



ONWARD *WE* JOURNEY

**CANDIDATES FOR CONSIDERATION AT
THE 57TH NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**JULY 20-24, 2022
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**

DECLARED CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL OFFICE

The delegates of the National Assembly at the 57th National Convention will elect a new National President (3-Year Term), National Vice President (3-Year Term), Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term), Committee-man-at-Large (6-Year Term) and National Collegiate Representative (3-Year Term).

Due to the unusual circumstances that prevent us from having an Official Nominating Committee, we asked that all Brothers who intend to run for office file a Candidacy Declaration Form by June 30, 2022.

The declaration only provides notice of *intent to run for election to a declared office*. Each declared candidate must first be formally nominated by a delegate to the National Assembly, with the nomination being seconded by a different delegate, in order to stand for election. All candidates must be members in good standing who have registered for the National Convention.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

While this document provides you with a summary of information supplied by these Brothers, the full content of their Candidacy Declaration Forms can be found at sinfoniaconvention.org/candidates.

The statements, background details, and additional information about each candidate are presented exactly as they were submitted and received.

No statements, spelling, grammar, or other details have been altered.

CANDIDATES FORUM

ELIGIBILITY

To participate in the Candidates Forum during the 57th National Convention, a candidate must meet the following criteria:

1. He is formally nominated by a credentialed delegate of the National Assembly.
2. His nomination is seconded by a different delegate of the National Assembly.
3. He meets qualifications of the office for which he is being nominated.
4. He filed a Candidacy Declaration Form by June 30, 2022.
5. He is registered to attend the 57th National Convention.

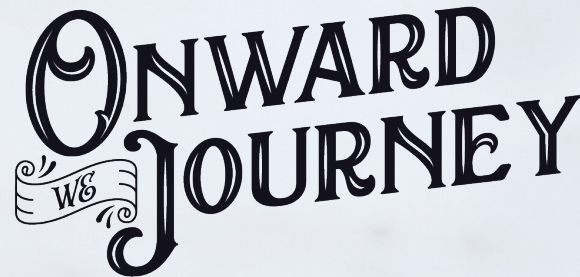
ABOUT

The Candidates Forum is a formal setting in which candidates will be asked a series of questions to help the voting body determine the best candidate for each position. The Forum will be facilitated by a moderator who will ask the questions of the candidates.

SUBMIT CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

We are accepting questions from the Brotherhood-at-large to be considered for use during the Candidates Forum. All questions posed to the candidates will be asked by the moderator of the Forum.

You can submit your questions at sinfoniaconvention.org/forum.





CANDIDATES FOR PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA'S NATIONAL PRESIDENT

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 1.

The National President is a member in good standing, who:

- A. has served at least three (3) years as a member of the NEC; or
- B. has served at least seven (7) years as a PG; or
- C. has been a member in good standing for at least fifteen (15) years.

The National President may succeed himself, but may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

TERM OF OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 2.

The National President serves a term of three (3) years, beginning at his installation during the National Convention at which he is elected and concluding when his successor has been elected and installed.

POWERS AND DUTIES

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 3.

The National President is the chief executive of the Fraternity. He presides at National Conventions and at meetings of the NEC. He announces no later than March 1 prior to a National Convention to members of the National Assembly the place, date, and time of the first meeting of the National Convention, and publishes the official docket. He approves proceedings of the National Convention. He or a staff member appointed by the NEC supervises the National Staff. He installs chapters or may appoint another member for that purpose. Subject to the approval of the NEC, he:

- A. appoints a PG for each province by September 1 following the National Convention;
- B. appoints a National Historian and members of national committees and commissions;
- C. appoints a member to fill a PG or standing committee vacancy;
- D. divides the United States into provinces.

He may:

- A. approve PG removal of province, chapter, or alumni association officers;
- B. grant special dispensations to enable a chapter to deal with an unusual situation;
- C. grant permission for a chapter to initiate more than two honorary members per academic year;
- D. grant permission for a member to be an honorary member of more than one chapter;
- E. request or authorize duties of the National Vice President; and
- F. remove his appointees from their positions at any time.

Subject to the approval of the NEC, he may:

- A. appoint a DPG for any province; and
- B. excuse a chapter from meeting financial obligations.



Kyle C. Coleman

National President Candidate

Chapter: Zeta Iota - Howard University

Initiation Year: 1998

Employer: Lake City ArtFields Collective

Job Title: Fine Arts Manager

Educational Background:

Alabama A&M University

Bachelor of Science (2004)

Winthrop University

Master of Arts (2018)

Baylor University

Doctor of Education (Expected 2023)

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"It is clear to me that as an organization we have lost our way. If you were to ask 100 Brothers to define our purpose for being, you would receive 100 separate responses. Phi Mu Alpha must embrace and embody sincerity in all of our philosophies, goals, and structures. If the Fraternity relied upon its leadership and membership to move with true sincerity of purpose, we would find that all other obstacles are not insurmountable. That sincerity will manifest in the focus on the well-being of ALL of our Brothers and the facilitation of exalted experiences. My favorite fraternal quote incorporates the concept of "be and not seem". Sinfonia must return to the embodiment of our ideals, rather than paying superficial lip service to the same."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I am uniquely qualified and positioned to assume the duties of National President. I served my undergraduate chapter as secretary and fraternity education officer. I was a multiple-term Collegiate Province Representative and delegate for Province 27 at the 2000 National Assembly. Since 2011, I have served as Governor in Province 30 and as a delegate to every National Assembly since. Professionally, I am an Arts Administrator with over a decade and a half of experience. My Master's degree in Arts Administration is geared explicitly toward not-for-profit management. My forthcoming Doctorate is in Education and Organizational Change. My intent in embarking upon my professional and educational pathways was not necessarily to apply them to Sinfonia. However, I am fully prepared to serve the Fraternity by utilizing my accumulated experience and skills. Sinfonia requires leadership that is well-versed in not-for-profit organizational structure as well as in fraternal philosophies."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"Candidly, Brothers, this is no longer a matter of personal wishes. The Fraternity is in the midst of an existential crisis and needs leadership to address the multiple concerns that threaten our organization. These concerns exist on nearly every level of the Fraternity and will require measured and experienced attention to ensure their resolution. For years, I had no driving interest in seeking a position on the National Executive Committee. I was content to be a helpful, guiding presence for the Brothers within my home state. Over the last several years, it's become increasingly clear that I have the personal and professional tools to assist this Fraternity that I care for so deeply, on a National level. To be a proactive advocate in hea"

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"Since my undergraduate days, I have participated in or facilitated both strategic planning and financial budgeting and oversight in each organization that I have been associated with, professionally. This includes the UNC Pembroke Digital Academy, the Education Department of the Columbia Museum of Art, the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands, the Sumter County Gallery of Art, and the Lake City ArtFields Collective. In addition, I have served as Province Governor and Treasurer for Province 30 since 2011. In those positions, I have facilitated annual strategic planning sessions with Province Leadership and Province Council, as well as preparing and managing a Province Budget for our six active chapters, alumni association, and Brothers."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"The budgets of most of the aforementioned organizations: the Education Department of the Columbia Museum of Art, the Sumter County Gallery of Art, and the Lake City ArtFields Collective have exceeded six figures, respectively. While I have not been the final arbiter of any of the single budgets (in all cases, the organization leads collaborated on budgetary processes), I have planned, contributed to, and facilitated the specific budgets as part of a team of managers. In all cases, I personally had responsibility for sections of the overall budget(s) as applicable to my specific departments and duties. As mentioned, I also manage the Budget for Province 30 of Phi Mu Alpha."



