

THE SCROLL

The Official Sigma Alpha Iota Newsletter of Tulsa Alumnae Chapter and Sigma Gamma Chapter at the University of Tulsa | Region 2, Zeta A Province

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Announcements

🔊 The February 2019 Tulsa Alumnae meeting will mark the celebration of Tulsa Alumnae's 75th anniversary! Please make plans to attend this important event and historic celebration of our chapter!

🔊 2018-2019 Yearbooks are on the way! Alumnae, be sure to pick yours up at the October meeting!

Tulsa Alumnae Formal Meeting Saturday, 27 October 1:00 pm

Location:

Home of Phillele McBrayer
3119 S. Sandusky, Tulsa

October Musicale:

"Thanks for the Memories: Past to Present"

Phillele McBrayer
Ann Dorff
Karen Gingrich
Peggy Cooper

Hostesses

Phillele McBrayer, Barb Derby, Karen Gingrich

Keep up with our Tulsa chapters online!

Tulsa Alumnae:

Website:
saitulsaalumnae.wixsite.com/saitulsa

Sigma Gamma:

Website: saisigmagamma.org

Twitter: @SAI_SigmaGamma

Instagram: @saisigmagamma

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Sigma Gamma Chapter Communications

Amber Bunnag-Stoner

Sigma Gamma is now several weeks into our fall semester and wishing we got to have a fall break! Even though our members have lots of exams, papers, performances, jobs, and other organizations to think about, we still gather as a sisterhood every Sunday to make plans. On October 7, we welcomed province officer Hazel Rowena Mills to visit our chapter and she was able to experience our hard work firsthand. We're having our semester bake sale on October 24th in the LPC to save money, we're coordinating with Phi Mu Alpha to put together a joint recital, we're teaching our Members-in-Training, and so much more! I'm so grateful for the passion the chapter has shown and I'm excited for more!



Tulsa Alumnae Chapter Communications

Patty Mandrell

Our September chapter meeting was a great start to Tulsa Alumnae's 75th anniversary year. A marvelous musicale of Kathy Huber's narrative and leading a song medley, Mary Snider's cello and Aileen Todd's voice, both ably accompanied by Karen Hiller, wove a lovely tapestry of Oklahoma songs and songwriters. And we have a wonderful new song to celebrate our anniversary: Barb Derby started the sing-a-long introducing her new composition, "SAI - Tulsa Alumnae - Seventy-Five," accompanying and leading the singing. We look forward to singing it throughout the year.

We memorialized three Alumnae, affiliated a new one, gave out souvenir items from National Convention 2018, and learned about Alumnae history prior to our chartering on 11/9/43. Our October meeting at Phillele McBrayer's looks to be just as inviting. We hope you can attend. And a week before the meeting Peter Strummer will be performing in Tulsa Opera's *The Barber of Seville*. Lots of opportunities for sisterhood and music. Enjoy!

“ ‘Movers and Shakers’: Tulsa Alumnae’s Valued Matriarchs [and one Patriarch]”

Anita Marsau

Anita was a 1927 initiate of Pi Chapter at Drake University; she was a voice major. When her family moved to Tulsa, Anita affiliated with Sigma Gamma Chapter at TU where she graduated in 1928. She became an active participant with other SAI alums who often met with Sigma Gamma, as was the practice of Fraternity members in those days before Tulsa Alumnae Chapter was installed. She was elected president of the Tulsa Alumnae for 1943-1944 and again in 1944-1945. As president, it was Anita who accepted the brand-new Tulsa Alumnae Chapter Charter from National President Kathleen Davison on November 9, 1943, during the installation ritual which brought our chapter into being. After her two terms as president, Anita continued to serve the chapter, as Yearbook Chairman in 1945-1946 and as Patroness Advisor in 1946-1947. She was appointed “President” of Zeta Province in 1948 and served in that capacity through 1951. Anita received both the Sword of Honor and the Rose of Honor. After her death on December 17, 1991, her estate gifted Tulsa Alumnae Chapter with a number of Anita’s SAI possessions: her 1926 edition of “The Songs of SAI,” her favorite “Famous Hymns” hymnal, an old document titled “Manual for Chapter Program Chairman,” and a copy of each of four songs from the SAI Modern Composers Series —“A Village Where They Ring No Bells,” “Loneliness,” “This is the Garden,” and “Remember.” These items are stored for posterity in the Tulsa Alumnae Archives.



