

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

XI OMEGA CHAPTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL SORORITY TO AWARD \$150,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO DC STUDENTS AS PART OF CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

AKA Xi Omega Chapter will celebrate 100 years of service and \$1M in overall scholarship giving at Centennial Jubilee.

Washington, DC, June 23, 2023 — Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated ®, Xi Omega Chapter, will host its Centennial Jubilee on Sunday, June 25, in partnership with Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, Inc. (PIEF), to celebrate 100 years of service and scholarship in Washington, DC.

Chartered in 1923, Xi Omega Chapter is the first and largest Alpha Kappa Alpha graduate chapter in the nation's capital. PIEF was established as its nonprofit arm in 1988. With this year's \$150,000 in scholarship awards, overall giving will exceed \$1 million in financial assistance to DC high school youth and continuing college students. The 2023 recipients consist of 20 graduating seniors from traditional public and public charter schools, including five students who will receive \$10,000 Centennial Scholarships for exemplary academic achievements and leadership.

"For 100 years, education has been the backbone of our service initiatives," said Raven L. Hill, Xi Omega Chapter and Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation president. "Our earliest members were teachers, which set the foundation for tutoring, mentoring and scholarship programs. As we celebrate this centennial anniversary and million-dollar milestone, we pay tribute to the vision and generosity of those who paved the way."

More than 700 people are registered to attend this sold-out event, held at the Marriott Marquis Washington, DC, 901 Massachusetts Ave NW, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Special guests include AKA North Atlantic Regional Director Elicia Pegues Spearman, DC State Superintendent of Education Dr. Christina Grant, DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson, DC Council Member Christina Henderson and former DC Council Member Brandon Todd.

The Jubilee will also feature the Xi Omega Traveling Centennial Museum, which later will be showcased at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center and other locations this year. The event will also include live entertainment from Bliss the Electric Blue Violinist and Secret Society.

For more information, please visit XO100.org or contact <u>publicrelations@akaxo.org</u>.

About AKA: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is an international service organization founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, DC, in 1908. It is the first Greek-letter organization established by African American college-educated women, comprised of more than 355,000 members in more than 1,000 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States, Liberia, the Bahamas, the US Virgin Islands, Germany, South Korea, Bermuda, Japan, Canada, South Africa, and Dubai. Led by International President Danette Anthony Reed, Alpha Kappa Alpha is often hailed as "America's premier Greek-letter organization for African-American women." For more information on Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and its programs, visit aka1908.com.

About Xi Omega: Xi Omega Chapter is the first and largest graduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in Washington, DC. Established in 1923, the chapter has a membership of nearly 700 professional women who serve the District of Columbia. Xi Omega's signature service programs focus on family empowerment, wealth building, environmental enhancement, social justice advocacy, and local community upliftment. These programs are the cornerstone of the AKA international service theme, "Soaring to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood." For more information, visit akaxo.org.

About PIEF: Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, Incorporated (PIEF) was established in 1988 as the nonprofit community partner of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Xi Omega Chapter. The foundation's primary mission is to provide scholarships to deserving and exemplary college-bound high school seniors in the District of Columbia and continuing college students. In addition to annually awarding more than \$100,000 in scholarships, PIEF provides an array of service programs in collaboration with Xi Omega and signature fundraisers, including the Pink Hat Tea, Norma E. Boyd 5K Race for Education and Giving Tuesday. For more information, visit www.piefdc.org.

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