

The period covered by this report is Jan. 1–Dec. 15, 2020.

1. The chapter should approve the completed report and submit it by Dec. 15.
2. Keep the original hard copy for the Marshal's files.
3. Email one copy of this report and a copy of your chapter's annual newsletter to Kylie Smith, Archivist/Museum Director, at ksmith@kappa.org.
4. Email one copy of this report to the Ritual Adviser.
5. Email one copy of this report to your Ritual and History Specialist.

Chapter Summary

Summarize the previous calendar year, scholarships, group honors/awards, Convention awards, traditions, special events, philanthropic involvement, chapter goals, and how your chapter operations **changed because of COVID-19** (e.g., how did it affect recruitment, initiation, etc. Were events/activities held virtually?).

2020 was a year of growth and change for Eta Omicron. In the beginning of the Spring semester, we held several events to continue our philanthropic involvement and strengthen our sisterhood after the winter break. In January, we restarted our bimonthly visits to Christopher's Haven, our local philanthropy. Our sisters also got involved in the Boston community by participating in a Sew-a-Thon with Boomerangs Boston Bag Share. At our first sisterhood event of the year, we caught up after break and made Vision Boards together. At the end of January, Eta Omicron paired with a Northeastern club called Net Impact and the brothers of Delta Tau Delta to host a talk on climate change with Dr. William Moomaw. We ended January with a decades-themed date social with the sisters with Alpha Epsilon Phi. In February our sisters volunteered at Community Servings, a local food bank and celebrated Mardi Gras early at a megasocial at the end of the month.

In March, COVID-19 caused Northeastern to shut down campus and suspend all in person club meetings. Many of our sisters were sent home from Boston as classes transitioned to be fully online. With the end of the semester approaching, our Chapter Council made the decision to cancel chapter meetings for the rest of the Spring semester to allow our sisters to focus on their online classes and finals. We kept connected through the end of the semester by holding a virtual study week, where sisters competed in teams to gain points through studying for finals. Although we were not able to hold our Tea Party in person, we still celebrated our accomplishments through virtual superlatives and honored Jillian Barnabe with the Loyalty Award.

Throughout the summer we stayed connected through a monthly chapter newsletter, where members of Chapter Council updated the chapter and highlighted our sisters' accomplishments. Care packages with Kappa apparel and a note from Devan, our president, were sent to every woman in the chapter to remind everyone that Chapter Council was thinking about them. In June, our sisters came together to raise a total of \$3,551.28 to be split between two organizations: the Prisoners' Legal Services of Massachusetts and The Loveland Foundation. This summer, Eta Omicron was honored to be awarded the Public

Relations Award at Convention. We also were grateful to receive honorable mentions for Excellence in Chapter Management, the Recruitment Award, and Most Outstanding Chapter.

We held our first virtual chapter meeting of the semester on September 8th, and the following weekend reconnected with each other and prepared for virtual recruitment at our Virtual Retreat from September 12 – 13th. Eta Omicron also participated in an Implicit Bias Training prior to recruitment. Formal recruitment was made to be completely virtual this year due to COVID-19. Our chapter read through over 560 applications, and successfully completed our Philanthropy, Sisterhood, and Preference rounds over Zoom. Our chapter worked to create as normal of an atmosphere as possible and emphasized during our retreat ways to make meaningful connections in a virtual setting. We welcomed our Nu pledge class of 44 members on October 11th, and then 7 additional new members through COB the following week. The new member period continued virtually and even included a virtual retreat, where the Nu class got to know each other and completed a fun trivia about the Chapter Council. The Nu class met virtually every week before chapter to get to know each other.

In October, we continued to hold virtual sisterhood events, like a Trivia Night and a Halloween-themed chapter meeting. Our fall philanthropy event Kappa Kickoff, which is usually a flag-football tournament, was held online. Teams participated in a video making competition and raised a total of \$729 for Christopher's Haven. In November, we held a Wellness Convo about mental health and also participated in a virtual workout class. This year, Big-Little Week and Inspiration Week were combined. Throughout the week, Eta O prepared to expand our families. On Friday, November 20th a virtual Big-Little reveal was held on Zoom. The following morning, we initiated 51 new members in two separate virtual Initiation ceremonies. We were thrilled to welcome the Nu class as initiated sisters and were happy to have alumni participating in our virtual ceremony.