Curtis E. Shirley, Esq

National President Candidate

Educational Background:

Chapter: Epsilon Upsilon - University of Evansville

University of Evansville

Bachelor of Music Education (1983)

Initiation Year: 1979

Indiana University at Bloomington

Master of Music (1985)

Employer: Law Office of Curtis E. Shirley, LLC

Indiana University at Indianapolis

Juris Doctor (1991)

Job Title: Trial Attorney

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"In the next few years our Fraternity will face many decisions for our very survival. I envision leaders who will help heal wounds and make difficult decisions. We should raise income and lower expenses. We need more chapters, more members, and more active alumni. We need less conflict. I envision leaders (not just the NEC but all those who wish to serve) who travel and meet and speak with as many Brothers as possible. To eliminate hazing and sexual harassment. For the Province Governors, CPRs, and Chapter Presidents all having a vote at the National Convention. A board of directors of fifteen instead of an NEC of seven. A National Convention every year, not every three. Constructive social media posts where we are united, not divided."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"Music and the law have much in common. We know the dedication and determination and hard work required; we have to excel as an individual performer, and with others. We stay focused. Harmony is very important. It is not a job. It is a calling. Since 1979, I've served the Fraternity in many roles. For decades I've served on other boards of directors where we help kids learn how to read, stay out of prison, support widows and orphans, and provide attorneys to those who cannot afford one. I have managed significant budgets, raised funds to support our missions, and with Aimee raising our four children. I have been a good steward in the past and hope to earn your trust to preside over our future. Those who know me know I collaborate well with others. It is imperative that all leaders of our Fraternity get along with each other. Collegiality is very important."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I am humbled and honored you would consider me as your next President. The mission of our Fraternity is incredibly important and challenging. Serving on the NEC means working with incredible Brothers and Chapters from all over America, with talented and dedicated people on the NEC and National Staff. I hope at the conclusion of this process, you are confident I have the demeanor, skills, and experience required to be National President, and would bring a diverse set of qualifications and unique perspectives to the NEC. We need leaders who have the patience and wisdom to make good decisions in the midst of emergencies, who can administer complex programs, well-read in our history, and can renew confidence in our mission and values."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"I have served on the leadership boards of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the Sinfonia Educational Foundation, the Indianapolis Legal Aid Society and Foundation, the Indiana Masonic Lodge, the Indianapolis Scottish Rite, Indianapolis Childrens Dyslexia Center, and Extended Hand Prison Ministries. I'm involved in regular strategic planning sessions, and help raise millions each year. We report to governing bodies and other grant and endowment boards, with regular audits. I have served on the planned giving councils for the United Way of Central Indiana and the University of Evansville. I have experience in managing staff, and serve as a fiduciary for dozens of trusts, investing millions, accounting to beneficiaries and courts."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"While on the NEC of Phi Mu Alpha, we managed a budget of \$500,000. As Treasurer of the Sinfonia Educational Foundation, we manage \$200,000. The Indianapolis Legal Aid Society and Foundation raises one million each year and has a significant endowment. While Chairman of the Indianapolis Valley of the Scottish Rite, our Cathedral is worth several hundred million dollars and costs \$3,500 per day to operate. The Indianapolis Childrens Dyslexia Center raises \$100,000 each year and has an endowment of two million. At Extended Hand Prison Ministries we employ a full time minister and raise over \$100,000 each year. I also supervise my law firm, including staff and payroll, advertising, computer programs and technology, insurance, and billing"



Brian M. Stratton

National President Candidate

Educational Background:

Chapter: Delta Omega - Southeastern Louisiana University

Loyola University
BM (1988)

Initiation Year: 1979

Employer: Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

Job Title: Director of Musical Activities

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"To establish Sinfonia as leader in music, diversity, education, and Brotherhood. This goal MUST be obvious to the entire world."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

*"40+ years of dedicated service to the Fraternity on numerous levels
45 years of musical performance/education nationally and internationally
A understanding of diverse musical genres, styles, ethnic cultures, performances
Meeting other leaders of organization in music and other disciplines"*

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"Sinfonia must take its place in our society as a Music leader and promoter of the best in humanity. I am confident that it is my time to take on the leadership role and move our organization forward in every way."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

*"Planning for several National Conventions/institutes/province workshop
Organizing musical ensembles, large performance groups "*



CANDIDATES FOR PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA'S NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 4.

The National Vice President is a member who meets the same eligibility requirements as the National President. The National Vice President may succeed himself, but may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

TERM OF OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 5.

National Vice President serves a term of three (3) years, beginning at his installation during the National Convention at which he is elected and concluding when his successor has been elected and installed.

POWERS AND DUTIES

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 6.

The National Vice President assumes the duties of the National President in the absence or incapacity of the National President. He performs duties as may be requested and authorized by the National President or the NEC.



Erick J. Reid

National Vice President Candidate

Chapter: Rho Mu - Norfolk University

Initiation Year: 2008

Employer: Southwest Airlines

Job Title: Team Leader - Learning and Development

Educational Background:

Norfolk State University
Bachelor of Arts (2011)

University of Maryland Global Campus
Masters of Business Administration (2023)

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"The role of the Vice President is to assist the President of the organization in fulfilling his vision. While this will be my primary responsibility, I believe we have to look at where we've been and where we can go from here. My vision includes starting from the basics in increasing ritual and fraternity education. We should change our way of looking at Brotherhood both locally and nationally. We must uplift each other, so there should be an increase in our mental health initiatives. We must diversify the music we promote and PERFORM MORE MUSIC! Finally, we must improve the collegiate experience to have a more substantial alumni presence. We must rehabilitate our Alumni Associations and our relationship with the Alumni Brother."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"My best qualifications for the office of Vice President include my past leadership experience in Phi Mu Alpha as a Collegiate Province Representative, National Collegiate Representative, Province Governor, and Commissioner on the Commission on Standards. These experiences have shaped my understanding of what Phi Mu Alpha should be. Along with these qualifications, I have a proven track record of being a servant leader in many nationwide organizations. I have the experience of working with national bodies to get work done. In addition to being a servant leader, I have experience working with long and short-term strategies. This strategy experience will be significant in examining the future of Sinfonia and its impact on this Nation."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I wish to run for office because I love Phi Mu Alpha and see much potential in this organization. We have come a long way and can go even further with my leadership! I have been a brother for 14 years and have experienced this organization at every level. We have some work to complete to ensure others will be able to experience Sinfonia in the future. I have dedicated the last 14 years to serving this organization, and my leadership experience is now needed on the National Executive Committee. I believe our future as an organization is bright, and we can win the World to harmony, but we must look inward and make changes to sustain our order first. My fraternity and corporate experience make me the ideal Vice President."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"In my current role at Southwest Airlines, I am responsible for the planning and implementing strategy in terms of training and education for over 350 representatives across the Country. This planning includes conducting needs analysis, setting and prioritizing objectives, and ensuring the plan is implemented and reviewed consistently. Additionally, In my role as secretary-treasurer on a board of a local nonprofit, I have had to work with financial oversight. This included chairing the budgeting committee, working with capital giving campaigns, conducting quarterly audits, and presenting findings to the board."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"In addition to providing leadership with strategy at Southwest Airlines, I am also responsible for accurately outlining the budgetary impacts my team will have on the overall budget of Southwest Airlines University. I have experience overseeing a half-a-million-dollar budget. This management includes equipment and infrastructure updates, employee raises and bonuses allotment, and funding for new training initiatives determined through the organization's strategic plan. In addition to working with budget management in this capacity, I have served as secretary-treasurer for a local volunteer organization in my hometown. This has provided me with experience working directly with non-profit organizations' budgets and governance."



Wesley J. Taylor

National Vice President Candidate

Educational Background:

Berry College

Bachelor of Science (2003)

Grand Canyon University

Master of Education (2008)

Chapter: Kappa Gamma - Berry College

Initiation Year: 1999

Employer: Cobb County School District

Job Title: Physics and Astronomy Teacher at Walton High School

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"At the national level, our next triennium will be primarily concerned with rebuilding our national volunteer leadership structure, correcting the issues that exist between our National Constitution and Bylaws and the not-for-profit laws in our state of incorporation, rebuilding trust in our fraternity's institutions, and making sure that the will of the members of our fraternity are what guide us going forward. If the next NEC gets this right, then three years from now we can get back to focusing on our music."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I bring with me 20 years of fraternity leadership experience from the chapter level through the national level. I've seen how effective our national organization can be with proper leadership as well as how ineffective it can be when leadership is lacking. Along with my experience and historical knowledge I bring a host of skills that should serve our fraternity well. Among them, I am a logistics person. I take pride in being able to analyze large scale problems and identify a clear course of action that will lead to a solution. Additionally, I make sure that those with opinions are heard. Our fraternity has many capable individuals who will need to be a part of the process of rebuilding and taking us to new heights."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I don't wish to run for office. In an ideal world, without the trials our organization has experienced over the past several years, I would be working as a Province Governor, helping to train and serve the collegians in Georgia, and, I would be working to serve the Province Governors as their elected Council Secretary. However, our system has been broken. At times like these those who can serve should. Based on many conversations over the past year I feel compelled to step up and offer my services to help right the ship so our national organization can get back to supporting our members in our goals of building better men and bringing the world to harmony."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"Within Phi Mu Alpha, I have directly taken part in the strategic planning of both the Collegiate Province Representatives' Council and the Province Governors' Council as council secretary. As Province Governor of Province 33 I was responsible for the planning and execution of province workshops and officer training events. Over the years I have participated in our fraternity's national committee and strategic planning apparatus. In my professional life as a high school physics teacher I've participated in numerous professional organizations as well as the coaching and management of a nationally competitive Science Olympiad team."



