



Winter 2-21-1999

Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority Date Auction Slated as Fundraiser for Diabetes Research

Bob Aaron
Illinois Wesleyan University

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Recommended Citation

Aaron, Bob, "Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority Date Auction Slated as Fundraiser for Diabetes Research" (1999). *News and Events*. 7061.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/7061>

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Feb. 21, 1999

Contact: Bob Aaron, 309/556-3181

Local
CentralAlpha Gamma Delta Sorority**Date Auction Slated as Fundraiser for Diabetes Research**

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—Going . . . Going . . . Gone!

That phrase will ring across the Illinois Wesleyan University campus, Feb. 25 (Thursday), when 15 IWU students—men and women—participate in a date auction aimed at raising money for diabetes research.

The 7-9 p.m. auction is sponsored by Alpha Gamma Delta, a sorority. It will take place at the Alpha Gamma Delta house, 1409 N. Main St., Bloomington.

Alpha Gamma Delta is sponsoring the event as part of its philanthropy program. Last year, the sorority raised about \$2,000 for diabetes research.

The sorority is involved in charitable activities, according to Laura Kafka, Alpha Gamma Delta president, "because of our resources. We are able to help those less fortunate than us and provide services to the community."

Stephanie Sun, Alpha Gamma Delta's philanthropy chair, said the sorority chose a date auction as a fund-raiser because, "we wanted to hold an event that would help bring together the Greek and independent communities at Illinois Wesleyan." Sun, a junior majoring in elementary education from Wheaton, Ill., played a key role in organizing the auction, where dates with IWU students will be awarded to the highest bidder.

IWU students up for auction are:

- Katherine Zeinz, a freshman majoring in art from Flosmoor, Ill.
- Elizabeth Kensek, a freshman majoring in music from LaGrange, Ill.
- Sarah Platt, a sophomore majoring in business from Chester, Ill.
- Kim Kruse, a sophomore majoring in math and risk management from Girard,

Ill.

- Michelle Huls, a sophomore majoring in political science from Penfield, Ill.
- Laura Kafka, a junior majoring in risk management from Palatine, Ill.
- Liz Drane, a junior majoring in business from Rock Falls, Ill.
- Lindsay Caltagirone, a junior majoring in business from Palatine, Ill.

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- Steve Zimmerman, a junior majoring in physics from Naperville, Ill.
- Paul Guercio, a senior majoring in accounting from Park Ridge, Ill.
- Kevin Kalus, a junior majoring in business from Peoria, Ill.
- Odie Carter, a sophomore majoring in business from Gurnee, Ill.
- Jeff Chouinard, a sophomore majoring in psychology from Kankakee, Ill.
- Joel Castillo, a sophomore and undecided major from Elgin, Ill.
- Kevin McManus, a senior theatre arts and sociology major from Lombard, Ill.

Proceeds from auction bids will be transferred to the Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation for contribution to groups engaged in diabetes research.

Almost 16 million Americans have diabetes, according to the Atlanta, Ga.-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). However, about one-third of them are not aware of their condition. With proper treatment and lifestyle changes, CDC reports, many of the possible complications, such as blindness, amputations, heart disease, kidney failure, and premature death can be prevented or delayed.

Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States.

What is diabetes?

The CDC defines diabetes this way: "Most of the food we eat is turned into glucose, or sugar, for our bodies to use for energy. The pancreas, an organ that lies near the stomach, makes a hormone called insulin to help glucose get into the cells of our bodies. When you have diabetes, your body either doesn't make enough insulin or can't use its own insulin as well as it should. This causes sugars to build up in your blood."

Alpha Gamma Delta has had two other philanthropic events—a casino night and a raffle—this school year. Another fund-raiser, a euchre tourney, is planned.

Alpha Gamma Delta's Xi Chapter was established at Illinois Wesleyan in 1914. The chapter has 67 active members.

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,000 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art, and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, and a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts. --30--