



Proclamation



100th Anniversary of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. was founded on January 16, 1920, on the campus of Howard University by five collegiate women who envisioned a sorority that would directly affect positive change, encourage the highest standards of scholastic achievement and foster a greater sense of unity among its members; and

WHEREAS, these women believed sorority elitism and socializing overshadowed the real mission for progressive organizations and failed to address the societal ills, prejudices and poverty affecting humanity in general and the black community in particular; and

WHEREAS, the Founders established an organization built on the principles of Service, Scholarship, Sisterhood and Finer Womanhood which currently claims international membership of more than 125,000 college-educated women who make up more than 850 chapters globally including chapters in Asia, Europe, Africa, North America, and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. was the first National Pan-Hellenic Council organization to centralize its organization in a national headquarters, the first to charter a chapter in Africa and the Middle East, the first to form auxiliary groups and the first and only sorority to be constitutionally bound to a fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc; and

WHEREAS, the organization has manifested signature Service programs to impact every stage of life including but not limited to Zeta Prematurity Awareness Program, Adopt a School, Triple Negative Breast Cancer, and Elder Care Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. launched its Zetas Helping Other People Excel during its 2008 International Boule as an interactive holistic multidimensional outreach program designed to enhance, cultivate and empower participants. The programs presented under the Z-HOPE umbrella are designed to be specific to population groups of Women, Youth, Seniors, Men, and International Women of Color; and

WHEREAS, five members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. chartered the Eta Phi Zeta Chapter in July 1974 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina to establish a legacy of service and leadership in the Orange County, Carrboro and Chapel Hill Communities; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, Eta Phi Zeta Chapter members have embodied the sorority's founding principles by providing scholarships to deserving students, partnering with organizations such as the Chapel-Hill Carrboro NAACP, March of Dimes, Rogers-Eubanks Neighborhood Association, Chapel-Hill Carrboro CROP Walk; and

WHEREAS, the Eta Phi Zeta chapter draws upon the professional and civic experience of members residing in Orange, Chatham, Durham, and Wake counties and

WHEREAS, Eta Phi Zeta chapter members served as the sponsoring graduate chapter for the Omega Iota chapter located on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and sponsored various service collaborations with Omega Iota and other Triangle area chapters.

WHEREAS, As Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Eta Phi Zeta Chapter moves toward the 100th anniversary of its founding, members are poised for perpetual service to mankind into a second century and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby recognize January 16, 2020 as Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Day in the Town of Carrboro, and I urge all residents to honor the extraordinary history and accomplishments of this organization and its members.

This the 16th day of January, 2020.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor