



SWDAA

# THE CADENCE

DEC 2023

ISSUE 15







## NATALIA HARRISON (CHAIR)

What a whirlwind 2023 has been! SWDAA saw some of the greatest turnouts at events, new ideas, and adventures in Orlando. None of which could be possible without our fabulous members. From the bottom of my heart, I am so thankful to serve as chair and continue the legacy that is the Southwest District Alumni Association.

Looking back, so much SWDAA bonding took place in Orlando. From road trips to get there and the race to win the goose chase, memories were made. It was a blast representing us for the TBSAA voting and activities. While in Orlando, we were recognized for completing the ACES challenge put forth by TBSAA. The connections made between SWDAA members with one another and with other LAAs was such a beautiful sight to see.

The Board of Directors is packed with such talented sisters and brothers serving the district. This includes the best duet and show of joint relations that I've ever seen in our organizations. Ciara and Kiara have knocked it out of the park this year, pun intended! Two excellent events of Brother (and Sisters) at the Ballpark took place this summer and the turnout was so cool to see. Shortly after, there was a fun social at the zoo and service project with Kiara's school band. To say I am proud of these two is an understatement!

For 2024, SWDAA has a few goals we'd like the membership to consider. We want your opinions, feedback, and participation. SWDAA can only be what we make it. Committee work is vital for our programming, events, and structure. The social committee has been an excellent example of what SWDAA can do when great minds come together. We need you to join in on the conversations happening and if they aren't happening, let us know! We need your feedback to make SWDAA the organization we want it to be.

As a BoD, we wish you the happiest of holidays and we look forward to the great things in store for 2024!

# MY TIME AT THE 77TH MIDWEST CLINIC

This year I attended the Midwest Clinic for the third time in my career. Every year I spend in this profession, the more friends I make along the way that I get to reconnect with at events like this. This year's Midwest was one for the books. Chicago, connecting with so many friends (including brothers and sisters), meeting some notable composers and directors, and hearing many hours of beautiful live music was so rejuvenating for me. Grateful is an understatement. I could go on and on about how much fun I had and all of the amazing people I connected with, but I will limit myself to the top five best things I did while in Chicago!

*Saw the Passing of the Baton with "The President's Own" What a once in a lifetime experience!*



*Meet Randall Standridge! I got to thank him for his work, as well as have him sign a show shirt for my students! We did his marching show titled Colors this season.*



*Met Jennifer Higdon and got to talk about how tough (but awesome) her clarinet parts are!*



*Had a mini photo shoot with Katahji Copley thanks to me building the courage to talk to him and his manager being willing to take some photos!*



*Visited the Art Institute of Chicago for the first time ever with one of my besties, Braeden! Life imitates art.*



**BY: CHELSEA ZUNIGA  
TAU BETA SIGMA - ALPHA  
SWDAA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**



# NEW YEAR NEW ME!



Tell us about your New Year Resolution(s):

“In this new year I want to eat breakfast more often, get more consistent sleep, and work on trusting more.”

*Rachael Baca / Kappa Kappa Psi / Gamma Iota*



What are you looking forward the most in 2024?

“I’m performing a solo bass clarinet recital at NACWPI in January. The TWU Wind Symphony is performing at CBDNA in February. At the time of this submission, I haven’t heard yet but hopefully I will also get invited to perform at the International Clarinet Association conference in Dublin, Ireland. I’m also looking forward to possibly getting married. We’ve been engaged since last Christmas, so we shall see!”

*Johnny Engelke / Tau Beta Sigma / Gamma Nu*



Tell us about your New Year Resolutions:

“I want to take better care of my health, specifically with my teeth, kidneys, and heart. I’ve been slacking on my personal health ever since I graduated, and I don’t want this to come back against me in the future.”

*Xavier Berry / Kappa Kappa Psi / Delta Sigma*



What are you looking forward the most in 2024?

“Looking forward to a new year with new challenges!”

*Kelton Ashcraft / Kappa Kappa Psi / Zeta Xi*



What are you looking forward the most in 2024?

