

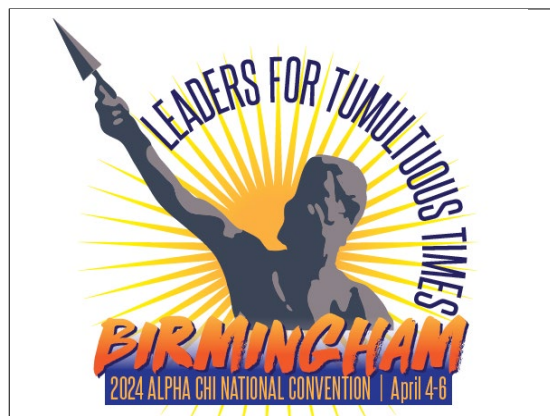
Save the Date: April 4-6, 2024

**Alpha Chi National Convention
in Birmingham, Alabama**

Leaders for Tumultuous Times

Featuring . . .

- Historic Birmingham—a city with a globally important history
- 150+ student and alumni presentations in 25+ academic fields
- **Keynote Speaker T. K. Thorne**—author of *Behind the Magic Curtain: Secrets, Spies, and Unsung White Allies of Birmingham's Civil Rights Days*
- Address from **Alpha Chi Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Zac Imel**, Westminster College (Mo.)
- Student prizes, scholarships, and awards
- Academic and social networking
- Elections to regional and national leadership



Built into every Alpha Chi convention is the opportunity to explore the history of the host city, and Birmingham has a unique and rich story to tell. Delegates will have the opportunity to visit sacred and sobering historic places to learn more about the history of civil rights in Birmingham and the country as a whole. Convention events will begin on Thursday afternoon and continue through Saturday evening. Registration will open in early January.

Explore www.alphachihonor.org/axcon to discover all the opportunities of Alpha Chi's professional, national conference. Our travel and housing grants and room sharing options will help your chapter not break the bank to enjoy the ultimate Alpha Chi experience!

Registration Fees & Room Rate

- \$99 Student Members & Advisors (badge access to all sessions and meal events)
- \$150 Alumni Members & Guests (badge access to all sessions and meal events)
- \$179 Conference Room Rate at the Sheraton Hotel at BJCC

Alpha Chi Member Presentations

Student and alumni members may submit their own presentation information via an online method to be communicated by January. Qualified presentations will be judged during the convention and approximately thirty \$100 prizes will be given by academic category.

Important Dates – Deadlines Extended!

- ~~Jan. 31~~ Conference Presentation Submissions Due – **Now Feb. 22!**
- ~~Feb. 15~~ Conference Registration Due – **Now Mar. 1!**
- ~~Feb. 15~~ Shared Doubles Housing Reservations Due – **Now Mar. 1!**
- ~~Feb. 15~~ All Fees Due – **Now Mar. 10!**
- ~~Mar. 1~~ Sheraton Deadline for Room Rate & Availability – **Now Mar. 11!**

Alpha Chi Convention *Leaders for Tumultuous Times* and Birmingham, Alabama



If the truth will set you free, then lies will enslave you.

Alpha Chi believes that those who use their scholarship to learn the truth can better serve the community as leaders. We work to support, develop, facilitate, encourage, and celebrate our future leaders! We believe that those who use their scholarship to learn in their respective disciplines are best prepared to serve the community as leaders. Because these things are true, please join us for the 2024 Alpha Chi National Convention next spring in Birmingham, Alabama.

Birmingham, Alabama, known as *The Magic City*, has a history and a present that speak to truth and leadership in the area of social justice. As a municipality, it faced the tension between those who were unwilling to move beyond Jim Crow laws and those who courageously fought for justice and reform. Much of today's public rhetoric is similar to the public dialogue in the Birmingham of the past and the present. There are lessons to be learned from the Birmingham community's trajectory, and there are applications for today's tumultuous times. There are lessons for us all, though we may describe them differently. The Birmingham experience represents a microcosm of the unique challenges and struggles that we continue to face as a nation built on the reality of a multicultural society. The Magic City reflects the variety of people, processes, institutions, and behaviors implemented that stand for the promise of equity and social justice.

Those attending the Alpha Chi convention will have an incredible opportunity to consider the role of scholarship in meeting challenges and what it means to sit with the inevitable discomfort that comes with awareness, so that we may act with courage in developing the leadership our world and our communities need us to find. As leaders, we are obligated to elevate the safety, value, mental health, and well-being of all people.

From a Birmingham jail, a man wrote his reflection on justice. If you have a chance, read [Letter from Birmingham Jail](#) by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Many courageous People of Color lived and died for the truth, forcing society to confront the realities of racial inequity. Unsung and determined White Allies asserted the truth at great personal costs. Leadership requires an honest and courageous exploration of the sociopolitical realities our society faces, which are its "truths."

This Alpha Chi convention has the potential of being a life-changing, watershed moment for each member, advisor, and guest that attends. There will be sponsored events that challenge the understanding of history and its relationship to the present. Attendees will increase the depth of their understanding of the present social justice challenges both domestically and globally. We hope that everyone will consider questions like:

- What makes a leader, and how do they know what to do?
- Why should one become a leader? How does one become a leader?
- How can we use the truths and facts that we learn about the world to better the world for all?

- When does the “comfortable truth” serve to hide the actual truth and at what costs?
- What are the costs of the denial of truth for society at large?
- What is a convincing justification for social justice when a loss of privilege may be involved?

