## BECOMING AN Honorary initiate of Tau kappa epsilon



WHAT IS TAU KAPPA EPSILON?

LEARN WHAT MAKES TAU KAPPA EPSILON DIFFERENT

#### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN HONORARY INITIATE?

LEARN ABOUT JOINING THE FRATERNITY FOR LIFE

#### WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME? OPPORTUNITIES FOR GETTING AND STAYING INVOLVED





## WELCOME TO TAU KAPPA EPSILON

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering joining our beloved Fraternity. We are very proud of the legacy of Tau Kappa Epsilon, a history of more than 120 years, almost 500 different campuses and over a quarter million men. More than 7,000 men have joined as an honorary initiate rather than as a collegiate member. Many of these members have remained active as volunteers and some have gone on to shape the history of our Fraternity. We are honored that you would consider joining Tau Kappa Epsilon.

While the majority of our members join an active chapter as collegiates, honorary initiates join later in their lives, regardless of whether they have a college degree. These men typically join because of a relationship they have with a chapter, with individual members or with the International Headquarters.

In Tau Kappa Epsilon, we believe that the Fraternity experience does not end at graduation, but in fact is just beginning. Joining as an honorary initiate, you still have many opportunities to benefit from and share in the Fraternity: chapter-based and area-based alumni association, leadership programs, volunteer roles, networking, professional development and more. Our mission is to "aid men in their mental, moral and social development for life." You can share your experience with the next generation of young TKE leaders and continue to grow personally and professionally as part of our brotherhood.

Honorary initiates of TKE have the same rights and privileges as all other members. They can serve as volunteers for our collegiate members in a variety of advisory roles, attend leadership conferences and other events, join alumni associations and attend alumni gatherings. Honorary initiates have gone on to serve on the Professional Staff at our International Headquarters, serve on the Board of Directors of the TKE Foundation and be elected to our Grand Council, the International Board of Directors of Tau Kappa Epsilon. Three honorary initiates, Sophus Goth, William Reeve and Dr. R.C. Williams, have even served as the Grand Prytanis, our international Board chairman.

As we often explain to our youngest members, you will get out of your membership in Tau Kappa Epsilon what you put into it. With the many opportunities to grow personally and professionally, and also to contribute by sharing your own abilities and experience, we are certain you can shape a meaningful experience as an honorary initiate of TKE.

Once again, welcome to Tau Kappa Epsilon ... the Fraternity for Life.



## ABOUT TAU KAPPA EPSILON

Tau Kappa Epsilon is one of the largest social fraternities in the world. With more than 290,000 initiated members from nearly 500 chapters across North America, Tau Kappa Epsilon's network of brothers is seemingly neverending.

Founded in 1899 at Illinois Wesleyan University, Tau Kappa Epsilon was originally founded as a literary society named the Knights of Classic Lore by five men who desired an organization different from those represented at Wesleyan. On the fourth attempt to become a chapter of another fraternity, the men of Tau Kappa Epsilon knew it was time for something different. In October 1907, a now famous speech entitled *Opportunity Out of Defeat* was given to empower the membership to give up their desire of joining another fraternity and instead create their own national Fraternity that would one day become one of the largest and greatest fraternities in North America.

### PERSONAL WORTH AND CHARACTER SINCE 1899

Since our founding in 1899, Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity has never had an exclusionary clause to prevent individuals from joining. Our Founders established a Fraternity in which the primary requisites for membership would be the personal worth and character of the individual rather than the wealth he possessed, the honors or titles he could display, or the rank he maintained on the social ladder.

We believe that college is the most opportune time for developing one's abilities and to allow one the opportunity to grow as a man. Tau Kappa Epsilon aims every day to build Better Men for a Better World.



Steve Forbes Honorary member at Conclave 2009, 250,000th initiate of Tau Kappa Epsilon



## MISSION, VISION AND PURPOSE



#### MISSION

Our mission is to aid men in their mental, moral and social development for life.

#### VISION

Tau Kappa Epsilon creates lifelong relationships that enhance educational, interpersonal, community and professional success.

#### PURPOSE

TKE contributes to the advancement of society through the personal growth of our members and service to others.

