INSPIRING OPPORTUNITY

Bringing into living reality the Sisterhood of women

Spring 2018

CAMPAIGN FOR THE 125TH UPDATE

As we wrap up a beautiful (but cold!) spring celebrating our 125th Anniversary month, we find ourselves deep in the midst of the Foundation’s first campaign! The Campaign for the 125th was designed to help fund the development of strong Alpha Xi Delta leaders for years to come. This historic, three-year campaign has an aggressive goal of $1.25 million. The campaign will mark the Fraternity’s anniversary of April 17, 2018 and wrap up in 2019 when we meet again at National Convention. We are well on our way to the $1.25 million goal in gifts and pledges, but we still need you!

A key focus of the campaign will be to establish a fund that will allow the Fraternity to support The Founders’ Academy. Your gifts will help ensure that Alpha Xi Delta can continue to provide high quality leadership training and personal development for generations of Sisters to come.

Together, we must seize this opportunity to provide a strong foundation for our membership and invest in our Fraternity’s next 125 years!

THE FOUNDERS’ ACADEMY

The Founders’ Academy is the premier summer educational opportunity for Chapter Presidents and emerging leaders. Drawing on Alpha Xi Delta’s commitment to members’ strengths, TFA will focus on the development and application of CliftonStrengths™ principles for individual and organizational leadership. Participants will be challenged to use their individual strengths to honor our Ritual, heritage, and Founders while leading our chapters to success. Two tracks, one for Chapter Presidents and one for emerging leaders, will be specially designed to ensure a meaningful experience. Chapters are encouraged to send at least one member to TFA. The Fraternity works closely with the Foundation to help to fund this program and keep costs down for the Chapters. Currently, Chapters pay transportation costs and the $350 registration fee. Funds to offset the costs of making The Founders’ Academy are provided by YOU, our donors.

This year’s theme for The Founders’ Academy is “BElieve in YOUrself.” As in year’s past, TFA is a CliftonStrengths (formerly known as StrengthsQuest™) based program that spends time helping participants truly understand their own strengths while seeing how they can also work better with others while moving their chapter forward. A key component of Gallup’s Clifton Strengths is honing those natural talents (strengths) and capitalizing on who you already versus trying to be something you are not or perhaps is not as much as strength for you. It takes a healthy dose of believing in yourself to accomplish any goal and with utilizing your strengths the bolded areas of our theme “BE YOU” highlight the importance of embracing who you already are.
Saying Good-bye, for now, to our Leadership Coach – Jaime Koehler

Over the past two years, I have traveled to 78 college campuses with the vision to inspire and guide young Alpha Xi Delta women to realize their potential through one-on-one mentoring meetings and chapter wide programs. The more chapters I traveled to, the more I started to understand how this role was impacting who I was and the type of professional I want to be, but more importantly how large of an impact I was able to have in the lives of hundreds of Alpha Xi Delta women across the country.

Being a collegiate officer and leading your peers is a huge task that most are not prepared for, and that is something I experienced during my years in college, as well. As an LC, it was important to me to always create an environment where Sisters felt they could confide in me and share with me the challenges they were facing. I was able to give officers an outside perspective and challenge them to think outside the box and make ideas that seemed impossible, realistic and tangible. From many Chapter Presidents needing a confidence boost and reassurance that they are making a positive impact, to talking with vice presidents about how they struggled to connect with and manage their team and how they could alter their approach for better results, every interaction and moment on the road connecting with women was an important one. StrengthsQuest was my favorite program to facilitate on the road because I was able to see sisters start to understand how they naturally fit into the mission of the chapter in a noticeable way, working with their individual talents.

On a more personal note, these two years have helped me further develop into the person and Alpha Xi Delta I’ve always hoped to be. It has pushed me to become comfortable dealing with uncomfortable situations and to advocate for what I needed. It challenged me to rethink what I thought I knew about mentorship, and it set a great foundation for the rest of my professional career working in higher education. One of the greatest lessons I learned is the importance of approaching each chapter, program, and individual meeting with a fresh mindset. Every woman and chapter is unique and needs to be treated as such in order to best support her. I have learned to ask the right questions and helping lead members to the solutions on their own. This is something I know I will take with me into my future career. I could not be more grateful for the opportunity to travel the country, work with hundreds of collegiate women, FHQ staff, volunteers, and my fellow traveling team members. I am confident serving as a Leadership Coach for two years will continue to influence my work for the rest of my life.

The Founders’ Academy will take place June 7-10, 2018 at the University of Maryland campus.

As mentioned in the Campaign update, a key focus of the Campaign for the 125th is to establish a fund that will allow the Fraternity to support The Founders’ Academy. Your gifts will help ensure that Alpha Xi Delta can continue to provide high quality leadership training and personal development for generations of Sisters to come. Make a gift to help support The Founders’ Academy now.