These questions will serve as the basis of the self-reflection for all attendees and are questions that should occur throughout the convention experience. These questions will provide a basis for many creative collaborative projects as well as a prism to challenge realities we thought we knew. To prepare for this place and this convention all participants are encouraged to read [*Behind the Magic Curtain: Secrets, Spies, and Unsung White Allies of Birmingham’s Civil Rights Days*](#) by T. K. Thorne who will be our keynote speaker in Birmingham.

On Friday afternoon when we break for lunch, attendees will be encouraged to spend a few hours visiting nearby historical sites such as the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the 16th Street Baptist Church, and the Kelly-Ingram Park & Civil Rights Trail. Afterward, we will gather for a discussion and “debriefing,” if you will, so that our student delegates especially may process their experiences together.

Convention participants will consider the potential and necessity of leadership in the wide variety of areas related to our diverse society in such areas as immigration, disparate health care, the disparate impact of the criminal justice system, and environmental disparities. The primary point of consideration for the convention and the theme for the convention is: How does one lead in times as tumultuous as these?

It is our hope and plan that Alpha Chi’s aspiring student leaders who attend the convention will be inspired and more capable of answering that question.

If you or your chapter are interested in other materials relevant to allyship, we recommend reading or listening to the following books. The insights included in these texts provide information that will help especially prepare student delegates for this Birmingham experience.

[*Blindspot: Hidden Biases of Good People*](#) by Mahzarin R. Banaji & Anthony G. Greenwald

[*White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*](#) by Robin J. DiAngelo

[*White Allies in the Struggle for Racial Justice*](#) by Drick Boyd





Hotel Reservations & Housing Details

Room Rates & Reservations at The Sheraton Birmingham at BJCC

The AX room rate is \$179 (with tax about \$210) for 1-4 people per night for a king or double-queen room. To reserve rooms other than Shared Doubles, call The Sheraton at 888-627-7095 and mention you're with the Alpha Chi conference. Late cancellations/early departures will be handled according to hotel policy. Guestroom wi-fi and access to the fitness center are complimentary.

While Alpha Chi's room rate and block are available through March 1, don't wait to book rooms. Alpha Chi doesn't get unlimited access to a hotel's entire guestroom inventory, so it's always best practice to reserve a block of rooms as soon as you have an idea of what you'll need. You can call the hotel later to release a room or provide specific guest details.

Shared Doubles Program

The Shared Doubles Program will pair an undergrad from your chapter with another undergrad with the same gender identity to share a double room for \$105 per night (each person gets their own bed). Shared Double requests must be received and pre-paid to the national office by Feb. 15. Due to the nature of this program, these arrangements are nonrefundable after Feb. 29. As a rule, graduate students and alumni are not generally eligible to participate in the Shared Doubles Program.

Hotel Address

Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, 2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard North, Birmingham, AL 35203

Check-In/Out

Hotel check-in is at 4 p.m.; check-out is at 11 a.m.

Vehicle Parking

The special self-parking rate is \$7 plus tax per car, per night.

Ground Transportation to/from Airport

10-15-minute cab/Lyft ride in light traffic

Questions? Call 800.477.4225

Alpha Chi National Convention

April 4 - 6, 2024
Birmingham, Alabama

Program of Events



Thursday, April 4

- 4:00 p.m. Sheraton Hotel Check-in-----Sheraton Lobby**
*The convention meeting space this year will be located across the street from the Sheraton Lobby in the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex (BJCC). We suggest you check into the hotel and take your bags to your room before coming to AX check-in in the BJCC. **You'll find adhesive feet on the ground marking the inside route from the hotel lobby to the 3rd floor East meeting space.***
- 5-7:00 p.m. Chapter Delegation Check-in-----BJCC East Exhibition Hall 3rd Floor**
One advisor or student delegate per chapter will check in at AX Central on the 3rd floor of the BJCC to receive the chapter's packet of convention materials. Alumni attending without their home chapter should check in individually.
- National Council & Office Staff Greeters
 - Donation Station for the Sock-It-To-Me Drive
 - Alpha Chi Regalia & Merchandise from Brown's Graduation Supplies
 - Birmingham Visitor Information Table
- Presenter AV-Testing Room-----East G**
- 7:00 p.m. 2024 National Convention Opening Session-----East M**
Wear your college and/or chapter gear and join us for the official welcome to this year's national convention. Be ready for a chapter roll call!
- 7:45 p.m. Regional Mixers (Game – The Important Questions in Life)**
- | | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Region I ----- | East D |
| Region II----- | East E |
| Region III----- | East F |
| Region IV ----- | East G |
| Regions V & VI ----- | East K |
| Region VII----- | East J |
- 8:30 p.m. Alpha Chi Trivia Night 2024!-----East M**
Instead of waiting until Friday to let your hair down, get started tonight making new friends and memories at our trivia night hosted by our Regional Student Representatives. Complete with music, refreshments, and prizes, we'll be ready for teams of up to 5 with no more than 2 advisors per team. Come as a team or join an open table, and don't forget to brush up on your Alpha Chi trivia!

