European Jewish people displaced, without the resources required to immigrate. For many Jewish women, participation in prostitution was one of very few ways they could escape the limited options in their home countries, and Jewish men facilitate their transit and the organization of their work and social lives. Instead of marginalizing this story or reading it as a degrading chapter in Latin American Jewish history, Impure Migration interrogates a complicated social landscape to reveal that sex work is in fact a critical part of the histories of migration, labor, race, and sexuality.

alpha phi alpha history: A History of Cornell Morris Bishop, 2014-10-15 Cornell University is fortunate to have as its historian a man of Morris Bishop's talents and devotion. As an accurate record and a work of art possessing form and personality, his book at once conveys the unique character of the early university—reflected in its vigorous founder, its first scholarly president, a brilliant and eccentric faculty, the hardy student body, and, sometimes unfortunately, its early architecture—and establishes Cornell's wider significance as a case history in the development of higher education. Cornell began in rebellion against the obscurantism of college education a century ago. Its record, claims the author, makes a social and cultural history of modern America. This story will undoubtedly entrance Cornellians; it will also charm a wider public. Dr. Allan Nevins, historian, wrote: I anticipated that this book would meet the sternest tests of scholarship, insight, and literary finish. I find that it not only does this, but that it has other high merits. It shows grasp of ideas and forces. It is graphic in its presentation of character and idiosyncrasy. It lights up its story by a delightful play of humor, felicitously expressed. Its emphasis on fundamentals, without pomposity or platitude, is refreshing. Perhaps most important of all, it achieves one goal that in the history of a living university is both extremely difficult and extremely valuable: it recreates the changing atmosphere of time and place. It is written, very plainly, by a man who has known and loved Cornell and Ithaca for a long time, who has steeped himself in the traditions and spirit of the institution, and who possesses the enthusiasm and skill to convey his understanding of these intangibles to the reader. The distinct personalities of Ezra Cornell and first president Andrew Dickson White dominate the early chapters. For a vignette of the founder, see Bishop's description of his first buildings (Cascadilla, Morrill, McGraw, White, Sibley): At best, he writes, they embody the character of Ezra Cornell, grim, gray, sturdy, and economical. To the English historian, James Anthony Froude, Mr. Cornell was the most surprising and venerable object I have seen in America. The first faculty, chosen by President White, reflected his character: his idealism, his faith in social emancipation by education, his dislike of dogmatism, confinement, and inherited orthodoxy; while the romantic upstate gothic architecture of such buildings as the President's house (now Andrew D. White Center for the Humanities), Sage Chapel, and Franklin Hall may be said to portray the taste and Soul of Andrew Dickson White. Other memorable characters are Louis Fuertes, the beloved naturalist; his student, Hugh Troy, who once borrowed Fuertes' rhinoceros-foot wastebasket for illicit if hilarious

purposes; the more noteworthy and the more eccentric among the faculty of succeeding presidential eras; and of course Napoleon, the campus dog, whose talent for hailing streetcars brought him home safely—and alone—from the Penn game. The humor in *A History of Cornell* is at times kindly, at times caustic, and always illuminating.

alpha phi alpha history: *Christophe; a Tragedy in Prose of Imperial Haiti* William Edgar Easton, 2023-07-18 This play tells the story of Henri Christophe, a former slave who rose to become king of Haiti in the early 19th century. Through Christophe's story, the play explores themes of power, corruption, and the legacy of colonialism in the Caribbean. This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

alpha phi alpha history: *African American Fraternities and Sororities* Tamara L. Brown, Gregory S. Parks, Clarenda M. Phillips, 2012-01-01 This second edition includes new chapters that address issues such as the role of Christian values in black Greek-letter organizations and the persistence of hazing. Offering an overview of the historical, cultural, political, and social circumstances that have shaped these groups, *African American Fraternities and Sororities* explores the profound contributions that black Greek-letter organizations and their members have made to America.

alpha phi alpha history: Congressional Record United States. Congress, 2009

alpha phi alpha history: *Greek Letter Men of Saint Louis* , 1898

alpha phi alpha history: *Fraternity Men of Chicago* , 1898

alpha phi alpha history: Black Greek-Letter Organizations 2.0 Matthew W. Hughey, Gregory S. Parks, 2011-02-18 At the turn of the twentieth century, black fraternities and sororities, also known as Black Greek-Letter Organizations (BGLOs), were an integral part of what W.E.B. Du Bois called the “talented tenth.” This was the top ten percent of the black community that would serve as a cadre of educated, upper-class, motivated individuals who acquired the professional credentials, skills, and capital to assist the race to attain socioeconomic parity. Today, however, BGLOs struggle to find their place and direction in a world drastically different from the one that witnessed their genesis. In recent years, there has been a growing body of scholarship on BGLOs. This collection of essays seeks to push those who think about BGLOs to engage in more critically and empirically based analysis. This book also seeks to move BGLO members and those who work with them beyond conclusions based on hunches, conventional wisdom, intuition, and personal experience. In addition to a rich range of scholars, this volume includes a kind of call and response feature between scholars and prominent members of the BGLO community.

alpha phi alpha history: Jet , 1995-09-18 The weekly source of African American political and entertainment news.

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