

# OMEGA PHI ALPHA FOUNDATION



Annual Report 2021

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Omega Phi Alpha Foundation Board Member Kristen Sanders (Epsilon) with potential founding members from the UTK expansions group.

# From the Foundation Board of Directors

A lifelong dream of former National President, the late Pamela McCullough McEwen (Epsilon), the Omega Phi Alpha Foundation Board of Directors is honored to share with you the results of our first operational year.

Despite the challenges associated with establishing a new foundation, 2021 was a year of progress as we have realized our initial goals of accepting tax-deductible donations, providing scholarships and chapter grants, and ensuring that the members of Omega Phi Alpha would have the resources necessary to make a meaningful impact on the world through service.

With the continued support of our donors, we look forward to expanding our impact in 2022 and exploring new ways for members of Omega Phi Alpha, their families, and other community members to further the sorority's mission through tax-deductible gifts.

Suzy McTaggart  
(Gamma)  
President

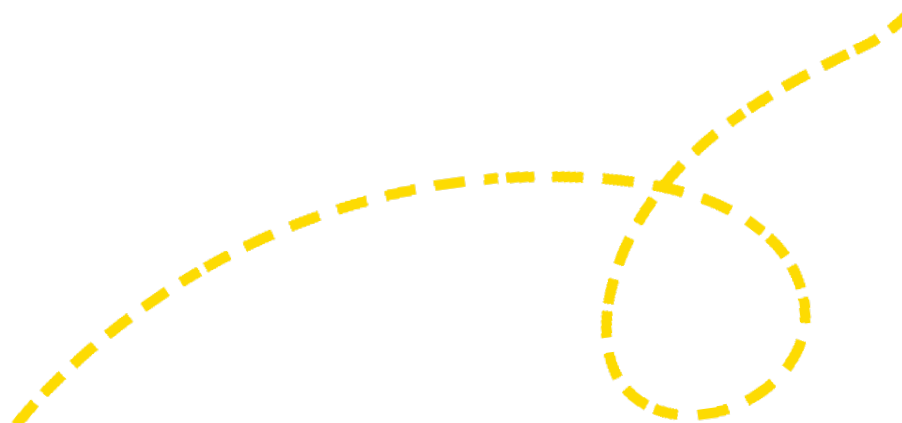
Cheryl Roberts  
(Beta)  
Secretary

Jan Titsworth  
(Delta)  
Treasurer

Kristen Sanders  
(Epsilon)  
Board Member

Amanda Lowry  
(Nu)  
Board Member

Gretchen Esselstein  
(Alpha)  
Board Member



# Foundation Information

Established in 2019 as a 501(c)(3), the Foundation provides a means for members of Omega Phi Alpha, their families, and other community members to further the sorority's mission through tax-deductible gifts. Funds received are used to develop leadership, provide service to humanity, and strengthen skills that build meaningful friendships at the chapter, district, and national levels.

In 2021, the Foundation planned and executed three fundraising campaigns raising [\\$58,863.72](#) to support:

## Organizational Development

- supports the operational and staffing needs of the Foundation & Sorority

## Leadership Training

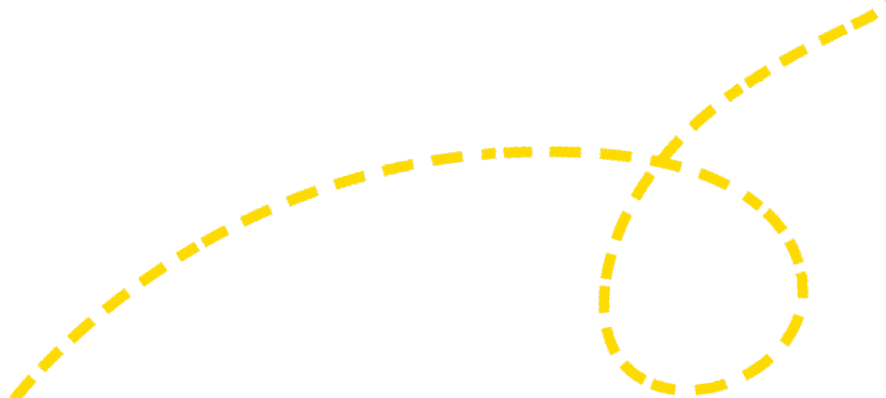
- supports leadership workshops and events for collegiate and alumnae members

## Service

- supports collegiate chapter service projects and national service project initiatives

