





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!

 If you are an SAI Alumna but not yet affiliated with our Tulsa Alumnae chapter, please let us know! We'd love to stay connected with you and let you know a little more about what we do and what's coming up for us this year. Also be sure to get on the *Scroll* list by emailing the editor at the email above or visit *Scroll* issues at our website, listed below, to stay up to date on what both of our Tulsa SAI chapters are up to!

 Congratulations to our elected 2022-2023 Tulsa Alumnae Officers! President: Patty Mandrell, VP Program: Beth Keener, VP Hostess: Karen Gingrich, VP Ritual: Sue Amstutz, Secretary: Patty Mandrell, Treasurer: Sherye Halliburton. Editor duties have not yet been assigned - if you are interested in this position, please let a board member know asap!

Tulsa Alumnae Formal Meeting and Potluck Salad Luncheon Saturday, 14 May 11:00 am

Location:

Home of Debbie Watts
9732 S. 99th E. Ave., Tulsa, OK

Musicale:

"An Orchestral Garden . . . How Instruments' Names
Have Gotten Applied to Native Plants"

Please bring a salad to share. Sweet and unsweet tea will be provided along with plates and utensils.

Masks required, vaccinations encouraged.

With COVID in mind we will not be passing around a scholarship jar or Silver Bowl to collect funds for scholarships. Instead please feel free to drop your change in the "Tip Jar" by the sign-in sheet.

Tulsa Alumnae:

Website: saitulsaalumnae.com

Sigma Gamma:

Website: saisigmagamma.org

Twitter: @SAI_SigmaGamma

Instagram: @saisigmagamma

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Chapter Communications

Sigma Gamma Chapter

Iris Ramirez

Sigma Gamma is now wrapping up this semester with a bittersweet feeling of love and eagerness. This semester while full of fundraisers and business also held moments of community and wholeness. This past week we held our semesterly bake sale and raised over \$300 to help some of our sisters attend the national convention. We also were given the amazing opportunity to perform various musical acts at the Bellarose Senior Living Center where several sisters performed individually, in small groups, and as a chapter during our final song. Being able to perform for others again has made me realize how precious the gift of music can be especially to the people who may not get to experience live performances as often as we do.

We now are finishing this semester off by welcoming our newly installed officers and congratulating the seniors as they finish their undergraduate journey. I am so grateful for my time serving as President in SAI and could not have done it without the help from my sisters both past and current. We are looking forward to what next year holds for us as we continue to build from the hardships of the pandemic.

Love and Roses!



Tulsa Alumnae Chapter

Patty Mandrell

We are ending the year with a flurry of activities.

Senior Farewell was a great success as Tulsa Alumnae hosted Sigma Gamma chapter with a luncheon at University United Methodist Church. We attended Province Day at Kappa Rho, Alumna Sue Amstutz led the Meditation for SG's final spring initiation, Alumnae considering applicants from all Zeta A collegiate members for the Genevieve Stout Palmer Convention Scholarship, Alumnae service project of Drumming Class supplies—buckets and drumsticks, for the Claremore Veterans Center, manning a booth at Mayfest for our biggest fundraiser, and rounding out the year with a formal chapter meeting—a salad luncheon at Debbie Watts's home. Whew! We're keeping busy.

Please try to help the chapter during Mayfest. The money earned is dedicated to our scholarship funds.

We haven't gathered as a chapter in several months. The May meeting will be a great opportunity to visit with your TA sisters, honor some 50-yr SAI members, enjoy a musicale and fraternity education and have a delicious lunch. See you there!

Fraternity Education: Memorable Convention Moments

March: "From a Personal Perspective—San Francisco, 1959"

The 1959 National Convention was held on August 7-10 in San Francisco, California, at the posh Mark Hopkins Hotel. TU's Sigma Gamma Chapter played an important role in this convention.

The story started months before when Getty Krieg Murphy, Professor of Music and Piano Specialist at the TU School of Music, called the members of Sigma Gamma into her studio on the second floor of Tyrrell Hall to share some exciting news. The chapter was being invited to participate in the upcoming National Convention by singing at the Dinner of Honors miniature musicale. The work to be performed was Professor Murphy's setting of Keats' poem, "Ode to a Nightingale," a cantata for women's voices with violin and piano. The convention performance would be the West Coast premiere.

Throughout the second semester, the Sigma Gammas rehearsed in Professor Murphy's studio, eventually committing the cantata to memory in preparation for the Convention performance. Meanwhile, other considerations needed to be addressed: transportation to San Francisco (air fare would have been prohibitive for so many young ladies and their sponsor/chaperones), appropriate wardrobe for the performance, lodging in San Francisco (the Mark Hopkins, being a 5-Star Hotel, would have been too expensive for the college singers).

