



# **GAMMA ALPHA OMEGA**

CONFIDENCE. COURAGE. COMMITMENT. CHARACTER.

**COLLEGIATE CHAPTER  
EXPANSION PACKET**

# OUR POTENTIAL *partnership*

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*Gamma Alpha Omega values our partnerships with our existing chapters' institutions. It is with high regard and importance that we create partnerships with our institutions to achieve success at the chapter, regional, national, and international level.*

Your campus will benefit from a recognized methodology for establishing a chapter as overseen by our Expansion Team. Our method allows us to tailor our approach to each campus's needs. This allows us to include special consideration of the personality and culture on campus.

We value open communication and consider it to be vital to the success of our members and your students. Our collegiate members, alumnae members, national leadership, and volunteers understand that our existence at any institution is determined by the approval of the university or college administration. It is important for our members to create a connection to their alma mater in addition to their connection to Gamma Alpha Omega. It is with great pleasure that we extend this potential partnership with a university and their fraternity/sorority community with whom we share the same values for scholarship, leadership development, community engagement, and creating genuine and supportive relationships. These shared values ensure that our sisters will be women of confidence, courage, commitment, and character who are dedicated to making a difference in their communities.

# HERSTORY *of Gamma Alpha Omega*

*In 1993, four determined collegiate woman congregated with the common goal of establishing an organization at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona that would serve towards the advancement of Hispanics/Latinas while promoting a quest for higher learning and volunteerism. These visionary young women saw the need to create a support system that would encourage women to become actively involved with social issues, achieve educational excellence, serve as a motivational source for others while generating role models and eventually yield a considerable amount of leaders in the Latino/Hispano community. Their benevolent vision became a reality on January 25, 1993 when Gamma Alpha Omega obtained acknowledgement as the first Hispanic sorority on the campus of Arizona State University. We respectfully pay tribute to our Most Honorable Founding Madres who, along with our National Founding Charters, set the stage for our legacy and made possible the birth of a unique and strong sisterhood.*

# OUR SYMBOLS

Some remain rooted in our founding, like our colors and our mascot, while others have been adopted as we've grown and shifted. These symbols and traditions represent who we are and what we value, providing a great source of meaning to our members, and creating a unique bond that connects through time and space.



**Flower:** White Thornless Rose

**Jewels:** Green Emerald, Blue Sapphire,  
White Diamond

**Mascot:** White Bengal Tiger with Blue eyes

**Fruit:** Classic Red Apple

**Colors:** Forest Green, Navy Blue & White

**Motto:** *"Nos una Crescemus"*

*(United we will Grow)*

**Pillars:** Honesty, Integrity, Leadership, Scholarship,  
and Unity





## WE ARE ROOTED IN OUR MISSION

A Latina founded, multicultural organization that exists to increase the number of women with a college education and advanced degrees, provide mentors for youth, women, and underrepresented communities, enhance the individual leader in each member, and provide a family of lifelong support for sisters who live their lives by the pillars of honesty integrity, leadership, scholarship, and unity.

## AND GUIDED BY OUR VISION

to be an innovative and international leader in the Greek community, renowned for outstanding and diverse collegiate chapters, prestigious and engaged alumnae developing strong leaders and providing a lifelong sisterhood.

# CRITERIA FOR *membership*

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*One of the most important endeavors tasked to members is selecting women whose ideals are in line with Gamma Alpha Omega's.*

- ◆ MAINTAINS A 2.5 GPA OR HIGHER AT AN ACCREDITED FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE
- ◆ UPHOLDS THE STANDARDS & IDEALS OF GAMMA ALPHA OMEGA
- ◆ DEDICATED TO SERVING THEIR COMMUNITY THROUGH YOUTH MENTORSHIP AND ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO SUCCEED IN HIGHER EDUCATION
- ◆ COMMITTED TO A LIFELONG SISTERHOOD AND CREATING A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE WITH GAMMA ALPHA OMEGA
- ◆ ACCEPTS THE PRINCIPLES OF MEMBERSHIP THAT INCLUDE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

As a multicultural organization, we seek diversity in our membership by appreciating unique qualities, talents, strengths, and characteristics of all prospective active candidates. The charter class of a new chapter could include freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors who want to be a part of an exciting new opportunity on your campus.