The Barber of Seville

National Arts Associate Peter Strummer plays Dr. Bartolo in Tulsa Opera’s production of *The Barber of Seville*. Shows are Friday, 7:30pm, October 19, 2018 and Sunday, 2:30pm, October 21, 2018. You can find out more about the show and buy tickets at <https://tulsaopera.com/season/2018-19-season/the-barber-of-seville/>.

This September, Tulsa Alumna Megan Gibson got the opportunity to complete a research fellowship in the UK. She spent time in Oxford, Manchester, and London researching for her dissertation on celebrity devotion in the 18th c.

Though she was in the UK for work, her sisters were on her mind! This picture of string instruments comes from the Pitt Rivers



museum in Oxford, a curious collection of items organized by type instead of time or culture.

Upcoming Events

19-20 October: *Man of La Mancha*, 8:00pm, Kendall Hall, TU

21 October: *Man of La Mancha*, 2:00pm, Kendall Hall, TU

25 October: Ariel Rodriguez's Senior Project, 7:30pm, Meinig Recital Hall

25-27 October: *Man of La Mancha*, 8:00pm, Kendall Hall, TU

27 October: Tulsa Alumnae Formal Meeting, 1:00pm, Home of Phillele McBrayer

28 October: Hope Bradford's Senior Project: "Development of Choral Genres Through the Church," 7:30pm, Sharp Chapel, TU

4 November: Sigma Gamma Fall Initiation, 8:00pm, Meinig Recital Hall

13 November: Hideaway Pizza Fundraiser

8 December: Caroling, Location TBD

26 January: Tulsa Alumnae Formal Meeting, 1:00pm, Home of Debbie Watts

23 February: Tulsa Alumnae Luncheon and 75th Anniversary Celebration, 12:00pm, St. Mary's

30 March: Tulsa Alumnae Formal Meeting, 1:00pm, UUMC

27 April: Tulsa Alumnae Formal Meeting, 1:00pm, Home of Anna Norberg

16-19 May: Mayfest

25 May: Tulsa Alumnae Formal Meeting and Potluck Salad Luncheon, 10:30am, Southminster



5 Oct: Sarah Carr (SG)
6 Oct: Phillele McBrayer (TA)
8 Oct: Amber Bunnag-Stoner (SG)
18 Oct: Karen Gingrich (TA)
26 Oct: Lydia Morie (SG)
27 Oct: Sarah Addington (TA)

The University of Tulsa's fall theatre season opens with *Man of La Mancha*, a musical written by Dale Wasserman

with music by Mitch Leigh and lyrics by Joe Darion, and directed by Michele Dill. Our own Sigma Gamma Carrie Hanson is involved in the show as both an assistant stage manager and percussionist. Please make plans to see this show and support all of her hard work! The show runs from 19-21, 25-27 October in Kendall Hall (see times above). Tickets can be purchased through TU's website.



In Memoriam



Mary Gasser

Mary Gasser was initiated by Alpha Iota Chapter at the University of Oklahoma in 1944. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Vocal Music from OU in the same year, with emphasis on voice and piano. She was also a skilled organist, but teaching music was her great love. During her career, she taught elementary music in Oklahoma City, at a county school near Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and finally, in Tulsa.

Mary affiliated with Tulsa Alumnae in October of 1972 and was an active participant in our chapter till 2011 when she moved to Georgia to be near her daughters. Even then, for the next four years, she continued her Tulsa Alum membership as an associate. Mary received the Sword of Honor, and in 2007, the Rose of Honor, both presented by our chapter. She was a 70-year member of SAI as of 2014.