The transportation problem was solved by chartering a bus which eventually transported not only Sigma Gamma but also Alumnae, Patronesses, other collegiate members from Zeta Province chapters, and interested SAIs. The apparel problem was solved by mothers of Sigma Gamma members following a pattern which provided each singer with a white organdy dress highlighted with a bouffant skirt and red satin sash. As to lodging in San Francisco, rooms at the downtown YWCA were available to which the chartered bus delivered the Sigma Gammas on the afternoon of the Opening Evening of Convention. The TU ladies walked the several blocks to the Mark Hopkins for each day of convention and then retraced their steps back to the Y for a short night's rest before the next day started the whole jam-packed series of events anew.

The night of the Dinner of Honors, Sunday, August 9, found Sigma Gammas clad in their lovely white organdy dresses, and with Professor Murphy at the piano, "brought the house down" with their heart-felt performance of "Ode to a Nightingale."

P. S. Two current members of Tulsa Alumnae Chapter were members of Sigma Gamma and had the privilege of taking part in the San Francisco presentation: Peggy Cooper and Sue Amstutz.

April: "TRIO TULSA—MINNEAPOLIS, 1990"

The 1990 International Convention met in Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 20-23. At most modern SAI Conventions, a day is set aside in which to recognize the accomplishments of SAI Philanthropies Inc. It was on that day in 1990 that the mini-musicale was performed by Trio Tulsa.

Trio Tulsa was comprised of Kari Caldwell (cello), Derry Deane (violin), and Anna Norberg (piano). Formed in the 1980s, the trio's extensive performance catalog included appearances not just locally or in the United States. The trio had been recently designated U.S. Artistic Ambassadors by the United States Information Agency when their convention musicale came about. Appearances abroad took them to Latin America (i.e. Costa Rica and Guatemala) as well as for US military personnel stationed overseas. Closer to home, the trio performed for NPR Radio, various Concerttime and University of Tulsa programs (all three were on the faculty at TU at that time), and, of course, SAI functions.

Trio Tulsa's program for the Minneapolis Convention's Philanthropies Day mini-musicale included Andante from "Trio in G" (Haydn), Allegro from "Trio #2" (Ross Lee Finney), Andante from "Trio in G Minor, Opus 17" (Clara Schumann), and Allegro from "Trio in C, Opus 87" (Brahms).

Tulsa Alumnae Chapter played an important role in Trio Tulsa's convention experience. The alums provided air fare for the trio's transportation to and from Minneapolis. According to minutes of the Executive Board meeting of May 1990, a sum of \$1200 was drawn from the special Annette Chandler McAdams Fund which was housed in the Tulsa Alumnae Chapter's Treasury with which Trio Tulsa could arrange for FOUR airline tickets, one for Derry, one for Anna, one for Kari, and one for Kari's cello!

News and Announcements

2022 Chapter Events

6-8 May: Mayfest

14 May: Tulsa Alumnae Salad Luncheon, 11:00am, Home of Debbie Watts



Hello Alumnae sisters,

We are fast running out the clock on year end events—Mayfest and May 14 salad luncheon are in a few weeks.

Mayfest is BIG for us, the money we make is dedicated to scholarship funds.

Please dip into your time bank and give the chapter support by volunteering to help man a beverage booth at the May 6-8 festival. Remember, a little of everyone's time will mean success for the whole chapter.

Even a few hours will help. The busiest times will be evenings. The booth will be close to Guthrie Green, on Archer St around Detroit Ave.

Megan has set up an online signup sheet to make it easy for you. Your friends and significant others are welcome to sign up, too!

Thank you,
Patty M

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14t_ZVuoOZ3rVeXs1l78mvWfndb445K35giRvejUsARc/edit?usp=sharing

Alumna Abby Raiford returns to Tulsa for Opera Performance in October 2022!

From *Tulsa World*:

Artistic director Tobias Picker said the upcoming season will offer “Tulsa audiences something new, something familiar, and something long promised now finally delivered.”

That “something new” will be Rossini’s comedy “L’italiana in Algeri,” or “The Italian Girl,” which will be performed at the VanTrease PACE, on the Tulsa Community College Southeast campus, 10300 E. 81st St. It will be the first time the company has performed in this venue.

