Letters for a Lifetime

Panhellenic Formal Recruitment 2016

Potential New Member Handbook
February 12-15, 2016
My Information

Name:

My PNM #:

My Pi Chi’s Names:

My Recruitment Group #:

My Group Leader’s Phone #:

My Pi Chi Group Email
Dear Potential New Member,

On behalf of the entire Panhellenic community at Boston University, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Sorority Formal Recruitment 2016. As the Recruitment process may often seem confusing, and even a little daunting, we have put together this handbook geared toward Potential New Members (PNMs) like you. In this book you will find the answers to any questions or concerns you may have, descriptions of all of our amazing chapters, and space to reflect as you go through Recruitment.

Joining a sorority is one of the best decisions I have ever made. I have met women who inspire and challenge me to be the best version of myself at all times. In all ten of our chapters, you will find women who achieve academic, philanthropic, and personal excellence every day. You will find women who are driven, ambitious, and poised. Most importantly, you will find women who believe in and care for the sisterhoods of which they are a part.

As you go through the Recruitment process, I encourage you to take this time to be selfish. Focus on what it is you are looking for in joining a chapter. Expanding your network? A support system? Leadership opportunities? Allow yourself to make decisions based on what you feel when you walk into each party. Ask yourself which women you can see yourself sitting in your classes with, eating with, living with, and staying up until 4 in the morning talking with. Reflect on what values matter the most to you.

Remember to enjoy the Recruitment process as it is happening. Relax, have fun, and be yourself. Trust the process and be open to the countless possibilities it has to offer. The Panhellenic community is overjoyed that you have chosen to join us, and we hope that in one of our ten fantastic chapters you will find your letters for a lifetime!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Ryan
Recruitment Director
Recruitment Team

Elizabeth Ryan
Recruitment Director

Leah Rachel Turner
Head Pi Chi

Zoe Malchiodi
Recruitment Marshall

BU Professional Staff

Abby Myette
Associate Director
Panhellenic Advisor
Panhellenic Executive Board

Rachel Skalka
Panhellenic President

Jessica Roey
Executive Vice President

Emily Murphy
VP Finance

Suna Garcia Guzman
VP Philanthropic Programming

Lauren Reale
VP Leadership Development

Cassidy Kelly
VP Communications
**PNM Bill of Rights**

- Be treated as an individual.
- Be treated with respect.
- Be fully informed about the recruitment process.
- Have a positive, safe, and enriching recruitment and new member experience.
- Have inviolable confidentiality when sharing information with Pi Chis.
- Be fully informed about the binding agreement implicit in the preference card signing.
- Make my decision and accept full responsibility for the results of that decision.
- Ask questions and receive true and objective answers from Pi Chis.
- Be treated as a capable and mature person without being patronized.
- Make informed choices without undue pressure from active members or anyone else involved in the recruitment process.
- Not be subjected to competitive recruitment related conversations or situations (i.e. “dirty rushing”) with active chapter members at any time.
- Receive an accurate picture of sorority membership and the obligations associated with it.
- Report any violation of the Recruitment Code of Ethics to a Pi Chi or member of the Recruitment Team.
**Greek Glossary**

**Active:** An initiated collegiate member who is currently paying dues to an undergraduate chapter.

**Alumna:** A sorority member who is a graduate member of a collegiate chapter.

**Bid:** A formal invitation to join a sorority.

**Continuous Open Bidding (COB):** The period in which a sorority below the Campus Total is able to recruit members.

**MRABA (Membership Recruitment Acceptance Binding Agreement):** A document that each Potential New Member completes immediately following the preference round of parties stating her membership preferences. The Potential New Member ranks the sororities she would accept a bid from in preferential order. This is a binding agreement, stating that the PNM is willing to accept a bid from any sorority she lists.

**Formal Recruitment:** A designated membership recruitment period in which a series of organized events are held for the purpose of selecting new members.

