

Summer 2021



The
WHEEL
of
DELTA OMICRON

The Wheel

Educational Journal of Delta Omicron

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Summer 2021
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Number 2

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From the Editor.....



Dear Delta Omicron Members,

The New York Times had a feature article in April called “Who We Are Now” by Elizabeth Dias and Audra D.S. Burch. It was about what has changed in our lives because of the pandemic. One quote I cut out and hung up. It said, “I am not going to try to be polite anymore. I am going to hopefully become a less behaved, less likeable, ballsier, more outspoken, more dangerous woman. All these rules I had followed, these rules will not save me.” (Aline Mello, Marietta, Georgia) I love this quote, not because I plan on becoming rude in the next few months, but because I would also like to come out of this pandemic as a more dangerous woman. I would like to be a woman who speaks up and takes a stand. In trying

to live more “dangerously,” I’ve tried something new (chess!) and I’ve done things that my future self will thank me for (bought Broadway show tickets!).

Maybe as musicians we’re accustomed to a little “living on the edge.” We put ourselves out there every time we stand up to do a performance. It’s dangerous, isn’t it? What if we fail? What if the audience isn’t there to catch us when we jump? We know that the true musical moments only happen when we extend, when we stretch out on that limb, when we trust another musician, when we trust ourselves, when we (dare I suggest it?) become more dangerous.

Perhaps you too can decide to be a more dangerous version of yourself. Let’s start by remembering our members who we’ve lost this year, people who lived a dangerous life in pursuit of music’s highest ideals. Let’s be like our collegiate members who dangerously put themselves out there and had a stunning virtual Beta Province Day. Finally, let’s send in an audition tape to perform at our 2022 conference in Norfolk. It might feel like a risk, but it could reap big rewards. Why not be more dangerous?

So, let’s not talk about things being reimagined. Let’s not talk about things being unprecedented.

Instead, we are getting vaccinated. We are shedding our face masks. We are returning to life. We are planning for a 2022 conference. We are reconnecting. We are reflecting on what really matters. We are becoming more dangerous. We are becoming more authentic. We are looking forward with hope.

Love, in D.O.,

Elizabeth Fetter

Elizabeth Rusch Fetter

Archives Note:

Archives can be sent directly to Ann Jones at:
3024 Belltown Road, Bedford, VA 24523.

From the President.....



Dearest Members,

I write you this letter on my last day in my classroom for the 2020-2021 school year. In my 21 years of teaching this has been the most difficult to navigate, the most exhausting and one where I have truly realized the need for balance in my life. All of you have managed your own struggles this year, and I hope you are also starting to see some light with vaccines becoming readily available and many things returning to normal.

This Sunday I will perform live in church for the first time since February of 2020. I will not lie, I am a little nervous. What will the expectations of the congregation be for my

performance? Have I practiced adequately? Will it “feel” normal? My apprehension to return to live performances mimics that of our chapters as we try to re-engage in face to face meetings, musicales and even fundraising. We all have missed these things greatly, but fear the outcome of our return to life as it was prior to the pandemic.

Over this past year our members has worked hard to maintain their chapters and our board is truly thankful for their hard work and dedication. Collegiate chapters found new and innovative ways to recruit, train and initiate new members and alumni chapters got out of

their comfort zones and met in ways they never imagined. I am so proud. I know that our fraternity has faced many challenges and this has been a hard one, but I am sure we will come out of this stronger than ever.

you in person in July of 2022 in Norfolk, Virginia for our conference. Until then, stay strong and continue to be the amazing individuals you all are!

Love in DO,

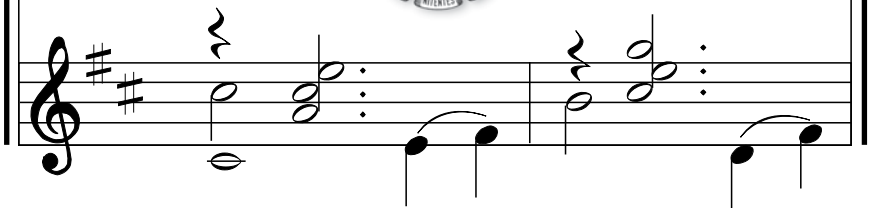
I hope that you all are safe, healthy and starting to feel more like yourselves as you re-engage in your commitments. I cannot wait to see many of

Kimberly N. Martin-Boyd
Kimberly Martin-Boyd

Happy Anniversary

Alpha Phi is celebrating 50 years this year.

Congratulations!



From the First Vice-President...

Beloved Members of Delta Omicron,

You've done it! You have weathered a year of trials and challenges. You have attended virtual meetings, performed virtual recitals, helped flatten the curve - you changed with the world. It has been no easy feat, and I could not be more proud of the resilience our members have exhibited.

For those of you who are grieving the loss of a loved one, we grieve for you and with you. For those of you who are anxious to rejoin the world as it opens back up, we are here to hear you. For those who are ready to be celebrated for qualities other than resiliency, we are so excited to see and hear the opportunities that are going to be created for you. The national officers cannot wait to see musicians excel and create new music and art in the renaissance that will come in the next year, and we know that our members will be at the forefront!



In my letter last summer, I asked you to remember the platform that comes with the creation of music. There is no better time than now to deliver a message of unity and love to our communities. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us that we as a society cannot exist without the arts, and I am so grateful that our members get to be part of the process that will bring that light back to this world!

To the leaders of our chapters, plan through the summer for the greatness you can achieve in the fall. To our alumni, ponder how you can reach your communities and support your local chapters. What are you doing to convey a message of hope and togetherness? Are you including, supporting, and highlighting your Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and LGBTQ+ colleagues and artists? Are you creating an environment that is enriching, challenging, and inclusive? Let us know how we can help you take these steps.

We are here to support you, and remember that you do not have to have a title to be a leader. Continue to be excellent, and continue to communicate with the national office so we can hear about your successes and your areas of growth!



Yours in D.O.,
Augusto Gil

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Email: doexecsec@gmail.com

From the Second Vice-President...

Dear Delta Omicron Members,

I think I see it...that glimmer over there...it's true...I see the light at the end of the tunnel! This has been a hard time for many of us. The pandemic has managed to suck the joy, and oftentimes the music, out of our lives. But, vaccines are out now and some restrictions are beginning to be lifted. Maybe, just maybe, life can start to return a little bit to what we might call "normal." It will be a long process and I know that different parts of the country are at different stages of reopening. As for me, I am still very cautious, wearing my mask, and taking this virus seriously. But, still, I can see that we are almost there! Let's all do our part to stop the spread so we can get back to enjoying life to the fullest again! We can "DO" this!

I have been so proud to see that our Alumni Chapters and Clubs have found ways to remain active the past year. Meetings and musicals have gone virtual. In many cases, this has given us a great opportunity to reconnect with D.O.s who might have moved from the area and those who are not able to attend regular activities. Board members have been able to attend events



from groups all over the country. I welcomed the opportunity to meet new people and see familiar faces, even if it was on a screen. I also commend the chapters and clubs who have offered generous scholarship opportunities and donations during this trying time. D.O. has stepped up to the plate and made a real difference. The service that many of your groups have done this year has been noticed and greatly appreciated. Thank you for all your hard work!

I am glad to see our Norfolk Triennial Conference has been postponed to next summer, 2022. I can't wait to see everyone when it is safe. It will be a special time to reconnect and forget new bonds in our fraternity. It gives me something to look forward to.

Until then, keep looking for those silver linings and keep your eyes on that glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel. Continually striving, we attain!

Love, in D.O.,



Stephanie Thompson

From the Music Adviser...

Hello Delta Omicron Family!

As the world continues to make strides to getting back to a new normal, I hope and pray for our country and our world.

I am in awe of all our amazing chapters that have found ways to keep in touch and share their love of music with one another. It was heartwarming to read the music and publicity reports and I am so appreciative for you to take the time to send your reports in. I enjoyed the Zoom calls with chapters and alumnae this year as a wonderful way to communicate.

I am truly proud to be a musician and see how the world has reached out with and communicated with music, a strong bond for everyone.

We, as a board, continue to reach out to our chapters and alumnae, so you would know we were thinking of you and keeping you close to our hearts.

I hope some of you will consider composing new DO songs for our songbook. We are always looking for new songs! Please submit them to me.

Musically yours,



Brenda Dannewitz



From the Treasurer...

Dear Delta Omicron Members,

I am writing this letter after having finished my 38th year of teaching, the most challenging year of my career. As I look back over the year's finances, I am amazed and so thankful at how our Delta Omicron alumni came to the rescue of our fraternity during the pandemic. A record number of donations were made to the various accounts we have, helping to keep us financially afloat from May through October, when there was no money coming into the executive office. I am also very proud of our collegiate chapters as they continued to function whether on campus or virtually. Delta Omicron was present and active, in spite of the challenges the pandemic threw at all of us. There were over one hundred new members joining our beloved Delta Omicron, which again,



it quite amazing, considering many chapters were having to meet via Zoom or other virtual sites. They found new and innovative ways to meet and make music together and daily lived our motto, "Continually striving, we attain." As we move forward and we start getting "back to normal," I am really looking forward to our conference in Norfolk next summer in July. I hope to see many of you there, renewing old friendships and making new ones in our shared love of Delta Omicron. I hope you and your family and friends are able to reconnect over the summer, to enjoy some special time together, something we have all dearly missed.

In D.O.,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura L. Thurier".

Laura Thurier

Delta Omicron does not stand for and will not tolerate racism, xenophobia, and any other form of social injustice that impacts communities of color. Our purpose as members is to tune our lives into some feeble echo of the life of God, no matter the color of our skin.

Do not be silent against injustice.

Do not hesitate to listen and learn.

Stand for strength, happiness, and peace.