# COLLEGIATE CHAPTER *expansion plan*

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*The national expansion program  
is divided up into three phases.*



# EXPANSION TEAM

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## VICE PRESIDENT OF EXPANSION (VPE)

[expansion@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:expansion@gammaalphaomega.com)

## VICE PRESIDENT OF COLLEGIATE AFFAIRS (VPCA)

[Collegiate\\_affairs@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:Collegiate_affairs@gammaalphaomega.com)

## REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF EXPANSION (RDE)

Southwest [sw\\_rde@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:sw_rde@gammaalphaomega.com)

Northwest [nw\\_rde@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:nw_rde@gammaalphaomega.com)

Midwest North [mwn\\_rde@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:mwn_rde@gammaalphaomega.com)

Midwest South [mws\\_rde@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:mws_rde@gammaalphaomega.com)

## DIRECTOR OF NEW CHAPTERS AND COLONIES

[new\\_chapters@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:new_chapters@gammaalphaomega.com)

## COLLEGIATE REGIONAL DIRECTOR (CRD)

Southwest [sw\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:sw_rd@gammaalphaomega.com)

Northwest [nw\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:nw_rd@gammaalphaomega.com)

Midwest North [mwn\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:mwn_rd@gammaalphaomega.com)

Midwest South [mws\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:mws_rd@gammaalphaomega.com)

## Alumnae Chapter & Expansion Liaisons

In addition to the national office staff, each expansion group also relies on alumnae chapter support and Expansion Liaisons (ELs). These women will be working with the group the most and will be the link between the national and regional leadership of Gamma Alpha Omega.



# EXPANSION TIMELINE

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## PRE-PHASE (4-6 MONTHS)

- Conduct university feasibility assessment.
- Regional Director of Expansion (RDE) identify local alumnae chapter that can provide support for group to serve as Expansion Liaisons (ELs).
- Obtain university policies.
- Meet with Fraternity & Sorority Life staff and existing chapters to get to know campus atmosphere.
- Identify faculty/Staff that can serve as support system and resources for group.
- Recruit possible campus advisor.

## PHASE 1: EXPANSION GROUP (4-6 MONTHS)

- Complete university recognition process.
- Create campus specific recruitment plan with RDE and AELs, looping in university staff.
- ELs complete Gamma Advantage Training on prospective active education, risk management, and programming.
- Secure meeting and event space for recruitment events and interviews.
- \$250 Petitioning group fee due prior to initiation.
- Founding line is identified and membership bids are given.
- Initiate founding line of prospective actives to complete the prospective active program.
- \$250 due by reporting deadlines (1/25 or 7/25)

## PHASE 2: ASSOCIATE CHAPTER (4-6 MONTHS)

- Establish Chapter governance documents, i.e. bylaws, etc.
- Founders will lead recruitment and P.A. program for charter line.
- Associate chapter members host events and programs.
- Select Alumnae Advisor.

## PHASE 3: APPLICATION FOR CHAPTER STATUS (4-12 MONTHS)

- \$500 Application fee due by reporting deadlines (1/25 or 7/25)
- Complete application and presentation to be reviewed by NEB.

# PROSPECTIVE ACTIVE EDUCATION

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The New Member Education Program, also called 'The Blooming' is a place for learning and experiencing educational offerings. Topics covered in the program include:

- ◆ Expectations of Membership
- ◆ History and Heritage
- ◆ Scholarship
- ◆ Service and Philanthropy
- ◆ Sisterhood
- ◆ Standards
- ◆ Personal Development

Gamma Alpha Omega not only wants the prospective actives to understand the importance of membership responsibilities in Gamma, but to also feel welcome in the Sorority that will become her lifetime home.



# FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

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## GROUP FEES:

\$250 Petitioning Fee  
\$250 Expansion Group Dues  
\$500 Application for Chapter Status  
Total Group Fees \$1000

## P.A. EDUCATION PROGRAM FEES:

\$50 Application fee  
\$260 P.A. Dues

## NATIONAL DUES:

\$100 per member  
*(assessed in their 1st full semester as a full collegiate member)*

## CHAPTER DUES:

\$0-200  
*(vary depending on chapter needs )*

### Group Fees:

Gamma Alpha Omega group fees are administrative fees used for the day to day support of the group.

