



# Alpha Mu Gamma Newsletter

National Collegiate Foreign Language Honor Society  
Established 1931

DR. JUNE CARTER, NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY & EDITOR  
LESLIE BRAZIER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
amgnational@fairfield.edu  
<http://www.amgnational.org>

Spring 2020

## Dear AMG Members,

I sincerely hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and high spirits. The COVID-19 pandemic is having a profound impact on Higher Education and the spring semester has certainly been one filled with trials and tribulations for all of us.

At Alpha Mu Gamma National, we have kept active receiving and filling your orders and answering your queries, mostly related to the initiation ceremony. The Executive Council is very proud of the resilience and ingenuity of our Chapter Advisors in their attempt to provide the best possible experience for their initiation candidates and graduating seniors. My most sincere gratitude to you all for your dedication to the Society and to your students.

We have exciting news to share with you in this Spring newsletter: Bridgewater College will host our 37th National Convention on March 25-27, 2021. We hope all of you start considering attending this convention. Remember that we welcome and encourage undergraduate research presentations. We will share more information about the convention throughout the fall semester.

Best wishes to all in the closure of this academic year. Stay safe and healthy.

Beatriz Gómez Acuña  
AMG National President  
Theta Upsilon Chapter  
Elmhurst College



## Congratulations to the 2020 - 2021 Scholarship Recipients!

Scholarship opportunities are available through the National Scholarship Committee of Alpha Mu Gamma on a competitive basis. All Full Members (undergraduates and graduates) of Alpha Mu Gamma are eligible to apply. The scholarship must be used for continued study of a foreign language and may be applied to study at any accredited academic institution during the summer or fall/spring 2020-2021.

### Criteria for Selection

Demonstrated excellence in foreign language study and further study by the student's essay, participation in Chapter activities, cumulative GPA, Foreign Language courses GPA, and letters of recommendation. Preference is given to foreign language majors and minors.

## The Scholarship Committee congratulates the following recipients

### Goodard, Indovina, & Krakowski \$1,000 Scholarships:

**Hailey Elliot**

Boise State University, ID  
Xi Omicron

**Bekka Scott**

Boise State University, ID  
Xi Omicron

**Christopher Rziha**

Benedictine College, KS  
Iota Pi

### James Fonseca \$500 Scholarship:

**Katherine Cervantes**

Elmhurst College, IL  
Theta Upsilon

### Many Thanks To:

Dr. Eileen Wilkinson, Scholarship Chairperson (Eta Pi), Dr. Miguel Estrada (Iota Ro), and Dr. Zoe Erotopoulos (Eta Pi) for the time they spent thoughtfully evaluating the applications!

.....✱.....

# Alpha Mu Gamma News

*The 37th AMG National Convention*

*Student Spotlights*

## The 37th AMG National Convention

*March 25 - 27, 2021*



**Hosted by:**

Dr. Christopher James

Bridgewater College (Bridgewater, VA)

Xi Sigma Chapter

<https://www.bridgewater.edu/>

---

## Student Spotlights

**Amiliz Miranda-Velez**

Former Vice President / Nu Iota Chapter

University of South Carolina Upstate



Outside of the classroom I use my language and cultural skills almost every day through my work as an interpreter. During the summer, I use my language skills in translation during my internship with the Hispanic Alliance. Working as an intern in this organization requires me to use Spanish in different ways such as reaching out to the Hispanic community by assisting them where needed, whether it was for educational, medical, economic or legal services.

**Katherine Cervantes**

President / Theta Upsilon Chapter

Elmhurst College

Language is my passion. I've studied Spanish for many years and I grew up as a member of the Hispanic community. Spanish is one of my majors and I've used my bilingual abilities in many different settings, from causal conversations at home to translating in professional environments. I volunteer in my childhood school district in a program called Project CARE. In this program, I mentor school-age students whose first language is Spanish. I make close relationships with the students and I help them advance and improve in their academics. Language has opened many opportunities that have encouraged me to grow, help others grow, and build connections with those around me.



# Alpha Mu Gamma Chapter Highlights

## ❖ Eta Pi ❖

Eta Pi Chapter at Fairfield University has had an eventful 2019 – 2020 year. The chapter participated in the Open Houses for accepted students as well as the Activities Fairs during fall and spring semesters. In fall, the chapter hosted a Día de los Muertos with the screening of the movie Coco. Tacos, as well as international candies and desserts were served. In February, Eta Pi held an international photo scavenger hunt related to language and culture, where each team took photos of the 20 items or locations on the list that was provided. The winning team was awarded gift certificates. In March, National Foreign Language Week was celebrated with the screenings of eight international films. The Initiation Ceremony of 88 new members from the fall and 57 this spring, including an honorary faculty member, was scheduled for April.



Above: Group of Eta Pi AMG students at the NFLW International Film Night pre-screening pizza party

## ❖ Alpha Alpha Beta ❖

Alpha Alpha Beta chapter at Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, NC, along with 132 Spanish students celebrated National Foreign Language Week with a display of Afro-Latino culture through poster projects, dance, poetry, and culinary arts. Students who chose to present poster demonstrations were assigned topics based on their major and inspired by the Spanish Cultural Immersion Course (LPD 296). This course, taught by Alpha Alpha Beta's advisor, Dr. Katrina Watterson, thoroughly traced the diasporic passage of native Spanish speakers from Africa to their various countries. Students also tapped into their own culinary skills, preparing their own Afro-Latino dishes that gave a « taste » of Puerto Rico, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic. Poems written by Afro-Cuban poet Nancy Morejón, studied by Watterson in her dissertation (2011), were cited and analyzed, and a rendition of Afro-Cuban dance and music was performed as well.



