



NATIONAL
RITUAL
CELEBRATION WEEK

Planning a National Ritual Celebration Week Program

March 3 - 9, 2013

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Phi Mu Fraternity



Activity Recap

I think my chapter should perform more ritual ceremonies than we do.

Yes

No

I would have been proud to invite my organization's Founders' to my chapter's last Initiation.

Yes

No

Who's In The Room?

- Who is a chapter officer?
- Who is a chapter president?
- Who is chapter Ritual chairman?

- Who is a council officer?
- Who is a council president?

- Who is a fraternity/sorority advisor?

What is NRCW?

- Week dedicated to:
 - Activities and discussions that will encourage your members to reflect on why fraternities/sororities have rituals
 - Reflect on why fraternities and sororities were founded
 - Explore what it means to live by one's ritual
 - Learn how to celebrate being a part of an interfraternal community
 - Discuss what being a member of an organization with a ritual means
- Includes the National Panhellenic Conference International Badge Day
 - Monday, March 4, 2013



Who Can Participate?

- Individual Chapters
- Inter/National Organizations
- Fraternity/Sorority Campus Communities
- Greek Councils
- Alumni Chapters/Groups/Associations

Resources/Materials/Tools

<http://www.phimu.org/nationalritualweek>

- Program Materials
- Articles
- Chapter Activities
- Council/Community Activities
- Alumni Chapters/Groups/Associations



Resources/Materials/Tools

<http://www.phimu.org/nationalritualweek>

Program Materials and Graphics

- [Ritual Week Logo - Color](#)
- [Ritual Week Logo - Black and White](#)
- [Ritual Week Bookmark](#) - can be used for marketing and public relations before and during National Ritual Celebration Week
- [Sample Press Release](#) - can be used for marketing and public relations before and during National Ritual Celebration Week
- Twitter hashtag - #NRCW2012
- [Tweet Us #NRCW 2012 Image](#) - Tweet Us image for websites
- [Facebook Page Posts](#) - can be used for marketing and public relations during National Ritual Celebration Week

Articles

- [Secret Thoughts of the Ritual, by Dr. Edward King, Sigma Chi Fraternity](#) - this can be shared and discussed with the chapter as a group or emailed to members to read on their own time
- [Stop Blaming the Media Blog Post, Spencer Montgomery, Sigma Nu Fraternity](#) - this can be shared and discussed with the chapter as a group or emailed to members to read on their own time
- [Greeks on a Bad Pedestal](#) - this can be shared and discussed with the chapter as a group or emailed to members to read on their own time
- [Living Our Ritual](#) - this article about Ritual appeared in the Fall/Winter 2011 Alpha Omicron Pi magazine

Programs - Fraternity/Sorority Councils and/or Communities

- [Community Creed.doc](#) - activity to create a Creed based on the Creeds of members of the council or fraternity/sorority community
- [Values Activity](#) - activity to create values and ideas for the council or fraternity/sorority community
- [Founders Ritual Award](#) - an outline to create a Founders Ritual Award
- [Ritual Video](#) - - walks you step by step through creating a video about Ritual for your council or community
 - [Panhellenic Council video at Elmhurst University](#)

Activities/Programs

- [Chapter Ritual Questionnaire](#) - this can be passed out to members to give them the chance to reflect on how they see the chapter when it comes to practicing ritual
- [Connecting With Chapters of the Same Affiliation](#) - an activity to learn about other chapters in your organization
- [Discussion Topics and Questions](#) - list of questions that can be used to start a conversation about ritual and values-based organizations
- [Founders Ritual Award](#) - an outline to create a founders ritual award
- [How to Evaluate the Role of Ritual](#) - an activity that will allow members to see priorities in the chapter
- [Reviewing the Creed](#) - a guide to review your organization's creed
- [Ritual Assessment](#) - an assessment for members to learn where ritual stands within the chapter
- [Ritual Chairman Best Practices](#) - tips for the ritual chairman
- [Ritual: Consistent/Inconsistent Conversation](#) - information for a conversation exploring ritual



Including Alumni/Alumnae

- Invite local alumni/alumnae to the chapter house
- Host a recommitment ceremony
- Ask them to participate in an Initiation ceremony
- Ask them to share what their fraternity/sorority experience means to them and why they're still involved
- Ask them to share how their fraternity/sorority experience impacted their career

Let's Talk About Ritual

- Who is responsible for Ritual in the chapter?
- Close your eyes if you wish...

Evaluating Ritual

Chapter Activity



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Creeds

We believe in Lambda Chi Alpha, and its traditions, principles and ideals. The crescent is our symbol; pure, high, ever growing, and the cross is our guide; denoting service, sacrifice, and even suffering and humiliation before the world, bravely endured if need be, in following that ideal.