**Prospective Active:** Gamma Alpha Omega prospective actives pay national PA fees which are collected in installments. The colony may choose to charge additional fees with approval.

**National Dues:** Collegiate members of Gamma Alpha Omega pay annual dues to the Sorority to support national operations. Local chapters have additional fees and budget accordingly to meet the needs of the campus culture.

**Chapter Dues:** Each chapter also establishes its own cost, dues and other fees. Chapter costs are determined by chapter members and are listed in the chapter's bylaws, along with the time and method of payment. These dues support collegiate chapter operations and events. We are committed to creating a dues structure that is comparable and competitive with the already established chapters.





# MEMBERSHIP

## *development*

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GAMMA ALPHA OMEGA HAS CREATED A LIFELONG SISTERHOOD AND A NETWORK OF SUPPORT FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS. THROUGH EDUCATIONAL AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS, GAMMA ALPHA OMEGA PROVIDES ITS MEMBERS WITH PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT THAT WILL INSPIRE THEM TO REACH BEYOND.





# SCHOLARSHIP

The main objective of our sisterhood is to help each member graduate from her university while supporting the communities we surround. We hope to provide a link between a family away from home and higher education while strengthening the future of each sister. As we help one another through life's obstacles such as academics, personal, and professional environments, Gamma is creating a sisterhood that defines and relies upon unconditional support and love.

**TO JOIN THE SORORITY AND TO REMAIN AN ACTIVE MEMBER, INDIVIDUALS MUST MAINTAIN A 2.5 CUMULATIVE GPA.**

**3.07**

*AVERAGE CHAPTER GPA*

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. recognizes Education with a focus on Mentoring Youth as its official philanthropy. We recognize the value of role models and mentorship, as undergraduates and alumnae. Our sisterhood is committed to personal success as well as outreach efforts in the community.

Members of Gamma Alpha Omega complete 40 or more hours of community service hours per semester.

**12,990**

*community service hours across all chapters during 2018-2019 fiscal year*



**THE HEART OF  
GAMMA ALPHA OMEGA,**  
*Inspiring lives through hands-on service.*

Our national service, Emeralds for Education, allows our chapters to choose the scope of their service with one common goal: to strengthen the fiber of our community through education. Throughout its history, Gamma Alpha Omega has recognized the importance of serving others. With a commitment to youth education, we work to provide a positive impact on children and communities through mentorship and education.

## **INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS:**

- ◆ HIV/AIDS Awareness
- ◆ National Mentoring Month
- ◆ 'Thank your mentor' Day
- ◆ Literacy Drives

# RISK MANAGEMENT

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OUR APPROACH TO RISK-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION HELPS MEMBERS MOVE FROM “YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW THESE RULES” TO “YOU CAN MAKE SMARTER CHOICES” FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR SISTERS.

Our risk-management and healthy-living programming for chapters encourages better individual and group decision-making. In addition, it also increases awareness for overall chapter safety as it pertains to hazing, alcohol abuse, event safety, sexual assault and other risk management topics that affect the fraternity and sorority world. Our approach also addresses other behaviors including female bullying, eating disorders, relationship violence, and self-respect.

**GAMMA  
ADVANTAGE**  
TRAINING SERIES

**THORNLESS**  
Risk Management Training







## ALCOHOL & RISK MANAGEMENT

Gamma Alpha Omega believes in sound minds and safe practices in regards to alcohol. Our members are expected to follow the below listed standing rules:

- ◆ Members will not purchase, consume, hold or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages while wearing or using Gamma Alpha Omega paraphernalia, strolling, or displaying official hand signs.
- ◆ Members will not smoke or ingest illegal drugs while wearing or using Gamma Alpha Omega paraphernalia, strolling, or displaying official hand signs.
- ◆ All members, regardless of age, may not consume or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during any Recruitment, Prospective Active, or community service/philanthropy events.
- ◆ Members may attend an event that hosts or serves alcohol while wearing Gamma Alpha Omega paraphernalia, but may not consume alcohol or beverages that could be described as an alcoholic beverage.