The Fall semester came to a close with Officer Transitions and Senior Wills on December 1st, as well as a Kappa Kozy sisterhood event on December 3rd. Overall, 2020 and COVID-19 presented many challenges to Eta Omicron. Though by continuing to focus on sisterhood and connection, we were able to grow and succeed as a chapter. Eta Omicron is excited for what 2021 holds for the chapter.

Chapter Philanthropy

What organization does the chapter support?

Eta Omicron's local philanthropy is Christopher's Haven. Christopher's Haven is a home away from home for children battling cancer and their families to stay while the child is receiving medical care at Massachusetts General Hospital. Under non-COVID circumstances, we visit the Haven on a biweekly basis and play with the kids as well as assist the parents in whatever they may need. Being able to support Christopher's Haven through both fundraising and

participating in hands-on service regularly has made this non-profit a great match for us to work with as our local philanthropy.

Philanthropy in Eta Omicron has looked a bit different this year due to COVID-19.

Christopher's Haven is not letting volunteers come in until further notice, and all of Northeastern KKG programming has been made virtual until further notice as well. Our Philanthropy Chairman Cristina adapted to these changes as philanthropy chair by making our fall fundraising event virtual this year, as well as planning a fundraiser over the summer. Our fall fundraising event, Kappa Kickoff, is usually an in-person flag football tournament. This year it was held via Zoom and people submitted fun short videos and donations for Christopher's Haven. Over the summer, many women in Northeastern KKG raised money in order for us to send an amazing care package to Christopher's Haven, to let them know that we are thinking of them and miss seeing them.

Why did the chapter choose this organization?

Our chapter chose to support Christopher's Haven through fundraising and hands-on volunteering for a number of reasons. Christopher's Haven is a unique non-profit because Boston is a medical hub, and people travel from all over the country to be treated in hospitals here. Boston is also an extremely expensive city to live in, so Christopher's Haven aims to take some stress off of families who travel to Boston for pediatric cancer treatment by providing them with a free and comfortable place to stay. Eta Omicron also chose to support Christopher's Haven because of the opportunity to partake in hands-on service.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

How did your chapter include diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives in your programming this year? (e.g., adding a DEI officer, philanthropy events, social media awareness campaign, chapter training, etc.).

The Eta Omicron Chapter installed a new secondary chair position, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair. This was also coupled with a new committee, the DEI committee. Any members of the chapter who are interested in improving upon DEI policies in the chapter are able to join this committee. The DEI Chair also set up an Inclusivity Feedback Form, which is an anonymous form only seen by the DEI Chair, so the Chair herself is able to see places for improvement within our chapter. Prior to formal recruitment we also had a chapter-wide Implicit Bias Training, hosted by the Northeastern Interdisciplinary Women's Council, with an Alumni Guest Speaker, Dr. Margaret Freeman. We were able to learn more about how implicit bias impacts recruitment practices, and identify the best language to use in order to create the most inclusive recruitment environment. We also held an Education Chapter on December 1st on fostering an inclusive and diverse community, which was planned with the help of the DEI Chair and the DEI Committee.

Sesquicentennial Celebration

How did your chapter celebrate Kappa's 150th anniversary? Share what you have done this year.

Our chapter was able to celebrate Kappa's 150th anniversary with our annual Founder's Day Celebration. The celebration was held over Zoom, and began with a Founder's Day Ceremony. Then, the Education Chair showed a quick presentation on the Founders of Kappa, as well as notable alumni in many different industries. Afterwards, the chapter played a fun Kahoot on Kappa fun facts from the presentation to wrap up the celebration.

Photographs

Are there any interesting photos from this year to share? e.g., screen shots of virtual meetings, pictures of chapter events that followed all public health guidelines (mask wearing, physical distancing, etc), pictures of masks, drive-thru bid days, etc.



Date read to the chapter and approved by a chapter vote: December 8, 2020

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Email



Signature