Friday, April 5

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast in Regional Meetings**
Officer elections will take place in every region. Please bring your voting materials.
- | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------|
| Region I | ----- | East D |
| Region II | ----- | East E |
| Region III | ----- | East F |
| Region IV | ----- | East G |
| Regions V & VI | ----- | East K |
| Region VII | ----- | East J |
- 8:40 a.m. Member Presentations Session I**
Seven concurrent rooms of student presentations grouped by academic discipline for up to four 15-minute presentations (each with at least 3 minutes of Q&A) with five minutes of travel time between each presentation.
- Please consult the mobile app for presenter details for each section.**
- | | | |
|---|-------|--------|
| Section 1: American History | ----- | East E |
| Section 2: British Literature | ----- | East F |
| Section 3: Education—Research & Scholarship | ----- | East D |
| Section 4: Chemistry | ----- | East G |
| Section 5: Psychology | ----- | East J |
| Section 6: Music | ----- | East L |
| Section 7: Political Science | ----- | East K |
- 10:10 a.m. Collaborative Student Research Competition Session ----- East M**
Three of our nine collaborative research teams in this year's competition will share their projects' findings and answer judge and audience questions. (Each team competing in this session should attend the full session.)
- Derailed: Embedded Contradictions in California's High-Speed Rail***
Fresno Pacific University, California Zeta
- Using Time on Bailey Mountain to Clear Minds for Focus During the Tumult***
Mars Hill University, North Carolina Epsilon
- Finance, Faith, and Future Education: A Survey of Student Knowledge About Debt***
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Texas Beta
- 11:30 a.m. Keynote Speaker T. K. Thorne----- East M**
Author of *Behind the Magic Curtain: Secrets, Spies, and Unsung White Allies of Birmingham's Civil Rights Days* (with Q&A and book-signing)
- 12:30 p.m. Break for Meaningful Experiences (and lunch on your own)**
Visit at least one of these important historical sites: Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, 16th Street Baptist Church (30-person groups reserved as below), Bethel Baptist Church, Temple Beth-El, and Kelly-Ingram Park & Civil Rights Trail.
- 4:30 p.m. Meaningful Experiences Debriefing----- East M**
Freshly back from our Meaningful Experiences, we will break into facilitated small groups to share what we knew before and what we know now about the history of Birmingham.

Friday continued

- 5:30 p.m. Collaborative Student Research Competition Session -----East M**
The next three collaborative research teams in this year's competition will share their project findings and answer judge and audience questions. (Each team competing in this session should attend the full session.)

Revolutionizing Healthcare: Exploring Artificial Intelligence in Triage and Diagnostics

Westminster College, Missouri Delta

Underrepresented Stroke Victims: Increasing Awareness and Therapeutic Development

Hawaii Pacific University, Hawaii Beta

Healing AI So It Can Heal Us: Prospects for the Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

Gardner-Webb University, North Carolina Zeta

- 6:45 p.m. Alpha Chi Honors Dinner ----- East N**
Join us for an Alabama BBQ buffet served with a side of red sauce, white sauce, or hot sauce! We'll take a few moments to express our appreciation to the many chapter advisors who so capably and voluntarily lead your home chapters and ensure that the students on your campuses have access to the benefits of Alpha Chi membership. The program will end with the presentation of region-nominated Distinguished Service Awards.

- 8:00 p.m. Collaborative Student Research Competition Session -----East M**
The final three collaborative research teams will share their project findings and answer judge and audience questions. The competition's two top-placing teams will be announced Saturday night. (Each team competing in this session should attend the full session.)

Artificial Intelligence and Selective Exposure: Generating a Public Perception

Missouri Western State University, Missouri Lambda

Disruptor or Accelerator? The Role of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Higher Education

Grand Canyon University, Arizona Alpha

Peek Behind the Pixels: Analyzing Portrayals of Refugees in Academic and News Articles Through AI Imaging

Abilene Christian University, Texas Psi

Saturday, April 6

- 7:30 a.m. Development Sessions: Part 1 (with breakfast)**
Starting at 7:15, you can grab yourself a coffee and breakfast sandwich and select one of the six sessions below. If your chapter has multiple delegates, split up and cover as many sessions as you can!

Participation in these sessions is required to qualify for housing and/or travel grants.

Academic Honor Societies vs. Student Benefits Companies ----- East E

There are many organizations vying for your students' attention. Are they focused more on making a profit or making a difference? Do you have questions about AX or other organizations you've been invited to join or have seen on your campus? Alpha Chi Executive Director Lara Noah will share the importance of key credentials when researching whether an organization deserves your time and money.

Breaking Perfect: Overcoming Challenges with Resilience -----East D

Social anxiety and stress are at an all-time high—especially among high-achieving college students. It's time to break away from our perfectionist tendencies, and instead, strive for excellence with a resilient mindset. In this breakout session, Dr. Breanna Naegeli of Arizona Alpha will discuss 7 habits of exceptionally resilient individuals and strategies on how to overcome both personal and team challenges with courage and grit.

Grad School Application Prep ----- East L

AX members Natalie Osborne and Ashley Larson from Arizona Alpha will be attending grad school in the fall after having recently gone through the process of applying. They look forward to sharing their resources and tips with other interested student members!

Idea-Sharing for Chapter Service Projects ----- East G

Come gather ideas from students for innovative service projects which leverage the talents of your chapter to meet a campus, community, or international need. The early session will be facilitated by Mica Allen, Indiana Beta's chapter president. The second session will be facilitated by Madison Thomas, North Carolina Epsilon's chapter president.

Improving Invitation Acceptance at Larger Colleges----- East F

Alpha Chi provides resources to help schools increase their invitation acceptance rates. However, a lot of those methods work better at smaller schools. In this session led by Dr. Steve Hoekstra of Kansas Delta, brainstorm ways to scale, adapt, or supplement the current list of Best Practices to improve acceptance rates for larger universities (those inviting more than 100 students per semester).

Overcoming Hurdles to Honors for First-Gen Students ----- East I

The California Zeta chapter will lead a session dedicated to what Honor Societies can do to attract and invite more first-generation students. It will also address some of the misconceptions and concerns first-gen students may have about honor societies that could prevent them from joining. Hear firsthand testimonies from students who will share their experience and what they wished they'd known earlier.

8:10 a.m. 5-minute break

8:15 a.m. Development Sessions: Part 2

Select another session from the list above. Since student presentations begin in these rooms at 9:00 a.m., please fix any chairs that were rearranged during your session before leaving.

9:00 a.m. Member Presentations Session II

Eight concurrent rooms of student presentations grouped by academic discipline for up to four 15-minute presentations (each with at least 3 minutes of Q&A) with five minutes of travel time between each presentation.

Please consult the mobile app for presenter details for each section.

Section 8: American Literature and Original Poetry ----- East E

Section 9: Political Science and World History ----- East F

Section 10: Anthropology & Sociology-----East D

Section 11: Health Sciences ----- East G

Section 12: World Literature-----East J

Section 13: Education – Pedagogy ----- East L

Section 14: Psychology -----East K

Section 15: Molecular & Cellular Biology ----- East I

10:30 a.m. Member Presentations Session III (10:30 to 11:50 a.m.)

Eight concurrent rooms of student presentations grouped by academic discipline for up to four 15-minute presentations (each with at least 3 minutes of Q&A) with five minutes of travel time between each presentation.

Please consult the mobile app for presenter details for each section.

Section 16: Chemistry----- East E

Section 17: Organismal & Ecological Biology and Comp. Science/Engineering----- East F

Section 18: Business Management and Communication-----East D

Section 19: Original Fiction----- East G

Section 20: Education Research and Mathematics-----East J

Section 21: American and World History ----- East L

Saturday continued

- 12:00 p.m. Lunch on your own to discover more of Birmingham!**
- [The Pizitz Food Hall](#) at 1801 1st Ave. N, is a food court with several fun and budget-friendly options. Their parking garage is free for up to 2 hours.
 - The Civil Rights Institute and 16th Street Baptist Church have afternoon hours.
 - There's also Vulcan Park and Museum at 1701 Valley View Dr.
- 3:30 p.m. Regional President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer Meeting-----East J**
Hosted by the National Council's Executive Committee
- 3:45 p.m. Regional Student Representatives Orientation -----East K**
Hosted by Alpha Chi's Director of Operations and Council Members
- 5:00 p.m. Alpha Chi National Business Meeting (Council and chapter voters required) -----East M**
- President's Report
 - Secretary's Report
 - Presentation of New Regional Leadership Teams
 - Constitutional Voting Session (bring chapter voting materials)
 - Installation of New National Council Members (time permitting)
- 6:00 p.m. 2024 Convention Dinner & Awards Gala-----East N**
Come decked out in Alpha Chi blues and greens and ready to cheer each other on as we put a bow on the 2024 National Convention!
- Distinguished Alumnus Presentation & Video
 - Presentation of our 2024 National Service Leaders
 - Partner Acknowledgement: Tim Brown of Brown's Graduation Supplies
 - Scholarship Winners & Alternates Announcements
 - Member Presentation Prize Announcements
 - Presentation of the President's Cup for Outstanding Chapter of Alpha Chi
 - Collaborative Research Team Prize Announcements
 - 2024 Convention Photo Competition
 - Farewells

Following End of Convention

8-10:00 p.m. National Council Plenary-----TBA

Convention Speakers



T. K. Thorne has been passionate about storytelling and writing since she was a young girl, and that passion only deepened when she became a police officer. After completing a master's in social work from The University of Alabama, Thorne served for more than two decades in the Birmingham police force, retiring as a precinct captain and then as the executive director of a downtown business improvement district focused on safety. Her books and essays include two award-winning historical novels (*Noah's Wife* and *Angels at the Gate*); two nonfiction civil rights era works (*Last Chance for Justice* and *Behind the Magic Curtain: Secrets, Spies, and Unsung White Allies of Birmingham's Civil Rights Days*); and a dally with murder, mystery, and magic in *House of Rose*, *House of Stone*, and *House of Iron*, the Magic City Stories trilogy. She enjoys traveling, gardening, martial arts, and painting and writes from her mountaintop home northeast of Birmingham, often with a dog and cat vying for her lap and horses hanging out in the yard. T. K. Thorne will deliver the keynote address at the 2024 Alpha Chi National Convention in Birmingham, Alabama, on Friday night.

Alpha Chi has named **Dr. Zac Imel**, University of Utah Professor and Chief Science Officer of Lyssn.io, as its 2024 Distinguished Alumnus. Dr. Imel became a member of Alpha Chi during his undergraduate tenure at Westminster College (Fulton, MO). He went on to receive a master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2003, and a Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2009. Dr. Imel's research over the past decade has focused on the efficacy of mental health treatment, and his work of late entails examining the use of artificially intelligent software in improving mental health treatments. This work led him to found his own company, Lyssn.io, where the technology underlying the popular ChatGPT is used to help scale effective, evidence-based mental healthcare.



Dr. Imel will be honored as Alpha Chi's 2024 Distinguished Alumnus during a session at Alpha Chi's national convention in Birmingham, Alabama. Delegates will hear from Dr. Imel by video after the award's presentation to the Westminster College chapter.