May we have faith in Lambda Chi Alpha and its traditions, principles and ideals. The crescent is our symbol; pure, high, ever growing, and the cross is our guide; denoting service, sacrifice, and even suffering and humiliation before the world, bravely endured if need be, in following that ideal.



OUR CREED

THE PANHELLENIC CREED

We, as Undergraduate Members of women's fraternities, stand for good scholarship, for guarding of good health, for maintenance of fine standards, and for serving, to the best of our ability, our college community. Cooperation for furthering fraternity life, in harmony with its best possibilities, is the ideal that shall guide our fraternity activities.

We, as Fraternity Women, stand for service through the development of character inspired by the close contact and deep friendship of individual fraternity and Panhellenic life. The opportunity for wide and wise human service, through mutual respect and helpfulness, is the tenet by which we strive to live.

The Delta Zeta Creed

Like 134

To the world,
I promise temperance and insight and courage,
To crusade for justice,
To seek the truth and defend it always;
To those whom my life may touch in slight measure,
May I give graciously
Of what is mine;
To my friends,
Understanding and appreciation;
To those closer ones,
Love that is ever steadfast;
To my mind,
Growth;
To myself,
Faith
That I may walk truly
In the light of the Flame.

by Muth Mumford Williams, Alpha Zeta (Adelphi University), 1939

Our Creed

We believe in the importance of virtue and Kappa Alpha Fraternity. We recognize that association, and we will seek wisdom and modesty and dignity.

Recalling that Pi Kappa Alpha is a lifelong commitment. I therefore reaffirm to



The Creed of

Alpha Delta Pi

I BELIEVE in Alpha Delta Pi. I BELIEVE that my sorority is more than a ritual or a symbol; that it is a way of life. I BELIEVE that the principles established by our founders in 1851 are enduring attributes, exemplifying the highest ideals of Christian womanhood. I BELIEVE that our motto, "We Live for Each Other", expresses the true spirit of fraternity; and that by living this motto my life will be enriched by true friendships and by unselfish service to mankind. I BELIEVE that the privilege of membership in Alpha Delta Pi brings the responsibility to do my best in whatever I undertake, always remembering that leadership requires confidence tempered with humility and courage blended with tolerance. I BELIEVE that I must strive to become a well-balanced person by following the dictates of the four points symbolized by our diamond-shaped badge: first, strengthening my own character and personality; second, watching my attitudes toward my fellow-beings; third, recognizing the value of high educational standards; and fourth, developing faith and loyalty. I BELIEVE that these four guide-posts, guarded by the stars and friendly hands clasped in the Adelphean bonds of fellowship, will lead me to achieve a rich and useful life.

Carolee Strook Stanard

Creed Activity

Council/Campus Activity

- Write down chapters on your campus to be included in this activity
- Ask each chapter to submit their favorite line of their Creed to be included in the community Creed
 - If they do not have a Creed, use their Mission Statement, Motto, Founding Principles or Purpose
- Create the Creed based on the information turned in
- Share the council/community Creed at a meeting and with university administrators
- Print copies for chapters to share with their members

Creed Activity

Council/Campus Activity

- Chapters present on campus at Eastern University:
 - Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
 - Zeta Tau Alpha
 - Alpha Delta Pi
 - Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc.
 - Delta Zeta
 - Theta Chi
 - Zeta Beta Tau

Creed Activity

Council/Campus Activity

The Creed of Eastern University's Fraternity/Sorority Community

Lines Used from each organization

- "I believe that my sorority is more than a ritual or a symbol; that it is a way of life." (Alpha Delta Pi)
- "An organization dedicated to community service to their local university communities." (Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, Inc.)
- "We believe that fraternity offers to the university community a unique, desirable and successful means of achieving this goal." (Zeta Beta Tau)
- "To be humble in success, and without bitterness in defeat." (Zeta Tau Alpha)
- "To my friends, understanding and appreciation. To those closer ones, love that is ever steadfast." (Delta Zeta)
- "To stimulate the ambition of its members; to prepare them for the greatest usefulness in the causes of humanity, freedom, and dignity of the individual." (Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.)
- "It inspires true friendship: teaches truth, temperance and tolerance, extols virtue, exacts harmony, and extends a helping hand to all who seek it." (Theta Chi)



Creed Activity

Council/Campus Activity

Final Creed

I believe that our organization is more than any one of our individual organizations; more than a ritual or a symbol; it is a way of life.

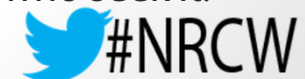
Our organization offers to the university community a unique, desirable and successful means of achieving this goal.