Singing the role of the title character, Isabella, is mezzo-soprano Allegra De Vita, who made her Tulsa Opera debut as Maddalena in the company’s momentous “baseball ‘Rigoletto’ ” in October 2019. Bass-baritone Ashraf Sewailam, who has been heard at the Metropolitan, Minnesota, San Diego, and Seattle operas, among others, stars as Mustafá.

The cast also includes tenor Aaron Crouch in his Tulsa Opera debut as Lindoro and **New York-based, Tulsa-native soprano Abigail Raiford as Elvira**. Kimille Howard, assistant stage director at the Metropolitan Opera, is the stage director, with veteran conductor Leslie Dunner leading the Tulsa Opera Orchestra.

For full article, visit https://tulsaworld.com/entertainment/arts-and-theatre/tulsa-opera-announces-75th-anniversary-season/article_51bb41ec-b116-11ec-b802-23100aeb4e5b.html

People of Note:

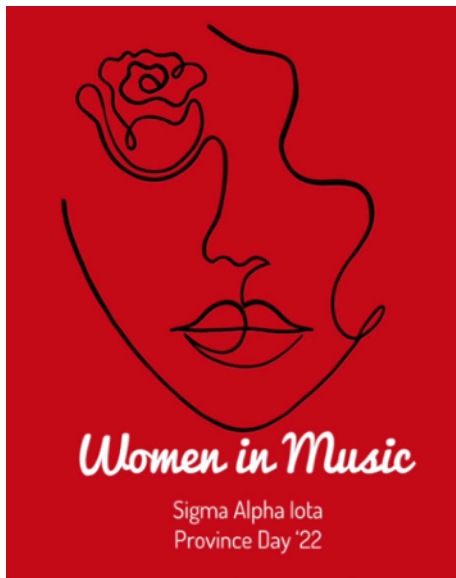
🎵 Brava to Karen Gingrich on her Tuesdays at Trinity Performance on April 12! Her program was in honor of the Virgin Mary and featured Alan Petzet on digital horn and Anne Roberts on piano.

🎵 Congrats to our newest Sigma Gamma, Olivia Davis. Welcome to our sisterhood!

Tuesdays at Trinity Set for May 3

Tuesdays at Trinity will present Linda Frazier and Nancy Farmer, sopranos, Anna Norberg, piano, and Kari Caldwell, cello, in a recital at 12 noon May 3 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 501 South Cincinnati Avenue. The program is free and open to the public.

Zeta A Province Day 2022: “Women in Music” Hosted by Kappa Rho at Langston University



Members from Zeta A Province chapters perform the Founders Day Ceremony.



L-R: Sherye Halliburton, Sue Amstutz, Patty Mandrell, Hazel Rowena Mills, and Karen Hiller gather among the roses.



Senior Farewell & Alumnae News



Alumnae hosted Sigma Gamma chapter at our traditional Senior Farewell luncheon. We honored eight seniors with lunch, gifts and well wishes. TU awards were presented by faculty advisor Professor Judith Raiford. Fifteen SG members attended. Pictured are seniors Aubrey Allen, Michala Beesley, Rianne Brown, Bethany Mally, Iris Ramirez, Helena Singleton and Abigail Williams. Olivia Davis was unable to attend.



Sigma Gamma Chapter

~~~~~*Vita Brevis, Ars Longa*~~~~~

## BROADWAY DREAMER: LYNETTE BENNETT BOOK UPDATE!

**Alumna Lynette Bennett's first book publication will be announced November 15, 7:00 PM at Trinity Woods (formerly Oklahoma Methodist Manor) Fleming Center, at 4134 E. 31st Street, Tulsa 94135. Her story is about breaking into show business in New York City. Lynette's career includes Broadway, film, and television. The book is the first in a trilogy of her career in New York City, London and Los Angeles.**

### Biography:

Lynette Bennett recorded with Barry Manilow who orchestrated her cabaret act. She starred in productions at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center's Avery Hall and played Radio City Music Hall. Her television appearances include her comedy performance with Johnny Carson on *The Tonight Show*, and co-starring roles on *Married with Children*, *America's Most Wanted* and daytime dramas *One Life To Live* and *As The World Turns*.

Lynette has lived and performed in New York City, London and Los Angeles. Her Broadway performances include *Funny Girl* starring Barbra Streisand, *The Yearling* starring David Hartman and *Chicago* in London's West End, playing the role of Mary Sunshine. Also in London, she played in *The Magic Flute*, *Merry Wives of Windsor* and the title role in *The Merry Widow*. Off-Broadway, Lynette starred as Queen Eleanor in *The Lion In Winter* and as Aunt Alicia in *Gigi*.

Lynette is listed in *Who's Who In Entertainment* and *Who's Who of American Women*.