Organizations to consider supporting:

The Sphinx Organization,

National Association of Negro Musicians,

Black Lives Matter, Campaign Zero,

The Innocences Project

Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity

Guide to Chapter Reopening

Across the country states, counties, and cities are in various stages of reopening. The National Board understands that members are anxious to resume “normal life” and regular chapter activities. The National Board continues to monitor the situation in the United States and has the following recommendations for our chapters:

Continue to follow local guidelines for gatherings and social distancing. Continue to follow guidelines from the CDC and your college or university. Allow your school to dictate how your chapter will meet. For example: if your school is continuing instruction entirely online, then your chapter should also continue to meet online. If your school is following a hybrid model, your chapter can also develop a hybrid model. If your school is in person, your chapter may also meet in person.

Delta Omicron recommends getting vaccinated as soon as possible, unless you have underlying medical concerns that make getting a vaccine unsafe. Chapters may meet in person if members are fully vaccinated and/or able to socially distance and wear masks, but only if members are comfortable. Ease back in. Just because society is reopening, doesn't mean anyone has to rejoin society if they are uncomfortable. Tell fellow members where your boundaries are and acknowledge the awkwardness. Continue to offer remote options for members who are choosing not to meet in person at this time.

List your priorities. What has your chapter missed the most? What is the most important thing for your chapter to return to? Take this time to reevaluate your chapter's goals and mission so that you can come back stronger than ever.

Please send us updated chapter rosters and chapter executive board members so that we can continue to stay in touch with you. Like many non-profit organizations, we are struggling and we could use your financial support. We would be most appreciative if you are able to pay your outstanding obligations from the past semesters. Dues can be mailed to the executive office and we'll alert your chapter that you paid. If you graduated, don't forget to start paying on your life membership. You can also look for an alumni club or chapter in your area to join. Supplies can be ordered through the executive office and they can be mailed to members' home address. The Delta Omicron store is also open

and operating. Contact the executive office. Donations to the fraternity are also welcome.

Remember: once a D.O., always a D.O. Just because we are apart for a little while doesn't mean that our bonds of fraternity grow weak. We hope that music has been a release and an escape for you in this stressful time. Please continue to contact us and tell us how you're doing. Send in chapter rosters and dues. Continue to stay safe and healthy, until we can see each other again.

In Memoriam

Alice Marie Fogle Bentley

May 8, 1934 - December 10, 2020

Initiated Delta Omicron, February 24, 1957

Paul Whear

National Patron

Initiated May 4, 1975

Gloria Wolfe Wharton

October 24, 1946 – May 11, 2021

Initiated Delta Upsilon, February 1, 1956

Barbara Elliott

August 19, 1952 – May 15, 2021

Initiated Alpha Kappa, December 1, 1970



Alice Marie Fogle Bentley



Alice Marie Fogle Bentley was born on May 8, 1934 in South Bend, Indiana and grew up in Lansing, Michigan. Alice attended the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, where she studied organ and choral music; she studied composition under David Smart and Don Hustad at Moody, and later with Leo Sowerby at the American Conservatory of Music. She returned to Lansing to complete her bachelor's and master's degrees in music education at Michigan State University. She was initiated into the Delta Omicron chapter of Delta

Omicron at Michigan State on February 24, 1957. She received her 50-year pin from Zeta Alpha Chapter.

Eventually, Alice married, settled in the Detroit area, and raised three children in a house always alive with music. She taught music in the public schools, gave piano and voice lessons, played the organ for church services, and directed children and adult choirs, even as she continued to perform, accompany, arrange, and compose. In addition, she studied voice with Elsie Inselman and Avery Crew. Her passion for performing was matched only by her desire to nurture the budding talents of others.

After serving at Wesley United Methodist for twenty years, Alice traveled across the country giving hundreds of concerts, performing songs by Gershwin, Porter, Kern, and others under the name Bouquet of Song. With her memory and health under siege, Alice continued to perform regularly, recording over fifty songs, many of them on YouTube. Alice died on December 10, 2020, leaving behind a living bouquet of music to bloom in the memories of those who loved her.

Barbara Elliott

Barbara Elliott attended A&I University (now Texas A&M) in Kingsville where she majored in music and completed her master's degree. Barbara taught in San Diego, Driscoll, and Premont until being hired in Kingsville Independent School District where she stayed until retirement. She was a marching band director for a few years, but her true love was elementary music. She was a member of Tau Beta Sigma Honorary Band Sorority, and Music Educators National Conference now known as the National Association Music Education.

Delta Omicron Patron Paul Whear is dead at 95

By, Sarah Ingram HD Media

Editor's Note: Dr. Paul Whear was initiated as a Delta Omicron National Patron on May 4, 1975. his obituary originally appeared in the Huntington, West Virginia Herard-Dispatch on April 1, 2021. The original article can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3esmQO6>

Composer and Marshall University professor emeritus Paul Whear, 95, died last week after a lifetime of creating music for audiences and performers alike.

"Paul did not write just to make Paul Whear a better person; he was not writing to satisfy his ego," said Don Williams, professor emeritus at Marshall University and friend of Whear. "He was writing for an audience, the audience and player, whether they were in junior high or a professional; he was able to write for them."

A former professor of music theory and composition, Whear was known as a talented composer and conductor who demanded excellence from those who performed his work, Williams said.

Whear's compositions have been performed by high school orchestras as well as the London Symphony Orchestra, Philadel-



phia Orchestra, Cleveland Philharmonic, the U.S. Navy Band and others.

Williams said Whear was one of the reasons he chose to come to Marshall, and the two became great friends over the years.

Becoming close enough that they lived next to each other at one point, Williams said the two's friendship consisted of musical discussions, word games and trips to Bob Evans for lunch on a regular basis.

Williams said he admired how Whear was able to write music

for varying age groups and skill levels.

"His compositions are incredibly accessible. When he wrote for public school bands, he knew how to write for them so that it was within their ability level," Williams said. "When he wrote for symphony orchestras of professional quality, he wrote professional music."

Elizabeth Reed Smith, professor of violin and orchestra conductor at Marshall, was a colleague of Whear's before his retirement about 30 years ago.

Smith said her first concert at Marshall was conducted by Whear for the Huntington Chamber Orchestra, now known as the Huntington Symphony Orchestra.

Smith said she was always able to count on Whear if she needed demonstrations of different instruments for her classes, and she thinks that helped him as a composer.

"I think one of the things that made him a good composer was he had a really good working knowledge of a lot of different instruments," she said. "As a violinist, I've played and performed music composed by people who

didn't necessarily understand the violin and that just means there were little annoyances in the music, but that was never the case with his works."

The World War II veteran had high standards for musicians, Smith said, but even students who did not do well in Whear's classes respected him.

Wendell Dobbs, interim dean for the College of Arts and Media at Marshall, performed under Whear and agreed that while he expected musicians to perform well, students and performers only improved because of it.

Dobbs said he believes the composer contributed greatly to symphonic band.

"The real contribution that Paul Whear made to music for many, many musicians, both young and old, is he understood symphonic band," Dobbs said. "Symphonic band was kind of an emerging area. Historically, that was what you had in high schools, but in his era, it started to emerge as a really serious musical ensemble, and Paul understood the sounds of a symphonic band intimately."

Dobbs said even after retirement, Whear would return

to campus musical events and provide feedback to musicians. Dobbs said he appreciated Whear's candor and how he would provide constructive criticism without ever being condescending.

While Huntington and Marshall have had many prominent figures throughout history, Dobbs said Whear was special.

"I think we were blessed to have him," he said. "Huntington has always had a real strong cultural current, but having Paul here, having a composer of his renown in this community, was truly a gift."

Whear was the recipient of many musical awards, including the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and a grant from the Nation-

al Endowment for the Arts. He is the composer of "The Chief Justice," which performed at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 1976 by Marshall's Department of Music.

Whear is survived by two children, Cynthia Whear, an occupational therapist in Baltimore, Maryland, and Allen Whear, a cellist and music professor who spends his time in the United States and Canada.

Smith said music was Whear's life, and his age never stopped him from discussing his passion for music.

"He was talking about music, talking about compositions and listening to music pretty much until the day he died," she said. "He really had a remarkable musical mind."

Gloria Wolfe Wharton

Gloria graduated from Kent State University in 1958. She taught elementary vocal music in Parma, Ohio and taught piano for many years. She was an active performing member of Fortnightly Two Piano and sang with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus for

15 years. Gloria held nearly every office in Zeta Sigma Chapter over the years and attended several Triannual Conferences. We shall miss her fun-loving spirit, leadership, friendship, thoughtfulness and fine musicianship.

Reactivating Delta Omicron Chapters

Do you live in Ohio?

Did you know? Delta Omicron once had ten collegiate chapters in Ohio.

Epsilon at Morrey School of Music, Columbus went inactive in 1942.

Delta at Denison University, Granville went inactive in 1953.

Eta at College of Music, Cincinnati went inactive in 1956.

Chi at Ohio State University, Columbus is inactive.

Alpha Sigma at Findlay College, Findley is inactive.

Mu at Miami University, Oxford is inactive.

Gamma Chi at Ohio Northern University, Ada is inactive.

And, of course, Alpha at University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, went inactive in 1994.

Do you live in Pennsylvania?

Gamma Sigma at Penn State, University Park went inactive in 2006.

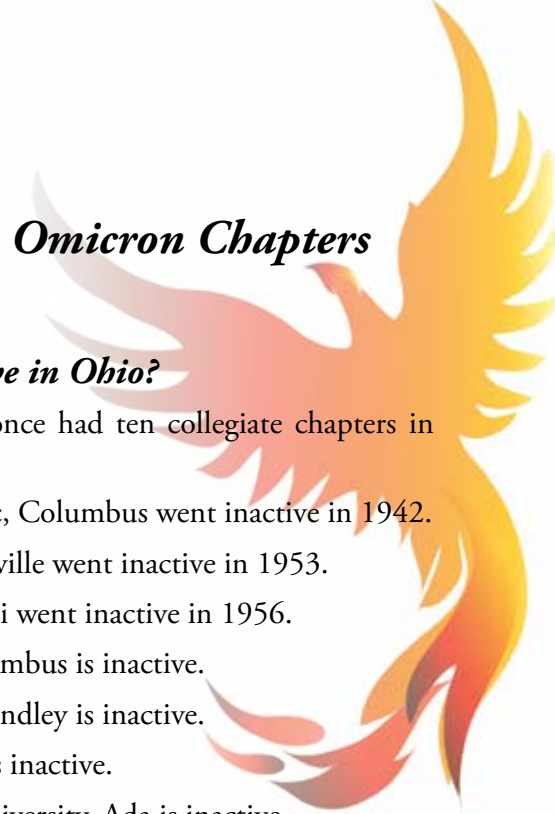
Gamma Pi at Moravian College, Bethlehem is inactive.