## COMMITMENT TO HAZING PREVENTION

Fraternity and sorority life is often stereotyped into only being about matching T-shirts, partying and hazing. You may have seen it in the movies or even on your local news. Hazing behaviors are broad and can range from being asked to wear embarrassing clothing, to being forced to consume alcohol. At its core, hazing is the practice of harassing, abusing or humiliating a person as a means for that person to earn their membership. Gamma Alpha Omega supports the dignity and integrity of every member, and therefore does not tolerate hazing of any kind.

## ANTI-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Gamma Alpha Omega is a values-based membership organization. Therefore, those selected for membership in Gamma Alpha Omega must have good scholarship, be of good character and standing, have an interest in activities, which will enhance the academic atmosphere at your college/university, community, and have a sincere desire to contribute to the work of Gamma Alpha Omega. However, there is no ideal shape, size, or color when it comes to being a Gamma. Gamma Alpha Omega is committed to diversity and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, disability or other characteristics protected by state or federal law.

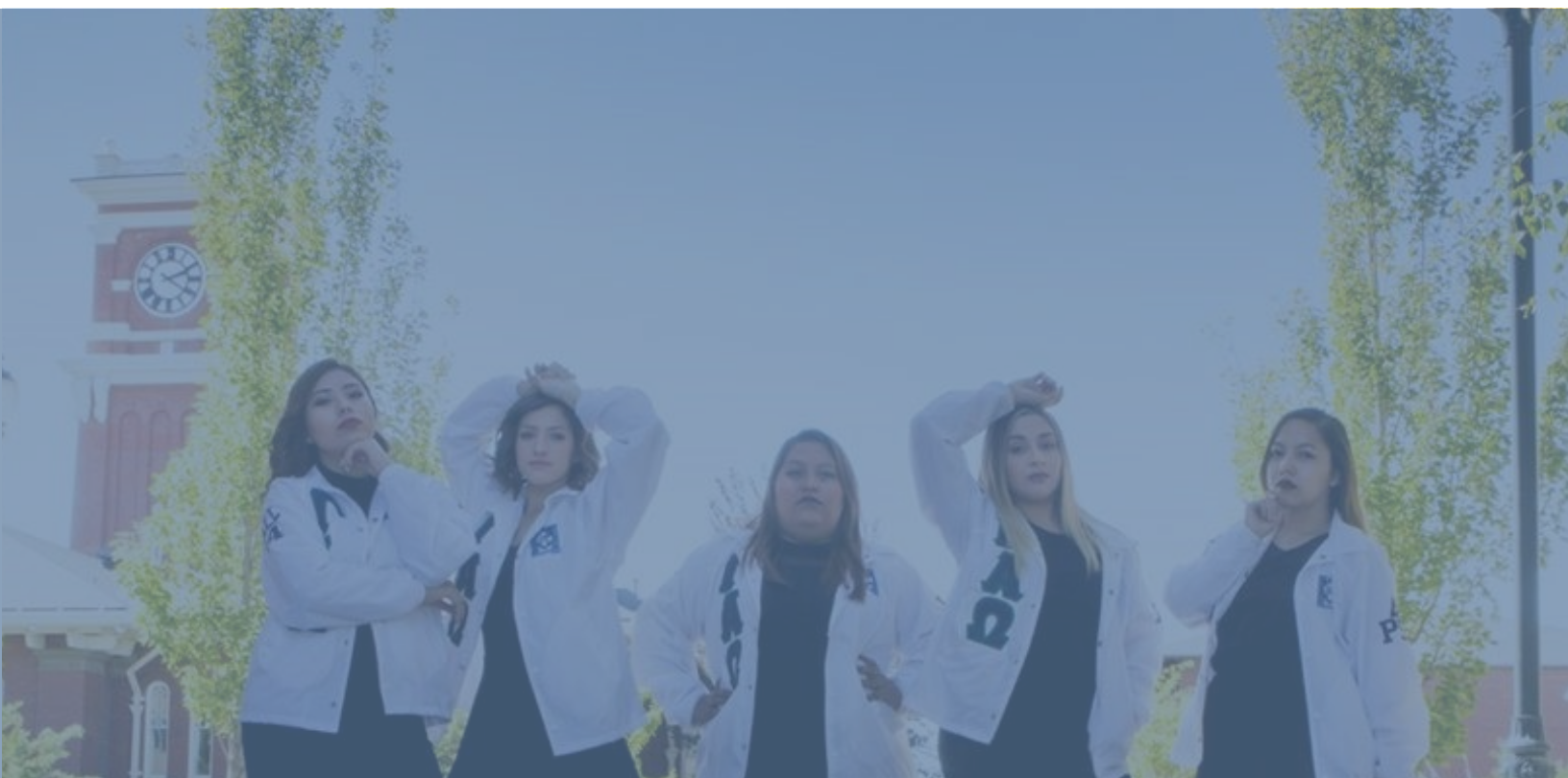


# THE DIAMOND STANDARD

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The Diamond Standard program was developed to help define and assess collegiate chapter excellence as it pertains to our values: leadership, academic success, sisterhood, service, and programming. The program exemplifies what is both expected and desired on the part of each collegiate member and chapter. This program is used as a tool by every chapter to strive toward the highest level of achievement, the Diamond Standard. It is the goal of Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority that each Gamma Alpha Omega Chapter provides a quality membership experience for its members. It should be an experience that will extend far beyond one's academic career. This goal can only be reached if each chapter's level of performance in all areas of chapter life is exemplary.

The criteria that make up this program are aligned with the values of Gamma Alpha Omega. Each collegiate chapter is assessed annually using the criteria defined within the Diamond Standard program. Awards are given to those chapters achieving a high level of success and are presented at either the regional conference or national convention.



# INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT

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As a sister of Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. each member is provided a profound amount of leadership qualities, team unity behaviors, and an understanding of running an organization. As each member moves from collegiate to alumnae membership, we encourage membership to stay involved by attending conferences, completing training, and remaining active within the sorority.

## CONVENTIONS & CONFERENCES

Our national conventions are our largest gathering of members and leaders. These events are a fun and exciting way to learn and network with sisters from across the country, as well as gain a new found appreciation for the unique bonds made possible by Gamma Alpha Omega.

During National Convention our national leadership offers workshops, leadership development, community service, social, and networking events. Each year during convention, we host our annual White Rose Awards Banquet. The White Rose Awards Banquet is a great opportunity to recognize sisters and chapters for going above and beyond the call of duty.

Regional conferences are also held annually during the spring semester within each region. Chapters take turn hosting their region with workshops, service, and other events that mirror national convention.

## CHAPTER & INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Programs are created in the areas of academic achievement, chapter management, developing relationships, member development, member responsibility, philanthropy and Ritual. These programs provide chapters a chance to refresh their activities and presentations while keeping programming consistent with Gamma Alpha Omega's learning objectives for personal and chapter growth.

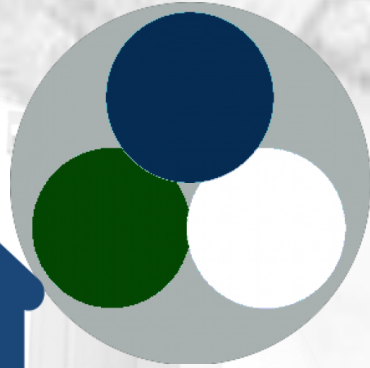
Chapters are required to complete the Gamma Advantage Training Series, which includes the THORNLESS: Risk Management Training, Programming Principles: Programming with Purpose, and PA Educator Certification. Individual members may also complete BEJWELED Leadership Training, Health & Wellness training, and Culture & Diversity training.



