

FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

www.usca.vcu.edu

Joining a fraternity or sorority at VCU can definitely enhance your college experience. From finding a social niche, helping you reach your academic goals, or helping our community, membership in a fraternity or sorority adds an element to the college experience for which there is no substitute.

At VCU, we offer a diverse mix of fraternities and sororities with the hopes that everyone who wants to join a group finds one that closely matches their values and personalities.

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

A fraternity or sorority can help enhance your college experience by offering a scholastic support system; hands-on experience in leading committees, managing budgets and interacting with faculty and administrators; exposure to potential careers through educational programs and discussions with alumni; the opportunity to give back to the community through service projects; and close friends who will cheer you on through successes and provide support during tough times.

HOW TO JOIN

The Interfraternity Council (governing body for the ten IFC fraternities) holds recruitment periods at the beginning of the fall and spring for which first year students can participate. The National Pan-Hellenic Council (governing body for the nine historically African-American fraternities and sororities) and the Multicultural Greek Council (governing body for the seven culturally based fraternities and sororities) hold informational meetings periodically throughout the year. The College Panhellenic Council (governing body of seven women's sororities) sponsors recruitment at the start of each semester where students can join. Also, each chapter may hold informal recruiting events throughout the semester.

The fraternity and sorority community at VCU co-sponsors many events to benefit the community. These include Mr. Greek VCU, Alcohol Awareness Week, Halloween Watch, Take Back the Night and others.

A study by the Center for Advanced Social Research indicates fraternity and sorority members:

- are more likely to finish college than other students•
- tend to be more successful financially than other college graduates•
- donate more to their university as alumni/ae•
- become more active in campus and community activities•
- have better grades than non-members•

SCHOLARSHIP

Academics are emphasized by all fraternity and sorority chapters who challenge members to reach their full academic potential. Through high standards for membership, scholarships and study hours, fraternities and sororities promote a solid academic foundation. Furthermore, fraternity and sorority members usually maintain a higher GPA than non-members and studies have shown that members of fraternities and sororities are more likely to obtain a degree than non-affiliated students.

LEADERSHIP

Fraternities and sororities exemplify democracy in action. They are families, communities, and many have legal corporations of alumni who support their activities. Officers within each chapter are elected to manage the day-to-day operations of the organization. These officers are assisted by members serving on committees and by alumni who act as advisors. In addition, many organizations have regional and national leadership conferences where students can learn a variety of leadership skills. Fraternities and sororities provide a solid foundation in leadership training that prepares them for future demands and responsibilities.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community service is an important aspect of fraternity and sorority life. Each organization was founded upon community service and offers unique opportunities for members to serve the community. From volunteering in elementary schools to giving blood to raising money for charities such as the American Heart Association, Breast Cancer Awareness, Special Olympics and the Ronald McDonald House, fraternities and sororities work diligently to improve their surrounding community.

VCU FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES

College Panhellenic Council (CPC)

Alpha Epsilon Phi
Alpha Gamma Delta
Alpha Omicron Pi
Alpha Sigma Alpha
Phi Mu
Phi Sigma Sigma
Sigma Sigma Sigma

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)

Alpha Kappa Alpha
Alpha Phi Alpha
Delta Sigma Theta
Iota Phi Theta
Kappa Alpha Psi
Omega Psi Phi
Phi Beta Sigma
Sigma Gamma Rho
Zeta Phi Beta

Multicultural Greek Council (MGC)

alpha Kappa Delta Phi
Delta Phi Omega
Kappa Phi Gamma
Lambda Upsilon Lambda
Lambda Phi Epsilon
Sigma Beta Rho
Sigma Lambda Upsilon

Interfraternity Council (IFC)

Alpha Epsilon Pi
Alpha Kappa Lambda
Delta Chi
Kappa Sigma
Phi Kappa Sigma
Pi Kappa Alpha
Pi Lambda Phi
Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Theta Chi

Related Organizations

Fall Block Step Show
Fraternity & Sorority
Leadership Team
Order of Omega
Leadership Honorary
Recruitment Counselors

UNIVERSITY STUDENT COMMONS & ACTIVITIES

VCU

SOCIAL

For many students, social life helps to make college a more fulfilling experience. Fraternities and sororities provide a calendar of social activities including formals, homecoming, skit nights, mixers, step shows and other special events. Fraternities and sororities offer a family atmosphere that goes beyond ordinary friendships, often lasting a lifetime.

ATHLETICS

Fraternities and sororities sponsor teams to participate in various intramural sports and in other fraternity and sorority philanthropy tournaments. Some of these sports include flag football, soccer, basketball, tennis, softball and volleyball. Fraternities and sororities also have members who are varsity athletes. Members of fraternities and sororities provide school spirit at VCU with their supportive presence at major sporting events.

ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

Lifetime friendships expand beyond individual chapters to include all members of the fraternity and sorority community. Alumni organizations help students network for post graduate employment, and keep in touch through newsletters, correspondence, meetings as well as special alumni events.

A WORD ABOUT HAZING

Physical and mental hazing is banned by the university, all inter/national fraternities and sororities and by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Fortunately, student members of fraternities and sororities, recognize that hazing has no place in their organizations and have eliminated it. All acts of hazing by any group, member or alumni/alumnae are specifically forbidden and will not be tolerated by the university.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Members of the VCU fraternity and sorority community participate in a wide variety of educational programming on such topics as leadership development, diversity initiatives, alcohol and other drug education, sexual assault and personal health.

Virginia Commonwealth University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing access to education and employment without regard to age, race, color, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, veteran's status, political affiliation or disability.

SCA-08-0074

FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

Fraternities and sororities were founded over 150 years ago on the fundamental principles of:

Academic achievement
Service to the community
Leadership development
Participation in college life
Brotherhood and sisterhood

These founding principles remain true to this day as VCU fraternities and sororities strive to provide a values based fraternity and sorority experience to the students at VCU.

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

For more information on Fraternity & Sorority Life:

Call us: (804) 828-4685
Visit us: Student Commons Room 233
Online: www.usca.vcu.edu/greeklife

USCA

FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

If you need special accommodations due to a disability, please call (804) 828-3648.