Omicron Rho at Philadelphia Music Academy, Philadelphia is inactive.

Epsilon Zeta at Washington and Jefferson College, Washington is inactive.

Would you be interested in helping reactive one of these chapters?

Reach out to our International President (deltaomicronpresident@gmail.com) or our First Vice President (do1stvp@gmail.com) for more information.



D.O.



Jewelry

JEWELRY PRICE LIST

Effective March 1, 2020

The following items must be ordered through the executive office.



Regulation Badge

Plain golklad:	\$ 25
Plain 10K yellow gold:	\$107
Close set pearl, golklad:	\$ 85
Close set pearl, 10K:.....	\$175
Gold crown set pearl, golklad:	Call



Golklad Guard** Single Letter

Plain:.....	\$ 20
Etched:.....	\$ 24
Crown set pearl:	\$ 49

10K Gold Guard** Single Letter

Plain:.....	\$ 50
Etched:.....	\$ 24
Crown set pearl:	\$ 49



Golklad Guard** Double Letter

Plain:.....	\$ 22
Etched:.....	\$ 27
Crown set pearl:	\$ 68

10K Gold Guard** Double Letter

Plain:.....	\$ 66
Etched:.....	\$ 64
Crown set pearl:	\$125



Senior Honor Pin

Golklad:	\$ 36
10K gold:	Call
Delta Omicron Star Golklad:	\$ 12



Prospective Member Pin

.....	\$ 16
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Recognition Pin

Golklad:	\$ 20
10K gold:	Call



Chapter Mother/Father of D.O. Pin

Sterling silver:.....	\$ 40
Golklad:	\$ 30
10K gold:	Call



Officer Dangle

Golklad:	\$ 11
10K gold:	\$ 32



Chapter Patron Charm

Golklad:	\$ 37
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Chapter Patron Pin

Golklad:	\$ 37
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Anniversary Pin

25 Year Pin, silver:.....	\$18.50
50-Year Pin Golklad:	\$18.50
50-Year Stickpin Golklad:.....	\$ 25



National Patron Key/Pin

Golklad:	\$ 37
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Make checks payable to: DELTA OMICRON FRATERNITY

P.O. Box 30558
Indianapolis, IN 46230
Phone: (865) 471-6155
Email: doexecsec@gmail.com

Prices include postage.

Prices may change without prior notification due to jeweler precious metal price increases.

Other jewelry, including rings, bracelets, charms, and necklaces are available online through:
www.hjgreek.com

Delta Omicron Fall 2021 SUPPLY PRICE LIST

DO Publications

Ceremonies for Chapters and Clubs.....	10.00
Devotional Booklet.....	5.00
Ritual.....	10.00
Delta Omicron Songbook.....	10.00
Ritual Music.....	10.00
History Book	6.00

DO Gift Items

Luggage Tag.....	5.50
Brass Letter Opener (limited quantities).....	10.00
Decal, D.O. crest	1.00
Delta Omicron Label (5 count)	1.00
Delta Omicron Medallions	15.00
Delta Omicron Gold Key Chains	5.00
Delta Omicron Metal Key Chains (black or white)	4.50
Delta Omicron Coin Purse (black or pink)	6.00
Note Cards, D.O. crest (10 cards and envelopes)	10.00
Notepad, DO Crest	3.00
Lic. Plate Frames	5.00

Delta Omicron Bound Notebook	5.00
Delta Omicron Pen (white).....	1.00
Delta Omicron Pen/Highlighter	2.00
Delta Omicron Magnet	1.00
Delta Omicron Patches	2.00
DO Pins (small, round/pink or black)	2 for 1.00
Tote Bag (black/gray)	3.00
Lanyard	3.00
Flash Drives	5.00
Pub Glass w/Crest (limited quantities)	15.00
ID Wallet	1.00
Delta Omicron Ornament	13.00

DO Chapter/Membership Needs

Bids, IB 332.....	.50
Graduation Cords	15.00

Make checks payable to DELTA OMICRON FRATERNITY.

** Forms and other materials not listed here are free of charge**

** Prices subject to change. Confirm prices with office before placing your order.**

** Please Add \$6.00 for shipping and handling**

Send Checks to Executive Office at: Delta Omicron • PO Box 30558
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Coming Soon!

Alumni Chapters Able to Initiate Members

***By, Stephanie Thompson,
Second Vice-President***

After a vote to amend our bylaws is collected and finalized, alumni chapters will be able initiate new members into Delta Omicron. Here is how it will work:

1. Prospective new members should have a sponsor from the initiating chapter.
2. Prospective new members should be involved with music in a meaningful way. (Examples: music teacher, private studio, professional/community performer, church musician.)
3. Prospective new members should complete the "Prospective New Alumni Member Application Form" which will be sent to the Delta Omicron second vice-president for review and approval.
4. Upon gaining approval from the second vice-president the prospective new members should complete and pass the Fraternity Knowledge Exam.
5. Prospective new members will pay any and all initiation fees and dues as designated by their local alumni chapter and nationals. They are eligible to pay lifetime membership dues.
6. New initiate will receive a national number, certificate of membership, golden lyre pin, and be afforded all rights and privileges of a member of Delta Omicron.

This is a long awaited change that many Alumni Chapters have been looking forward to! I feel that this will increase our membership, breathe new life into our already outstanding alumni chapters, and ultimately be a huge positive for Delta Omicron.

So, if you know of any musicians that would make a great addition to our fraternity, please ask them to join! If you need any help or clarification with the process, please reach out to me at any time at do2ndvp@gmail.com. Thank you!

Upcoming Due Dates

Sept 15 – IB 395 School Calendar, IB 361 Fall Chapter Roster

Oct 1 – IB 361al Alumni Chapter Roster

Oct 1 – National Dues (IB 364)

Oct 1 – Service Fee (IB 364) (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 367 Financial Report #1

Oct 1 – IB 367.1 Bank Account (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 368 National Annual Dues Form (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 370.3 Chapter Patron List

Oct 1 – IB 380 Proposed Music Activities (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 390 Publicity Reports (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – National Alumni Dues

Dec 1 – Rotating Grants

Dec 1 – IB 366 Members Becoming Alumni

Dec 1 – IB 367 Financial Report #2 (alumni, too)

Dec 1 – IB 390 Publicity Reports

Dec 1 – PM records and fees: IB 437, 341, 337s, 344

Dec 15 – IB 367al Financial Report (alumni)

Dec 15 – IB390al Publicity Report (alumni)

Call for Conference Performers



Just a reminder that the deadline for submitting audition materials to be considered as a performer for the Collegiate and Alumni concerts at Delta Omicron's Triennial Conference is January 15, 2022. All fraternity members in good standing are eligible for consideration.

All dues must be current.
(Collegiates all fees paid, Alums Life Membership/or beginning payments)

Please encourage your chapter members to apply.

Interested applicants should submit an mp3 of good quality (recorded within the last 3 years) to me with the following information:

Title/Composer of work(s) on recording

Full name of performer(s)

Instrument(s)

Collegiate performer's school address

Performer's permanent address

Performer's telephone number

Performer's email address(on campus and at home (during spring break)

Delta Omicron chapter/club affiliation

The concerts are part of our Triennial Conference 2022
If chosen, you will be a Music Delegate to the Conference and expected to be present at all official sessions of the Conference.

Please send all materials to:
DOMusicAdviser@gmail.com

Yours in Delta Omicron,
Brenda Dannewitz, National Music Adviser
Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity
3036 Sandpiper Pl
Clearwater, FL 33762

NORFOLK

Save the Date!

*Delta Omicron
Triennial Conference 2022*

July 28-30, 2022

*Waterside Marriot
Norfolk, Virginia*



Amid Pandemic, Triennial Composition Competition is Tremendous Success

by, Matt Neylon

Triennial Composition Competition Chair,

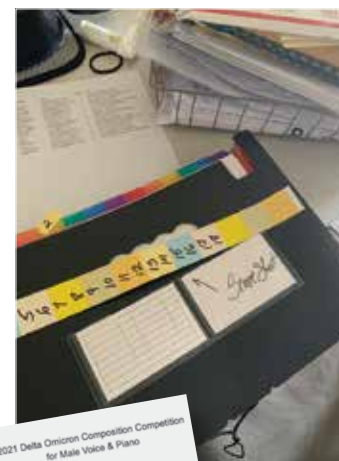
Despite the crippling effects of the pandemic on musicians and arts institutions worldwide, the Triennial Composition Competition offered a beacon of hope this year as entries from eleven states, and four countries poured in during the pandemic. Due to complications that COVID-19 created for some composers trying to ship recordings and scores overseas, we extended the deadline for submission to late April 2020 rather than the originally scheduled March 2020. Nevertheless, we were able to get all scores and recordings compiled quickly and those who submitted entries were sent a receipt of materials on May 1.

This triennial's competition called for pieces that featured male voice and piano, a genre that liberated composers to explore the human voice during a time when public singing was not allowed in much of the world. The submissions represented some of the finest contemporary compositions I have seen for the genre in years, but it wasn't mine to determine the winner, our incredible judges had that mammoth task.

