

# 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!

📢 If you or any Tulsa folks you know are looking for a full time music teaching job, the School of Saint Mary is looking for someone to teach grades K through 8th. Contact Karen Hiller for more information about this opportunity at [phillerk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:phillerk@sbcglobal.net).



# HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

### Tulsa Alumnae:

Website: [saitulsaalumnae.com](http://saitulsaalumnae.com)

### Sigma Gamma:

Website: [saisigmagamma.org](http://saisigmagamma.org)

Twitter: @SAI\_SigmaGamma

Instagram: @saisigmagamma

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# Chapter Communications

## Sigma Gamma Chapter

### Trisha Dunlevy

The school year has officially ended and summer break has begun! Earlier this month, we celebrated our lovely graduates, Aubrey Allen, Michala Beesley, Rianne Brown, Olivia Davis, Bethany Mally, Helena Singleton, and Abigail Williams at the Commencement Ceremony hosted at the Reynolds Center! We had many members give wonderful recitals and presentations toward the end of the semester, including Abigail Williams's Senior Vocal Recital, Olivia Davis's Senior Vocal Project Recital, Aubrey Allen's Senior Project Presentation, and my Junior Piano Recital! Three of our members will be attending the National Convention, including Iris Ramirez, our VPM Kyleigh Taylor, and myself! We are so excited and looking forward to this wonderful opportunity! I am so excited to serve as Sigma Gamma's President! It is an incredible honor and I am looking forward to a great year!



## Tulsa Alumnae Chapter

### Patty Mandrell

Enjoy your summer!

Be well.



## 2022 National Convention:

The SAI National Convention will be held July 28-August 1, 2022 in Greensboro, NC, at the Sheraton-Greensboro/Koury Convention Center.

Visit the National SAI website event site for more information, including registration and workshops: <https://www.sai-national.org/resources/2022-convention.html>

## Fraternity Education: Memorable Convention Moments

“WE WERE THERE!!!!—CINCINNATI, 1993”

The 40th National SAI Convention convened in Cincinnati, Ohio, on August 1-4, 1993. This convention and the experiences it provided will hold lasting memories for a group of Tulsa SAIs who were fortunate to have been there.

First, on convention's opening evening, before the traditional Initiation Ritual staged by SAI's National Officers, we gathered in a narrow foyer waiting for the doors of Convention Hall to be opened. The hallway was elbow to elbow with sisters, excitement reigned. Suddenly, the first notes of our “Chorale”, spontaneously sung by a few SAIs in the corridor, began to spread and grow in intensity and majesty as SAIs up and down the hallway joined in singing “Daughters of a great and singing nation” until the foyer will filled with song.

Another never-to-be-forgotten event, the Saturday afternoon cruise on a riverboat gliding down the Ohio River, gave wondrous views of our host city while in the background, a Dixieland band provided one jazzy number after another as we sailed along.

The traditional Philanthropies Day session brought an announcement that caused much excitement. With SAI's Centennial scheduled to occur in 2003, the Fraternity was launching what became known as the Century Drive. Started with a \$25,000 grant, the project named a goal of \$1 million to be raised by 2003 for the express benefit of SAI Philanthropies, Inc. Immediately, delegates began to rush to microphones set up around Convention Hall to make chapter and individual pledges to the campaign. Tulsa alums who were attending convention but not as delegates had quickly assembled and determined that the chapter should participate in the campaign. They dispatched Mary Bowles to our delegate, Sue Amstutz, to make Tulsa Alumnae Chapter's pledge to the Century Drive, which was done.

Highlight of any SAI National Convention is the Dinner of Honors. The 1993 Dinner was held on Sunday evening, a glittering, sparkling affair with all attired in formal or semiformal apparel. Announcement of the Fraternity honors is always a much-anticipated part of this gala evening. When the chapter receiving the National Alumnae Achievement Award was named, a roar went up from the table at which we Tulsans were seated, as Delegate Sue hurried forward to receive the certificate from National Vice President Alumnae Geraldine Barretto-Sims. A few minutes later, when the Annelle Chandler McAdams Alumnae Service Award in Category III was announced . . . yes, it was Tulsa Alumnae Chapter! In making the announcement, Mrs. Sims stated (and we remember it well!) “There must be something in the water in Tulsa!!!”

We were there . . . Sue Amstutz, Mary Bowles, Sherye Halliburton, Aileen Todd, Doris Oler, Mary Sue Linde, Patroness Sue Shadley, and Debbie Watts, Sigma Gamma delegate.