CANDIDATES FOR PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA'S COMMITTEEMAN-AT-LARGE SIX-YEAR TERM

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 7.

A Committeeman-at-Large is a member in good standing who has been a member for at least three years. A Committeeman-at-Large may succeed himself.

POWERS AND DUTIES

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 9.

The Committeemen-at-Large serves as a member of the NEC.

TERM OF OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 8.

A Committeeman-at-Large serves a term of six (6) years, beginning at his installation during the National Convention at which he is elected and concluding when his successor has been elected and installed. The National Assembly elects one Committeeman-at-Large at each National Convention, so that the terms of the Committeemen-at-Large are staggered by three years.



Kelly J. Rodrigue

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Nicholls State University

BGS (1995)

BS (1996)

MS (2000)

BA (2001)

Chapter: Omicron Beta - Nicholls State University

Initiation Year: 1996

Employer: Nicholls State University

Job Title: University Registrar

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I want to do whatever I can now to help our fraternity stabilize and thrive into the next few decades. Chapters should have a voice in the national operations. How much of a voice will be determined at this convention and in the years that follow. No fraternity should be governed by a select few, but instead by the organization as a whole. Giving the vote and voice to just a very select few is partly what got us into the predicament we are in. I hope to change that. I would like to see annual fraternal/educational meetings during the two summers between our triennial conventions. I want our fraternity to strengthen into an organization that we will want our sons to become a part of, and our children's sons, and their sons."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I believe my 25 years of experience as University Registrar gives me a broader knowledge of how Chapters can interact at the University level and get the most out of that interaction. I have served as Chapter Faculty Advisor for the past 5-6 years and have given advice when asked or as needed when appropriate. I believe I can always argue the other side no matter which side is chosen, thereby allowing a different point of view at least for the sake of discussion. I became a Life Loyal Sinfonian in 2016, around the same time the Bayou Region Alumni Association was getting more active. My years of maturity and past experiences both with the fraternity and other fraternal organizations put me in a position to help our fraternity move forward."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I became a Sinfonian in Spring 1996. The next October, my wife and I had James, the first of our two sons. He was teaching his mom the Greek alphabet before he turned two. He completed a BA degree in music and is currently at LSU working on his MM degree. Our younger son, Zac, completed the first year of his BA in vocal music education. I'm proud to say that both joined Phi Mu Alpha their first year at Nicholls. Zac is here at our 2022 Convention as Chapter President. James attended our 2018 Convention and sang with the Select Chorus. I am running to give a mature viewpoint already having experience interacting with National as well as having participated in Mills Music Missions, but selfishly so my sons' sons have a fraternity to join."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"Through my almost 20 years of volunteer experience with the Boy Scouts of America, I have been involved with Strategic Planning at the Unit (think Chapter), District (think Province), and Council (think Regional Fire-side) levels, and I have even taught a course nationally at the Philmont Training Center titled Effective Annual Unit Planning. I have also been involved with strategic planning through my 20+ years of Federal Credit Union Board experience, both with Nicholls FCU and OnPath FCU (formerly ASI). Financial and fiduciary oversight was used to implement those plans, and it has been used constantly in my 25 years as Registrar at Nicholls State University over my 6 figure departmental budget, especially with years of state budget cuts."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"My departmental budget at Nicholls has been 6 figures since I began as Registrar in 1997. I have managed and overseen all departmental purchases and requisitions for the past 25 years. Additionally, I have served almost 12 years on the Executive Board of the Southeast Louisiana Council of the Boy Scouts of America, where the budget is 7 figures. Four of those years I spent in the volunteer leader position of Council Commissioner. I served 12 years as the Nicholls Federal Credit Union President where we worked with a 7 figure budget. Nicholls FCU merged into OnPath FCU (ASIFCU) in 2014, and since then, I have served the past 8 years on the Board (currently as Vice Chair) of OnPath Federal Credit Union, where we manage a 9 figure budget."



Timothy P. Carter, Esq.

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Chapter: Mu Psi - Southern University

Initiation Year: 1999

Employer: CSAL Middle School and The Office of Timothy P. Carter, Esq.

Job Title: Band Director and Attorney at Law

Educational Background:

Southern University

AA (2003)

BA (2008)

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Masters (2010)

Southern University Law Center

Juris Doctorate (2014)

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

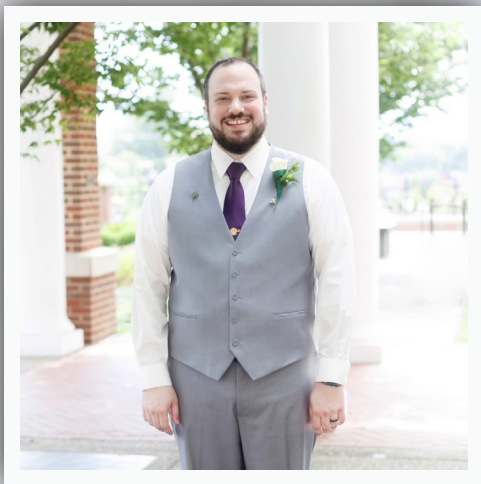
"My vision for the future of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia fraternity is to work to ensure that transparency and diversity of thought are squarely at the center of every aspect of decision making and on every level a fraternal leadership. I envision our fraternity in a state of fulfilling its true mission of service to our fellow man. Where no decision of consequence is put into action that has not been vetted in light of our fundamental principles ideals and philosophies. In short my vision is for our fraternity to take every step towards the future guided by the practical applications of its highest aspirational charge, given by our founders."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"My best qualifications for the office of Committeeman-at-Large come from my ability to always speak truth to power and over two decades of service to our fraternity at every level and in all areas large or small. "

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I wish to run for office because I have witnessed our fraternity at its very best and at its darkest and most trying moments. I am called to serve and to do the utmost to ensure our darkest days are relegated to the past; that such days are never to be heard of nor witnessed again!"



Nathaniel Boone

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Chapter: Kappa Zeta - West Virginia Wesleyan College

Liberty University
B.S. (2022)

Initiation Year: 2009

Employer: Camp Appalachia

Job Title: Administrative Assistant and Outdoor Education Specialist

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"My vision for Phi Mu Alpha is a future where we once again reflect on the ideals cherished by the brothers of Phi Mu Alpha and implement them in all of our deliberations. The future will involve difficult conversations that cannot be made without careful consideration for its implications on the brothers of this fraternity both present and future and with brotherhood in our hearts. My vision for this fraternity is to utilize the gifts of our brothers, regardless of title, to develop and recommend the necessary changes to reflect the vision of our founders while propelling us forward into the future. May we all come together, collegiate and alumni, to move our brotherhood on an ever upward and pave the way for the future of Sinfonia! "

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"My best qualifications for this role are my level head and voice of reason. My approach to any problem is to listen first and talk last. So many disagreements and misunderstandings begin when one or both parties fail to listen to the other. As brothers, this should be the bare minimum. I have had experience and training in de-escalation and conflict resolution as a teacher for eight years, a counseling student, and a Province Governor. I always strive to listen to all sides before making a decision or comment, and I approach every issue with a level head. Most importantly, I promise to treat every brother with respect and dignity regardless of whether I agree or disagree. Every brother deserves an opportunity to be heard, free of judgment."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"My decision to run for office was not an easy one. I wanted to be sure that my motives for running were pure. Running for office, for me, has nothing to do with gaining a title or power. I wanted to run for office because I want to give back to an organization that has given me so much. As we move forward from a difficult triennium, my reason for running for office is a heartfelt compulsion to help my brothers move forward and attempt to be a level head and voice of reason that is needed if we are to close the book on the events of the last four years and strive for the exciting future of our beloved fraternity."



Shawntique Lewis

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Educational Background:

San Antonio College

Associates (2015)

Texas State University

Bachelors in the Arts (Finished in 2017/pending)

Chapter: Gamma Phi - Texas State University

Initiation Year: 2010

Employer: Meta/Self

Job Title: Composer/Cook

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"The vision of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia has always been to provide an unparalleled vision for generations of musician men to come, and in order for us as an organization to be fully effective, I believe these strategic goals are critical:

1. Enriched Collegiate Experience
2. Strengthened Alumni Engagement
3. Enhanced Volunteer Development
4. Increased Mission Awareness
5. Heightened Musical Awareness

For some, this plan may seem familiar; based on fraternity feedback from the first membership survey in 2007, these were objectives at the time that needed to be developed, and after talking with many chapters and brothers today, it seems as if these past issues remain in need of development and I have some strategies to help support growth."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I am a self-motivated person willing to go above and beyond on any project and learn valuable skills on my own time to assure success in any field or assignment. I understand that Committeeman at Large is a position with no official job description, so versatility in that role is critical for success. My comprehensive research into the last few decades of the position gave me great insight as to how it works, what I need to make things work, and what has not worked for the fraternity. I have also received specific training related to Privacy, Security, and Confidentiality through Meta and training for victims of sexual assault and those dealing with mental health crises. After talking to past Committeemen at Large, National Presidents, Vice presidents, and Province Governors for the last year in preparation for this nomination, I recognized that solving these important issues can be a slow process. However, I have the devotion and initiative to see them through with resolve."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"Having served previously in a plethora of chapter positions and provincially as Province Alumni Coordinator and music director, I have no delusions about the work that lies before me and the challenges involved. I strongly feel that I am called to work on creating a more collaborative atmosphere that truly solves problems and creates opportunities for brothers to achieve their goals and aspirations.