“Meeting my nephew! Taking my high school band to contest for the first time as the high school director”

*Brianna Tegeler / Tau Beta Sigma / Alpha Omicron*



**THANK YOU 2023!!**



# Congrats GRADUATES



Kristin Shipley  
KKPsi: Alpha Rho  
Bachelor of Science in Education  
(Elementary)



Jacob Diaz  
KKPsi: Alpha  
Bachelor of Music Education



Jacob Stover  
TBSigma: Beta Nu  
Bachelor of Music Education



Ariel Scott  
TBSigma: Zeta Mu  
Early Childhood Development &  
Early Literacy



Bailee Rettig  
TBSigma: Xi  
Bachelor of Music Education



Andrew R Pearson  
KKPsi: Alpha Rho  
Bachelor of Music Education



Cassie Coleman  
KKPsi: Alpha Rho  
BGS with Minors in Music, Social  
Science and Education



Javion Lynch  
KKPsi: Zeta Kappa  
B.S. in Liberal Studies



Madison Calvert (Aquino)  
TBSigma: Alpha  
MBA with a Graduate Certificate in  
Human Resources



Eric Boatman  
KKPsi: Alpha Omicron  
Bachelor of Music Education &  
Clarinet Performance





Tyran Connor  
KKPsi: Epsilon Rho  
Bachelor of Science in  
Management



Vo Sanders  
KKPsi: Alpha Rho  
Bachelors Degree in History



Ada M. Torres  
KKPsi: Epsilon Delta  
General studies, with concentrated  
with music and applied music



Avery Laffoon  
KKPsi: Eta Xi  
Computer Information Systems



Jalani Patterson  
KKPsi: Epsilon Rho  
Bachelor of Science in  
Management



Tramaine Jacobs  
KKPsi: Epsilon Rho  
Bachelor of Criminal Justice





On December 3, 2023, the U.I.S.D Wind Symphony hosted our 2023 Christmas Concert. The program featured a diverse array of compositions, including Leroy Anderson's "A Christmas Festival," Victor Herbert's "March of the Toys," S. Bulla's "Symphony Highlights for Frozen," and much more. This ensemble is under the direction of Mr. Carlos Gil, retired musician of the U.S. Air Force 702 Strategic Air Command band. Gil was inducted into the 2017 TMEA Region 14 Hall of Fame and continue to contribute his expertise as a percussion instructor, music consultant, clinician, and mariachi arranger at various middle schools in Laredo.

For me, participating in this ensemble marked my return to playing in a musical group. Despite the limited rehearsal time, with rehearsals held on November 13th and November 27th, the group successfully pulled together a stellar performance. My experience was particularly meaningful as it coincided with Kappa Kappa Psi's Founders Day and Month of Musicianship, allowing me to join fellow band members with setting up for rehearsals and to make music on a special day.

Reflecting on this experience, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of joining community bands. It provides an incredible opportunity to sustain a connection with music, especially for alumni of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. As demonstrated by our Christmas concert, these musical endeavors contribute not only to personal enjoyment but also to the vibrant and communal spirit of music-making.

*Dionicio Cardenas*  
*Life Member - Alpha Psi*  
*KKPsi AABOD - Communications Director*



UISDWindSymphony



UISDWindSymphony



# CONGRATULATIONS



**CIARA  
GIBBS**

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT  
COUNSELOR

**HARRISON  
CALVERT**

CHAPTER VISITATION  
ASSOCIATE



# IMPORTANT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPDATES



## KAPPA KAPPA PSI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

We would like to invite you to take a few minutes and renew your Alumni Association membership for 2024!! Yes, it's already time! We look forward to being part of your continued fraternal involvement and hope to see you at any future fraternal event – whether it's in person or virtual. All membership forms are available [here](#).

### MEMBERSHIPS

- 1 **LIFE MEMBERS: \$0/YEAR**  
FULL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS
- 2 **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS: \$50/YEAR**  
FULL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS (NON-LIFE MEMBERS)
- 3 **LOCAL AA MEMBERS: \$15/YEAR**  
BENEFITS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL WITHOUT INVOLVEMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.
- 4 **GRADUATING SENIORS: ONE FREE YEAR!**  
FROM THE DATE OF GRADUATION UNTIL THE END OF THE FOLLOWING CALENDAR YEAR.
  - VOTING RIGHTS UPGRADE MEMBERSHIP: \$15/YEAR

TO RENEW VISIT [KKPSIAA.ORG](http://KKPSIAA.ORG)



## TAU BETA SIGMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Do you have exciting news to share about yourself or another TBSAA member? Whether it's a new degree, engagement, marriage, welcoming a new baby or pet, paying off your car, or conquering student loans—we want to celebrate with you! Our Tau Beta Sigma community is a family, and your milestones are our milestones. Your achievements, big or small, contribute to the rich legacy of our shared experiences. Let us join in your joy and celebrate the wonderful moments that make our bonds even stronger.

Please take a moment to share your news with us by submitting an Alumni Note! We can't wait to hear about your accomplishments and share the happiness within our TBSAA family. Thank you for letting us be a part of your journey!





