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Introduction

The Greek Excellence Awards were founded by the Drury University chapter of the Gamma Sigma Alpha National Greek Academic Honor Society in 2006 to provide an opportunity to recognize the achievements and excellence of the outstanding leaders and supporters of the Greek community.

The Greek Excellence Awards are held each year. During the ceremony, presenters will announce awards received by deserving students, chapters, and supporters of the Drury University Greek community and review highlights of Greek Life accomplishments.

We wish you the best of luck with your nominations. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact the Director of Greek Life, Anna Stark at astark003@drury.edu

The Process

This packet holds all information, links and forms a chapter will need to successfully apply for Greek Excellence Awards. Review each award carefully to be aware of timelines and expectations.

Greek chapters should choose the method of chapter nominee selection that works best for the chapter. It is strongly recommended, but not required, to hold a voting session during a regular meeting to select the chapter nominees for each award available.

One nomination form will be accepted from each chapter, for a single chapter consensus. It is encouraged, but not required, for the chapter to complete a nomination for each award. The chapter should complete nominations for the awards they feel an individual or organization is the most deserving.

Forms will only be accepted by the chapter president or an executive committee member that has been designated to complete the forms. To be in consideration for an award, chapters are required to fully complete the application and/or nomination form.

Chapter members may only win a specific award once during their collegiate career, but a member may win both the New Member of the Year and the Member of the Year Awards during their collegiate career. Individuals may be nominated multiple times for the same award by different organizations. Individuals may also be nominated and considered for multiple awards.

The chapter president or chapter designee should complete the forms online by the deadline on each award. Late forms and forms not submitted electronically will not be accepted.

The Greek Excellence Awards will be awarded during the Drury Awards on May 1st at 3:00pm. Badge attire is requested for the ceremony.

Each chapter is required to have at least one representative present at Drury Awards. Nominees for individual awards will be notified of this date as well.

Selection Process

Selection Committee

The Selection Committee selects the recipients of all awards. The Student Activities Office selects committee members from the Drury University community who are knowledgeable about Greek Life, and are able to remain unbiased in the selection process.

Judging

The Selection Committee and Student Activities staff review their respective Award Forms and score them according to the Judging Rubric. All identifying information is removed from the Award Forms before the selection process. The Selection Committee submits their scored Award Forms to the Student Activities Office. The Student Activities staff processes all of the scores and the nominees with the highest overall scores are selected as the award recipients. A staff member outside the Student Activities Office verifies all selections before the award recipients are presented.

In the event the Selection Committee and/or the Student Activities staff selections result in a tie, they will vote between the tied nominees and select one award recipient. Each selection group is composed of an odd number of members to prevent further ties.

In the event the Selection Committee and/or the Student Activities staff decides that no nominees adequately meet an award's criteria, then they reserve the right to not select an award recipient.

Award Descriptions

Sorority/Fraternity Member of the Year

This award recognizes members of the Greek community who have shown participation, dedication, and a genuine commitment to the improvement of the Drury Greek Life community. Award winners should be involved in their organization and the community as a whole and actively participate in initiatives, programs, and opportunities to make the community better. These individuals also work to inspire and motivate those around them to better live the values of fraternities and sororities, in part through role modeling the values themselves.

- Nominees must meet the following criteria:
 - In good standing with the chapter
 - An initiated member of the chapter
 - Not found in violation of a university policy within the year of nomination
 - Have at least 2 years of Drury Greek experience
- Recognition Information: Each chapter can nominate up to 6 Greek members for this award. Up to three can be from their own chapter and up to 3 from any other Greek chapter. Nominations are due with name and chapter by March 28th at noon. Nominations received after this time will not be considered. Those who are nominated will be contacted to fill out the application form via their Drury email. Nominees will be informed on a ROLLING BASIS, meaning that the earlier nominations are submitted the earlier applicants will receive the application. One Sorority Member and one Fraternity Member will be awarded.
- **Applications:** Applications will be filled out by the individual online. Deadline for this application is April 5th at Noon. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Applicants will be required to provide information for the following topics (up to 250 words per topic):
 - How has being Greek shaped your collegiate experience?
 - Briefly discuss what you feel are the strengths and weaknesses of the Greek community. Also, explain what contributions you have made to build on these strengths or improve upon these weaknesses.
 - Please discuss your leadership within the Drury Greek Community.
 Also, please list your non-Greek leadership experience on campus and in the surrounding community.
 - Please list any honors, awards or recognition you have received related to scholastic or other achievement from within the Greek Community and outside the Greek community.

Sorority/ Fraternity New Member of the Year

This award recognizes members of the Greek community that are the leaders of tomorrow. These individuals, while relatively new to Greek involvement, show promise and are eager to pursue leadership opportunities in their chapter, council, and beyond. Someone who in their short time has already made an impact or shows promise within their chapter.