**ICS:** The computer system that processes your recruitment registration and that you make your party daily selections in.

**Initiation:** A ceremony in which new members receive lifelong membership privileges.

**Legacy:** A PNM whose family member is alumna of, or active member in, a particular sorority. Every sorority has different specific definitions of what a “legacy relationship” is.

**National Panhellenic Conference (NPC):** Founded in 1902, NPC provides support and guidance for its 26 member inter/national sororities/women’s fraternities and serves as the national voice on contemporary issues of sorority life. BU has 10 NPC affiliated sororities.

**New Member:** A person who has accepted an invitation to join a chapter and has not yet been initiated.

**Parties:** The rounds of visiting the chapters during Formal Recruitment.

**Philanthropy:** A national and/or local charity that a sorority sponsors, donating time and money through service in order to promote human welfare.

**Pi Chi (Panhellenic Counselor):** A Panhellenic sorority member who has disassociated from her chapter during Formal Recruitment. She is specially trained to help potential new members and answer any questions they may have about sorority membership.

**Potential New Member (PNM):** Any woman who is eligible to participate in informal or formal recruitment.

**Preference:** The final parties held by sororities during recruitment. They are fancier than previous parties and usually include a ritual that potential new members participate in.

**Recommendation/reference:** A written letter or statement from an alumna on the sorority’s official recommendation form introducing and recommending a Potential New Member for membership. Also called a “rec”.

**Sorority:** A Greek-lettered sisterhood.
Tips for PNMs

1. Take notes after leaving each event—what you talked about, notable characteristics of the chapter, anything else to help you remember your visit at a later time.
2. Be positive and polite.
3. Look at the sorority as whole. Don’t judge the entire chapter by just one woman.
4. Ask questions—it helps the conversation and is a sign of interest.
5. Be mature in your decision-making.
6. Be realistic about the members with whom you feel the most comfortable.
7. Active members are just as nervous, anxious and excited as you are.
8. Do not interpret any remark made at an event as assurance of a bid—one individual member has no way of determining these things.
9. Make sure to get ample rest and relaxation. It is a long process. Also, stay hydrated and make sure that you eat before you arrive each day.
10. Remember to make your own decision! If you have any questions or feelings you need to discuss, your Pi Chi is here as a resource to help you throughout the process.
11. SMILE!
12. Most importantly...be yourself!

Packing List

| Extra hair ties | Snacks       |
| Books           | Water bottle |
| Bobby pins      | Deodorant    |
| Hair brush      | Pen and paper for notes |
| Band-aids       | Mints        |
| Umbrella        | Magazines    |
| Homework        |              |
Q: Do I need to go to all of the parties listed on my recruitment schedule?
A: Yes! The objective of formal recruitment is for you as a Potential New Member to learn as much as you can about the BU Greek community as well as each of the chapters, so that you can make the best possible decision regarding membership.

Q: Will all participants receive a bid at the end of recruitment?
A: Recruitment is a process of mutual selection, and as such, there are many different outcomes to this process. Participation in formal recruitment does NOT guarantee you an invitation to join a sorority and it is possible to go through recruitment and not receive a bid.

Q: If I participate in formal recruitment, am I obligated to join a sorority?
A: Potential New Members who choose to participate in recruitment are not obligated to join a sorority. The recruitment process is structured so as to allow women interested in sorority membership the opportunity to explore Sorority Life and to see if it is the right fit for them.

Q: If I am a legacy to a sorority, is there anything I should know?
A: Sororities want to know who their legacies are, so please remind your family member to send the chapter a legacy introduction form. With regards to legacies, Panhellenic does not have any specific policies. Each sorority has its own policy regarding legacies and it is up to the discretion of each individual chapter as to whether they are interested in offering membership to a legacy. Likewise, legacies are not obligated to pledge the sorority they are a legacy to.

