



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Delegate Magazine 1972

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 05:42:19

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the National Museum of African American History and Culture as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the National Museum of African American History and Culture website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact National Museum of African American History and Culture or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the National Museum of African American History and Culture. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

[[image - black & white photograph of Sister Ranson standing at a microphone]]
 [[caption]]Sister Jo Ana Ranson cited by the Pan Hellenic Council of New York[[/caption]]

[[image - black & white photograph of a young woman]]
 [[caption]]A New York undergraduate[[/caption]]

[[image - black & white photograph of smiling Sister Ranson]]
 [[caption]]Meet the National Grand Basileus MRS. ISABEL MORGAN HERSON. [[/caption]]

[[image - black & white photograph of a planning meeting. a large number of women are gathered around a table]]
 [[caption]]Convention Planning meeting with the Oklahoma Hostess Chapter and the Zeta National Board at the Convention Hotel. [[/caption]]

BRIEF HISTORY OF ZETA PHI BETA SORORITY

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority was organized at Howard University on January 16, 1920, as the result of the encouragement given the five founders by Charles Robert Taylor and Langston Taylor, members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity who felt that the campus would profit by the development of such an organization as sisters to the fraternity.

As a result, Sorors Arizona Cleaver, Viola Tyler, Myrtle Pearl Neal, and Fannie Pettie became founders of Zeta Phi Beta. Thus Zeta Phi Beta with Phi Beta Sigma became the first official Greek-letter sister and brother organizations.

Zeta Phi Beta held its first boule (convention) jointly with the Phi Beta Sigma conclave in December 1920 in Washington, D.C. It was the idea of the founders that the Sorority would reach college women in all parts of the country who were sorority-minded and desired to follow the idela of finer womanhood that Zeta Phi Beta had set up.

The new sorority was introduced to the Howard University community by a former reception at the Whitelaw Hotel, Washington, D.C., by Langston and Charles Taylor and by a meeting in the assembly room of Miner Hall at Howard University by Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta, the only other sororities.

The first president of Zeta Phi Beta was Soror[[cut off]]



Delegate Magazine 1972
 Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
 Extracted Apr-23-2024 05:42:19



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)