

# RED *the* DOOR

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# RED DOOR

# 2023 EXEC

## THE RED DOOR

Welcome to The Red Door, the official newsletter of the Mississippi Beta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Mississippi State University! This publication will come out quarterly and cover chapter events, goals, and accomplishment. Whether you are an alumni, parent, guardian, volunteer or any combination of the above, we are grateful for your support of our chapter and want to use this newsletter to show you how we are working to build Balanced Men here in Starkville! In this quarter's edition, we will cover events from the fall 2022 semester like Chi Omega Limelight, our Balanced Man Scholarship, and our fall Family Weekend, just to name a few. We want to thank you again for the support you provide to our chapter, and we look forward to giving you a glimpse into life at Mississippi Beta!

In Brotherly Love,

*Hayden Cherry*  
Hayden Cherry  
VP OF COMMUNICATIONS

*Skylar Ross*  
Skylar Ross  
VP OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

## CONTENTS

2022-2023 Executive Board.....3

You're a Winner, Harry!.....4

Academic Achievement!.....5

'22 Recruitment Recap!.....6

Parents' Pork Roast!.....7

Scholarship Success!.....8

Fall Retreat Recap!.....9

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# You're a Winner, Harry!

By Hayden Anderson '26

In September, a team of twenty-two brothers represented SigEp in Chi Omega's annual philanthropy dance competition, Limelight. In this dance competition, each fraternity and sorority is provided a theme that they use to come up with coordinating music, costumes, and a banner. Ticket sales for the event benefit Chi Omega's philanthropy, Make-A-Wish, and each year a Make-A-Wish child is invited to serve as a guest judge! This year, SigEp's theme was the magical world of Harry Potter. Our team had less than a month to train, so we practiced for several hours every day with our dedicated Owl Pals, our amazing Chi Omega dance coaches (pictured below). These practices consisted of both early morning and late night practices, costume design, and practice performances in front of brothers. Our team's work was fueled by the desire to continue the winning streak started by last year's Star Wars performance, and we did just that. Our team swept the competition, earning first place in banner, dance, and overall. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our awesome Owl Pals and team captain, our talented banner-painting team, and our resident DJ Kam. Our team looks forward to continuing our streak next year to tie the winning streak record and to continuing to support Chi Omega and Make-A-Wish!



# Academic Achievement!

By Hayden Cherry '25

As we begin the spring 2023 semester, our chapter looks forward to continuing our commitment to high academic achievement. In the fall 2022 semester, our chapter ranked third among all 17 Interfraternity Council fraternities with a 3.35 average GPA. This placed our chapter above of the All Greek GPA, All Fraternity GPA, and the All Men's GPA, a feat only accomplished by 4 other chapters. Our academic success can be attributed to several things, namely our strong focus on SigEp's Balanced Man Ideal. Brothers are encouraged to be well-rounded students here at MSU by joining organizations outside of the fraternity, serving as leaders on campus, and taking their mental and physical health seriously. Many of the skills that brothers learn in their extracurriculars translate directly into the classroom, like time management, effective communication and having a strong work ethic. While our chapter did succeed this semester, we know that there is still work to be done and improvement to be made. We are striving this semester to return back to the top spot among IFC chapters by remaining diligent in our studies and supporting each other with brotherly love.

## FALL 2022 DEAN'S LIST FALL 2022 PRESIDENT'S LIST

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- David Kiesel
- Kameron Loupe
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- Jacob Lindsey
- Dalton Lovitt
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- Reilly Rodgers
- Seth Sloan
- Sam Stewart
- Alex Taylor
- Eric Toups
- Mason Turnipseed
- Brandon Vanlandingham
- Cameron Verser
- Ivy Wells
- Will Woods



# '22 Recruitment Recap!

By Hayden Anderson '26

Throughout the past couple of semesters, Mississippi Beta has actively been looking for ways to improve our recruitment standards in order to keep that same standard of balanced men that we have been keeping for years. Our current recruitment standards revolve around our three cardinal principles: virtue, diligence, and brotherly love. These standards include requirements such as GPA, conversational skills, and sincerity of the potential new member (PNM). During the fall semester, our recruitment committee helped coordinate the recruitment of a combined 25 new members from informal and formal fall recruitment. Mississippi Beta also has taken advantage of our 365- Day Recruitment policy, meaning that we can give PNMs a bid at any time of the year, not just during rush or through early bids. This semester, we were able to recruit 9 PNMs through 365 recruitment. Furthermore, as the semester went on, the recruitment committee and the Vice President of Recruitment, Peyton Horn, worked hard in order to improve standards of recruitment and the young men that we recruited during and outside of recruitment. "I feel that there was a great group of guys recruited this semester," Horn said. "We had more come into the chapter this semester than I expected, but I cannot take all of that credit. If it weren't for the amazing recruitment committee staying on top of everything, we would not have recruited the quantity or quality of guys that we did." Mississippi Beta plans to continue improving the quality of men into the spring semester to not only recruit a good quantity of men, but an even better quality.



# Parents' Pork Roast!

By Skylar Ross '24

This past October we took the opportunity to have two Hog roasts in one weekend! We didn't let an 11:00 a.m. kickoff discourage us from having a great weekend of cheering on State! After our Bulldogs took home the win in a 40-17 victory against the University of Arkansas Razorbacks, our chapter hosted our brothers and their families at our chapter facility for some delicious pork and entertainment. Caleb Shirley joined us and set the tone for a great evening. This event provided our alumni, parents, and family the chance to visit our chapter house and hear about what their brothers and sons are building here at Mississippi State. Our chapter looks forward to this event every semester and to sharing our experiences at State and within the chapter with those that we love!





# Scholarship Success!

By Hayden Cherry '25

Our chapter set a national record this year with our successful Balanced Man Scholarship! This year we had over 750 applicants, more than any other chapter in the nation has ever received. Our dedicated Balanced Man Scholarship Committee worked tirelessly to review the applications, conduct several rounds of virtual and in-person interviews, and host an awards banquet for the finalists. Of the 750 applicants we had this year, 350 were invited back for virtual interviews, with 125 of those being invited back again to participate in group interviews. Of the 125 group interviewees, 30 were selected as finalists and interviewed individually for the chance to receive one of 6 \$500 scholarships. This year's winners went above and beyond in their commitment to the Balanced Man Ideal by working to improve themselves and those around them. Our chapter named the following first-year Mississippi State students as winners of scholarships funded by the MS Beta Balanced Man Endowment, in honor of the MS Beta alumni brothers Ramsey O'Neal, Michael Mattiace, Edward Richards, and David Tyler Lyons: Hayden Anderson, Ethan White, Cody Schexnaydre, Darien Hardy, Andrew Erne, and Delton Boone.



# Fall Retreat Recap!

By Skylar Ross '24

MS Beta brothers made their way to the Alabama 4-H Center this November for our chapter's semesterly brotherhood retreat. Brothers engaged in mindfulness activities, team-building exercises, and meaningful ceremonies. This weekend serves as an opportunity for brothers to take a break from school work and focus on growing collectively as a chapter. Our Retreat Planning Committee worked for weeks prior to our event to organize activities and exercises for our brothers to learn more about themselves, their brothers, and our chapter's goals. One of our last events is our Burning Heart Ceremony, a public ceremony where brothers get to meet their "big", a brother in the chapter that serves as a dedicated mentor and friend throughout their SigEp journey. Our chapter looks forward to the Brotherhood Retreat every semester because it provides us an opportunity to interact with each other outside of a university setting and grow as a chapter.