Q: What if I only want to be in a certain sorority?
A: Only wanting to be a member of one specific sorority or only considering a few sororities can severely limit a PNM’s options for membership and can lead to disappointment. Please don’t choose a sorority based on stereotypes or others’ opinions. We encourage you to keep an open mind and make a decision that is right for you.
The Panhellenic Creed

We, as undergraduate member of women's fraternities, stand for good scholarship, for guarding of good health, for maintenance of fine standards, and for serving, to the best of our ability, our college community.

Cooperation for furthering fraternity life, in harmony with its best possibilities, is the ideal that shall guide our fraternity activities.

We, as Fraternity Women, stand for service through the development of character inspired by close contact and deep friendship of individual and fraternity and Panhellenic life. The opportunity for wide and wise human service, through mutual respect and helpfulness, is the tenet by which we strive to live.

Greek Alphabet

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A Word on Academics

While there is no minimum GPA or GPI to participate in sorority recruitment, it is HIGHLY recommended that you be at or above a 2.5 cumulative high school or college GPA.

Green Zone = Your options are not likely to be limited based on your GPA (2.7+)
Yellow Zone = Your options are more likely to be limited based on your GPA (2.5-2.69)
Red Zone = Your options are very likely to be limited based on your GPA (2.49 and below)

Academics are a top priority for every sorority and as such, in order to remain an active member, you must maintain your grades throughout membership.

Each sorority implements programs to assist their members in academic pursuits, including study hall hours, incentives, and scholarships.

Sorority women at Boston University consistently perform at a higher GPA and GPI standard than those of the All University average and All University Women’s average.

In Spring 2015:

All University GPI: 3.2
All University Women’s GPI: 3.24
Panhellenic GPI: 3.26
Formal Recruitment Schedule

2016

Night One: “Go Greek” round, 15-Minute Parties

The day kicks off with a PNM Orientation at 3:30 pm and parties begin at 4:00 pm. You will visit all 10 Chapters and at the end of the day you will select the 8 Chapters that you wish to visit the next day. The Chapters will also make selections of whom they would like to invite back to their parties.

Night Two: “Philanthropy” Round, 30-Minute Parties

Parties begin at 10:30 am. You may be invited back to visit a maximum of 8 Chapters on this day. Once you are done visiting all of your chapters you will make a selection of a maximum of 5 chapters that you wish to visit again. The chapters will also select women who they would like to invite back for the next day.

Night Three: “Sisterhood” Round, 45-Minute Parties

Parties begin at 10:30 am. You may be invited back to visit a maximum of 5 Chapters. At the end of the night you will make a selection of a maximum of 2 chapters that you wish to visit again. The chapters will also select women who they would like to invite back for the next day.

Night Four: “Preference” Round, 1-Hour Parties

Parties begin at 1:00 pm. You may be invited back to a maximum of 2 Chapters, if you attend 1 Preference party that is okay! At the end of the evening you sign a Preference card, ranking the chapters you visited.

BID DAY: A day of Celebration!

You will potentially receive a bid from one of the two chapters you visited on Night Four. A Panhellenic Celebration will take place in Metcalf Ballroom at 7 pm and will be followed by individual chapter celebrations.

Arrival Times to the Marriott Copley:

Friday, February 12th at 3:00 pm
Saturday, February 13th at 10:00 am
Sunday, February 14th at 10:00 am
Monday, February 15th at 12:30 pm

On Saturday or Sunday there is a possibility that you could be contacted by a member of the Recruitment Team who will instruct you to arrive at a later time than designated on the schedule above. This just means that your individual parties start later that day.
Colors: Azure Blue and White
Symbols: Lion and Diamond
National Philanthropy: Ronald McDonald House
Founded: 1851 at Wesleyan College
Flower: Woodland Violet
Website: www.buadpi.com
New Member Dues: $593
Initiated Sister Dues: $43/fall, $313/spring
GPA: 2.7
Colors: Green and White
Symbol: Giraffe
National Philanthropies: Sharsheret and Elizabeth Glazer Pediatric AIDS Foundation
Founded: 1909 at Barnard College
Flower: Lily of the Valley
Website: www.buaephi.com
New Member Dues: $635
Initiated Sister Dues: $350/semester
GPA: 2.5
Alpha Phi
‘Union Hand in Hand’