# FRIEND & ADVOCATE

## KAPPA KAPPA PSI

*By: Nicholas (Nic) A. Rorrer, PHD (He/Him)*

*December 6, 2023*

Brothers,

It is with great pleasure that we announce the launch of the “Friend and Advocate Initiative.” This program is born out of the need to provide more individualized support for our chapters, be it our longstanding chapters, our new petitioning groups, or our chapters undergoing the “ReCharge” process. The goal of this initiative is to train Alumni members of the Fraternity to be up-to-date with the current practices of the Fraternity, such as the Road to Wisdom or our Chapter Operations (CHOPS) resources. Ultimately, we want to train and enable our Alumni members to support our chapters.

This desire and need brings us to today, where we are inviting our Alumni members to apply to be part of the ‘Alpha Cohort’ of the Friend and Advocate Initiative. Members of this cohort will be selected to be Petitioning and ReCharge Group advisor moving forward. In fact, the lessons of the cohort are designed to reflect the material that will be taught to members of petitioning and recharge groups. This includes:

- **Lesson 1.** Our Service - A review of our policies, our work, discussions on designing successful service projects, and chapter operations resources for Chapter Service officers
- **Lesson 2.** Our Leadership - An Introduction to the Founders Circle, discussions on how to run Chapter meetings, and chapter operations resources for Chapter Presidents
- **Lesson 3.** Our Musicianship - An Introduction to the NIB, discussions on how to design fundraisers, and chapter operations resources for Chapter Treasurers
- **Lesson 4.** Our Brotherhood - An Introduction to the Strive for Five Initiative, discussions on successful recruitment strategies, and chapter operations resources for Chapter Vice Presidents of Membership
- **Lesson 5.** Our Journey - An Introduction to the Alumni Association, discussions on the inner circle, and the current biennium plan

Additionally, all lessons will also cover the related Road to Wisdom lessons. As this is the ‘Alpha Cohort,’ we fully expect that we will develop and refine this program throughout this process. The expected time commitment for this cohort is 2-3 hours a week. We also expect to host multiple cohorts throughout this biennium and next. If you are interested in applying, you can do so here:

### ***Friend and Advocate Initiative Application Form***

We are hoping that this initial cohort will have 20-30 members. The application will be open till January 10th, 2023 and the cohort training will begin mid-February. To be eligible for this program, you must be a current member of the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Dr. Nic Rorrer (nic@kkpsi.org). We hope that many of you will be part of this or future cohorts.

AEA,





# COMMUNITY BAND

## Directory

## Arkansas

- Arkansas Winds, Inc.: <http://www.arkansaswinds.org/>
- Hot Springs Community Band:  
<http://www.hotspringsband.org/>
- North Little Rock Community Concert Band:  
<http://www.nlrcommunityband.com/>

## Louisiana

- Bayou Community Band (Thibodeaux):  
<https://www.facebook.com/BayouCommunityBand/>
- Jefferson Community Band (Metairie):  
<http://www.jeffersoncommunityband.org/>
- Lafayette Concert Band: <http://www.lcband.org/>

## New Mexico

- Albuquerque Concert Band: <http://www.abqband.org/>
- Mesilla Valley Concert Band (Las Cruces):  
<http://www.mesillavalleyconcertband.org/>

## Oklahoma

- Norman Community Band:  
<https://www.facebook.com/NormanCommunityBand/>
- Owasso Community Band\*:  
<https://www.facebook.com/OwassoHSB>
- Stillwater Community Band:  
<https://stillwatercommunitybands.weebly.com>
- Tulsa Community Band:  
<http://www.tulsacommunityband.org/>

## Texas

- Allen Community Band: <https://www.allencommunityband.com/>
- McKinney Community Band: <http://www.mckinneyband.com/>
- Plano Community Band: <http://www.planoband.com/>
- New Horizons Band of Dallas: <http://www.nhbdallas.org/>
- Lubbock Concert Band: <http://lubbockconcertband.com/>
- Band of the Hills: <http://www.bandofthehills.org/>
- Cinematic Symphony: <http://www.cinematicsymphony.com/>
- Austin Symphonic Band: <http://www.austinsymphonicband.org/>
- San Antonio Symphonic Band:
  - <http://www.sanantoniосymphonicband.com/>
- County Line Community Band: <http://www.clcbtx.com/>
- Montgomery Community Band:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/p/Montgomery-Community-Band-100087843397607/>
- Lone Star Symphonic Band: <http://www.lssb.org/>
- LolliePops: <http://www.lolliepopsband.com/>
- Houston Brass Band: <https://houstonbrassband.org/>
- Houston Pride Band: [www.houstonprideband.org](http://www.houstonprideband.org)
- Oak Lawn Band: <https://www.oaklawnband.org/>
- Pride of San Antonio Showband: <https://prideofsashowband.org/>
- Tyler, TX Community Band:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/TylerCommunityBand/>
- East Texas Symphonic Band: <https://etsymphonicband.org/>
- Lake Country Symphonic Band (Mineola, TX):
  - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/339904862754546/>
- San Antonio Community Wind Ensemble:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/SACWE>
- USD Wind Symphony:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/uisdwindsymphony>