**Stay Tuned for Upcoming 2022-2023  
Events!**

## News and Announcements

### 2022 Palmer Award!

Kyleigh Taylor of Sigma Gamma Chapter is the 2022 recipient of the Genevieve Stout Palmer Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship, presented by Tulsa Alumnae Chapter, is awarded to a nondelegate collegiate member of SAI in Zeta A Province. It provides substantial funding which allows the recipient to attend the Fraternity's National Convention. The 2022 Convention is slated for July 28-August 1 in Greensboro, North Carolina.



The presentation of the 2022 award was made by Jeanne Stover, Tulsa Alumnae Chapter Hostess Vice President, and Sue Amstutz, Tulsa Alumnae Chapter Ritual Vice President, on May 3 following the rehearsal of the First Baptist Church Celebration Orchestra, of which Jeanne, Sue, Kyleigh, and our photographer, Helena Singleton, are all members.

Genevieve Palmer was president of Tulsa Alumnae Chapter from 1955 to 1957. During Mrs. Palmer's term as chapter president, Tulsa Alumnae was awarded the National Alumnae Achievement Award for 1956, the second occasion in which the chapter received this prestigious award. The Genevieve Stout Palmer Memorial Scholarship was established in 1973 with originating gifts from Mrs. Palmer's family.

### 2022 Tulsa Alumnae Service Project



Beth Keener, Barb Derby, and Patty Mandrell deliver drumsticks and buckets to the Claremore Vet Center for their Bucket Drumming classes. Beth directed the project, ordering 25 pairs of drumsticks and coordinating Lowe's donation of ten buckets.



### People of Note:

🎵 SAI sends deepest sympathy to SAI alumna Ruth Wilson Geissen, whose husband, Paul David Giessen, died on April 26 after complications from surgery. A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. June 17 at Boston Avenue United Methodist Church. Ninde Brookside is in charge of arrangements.

🎵 Friend of the Arts Lloyd Oler passed away on May 21, 2022. He was the husband of long-time member Doris Oler who preceded him in death. Our deepest sympathies go out to the Oler family at this difficult time.

🎵 Congratulations to Tulsa Alumna, Dr. Megan Whitley, who will be starting a new position as Assistant Professor of English at Tulsa Community College starting this fall!



## Chapter News and Announcements

### *In Memoriam: Lloyd Oler, Friend of the Arts*

Lloyd E. Oler, Jr. was born Dec. 21, 1928 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to Thelma Fairless Oler and Lloyd E. Oler, Sr. He passed away peacefully on May 21, 2022, in Plano, Texas.

From the time he was old enough to talk, he complained about being born on the shortest day of the year, giving him the shortest birthday of the year.

He was a graduate of Will Rogers High School in Tulsa and playing trumpet in the Roundup Band was his favorite activity. He graduated from the University of Tulsa with a degree in Business Management, playing in the Golden Hurricane Band and he had many stories about band trips.

Lloyd's summers were spent working the wheat harvest in Canadian County, OK on the family farm. He spent a portion of one lonely summer in Nebraska as a hired hand, but gave up on the harvest and hitchhiked back to Tulsa.

He was on active duty in the U.S. Army from 1951 through 1953 during the Korean Conflict. When the Army discovered how well he could type, he remained state side at Ft. Sill as a secretary to the Master Sergeant.

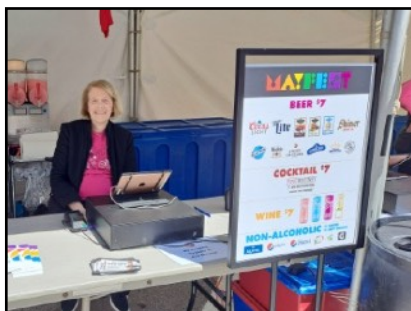
In March of 1953, he married Doris Belle Spainhower in Lawton, OK. They both laughed about their wonderful "honeymoon" driving to the top of Mt. Scott and back, both having to return to work the next day.

Much of his career was in the oil and gas industry working for Sinclair, Atlantic Richfield, and White Shield. His love of the trumpet turned into a part time profession performing with the Tulsa Philharmonic, many of the area dance bands and for his church, Boston Avenue Methodist. He received his private pilot's license and enjoyed surveying the fields that he had worked for so many years. His constant companion at home was always a large dog, either a German Shepherd or a St. Bernard.