#### ABOUT THE TRIANGLE

The equilateral triangle serves as a reminder of the early days of the Fraternity and of the traditions established by its Founders, being that the first three chapters of TKE, which supplied the foundations for its growth, formed an equilateral triangle in their geographical relationship. Its equal-sided design represents the striving goal toward a full and equal development of mind, body and heart.

## PRINCIPLES OF THE FRATERNITY

#### SCHOLARSHIP

Tau Kappa Epsilon expects serious attention to academic performance. A strong academic record not only prepares you for success after you get your degree, but it represents strength of mind to the world. By belonging to Tau Kappa Epsilon, all members commit to graduate on schedule with an above average GPA.

#### CHARACTER

Tau Kappa Epsilon shows members that there are basic principles of effective living, such as integrity, honesty, patience and fidelity. You can only experience true success and enduring happiness through life as you learn and integrate these principles into your basic character.

#### LEADERSHIP

Tau Kappa Epsilon offers young men the opportunity to develop as leaders—and prepares them to use those skills during their lifetime. Members are encouraged to take an active leadership role in chapter and campus activities.

#### TEAMWORK

Tau Kappa Epsilon believes that building relationships, unselfishness and people caring about each other are the keys to successful teams. When chapters reach their potential, they will achieve a level of excellence in athletics, chapter business, campus activities or anything they set their mind to.

#### <u>SERVICE</u>

Tau Kappa Epsilon is committed to instilling a sense of responsibility and contribution in all our members. TKE enables chapters to provide services to their campus, community and philanthropy. Fraternities and sororities contribute countless hours and raise millions of dollars for charitable organizations around the world.

#### BROTHERHOOD

Tau Kappa Epsilon provides a family environment in which members establish solid friendships that last a lifetime. Tekes around the world act as a network of friends, which can be very beneficial, both personally and fraternally.



#### MEMBERSHIP BADGE

TAU KAPPA EPSILON

The official membership badge, made of either white or Roman gold and adorned with three white pearls, is by far the most important item of TKE insignia and general use. The badge, unique in its design and distinctiveness, has never been changed since its adoption. The membership badge is only worn on collared shirts or sweaters in the traditional position over the heart. The meaning and symbolism are revealed to members upon initiation into the Fraternity.

#### **RED CARNATION**

The official flower of the Fraternity is the red carnation. From the red carnation is derived the color of the Fraternity's Coat-of-Arms, flag, banner, ritual robes and other symbols. The official flower is worn during initiations and at chapter banquets. Every year, a majority of chapters and colonies across TKE Nation host a Red Carnation Ball, a banquet to celebrate each group's accomplishments from the past year.

#### APOLLO

The mythological patron saint of Tau Kappa Epsilon is Apollo, one of the most revered Olympian divinities. Apollo is known as the Grecian god of music and culture, or light and the ideals which all Tekes must constantly strive toward. Typifying the finest development of manhood, the selection of Apollo is most appropriate. Today, Apollo provides for members of Tau Kappa Epsilon a superior example of sterling character and staunch uprightness.

#### COAT-OF-ARMS

The TKE Coat-of-Arms consists of a shield of the Norman form, upon which is a bend with five equilateral triangles, surmounting a scroll bearing the initial letters of a secret motto in Greek, and surmounted by a skull at three-quarters profile. This assemblage is done in the official colors, cherry and gray. Its connotation, or meaning, is also revealed during the initiation ritual. The TKE Coat-of-Arms is vastly unique to that of any other Fraternity.

#### THE FLAG

The present design of the TKE flag, as adopted at the Fraternity's 1961 Conclave, features five voided triangles, in cherry red, on a gray bend surmounting a red field. Due to its similar pattern as the shield of the Fraternity Coat-of-Arms, the flag is readily associated with Tau Kappa Epsilon. In recent years, the flag has gained significant popularity and has been pictured at various locations across the world. Recent sightings include the Great Wall of China, Cinque Terre in Florence, Italy, and the Grand Canyon.

