



# Pearls of Wisdom

Finer Womanhood  
Luncheon 2024

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc  
Pi Rho Zeta Chapter  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

# PROGRAM

Saturday, March 16, 2024 | 11:30am  
Center for Community Transformation  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

## **WELCOME**

Soror Soroya Pierre - VanArtsen (President)

## **WELCOME & NPHC ROLL CALL**

Soror Alina Foreman

## **INVOCATION**

Soror Dr. Glenda Bailey

## **INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Soror Merdis Harris

## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Soror Dr. Shayla Young

## **INTRODUCTION OF HONOREES**

Soror Brooke Davis

Soror Tamasha James

Soror Carolyn Rush

## **SCHOLARSHIP**

Soror Marianne Terry

Soror Soroya Pierre - VanArtsen

## **TRIBUTE TO RHAЕ ANN BOOKER, PHD**

Soror Shaquanda Gordon

## **CLOSING**

Soror Brooke Davis (Chair)



# HISTORY

## **Brief History of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Youth Affiliates**

The first youth clubs were formed in the 1950's for all youth involved with the sorority, as Zetalites, Archonettes, or Amicettes. However, participation in club activities quickly increased to the point that the club was divided into two age groups. The high school girls kept the name of the Archonette Club, which accepts members who are in high school (ages 14-18). The younger girls became the Amicette Club (ages 9-13), and in the 1970's the Pearlette Club (ages 4-8) was organized.

The mission of the Youth Clubs of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated is to provide a carefully designed program of activities that will enhance youth club members through mind, body, and spirit as they work within their various communities to serve and help others.

## **Zeta Youth with Dreams become Zeta Women with Vision**

The Zeta Youth are the future to a bigger and brighter tomorrow. Our role as members of this outstanding sorority is to guide, mentor, and mold our youth to ensure our organizational growth and development. While assisting them to become leaders of tomorrow through the guidance of our nationally designed youth curriculum will developed our youth into leaders and innovators of Science, Technology, Engineer, Arts, and Math (STEAM) .

- Culture Awareness and Social Skills Enhancement
- Educational Enrichment
- Leadership Development and
- Community Service

**Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated** was founded on January 16, 1920, at Howard University, Washington, D.C.

Since its inception, Zeta has continued its steady climb into the national spotlight with programs designed to demonstrate concern for the human condition both nationally and internationally. The organization has been innovative because it has chronicled several firsts. It was the first National Pan-Hellenic Council organization to centralize its operations in a national headquarters, first to charter a chapter in Africa, first to form auxiliary groups, and first to be constitutionally bound to a fraternity, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated.

The sorority takes pride in its continued participation in transforming communities through volunteer services from members and its auxiliaries. Zeta Phi Beta has chartered hundreds of chapters worldwide and has a membership of 100,000+.

Locally, the Pi Rho Zeta Graduate chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. has been serving the Grand Rapids and surrounding area since 1997. We will continue to build on our legacy of service by continuing to embrace Z-HOPE, Zetas Helping Other People Excel (through mind, body and spirit).

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated is poised to uphold its principles of Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood and Finer Womanhood into her second century and beyond.

*For more information, please contact*

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# KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Dr. Shayla Young**

Dr. Shayla Young is an award winning education practitioner and currently serves as a postdoctoral fellow for KConnect. In this role, Dr. Young helps facilitate engagement between community organizations and policy and advocacy workgroups. A Grand Rapids native, Dr. Young earned her Bachelors Degree in Social Work from The Ohio State University and her Doctorate of Education from Michigan State University. Dr. Young is passionate about increasing students' post-secondary success and advocates for resources for graduates of Grand Rapids Public Schools. Currently, Dr. Young is an adjunct instructor at Michigan State University and a proud member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.



**Most Honorable Founders, (L-R)**

Arizona Cleaver Stemons

Pearl Anna Neal

Myrtle Tyler Faithful

Viola Tyler Goings

Fannie Pettie Watts



**International President, Dr. Stacie N.C. Grant**

# EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

## History of Pi Rho Zeta Chapter Grand Rapids, Michigan

Pi Rho Zeta chapter was chartered on the aspirations of our Five Founders. On February 15, 1997 five members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. united in an effort to establish a graduate chapter for the Grand Rapids, Michigan area.

These insightful women are the chapter's charter members:

Soror Tamasha James  
Soror Leonora Pickett  
Soror Merdis Harris  
Soror Nefta Smith  
Soror Tamika Smith



**Dr. Chasity Bailey-Fakhoury**

*Assistant Professor, Grand Valley  
State University*



**Dr. Angelia Coleman**

*Principal, Kentwood Public Schools*



**Debra L. Perry**

*Music Educator, Grand Rapids Public Schools*

# 2024 AWARD RECIPIENTS

# SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE



Christopher Tunstall

Grand River Preparatory High School

Christopher is a member of the National Honor Society and serves as captain and founding member of his school's new robotics team. Outside of the classroom, Chris is the president of the Grand Rapids Chapter of Kappa League, a youth program led by the Grand Rapids Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Christopher has achieved a 4.35 GPA and gained internship experience with Terminix and Kentwood Community Church. His leadership, service, and research project with Hope College Engineering and Computer Science professors have led to his acceptance into the University of Michigan, where he hopes to pursue electrical engineering.

## Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Partnerships

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Refuge System)  
March of Dimes  
American Cancer Society  
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
Women Veterans Rock  
Geico  
National Parks and Recreation  
AARP  
Google  
St. Judes  
Dell  
Micah's Voice  
DFree - Financial Services  
Goldman Sachs



# 2024 RECIPIENT

## Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Memberships

Black Women's Agenda  
Leadership Conference of Civil Rights  
NAACP  
National Council of Negro Women  
National Pan Hellenic Council  
United Nations



## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE



Dhani James

Forest Hills Northern High School

Dhani has been in Northern's Spanish Immersion Program for fourteen years, through which she was blessed with the opportunity to go to the Dominican Republic this past summer. She's a participant in Science Olympiad, the marching band drumline, and is a percussionist in concert band. She is a member of the National Honor Society and is an Executive Board Member. A member of the Northern Singers vocal group, Dhani has also joined theatre and is a part of the productions *Matilda* and *Frozen*. Outside of school, Dhani works two jobs, loves cooking, baking, doing crafts, and hanging out with friends. Dhani plans to attend Western Michigan University with a double major in Special Education Teaching and Spanish and a possible minor in American Sign Language. A member of the Zeta Archonettes since 2020, Dhani is honored to receive this scholarship.

## 2024 RECIPIENT

# SPONSORS

## Founders Club



## Dove Club



## Sister Circle

S.S. Consulting and Services (Shaquanda Gordon)

Life Quest Urban Outreach (Jerry Bishop)

Spartan Hubbard Group (Latoya Staten)

The Intersection (Scott Hammontree)

Marcia Boyce

## Friends of Zeta

Brooke Davis

Larry Donston

Mandy Regnerus

Tasha Black

# FRIENDS OF THE LUNCHEON