



1154 TOWN AND COUNTRY COMMONS DRIVE
TOWN AND COUNTRY, MISSOURI 63017
www.pibetaphi.org

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For more information, contact:
Eily Cummings, Assistant Director
Marketing & Communications
(636) 256-0680
eily@pibetaphi.org

International Women's Fraternity Extends to Local College Campus

ST. LOUIS -- May 20, 2009 -- Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women announces the establishment of its 134th collegiate chapter at the University of Cincinnati in fall 2009. The University of Cincinnati is Ohio's premier urban research university enrolling more than 36,000 students, 54 percent female. Three National Panhellenic Conference organizations were invited to compete for the opportunity to start a chapter on campus. Pi Beta Phi officers and staff presented information about the Fraternity in April to students and faculty. Early this month, the University of Cincinnati extended the invitation to Pi Beta Phi to establish a chapter.

Pi Beta Phi is thrilled to launch its Ohio Kappa Chapter at the University of Cincinnati, as it believes the Fraternity and the University will be a great fit. "We are excited Pi Beta Phi will be joining the University of Cincinnati's Greek community," Luellen Smith, grand vice president membership, said. "Pi Phi alumnae and collegians in the area are already working on the chapter's colonization plans."

Pi Beta Phi will provide the new chapter with resources and support, including an on-site leadership development consultant, a local advisory committee, and a six-person regional support team. In addition, Fraternity members at area chapters will welcome and help the new chapter establish itself on campus. The Ohio Kappa Chapter will mark Pi Phi's eighth chapter in the state of Ohio.

About Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women: Founded at Monmouth College in Illinois in 1867, Pi Beta Phi has 133 active chapters and more than 350 alumnae groups in the United States and Canada. The Fraternity's partnership with First Book, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to giving children from low-income homes the opportunity to read and own books, solidifies Pi Beta Phi's commitment to literacy. The Fraternity promotes friendship, develops women of intellect and integrity, cultivates leadership potential and enriches the lives of members and their communities.

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