#### THE HORSESHOE

In April 1921, members of the Fraternity at The Ohio State University made their way to Conclave in Madison, Wisconsin. At the conclusion of the vote, the group was granted their charter as the Omicron chapter. Following, one of the members pulled a rusty horseshoe from the pocket of his pants. The horseshoe has been picked up on the group's journey to Madison. Believing that it had granted the chapter good luck, a tradition was established to pass the horseshoe down to each newly chartered group.

















# OF INITIATED MEMBERS

**135** # OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

7,224

HONORARY INITIATES IN TAU KAPPA EPSILON

### \$5.2 MILLION

DOLLARS RAISED FOR ST. JUDE SINCE 2009

### 150,000+

SERVICE HOURS COMPLETED ANNUALLY

## **DISTINGUISHED TEKES**



**Aaron Rodgers** Sigma-Xi Quarterback for the Green Bay Packers



**Ronald Reagan** *lota* 40th President of the United States



**Steve Forbes** *Grand Chapter* Chairman and Editor-in-Chief of Forbes Media



Howard Schultz Theta-lota Founder/CEO of Starbucks Coffee Corp.



Marc Benioff Beta-Sigma Chairman and CEO of Salesforce.com



**Roy Jones, Jr.** *Tau-Psi* World Champion Professional Boxer



**Mike Huckabee** Beta-Psi Former Governor of Arkansas



**Charles R. Walgreen, Jr** *Upsilon* President of Walgreen Drug Stores



**Willie Nelson** *Nu-Xi* Country Music Artist



**Conrad Hilton** Alpha-Omicron Founder of Hilton Hotels



**Danny Thomas** *Gamma-Nu* Founder of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



Phil Simms Mu-Sigma Sportscaster for CBS Network & Former NFL Star



**Edmund C. Moy** *Lambda* Former Director of the United States Mint



**Terry Bradshaw** Beta-Zeta Co-Host of FOX NFL Sunday & Former NFL Star



**Elvis Presley** *Beta-Psi* Entertainer



**Digger Phelps** Epsilon-Zeta Former Notre Dame Basketball Coach



Here are just a few of the distinguished alumni of Tau Kappa Epsilon. Please note that these alumni have either held or currently hold the position(s) listed.

Red bar on photo denotes honorary initiates.



**Anish Shroff** lota-Zeta On-Air Host & Commentator. ESPN



E.J. Snyder Grand Chapter U.S. Army Veteran & Naked & Afraid star

**Andrew Allen** 

Kappa-Upsilon

CEO of GSL, Inc.

NASA Astronaut &



Johnny Quinn Grand Chapter U.S. Olympic Bobsledder, Former NFL & CFL Player



**Ted Bereswill** Gamma-Upsilon Senior VP, North American Tech. Sales, Oracle





**Jim Crane** Delta-Lambda Owner of Houston Astros



**Don Campbell** 

Founder, Campbell

Delta-Epsilon

& Company

Marv Levy Zeta Former American & Canadian Football Coach





**Dan Webster** Beta-Pi Former Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives



**Bob Barr** 

Former

Beta-Sigma

United States

Representative

Dan Mead Pi **Executive Vice** President, Verizon



Charles Whittington Pi-Psi Major General of United States Army



Dr. William V. Muse Epsilon-Upsilon Former President, U of Akron & Auburn U



**Donald Tapia** Sigma-Theta U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica



"From my 1929 initiation into the Iota chapter at Eureka College to this day, TKE has played an important role in my life. The various offices I have held in TKE provided invaluable leadership experience. But my most cherished benefit from membership in TKE has been the many warm friendships and spirit of camaraderie which are only to be found among [Tekes]."

> -Ronald Reagan

**Gerald P. Carr** 

NASA Astronaut

& Commander of

Beta-Sigma

Skylab 4



# **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Tau Kappa Epsilon's mission is to "aid men in their mental, moral, and social development for life." We place a high priority on formal education and also on life development beyond the classroom.

Tau Kappa Epsilon is not a typical fraternity. As the first fraternity to never have an exclusionary or discriminatory clause in our membership, TKE's membership is proud of the diverse and impactful leaders developed on the nearly 500 campuses we have been on since 1899.

The traditional fraternity experience helps collegiate members build strong skills for life. As an honorary initiate, you have the opportunity to make an impact on these young men's lives and help them fulfill our mission each day. Tau Kappa Epsilon provides opportunities for your own benefit and also to serve and benefit others.

