

Sigma Lambda Upsilon/Señoritas Latinas Unidas Sorority, Inc.
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Theta Alpha Graduate Chapter wins NALFO Award

San Diego, CA- Theta Alpha Graduate/Professional Chapter wins Philanthropic Excellence Award for Alumni/Graduate Chapter at the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO) spring 2009 convention. This award is given to an Alumni/Graduate chapter that has successfully integrated philanthropy as part of their annual programming and events. This honor was received on Saturday May 2nd, and was open for nomination to the 21 organizations that are part of NALFO.

“I couldn’t believe it. I was amazed when I received the news. It is exciting to be recognized nationally after competing with organizations from all over U.S. because we all do wonderful things,” said Vanessa Gonzalez, Theta Alpha President.

After being the recipient of the 2008 Cacique award for Leadership and Chapter of the Year Award, awards given out during Sigma Lambda Upsilon’s annual convention, Theta Alpha Chapter continued to excel in the areas of leadership and service. They organized, facilitated and implemented numerous events and programs throughout the year. Theta Alpha Chapter partnered with East Harlem Tutorial Program, New York Regional Office of the Census Bureau, and Ryan NENA Health Center to name a few. They collaborated with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) Alumni Association and the local Omicron Chapter to present Latino Politics 101: The Sleeping Giant, an event that engaged over 60 attendees. Theta Alpha also worked in partnership with other community organizations such as the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, the Junior Achievements Program and the Latino College Expo. In addition, they continued serving as mentors to Sigma Lambda LADYS (Leadership Advancement and Development for our Young Sisters), a program for young women at Vanguard High School and West Brooklyn High School.

Overall, we highly commend the Theta Alpha Hermanas for promoting literacy as a means to advancement, stressing the importance of higher education through its mentorship programs and partnerships, and increasing awareness of politics to Latinos in the New York City metro area.

Gonzalez thanks her board and Hermanas for assisting her in meeting Theta Alpha's goals for the past two years. In the words of Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has."

For additional information, contact: Carol Olate at public-relations@sigmalambdaupsilon.org

Sigma Lambda Upsilon/Señoritas Latinas Unidas Sorority, Inc., was founded on December 1, 1987 at Binghamton University as an organization that would provide sisterhood and support while also promoting academic achievement, service to the community and cultural enrichment. Today, the sorority's purpose remains to unite women committed to seeking the political and social advancement of the underrepresented populations.

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