12,990  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE HOURS



28  
COLLEGIATE  
CHAPTERS



**GAMMA ALPHA OMEGA**  
CONFIDENCE. COURAGE. COMMITMENT. CHARACTER.



3.07  
AVERAGE  
CHAPTER  
GPA



450  
COLLEGIATE  
MEMBERS



1,500  
ALUMNAE  
MEMBERS





# A LIFETIME OF SISTERHOOD

## CONNECTING YOU TO A LIFELONG JOURNEY

*An alumna is a sister who has graduated with a bachelor's degree or is no longer enrolled in school. Alumnae maintain a lifelong relationship with the sorority and sisters, volunteer to serve in the National Office, and provide support and guidance to chapters.*

Gamma alumnae are encouraged to participate in a local alumnae chapters. Chapters are organized by members who live in the same city or general location. Alumnae chapters come in all shapes and sizes and vary according to interests and demographics, but all offer lifetime membership opportunities for friendship, service, leadership, networking, and sisterhood. of personal integrity, responsibility and intellectual honesty.

Our purpose is accomplished through planned collegiate and alumnae programs which provide motivation, the opportunity for graciousness in daily living and community awareness which will enrich the lives of members and instill in them a respect for the enduring values to be gained from the Sorority.

Alumnae are also able to serve collegiate chapters as their alumnae advisors to assist with recruitment, new member education, and academic success.



## ALUMNAE CHAPTERS & GROUPS

The growing number of alumnae chapters and groups nationwide is one way that Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. prioritizes and caters to our alumnae membership. Joining a chapter or group after graduation is an opportunity for members to act on their oath to lifelong membership, and proclaim their investment in Gamma Alpha Omega.

Alumnae of Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. are successful Lawyers, Teachers, Business women, and Community Leaders. We encourage our alumnae to stay involved after graduation with their region or nationally on our National Executive Board or National Administration.



# NATIONAL *Leadership & Structure*

*Gamma Alpha Omega is directed by volunteer leaders and volunteer professional administrative individuals.*

*Our National Administration oversees the daily operations of our organization. While the National Executive Board is involved in the larger picture of our organization and its national goals. Both groups are dedicated to you, our members, and creating a meaningful Gamma experience. At the regional level, chapters bridge the gap between national HQ through their regional directors.*

*All these women are dedicated to the mission, vision and future of Gamma Alpha Omega, while assisting our chapters and members on a daily basis. Most importantly, they love connecting with members, whether to solve a problem or just to get to know you and your fellow sisters*

# NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

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THE NATIONAL  
EXECUTIVE BOARD IS  
COMPOSED OF  
DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS  
WHO ARE ELECTED TO  
THREE-YEAR TERMS BY  
THE HOUSE OF  
DELEGATES.

*These women direct Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc., always mindful of the organization's goals outlined in the Vision 2020 strategic plan. They are the visionaries, leaders and ambassadors of Gamma Alpha Omega's past, present and future. The women of confidence, courage, commitment, and character who serve as board members are initiates of chapters across the country and reflect all different professions and backgrounds.*

## NATIONAL PRESIDENT

[president@gammaalphaomega.org](mailto:president@gammaalphaomega.org)

## VICE PRESIDENT

[vice\\_president@gammaalphaomega.org](mailto:vice_president@gammaalphaomega.org)

## VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

[communications@gammaalphaomega.org](mailto:communications@gammaalphaomega.org)

## VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE

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## VICE PRESIDENT OF ALUMNAE AFFAIRS

[Alumane\\_affairs@gammaalphaomega.org](mailto:Alumane_affairs@gammaalphaomega.org)

## VICE PRESIDENT OF COLLEGIATE AFFAIRS

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## VICE PRESIDENT OF EXPANSION

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## VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMMING

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## VICE PRESIDENT OF STANDARDS