Alpha Chi National Council Members

Linda Cowan, West Liberty University (*president*)
Bonita Cade, Roger Williams University (*vice president*)
Teddi Deka, Missouri Western State University (*secretary*)
Lara Noah, Alpha Chi Executive Director (*ex-officio*)
Aislinn Beak, East Central University
Marquesa Calderon, Hawai'i Pacific University
Teagan Decker, University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Dennis Hall, Angelo State University
Jessica Henry, Hastings College
Steve Hoekstra, Kansas Wesleyan University
Myra Houser, Ouachita Baptist University
Jacquelyn Kegley, California State University, Bakersfield
Ken LaSota, Robert Morris University
Lindsey Morais, West Liberty University
Jodi Pilgrim, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
Lauren Pribyl, Franklin Pierce University
Craig Rogers, Campbellsville University
Anthony Sarmiento, Angelo State University
Kate Stewart, University of Arkansas at Monticello
Kianté Stuart, Hastings College
Bre Tonkery, Freed-Hardeman University
Kip Wheeler, Carson-Newman University

Professional Development for Advisors

While a lot of convention programming is geared toward student members, Alpha Chi's annual conventions hold many opportunities for chapter advisors to give back while growing their professional resume and experience. Here's how to remind your administration of the institutional benefits of an experienced faculty and staff.

Build Your CV

- Serve on a judging team for a category of student presentations and together select the prize winner.
- Moderate a student presentation session with Q&A.
- Facilitate a topical roundtable discussion.
- Share your expertise by leading a chapter development workshop.
- Run for a regional or national leadership position.
- Lead an instructional session catered toward enriching members' soft skills.



Gain Professional Development

- Assist your students with travel and conference skills.
- Gain knowledge in topical roundtable discussions.
- Network with advisors and students from other colleges.
- Explore how to leverage AX and your role as advisor with your institution's administration.
- Learn how to maximize your chapter's influence by attending chapter development workshops.

Recharge & Build Relationships

"I've always come home [from a convention] recharged. I can get frustrated with the day-to-day business of teaching and academia. And sometimes I lose track of why I love what I do. A great way of getting that back front and center is to go to an Alpha Chi convention—because you're hanging out with the smartest students you're ever going to run into, you have faculty members that are interested and enthusiastic about learning and academic excellence, in a wonderful place and a wonderful hotel. What's not to like? I remember that's why I do this."

—Prof. Suzi Pundt, Chapter Advisor



Do you have an idea for contributing at this year's convention that isn't listed? Contact Katie Holmes by emailing kholmes@alphachihonor.org to share your idea and see how it might be incorporated into the 2023 national convention!

Travel & Housing Grants for Convention Participation

Alpha Chi wants each chapter to experience the 2024 National Convention in Birmingham. Here are ways that AX financially supports participation. The goal of Alpha Chi leadership is to encourage every chapter to bring at least one student member and one chapter advisor to experience an Alpha Chi convention. Many chapters bring more!



Our grants program can help you bring several students who can present their work to their peers. While chapters are welcome to bring students to more than one convention, we believe the experience should be shared with as many members as possible.

Please carefully review the information below as national and regional funds have now been merged and combined into one process. If you have any questions, ask to speak with Katie at 800-477-4225.

Travel Grants

For **one** voting advisor delegate, **one** voting student presenter, and up to **two** additional student presenters, chapters may receive travel grants as follows:

- For chapters **driving** to the convention, the Travel Grant per delegate listed above will be \$75 (**\$300 max.**)
- For chapters **flying** to the convention, the Travel Grant per delegate listed above will be \$150 (**\$600 max.**)
- For chapters flying from Hawaii, an extra \$200 per voting advisor and voting student may be requested.

To receive more than three travel grants in total, at least one student presenter in your delegation must be attending the Alpha Chi convention for the first time. All travel-granted students must be presenters.

Housing Grants*

Each chapter may receive \$100 per night for:

- One advisor room for up to three nights (**\$300 grant max.**)
 - This room can be shared with other delegates with no added charge
- Up to two student delegate rooms containing 2-4 delegates each for up to 3 nights (**\$600 grant max.**)
 - Any Shared Doubles reservations count as *half* a room and thus are eligible for a grant of \$50 per night.

** Region I chapters are still eligible for regional support and are thus only eligible for the Travel Grants listed above. Dr. Dennis Hall (dennis.hall@angelo.edu), Region I Secretary-Treasurer, will email Region I advisors with details.*

To be eligible for the grants listed above, each granted delegate must:

- be an official chapter advisor or a current student member still enrolled at their institution and be registered for the convention by the deadline
- show up to give their presentation (if student presenter)
- participate in chapter-strengthening sessions
- attend the entire convention
- lodge at the official convention hotel (The use of online reservation services such as Expedia will exclude you from Alpha Chi's contracted room block, so hotel reservations should be made directly with the hotel or, in case of the Shared Doubles, directly with Alpha Chi.)

To receive these convention grants, a chapter must complete and return the official grant request form (whether a paper or online form) by April 20, 2024. After the convention, request forms will be reviewed for accuracy and checks mailed within 30 days of the convention.

Member Presentations

Student presentations are a centerpiece of every Alpha Chi convention; in fact, this focus on students distinguishes us from other honor societies. We're also excited when our alumni members come to conventions and want to present as well. Here are a few benefits of presenting:

- Gain valuable presentation experience with a small, receptive audience of 20-30 people.
- Field questions from interested peers and faculty.
- Earn an excellent resume enhancement.



Deadline for Registering a Presentation: *January 31*

Alpha Chi's Professional Presenter Standards

- Wear business attire and behave professionally.
- Regardless of order, arrive before the start of the section to identify yourself to the Moderator.
- As a courtesy to your fellow presenters, we ask you remain present for your entire section.
- Be sure your presentation fits comfortably within the time limit. (*likely 12 minutes, followed by a mandatory 4-minute question/answer period*)
- These are presentations, not manuscript readings.
- Practice (preferably for an audience), so your presentation is smooth and audio-visuals well integrated. Most presentation rooms are small, and microphones aren't provided. Be prepared to speak clearly with good projection.
- Be prepared in case of technical problems; have a backup plan that will allow you to proceed if technology fails.

Presenter Preparation

- Convention presentation is not a required element of the Sledge/Benedict, Gaston/Nolle, or Pryor/Freeman/Organ national scholarship competitions. However, *regional* scholarships and prizes may have similar sounding names but different rules. Consult your region for its requirements.
- The total number of presenters per chapter isn't limited, but each student is limited to one presentation. If you're presenting on a Student Collaborative Research Project team, you may make one other regular presentation, but it must be in a different field or cover different material than your part in the collaborative project.
- You won't submit your entire presentation when you register. You'll be asked for your presentation title and a description designed to help our program director verify your proper field and optimize your program placement; that description will not be included in the program. Your title, academic field, and college are usually all that are listed in the program to help people select what they wish to attend, so consider your title thoughtfully. Use proper title case and punctuation and select the most applicable discipline and presentation type.
- You'll also be asked for a 1-sentence "sales pitch" to advertise your presentation in an engaging way. If it is clear and concise, we hope to include those in the event app this year.
- The program director will contact you by phone or email if there are questions. **Please respond quickly to any communication from the national office regarding your program placement.**

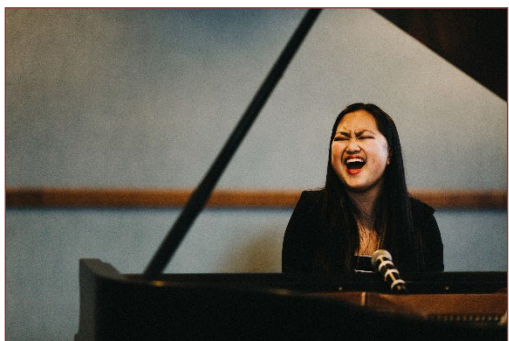
Audio-Visual Equipment Provided by Alpha Chi

Each presentation room will be supplied with an LCD projector & screen package, a laptop, and an easel board for affixing a poster. A piano (or professional electronic piano/keyboard), music stand, and audio equipment will also be available in the room assigned for performing arts presentations.

Alpha Chi will contact registered presenters by email or phone 2-3 weeks before the convention with any last-minute details. Once the program is ready, an email notification will be sent to all delegates and the program posted on the conventions page at AlphaChiHonor.org.

Varieties of Presentations: Performance, Poster, PowerPoint

Performances: A good performance presentation should include a discussion of the academics and/or process behind the piece performed. Discussions of creative presentations should help non-specialists understand the craft present in the work. These presenters may use PowerPoint, if so desired. Upon check-in at AX Central on Thursday, musicians, dancers, or other presenters who may need to practice/warm-up may arrange a practice time and place.



Poster presenters may invite the audience to assemble around their poster if that is their preference. Remember that a poster is a visual communications tool. Since you will be presenting it live, do not include a great amount of small text, as you will be able to present the material orally as well. Posters should be 4' x 3' (landscape). *Poster Tips:* www.ncsu.edu/project/posters

Posters: Students wishing to present a poster will do so as part of an oral presentation in a regular, timed slot on Friday or Saturday. During the intermission interval before a presentation, your poster may be affixed using binder clips and removed from



PowerPoint Presentations should be compatible with the most recent version of Microsoft PowerPoint and brought on USB drive. ***You must bring your presentation to the convention yourself on a USB drive. The national office will not be collecting and loading presentations this year.*** Most of your audience will be at least 10 feet away from the screen, so plan your fonts accordingly. Due to the tightly timed presentation schedule, we suggest you bring an extra copy of your media and a printed copy of your slides for your own use in case technical issues arise during your session.

Visual Art PowerPoints: Visual art presenters are asked to prepare a PowerPoint for presentation during a regular, timed presentation section this year. Do not bring your original artwork. Include a description of each piece with its title, medium, dimensions (H" x W" x D"), and year created.

Presentation Prizes

Each presenter is eligible for one of the endowed \$100 convention presentation prizes announced on the final day of the convention! See the list of prizes on the Convention Presentation Prize page along with the competition details.



Convention Presentation Prizes

Student and alumni members are encouraged to make a presentation of the work they are doing in their academic major. Each presenter is eligible for a \$100 convention presentation prize announced on the final day of the convention! Alpha Chi has been graciously supported in recent years by many friends and colleagues.

[Learn about the wonderful people for whom these prizes are named!](#)

Much of the programming of Alpha Chi conventions is student members and alumni presenting scholarly and creative work in their own academic fields to multidisciplinary audiences of their peers and faculty advisors. In the span of two days, anywhere from 200 to 300 members can present their work—many presenting on a national level for the first time. It's an invaluable experience and one that we're proud to claim sets Alpha Chi apart from many other honor societies. Having these prizes adds a buzz of excitement to the convention's closing gala!

To encourage members to create the best presentation of their work, Alpha Chi offers prizes of \$100 each for what the judges consider the best in 32 categories. To ensure the quality of the competition, a prize will be awarded in each category where there are 3 or more presentations. For those choosing a field that doesn't garner at least 3 presenters, there will still be a judging rubric completed and numeric scores averaged. Then one prize, regardless of academic field, will be given for the presenter with the highest score.