## Scholarships and Education

- supports the Pamela McCullough McEwen Memorial Scholarship

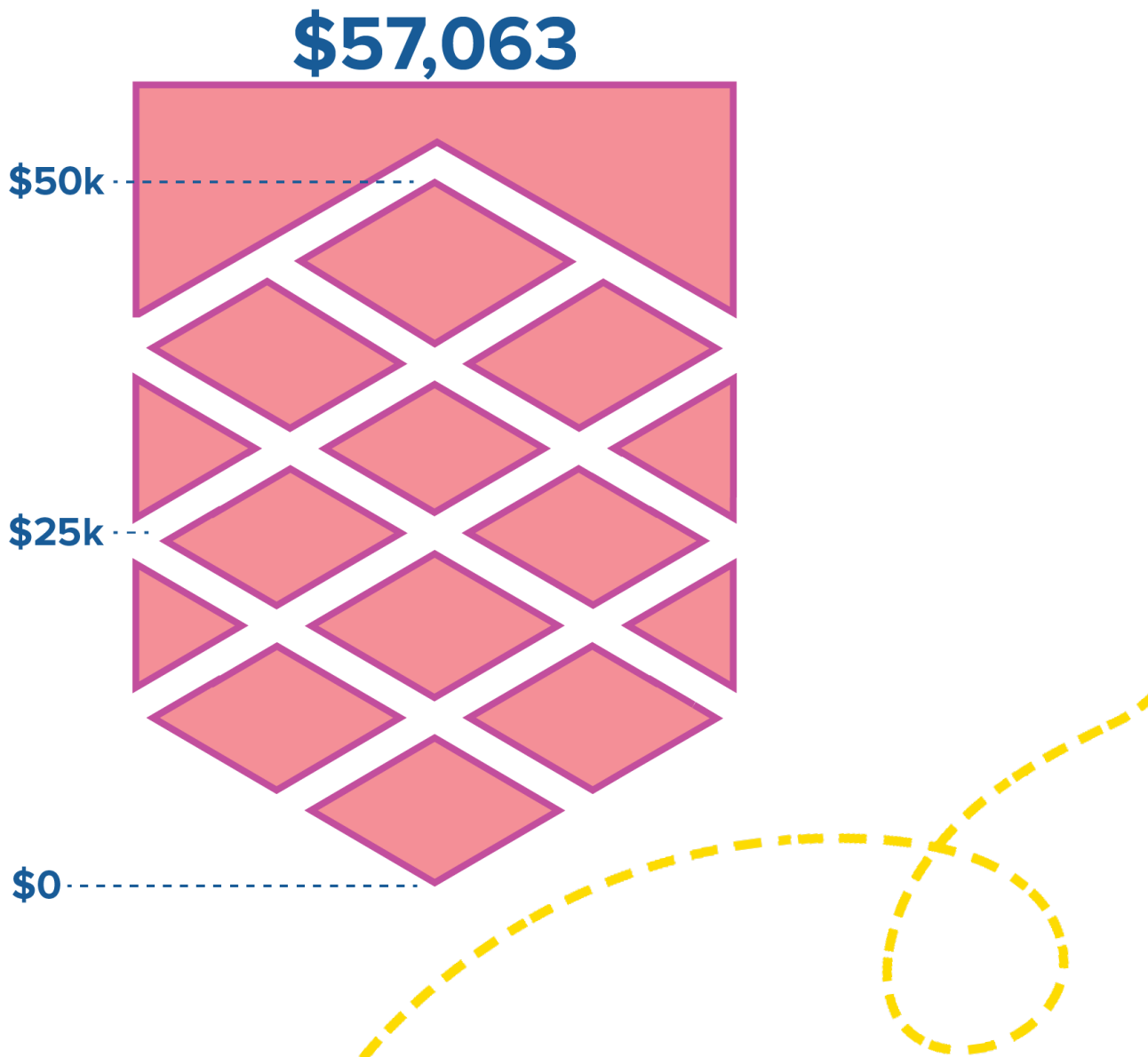


# Founders' Circle

## Fundraising Campaign

Thanks to the vision and generous commitment of our Founders' Circle members and inaugural donors, the Omega Phi Alpha Foundation has raised \$57,063 (114% of the campaign's goal). This inaugural support will serve as a building block allowing the Foundation to provide initial support towards the sorority's mission as well as to support and cultivate the ongoing operation of the Foundation.

Members contributing at least \$2,500 to the Founders' Circle will be recognized in perpetuity for their generosity in supporting "Today's Friends, Tommorow's Leaders, Forever in Service."