Our organization is dedicated to community service to our local communities.

Our goals are to be humble in success, and without bitterness in defeat. We promise to our friends, understanding and appreciation. To those closer ones, love that is ever steadfast.

Our organization stimulates the ambition of our members, prepares them for the greatest usefulness in the causes of humanity, freedom and dignity of the individual.

Our organization inspires true interfraternal friendship: teaches truth, temperance and tolerance, extols virtue, exacts harmony, and extends a helping hand to all who seek it.



Let's Talk About Ritual

- Why do you think our Founder's wanted to have a Ritual?
- What do you do daily to "Live Your Ritual?"
- Why do you think it is difficult for some members in our chapter to live by our Creed/Oath/Ritual?
- If someone doesn't live up to the Creed, have they failed/oaths/values? Should they be punished?

NRCW Chapter Activities

- Articles to Read
- Chapter Ritual Questionnaire
- Connecting With Chapters of the Same Affiliation
- Discussion Topics and Questions
- How to Evaluate the Role of Ritual
- Reviewing the Creed
- Ritual Assessment
- Ritual: Consistent/Inconsistent Conversation
- Ritual Jenga
- Ritual Jeopardy
- Ritual Just Live It
- Ritual Review
- Ritual Video
- #RitualChat Activity
- Using Music for Ritual Education

Founders' Ritual Award

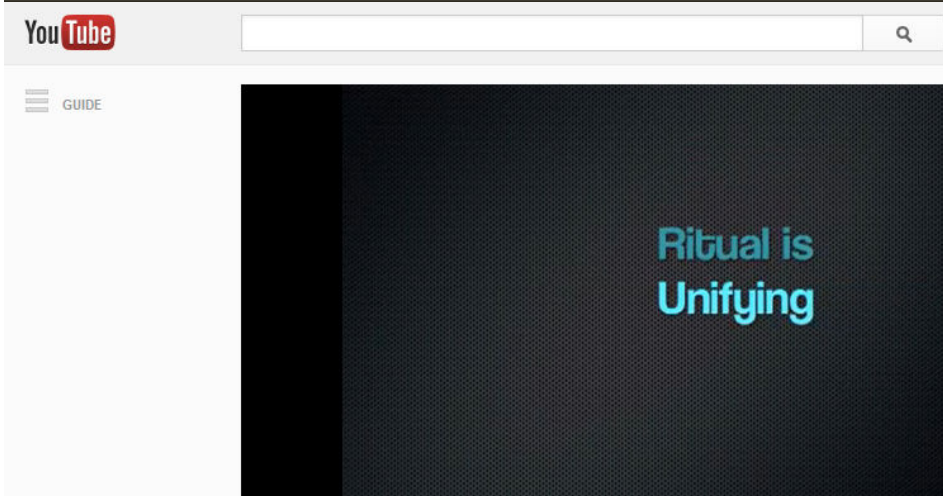
Purpose:

- To recognize a member of the organization who has represented the organization's Ritual throughout the year. This should be one of the highest awards bestowed upon a member.

Suggested Criteria for Award:

- Below are some suggestions and recommendations to establish a Founders' Ritual Award. You can use what you'd like to create an application for your chapters members to apply.
 - Chapter member has above a 3.5 GPA
 - Chapter member has not had any disciplinary issues within the chapter or at the college/university
 - Chapter member has been active in all aspects of the organization including but not limited to: recruitment, community service, philanthropic endeavors, social events, etc.
 - Chapter member has served as a positive role model for his/her peers within the organization as well as outside of the organization
 - Chapter member is involved in at least one other organization outside of the chapter
 - Chapter member is a member of one of the Greek honorary societies (i.e. Rho Lambda, Order of Omega, Gamma Sigma Alpha)
 - Chapter member is up-to-date on all financial obligations for the organization
 - Chapter member has attended a national conference affiliated with the inter/national organization

Ritual Video



NRCW



Think About This...

It makes little difference the **size** of your badge, whether it's large or small.

And if it is plain or brilliant with jewels is of no concern at all.

But the **vows** that you took along with your badge,

Have you worn **them** constantly, quietly, deep in the heart of you, where no one looks in to see?

Have you touched the stars you reached for once in your own small piece of sky?

Have you **striven** for the honorable, the beautiful, the high?

What difference, then, the shape of the badge, be it diamond or heart or square?

The important thing is how much do you **love** the badge that you **chose** to wear?



Resources

- National Ritual Celebration Week Website
 - <http://www.phimu.org/nationalritualweek>
- National Ritual Celebration Week Twitter Hashtag
 - #NRCW
- Further Questions, contact Gabby Leon
 - Gleon@phimu.org
 - 770-632-211

