

In the 2022-2025 triennium, our focus was on “Building a Giving Community” — one that reflects and sustains our members’ and our Fraternity’s commitment to Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies, Inc.

We were led by the words of Coretta Scott King:

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate affection of its members.”

In this new 2025-2028 triennium, we carry that spirit forward, strengthening the foundation we have built together by:



ENGAGING OUR GIVING COMMUNITY

Named for the SAI Symphony that inspires our daily lives, the Symphony Society is our annual recognition of people whose monetary support makes the projects of Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies, Inc. possible.

Your continued generosity and Engagement in our Giving Community allow for the stories in this brochure to come to life. Each annual contribution adds your name to the Symphony Society, displayed on a plaque near the mural at National Headquarters and recognized in *PAN PIPES*.

We are deeply grateful for your past gifts, and we look forward to celebrating your **compassionate action and name** among those who believe in and sustain the mission of Sigma Alpha Iota. Please send in your contribution today — because together, we are inspiring and uniting the world through music.

How can you make a difference? Send your gift to SAI Philanthropies, a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

YES! I WANT TO BE LISTED IN THE SAI SYMPHONY SOCIETY! THREE WAYS TO DONATE:

Our secure website at WWW.SAI-NATIONAL.ORG/DONATE



DONATING BY CHECK

- ☐ Founder (\$25,000 or more)
☐ Publisher (\$10,000-\$24,999)
☐ Composer (\$5,000-\$9,999)
☐ Conductor (\$1,000-\$4,999)
☐ Soloist (\$500-\$999)
☐ Performer (\$100-\$499)
☐ Friend (\$25-\$99)
- Enclosed is
my gift of
\$ _____
(make checks payable to
SAI Philanthropies, Inc.)

Name _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Please do not send me a thank-you gift.

DONATING BY CREDIT CARD

- ☐ One-time contribution of \$ _____
OR
☐ On-going monthly contribution of \$ _____
Please charge my:
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard
☐ Discover ☐ American Express
- ☐ I voluntarily wish to pay an additional \$3 to help defray the processing costs for this credit card transaction.

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ CVI # _____

Signature _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Please send me the Letter of Intent, with which I may announce my estate plans. I wish to support SAI Philanthropies, Inc. with planned giving.

MAIL TO: National Headquarters, One Tunnel Road, Asheville, NC 28805-1229 nh@sai-national.org



MICHELLE WERNER

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT, FRATERNITY DEVELOPMENT



I am a marketing professional from Long Island, NY, and a proud graduate of SUNY Fredonia, where I was initiated into Delta Lambda. I earned my Bachelor of Arts in Music Business with a concentration in Marketing, followed by an MBA in Marketing from New York Institute of Technology.

Over the years, I have built experience across all facets of marketing—including campaign planning, publicity, email marketing, social media, event planning, and digital strategy—working in industries ranging from broadcast television to healthcare to industrial automation.

When the Professional Development Grant was expanded to non-music professionals, I applied and was fortunate to receive support. This grant enabled me to complete a certification in Digital Marketing Strategies from Northwestern University, where I studied modern marketing approaches including AI-driven tools and data-driven strategies. The program strengthened my effectiveness as a professional and helped me remain at the forefront of a rapidly changing field.

JATONA CHESTER

MUSIC EDUCATION OUTREACH GRANT DIRECTOR



Philanthropies have always been one of my favorite aspects of Sigma Alpha Iota and a true point of pride. Initiated in 2003 as a charter member of the Kappa Rho Chapter at Langston University, I now serve as Vice President of Ritual for the Ann Arbor Alumnae Chapter. Throughout my career, SAI has provided consistent encouragement and support. From instrument donations in my first year of teaching to mentorship to sisters who always take time to attend my various school performances.

In my 15th year of teaching, I accepted a new position as Choir and Performing Arts Director at Ypsilanti Community Middle School in 2023. Wanting to better engage my students and build a stronger sense of community, I knew that drumming would be the perfect tool, but my Title I school could not afford the instruments. It was then that I decided to turn to SAI for support through Philanthropies and the Music Education Outreach Grant. I am so grateful to have been a 2022–2023 Music Education Outreach Grant recipient. I was able to purchase a classroom set of world drumming instruments that have since impacted hundreds of students across classes, performances, summer camps, and even neighboring schools. Now, as Director of the Music Education Outreach Grant, I am honored to help other educators expand access to music opportunities that empower students and strengthen communities. Every donation makes a difference! Thank you for supporting SAI Philanthropies.

BECAUSE OF YOU...

- A young musician received the Summer Music Scholarship, allowing them to study with world-class faculty and bring that knowledge back to their campus and future career.
- Collegiate performers found their voices on a national stage through the Undergraduate Performance Awards, celebrating artistry and excellence.
- A graduate student in conducting advanced her studies with support from the Conducting Scholarship, preparing her to inspire the next generation of musicians.
- Through our People-to-People Project, hundreds of students at the Haiti Hope Mission will have the opportunity to explore classroom instruments — from boomwhackers and ukuleles to xylophones and recorders — opening doors to new musical experiences and expanding access to music education.
- Through Services for Musicians with Disabilities, members helped make music accessible — by participating in the Bold Notes Project with the Library of Congress to create braille and large-print scores for those with limited sight.

And across the nation,
Impact Grants and Chapter Outreach Grants empowered our chapters to bring music into schools, community centers, and concert halls — reaching everyone from children just discovering music to professionals continuing their artistry.

**YOUR CONTINUED
GENEROSITY MAKES
THESE STORIES POSSIBLE.**