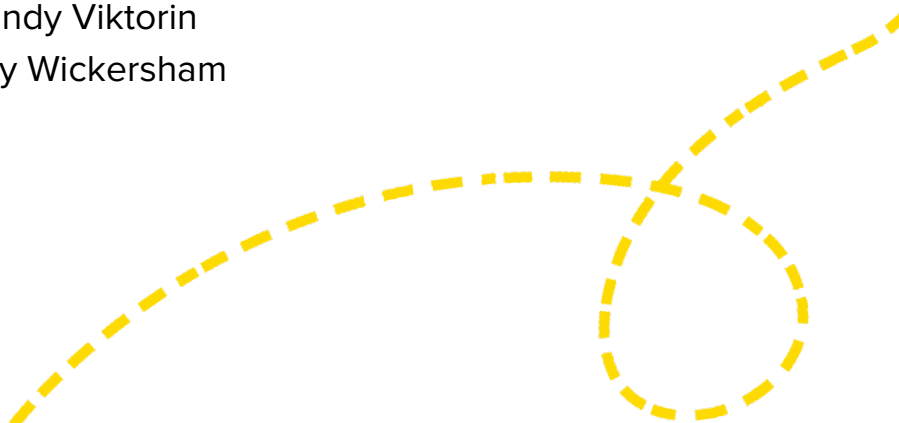
# Founders' Circle

## Members

Arlene Green  
Andie (Bowman) Hixson  
Amanda Lowry and Russell Borum  
Pamela McCullough McEwen  
Alyssa Bernhardt  
Olivia Bush  
Pamela Caskie  
Vicki Cooper  
Judy Grella-Acosta  
Ginger McGarity  
Suzy (Sweeney) McTaggart  
Thea Moritz (In Memory of Ann DeMatteo)  
Cheryl and Doug Roberts  
Kristen and David Sanders  
Jan Schnack Sedory  
Susan Terzian Family  
Jan and Jim Titsworth  
Leann Williams

## Inaugural Donors to the Foundation

Susie Larson  
Christy Rittenberry Vermillion  
Cindy Viktorin  
Kelly Wickersham



# Founders' Day 2021

## Fundraising Campaign

Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority celebrates Founder's Day on June 15 each year. To commemorate 54 years of "Today's Friends, Tomorrow's Leaders, Forever in Service," the Foundation held a fundraising campaign in 2021 asking our sisters to donate \$19.67 in honor of our founding year. With many donors contributing more than the suggested commemorative amount, we raised **\$942.72**.

# Giving Tuesday

## Fundraising Campaign

Established in 2012, GivingTuesday is a global movement that encourages people around the world to DO GOOD, inspiring giving and building generosity as a part of everyday life.

In our second GivingTuesday campaign, the Foundation raised **\$858** as part of a one-day, international effort in November 2021. With an average donation of \$37.50, over 20 donors contributed to support the Foundation and the Sorority.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to one of the fundraising campaigns.



# 2021 Sorority Support

## Chapter Grants and National Initiatives

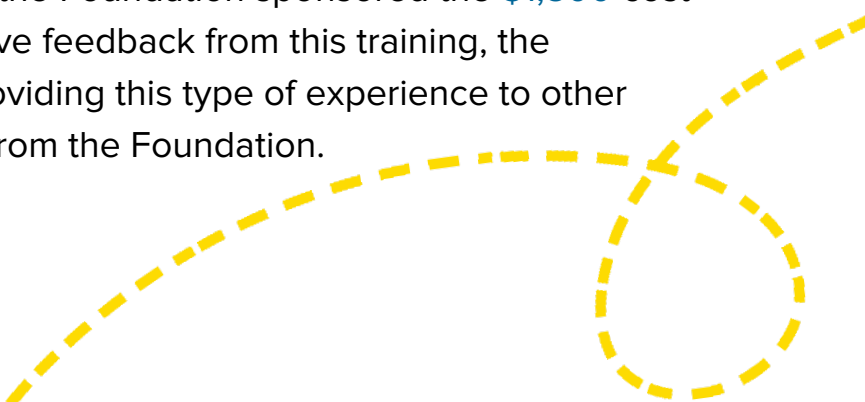
In addition to fundraising, one of the main goals of the Foundation in 2021 was to continue putting a structure in place to accept applications for chapter grants and national initiatives to support leadership and service of Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority.

In Fall 2021, we officially launched our grant application processes. Applications for chapter grants will open each semester and funding can be requested for a service project or a leadership program. Each application will be reviewed and considered on a case-by-case basis by the Foundation Board of Directors. Omega Phi Alpha National Service Sorority can submit requests for national funding to the Foundation on a quarterly basis throughout the year.

## Chapter Leadership Support

In November 2021, all members of Alpha Xi chapter attended a leadership training, facilitated by Amaris Vicari of The Beneficial Element, developing skills for communicating positively, managing big feelings, and building camaraderie in challenging times. Alpha Xi member, Sam Garcia, had the following to say about this training: "I found that the workshop really made me reflect on my communication tactics, not only inside of the chapter but overall. I found myself examining how much I take into account another person's perspective when communicating about an issue. Overall, I found it a very enlightening workshop that has had lasting effects on our chapter."

After a funding request was submitted to the Foundation based on a national initiative to improve chapter health, the Foundation sponsored the **\$1,800** cost for this training. Following the positive feedback from this training, the Foundation is looking forward to providing this type of experience to other chapters in the future with support from the Foundation.