I have a passion for people and enjoy working for them and supporting them. Being an Officer is about serving the brotherhood while enacting policies and guidelines that enable chapters and provinces to play positive roles in keeping Sinfonia the best fraternity it can be."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"As the VP of marketing and membership for a regional orchestra based in South Texas, I exclusively planned for fundraising, marketing initiatives, and themes for each working year. I have also had the same responsibilities as an assistant for the Fine Arts department at a school district. Demonstrating my area of expertise in planning, inventory, school, budgeting, purchasing, and distribution. Lastly, I was previously head of Marketing and the CFO of a startup company called "Phat Sounds Media" a media company contracted by students and universities in which I had the primary responsibility of supervising the financial, accounting, and fiscal aspects of the corporation."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"With managing large budgets, I have had plenty of experience with checks and balances. With SMART Orchestra, Fine Arts SAISD, and Phat Sounds Media, I had experience with working with materials and numbers in the 5/6-figure range. Last year I was contracted as a marketing affiliate with a Washington-based theater company in which the marketing budget for our team was \$2.3 million. I understand that quite often, one of the committeemen is elected Secretary-Treasurer, which is a very important position. Moreover, it is not unusual that a committeeman is the non-voting NEC representative on the COS, or perhaps a trustee on the SEF. If called upon for the responsibility, I will be able to execute."



Edward E. Richet, Jr.

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Chapter: Sigma Gamma - Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

Kutztown University
B.A.

Initiation Year: 2010

Employer: Valley Forge Casino Resort

Job Title: Convention Services Manager

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"My vision for Phi Mu Alpha is about representation; knowing that our brothers can rest assured that the future of our beloved Sinfonia, for collegiate and alumni members alike, is bright. A brotherhood where collegiate members feel that they can truly bring harmony to their Alma Mater in any endeavor of life they wish to live and alumni members feel like they have a seat at the table even when their Alma Mater feels like a distant memory. A Sinfonia where brothers line up to serve at every level and feel inspired to serve their community, their chapters, their alumni associations, and beyond, for the full of their lives."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"Ultimately, it comes from servant leadership. In my professional life, as an Event Coordinator, I am called to serve clients to create memorable experiences and organize with multiple teams to bring the client's dreams to reality. In my fraternal life, I am called not only to serve the alumni association but the community where it resides and to work with brothers daily to ensure that our aims and purposes are realized. Service is the core of who I am and, I believe, who we are to be as brothers at large. I have seen and worked in the brotherhood from a colony member to chartering a chapter (and to charter other chapters) to Chapter President to Collegiate Province Representative to rechartering an Alumni Association and serving as its President. A Committeeman-at-Large is not merely a seat filler but an active working body of the National Executive Committee to serve the brotherhood wherever he is called to serve; which comes from understanding the brotherhood at every level. "

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I want to run because I know there is still much work to do for our brotherhood. I have never been afraid to do the work of Sinfonia and I have no plans to stop. I wish to run so that brothers know that they should be heard and truly represented at the highest level. I feel called to serve because we are to look on and ever upward and we are to heed the call. I believe I can help make a difference in the future of our fraternity and be an active change-maker to help our brothers win the world to harmony."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"From as early as my time in college, I have been responsible for budgets as large as over \$1 Million working in Student Government Board and Campus Activities. In my professional life as an Event Coordinator and Meeting Planner, understanding budgets is integral to success. I have worked with multiple departments and committees to ensure that we are at or below budget. Every dollar and every receipt matters."



Brian S. Duerksen

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Friends University

Bachelor of Arts (2006)

Bachelor of Arts (2006)

Master of Business Law (2008)

Juris Doctorate (2012)

Chapter: Xi - University of Kansas

Initiation Year: 2009

Employer: Blackstone Inc.

Job Title: In-House Legal and Compliance

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I would like to see Sinfonia do a better job of not only connecting with, but engaging with, its alumni members. While Sinfonia is and should necessarily be an organization for its active membership, we have a treasure trove of talent in all walks of life. Whether it be simply connecting active members with alumni in different parts of the country, or setting up some form of active mentorship program, I think we drastically underserve our active membership by not utilizing our alumni. This I think is the biggest hole in our organization, and by connecting and engaging with alumni, we would do wonders for both past and present membership."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I think my biggest asset to Sinfonia is that I'm an attorney and have the training to interpret complex legal issues. While I cannot provide legal advice on things as a member of the NEC, I can provide a different view than others would be able to."

I think my next most important qualification is my dedication to the things that I care about. Sinfonia has been a big part of my adult life, and I've remained dedicated to serving the fraternity even past graduation. I want to see Sinfonia into the next chapter, and I will put whatever work in that needs to be done in order to achieve that goal."

Lastly, I think my ability to build meaningful relationships with others would be extremely valuable to the NEC. The NEC is charged with representing people in different walks and with different ideas, and in order to be successful and build consensus, a person has to be able to work with and have relationships with as many people as possible. I believe I possess the ability to do that."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I want to help guide Sinfonia's future and help steer the ship toward new heights. Additionally, it seems at least some of the turmoil that has arisen over the last couple of years has centered around interpretation of legal issues, which are best placed for an attorney to assist with. I think some of the division could have been minimized with an attorney on the NEC, as there previously had been. I think a legally trained mind and voice on the NEC is very important to help move Sinfonia forward."



Tyler C. Bainter

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Chapter: Alpha Delta - Iowa State University

Initiation Year: 2015

Employer: Des Moines Public Schools

Job Title: Orchestra Assistant

Educational Background:

Iowa State University

Bachelor of Music (2019)

Texas State University

Master of Music (2021)

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I believe a strong future for the fraternity is secured in a revitalization of its membership and a rebuilding of the connection between the national fraternity and the brotherhood-at-large."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I believe that the duty of the Committeeman-at-large is to be a leader for the fraternity and a support for the other members of the committee. In that spirit, I believe that is exactly what I have done in all the positions I've held. I find great value in a supportive position as it relates to both the goals of the NEC and fraternity, and as it benefits the brotherhood. I am committed to the success of ideas and do not think we should squander creativity. In each position I have maintained that we must be analytical, to determine the hows and whys, but also free, as to allow for new and better ways for growth."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I love working for Phi Mu Alpha and I have served in many different ways over the years. This candidacy, I feel, is the best and most effective way I can serve now. I want a fraternity that brings both comfort and pride to our brothers. Our collegiate and alumni brothers feel disenfranchised for vastly different reasons and these must be appropriately addressed if the fraternity is to endure. Both groups have felt that the national fraternity has ignored them and we've now reached the crucial point where decisions must be made. I believe that we must bring power to the chapters to ensure their voice is maintained, that the national fraternity become more transparent, and that we better incentivize our alumni members to stay and participate."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"I served in various executive capacities during my time as a collegiate member, including as president and treasurer; though the finances were small-scale. I helped the Alpha Delta chapter navigate the early years of reactivation, setting a foundation and providing stability in the years to come. This could be seen through our early plans involving membership development and creating the first sustainable budget in over a decade. As a graduate assistant at Texas State, I assisted with much of the planning and management of the orchestra, including developing plans during the COVID-19 pandemic."