On May 15th our judges, Jo Michael Schiebe (Chair of Choral Music at University of Southern California & former American Choral Directors Association president, Los Angeles, California), Amanda Quist (Director of Choral Activities at Frost School of Music, Miami, Florida), and Marco Panuccio (Internationally Acclaimed Opera Singer, Cincinnati, Ohio) received the 18 individual entries as well as a score sheet that asked them to score each composition based on the following criteria:

- Technical Skill
- Understanding of Medium
- Ability to Develop Ideas
- Originality
- Artistry/Expressiveness
- Use of Text

Judges were then asked to enter their top five scores & rationale using a private electronic judging form in Google Forms.



Receiving a near-perfect score from all three judges, David Hamilton's piece "Night Songs III" was the clear winner. Because the judges were only aware of David's pseudonym, "Alex Backpack," they couldn't have known that he is one of the most widely performed composers in New Zealand in addition to being a highly respected choral director and influential music educator. David Hamilton (b.1955) was Head of Music at Epsom Girls Grammar School until the end of 2001 where he conducted the award-winning girls choir Opus. He has been Deputy Music Director of Auckland Choral (1996-2011) and Composer-in-Residence with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra (1999). He maintains part-time involvement in music education as a composition tutor and choral conductor.

His choral music is widely performed, and is published in the UK, USA, Germany, Spain and Finland. His music has won numerous composer competitions in New Zealand, and also in Italy (2000), the USA (2005, 2006, 2008, 2016 and 2019), Israel (2007), and the UK (2008). In 2018 he was awarded the annual SOUNZ Community Commission and in 2019 was a winner in the Atlanta Contemporary Ensemble's composer competition. In 2020 choral works took 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in the IX Amadeus International Choral Composition Competition 2020 (Spain), "Canticle 6: Fragments from Lorca" won the Philip Neill Memorial Prize in Music (NZ), and "Whirligig" won the Orpheus Music Composition Competition 2020 (Australia).

As a male vocalist, and lifelong choral director, I couldn't be more excited that one of Professor Hamilton's pieces is now among the prestigious legacy of Delta Omicron Triennial Composition Competition Winners and I can't wait to hear the piece premiered in Virginia next summer. It's been 15 years since I pledged as a D.O. but today I am more proud than ever of my dear fraternity.

For continuing to support excellence in music during music's darkest hour, we should feel good, strong, happy, and useful.

Why Do I Compose?

by David Hamilton

Winner of the 2020 Delta Omicron Composition Contest for "Night Songs III"

One of the questions I'm most often asked is "Why do you compose?". And the only answer I can give is "Because I need to." My background was very conventional - piano and theory lessons through to the end of high school. Living in a small town I didn't have access to any kind of school music programme, but there were good private teachers. As I advanced through the theory grades, I became interested in harmony and counterpoint - probably not taught so thoroughly these days (!) - and that spilled over into more general composing.

Although I had done some song writing while at school, once I arrived at university I started composing in earnest. And in my first year I was not even taking composition as a subject, having embarked on a more general arts degree. I just knew I desperately enjoyed writing music: some good music, lots of bad music, and many things that petered out to nothing. I was also

discovering music I had no idea existed. When I came to university (1974) I still thought Bartok was pretty modern and way-out. I had never heard an orchestra live. In particular I discovered American music, notably the music of George Crumb and Charles Ives. But that's another story.

At university I also discovered choral singing. In those days there was a large all-comers university choral society. My head of department was New Zealand's top choral director, and his combined choirs would often sing together in major choral works. The first thing I sang at university was Verdi's "Requiem." I was hooked for life! I was a foundation member of our national youth choir and was commissioned to write a piece for the first overseas tour. I currently sing in Auckland Choral, the city's symphonic choir, and spent 15 years as deputy music director. Next year I mark 40 years in the choir.

So....I compose because I cannot not compose! Who real-

ly knows where such creativity comes from though - maybe deep inside? Something inexplicable sparked it at some point in my life.

The other question I'm often asked is "Where do your ideas come from?" and students often ask, "How do you start a piece?" With instrumental music it's often the germ of a musical idea - this might be melodic, rhythmic or harmonic (a set of chords). Or it could be an interesting texture or some interesting combination of instruments that sparks an idea. Sometimes it's the accompaniment that sets a piece going. I often liken an accompaniment to the foundation of a building - you cannot build the upper structure of a building until the foundation is in place.

With choral or vocal music, the answer to where to start is much easier: the text. If students are writing something vocal and turn up with music they have written, but they haven't yet found a text for it, I send them away. You must start from the words. The music must mirror the natural flow and accentuation of the text, and also reflect the mood and meaning of those words. Finding the right words though can be a



long process at times. The text has to resonate with me. Another thing I say to students is that you should immediately feel a personal response to the words. A sense of how the text might be set to music should spring to mind. This might be as general as mood, or style, or might be something specifically melodic or rhythmic or harmonic. If a poem does not suggest something musical to me, I move on, no matter how fine the poem is.

As the title "Night Songs III" suggests, this is the third set of songs about the night. There are some wonderful poems on that subject and some fine anthologies (yes, I have a large collection of poetry books). The first two cycles (2002 and 2013) were writ-



ten for noted Taiwanese baritone (and friend) Lin Chung Guang. Those two cycles were performed in Taipei in 2013. The first set consists of five songs and the second set nine songs. “Night Songs III” consists of six songs - the competition had an upper time limit of 15 minutes, so that determined the length of the cycle.

The second set, “This Shining Night: Night Songs II”, includes some very well-known poems: “Sure on This Shining Night” and “Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night.” I often avoid poems which have been widely set or have very well-known settings. But those two I could not resist!

The less well-known texts in “Night Songs III”, which span the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries, are:

1. The Starlight Night
(Gerard Manley Hopkins)
2. A Good Night
(Francis Quarles)
3. What of the Night?
(Ada Cambridge)
4. The Heart of Night
(William Bliss Carman)

Photo by Jeremy Bishop on Unsplash

5. Look Down, Fair Moon
(Walt Whitman)

6. A Clear Midnight
(Walt Whitman)

When I completed the second set of songs, I realized I had already set Whitman’s “A Clear Midnight” at the end of the first set. And set quite differently! So, I have decided that each new set of “night songs” will end with a further setting of “A Clear Midnight” - a little compositional challenge to see if I can come to the same text freshly each time.

Why did I choose those particular poems? Simply because they appealed to me and suggested musical settings. Part of the process was to put the poems in an order that worked for me - setting up contrasts of moods and lengths and musical approaches.

Will there be a “Night Songs IV”? Yes, I hope so. There are plenty of poems about night still to investigate. I have recently come to know an exceptionally fine contemporary American poet who has been very kind in letting me set some of his poetry. and he has sent me some lovely poems about the night.

I am still at my happiest writing music. And happiest of all when I’m setting words to music. My teaching career is drawing to a close (I’ve been teaching at high school level for 41 years) and I’ve been reducing my teaching load over the past few years. Since 2002 I’ve been mainly teaching composition in a number of high schools, having spent the previous 21 years full-time classroom teaching and running a busy music department. I have also worked extensively with high school choirs.

I’m sure there’s plenty more music to write, and there are certainly plenty more poems to set to music.

*I was delighted to be
named the winner of
the 2020 Delta
Omicron Composition
Contest and look forward
to the eventual
performance (COVID-19 willing) of
“Night Songs III.”*



Vocal Health Tips

by Dr. Rachael Gates

Editor's Note: I reviewed Dr. Gates's book, "The Owner's Manual to the Voice" for the National Association for Music Education "Teaching Music" journal. It is the most fascinating and most useful book I've ever seen about the voice. I've returned to it again and again. When Dr. Gates emailed to thank me for the review, I asked her if she would be so kind as to provide Delta Omicron with a little article. I hope you find it as interesting as I do. Any medical information in this article is for self-edification and not a substitute for professional care.

Along with vocal mechanism and vocal apparatus, voice box is a term commonly used to refer to the larynx. Pronounced "LA-RE-rinks", this scientific term literally means "throat" in Greek and refers to the cartilaginous structure in the neck that houses the vocal folds.

The voice box is not primarily a musical instrument. Its many roles prevent it from ever being at rest. From assisting in swallowing, protecting the airway, and helping to lift heavy objects, to assisting with phonatory functions including sophisticated mu-

sical capabilities, its instrumental potential falls subject to misuse, wear and tear. As singers, we talk about our voice as an intangible phenomenon and perhaps take it for granted. But what happens when something goes wrong? What do we do when something feels wrong? To whom can we turn and whom can we trust? How could we have prevented "it" and ensure "it" won't happen again? We go on voice rest, blame it on stress, a sore throat, a cold, the weather, being out of shape, being physically tired, or over-singing.

Where is your voice?

Put your fingers on the front of your neck. Can you feel a bump? Your instrument lies directly behind that bump. The bump is made of cartilage and, like an instrument case, is designed to protect the two tiny bands of vibrating tissue we call vocal folds. The bump tends to stick out more distinctly on men than on women and is commonly referred to as an Adam's Apple. Its actual name is the thyroid cartilage. Now feel for a steep little dip at the top of the bump called the thyroid notch. Your vocal folds attach just behind and below that thyroid notch.

You may have difficulty when first trying to find the thyroid cartilage. On some female necks, another cartilage protrudes more obviously than the thyroid. This cartilage is the cricoid which actually sits just below the thyroid. What may further confuse you is that the cricoid cartilage dips slightly in the front and you may mistake this dip to be the thyroid notch. To avoid mistaking the two and to further understand the structure of your instrument, drag a finger down along the underneath of your chin until you reach the top of the neck. Gen-

tly massage until you locate the V-like dip of the thyroid notch. Thyroid means "shield" in Greek. Not to be confused with the soft thyroid gland, which is something else entirely, the tough thyroid cartilage is shaped like a shield and literally shields the vocal folds from impact. The thyroid is the largest cartilage of the voice box or larynx.

How big are your vocal folds?

