

THE Chrome and BLUE of ALPHA CHI SIGMA



November 2024

From the Grand Collegiate Alchemist

November is an exciting time in the fraternity as the new member education process is in full swing and most chapters are drawing very close to initiation. It is essential that all brothers - officers or not - remember the purpose of new member education and of our rituals. New member activities are intended to show potential new members who we are, what our organization has to offer, what is expected of our brothers, and how our organization functions (both locally and nationally). As you prepare your pledges, make sure you're teaching them correct, up-to-date information by referring to the [Fraternity Canon](#) and the current [Fraternity Sourcebook](#) throughout the process. The document is updated every summer to ensure that all of the correct people are identified and all of the information is still correct. Our rituals are designed to bind us together in brotherhood - every brother dating back to the beginning of our order has gone through a form of this ritual. It is required for chapters to perform the full ritual exactly as written. While some parts of the instructions identify places where chapters can use their artistic expression and local character to contribute to the experience, the majority of the process is explicitly prescribed. Remember that fidelity to the ritual as written and to the experience of the initiate outweigh any "chapter traditions" or the experiences of the brothers performing it. While we've made recent tweaks to ensure proper attention to changes in safety rules, the chapter is responsible for knowing if local laws and school policies exist that are stricter than our rules. If you're ever unsure how to make your initiation the best it could be, your DC, the GMC, or I would be happy to chat and help you problem solve.

Yours in the Double Bond,
Matt

From the **PROFESSIONAL** *Branch*



From the Grand Professional Alchemist

My name is Faith Yarberry and I am the Grand Professional Alchemist. The Professional Representatives and I would like to speak with each Collegiate Chapter this biennium. The information we will provide includes:

- A description of the Professional Branch
- A definition of what it means to be an Active Professional Member
- Ways that you can be involved in Alpha Chi Sigma after graduation
- How the GPA can assist you in transitioning to the professional branch
- Opportunities provided by the Professional Representatives.

The Professional Representatives and I would love to have an interactive conversation with your chapter either using Zoom or in-person (when available). To sign up for a time to meet, please use these registration links to make a [daytime](#) or [evening](#) appointment. If you know there is a [Professional Representative](#) in your area, you can also reach out to them directly.



Back to Basics: Order of Altotus

The Order of Altotus (OA) was created in 1932 and its membership is composed of past Grand Master Alchemists. They are not voting members of the Grand Chapter, but they serve as an advisory board to the Supreme Council. There are currently eighteen living members of the Order of Altotus, ranging from Lynn Swanson (Beta, 1963) who served as GMA from 1984-1986 to the most recent inductee into the order, Sean Pawlowski (Gamma Upsilon, 2006) who just finished his term as GMA. As the immediate past Grand Master Alchemist, Sean holds the title of Grand Vizier.

The Grand Vizier holds special responsibilities, including acting as an advisor to the Grand Master Alchemist and the Supreme Council and serving as the chair of the General Advisory Committee. The Grand Vizier is also an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Nominating Committee (this committee solicits nominees for the elections for Professional Representatives and the Supreme Council). Additionally, In the event that all members of the Supreme Council become unable to serve, the Grand Vizier shall fill the office of Grand Master Alchemist until an election and installation can be held. This happened for the first time at the end of the 57th Biennial Conclave in 2022 thanks to an outbreak of COVID-19. Then-GV Helen Webster (Alpha Rho, 1994) presided over the closing awards ceremony because all of the members of the outgoing Supreme Council were unable to do so and the new Council had yet to be sworn in.

Honorary membership in the Order of Altotus has been given to 2 different individuals. The first honorary member was John R. Kuebler (Epsilon, 1910) who served as the Grand Recorder for 33 years, Grand Editor for 37 years, and Grand Historian for 10 years. The second honorary member was W. Mack Barlow (Kappa, 1936) who served as Grand Master of Ceremonies for 8 years and as a District Counselor for 13 years.



Health & Safety Reminders

When planning an event, don't forget that the [Event Planning Guide](#) is available to help you ensure that everything is done in a way that protects all of our brothers, your chapter, and the organization as a whole. It contains our Health and Safety Philosophy and Policy and also contains a questionnaire that can help ensure you haven't missed something major. If you ever have any doubts about whether something is in-line with the Health and Safety Policy, your District Counselor would be happy to help you figure it out.



Alpha Chi Sigma Week of Giving

This year, Giving Tuesday and Founders Day fall within 8 days of one another, so we are planning an Alpha Chi Sigma Week of Giving December

3rd through 11th. We are asking for your help in celebrating and promoting Alpha Chi Sigma.

The Week of Giving will begin on Giving Tuesday with our very popular Chapter Challenge. During this event, both Collegiate and Professional members are asked to donate. Donations can always be made at alphachisigma.com/donate or to our Venmo account, [AlphaChiSigmaNationalOffice](#). Wherever our members decide to donate, it's very important to identify their initiating chapter for the Chapter Challenge. Like before, there will be two competitions: one for the total amount of donations raised from a single Chapter, the other for the total number of donations from a single Chapter, so donations of any amount are encouraged. The National Office will keep tabs on what is donated and the winning chapter will be announced on the Alpha Chi Sigma Facebook page the following day.

The Week of Giving will end as we celebrate Founders Day together in our annual Founders Day celebration on Zoom. Starting at 8:00pm Eastern on December 11th, the Grand Historian, Mltch Levings, will serve as the emcee for the event. The event will include welcomes, a historical presentation by Mitch Levings, and then reminiscing and social time. [Please register for the event so that we know who will be joining us.](#)

We are excited about this Alpha Chi Sigma Week of Giving and look forward to your participation in these events. We hope you'll take this opportunity to support our brotherhood and connect with your brothers.

Notes
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National Office Reminders

- Pledge reporting and paperwork – Make sure you are following the dates for getting your paperwork and fees in! For more information, visit our [website](#).

- If you are creating merchandise to sell, be sure to have it approved by the Grand Master of Ceremonies before having the items produced.
[The link for the form is here.](#)
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Alpha Chi Sigma by the Numbers

As of this writing the Fraternity has initiated **80,101** members since its founding in 1902.

The breakdown of our Active Chapters and Groups are as follows:

53 Active Collegiate Chapters **1** Active Collegiate Group **1** Active Interest Group **6** Active Professional Chapters **15** Active Professional Groups

Dates & Events



Calendar of Events

- **Scholars and Scientists Networking Event**, Delta Epsilon (Boston U), [November 8th, 6pm ET](#)
- **Interview Prep Workshop** [4:30pm EST](#) from PRs Lib Morgan and Eric Puhlmann, Zoom, November 10
- **Giving Tuesday**, Chapter Challenge, Online, December 3, all day
- **Founders' Day Celebration**, [Zoom](#), December 11, 8PM ET

The National Website now has an embedded Google Calendar! You can see when chapters are having initiation, when the Supreme Council is meeting, and more! See the calendar [here](#), and to add items to the calendar, email national@alphachisigma.org.

Have events to share? Send them to gca@alphachisigma.org (submissions are due by the 15th the month before the newsletter)

The Chrome and Blue is a newsletter published during the academic year primarily for collegiate chapter officers and District Counselors. It also provides information useful to the rest of the Grand Chapter and to any interested Brothers. It serves to communicate news, reminders and updates in a timely manner.

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