Mary held a number of appointed positions during her many years of membership. Though not having accepted elective office, Mary's committee work on behalf of Tulsa Alumnae included Co-Editor of the newsletter in 1973-1974; TV/Radio Awards Chairman in 1975-1976; Courtesy Chairman in 1994-1995, 2002-2003, and 2006-2007; Chairman of the Incorporation Day Observance in 2005-2006 and again in 2006-2007; and Telephone Committee membership on five occasions, first in 1979-1980 and as recently as 2009-2010. Mary's greatest contribution to the chapter came in the number of occasions in which she opened her beautiful home on East 74th Place for Formal Meetings and Musicales.

Mary's appreciation of all the arts led her to be a supporter of Tulsa Opera, Tulsa Ballet, Tulsa Philharmonic, children's choir programs for at least two Tulsa churches, and playing piano for her retirement community after moving to Georgia. She had also taught private piano in earlier days. A quote from Mary's obituary is appropriate in summation:

"Music was at the center of Mary's life at an early age. Mary devoted so much of herself, her career, and pastime, studying, working, supporting musical endeavors as a career, and the arts community wherever she lived."

Mary passed away in Athens, Georgia, on August 28, 2018.

Shirley Anne Elkins

January 16, 1931 — September 4, 2018

Shirley Anne Elkins was a 1949 initiate of Sigma Gamma Chapter at the University of Tulsa. She earned a degree in piano performance from TU in 1952. She was an accomplished musician and recognized as a piano prodigy at the age of four when she announced to her family that she could play the piano and then proved she could! During her years at TU, Shirley Anne held various offices in Sigma Gamma, including Courtesy Committee, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Corresponding Secretary; she also assisted the Tulsa Patronesses with preparation of minutes for their group. Shirley Anne especially loved playing piano and organ for church services, a pleasure she continued until late in life. Memorial services were held on September 23, 2018, at St. John's Episcopal Church.



Vita Brevis, Ars Longa

Sigma Gamma Fall Recruitment



Sigma Gamma held Fall Recruitment September 3rd, 4th, 6th, and 7th. The theme was "Explore the Magic of SAI" and all of our events were Harry Potter themed! On

September 14th we had two new Members in Training pledge themselves to Sigma Alpha Iota. Ka'Terra Faubion is a junior Cello Performance Major who enjoys creative writing. Emma Fishback is a sophomore Psychology Major who also plays the cello!



L-R: Ka'Terra, Emma

People of Note

- ♪ Congrats to Tulsa Alumna Sue Amstutz who won the prestigious Betty Kemm Service Award for the Oklahoma Native Plants Society!
- ♪ Brava to Barb Derby whose song composition "SAI-Tulsa Alumnae-Seventy-Five" successfully debuted at the September Tulsa Alumnae Meeting. We look forward to singing this great song throughout the year to celebrate Tulsa Alumnae's 75th Anniversary!
- ♪ Happy 50th wedding Anniversary to Mary Snider!
- ♪ Thanks to all Tulsa Alumnae who generously gave towards our Kappa Rho fundraiser. Your contributions exceeded our expectations, enabling us to purchase a couple more ritual items for our dear sisters in Langston!
- ♪ Congrats to Julie Mitchener for affiliating with Tulsa Alumnae! We are so excited to have you in our chapter!
- ♪ Tulsa Alumnae is thrilled to have Donna Swaffar and Jessica Helt join our chapter again. Welcome back, ladies!
- ♪ Carrie Hanson is a sophomore Psychology Major. She is currently involved in the TU Theatre Department's production of "Man of La Mancha" as both the assistant stage manager and a percussionist in the band. Her favorite part of the show is "being around all of the cast and creating memories." She wants everyone to come see the show! It opens October 19th and runs for two weekends.
- ♪ Hope Bradford is a senior Vocal Performance Major and is about to debut her Senior Project! Her project is a presentation on choral genres developed through the church. It will be a short, 45 minute, presentation with choral performances directed by Hope, including her very own arrangement of "I Asked the Lord"! Hope's project is October 28th at 7:30pm in Meinig Recital Hall.