PRESIDENTS RETREAT

Assistant Director for Fraternity and Sorority Life, Kimberly Stokely kicked off the spring 2014 semester with a President’s Retreat for the presidents of the numerous Fraternities and Sororities active through Stony Brook University. On February 15th, the presidents spent the majority of the day at Stony Brook University - Southampton Campus in order to fully get the effects of a retreat. The retreat began at 10 o’clock AM and continued until 5 o’clock PM, which allowed the various organizations to hone in on their leadership skills, highlight the various contributions Greek members have offer, evaluate what could be improved within the Greek community and further develop relationships with other organizations. With the help of Lindsey Heckmann and the Graduate Student Assistant Team, the enthusiastic energy and collaborative efforts combined with the creative icebreakers and informative workshops helped to set the leaders of these Greek organizations off on the right foot. The President’s Retreat was positive reinforcement that these leaders can make an even greater impact on not just the Greek community, but the Stony Brook community as well.
Camp One Heartland Banquet
On Saturday, November 23, the Beta Chapter at Stony Brook University held their 10th Annual Camp One Heartland Banquet, where sisters as far as New Jersey and Upstate region, from having two of our organization's founders to having neophytes, our banquet was a success, all for an amazing cause.

Camp One Heartland is the official National Philanthropy of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc., where we donated all the proceeds to. One Heartland improves the lives of children, youth and families facing significant health challenges or social isolation, especially those infected and affected with HIV/AIDS, Diabetes II, and other illnesses.

We were grateful to have a guest speaker, Honey German, a celebrity blogger and radio personality speak on her behalf how she could have been a Camp One Heartland child herself as she and her family were affected by her father who was diagnosed with HIV. She definitely enlightened the room with her inspirational words and how to approach this ongoing issue in the world, especially to the minority population.

Our 10th Annual Banquet, Composition of Hope, consisted of amazing food, great dancers and an incredible spoken word poet. We even had the opportunity to award several sisters and friends for their contribution to our chapter, helping us in every way possible.

Look out for the next Camp One Heartland Banquet in November 2014, held by the Lovely Latin Ladies!
HERMANDAD DE SIGMA IOTA ALPHA INCORPORADA

H.U.G.S. Community Service
The Beta Chapter of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Inc. was extremely proud to have participated in HUGS NYC- where we collected Hats, Umbrellas, Gloves, Scarves for people in need- the homeless, the elderly, etc- in New York City during this cold winter!

We delivered it to Holy Cross Church (331 W 42nd Street) on Monday, December 23rd - just in time for the holidays - to give our HUGS! We were able to see their heartfelt smiles as we imagined how significant even one item of clothing we donated meant to one person.

Not only was this a great opportunity to show solidarity within our organization, but this was a perfect chance to give back to the community during a time where everyone is giving gifts, showing love, and coming together. We were able to reflect upon this volunteer service and remind ourselves of how humble we should be because we do take for granted the little things in life, when not everyone is able to stay warm in such a cold and harsh winter, for example.

The organization says it the best: "... we called it HUGS because not only do people need the warmth of clothes, but they need the warmth of a hug... Wherever there's a need, we'll be providing HUGS."

For more information, visit their website: http://www.hugs-nyc.org/
The sisters of Kappa Phi Lambda began the semester with a community service event in a Big Apple Basketball event at Baruch College. They spent the morning directing basketball players and game attendees, registering teams, and providing assistance to help the event run smoothly. They also co-hosted their first cultural of the semester, Ringing in the New Year, with the brothers of Pi Delta Psi. The sisters also worked with Chili’s to organize a day-long event to fundraise donations towards the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Because of the terrible weather during that time, the event was rescheduled to Monday, March 3rd. We look forward to the events of the rest of the semester.
Lambda Theta Alpha alongside MALIK Fraternity and Weekend Life Council held their 2nd annual dodge ball. Thank you to all the teams that participated in the tournament. We want to give a special shout out to the winning team “Fat kids are harder to kidanp” They donated their winnings towards ASPCA : American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Our chapter will be having our annual Reaching For The Stars Charity Ball on March 28th 2014 at 7pm in the Student Activities Center’s ballroom A. All are welcomed!