

beta.



YOU WILL  
ALWAYS  
BELONG  
HERE

FALL 2022 | SPRING 2023

**Beta Gamma Chi is a siblinghood that provides queer adults with a sense of belonging, community, and mentorship. We curate bold and innovative programs that center queer voices.**

## **Our Core Beliefs**

1. We believe in the right to a chosen family.
2. We believe that every member of the LGBTQ+ community should receive the support they need to survive and thrive in a heteronormative world.
3. We believe that every member of the LGBTQ+ community should have access to safe spaces that help them accept and affirm their most authentic selves.
4. We believe that our platform and voices can be tools to promote organizations, advocates, and initiatives that actively work to eliminate inequity and injustice.

## **Our History**

When Gerald Dessus and Dr. Khyle Wooten founded Beta on March 21, 2009, with Anthony Fluellen, they were students at Lincoln University of Pennsylvania. They sought to create an organization that would give voice and safety to queer people who struggled to experience belonging in mainstream spaces. They envisioned a fraternity where members could walk boldly in their truth and be innovative and unapologetic about their queerness.

That is why we are here. Our founders created Beta Gamma Chi because they believed in the right to a chosen family. They believed every member of the LGBTQ+ community should have access to safe spaces that affirm, validate, and humanize their experiences.

## **Our Mission**

The mission of Beta Gamma Chi Fraternity is to enhance the quality of life for queer people by implementing and facilitating community programs. We aim to uplift, educate, empower, love, and serve members of the LGBTQ+ community by providing ongoing membership and fellowship opportunities. And we work to promote the positive welfare of queer people on college campuses by partnering and collaborating with local LGBTQ+ service organizations.

## **Our Vision**

Our vision is to provide LGBTQ+ youth and adults with a sense of belonging, resources, and the development they need to live authentically and courageously.

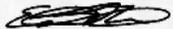
## What are you doing for others?

That is what Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. called life's most persistent and urgent question. My response to that call to action was to join Beta Gamma Chi Fraternity, Incorporated. In light of what is going on in our world today, Beta Gamma Chi is working to build a better tomorrow for generations of LGBTQ+ youth to come.

As National President, I have the unique privilege to assist in leading an organization that strives to empower and uplift the LGBTQ+ community. It has always been my goal to expand and strengthen this organization, ensure mission-driven planning, and foster long-lasting siblinghood. Our programs and presence encourage all queer folk to show up exactly how they are—unapologetically beautiful and resilient!

It is our responsibility to provide a safe haven and support system for all members of the LGBTQ+ community, and Beta does just that. We provide our siblings and community with the love, guidance, confidence, and armor needed to navigate this world. When we look back on this time decades from now, we will look upon these years as a renaissance—a period when our community recommitted itself to our core beliefs and purpose and unapologetically led the charge in innovation.

These are exciting times for Beta Gamma Chi, and we would love to welcome you on this journey. Join Beta this season.



**Edward Good '18**

National President of Beta Gamma Chi

A portrait of a man with a beard and short hair, wearing a light-colored polo shirt. He is looking slightly to the left of the camera. The image has a reddish-pink tint. A quote is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**“ As we walk the  
runways of life, let's  
never apologize for  
being stilettos in a  
room full of flats.**

## Membership in Beta

We provide a safe, loyal, and consistent community to anyone who is courageous and vulnerable enough to open their arms to us. Our members realize that our connection and bond are deeper than friendship. We are a family of siblings whose lives are forever interconnected and interwoven in a deep belief of love and selflessness that is difficult for us to explain.

Our members come from diverse socio-economic and educational backgrounds, and we have careers in a variety of fields. However, our fraternity has always strived to help members develop the social, emotional, and intellectual skills and competency necessary to thrive in professional spaces. We offer workshops, mentoring, and leadership training to all members at regional and national convenings each year. As our Founders always say, “when you give your best to Beta, Beta in return gives its best to you.” That is our commitment.

## Service through Beta

Our members curate programs or events that enable them to serve the LGBTQ+ community. Our repertory of programs reflects our steadfast commitment to service and highlights our innovation and mission-driven focus.

- Back to School Drive (*launched in 2018*)
- Beyond the Binary (*launched in 2022*)
- Code Red World AIDS Day Benefit (*launched in 2020*)
- Don't Let It Break You (*launched in 2017*)
- Holiday Food Drive (*launched in 2017*)
- Queers in Demand (*launched in 2022*)
- Queers Talking in Private (*launched in 2019*)

## Membership Eligibility

To apply for membership with Beta Gamma Chi, you must:

- Identify as a cisgender male, transgender male, non-binary, genderqueer, or gender non-conforming person
- Be at least 18 years of age or older
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Have knowledge of or experience in community service, programming and/or philanthropy

## We hold ourselves to a high standard.

Our members strive to:

Pursue their own happiness within and outside of the fraternity

Be honest with themselves, their fraternity siblings, and their friends and family

Be passionate about their goals and their future within and outside of the fraternity

Be courageous and fearless with every action within and outside of the fraternity

Fully embrace change, growth, and continuous improvement

In addition, we expect our members to:

- Be role models for queer youth
- Communicate and build friendships with members in their region
- Participate in service, fellowship, and development opportunities
- Participate and contribute to meetings

## Applying for Membership

If Beta is the fraternity for you, complete an application. Our application is available on our website from **July 15 to December 10**. The application will require a two-minute video introduction, a resume, and a signed recommendation letter from a colleague, friend, or family member.

Once you have submitted your application, we will email you to schedule your first interview. When you complete the interview process and accept your membership bid for the fall induction, you will be required to attend orientation on **September 24** and take New Member Education classes from **October 7 to December 18**. If you accept a membership bid for the spring induction, you will be required to attend orientation on **December 23** and take New Member Education classes from **January 6 to March 19**.

### What are New Member Education classes?

New Member Education classes are weekly sessions that you will attend via video conference or in-person. During these classes, you will learn more about who we are, but you will also learn about and engage in siblinghood, community service, and more. These classes occur twice a week for two hours; you are required to attend each one for the duration of the program.

### When will induction take place?

If you accept a membership bid, you will be required to attend induction during the annual retreat or annual conference.



# Save the Date

## **Annual Retreat 2022**

Location TBA

Thursday, December 15  
to Sunday, December 18

## **Beta Conference 2023**

Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel  
202 E Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202

Thursday, March 16  
to Sunday, March 19

# Financial Commitment

All new members must pay an intake fee of \$522, which covers the cost of induction materials, registration for the annual retreat or conference, room and board during induction, and annual dues for 2023. *This cost does not include travel expenses to and from the retreat or conference and any required formal attire.*

## Fall Induction

- Intake Payment 1 (\$276) is due no later than October 7
- Travel Plans for the annual retreat are due no later than November 13
- Intake Payment 2 (\$276) is due no later than December 15

## Spring Induction

- Intake Payment 1 (\$276) is due no later than January 6
- Travel Plans for the annual conference are due no later than February 12
- Intake Payment 2 (\$276) is due no later than March 16

Membership in Beta Gamma Chi is an ongoing financial commitment. Our members pay \$192 annually (\$16/mo) for active membership.

**“ I love my Beta!  
Y'all were there  
when I didn't even  
know I had an  
army behind me.**



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APPLY BEFORE  
DECEMBER 10, 2022