Samuel D. Porter

Committeeman-at-Large (6-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Lebanon Valley College

Bachelor of Science (2016)

Chapter: Iota Kappa - Lebanon Valley College

Initiation Year: 2013

Employer: Lodi Public Schools

Job Title: Band Director

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"My vision is to see Phi Mu Alpha continue its object as not only a collegial experience but as a lifelong endeavor for brothers to share in. I want to see this without the turmoil and vitriol that has plagued this organization as of late. My vision for Phi Mu Alpha is to see more representation at all levels. Brothers of all types feel unrepresented and unheard. That is unacceptable as we look to the future of this or any organization. I envision a Phi Mu Alpha with support to alumni members and groups. Communication is the start of this endeavor. I envision an organization that is supportive of ALL members at all levels. I want to make a concerted effort to see new leadership rise and lead this organization into the future."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"My best qualifications for the office I seek are my compatibility and adaptability. Socially I am able to move and connect with people from all walks of life. It is crucial that we can work together and the NEC professionally but with no undue animosity. Being able to connect with one another will be critical to this endeavor especially given previous circumstances. Adaptability is critical for the connection and collaboration of ideas. Working together for the advancement of the fraternity will require the sharing, and more importantly, the adapting of ideas. There will be a lot of work to be done upon appointment to the NEC."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I wish to run for office to be the change I want to see. That has always been my goal. I ran for office in my chapter because I believed we could do more on our campus. I helped to change our image on campus as members of greek life and change behaviors within the chapter that were unsafe and unethical. I ran for CPR to forge deeper connections to the 7 chapters in my province and create procedures and pathways to give chapters more opportunities to collaborate and enrich brotherhood. We are in need of brothers at the national level that will take a brother-centered approach to change and progress. I would be honored to help be the change I want to see."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"Before my career in education, I was the general manager of both a Speedway Gas Station and Domino's Pizza. As the GM, I was responsible for our bottom line. Utilities, inventory management and ordering, labor costs, scheduling, and sales performance were under my umbrella of responsibilities. While my budget was not that of a national organization, I have managed staff, analyzed and managed costs, and taken part in strategic planning for the organization and running of my stores."



CANDIDATES FOR PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA'S COMMITTEEMAN-AT-LARGE THREE-YEAR TERM

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 7.

A Committeeman-at-Large is a member in good standing who has been a member for at least three years. A Committeeman-at-Large may succeed himself.

POWERS AND DUTIES

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 9.

The Committeemen-at-Large serves as a member of the NEC.

TERM OF OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 8.

A Committeeman-at-Large serves a term of six (6) years, beginning at his installation during the National Convention at which he is elected and concluding when his successor has been elected and installed. The National Assembly elects one Committeeman-at-Large at each National Convention, so that the terms of the Committeemen-at-Large are staggered by three years.



Kenneth M. Corbett

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Educational Background:

University of South Carolina

B.A. Business Administration (1981)

Master of Accountancy (1992)

Chapter: Delta Sigma - University of South Carolina

Initiation Year: 1977

Employer: Retired from the University of South Carolina in 2018 after 37 years

Job Title: Retired

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I believe Phi Mu Alpha needs seasoned leadership from someone like me who has had a number of positions within other organizations. Sinfonia needs a team of leaders to move the Fraternity into the next century. The Chapter experience is the lifeblood of the fraternity and that is where the focus needs to be from those leaders. We have to pour resources into helping our chapters become the best that can be on their campus. The Province Workshop is a great way to train chapters on the operation of Sinfonia. These need to be continued each year. We need a National Headquarters that focuses on the chapter. Services and information needs to be available to our chapters 24/7.

Brotherhood in Music...."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I currently have and had a number of leadership positions within other organizations.

I am the current President of my Rotary Club, transiting to Secretary/Treasurer in 2022-2023. I am the Treasurer for the University of South Carolina retiree club,

I have been part of several strategic planning sessions with the University of South Carolina Credit Union Board of which I am Chairman, as well as strategic planning sessions with Kappa Kappa Psi Fraternity, the most recent in December 2021. I was also National President of Kappa Kappa Psi from 1989-1991. I served as the chapter sponsor for 14 years for the Kappa Kappa Psi chapter at the University of South Carolina thru August 2021.

Before I retired in 2018 after 37 years, I managed budgets at the University of South Carolina well over \$ 100M in Contract Management with food service, bookstore, vending, atm's, and trademark licensing."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"Phi Mu Alpha needs seasoned leadership from someone like me who has had a number of positions within other organizations. My experiences in those other organizations makes me an ideal candidate for Committeeman-at-Large."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"I have been part of several strategic planning sessions with the University of South Carolina Credit Union Board of which I am Chairman, as well as strategic planning sessions with Kappa Kappa Psi Fraternity, the most recent in December 2021. I was also National President of Kappa Kappa Psi from 1989-1991. I served as the chapter sponsor for 14 years for the Kappa Kappa Psi chapter at the University of South Carolina thru August 2021."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"Before I retired in 2018 after 37 years, I managed budgets at the University of South Carolina well over \$ 100M in Contract Management with food service, bookstore, vending, atm's, and trademark licensing."



Cameron K. Walls

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Chapter: Eta Xi - Tennessee State University

Initiation Year: 2013

Employer: Self Employed - Entrepreneur

Job Title: Owner/Founder of The Lilly Walls Firm, Executive Project Manager for Dulaney Land Music, Actor & Professional Vocalist

Educational Background:

Tennessee State University
Bachelor of Science (2015)
Lipscomb University
Master of Arts (2015)

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"My vision for the future of Phi Mu Alpha is to build and expand our brotherhood for all members, including the majority of brothers who are not performers or educators. I'd like to see Sinfonia help brothers who no longer have careers in music, but have ventured onto other paths and vocations, have families and commitments and lack any meaningful musical outreach. I believe that Phi Mu Alpha is equally important to these men, the majority of our alumni, and that Sinfonia should provide them with the education they need to understand fully that their brotherhood is as important to them now as it was in college. Sinfonia depends on these men for support, and should rely on them to continue to advance Music and our mission after graduation."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I have extensive background in Music and Mass Communication. I have worked for more than 25 years as a recording artist in music ranging from Gospel to Pop, and have been a professional vocalist, songwriter and executive producer. I have also enjoyed an acting career in Film and Television. My professional experiences have allowed me to develop a wide variety of experiences in production, administration and performance. I have considerable strategic planning, event planning and project management experience both in my own business and in my career in Education. I understand how to bring people from diverse backgrounds together and focus them on achieving a common goal, and I believe this experience would translate well to leadership in Sinfonia. I am also skilled in networking and believe I could be highly useful in building or expanding partnerships between the fraternity and other organizations to further our mission and broaden our outreach and appeal."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I would like to contribute my leadership capabilities to the fraternity in return for what it has given me over the years. My experience and perspective have allowed me to see the many opportunities available for Phi Mu Alpha to achieve its mission. I would like to advocate for new opportunities and rekindle the fire that may have been lost by many brothers; helping expand our focus, exposing a vision and ideals that are necessary to propel Sinfonia forward. I believe that my perspective and experience can be a catalyst for progression. What Sinfonia can offer is greatly needed in our turbulent times. We can become a voice for change, and advance Music in new ways that better fit the needs of society today."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"I have considerable strategic planning and financial oversight experience from my roles as a Church Administrator for STBF Church, as an Events Production Coordinator for Quaver Music, and as Executive Project Manager for Dulaney Land. I am also required to utilize these skills daily in my own company, the Lilly Walls Firm. At Quaver, I helped to plan a vision for Quaver's outreach and promotions at Music Education Conventions and Conference that would increase awareness of Quaver's educational tools and expand their use. At Dulaney Land, I help a diverse array of clients understand how to develop strategic plans for projects, events and programs."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"While at Quaver Music, my department had a budget of \$ 500,000, and had responsibility for booking and procurement for Quaver's outreach at Music Education events. During the height of the pandemic, I organized Quaver's first ever Convention - "Quaver Con 2020" - which had to be executed within a strict budget. The Event was very successful, on budget, and attended by over 2,500 music educators worldwide in July 2020. As owner of the Lilly Walls Firm, I help clients devise and manage budgets for their projects. I have extensive and diverse budget management experience as an executive producer, administrator, educator and event organizer over the past 25 years."



