

Board of Directors Announces National Philanthropy

July 1, 2011 – The Board of Directors announced yesterday, June 30, 2011 that Special Olympics is the new national philanthropy of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. The Board is in the process of finalizing the details of Sig Tau's relationship with Special Olympics, and is currently seeking volunteers to work with chapters in coordinating the philanthropy efforts from the Fraternity's side.

This announcement is a call to action for alumni to get involved and help chapters connect with Special Olympics. The philanthropy work will be conducted by chapters and coordinated by alumni volunteers. Sig Tau is looking for a national philanthropy director and regional philanthropy coordinators for each region. Some regions may have more than one regional coordinator due to size.

The national philanthropy director will be tasked to direct, assist and educate regional philanthropy coordinators, who will then assist and educate chapters. Special Olympics is organized on a state-by-state basis; therefore, each regional coordinator will help develop the working relationship between each Sig Tau chapter and its state Special Olympics organization.

The Board is excited about Sig Tau's partnership with Special Olympics. This non-profit organization conducts sporting competition events for people with intellectual disabilities. It is an international organization that operates in all 50 states and has more than 3.1 million athletes competing in 30,000 competitions annually and worldwide in 170 countries and on six continents. Special Olympics offers 34 different seasonal sports and a variety of fundraising opportunities, such as the Polar Plunge and Law Enforcement Torch Run.

In selecting a national philanthropy, the Board followed the criteria outlined by the Grand Chapter and was impressed with the facts that:

- Sig Tau members will have the opportunity to work directly with the beneficiaries of their efforts, as a group and through active work
- Special Olympics has many events and programs that allows chapters the flexibility and options as to how they participate
- Special Olympics events and activities are well organized, letting Sig Tau members participate easily without the need for prior logistical work
- Special Olympics is a long-standing, well respected organization with a worthy cause
- Special Olympics is active all across the country, making it easy for chapters to participate

Additionally, the Board feels that Special Olympics reflects the Fraternity's founding as an education Fraternity. The Fraternity will continue the education tradition, as Sig Tau members receive the opportunity to teach people with intellectual

disabilities. Our own members will receive hands-on experience and important life lessons.

The Board hopes that our members will build character by stretching outside of their regular comfort zone, seeing human worth in others and becoming inspired to overcome limitations. This focus on building character and self-improvement is also an objective of Special Olympics for its participants. The Board believes that having our members learn these lessons will make them better Men, Brothers and Citizens and will promote the Principles of Value and Benefit.

To learn more about Special Olympics, visit its website at:
<http://www.specialolympics.org/>.