Lloyd Oler was initiated as a Friend of the Arts by Sigma Gamma in 1999 because he had been very helpful to the chapter at that time. His wife, Doris Spainhower Oler, was a Sigma Gamma initiate, a longtime member of of Tulsa Alumnae, and the national oral historian in the years leading up to the centennial convention in 2003.



### Tulsa Alumnae at Mayfest!



L: Sherye Halliburton works at Mayfest booth. Our volunteering efforts help to fund our service project!

R: Peggy Cooper enjoys a turkey leg.

# Tulsa Alumnae May Meeting



Debbie Watts hosted the salad luncheon meeting in her home.

Debbie Watts led the installation of officers for 2022-23:

Patty Mandrell President  
Sherye Halliburton Treasurer,  
Karen Gingrich VP Hostess,  
Beth Keener VP Program,  
Sue Amstutz VP Ritual.

**Editor post is still open, please contact one of the board members if you are interested.**



Patty presented Debra Rue and Anita Jo Glenn with their 50-year anniversary certificates. Anna Norberg was unable to attend the meeting and will receive her certificate in the mail.



Hazel Rowena Mills was honored with a cupcake cake, gift card and memory board for her 10 years of service as Province Officer.



Sue Amstutz, long-time member of Oklahoma Native Plant Society, presented a narrative on plants with musical names. She showed photos of many of the plants she is growing in her home gardens.





# Sigma Gamma Recitals and Spring Events



Olivia Davis's Senior Project Vocal Recital

L-R: Helena Singleton, Trisha Dunlevy, Kyleigh Taylor, Olivia Davis, Iris Ramirez, Bethany Mally, Abigail Williams, and Judith Raiford.



Abigail Williams's Senior Vocal Recital

L-R: Helena Singleton, Olivia Davis, Abigail Williams, Iris



Trisha Dunlevy's Junior Piano Recital

L-R: Helena Singleton, Trisha Dunlevy, and Madison Phelan.



Sigma Gamma Chapter at Senior Farewell.



Sigma Gamma Seniors at Senior Farewell with Province Officer Hazel Rowena Mills.



Sigma Gamma awards, photos with advisor Judith Raiford taken at Sr. Farewell.



# Zeta A Province Award Winners

Zeta A province officer Hazel Rowena Mills announces the following awards for Sigma Gamma, Iota Alpha, Kappa Rho, and Tulsa Alumnae Chapter. Congratulations to all!

The SAI national executive office will announce the winners of the regional and national collegiate and alumnae chapter achievement awards and service awards during the summer.

## Zeta A Province:

🏆 Zeta A Province Leadership Award (Ruby Sword of Honor): Iris Ramirez, Sigma Gamma Chapter

## Sigma Gamma Chapter:

🏆 Sigma Gamma Chapter Leadership Award: Iris Ramirez

🏆 Sigma Gamma Chapter Collegiate Honor Award (chosen by the University of Tulsa School of Music): Helena Singleton

🏆 Sigma Gamma Chapter Scholastic Award (chosen by the University of Tulsa School of Music; highest GPA): Rianne Brown, Helena Singleton

🏆 Sigma Gamma Chapter Sword of Honor: Rianne Brown, Allison Hussin

🏆 SAI Patronesses Scholarship: Kyleigh Taylor, Sigma Gamma Chapter

🏆 Tulsa Alumnae Chapter Genevieve Stout Palmer Memorial Convention Scholarship: Kyleigh Taylor, Sigma Gamma Chapter



**Iris Ramirez, Sigma Gamma Chapter**

## Iota Alpha Chapter:

🏆 Iota Alpha Chapter Leadership Award: Elizabeth Toles

🏆 Iota Alpha Chapter Collegiate Honor Award (chosen by the Greenwood School of Music, Oklahoma State University): Lea Sanchez

🏆 Iota Alpha Chapter Scholastic Award (chosen by the Greenwood School of Music, Oklahoma State University; highest GPA): Emma Queen

🏆 Iota Alpha Chapter Sword of Honor: Emma Queen



**Elizabeth Toles, Iota Alpha Chapter**

## Kappa Rho Chapter:

🏆 Kappa Rho Chapter Leadership Award: Asia Hopson

🏆 Kappa Rho Chapter Collegiate Honor Award (chosen by the Langston University School of Music): Asia Hopson

🏆 Kappa Rho Chapter Scholastic Award (chosen by the Langston University School of Music; highest GPA): Kayla Smith

🏆 Kappa Rho Chapter Sword of Honor: Asia Hopson



**Asia Hopson, Kappa Rho Chapter**

*Congratulations*