American History
American Literature
Anthropology & Sociology
Art/Music/Dance Research
British Literature
Business Management
Chemistry
Communication
Computer Science & Engineering
Contemporary Bioethical Issues
Creative Writing (fiction/non-fiction)
Creative Writing (poetry)
Economics
Education
Environmental Science

Exercise Science & Nutrition
Geology & Earth Sciences
Health Sciences
Mathematics
Molecular & Cellular Biology
Organismal & Ecological Biology
Performing Arts
Philosophy & Religion
Physics & Astronomy
Political Science
Psychology
Shakespeare
Visual Art (original)
World History
World Literature

To be eligible for these 30 discipline-specific prizes, presenters must be undergraduates in the current academic year. However, we welcome and encourage presentations by graduate students and alumni members; one overall prize for graduate student presenters and one for alumni presenters will be given for qualifying presentations, regardless of academic field.

If you need assistance knowing which category to select, feel free to contact your chapter advisor or the national office for guidance.

NOTE: Students presenting as part of a Student Collaborative Research Project team may also make a regular presentation of their own, but it must be in a different field or cover different material than their part in the collaborative project.



Guaranteed Shared Doubles Housing Program

Convention housing is more cost-effective when you can fill hotel rooms. If your delegation can't fill a room with 2-4 delegates on its own, let the national office help with its room-sharing program.

The national office will facilitate shared doubles again this year at the rate of \$105 per person per night.

Suppose your chapter is bringing 5 male undergraduates to the convention. Whether you fill 1 room with 4 males or 2 rooms with 2 males each, you'd still have 1 male without housing. If so, you can register him in a Shared Double during online registration by pre-paying his 1/2 of the room rate when you pay your convention registration fees. The national office will assign him to a room with another male undergrad from another college.

A Shared Double differs from a room reservation you make yourself because the national office works directly with the hotel on these. Having them pre-paid allows Alpha Chi to guarantee your chapter pays for only one-half of the room—even if we don't find another student to share/pay for the other half of the room or if the assigned roommate fails to attend the convention. At the hotel, these students will check in with their photo ID and confirmation number and should not have to provide a credit card for incidentals (because no incidental charges are to be made), as Alpha Chi is guaranteeing these rooms, in trust, for the convenience of your chapter.

An advisor should NOT register a student in Shared Double housing unless the student has read and agreed to the following:

- 1) The national office will assign two undergrad members of the same gender to one non-smoking room with two full-sized beds and reserves the right to make changes. (Male, female, or nonbinary must be selected during registration for Shared Doubles.)
- 2) Incidentals such as room service, toll calls, laundry service, movies, or games, etc., may NOT be charged to these rooms. If a charge appears, the student's chapter will be held responsible for reimbursing the national office (which may be handled by reducing the convention grants awarded to the chapter).
- 3) When checking in at the hotel, remind the desk agent that your reservation is for a shared "double-double" room, and ask if your roommate has checked in. Get your own room key.
- 4) Room swapping is not allowed unless an Alpha Chi meeting planner (via AX Central) is consulted in advance.
- 5) Be courteous and accommodating. Do not invite anyone to your room unless you have permission from your roommate in advance.

The Sheraton's check-in time is at 4 p.m., and check-out is at 11 a.m. Once a student is sure that no incidentals have been mistakenly charged to the room, they're ready to go. If for some reason there is a billing dispute or issue at check-in or check-out, ask the hotel staff to phone an AX meeting planner.

Generally speaking, graduate students and alumni may not be placed in the Shared Doubles program. Call the office if you have any questions.

Requests for refunds or changes to Shared Doubles will be accommodated through Feb. 29.



Dr. Trisha Yarbrough Student Collaborative Research Project Competition

Call for Projects 2023-24

“Innovative Scholarship for Tumultuous Times”

Student Team Prizes: \$5,000 First Place and \$2,500 Second Place*

The theme for Alpha Chi’s 2024 National Convention is *Leaders for Tumultuous Times*, and in harmony with this, our collaborative research competition theme this year is *Innovative Scholarship for Tumultuous Times*. In an era marked with rapid changes, societal shifts, and technological advancements, the world is calling for innovative, multidisciplinary solutions. From understanding the dynamics of political polarization to exploring the ethical dimensions of artificial intelligence, and addressing the global impact of climate events, the need for creativity and collaboration has never been greater. That said, who better to rise to the challenge than Alpha Chi members—the leaders and scholars of tomorrow!

Thus, Alpha Chi invites collaborative research projects from student researchers on this year’s theme. Each campus team will develop a focused project that is relevant to the majors and research interests of the team members that contributes something original to a scholarly conversation. The element of “originality” could take several forms: the results of scientific experiments or surveys, viewing existing scholarship through a new lens, or adding a creative element to the research.

Collaborative Research Benefits:

- **Your student researchers**—improving their critical thinking and social interaction skills;
- **Your campus**—maximizing research talent and promoting interdisciplinary collaboration; and
- **Our society**—resulting from robust creativity and research.