Jesse A. Reyes

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Educational Background:

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
Bachelor's of Science (2008)

Chapter: Omicron Pi - California State University, Fullerton

Initiation Year: 2005

Employer: Naval Sea Systems Command

Job Title: Supervisory Engineer

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"The greatness of this Fraternity is built upon the collegiate experience and we are doing our brothers a disservice by having our National Leaders focused on outside matters. I want to re-establish a firm foundation of volunteer leaders to provide that support for collegiate chapters. I want to make sure our business operations are sound and that we have transparency in our financial processes. Also, I want to bring a more outward-focused, community building communication strategy. We need someone that will be able to bring together our vast brotherhood and build a better future for our Fraternity. The Fraternity needs level-headed leadership that is seen as unbiased in the wake of the National Emergency and I believe I am that Brother."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"My qualifications are very well rounded. I was a two-term CPR from Province 22 before I was elected as its Chairman to serve on the National Executive Committee for the 2009-2012 triennium. During this term, I became well acquainted with our business operations and our budget process. This gave me great insight into non-profit corporate operations. During this time, I was also a contributor to the new edition of Themes for Brotherhood. After my term was over, I was appointed for the Commission on Standards and served from 2012-2018. This gave me great insight into chapter operations, Province Governor issues, and how to manage risk management allegations. Additionally, over the last couple of years, I was promoted at my job and now manage a budget of just under \$4 million, so I know how to manage budgets, execution, and include planning factors. I feel like I'm one of the few Brothers running for National Office that has this broad range of experience within our Fraternity."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"My experience presents me as a unique candidate. I feel I am viewed as that bridge-builder as I wasn't on any particular "side" during this National Emergency. I think I can reconcile these two Fraternities back into one. Being a past NEC member gives me the experience with our budget and our corporate operations. My experience on the Commission on Standards provided me with regular interactions with our staff, particularly our Executive Director. I believe I would be able to work well with the staff and the other elected National Executive Committee members to solve some of these problems."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"I was part of the Fraternity leadership when we had our last Strategic Plan implementation from 2007-2012. I was on the NEC when we were evaluating its effectiveness and whether actions were considered closed or unfinished. Additionally, I perform the financial oversight for my job as a supervisory engineer. I manage just under \$4 million and track different accounts to closure and manage spend-rates and the associated tasking."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"I was on the NEC from 2009-2012 and had insight into our budget. At the time, the budget was around \$1.2 million. For my job, I manage a budget of just under \$4 million. This includes assigning the tasking to particular accounts, assure accounts are spent down for the effectivity of that fund, and assure spend-rates are on target."



Daniel D. Drake

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Illinois Wesleyan University

Bachelor of Music Education (2020)

Chapter: Alpha Lambda - Illinois Wesleyan University

Initiation Year: 2016

Employer: Hillsboro Community Unit School District #3 -
Hillsboro, Illinois

Job Title: Director of Bands

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"My vision for Sinfonia is centered around involvement. There is so much isolation right now within our fraternity due to COVID-19 but also general separation between chapters, provinces, and members. I want Sinfonia to spend the next triennium focused on getting and keeping brothers connected. I want to break this into two fronts: alumni involvement, and collegiate involvement. Alumni need a reworked Alumni Association system as well as more opportunities to serve on committees in areas of their personal expertise. Collegiate members need greater opportunities to connect across chapter and province lines to create a larger chapter-to-chapter connection. My vision is for a more connected and communication-focused Sinfonia."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"Throughout my time within Sinfonia I have experienced multiple positions within the chapter, province, and national settings. During my time as a collegiate member of the Alpha Lambda chapter, I served as the Fraternity Education Officer, Chapter Secretary, and Chapter President. Each of these positions gave me different views of the innerworkings of the chapter system and allowed me to make changes that helped our chapter grow. Since 2018, I have served with the Commission on Standards and have learned significantly about how our fraternity functions and how we can better work with chapters to improve the overall wellbeing of the fraternity. My experience with Phi Mu Alpha has led me to believe I am highly qualified for this office."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I wish to run because our brotherhood needs change. I believe that my experience on the Commission on Standards has given me insight into some of these areas that most drastically need change. Areas such as alumni organization and engagement, chapter welfare and development, intra-province health and support, and overall member welfare. As someone who recently graduated college, I can address current issues I have noticed as well as heard from collegiate brothers. In addition, I am a young alumni who has already seen the struggle with communication and collaboration that needs to be addressed for all Sinfonians. It is time for Sinfonia to change so it can be around for generations to experience the incredible organization that we all love."



Arthur B. Crippen

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Educational Background:

The Art Institute of Indianapolis
Bachelors (2010)

Chapter: Gamma Omega - Indiana State University

Initiation Year: 1993

Employer: NDX Lumident

Job Title: CAD/CAM Team Lead

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"During 2020, I had time to reflect a lot on things I had let fall to the side, passions not pursued. In the latter half of 2021, I was contacted by my home chapter only to discover that things were not well. Within one academic year, they managed to triple their membership and completely transform their brotherhood. Watching that and being able to help by simply being there and being voice of encouragement is my vision."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I have time to give to the organization and a renewed interest and vigor entirely brought about by some introspection and reflection that I had while sitting at home doing nothing for 6 weeks in 2020. My duties at my job are that of problem solving and finding creative solutions to workflow issues."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I feel the fraternity is at a moment in time where it would benefit from new voices and ideas that come from a seasoned perspective."



Jonathan W. Engel

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Chapter: Omicron Mu - Clarion University of Pennsylvania

Clarion University of Pennsylvania
Bachelors (2005)

Initiation Year: 2001

Employer: New Dimension Comics Inc.

Job Title: Regional Manager

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"Sinfonia, to me, has always been an organic organization. During my time I saw us go from the 5 purposes to reinstating the Object, ushering in a new renaissance for us. Every year I watched us grow and develop to build our brotherhood in a better and better direction for music and our brotherhood. While we have hiccups like every organization, I believe we must set ourselves on a course where we set aside past differences and rebuild, together, to grow not just the colligate experience but embrace the alumni we have to help create a truly life long experience. I believe that when all aspects of our order works together, we can only achieve the best for all of us."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I am a hard worker, friendly, goal oriented, and have experience working with teams. I always go the extra mile for my brothers and I feel that the time for brothers like me to be leading the charge, is now. I also have experience organizing bigger events, as I host a yearly comic book convention with thousands in attendance, I can use those skills to help with planning for Firesides, National Convention, or even province meetings for the new PGs that will be installed later. I am an even tempered and even thinking person who does not just jump to any conclusion, though I am willing to take risks for new advances in any situation. Also, my communication skills are very good."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I have always done what was needed to do a brothers part. Whether that be volunteering to help with fraternal education with a struggling chapter, to helping with Initiation Rituals. Recently, as the Province Alumni Coordinator for Province 39, at workshop helped to bring in alumni to be recognized and receive their year pins as well as directed the province wide ritual. I saw this as an opportunity for the province to truly come together and remind ourselves of why we are here by doing such an event at our first in person gathering since 2020. Now is the time to bring brothers together again, more than ever. I want to bring what I can do to a national level and help guide brothers on a bigger scale."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"In my job, I oversee 6 retail stores that gross over three million dollars yearly. In that I have to plan payroll, store events, spending costs, and so much more. I also am the promoter and show runner for a comic book convention that brings thousands of fans to Pittsburgh yearly."

MY 6+ FIGURE BUDGETARY EXPERIENCE

"See previous answer. (Strategic Planning and Financial Oversight)



Jordan M. Southern

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Chapter: Eta Xi - Tennessee State University

Initiation Year: 2014

Employer: Greystar Management

Job Title: Assistant Property Manager

Educational Background:

Tennessee State University

Bachelor of Science (2016)

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Master of Music (2020)

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"My vision for the future of my beloved Fraternity is that of a well-oiled machine. I want to see this Fraternity running smoothly and flourishing. I would like to see more recognition of "good" things come to our Fraternity and not just the "discouraging." I would like to help build this Fraternity in any capacity that I can. Building financials, building status, and most importantly, building Brotherhood. I STILL believe that there is no other brotherhood like that of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and I want to make sure that we stand in that truth wholeheartedly. I want so badly to help this Fraternity get back to its prime."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I am flexible and can adjust easily. I am also open minded and can bring creativity to the ways of operations. I am organized and exemplify great time management skills. I am very people oriented and have to issues with teamwork for the greater good."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I believe that I would gain a better insight as to what this Fraternity really needs to flourish once again, and be able to deliver. I love this Fraternity dearly and want to bring my skills and talents here to help it grow even more. On and ever upward!"

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"I have been planning events and operations ever since I first joined Phi Mu Alpha in 2014. I've grown and learned a catalogue of skills from trial and error, and success throughout my years. I've planned resident events at my recent job which required communication with vendors, budgeting, advertising, and organization/time management. As an Assistant property manager, my primary job was the oversight of financials. Budgeting, handling monies, transactions, etc."