COACHES CORNER

Saying Good-bye, for now, to our Leadership Coach – Jaime Koehler

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Alpha Xi Delta Foundation issues more than $100,000 in scholarships annually. As you read this, the Scholarship Committee of the Foundation Board is busy reviewing applications and the scholarship budgets to best meet the needs of the many Sisters who have applied for a 2018-19 academic year scholarship. Scholarships range from a smaller amount of $125 to thousands of dollars and can make the difference to a Sister remaining enrolled in college or graduate school.

“I received an Alpha Xi Delta scholarship in 1984 that enabled me to finish my master’s degree in Psychology. At the time, I was a divorced mother with a 2 year old daughter. I graduated in December of 1984 from Emporia State University (KS) and went on the PhD program in Management in the College of Business at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I was hired by Dr. Sang Lee, founder of the field of Decision Science and worked with Dr. Fred Luthans, who is most famous for Psychological Capital and Positive Organizational Behavior. I completed my dissertation under his supervision concerning the Premack Principle of Reward Systems. I currently hold the Hayes Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship and Founding Director of the Entrepreneurship Programs at The University of North Carolina Greensboro. I have held three endowed chairs and started three entrepreneurship programs/centers. I was the 2015 Fulbright-Hall Distinguished Chair for Entrepreneurship for Central Europe. I have visited or lectured in 40 countries. Without Alpha Xi Delta’s scholarship help and Lynn that wrote the letter for me, I would not be where I am today. I fully paid back the scholarship to Alpha Xi Delta so others can benefit. I encourage others that are recipients to do the same.” – Dianne Welsh, Iowa ’77

Dianne is a recognized scholar in family business, international entrepreneurship, women-owned businesses, direct selling, and franchising with seven books and over 150 publications. She has researched women entrepreneurs in about 20 countries. Her newest books are Creative Cross-Disciplinary Entrepreneurship, published by Palgrave-Macmillan, and the 3rd edition of Global Entrepreneurship and 2nd edition of Case Studies in Global Entrepreneurship. Dianne received the Batchelder Memorial Scholarship in 1984.

PLANNED GIVING EDUCATION

“What IS planned giving?” Planned giving is any gift, giving now or in the future, that requires advance thought or planning outside of your regular budgeting process. Planned giving is not just wills and estates.

One type of planned giving is CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES. The donor (you) gives property or funds directly to Alpha Xi Delta Foundation in exchange for lifetime payments from the organization. The agreement is a simple contract between the charity and you. At the death of the donor, the balance is used by the charity to support the mission.

The amount of the lifetime payments is generally determined using rates recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities. A fixed amount is determined by the donor’s age at the time of the gift. Payment to the beneficiary is taxed as follows: tax exempt, capital gains (if funded with long-term capital gain property), ordinary income.

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<th>THE DONOR:</th>
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<td>+ Transfers assets to a charity</td>
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<td>+ Receives lifetime payments, which are tax-favored</td>
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<td>+ Typically pays no capital gains tax when asset is given to a charitable organization</td>
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Nearly half of all charities, including Alpha Xi Delta Foundation work with outside sources to manage and administer their charitable gift annuities. This is done to allow you, the donor, and the Foundation to focus on gifts and let the day to day administrative tasks be handled by them.

If you are interested in learning more about charitable gift annuities, please contact either Kendra Lewis, Director of Development at klewis@alphaxidelta.org or Elizabeth de Jong, Development Officer at edejong@alphaxidelta.org.

**AmaXing Challenge Grants**

We are wrapping up World Autism Month, during which we have worked with Autism Speaks to increase Understanding and Acceptance, Family Services, Advocacy and Research. We are the premiere walk sponsor for the nationwide Autism Speaks Walks and have raised more than $7 million for Autism Speaks since our partnership began. A large portion of that has been raised by our collegiate chapters and their AmaXing Challenges. The Foundation issues grants each year to chapters to provide seed money for their AmaXing Challenge so they can focus on putting on a premiere event and worry a little less about starting finances.

One of the AmaXing Challenge Grants issued this year went to the Theta Rho Chapter at California State University, San Marcos for their Step It Up: Color Me Alpha Xi. We’ve all seen the pictures of color runs and the fun and energy they can generate! Well, the fun and energy flowed that day – to raise money for Autism Speaks and raise awareness of autism. With a grant of just $750, the Theta Rho chapter was able to raise more than $26,000 for Autism Speaks!

**Looking Forward**

**May 31-June 3, 2018**  The Workout, Alpha Xi Delta’s comprehensive recruitment training program.

**June 7-10, 2018**  The Founders’ Academy, The Founders’ Academy is the premier summer educational opportunity for Chapter Presidents and emerging leaders. Utilizing CliftonStrengths participants will honor who they are by focusing on what makes them amaXing!

**June 22-26, 2018**  Volunteer Leadership Conference (VLC) - Foundation Trustees will gather in Dallas with other Alpha Xi Delta volunteers for the betterment of the Fraternity and Foundation.

**September 14, 2018**  Cora Bollinger Block’s Birthday and the Foundation’s 3rd Annual Cora’s Challenge – a day of giving to support Alpha Xi Delta Foundation.