You may be picturing the vocal folds taking up the entire inside of the neck. Actually, your vocal folds are incredibly tiny and hardly extend beyond the front most portion of your neck. Adult male vocal folds can span 17-25 mm in length (average 6-9 mm thick) and adult female vocal folds 12.5-17.5 mm (average 5-7 mm thick). To visualize this, draw a "V" across a quarter for a low bass voice, a "V" across a nickel for the average male, and a "V" across a dime for the average female. The vocal folds span your airway, extending horizontally in a "V" just above your windpipe/trachea. You might be surprised to learn that your trachea's inner diameter is only about 2 cm. All the air passing in and out of your body not only travels between the vocal folds but also through

a pipe that would accommodate little more than your index finger!

What should a singer drink?

Did you know that the acidic properties of an orange and lemon are different? You may experience difficulty singing after drinking orange juice because of the thick phlegm the body produces to digest it. Lemon, however, is a natural mucolytic. Adding a little bit of lemon to your water will cut through thick mucus secretions and encourage your body to produce plentiful thin mucus. Plenty of thin mucus is highly desirable for beautiful, healthy singing. Be careful with actually sucking on a lemon, however. Undiluted, a lemon's acidity can corrode tooth enamel - not recommended for singers' pearly whites!

Caffeine is a stimulant. It can cause irritability, nervousness and irritate the bladder, provoking a need to urinate more often and causing the body to lose water. Performers would do well not to mess with too much caffeine. To have a successful performance, performers are really looking for stability. Additionally, serious singers optimize their instrument by maintaining consistently pale, odor-free and non-cloudy urine. They are rarely without a water

bottle and are likely urinating frequently enough without caffeine as it is!

Caffeinated substances differ in how much caffeine they contain. Even among coffees, caffeine amounts vary. An 12oz cup of caffeinated coffee typically has around 100mg of caffeine but, depending the type of bean, the grind, and the brewing method, can have anywhere from 40-200 mg of caffeine.

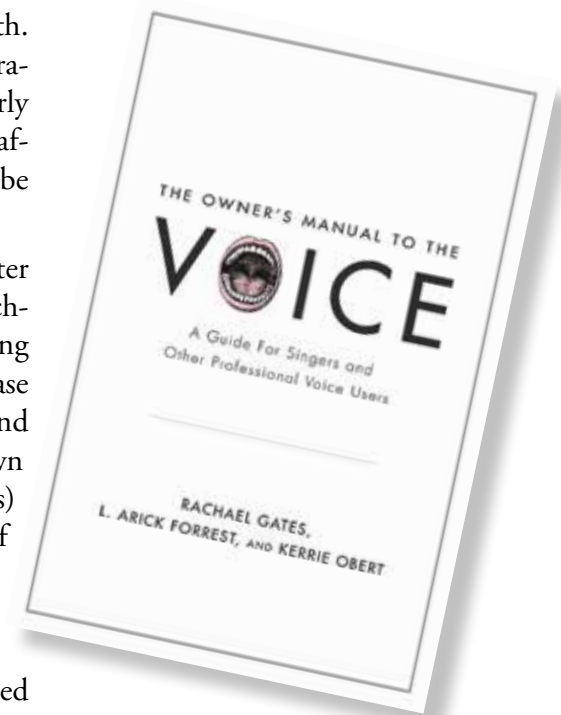
Aside from coffee, caffeine is found in black teas, green teas, white teas, many sodas, chocolate, energy drinks, some medications and even some bottled water. Because caffeine cannot be completely removed from something that is naturally caffeinated, "decaf" drinks contain some amount of caffeine. While decaf may be less of an issue, there are no regulations on how much caffeine must be removed for coffee to be considered decaffeinated and generally ranges from 3mg to 20 mg. Water evaporation contributes too; the older the pot of coffee (or tea), the higher the caffeine concentration. Herbal coffees and teas (e.g. mint, chamomile, hibiscus, and red "honeybush" or "rooibus") are caffeine-free, meaning they

never had caffeine to begin with. The Food and Drug Administration requires that all labels clearly indicate any ingredient so if caffeine is in your drink it should be listed on the label.

Did you know that the water we swallow never actually touches our vocal cords? Everything that we swallow lands at the base of our tongue and travels around the voice box (larynx) and down into the food pipe (esophagus) just behind. It is the motion of our swallowing that helps to raise and tip the voice box, dislodging mucus and leaving us with the feeling that we've rinsed off our instrument. You can feel this raising and tipping motion of the voice box if you put your finger on the frontmost portion of your voice box known as your Adam's Apple and swallow.

Do you notice it's a little harder to sing the week before your period?

Around days 20-22 of the average menstrual period, many women experience PMS symptoms, including vocal side effects triggered by the decline in estrogen and progesterone levels. These PMS-related voice issues vary from woman to woman. Some may experience a "thicker,"



"heavier" or "stiffer" sensation and difficulty producing high notes. The tissues of and around the vocal folds have more blood and water flowing through them during the PMS week, making them heavier and less elastic. These tissues may also retain fluid and "bloat" like other tissues in the body during this time. If you experience some difficulty singing around your period, please do not push your voice to perform. The voice is more vulnerable to bruising when pushed during this time. Sing as infrequently and as effortlessly as you can, changing pitches rather than pushing

through, and schedule performances around this week when possible. Some European opera companies even offer contracts to their singers that include their PMS week off singing.

What about intubation and the voice?

Intubation is the insertion of a breathing tube prior to administering general anesthesia. An anesthesiologist must pass the tube down your throat until it lies between your vocal folds at the top of your trachea. If you must have a surgery that requires you to be put to sleep, insist that your anesthesiologist be highly experienced to reduce the risk of bruising a vocal fold or dislocating one of the joints to which each vocal fold attaches. Request the smallest tube diameter appropriate for your throat size (generally 6mm – 8mm) to reduce the risk of vocal fold damage. If your operation does not involve the throat, request that a Laryngeal Mask Airway (LMA) be used rather than a breathing tube. The LMA is an inflated cuff that is placed over the opening of your larynx and never touches the vocal folds.



About the Author

Soprano, Opera Director and Singing Health Specialist, Dr. Rachael Gates has sung in Germany, Russia, Italy and throughout the United States. She has taught at Northwestern University, The Hartt School of Music, Yale University, Michigan State University, and is currently Visiting Assistant Professor of Voice and Pedagogy at Grand Valley State University. She is the voice specialist for the CMS Committee on Musicians' Health. Her book, "The Owner's Manual to the Voice" (Oxford) is available on Amazon and at The Metropolitan Opera Shop.

Chapter News and Individual Honors in Highlight

Edited by, Kelsey Brown

Editor's Note: With many chapters still unable to meet "as usual" the "Chapter News" and "Individual Honors" will be combined into one section. Please continue to send in your reports, even to tell us that you're doing Zoom meetings and virtual activities.

ALPHA NORTH PROVINCE

ZETA SIGMA (Cleveland, Ohio) The chapter enjoyed their first in-person meeting in May. Zeta Sigma met at the home of **Trish Lawrence** on May 15, first enjoying a picnic lunch outside. Then the chapter celebrated their 60th Anniversary on the date of their 61st anniversary. The chapter was installed in Cleveland on May 15, 1960. Zeta Sigma has met all year via Zoom and even though in-person, they invited several Zeta Sigma members who now live out of town, to celebrate their anniversary via Zoom again. President **Mary Ann Obert** recalled many accomplishments of the chapter and each member recalled a special memory of Zeta Sigma. The chapter continues to donate to several Cleveland musical organizations including The Rainey Institute, The Cleveland Music School Settlement and The Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra.

KENT (Ohio) ALUMNI CLUB Due to the pandemic the Kent Alumni Club was unable to meet in person. However, dues were collected as usual and put into our scholarship fund. In April the club awarded its annual scholarship to Delta Upsilon member **Alan Goetz**. The club is planning a picnic/meeting in August.

OMICRON ALPHA (Otterbein University, Westerville, Ohio) Omicron Alpha members met virtually throughout the school year. They held a virtual game night with Kappa Kappa Psi members to foster friendship and relaxation during the semester, and held a Raising Canes fundraiser to support the chapter's endeavors. Omicron Alpha's

new members worked on updating the chapter's bulletin board. New members were also able to participate in an in-person musicale, and the chapter held an in-person initiation ceremony.

ALPHA SOUTH PROVINCE

ZETA (University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky) Members were so happy to be able to sing the Delta Omicron prayer together outside, after initiation/alumni ceremonies held on March 18. They then had a bid day for new members on March 25. The Senior Honor Pin and Star of DO were both awarded to **Hanne Mehler**.



The chapter hosted a Women's History Month Bingo night with prizes of gift cards, girl scout cookies, and held an April Fools Penny War Scan the Code to choose their favorite DO patron to have pink hair. **Emily Sprawling** served as secretary of Cardinal Music Therapy Organization and music librarian for the Cardinal Marching Band. **Rachel Turnbull** was in charge of public relations for the Cardinal Music Therapy Organization, **Natalie Humble** was head drum major for Cardinal

Marching Band and **Hannah Inglehart** was flute section leader and equipment crew member for the Cardinal Marching band.



ZETA CHI (Dayton, Ohio) The chapter held auditions virtually and awarded two scholarships to students currently pursuing music studies in college, a percussionist and a flutist. Both were invited to perform

for the chapter either in-person or via Zoom in June. Zeta Chi held virtual meetings through the spring. In March "Women Composer Favorites" was presented by **Linda J. Snyder**, featuring live and recorded music. Featured commentator was patron of Delta Sigma chapter (Indiana University of Pennsylvania), **Dr. Sarah Mantel**, professor Emerita, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and founding director of the International Festival of Women Composers. In April a program of Brazilian Music for Flute and Guitar was presented with Kathleen Durig, flute and guest guitarist Tom Wittberg. The chapter made donations to The Dayton Performing Arts Alliance. Zeta Chi established a national scholarship in memory of member and former International President of Delta Omicron, **Phyllis Isringhausen Conrad**. Member **Mary Fahrenbruck** continues as piano accompanist for the Dayton Celebration Chorus (on Zoom) and is accompanist and band pianist for the Xenia Area Community Theater. **Linda J. Snyder** served as cantor and provided special music for the Epiphany Lutheran Church worship services, both live and streamed and served as adjudicator for the Cincinnati Matinee Musicale Scholarships and for the University of Dayton Honor Recital Competition. **Susan Carlock** continues her home piano studio (virtually and live) and is active with the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs. Many of her students were honored at the OFMC Junior Festival this spring. She also serves as the Junior Composers Contest State Chair.