Tau Kappa Epsilon provides you an opportunity to serve as an alumni advisor, mentor, teach valuable life skills to help others succeed where you may have failed, as well as the social opportunities through alumni associations or attending our leadership development conferences such as Regional Leadership Conferences and Conclave.

As an honorary initiate, benefits include:

- Network for professional and personal relationships with more than 290,000 men
- Meet new people and create friendships that last a lifetime
- Being a part of something greater than yourself
- Social opportunities and brotherhood
- Make an impact on your local campus, community, or city through community service and civic engagement with students or alumni
- Connect and learn from men of all generations
- Participate in and raise money for our international philanthropy, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- Get reconnected with your university
- Serve as a mentor or be a positive role model for collegiate members
- Live the Fraternity values and combat the stereotype of fraternities
- And much more



### OUR INTERNATIONAL PHILANTHROPIC PARTNER ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL

"It is a great honor to share with you our next step in helping to achieve Frater Danny Thomas's dream that 'no child should die in the dawn of life.' Today, we make history. Today, we dedicate ourselves to building a better world by making the largest commitment by any men's fraternity to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Today, we officially begin our campaign to raise \$10 million over the next ten years for the children of St. Jude," stated Hanson.

Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® announced a commitment to raise \$10 million for St. Jude within the next 10 years, which will be recognized by the naming of the hospital's Bone Marrow Transplantation & Cellular Therapy Research floor.

This new iteration of fundraising was announced at Conclave, the fraternity's biennial celebration, and marks the third commitment TKE has made to the hospital since the fraternity officially began its partnership with St. Jude in 1972.

In 2011 TKE pledged to raise \$1 million in five years towards the naming of an MRI suite in the Chili's Care Center on the St. Jude campus, which TKE met this goal a year early. Then in 2016, TKE pledged to raise \$2.6 million for the hospital toward the naming of the proton therapy synchrotron/particle accelerator.

Support from partners like TKE and donors worldwide help ensure families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food – because all a family should worry about is helping their child live. St. Jude freely shares the discoveries it makes, and every child saved at St. Jude means doctors and scientists worldwide can use that knowledge to save thousands more children.

"Since Tau Kappa Epsilon first answered our Founder Danny Thomas' call for support more than 30 years ago, the fraternity has positively impacted countless events and programs to help live out Danny's dream that 'no child should die in the dawn of life," said Richard Shadyac Jr., President and CEO of ALSAC, the fundraising and awareness organization for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. "The naming of the Bone Marrow Transplantation & Cellular Therapy Research floor is testament to the dedication of TKE and St. Jude to positively impacting the lives of children worldwide."

To learn more about the partnership between St. Jude and Tau Kappa Epsilon, visit StJude.org/TKE.







## **HONORARY INITIATION**

An honorary initiate starts this process in various ways. You may have been researching TKE on your own or you may have been invited by current members. Thank you for considering the possibility of joining Tau Kappa Epsilon.

We encourage you to gather information and ask any questions you may have. Please explore our website, talk with members you know and call TKE Headquarters if you would like to talk with someone else. The Professional Staff can help connect you with other alumni, honorary initiates, and/or volunteers if you would like to hear additional perspectives.

In Tau Kappa Epsilon, individual chapters have the authority to make decisions about inviting honorary initiates to join the Fraternity. Chapter leadership submits an application within the Chapter Module on behalf of the individual and that gets reviewed by the Fraternity's Chief Executive Officer. New honorary initiates will be considered members of that individual chapter and will sign that chapter's physical membership scroll during the initiation ritual. In some cases, international leaders (board members and/or Professional Staff members) may offer membership to someone who does not have a relationship or affiliation with any particular campus or chapter. In those cases, new members officially join the Grand Chapter and sign that scroll which is maintained at the Headquarters.