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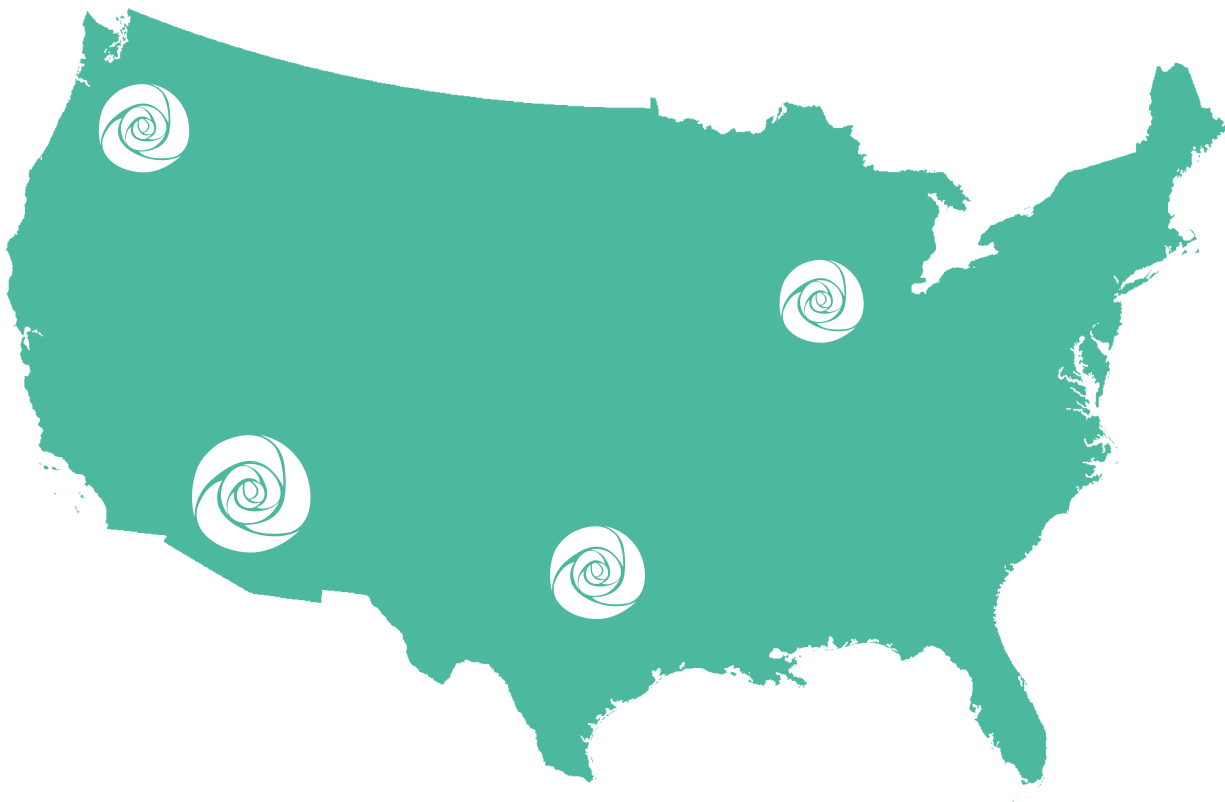
# REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

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**OUR EXPANSION GROUPS ARE ENCOURAGED TO REACH OUT TO THEIR REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND CHAPTERS, THROUGHOUT THE EXPANISON PROGRAM.**

Each region has its own regional director (RD) that works directly with each chapter in its region. A regional director is set for each of the following regions to assist chapter leadership with their chapter operations.

- ◆ SOUTHWEST REGION ([sw\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:sw_rd@gammaalphaomega.com))
- ◆ NORTHWEST REGION ([nw\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:nw_rd@gammaalphaomega.com))
- ◆ MIDWEST NORTH REGION ([mwn\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:mwn_rd@gammaalphaomega.com))
- ◆ MIDWEST SOUTH REGION ([mws\\_rd@gammaalphaomega.com](mailto:mws_rd@gammaalphaomega.com))



*Regional directors of expansion also exist to assist expansion groups with their operations.*

# COLLEGIATE STRUCTURE

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Gamma Alpha Omega has 28 collegiate chapters with about 450 collegiate members nationwide and over 1,500 alumnae worldwide. Chapters are grouped into regions where each region is supported through a Regional Director.

Chapters abide by our national bylaws, policies and procedures, and code of ethics. Chapter officers are elected and appointed by their chapter members. Each chapter is supported by an alumna advisor, regional director, and the collegiate affairs department. In addition to continuous support from volunteers, they are provided with educational material such as manuals, guides, and seminars.

## NUMBER OF CHAPTERS CLOSED AND REASONS FOR CLOSURE

We currently have four chapters that are dormant due to higher graduation rates when compared to intake. We are working with local Alumnae to facilitate these chapters to become fully operating. We have been working closely with the local alumnae and university officials to reactivate three of those chapters.