Colors: Silver and Bordeaux
Symbols: Ivy Leaf and Phi Bear
National Philanthropy: American Heart Association
Founded: 1872 at Syracuse University
Flowers: Forget-me-not and Lily of the Valley
Website: www.bualphaphi.com
New Member Dues: $590
Initiated Sister Dues: $332.50/semester
GPA: 2.7
ΔΓ

Delta Gamma
‘Do Good’

Colors: Bronze, Pink and Blue
Symbol: Anchor
National Philanthropy: Service for Sight
Founded: 1873 at the Lewis School for Girls
Flower: Cream Colored Rose
Website: www.deltagamma.wix.com/deltagamma
New Member Dues: $630
Initiated Sister Dues: $320
GPA: 2.5
ΔΔΔ Delta Delta Delta
‘Let Us Steadfastly Love One Another’

Colors: Silver, Gold, and Cerulean Blue
Symbols: Pearl, Pine, Pansy, Dolphin, and Trident
National Philanthropy: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
Founded: 1888 at Boston University
Flower: Pansy
Website: www.bu.tridelta.org
New Member Dues: $696
Initiated Sister Dues: $325/semester
GPA: 2.5
Colors: Pink and Brown
Symbol: Crescent Moon
National Philanthropy: Girls on the Run
Founded: 1874 at Syracuse University
Flower: Pink Carnation
Website: www.gammaphibetabu.wix.com/bugammaphibeta
New Member Dues: $550
Initiated Sister Dues: $375/semester
GPA: 2.7
Kappa Alpha Theta

‘Faith, Hope, Love’

Colors: Black and Gold
Symbols: Kite and Twin stars
National Philanthropies: Court Appointed Special Advocates, Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation
Founded: 1870 at DePauw University
Flower: Black and gold pansy
Website: www.etachi.kappaalphatheta.org
New Member Dues: $585
Initiated Sister Dues: $335/semester
GPA: 2.6
Kappa Delta
‘Let Us Strive for that which is Honorable, Beautiful, Highest’

Colors: Olive Green and Pearl White
Symbols: Nautilus Shell, Katydid, Teddy Bear and Dagger
National Philanthropies: Girl Scouts of the USA and Prevent Child Abuse America
Founded: 1897 at Longwood University
Flower: White Rose
Website: www.bukappadelta.org
New Member Dues: $600
Initiated Sister Dues: $430/semester
GPA: 2.7
Colors: Old Blue and Café au Lait
Symbol: Torch
National Philanthropy: Prevent Child Abuse America
Founded: 1917 at Cornell University
Flower: Yellow Tea Rose
Website: www.sdtbu.com
New Member Dues: $600
Initiated Sister Dues: $375/semester
GPA: 2.5
Sigma Kappa
"One heart, one way"

Colors: Lavender and Maroon
Symbols: Heart and Dove
National Philanthropies: The Sigma Kappa Foundation, Alzheimer's Disease Research
Founded: 1874 at Colby College
Flower: Wild Purple Violet
Website: http://buisigmakappa.org
New Member dues: $425
Initiated Semester dues: $290/semester
GPA: 2.6
Notes
Night One: Friday, February 12, 2016

Party One: _________________________________________________
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Party Two: _________________________________________________
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Party Three: _______________________________________________
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Party Four: ________________________________________________
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Party Five: _________________________________________________
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Party Eight: ________________________________________________
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Party Nine: ________________________________________________
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Party Ten: _________________________________________________
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Night Three: Sunday, February 14, 2016

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Notes
Night Four: Monday, February 15, 2016

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