BETA PROVINCE

DELTA IOTA (Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan) Chapter members held bi-weekly virtual musicals. Performers on March 5 were **Alex Prout, Andrew Warriner, Dyula Flanigan, Hannah Costa, Jack O'Brian, Jacob Hornick, Paige Webb, Rachel Green**, and **Stephen Andrews**. Performing on March 26 were **Cameron Page, Christian Clark, Connor Weir, Jack O'Brian, Jacob Hornick, Jared Jones, Jennifer Gladkowski, Joseph Haynes, Kathryn Leon, Kyle Wendling, Rebecca Henning**, and **Sierra Datillo**. **Allison Spens, Andrew Warriner, Connor Weir, Kathryn Lemon**, and **Paige Webb** performed on April 16. The chapter created a virtual playlist featuring different instruments, and presented it to a local elementary school, Renaissance. Members held a virtual hangout over one of the

university's wellness days. Just relaxing with some friends for an hour or two forgetting about everything else. They held a virtual retreat, participating in fun and games, team building and some professional work over the course of the two-day event. Province Day was held with alumni members of Zeta Alpha. They enjoyed a professional presentation, a combined musical and talked about their love for music and this fraternity. Delta Iota gave awards for the Member of the Month for April – **Chad Bischoff** and Scholar of the Month **Joseph Haynes**. For May the Member of the Month was **Sierra Datillo** and Scholar of the Month was **Rebecca Henning**. The chapter initiated three new members: **Matthew Mudget**, **Katherine Jenks**, and **Paige Shumney**. On April 6, new members performed on a YouTube musical. Projects were held to thank Central Michigan University professors for their hard work during the semester. They started a CMU School of Music Legacy Letter project, where outgoing students can leave messages to incoming students and prospective students to tell them about their wonderful journey through college and music.

Andrew Warriner and **Kathryn Lemon** performed in the CMU percussion Ensemble concert. Performing with the CME Wind Symphony was **Rachel Green**. **Andrew Warriner** and **Kathryn Lemon** performed in **Stephen Andrew's** Senior Recital. **Chad Bischoff** performed with the Jazz Central and Jazz Lab in the CMU Jazz Band Concert, in the CMU Symphonic Wind Ensemble Concert and with the CMU Saxophone Studio Recital. **Christina Caron** performed in the Eufonico Ensemble Recital and **Jennifer Gladkowski** performed in the MUS 281 small ensemble concert. **Christina Caron** performed in the CMU Clarinet Studio Recital, **Rebecca Henning** and **Sierra Datillo** performed in CMU Opera, "Trouble in Tahiti." **Jennifer Gladkowski** performed in the CMU flute studio recital and **Rachel Green** performed in the CMU composition studio recital. **Joseph Haynes** performed with Cap City in the WGI semi-finals and received the Cap City 2021 Best Performer award. **Stephen Andrew** presented his senior recital in April. Performing with him were members **Andrew Warriner** and **Kathryn Lemon**.

ZETA ALPHA (Detroit, Michigan) Zeta Alpha chapter choose **Christina Caron** to receive \$250 conference stipend for Conference 2022.

Chapter members sent notes or emails to Delta Iota collegians just to stay in touch and show their support of their activities. Their meeting programs included **Alice Bentley**, piano in February and in April they held their Province Day celebration with Delta Iota, with **Nancy Meyette** and her granddaughter performing with **Stephanie Thompson** at the piano. The chapter held a Valentine Tea. **Nancy and Nannette Meyette** co-chaired the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs' Michigan State recital for Junior Composers. **Elizabeth Younan**, granddaughter of **Nancy Meyette** won first place for Class i-age 9 and under. Nancy is her teacher. **Nancy and Nanette** also adjudicated piano students for the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs and at the Student Achievement Test at Evola Music, Shelby Township, Michigan. **Jenny Dixon** received an Earphone Award from AudioFile Magazine.

DELTA PROVINCE

SIGMA (Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois) The chapter held Reading Day on the Quad and reviewed the D.O. songbook with the newer members. They held initiation for 3 new members. **Maddie Hanrahan** was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda and senior recitals were presented by **Maddie and Ethan Schuller**.

ZETA ETA (Delta) Zeta Eta's spring meetings included **Kay Sire**, soprano and in March **Joann Goetzinger** presented her story of music to art – a blend of music and her artwork. **Lou Ann Fillingham** assisted and explained her special gift of synesthesia – the ability of perceiving letters and numbers, simultaneously perceiving colors as associated with or evoked by each one. In April **Sharon Lundy**, flute, performed and members held their installation of officers. **Char Fesler**, flute is rehearsing with various ensembles of the Bloomington/Normal Community Band in preparation for a recording of a concert available in May. **Navanna Ahrends** played for Good Friday services at her church and accompanied her grandson (saxophone) who played for his grandmother's funeral service. **Sharon Lundy** plays for Mass in a music ensemble at Holy Trinity Catholic church monthly and performed for Zeta Eta in April. **Beverly McAllister** played Irish songs on the piano for the residents of Adelaide Apartments in Normal in March. **Marilyn**

Musick played for funerals at her church. **Colleen Rapp** sang hymns at her parish's virtual worship services and also recorded herself playing the clarinet for a service. **Kay Sire** and her husband sang a duet on Easter Sunday.

Zeta Eta members organized a card shower and a drive-by-event to celebrate member **Mary Selk's** 100th birthday. Zeta Eta presented her a large musical poster. Chapter members participated in a gathering on her actual birthday, complete with a cake decorated like a piano. The chapter sent a check to the Delta Omicron Foundation in her honor.

GAMMA PROVINCE

ZETA ZETA (Denver, Colorado) Members awarded scholarships to two students at the Metropolitan State University of Denver, Jaki Treasure Berger, strings and Jessica Dias, percussion.

IOTA PROVINCE

DELTA PSI (Judson College, Marion, Alabama) The prospect members held a fundraiser for the chapter. They were initiated in April. A faculty memorial service was held with **Ti-Ara Turner** performing. She also performed with **Jyasmine Torres** and **Patricia Scholtz** in a vocal studio recital. Patricia also presented a solo recital on March 30.

OMICRON GAMMA (Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama) Omicron Gamma chapter held an initiation ceremony in April and elected their new officers for the 2021-22 school year.

MU PROVINCE

ALPHA ALPHA (University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, Stevens Point, Wisconsin) Alpha Alpha chapter posted individual Facebook posts highlighting each of their new members. Their rush "Week of Adventure" was held in February.

OMICRON PHI (University of Wisconsin at Whitewater, Whitewater, Wisconsin) Omicron Phi chapter held a social event at Devil's

Lake. Closed meetings were held in March and April. Donations for Music from the Heart were sent to the Whitewater food pantry. An informal rush was held in February, a formal rush was held a week later, followed by the prospective member ceremony. Big/Little week for prospective members and initiation was held in April. Alumni scholarships from Zeta Delta were presented to **Dawson Babcock** and **Nathan Roley**. The chapter held a spring recital that featured **Caryana Dominguez**, **Cassie Coenen**, **Stephanie Drug**, **Kelsey Peshek**, **Nathan Rokey**, **Angela Jacoby**, **Jacob Krueger**, **Emma Phelps**, **Dayna Hubbartt**, **Maggie Hillock**, **Dawson Babcock**, and **Jimmy Karolek**. The Star of Delta Omicron was presented to **Traci Pinzon** and the Senior Honor Pin was awarded to **Nathan Roley**. **Lucas Reisdorf** presented his senior recital.

NU PROVINCE

DELTA NU (Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas) hosted weekly open lunch meetings for D.O. members and for other members of the music department at Southwestern University.

EPSILON IOTA (Austin College, Sherman, Texas) Epsilon Chapter met weekly in a hybrid format, concluding every meeting with a closed musical. Quoting chapter sponsor **John McGinn**: "The Chapter met weekly in a hybrid format, concluding every meeting with a closed musicale; had 2 initiations, completed all forms, met all financial obligations, supported each other, attended each other's events (in person and remotely), ordered T-shirts and almost made members forget there was a pandemic going on in the steady flow of activities, deliberations musical enthusiasm and warm sincere fellowship – BRAVI!!" In April the chapter held an initiation musicale, followed by the initiation ceremony. **Enrique Pineda** was stage manager for a May recital and **Logan Shevalier** helped set up for a May choir recording. **Emily McMillan**, **Meghan Reeves**, and **Willa White** gave a recital. Initiation and a musicale was held in April. The chapter awarded the Star of Delta Omicron to **Chandler Lee** and the Senior Honor Pin to **Creedle Reynolds**. **Chandler Lee** presented a senior recital.

OMICRON PROVINCE

DELTA SIGMA (Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, Pennsylvania) Chapter members held an open musical in February with **Kira Brandt, Glen Schum, Colby Penska, Noah Woodward, Elijah Thomas, Spencer Harris, Kathleen Tra, Alyssa Brandle,** and **Cindy Hayhurst** performing. Activities included a Zoom rush, a formal rush and a solo competition. A prospective member musical was held in March and initiation was held for **Alexis Boyle** and **Samantha Russell**. The chapter was able to come together in person (with social distancing, of course) and a bingo fundraiser was held, bringing in over \$1000.

XI PROVINCE

ALPHA PHI (Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida) Chapter members held a welcome back campaign for the students in the music department. They held their spring rush in February.