After your application as an honorary initiate is approved and the initiation fee is paid, the process can happen relatively quickly. The initiation fee of \$300 is the same for all new members of Tau Kappa Epsilon, both collegiates and honorary. Most honorary initiations are performed by the local chapter; some honorary initiates join at a program or conference sponsored by the International Headquarters. Your initiation ceremony will take place in two parts, typically on the same day. The first ritual is called Secret Works, in which you learn more about the meaning, values, and secrets of the Fraternity. Second, you will participate in the same ritual ceremony that is held for every member who joins our Fraternity. The formal initiation is an opportunity for us to honor your decision to join and for you to learn additional information about the Fraternity only afforded to initiated members.

During your initiation ceremony, you will be asked to swear an oath making three promises: one to yourself, one to the Fraternity, and one to your fellow members. This oath is described ahead of time during the Secret Works ritual and you will have an opportunity to discuss and ask questions so that there are no surprises during the formal initiation.

After your formal initiation, you will receive a new member kit from Tau Kappa Epsilon. This kit includes a Teke Guide, our new member education book, along with your membership badge and a membership certificate. There are no alumni membership dues and no ongoing financial obligation after being initiated. All alumni members of Tau Kappa Epsilon are encouraged to make a Life Loyal Teke donation annually to support educational and leadership programs for both collegiate and alumni members.



# **<u>GETTING AND STAYING INVOLVED</u>**

You will get out of TKE what you put into it; only you can decide what this will look like, but we do have many resources to help you find what you are looking for. Our Professional Staff would be happy to help you find the best way to be involved, contribute your abilities and share your experience with the Fraternity. Just Ask! TKEOGC@TKE.org or 317-872-6533.

#### Stay Connected as an Alumni Member

- Engage with the alumni network from your own or another nearby chapter.
- Join your chapter's alumni association or an area-based association near you.
- Maintain a subscription to our quarterly magazine, THE TEKE, by making a Life Loyal Teke donation.
- Attend province, regional or international programs and conferences.

#### Share Your Experience and Talents as a Volunteer

- There are many opportunities and creative options for sharing your experience and talents.
- Local advisors help support chapter operations and student success.
- Regional volunteers can work with one or more chapters or with other alumni in your area.
- The Grand Council has both standing and other ad hoc committees.
- Additional options include mentoring, speaking/presenting, one-time visits or other experiences that can be either short-term or long-term.

#### Support the Fraternity as a Donor

- All alumni are asked to make an annual Life Loyal Teke donation to directly support educational and leadership programs for both collegiate and alumni members. You can learn more at TKE.org/LLT.
- Many chapters have active Special Projects Funds to help subsidize students' participation in programs and/or scholarship funds.
- The TKE Foundation staff can answer additional questions about needs and opportunities.



# **DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES**

A ational Founder William Wilson, during the winter months of 1907-1908, wrote the Declaration of Principles, spending many weeks preparing this document for presentation to the Fraternity.

Never once modified since its original drafting, the Declaration of Principles stands today as the most important document in the Fraternity. It codifies the basic beliefs of Tau Kappa Epsilon and states two great dangers in college fraternity life: an attitude of exclusiveness toward non-fraternity men, and a bitter and unfriendly spirit toward other fraternities on campus.

These principles which we hold so dear have been the defining factor in leading Tau Kappa Epsilon to become one of the largest fraternities in the world.

In the early 1900s, our Founders dreamed and built a fraternity that believed in sterling character and staunch uprightness as necessary qualifications for membership, an organization whose membership has always been based on the personal worth and character of the individual, not the wealth he earned, the ranks he achieved or the honors bestowed upon him. We, the members of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, hereby declaring our strict adherence and unswerving fidelity to what we believe to be the basic principles of true friendship, do ordain and adopt this our Declaration of Principles.

The object of this Declaration is to codify the settled convictions of this fraternity into abiding form to guide fraternal action and conduct for all time to come. And to the principles hereinafter enunciated, we individually and collectively pledge our unreserved allegiance.

Man is a social being. Our whole structure evidences the absolute interdependence of man. Reclusiveness is dwarfing to man's best qualities. Intimate and frequent contact with our fellows is necessary to symmetrical development. As a consequence, organizations whose purpose is to promote these ends are to be fostered and encouraged.

We believe that at no other period in the life of a man is the time more opportune for the fostering of such qualities than during the years of his college career. Then mind and heart are in their most receptive condition, for it is the formative period of life.