Jamison T. Harrod

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Chapter: Pi Psi - Texas A&M University, Commerce

Initiation Year: 2015

Employer: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Job Title: Graduate Teaching Assistant

Educational Background:

Texas A&M University - Commerce

Bachelor of Science (2018)

University of Oklahoma

Master of Music (2020)

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Doctor of Musical Arts (Expected 2023)

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"Phi Mu Alpha is in a pivotal and unique place in its history, which is prime with opportunity for growth and progression. The organization is in desperate need for a new strategic plan that will get us through the next three triennia. This new strategic plan should be the first priority for a new NEC and published to the membership at its earliest convenience. Transparency in the future development of our order is paramount. Our strategic plan must outline the short and long term goals of our fraternity, especially in the areas of membership growth, finances, and DEI strategies. In this post-COVID era, the NEC must present a unified vision for how our organization interacts in these areas with universities and the arts more broadly."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"Attending 3 different universities has allowed me to serve and lead our Fraternity across three different Provinces (32, 8, and 6). The experiences of seeing first-hand how our fraternity operates in different parts of the country prepares me in a unique way to serve our brotherhood at the national level. As 92% of our operational budget comes from membership dues, the NEC needs to develop and grow our membership. By serving on the Graduate Committee of the OU School of Music and by being an active participant in the UNL School of Music's strategic planning and new music building workshops, I have learned vital skills related to arts leadership and management that I can use to effectively serve as a member of our organization's NEC."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"Phi Mu Alpha has shaped my life in so many profound ways. Programs such as the PM process, the ritual, Province Workshops, CPR Convocations, and National Conventions have developed me into the person I am today and have introduced me to so many people who have impacted me greatly. If the Fraternity has invested so much into me, it is only right that I give back in any way that I can. I feel a sense of duty to our order and joining the NEC is the ultimate form of service to our fraternity. As an NEC member, I hope to make a significant impact on the arts in America, so that future generations can enjoy a rich and diverse arts culture in our country."

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT

"During my first year at UNL I participated in strategic planning workshops hosted by a third-party organization designed to help the School of Music develop its new strategic plan. In these workshops we discussed recruiting, funding, DEI issues, and other topics related to the growth of our School of Music. These workshops eventually culminated in the School's adoption of a 5-year strategic plan. I have basic fundraising knowledge in individual, corporate, and grant development, as well as budget line item allocations. I have studied our 990 forms, understand how we earn and spend money, and have a basic understanding of what adjustments we could make to be more financially responsible in the short term and long term."



Kieffer A. Yearout

Committeeman-at-Large (3-Year Term)

Educational Background:

Chapter: Sigma Omicron - The University of Virginia's College at Wise

The University of Virginia's College at Wise
Bachelors of Arts (2018)

East Tennessee State University
Master of Arts (2020)

Initiation Year: 2018

Employer: Floyd County Public Schools

Job Title: Seventh Grade Civics and Science Teacher

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I see Sinfonia as an opportunity to connect musicians all over the United States. In the past few years, our fraternity has been shaken and rocked by the pandemic and the squabbling of Brothers. I want a Sinfonia that is united, where Brothers from the past and the present can come together for a common cause. I want to see chapters expand, I want to see Lyre Crest grow and become a destination for Sinfonians and musicians alike. Sinfonia has so much potential, instead of secluding ourselves, we need to be out in our community and country making a difference."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I feel like I am perfectly qualified for this position. I have both a BA and MA in history, meaning I have the ability to study difficult issues to better understand things. I have a strong work ethic, I helped found the Sigma Omicron chapter and have continually worked at helping not only my home chapter but other chapters around me as well. I have a great relationship with Brothers all around the country, including the Brothers of the national staff. Even though I may not have experience in finances, I am always willing and able to learn. I am also a teacher, meaning I have great skills in both planning and discussion. I feel like I bring a very different perspective to the fraternity that will greatly benefit the next three years as we return to normalcy."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I want to run for committeeman at large (3 years) because I feel like I have a unique perspective on the fraternity. I helped found the Sigma Omicron chapter, I also developed great relationships with Brothers around the country. I feel like I have so much more to give to this fraternity and while love all that I have done at the local and province level I want to help make a difference nationally."



CANDIDATES FOR PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA'S NATIONAL COLLEGIATE REPRESENTATIVE

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 10.

The NCR is a member in good standing who has served as an elected officer in his chapter. The NCR is a collegiate member at the time of his election.

The NCR may not succeed himself.

TERM OF OFFICE

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 11.

The NCR serves a term of three (3) years, beginning at his installation during the National Convention at which he is elected and concluding when his successor has been elected and installed.

POWERS AND DUTIES

Bylaws, Title I, Article III, Section 12.

The NCR represents the collegiate membership on the NEC. He encourages communication among chapters and promotes interaction within the collegiate membership.



Reno M. Ruiz

National Collegiate Representative

Educational Background:

Chapter: Zeta Sigma - Texas Tech University

Texas Tech University

Bachelor's of Music (2024)

Initiation Year: 2021

Employer: N/A

Job Title: N/A

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I wish to help bring unity to the brothers across the nation. I believe every man has a place at the table, and every brother should feel the warm welcome of fraternity. We treat each other with grace, and we must work together for the common goal of our great object. How can we achieve this when we turn away from the true meaning of fraternity, brotherhood? I seek a future where all brothers will be heard fairly, with all brothers working together for the great object of this fraternity. Our future must have true brotherhood, not a superficial feeling of such. I believe we can have unity and fairness. We must work together to show all the power of music, and we must work together to help each other find the true meaning of brotherhood."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"Everyone has unique experiences, strengths, and weaknesses. In this office, I would bring all of my own. My qualifications are not in competition or vain, but a small piece of what I can bring to the table with a fresh approach. I am young and have come into this fraternity with only the ideals written in our object, giving me a clear head on how we move forward. We must evolve as an organization, I come from many privileges in this world, but I have seen that conversation is much too late and much too little. I am a listener, and my ear is open to all brothers, not only to have a "conversation" about what to change but so I can take action. I am organized and will bring that strength to our NEC to bring fairness to all brothers. I will make the mountains move. We are faced with some of the biggest obstacles to challenge us as a brotherhood. I know that I am more than capable of representing all voices of the collegiate body without having to compromise our ideal of brotherhood."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I wish to run for office to help us find a fraternal path through these unprecedented times in our lives, fraternity, and world. The collegiate body is the heart that keeps our fraternity alive. This body needs to be represented to the absolute highest ability as they keep us moving. I hope to sit as the representative for the collegiate body, for I know that I can fully voice the needs of our brothers as we work through the struggles of our world as a fraternity, and our struggles as a fraternity, as brothers. I vow to keep an open mind and ear to all brothers' wants, needs, and concerns as a member of the NEC and will make decisions representatively of the entire fraternity so we can move forward with grace and ease."



Gregory A. Dendy, Jr.

National Collegiate Representative

Educational Background:

Chapter: Zeta Rho - Fisk University

Initiation Year: 2015

Employer: Morgan State University

Job Title: Resident Director

Fisk University

B.A (2018)

B.A. (2018)

Vanderbilt University

M.Div. (2020)

Morgan State University

PhD

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"As an organization, I love the history and legacy of our story. It is one that can be told repeatedly and I will still fall in love with it. The love I have for our organization is the reason I desire to take it beyond the doors of chapter, or the music building. The story of Sinfonia should be heard by all. The impact of Phi Mu Alpha should be felt by all. The legacy of our organization and brotherhood should be seen across the globe. My vision for Phi Mu Alpha is to take our legacy and history and sharing it proudly. I believe we do a great job of doing that now, but there is still great opportunity to do more. My vision for Phi Mu Alpha is elevation."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I believe that any man who truly understands the power within our brotherhood is fit to hold the National Collegiate Representative office. Personally, I recognize that my ability to live our notable Object is what makes me qualified. I believe that the greatest asset we have to us all of us is the power of community. We have a great deal of support and the power to support others in accomplishing the goals of many. That to me is the development of the best and truest fraternal spirit. Knowing that the cost of living is service unto others, it is essential to know the power of the thing that draws all -- music. Music is the one powerful tool that encompasses all experiences of humanity. We must push for the mutual welfare and brotherhood of musical students and the advancement of music in America. I am loyal to this responsibility that I have chosen. It is my duty to succeed and ensure the success of those around me regardless of circumstance. These qualifications I consider my best."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I am interested in running for office because I feel that it is essential if one desires to make that there be a commitment to seeing the results produced. As I have experienced life within the fraternity for the past 7 years, as a collegiate member, I have seen plenty of experiences of Sinfonians. I believe that it is essential that these experiences are elevated in a way that continues to create the best brotherhood possible. I want to highlight the experiences of those who feel like they are often not represented and create space to strengthen those that feel that they do. With my experience, leadership, and support I believe that I am fit for office."