ZETA SOUTH PROVINCE

ALPHA GAMMA (Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tennessee) Chapter members were able to continue with musicales and prospective member outreach amid strict covid 19 protocols and within university guidelines. Fundraising (book sales and an alumni benefit musicale) were successful. Members were able to serve their music department in new ways by running the technology for their events in “overflow” rooms because they were not able to use the recital hall. They have a prospective member class ready for the fall.

ZETA WEST PROVINCE

OMICRON OMICRON (Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky) An open musicale “Phases of the Moon” was presented with members **Lauren Fields, Kaylee Tribolet, Amada Pate, Noelle Fleek, Melissa Valone, Megan Withers, Abigail Bryant, Hayden Johnson, Reese Polen, Aaliyah Barnes, Lana Davis, Drake Watson,** and WKU’s clarinet instructor and DO Patron, **Dr. John**

Cipolla. The musicale ended with the singing of the Prayer of Delta Omicron. The event was streamed on the WKU’s Department of Music YouTube channel.

On April 18 the chapter hosted the annual formal with Phi Mu Alpha and Sigma Alpha Iota chapters. This year the formal became “casual” and included games such as cornhole and four square. Two prospective members were initiated in April. The chapter ushered at all events in Van Meter Hall. They held a fund raiser selling buttons and stickers for the WKS music department and held a Province Day over Zoom with Omicron Psi chapter. Omicron Omicron created mental health awareness posters for all of the practice rooms, posting them the two final weeks of the semester, a peak difficulty for college students.

ALUMNI-AT-LARGE

Jan Ziglar Eunice (Iota Province-Delta Phi, 1986-Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama) is a retired public Early Childhood Educator with the Eufaula City Board of Education. She currently performs as a flute soloist for the community and also plays in the Tri-State Community Orchestra in Dothan, Alabama. She assists in flute clinics in the Auburn, AL area with Professor of Music Emerita Dr. Karen Garrison and volunteers with the Eufaula City Middle School Band. Jan is a life member of Delta Omicron.





Hope for the Arts

By, Kelsey Brown



Looking forward feels like an unexpectedly heavy task. I graduated from my undergraduate program at Otterbein University in the spring of 2020, after finishing my senior year remotely. Immediately after that, I began a master's program for Arts Administration and completed my first year remotely, too. This summer marks my first in-person class in a year, and it's pushed me to consider the future, which, as you are probably familiar with, can be scary. I've always worried about things outside of my control, and thinking about my future is no different: will there be available jobs when I graduate? Will I have to move to a new city? Is it possible to find a job while I wait?

If looking forward is too much for our pandemic minds, I invite you to look with me at the past. The Roaring Twenties was a decade of indulgence in the arts & entertainment industries (among other things), and the sudden spike in demand for music and the arts was due to a combination of the installation of the credit system, the end of World War I, and the end of the 1918 influen-

za pandemic. Although it looked very different from how we responded in the modern world, the 1918 response to the pandemic also involved shutting down events and quarantining people in their homes. That pandemic lasted for about two years, and they didn't have the same ease-of-access that we do now to online entertainment like Netflix and YouTube, and they certainly couldn't video-call their loved ones to stay in touch.

In 1920, once the pandemic had subsided and the war ended, people burst from their homes demanding music, dancing, and shopping in wild proportions. They missed the arts. People who were never closely connected with it missed the arts so much that the demand partially defined an entire decade of American history.

There's no guarantee that the arts will see such a big boom now as they did back then. We haven't just ended a war, millions are still struggling financially as the employment crisis grows more tense, and people had access to some form of the arts while they were stuck at home. But people still

crave the arts. We're seeing signs of an arts boom already—400W Rich, an arts organization in Columbus, Ohio where I am an intern just held two weekends of "La Bohème" performed by Opera Columbus, and three out of the five performances sold out completely, even when social distancing and masking were required. The public can't wait to get back to live performances.

Not only that, but many arts organizations are making efforts to attract a wider range of patrons, including younger and teenaged audiences. That performance of "La Bohème" was rather non-traditional: the libretto was rewritten in modern English, including references to pop culture figures, and the set and costuming was purposely designed to invoke "Rent," the 1996 Broadway hit that was inspired by the earlier opera. The producers of this show made these choices to attract a younger and more diverse audience. Music and the arts have always been a wildly diverse field, and that will only help us while we reconstruct the performing arts industry in the coming years.

Like any history professor will tell you on the first day of class, looking back at history can help us make sense of the future. This "La Bohème" production further proves that reaching for some inspiration from the past can help propel us toward the future, just as looking at the recovery from the 1918 influenza pandemic can provide some clarity on that our current recovery could look like. Looking forward may often feel like an unexpectedly heavy task, but not today. Today, we have hope for the arts.

About the Author

Kelsey Brown is a bassoon player and a 2020 graduate of Otterbein University, Westerville, Ohio. She was initiated into Omicron Alpha Chapter. She is currently a student in Otterbein's MBA program focusing her studies on Arts and Non-Profits, with the goal of working in an arts-based non-profit organization to improve the community around her. She has worked with The Columbus Symphony Orchestra, the Peggy R. McConnell Center for the Arts, and now 400W Rich.



Illustration OperaColumbus

Star of D.O.

Editor's note: Many chapters are in various stages of reopening and the national office is missing a number of reports from chapters. If you were awarded the Star of D.O. or the Senior Honor pin and your name is not listed, please contact the editor or the first vice-president. Stars and pins can be mailed to a recipient's home. Please contact the executive office and give us the recipient's mailing address.

Zeta

Hanne Mehler,

Delta Sigma

Noah Woodward

Delta Iota

Paige Webb

Alpha Phi

Faith Smith

Sigma

Ethan Schuller

Alpha Gamma

Kayley Horack

Alpha Epsilon

Hannah Cheatham

Gamma Mu

Christa Noe

Delta Omega

Cassie Case

Omicron Phi

Traci Pinzon

Delta Psi

Ti-Ara Turner

Epsilon Iota

Chandler Morris

Delta Nu

Daniel Winkler

Senior Honor Pin

Zeta

Hanne Mehler

Omicron Gamma

Spencer Mosley

Omicron Phi

Nathan Roley

Alpha Alpha

Jane Ryder

Epsilon Iota

Creedle Reynolds

Delta Nu

Maureen Rendon

Omicron Psi

Abigail Luster

Alpha Phi

Claire Valentine

Delta Iota

Dylan Flanigan

Omicron Omicron

Kaylee Tribolet

Sigma

Maddie Hanrahan

Omicron Psi

Genevieve Volz

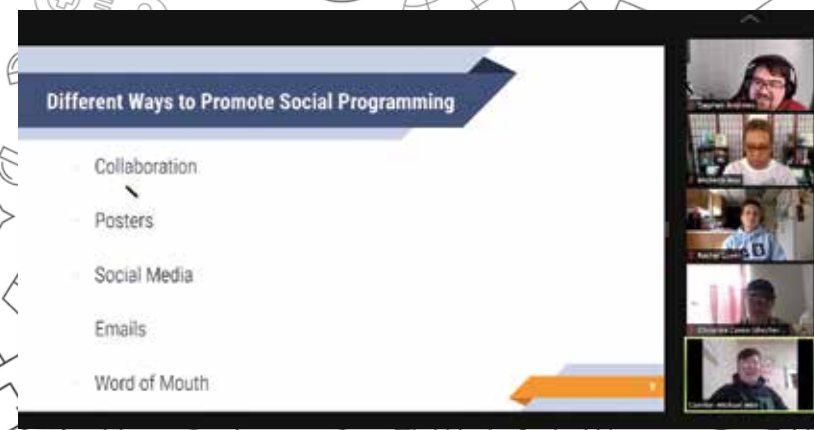
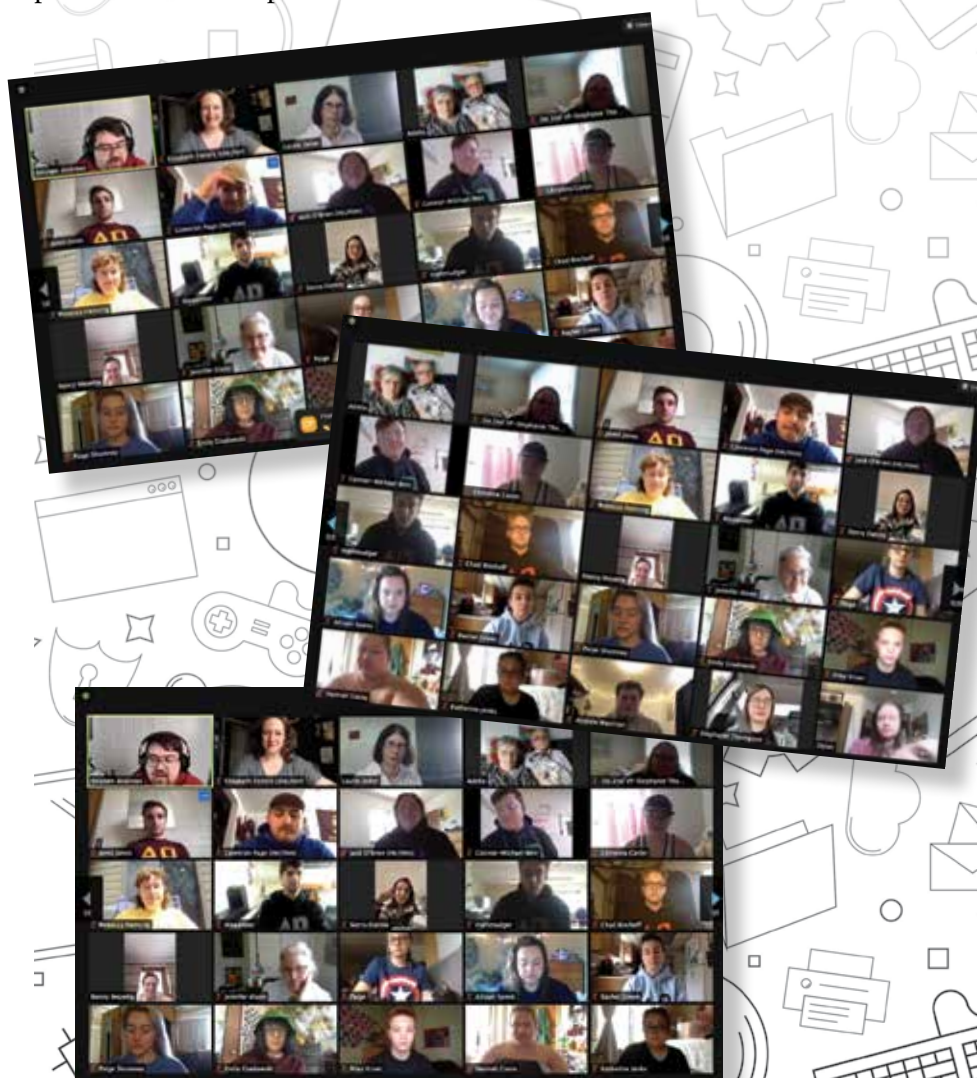
Alpha Epsilon