We regard mental development as of vital importance, but of equal consequence is the acquisition of a knowledge of men and a proper conception of their relation to one another. This is not obtained from texts and lectures, but from actual and intimate intercourse with men. To promote these ends is the avowed and earnest purpose of this fraternity. Fully realizing the burdens of this duty, we enter upon its performance with the conscientious purpose of adequately meeting its demands.

We maintain that exclusiveness is the direct antithesis of a true fraternity. We condemn the un-American policies of some of the leading college fraternities of the country in their attitude of contempt to all who are without the bonds of fraternities, regardless of character, ability or personal merits. Such policies we seek to avoid, as they are destructive of the very ends of true fraternity.

We believe that a fraternity should be a brotherhood in conduct as well as in name. "Faith without works is dead." Pledges of brotherhood not succeeded by observance in conduct are as "sounding brass and tinkling cymbal." By the tenor of our daily action we should evidence our devotion to the principles we have solemnly obligated ourselves to observe.

The duties and obligations that subsist between the sons of the same mother should subsist between brothers in the sacred bond of this fraternity. The instinct to the observance of mutual duties that





common blood supplies, must be furnished by the pledges of our ritual.

We believe that the essential elements of true brotherhood are love, charity, and esteem; love, that binds our hearts with the sturdy chords of fraternal affection; charity, that is impulsive to see virtues in a brother and slow to reprove his faults; esteem, that is respectful to the honest convictions of others and that refrains from treading upon that which is sacred to spirit and conscience; these are the triple obligations of every brother in the bond.

We believe in secretism in so far as it enables a fraternity to protect the confidences of the brotherhood. Secrecy that is promoted for selfish purposes or utilized to cloak fraternal wrong-doings we unsparingly condemn. We uphold this policy in so far as it is necessary to insure the dignity of our ritualism and the privacy of our internal affairs. As secrecy is employed to protect and perpetuate the sanctity of the family relation, so we enlist the advantage of secrecy to preserve inviolate the confidences and sanctities of the brotherhood.

Toward other fraternities we believe we should maintain an attitude of dignity and respect, recognizing their merits and studiously avoiding their evils. We believe our relation to them is, in a measure, competitive, and that we should endeavor to excel them in the fields of college activity.

We maintain that competition may become detrimental to any school. When healthy rivalry is followed by competition in which honorable methods are employed, it is a boon to the fraternity, and a benefit to the school, but when groveling and unprincipled means are employed, when school spirit and interest are subordinated to fraternal prejudice and selfishness, it becomes "a snare to the feet," and a detriment to the fraternity and to the school. Competition in such form we condemn, and pledge every effort to avoid.

Finally, above all else, this fraternity stands for Men. We believe in their equality in those things which the Creator has decreed they should equally enjoy. We consider no man from the standpoint of those qualities and advantages he has not attained by personal effort. We stand for men whose manhood has withstood the test of trying conditions. We deem sterling character and staunch uprightness to be necessary qualifications to membership in this fraternity. All else, though desirable, is secondary to these.



# **READY TO GET STARTED?**

An honorary initiation extends the privilege of membership in Tau Kappa Epsilon upon men of "sterling character and staunch uprightness." Any man who is not currently enrolled as a student at a college or university is eligible to be considered for membership as an honorary initiate. Honorary initiates enjoy all the rights afforded alumni members of the chapter into which they are initiated.

Honorary initiation is an expression of appreciation for the outstanding service of men who are presently unaffiliated with our Fraternity. Formal inclusion of such men into the brotherhood of TKE often draws them into a closer relationship with the initiating chapter, and can lead to a lifetime of commitment to our principles and values.

Tau Kappa Epsilon would be honored to have you join our ranks in the Fraternity for Life.

If you are interested in becoming an honorary initiate, please contact a collegiate chapter, TKE volunteer or the Offices of the Grand Chapter to submit your application for membership in Tau Kappa Epsilon.

We look forward to being able to call you a Frater in the Bond!



### TAU KAPPA EPSILON

– Better Men for a Better World –

Established January 10, 1899, Tau Kappa Epsilon is a men's social fraternity founded on the honest convictions of Love, Charity and Esteem.

For more information, please visit **TKE.org** 

S. Wash