The most competitive projects are those with divergent disciplines integrating around a common goal rather than piecing separate projects together—collaborative rather than segmented—with the work effort shared in a balanced way across the team’s membership. The paper needs to be scholarly and delivered in a common voice. During the presentation, extemporaneous speaking is preferred, as the judges and audience will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Some examples to get you started:

- Biology majors, education majors, and computer science or math majors might research the best educational methods for teaching children, then create CAD designs for innovative 3-D printable toys and puzzles that illustrate how DNA helices interlink, principles of the cell’s structure, or principles of geometry. Finally, they could make their 3-D printer designs available to download free-of-charge in areas where schools are stricken by economic upheaval.
- Creative writing students, history or geography students, and music majors might launch a “Peace Project” that seeks out and collects creative nonfiction such as memoirs, folk songs, or landscape images of Ukraine (or another war-torn region) that they can archive and put online to preserve the memory and ideal of peace before the conflict.
- Environmental science majors, art majors, and anthropology students might map the locations of Amerindian petroglyphs in North American regions expected to undergo desertification, then explore methods to preserve this art from changing climate and weather conditions.
- Students in astronomy, religion, and literature could study “Upheaval in the Heavens,” taking images from the James Webb space telescope and seeing if these new images can shed light on ancient legends about constellations in various world myths involving the creation or destruction of stars. They would seek out innovative connections between modern science and ancient writings revolving around the theme of upheaval or change in the sky.
- A health science study of the positive effects on the body of community support and mental health in times of polarization, identity conflicts, and contentious discourse. Disciplines involved might include psychology, sociology, anthropology, nursing, pre-medical studies, biology, and chemistry.
- Spanish, psychology, and political science majors contrast the rights of South and Central American refugees to seek safe haven with the traditional powers of governments to control their borders, developing innovative solutions for refugee protections.
- Computer science, philosophy, and sociology majors might research the ethics and technological advances of artificial intelligence to envision responsible and beneficial applications.

*2nd place prize given only if number and quality of projects justify such.

Collaborative Team Composition

- Each chapter may submit only one project to this competition.
- Each team must consist of 3-5 Alpha Chi student members representing at least 3 distinct academic departments.
- The team composition must be at least 2/3 undergraduate members during the Fall 2023 semester.
- Student members must serve as the principal researchers and writers, but the team is encouraged to identify a faculty mentor who is dedicated to the team's success.

Declaring Intention to Compete

- One student team representative must email the project title and an abstract to office@alphachihonor.org by **October 31, 2023**.
 - ✓ This email must also identify the Alpha Chi members on the team, their classifications, email addresses, the academic fields they represent, and the faculty mentor (can be an Alpha Chi chapter advisor or another faculty member).

Competition Elements

(1) Written Research Report

- 12-20 pages total (page count includes title page, citations, appendices, etc.)
- Double-spaced; 1" margins
- Title page should include each member's classification, discipline, part in the research project, and an overview describing how the team planned, divided, and conducted its collaborative project.
- Submit by email no later than **March 15** to office@alphachihonor.org.

(2) Live Convention Presentation with Q&A

- 10-minute presentation followed by a 4-minute question and answer period
- Each team must have at least one student member presenting the project in person to a multidisciplinary panel of judges during the Spring 2024 national convention. If the team has only one student able to present in person, the national office will work with the team to see if including one other team member via Zoom might be possible.

(3) Printed Poster

- Dimensions: max. 3' high x 4' wide. This will accompany the oral presentation.
- Bring poster to Alpha Chi Central at check-in on **April 4** for display and judging prior to presentation.
- To enhance audience visibility, up to 10 visual slides of content from your poster may be shown during the presentation.

Review of Deadlines

1st Deadline: **10-31-2023** (declaration of team composition and working title/abstract)

2nd Deadline: **03-15-2024** (written report)

3rd Deadline: **04-04-2024** (poster and presentation)

Award Distribution

Each award will be split evenly between the student team members after each member has submitted to the national office the documentation needed to claim the prize. If the team elects to share part of the award with their chapter and the office is informed of that before checks are mailed, the national office can accommodate that additional check.

If you have questions not addressed here, please contact Executive Director Lara Noah at Inoah@alphachihonor.org.

Convention Etiquette Guidelines for Delegates 2024

To enhance everyone's convention experience, Alpha Chi encourages all attendees to observe the following rules of meeting etiquette, especially during student presentations. Remember, most of the students you'll meet this week are on the program.

All Attendees:

- Professional, business attire or business casual dress is appreciated during all indoor sessions apart from social events.
- Be a patient and pleasant audience member. When given the chance to offer feedback or ask a question, all delegates, whether advisor or student, should do so in a calm, respectful, positive, and constructive manner.
- Refrain from interrupting a student presentation already in progress. Enter and leave a presentation room only during the brief break between presentations. You may quietly leave at that time to get to a presentation in another room.
- Doors should remain closed during each presentation. While waiting outside meeting rooms or in the corridors, please remain quiet and courteous.

Timed Presentation Presenters:

- Regardless of your order in the section, arrive before the start of the section and identify yourself to the Section Moderator.
- As a courtesy to the other presenters in your section, we ask that you remain present for your entire section.
- Begin your presentation by clearly stating your name, your college, and your AX region.
- You must stay within the posted time for your presentation, or the moderator will stop you. Your 12-minute presentation will end with a final 3 to 4 minutes of mandatory Q&A.
- Be prepared in case of technical problems with equipment; have a backup plan that will allow you to proceed if the technology fails.

Session Moderators:

- Make sure you know how many sessions you're moderating and/or judging.
- Arrive at the room early enough to meet your presenters to confirm their presence.
- Confirm the presence of both judges before the section begins.
- Use a timepiece such as a cell phone to keep the program on its timed schedule of 20-minute intervals. Each presenter is allowed 12 minutes for their presentation followed by a mandatory 3-4 minutes of audience questions. We'll need 4 minutes of travel time between presenters.
- If there's a gap in the program because of a no-show, please wait until the next scheduled presentation to keep to the schedule in the program.
- Present each student with their certificate of appreciation immediately after their presentation; do not hold them until the end of the entire session.
- Important: If there are no-shows leaving unclaimed presenter certificates, missing certificates, or certificates that need to be reprinted due to error, bring them in the envelope to AX Central after the session, noting the nature of the error. Reprints will be mailed directly to the presenter after the convention.