- Nominees must meet the following criteria:
 - In good standing with the chapter
 - Pledged to the chapter in Spring or Fall 2023
 - Not found in violation of a university policy within the year of nomination
- **Recognition Information:** Each chapter may nominate 2 New Members to be considered for this award. Nominations are due with name and chapter by March 28th at noon. Nominations received after this time will not be considered. Those who are nominated will be contacted to fill out the application form via their Drury email. Nominees will be informed on a ROLLING BASIS, meaning that the earlier nominations are submitted the earlier applicants will receive the application. One Sorority New Member and One Fraternity New Member will be awarded.
- **Applications:** Applications will be filled out by the individual online. Deadline for this application is April 5th at Noon. Applications received after this date will not be considered. Applicants will be required to provide information for the following topics (up to 250 words per topic):
 - In this, your first year in the Drury Greek system, how have you contributed to your chapter and the entire Greek community?
 - What impact do you hope to have in the future?
 - Please discuss your leadership within the Drury Greek Community.
 Also, please list your non-Greek leadership experience on campus and in the surrounding community.
 - Please list any honors, awards or recognition you have received related to scholastic or other achievement from within the Greek Community and outside the Greek community.

Outstanding Greek Volunteer

Nominees of this award have consistently exhibited exceptional service and leadership in their contributions to at least one Greek organization.

- Nominees must meet the following criteria:
 - Must meet at least one status: Chapter advisor, alumni, staff, or faculty member
- Recognition Information: One nomination from each chapter is eligible for recognition. One volunteer recipient will be selected each year. The nominee receiving the highest score from the Award Selection

Committee will be named as the award recipient. Nominators will be required to submit up to 400 words on: Describe how this Greek volunteer serves and leads in their involvement and mentorship with a Greek organization. Deadline for this application is March 25th at Noon.

Fraternity/Sorority Chapters of the Year

The Chapter of the Year application process is an opportunity to recognize a chapter's overall success in the past year. Awards will be determined based on the following categories: lifelong connections and membership, academic excellence, campus engagement, recruitment and membership retention, and community service and philanthropy. Individual awards will be given for each of the 5 categories with the Chapter of the Year being awards to the fraternity and sorority with the cumulative highest scores. These 5 topics represent some of the most basic principles of Greek Life, and judges want to hear specifically what your chapter is doing to uphold these ideals in your everyday chapter operations. On the online form, respond to each of the topics below in 250 words or less per topic.

- 1. Lifelong Connections and Membership
 - a. What is the chapter doing to teach the significance of lifelong connections?
 - b. How does the chapter support lifelong connections?
 - c. Explain the importance of strong alumni relations and how your chapter assists in maintaining these relationships?
 - d. Explain one of your most significant methods of contact with your alumni, as well as its frequency and effectiveness.

2. Academic Excellence

- a. What is the chapter doing to teach the significance of academic excellence?
- b. How does your scholarship program recognize and reward student academic success within your chapter?
- c. How does your chapter support members falling below grade requirements?
- d. Share an example of an innovative program your chapter has used to promote and/or improve academics among your members.

3. Campus Engagement

- a. How many of your members are in at least one other student organization?
 - i. Of those, how many hold leadership positions?
- b. How many are athletes?
- c. How many are either a RACA or Orientation Leader?

- d. Describe how the chapter motivates members to get involved in the university community and what tactics have been successful in increasing university involvement.
- e. Explain how the chapter has fostered relationships with staff, faculty, and organizations outside of Greek Life.
- f. Describe the impact your chapter has had on the Drury community this year.
- 4. Recruitment and Member Retention
 - a. Describe your chapter's approach to recruitment.
 - b. How do you educate members on how to recruit effectively?
 - c. What unique things did your chapter do to increase new member numbers?
 - d. What have you put in place to help retain members?
 - e. Describe your intentional and reasonable plan for growth.
- 5. Community Service and Philanthropy
 - a. How does the chapter help members understand the importance of service and philanthropy?
 - b. How does the chapter work to educate members and attendees/ community about the cause their philanthropy supports (consider root cause issues such as poverty, racial inequity, food insecurity, etc.).
 - c. How many service hours did your chapter donate in the 2023 calendar year?
 - d. How much money did your chapter donate in the 2023 calendar year?

Rubrics

Scoring Guide:

- 0 Insignificant: Nomination provides inadequate evidence.
- 1 Below Average: Nomination provides <u>basic</u> evidence.
- 2 Average: Nomination provides moderate evidence.
- 3 Above Average: Nomination provides significant evidence.

Fraternity/Sorority Member of the Year:

F/SMOTY	0	1	2	3
Collegiate Experience				
Leadership				
Contributions				
Achievement				

Fraternity/Sorority New Member of the Year:

F/SNMOTY	0	1	2	3
Contributions				
Future Impact				
Leadership Potential				
Achievement				

Outstanding Greek Volunteer:

OGV	0	1	2	3
Service/Leadership				
Involvement				
Mentorship				

Fraternity/Sorority Chapters of the Year

F/SCOTY	0	1	2	3
Lifelong Connections and Membership				
Academic Excellence				
Campus Engagement				
Recruitment and Member Retention				
Community Service and Philanthropy				