Katie Edge



Beta Province Day a Success

On April 10, 2021 Beta Province treated us to a fantastic virtual province day. Attendees played a virtual game to find a nearby object that started with a particular letter. Then, we were divided into breakout rooms for a small, more information chat. Collegiate members presented about social programming including advertising events, tools for creating flyers, and making events inclusive. Finally, province members preformed musical selections. Bravo, Beta Province!



“60” at 61: Zeta Sigma Chapter Celebrates by, Michelle Worthing

Zeta Sigma chapter in Cleveland, Ohio celebrated its 60th anniversary on May 15, which is actually their 61st anniversary. As with almost everything else, their anniversary celebration was delayed because of the pandemic. The chapter was installed in Cleveland on May 15, 1960.

The chapter met all year via Zoom but this May the group was actually able to meet in person at the home of Trish Lawrence. It turned out to be a perfect day, complete with an outdoor picnic and a special cake brought by Su Tams. Several members who have moved but still maintain their membership joined the meeting via Zoom.

Along with the celebration Zeta Sigma's many accomplishments were highlighted. The chapter has awarded an annual scholarship to a Delta Upsilon member at Kent State University since 1978. The first awards were \$100 but steadily were increased to \$500 since 2001. 44 Delta Upsilon members have benefited from almost \$18,000 over the years.



The chapter has supported over 25 different arts organizations with monetary donations each year. In addition the chapter holds their Christmas party as a benefit to Guidestone (Formerly the Berea Children's Home). This year the party was held virtually and the chapter collected money and gift cards for the home. Since the chapter began to keep track of our gift totals they have donated over \$4,600 to that organization alone.

Zeta Sigma has always been an extremely active chapter in promoting Delta Omicron, from regular chapter musicales and service programs to many area retirement/nursing homes, to philanthropic gifts to area arts organizations and to the Delta Omicron Foundation. Many members hold or have held national offices – Su Tams is treasurer of the Delta Omicron Foundation and Miki Worthing is the secretary. Both Su and Miki have served as Province Presidents and chapter advisors. Miki is currently assistant editor of *The Wheel* and previously served as National Second Vice President. Sylvia Schneider is chair of rotating grants.

**Belated Happy 60th Anniversary to Zeta Sigma
and a very Happy 61st Anniversary.
Here's to 61 more.**



Introducing Mary Selk *In Honor Of Her 100th Birthday*

By, Navana Ahrends

How many of you know a member of Delta Omicron who is 100 years old and has been an active member of Delta Omicron for 64 years? It is our pleasure to let you know about this special woman. Her name is Mary Selk, and she is a member of Zeta Eta Chapter, Bloomington, Illinois.

Mary grew up in El Paso, a small town in central Illinois where she was always active in music. At the age of six she started piano lessons and was active in choruses all through high school because music was so important to her. Because of her music teacher in El Paso, Mary Toohill, she decided to enroll at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois, home to the Sigma chapter of Delta Omicron, chartered in 1926. She said she always attended the socials there wearing a hat, gloves, and carrying a purse to be in style.

While working as a counselor at a music camp, an instructor recruited her for a summer at Interlochen. Some of the leaders at Interlochen impressed her and encouraged her to attend Illinois State Normal University, as it was then known, which she did. After two years at Illinois Wesleyan University she transferred to Illinois State Normal University, as it was then known. Because of the transfer she had to go to school an extra year. Since this was during World War II, there were few singers because so many had gone into the service. This did not deter Mary. She just sang any chance she got even when she was



criticized as showing off for it. Mary also accompanied many groups or performed with them using her piano skills. She graduated in 1944. She later received her Master's degree in Music Education in 1954 by attending summer sessions.



Her teaching career began with three years at Yorkville and two years at Woodstock. At that time her mother passed away and she felt she should come home to help take care of her father. In the fall of 1949 she began teaching at Bloomington High School (District 87) which was only about 20 miles from El Paso. She remained there for 31 years.

During that time, she was a busy lady, including having many student teachers under her watchful eye. Frequently, she had two student teachers at a time and once she had three, two from IWU and one from ISU. Among the current members of Zeta Eta who had the privilege to have her as their supervising teacher were Navana Ahrends, Sylvia Anderson, Doris Hill, and Beverly McAllister. Kathleen Murray, president of Whitman College in Walla, Walla Washington, was a Sigma chapter member and was also one of Mary's student teachers. She often presented musicals in conjunction with the drama department of the high school. Among the ones she remembers best are Music Man, The King and I, and The Sound of Music. During the summers she worked at various choral schools to help keep her up to date in her work. She also took many choruses to contest. One of her special memories was when one of her choruses was the only one to receive a superior rating in all four categories.

In 1967 Mary gave up the choirs at the high school and spent the next seven years as supervisor of music activities for all of Bloomington Public Schools. Mary often served as a judge for music contests throughout her career. She was known to be a tough but fair judge, giving constructive criticism to each student or ensemble.

In 1973 she was put back in the classroom at the elementary level as vocal teacher. She was with younger children whom she enjoyed. The last two years before she retired became very stressful because she had

to take on some chorus teaching, too. Because of the increased responsibilities and workload, she decided to retire.

Mary retired in 1980. The year before she retired, the Illinois Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association presented her with the Harold A. Decker award. This award was given to honor its best members. Mary is particularly proud of receiving that even though she did not let it change her life. She said at the time, "It's a very nice honor." That is Mary's humble way of accepting special things.

After retiring from public school teaching, she turned her efforts to assisting in her church, Second Presbyterian Church in Bloomington. She often substituted directing choirs, provided other assistance where needed and has sung alto in the choir for 67 years.

When she moved to Westminster Village, she again turned her talents to be useful where she could. She provided leadership in scheduling musical programs and other entertainment for the residents, as well as directing the Golden Notes, a women's chorus that performs on occasion. Mary still uses her piano skills to play for the residents at various times throughout each week.

About three times a year Mary's former students gather to present a short program for the residents of Westminster Village, usually singing songs that were familiar to them from high school. Mary directs part of the music. Her favorite songs to include are "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "This Land is Your Land." Her high school programs ended with "You'll Never Walk Alone" and that continues if she directs a program yet today.

Mary joined Delta Omicron after she came to teach in Bloomington. She was initiated through Zeta Eta chapter on March 1, 1957.



When asked what attracted her to join Delta Omicron, she replied that it was the musicality she saw in the group and the quality of the presentations. From the very start, Mary stepped right up to the plate and became a very active member. There was once a time when Zeta Eta was close to closing. However, Beverly McAllister, Pat Oien, and Mary Selk were determined to do what they could to keep it from happening. "Mary said we will continue and did the whole thing." She does not back down when it comes to getting something done.



During her time in Delta Omicron she has attended four national conventions: one in Detroit, one in South Carolina and two that were held at Illinois Wesleyan University. She served as co-chair of one of the conferences held at Wesleyan.

When asked some of the events that stand out in her memory about Delta Omicron, she first made some general statements such as the members and the music programs. One thing she felt quite pleased about was that Zeta Eta hosted a small reception for Kathleen Murray, President of Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington (Sigma, IWU Class of '79) who gave the IWU commencement address on May 7, 2017. Kathleen came and was very gracious about meeting with those in attendance. Everyone enjoyed talking with her. At least one other member of Zeta Eta, Lou Ann Fillingham, was in school when she was.

As you can probably tell, Mary was and is very dedicated to what she does. She has gained fame, not as a celebrity, but as a caring, dynamic, energetic, and "get it done" individual. Even after all these years she keeps track of many of her students and they respect her to this day. She even knows and keeps contact with many of the Sigma members as they have graduated. She knows about their families and acknowledges happenings in their lives. For many years she edited a newsletter for Zeta Eta that included correspondence from Sigmas that had



graduated many years before. She knew addresses and other contact information.

In talking with her, you would find that her answers are very curt and crisp. She gets right to the point. It is not being rude. It is just the way she is. Keep things moving. It is the business-like approach she takes to everything. Mary will tell you what she thinks, too, not in a rude manner but as a mentor. Anyone who has had her in some capacity recognizes that and respects her for it. The expectations are there, and they are recognized by the recipients even today.

Mary Selk is an amazing woman. Not only is she 100 years old but she is still very active and vital to whatever she chooses to participate in whether it be music, church, or Westminster Village activities. Her mind is still sharp, and she can relate many happenings in her past, as well as present. She also can recall people with whom she has crossed paths and give detailed information about them. How many of us can do that?

For those who know Mary and are privileged to have her active in Zeta Eta, we say thank you for all the years of dedicated service to Delta Omicron and our alumni chapter. For those of you who do not know Mary personally, it is hoped you can realize what a dynamic and inspirational person she is to know and be around. As she would say: *KEEP SINGING!*

Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc.

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