Collin R. Alekson

National Collegiate Representative

Educational Background:

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Bachelor of Arts (2021)

Chapter: Lambda Gamma - Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

Initiation Year: 2018

Employer:

Job Title: Graduate Student

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

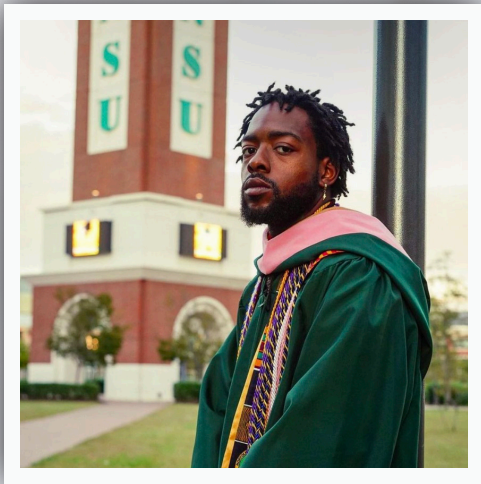
"Sinfonia has been in the process of returning to its roots as a social organization for young men in America's higher education system for the past few decades and I hope to see it continue forward in the fraternity's second century. Cultivating a better outlet for not only collegiate membership but also for its alumni in the form of alumni associations would lead to stronger involvement within the national fraternity. Looking inward as a social order, the fraternity must be more involved with the experience of collegiate membership at the chapter, provincial and national levels to ensure their activeness as alumni can bridge the generational gaps of the brotherhood."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"Learning how to engage with collegiate and alumni Sinfonians in new ways due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I feel that my experience in remotely connecting with members and coordinating digital and physical gatherings of members for both chapters and provinces can be of service at a national level. I have had the opportunity to present educational sessions during my province's most recent workshop. I have also served in a multitude of roles for my chapter during my undergraduate studies that included serving in the university's student government association, interfraternity council as well as holding membership and serving as Vice President of Service for its chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, honorary band fraternity."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"Having served in a multitude of leadership positions at the chapter level and presently at the province level, I am confident in my ability to loan my skills at a larger, national setting. As an active collegiate member, I feel it is important to serve in the role of NCR to bring the collegiate perspective within the NEC and provide assistance and guidance as needed to our probationary, collegiate, honorary and alumni members alike. I would like to serve the fraternity's ideals at a higher level while bringing about more engagement and networking amongst our membership."



Xavier A. Hendon

National Collegiate Representative

Educational Background:

Chapter: Zeta Iota - Howard University

Norfolk State University

Bachelor of Music (2021)

Initiation Year: 2017

University of Maryland Global Campus

Masters of Business Administration (2023)

Employer: Virginia Beach City Public Schools

Job Title: Music Specialist

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I plan to see a unified SINFONIA. One that is true to its ideals, members, and those we serve."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I believe my unique experience through SINFONIA qualifies me to run for office. I have been apart of 3 chapters since my initiation and through my undergraduate career. I have also served on the E Board for each chapter as well as assisting neighboring chapters. My philosophy is that SINFONIA is my chapter."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I wish to run for the office because I believe in filling the need I see. I truly believe there is a gap between the alumni and collegiate that I can help bridge."



Levi D. R. Frazier

National Collegiate Representative

Educational Background:

Iowa State University

Chapter: Upsilon Chi - Northwest Missouri State University

Bachelor of Music (2023)

Bachelor of Arts (2023)

Initiation Year: 2018

Employer: Petco

Job Title: Guest Advisor

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"Phi Mu Alpha's mission from inception has always been for the brotherhood of musical students and the advancement of music in America. These two are the principal pillars from which all other aims derive. To that end, our pillars are crumbling. We must revitalize and readdress who and what we are. The future of Phi Mu Alpha should reflect the future of music and musical education in America. We are lacking in our departments with support for modern American composers and musicians. I find so many chapters huddled to only themselves but eyes blind to the brotherhood and inclusivity of all musical students. My vision for the future is a unified Phi Mu Alpha that can bring unity to collegiate music programs."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I come from a splintered music department. Among the music Greeks in my department, we are always walking on glass around each other. I have discovered we're not unique in this. Whether it be Kappas vs. PMA, major vs. non-major, voice vs. instrumental, the story is the same--discord. Phi Mu Alpha should be instrumental in bringing about unity and working together in harmony. Having personal experience in this regard as both an instrumentalist and vocalist, and a "PsiFonian," I believe I am apt to help understand sides and mend rifts. I am going into my sixth year of undergrad, I have been around for a while. I think this gives me a unique and mature understanding to best help collegiate Sinfonians navigate their way forward and give perspective to the NEC. I am also a genderqueer brother who knows how it feels to join a "manly" fraternity. I would love to help us move forward to reach out to potential brothers who feel they wouldn't belong but who Sinfonia would benefit from having."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I wish to run for office to help bring about the direction I envision for the Fraternity. The role of NCR is to be a bridge between the NEC and the collegiate brotherhood at large. These two bodies must heal their rift and work together to move into the next chapter of the Fraternity. The last three years have been a dark chapter for our brotherhood. We must make amends, heal, and move forward together as brothers in music. I wish to best serve by aiding chapters and provinces with new efforts to make themselves more inclusive for potential brothers, as well as aiding in being more of a helpful presence within their departments that shows our object of advancing music and creating true mutual welfare and brotherhood of musical students."



Grant R. Potter

National Collegiate Representative

Educational Background:

Michigan State University

Mathematics (2022 - In Progress)

Chapter: Gamma Epsilon - Michigan State University

Initiation Year: 2018

Employer: Delta Dental

Job Title: IT Security Intern

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I want Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia to continue with it's great mission, expanding music in America and spreading the good word of our brotherhood. I want to give province Governors more resources to effectively govern their province, and I want to strengthen the our provinces, as I believe they are an important link to the collegiate body. I want to reactivate many inactive chapters, and I want to give alumni the resources to be able to help with their reactivation. I want to make sure all alumni are kept engaged with the brotherhood, this mean expanding on the alumni newsletter and creating more alumni associations within the nation. I also want to make sure or collegiate brothers feel like they have a voice to speak to on the NEC."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I believe my considerable experience being an active voice for both my chapter and my province has prepared me for this experience. I have worked frequently on projects with the many brothers of my province, and the experiences I have accrued through that has helped me learn what it takes to be a leader in the community. I will be able to use these skills on the national level to help the fraternity move forward, and to complete my goals I set out for above."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I believe I have what it takes to help this fraternity continue down it's path in greatness. While president of my chapter I helped us work through the Covid19 pandemic, and I was a strong voice in our province offering help to chapters in need. From getting them resources to be able to perform their rituals to finding people to fill spots in their rituals, to aiding brothers move their rush class from yearly to one-a-semester, I have considerable experience working with collegiate brothers and presidents to help them create the best Sinfonians they possibly can."



Lucas J. Reed

National Collegiate Representative

Educational Background:

Chapter: Omicron Psi - Eastern Kentucky University

Eastern Kentucky University

Bachelor of Music (2022)

Bachelor of Music (2022)

Minor (2022)

Initiation Year: 2019

Employer: N/A

Job Title: Student

MY VISION FOR PHI MU ALPHA

"I want Phi Mu Alpha to become the best version of itself that it can be. I hope that collegiate and alumni members are always able to look at our fraternity and be proud of its members and accomplishments. I want collegiate members to experience all the opportunities for companionship, growth, and musical expression throughout their collegiate career. I want alumni to feel like they are still connected to all brothers, always welcome, and always appreciated. I want PMA to be more than just a fraternity, but a great group of guys brought together by their love of enjoying music, spreading it, and doing it together. PMA is at its best when every brother is at their best, and I want every brother to feel welcome and excited to be a Sinfonian."

MY QUALIFICATIONS

"I feel that at the time I was initiated, Spring '19, I caught a glimpse of normalcy before things began to go awry. I got to experience events, province workshops, and brotherly camaraderie. I also experienced a national crisis, quarantine, brothers disillusioned by a lack of guidance, and the closure of a fellow chapter in my province firsthand. As the chapter secretary, and later president, I worked to make sure my own chapter stayed afloat, to make sure my fellow brothers retained the fire we all had when we first rushed. I've come to gain, what I believe, is an experience that can help me help other brothers never face some of these struggles again. I know that it will take gumption and devotion to help chapters get back on track."

MY REASON FOR CANDIDACY

"I want to run for NCR to help ensure that the collegiate experience is as welcoming and enriching as it can be. Throughout my time as a collegiate member, both the National Emergency and COVID-19 severely limited how my chapter was able to operate, both on our own and with our province. I want to help facilitate growth as we hopefully are able to move forward in the coming years. I want collegiate members to know that their voices are heard on a national level, that their needs can be met, and their questions can be answered. I don't expect that we can fix everything immediately, but I want to be a voice for collegiate brothers all across the country, from different places, backgrounds, and situations, so that all PMA Chapters prosper."