# Pamela McCullough McEwen Scholarship Fund

The Omega Phi Alpha Scholarship Trust was transferred to the Foundation in 2021. All of the funds received from the Scholarship Trust are restricted specifically for scholarships to individuals. Building upon tradition, we awarded two scholarships in the amount of **\$500** each to one undergraduate and one graduate member of Omega Phi Alpha.

Scholarships in 2022 will be awarded in the amount of \$500 to four members of the sorority, doubling the number of annual scholarships that have been awarded in years past. The Foundation Board of Directors decided to take this exciting step upon review of the restricted funds in trust, which are sufficient to sustain current scholarships over the next 20 years. At least one scholarship will be earmarked each year for a member pursuing a graduate degree.

The Foundation Board of Directors is exploring strategic plans for the future of the Pamela McCullough McEwen Scholarship Fund including providing scholarships for professional development and additional certifications such as Six Sigma, Project Management Institute, etc. Rooted in Omega Phi Alpha's core value of education, we believe that providing robust support is essential to undergraduate members as well as supporting continuing education and hope we can provide direct support to that in the near future.

## 2021 Pamela McCullough McEwen Scholarship Recipients

**Dani Frank (Alpha Zeta)**  
University of Georgia  
Studying Masters of Social Work



**Breanna Rebe (Phi)**  
Arizona State University  
Studying Family & Human Development



# 2021 Foundation Updates

The Omega Phi Alpha Foundation has six members of the Board of Directors serving two-year terms, with the Sorority Board President serving as an additional ex-officio member. In 2021, we welcomed two new members to the Board of Directors - Gretchen Esselstein (Gamma) and Jan Titsworth (Delta). In addition to the new Board members, we welcomed Yeo Eun Yoon (Omicron) as the volunteer Director of Programs.

We also want to thank Christy Vermillion (Epsilon) and Amy Moore (Alpha Zeta) for their service on the Foundation Board.

At least two positions will be open on the Foundation Board due to term expirations this year. If you are passionate about fundraising, grant writing, or non-profit foundations, please reach out to the Foundation Board of Directors at [FBOD@omegaphialpha.org](mailto:FBOD@omegaphialpha.org) and let us know of your interest.

Beyond direct support to leadership and service, we continue to establish structures to run successful fundraising campaigns. We have moved our donor records and database from Little Green Light to OPAportal. This change will allow us to more seamlessly communicate with members and provide one point of reference for all sorority-related activity.



# 2022 Foundation Outlook

## Chapter Service Grants

Following the launch of our Chapter Service Grants in 2021, the Foundation awarded a **\$500** chapter service grant to Alpha Lambda in 2022. The chapter will use these funds to support their annual Outrace the Stigma 5K in support of NAMI, National Alliance on Mental Illness.



Alpha Lambda Chapter

In an effort to increase excitement and engagement around the sorority-wide Pop Tab service project benefitting Ronald McDonald House Charities, the Sorority Board of Directors challenged chapters to a friendly competition. Any chapter that collected more pop tabs per active member than what the Board collected per board member was included in a drawing to receive **\$350** towards a service project - with some chapters collecting more than 1,400 pop tabs per member! The Foundation matched the sorority's chapter service grant for the 2022 winner of the national Pop Tab for Ronald McDonald House Charities project awarding a **\$350** service grant to an additional chapter, allowing for two winning chapters to receive funds for upcoming service projects.

## Support of National Initiatives

In addition to allocating **\$1,700** to provide materials in conjunction with the leadership development workshop at Convention 2022, the Foundation continues to underwrite multiple technology platforms (Zoom, Google Workspace, Canva) used by the sorority's Operational Leadership Team.

# 2022 Foundation Outlook

## 2022 Foundation Goals

In the coming year, the Foundation desires to enhance programming available to actives and alumni that is centered around OPhiA's mission and core values, specifically leadership development. Our goal is to provide resources and be the catalyst for programs that can be sustained for years to come. The focus may be training and supporting chapter officers, increasing participation in the Leadership Development Program or engaging all members, active and alumni, in meaningful and valuable online programs. Not just a one-time effort, but the ability to launch something now and know that effort can be sustained year after year.

The Foundation is also excited to provide additional Chapter Service Grants in the coming year. As our collegiate members identify ways to make an impact in their community through service, these funds can make those ideas possible.

Of course, the Foundation also remains committed to awarding multiple scholarships to actives and alumni in the year ahead through the Pamela McCullough McEwen Memorial Scholarship fund.

## Support the Foundation

As we continue to explore ways to support Omega Phi Alpha National Service sorority, we count on YOUR continued support through donations and spreading the word about the impact the sorority can make through the Foundation. Please use the QR code below landing directly on our website to make a contribution towards our efforts.



Donate today: <https://bit.ly/DonateOPA>