**CONVENTION**  
SAVE THE DATE



# SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

***Wichita Falls, TX:***

***Delta Hotels by Marriott Wichita Falls Convention Center***

***April 05-07, 2024***

As Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma have moved forward, both organizations have had to confront the realities of risk management. Among those realities is the need to make sure that everyone who takes part in the offerings of our active organizations must be sharing in the cost of insurance, and registering as a participant who follows our policies, just as our active members must do for their participation.

Any member attending convention (national or district) must hold a current status of Active, Conditional, Associate, Membership Candidate, Petitioning Group Member (Petitioner), Alumni, Honorary, or Life\*\*. Alumni and Honorary members attending conventions must also have a current Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association (KKPsiAA) or Tau Beta Sigma Alumni Association (TBSAA) membership at the time of convention. The membership year for KKPsiAA runs from January 1 – December 31, the TBSAA membership year runs from July 1 – June 30. TBSAA memberships should be renewed no later than June 15 of the National Convention year. The National Headquarters will verify your membership status in our records at the time of registration and you must show a current/valid photo ID to check-in at convention.

**Information from: <https://natcon.kkymbsonline.com/attendance/>**





## 2025 National Convention

After ten years, we are excited to return to the scenic and charming city of Lexington, Kentucky on July 15-18, 2025. Lexington's musical history is as rich and diverse as the notes that define our two organizations. From the classical pieces that fill the Lexington Opera House to the vibrant tunes that resonate from the various music festivals, Lexington's musical legacy will add a unique and unifying touch to our convention.



**CONVENTION**  
SAVE THE DATE

[Click here for more information!](#)



**MERCH**

**WE ARE OPEN  
YEAR ROUND**

**[SWDAASTORE.SQUARE.SITE/](http://SWDAASTORE.SQUARE SITE/)**

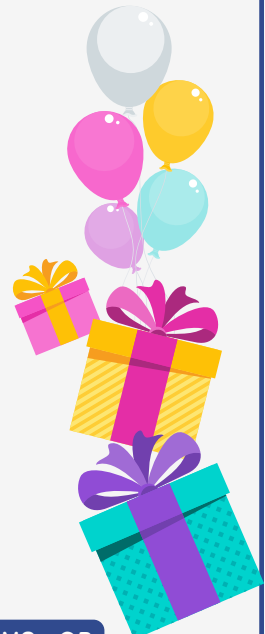
For more information contact,  
[swdaafinance@gmail.com](mailto:swdaafinance@gmail.com)



**BIRTHDAYS**

**DECEMBER**

BRAEDEN WEYHRICH	DEC 2ND
LIZZY SYKORA	DEC 2ND
*HARRISON CALVERT	DEC 3RD
EVELYN JONES (EVE)	DEC 11TH
*NATALIA HARRISON	DEC 14TH
EIREKA WRIGHT	DEC 15TH
ELLA LOVE	DEC 17TH
JACQUIE' FRELOW	DEC 30TH



**(\*) - DISTINGUISHES SWDAA BOD, NATIONAL LEADERSHIP, CVA, OR GOVERNOR/COUNSELOR**



## Contact us at:

- Natalia Harrison, Chairperson
  - [swdaachair@gmail.com](mailto:swdaachair@gmail.com)
- Chelsea Zuniga, Membership Director
  - [swdaamembership@gmail.com](mailto:swdaamembership@gmail.com)
- Ame Dunmore, Programs Director
  - [swdaaprograms@gmail.com](mailto:swdaaprograms@gmail.com)
- Lea Sanchez, Communications Director
  - [swdjointalumni@gmail.com](mailto:swdjointalumni@gmail.com)
- Ryan Smith, Finance Director
  - [swdaafinance@gmail.com](mailto:swdaafinance@gmail.com)
- Kiara Penn (KKPsi) & Ciara Gibbs (TBSigma)
  - Co-Members at Large
  - [swdaa.comals@gmail.com](mailto:swdaa.comals@gmail.com)

## Follow us on social media:



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