### *Inductees*

Montana Flowers (*French*)  
Alexys Gabriel (*Spanish*)  
Laura Ajukwa (*Spanish*)  
Deondre Jernigan (*Spanish*)  
Philip Bell (*Spanish*)  
Moncrief Frazier (*Spanish*)  
Jada Strickland (*Spanish*)  
Asia Judge (*Spanish*)

### *Graduates*

Alaysha Williams (*Spanish*)  
Maya Foxworth (*Spanish*)  
Malik Browne (*Spanish, Chapter VP*)  
Asia Judge (*Spanish*)  
Maya Foxworth (*Spanish, Chapter General Officer*)  
Tatiyanna Minor (*Spanish, Chapter Secretary*)

## ❖ Nu Iota ❖



Nu Iota Chapter chapter at the University of South Carolina Upstate began the year by sponsoring its president, Hannah Collier, in the Leadership Now 2019 retreat. As she reflected on this experience she mentioned, “being a good leader means raising up others’ strengths. Being a good leader means listening to others. I am so changed by the experience at Leadership Now 2019.” AMG honor cord recipients participated in several community service activities, working as volunteers in non-profit organizations that

assist Spanish speakers in their English language needs. National Foreign Language Week began with a display of past NFLW posters, as well as the current poster “With languages you are at home anywhere,” on the hallway leading to the office of the Division of Languages, Literature, and Composition. The display included laminated copies of letters endorsing National Foreign Language Week written by past U.S. Presidents. Other activities during NFLW included: International lunch selections in the Dining Hall for each day of NFLW; Translation and Interpreting Panel titled “Bridging Cultures through Communication”; Movie Wednesday, screening of “Aquí y allá”; “German Day at USC Upstate” with over 200 high school students visiting the campus. Nu Iota was also pleased to receive a 2020 Gubernatorial Proclamation from the governor of South Carolina, for the fourth consecutive year. Due to COVID -19, the April Induction Ceremony was cancelled. The four student inductees are: Irene Biganzoli (French), Casey Cash (German), Britteny Lillie (Spanish), and Anna Shimanskiv (German). Faculty membership, Myles Alexander (German, invited Guest Speaker for the 2020 Induction Ceremony).

## ❖ Xi Omega ❖

Xi Omega at Wiley College celebrated Foreign Language Week in a big way. The chapter hosted a number of events: March 2, panel on “Notes on Independence Movement in North America and Latin America” with presenters from various disciplines; March 3, “Celebrate Languages” presented by AMG XI Omega chapel leaders; March 4, Study Abroad panel presented by alumni, founder President of XI Omega, Alisa Jackson (CIEE study abroad programs), Jaylon Bolden (XI Omega founder member & secretary, moderator; March 5, Karaoke in the Cade, hosted by Kelci Laticie (XI Omega, treasurer); March 6, XI Omega Induction Ceremony, Keynote speaker, Dr. Howard O. Gibson, Provost of Wiley College. Four students were inducted: Renata Da Silva, Raylynn Hawkyns, Ladradian Lawson, and Jennifer Moncada, and one new faculty member, Dr. Gregory McPherson. During the COVID-19 pandemic, XI Omega active members are signing up to help as Spanish/English interpreters during the pandemic.

## ❖ Iota Upsilon ❖

Iota Upsilon at West Virginia State University has been reactivated and has elected the following officers: president – Mariana Sagnia, vice president – George Hohmann, secretary – Cindie Peyton, and treasurer – Kaitlyn Hickman, chapter. The chapter celebrated National Foreign Language Week with a Noon get-together in the university's foreign language lab that featured the card game “Royales et Impériale” and home-made refreshments; a radio interview advocating the advantages of studying a foreign language on the “The Valley Today,” a show broadcast on Radio Station WMOV in Ravenswood, WV. Other Iota Upsilon activities as well as the activities of Le Cercle Français of WVSU are posted on Facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/groups/915719495259931/?epa=SEARCHBOX](https://www.facebook.com/groups/915719495259931/?epa=SEARCHBOX)

## ❖ Theta Upsilon ❖

Our Chapter is formed by 20 members representing French, German, and Spanish who are deeply committed to advancing the ideals of our Society. This spring, we celebrated Foreign Language Week with many events, among them our popular International Poetry Reading. More than 50 people including students, faculty and alumni read poems in multiple world languages. We also hosted an origami session where students learned about this tradition, practiced their folding skills and learned some Japanese phrases. Theta Upsilon received the gubernatorial proclamation from JB Pritzker declaring the week of March 1-7 as “National Foreign Language Week” in the state of Illinois. Our Spring induction ceremony was postponed until September 27th. At this time, we plan on inducting 15 new student members as well as 3 honorary members.



Above: Theta Upsilon members during the origami session

## Dates for 2020-2021 World Language Conferences

<b>ACTFL</b>	November 20 - 22	San Antonio, TX
<b>MLA</b>	January 7 - 10	Toronto, Canada
<b>NECTFL</b>	February 25 - 27	New York Hilton
<b>AATG</b>	February 25 - 27	New York, NY
<b>SCOLT</b>	March 18 - 20	Atlanta, GA
<b>AATSP</b>	July 8 - 11	Atlanta, GA
<b>AATF</b>	July 19 - 22	New Orleans

.....✦.....

# Alpha Mu Gamma Store

---



***AMG Shirt in Navy***  
(S, M, L, XL)  
\$15.00



***AMG Banner***  
(4 ft x 6 ft)  
\$100.00



***Double Honor Cords***  
(Knotted in middle)  
\$10.00

**For more items & order forms, visit:**  
<https://www.amgnational.org/store.html>

---

“Energy  
and persistence  
conquer  
all things.”

Benjamin Franklin