## COLLEGIATE FINANCE

Gamma Alpha Omega uses Greek Capital Management (GCM) for member invoicing and payment processing. Utilizing GCM allows our chapter members to have a variety of payment options including credit card, e-check and check. Members are billed per semester and have the choice of several payment options. This includes monthly, semester/quarterly or pay in full.





# NEWEST *Chapters*

Phi—University of Wisconsin-Whitewater (2010)

Chi—University of Wisconsin-Madison (2011)

Psi—Eastern Washington University (2011)

Alpha Alpha—University of New Mexico (2012)

Alpha Beta—California State University, Fresno (2013)

Alpha Gamma—New Mexico Highlands University (2014)

Alpha Delta—Heritage University (2019)

Alpha Epsilon—Texas A&M University (2019)

Expansion Group—Carroll University (2019)

*Loyola Marymount University (current status: founder recruitment)*



ADDITIONAL

*resources*

# FREQUENTLY ASKED *Questions*

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## DO YOU HAVE TO BE HISPANIC/LATINA/CHICANA TO JOIN THIS SORORITY?

Interested women do not have to be Chicana/Latina/Hispanic to join Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. Our sorority has members of all races and backgrounds. Gamma Alpha Omega was originally founded on the understanding that such an organization was needed to support and uplift Latino communities, and currently supports all communities regardless of race or gender. Additionally, Gamma strives to be an organization of role models and we encourage members to think of new and creative ways to help better our communities and any community in need.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Money should never be a deterrent when deciding to join Gamma Alpha Omega. While we do have initial fees and regular membership dues, our organization is willing to financially assist any interested person. Additionally, many of these fees are covered with fundraising activities planned throughout the school year.

## WHAT IS THE BEST THING AND THE MOST CHALLENGING THING ABOUT BEING IN A SORORITY?

While each individual member would have their own perspective, one of the most challenging things about being in a sorority is trying to relay to everyone else that it's not the stereotypical experience they might think it is! Most people get their ideas about sororities from movies and TV shows, which is not realistic of the Gamma experience. In our organization, we experience the best thing about being in a sorority; we gain invaluable leadership experience which helps us reach our academic goals while establishing life-long friendships with incredible women.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A MEMBER "FOR LIFE"?

Joining GAO is not a decision that will last only throughout a sister's college career. Instead, we consider membership "for life" because our members remain active as alumnae. The experience and love they have for GAO remains long after graduation. Many of our alumnae continue their involvement in community service projects and activities; they join the National Alumnae Association, and transition into role models in their professional careers. Many alumnae members serve on national boards and committees in their free time and others become advisors to undergraduate chapters. Annual conventions and conferences have strong alumnae attendance and newer members have the opportunity to meet and connect with older members they otherwise would never have met. Maintaining our sisterly bonds is important to us so one's experience as an undergraduate member is only one phase of your overall experience as a member of Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc.

## DO YOU HAZE?

Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. does not condone any form of hazing. It is contrary to the purpose of our sorority and does not represent what a sisterhood is. Hazing is defined by the FIPG (Fraternity Insurance Purchasing Group) as:

*"Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution. "*



# ANTI-HAZING

## *policies & definitions*

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No chapter, interest group, student or alumna shall conduct nor condone hazing activities.

### HAZING ACTIVITIES ARE DEFINED AS:

Gamma Alpha Omega Definition. Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off sorority premises, to produce or that causes mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of the chapter house; kidnappings, whether by Prospective Actives, associate/new members or active members; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other such activities that are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy, or the regulations and policies of the educational institution, or applicable state law.

Gamma Alpha Omega believes in providing constructive, educational, and inspirational programs for prospective actives, associate/new members or active members. Gamma Alpha Omega is opposed to any form of hazing including any activities, which do not contribute to the positive development and welfare of prospective actives. Gamma Alpha Omega believes that true Sisterhood is nurtured in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility, respect for authority and loyalty to the principles of higher education.

Enforcement and Discipline. The local chapter is responsible for (a) developing procedures to implement this policy and (b) disciplining its members for violation of those procedures.



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