

ONE-der Women Scholastic Leadership Award
Nu Chapter @ the University of Pittsburgh
Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.



The women of the Nu Chapter of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.,
proudly present our 2008-2009

ONE-der Women Scholastic Leadership Award

in honor of the seven Founding Monarchs of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc., and their unrelenting dedication to Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood, Multiculturalism, and Leadership.

This information packet contains the following information:

1. National History of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. (*page 1*)
2. Nu Chapter History (*page 2*)
3. Mission Statement, Motto, and Tenets of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. (*page 2*)
4. Scholarship Information (*page 2*)
5. Scholarship Application Materials (*pages 3-4*)

1. National History of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.:

In the spring of 1996, Founding Monarch Melissa Jo Murchison-Blake wanted to be part of a family on the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill campus that openly embraced all women and crossed cultural boundaries. As a bi-racial woman, she did not want to choose between historically Caucasian or African-American sororities. Founding Monarch Murchison-Blake felt that if she did choose one, she would be denying half of her heritage.

Still wanting to be part of a strong sisterhood, Founding Monarch Murchison-Blake recruited six other diverse women to join hands in her quest to found Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority. At first, the Founding Monarchs were discouraged from fulfilling their vision. They were advised to consider joining an existing organization, and told that a new organization, based on the principal of multiculturalism, would not survive at UNC-CH. However, the Founding Monarchs believed there was a need for such a sisterhood. (*National History continued, next page*)

After much work and dedication, the Founding Monarchs built the foundation for Theta Nu Xi. Finally, UNC-CH officially recognized Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority as the Alpha Chapter on April 11, 1997.

2. Nu Chapter History:

In the Spring of 2001, Founding Sister Natasha Khan became interested in Greek Life at the University of Pittsburgh. However, she found that this wonderful opportunity created for the female student body did not actually reflect the diversity of the female student population. She desired a sisterhood that embodied the ideals of diversity, and after finding support in Founding Sister Erika Strauss, they went on a search to find a sorority that aligned with their own personal values of culture, service, and scholarship. After much searching they found exactly what they had been looking for: *Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.*

In Fall 2001, they met Founding Sister Teresa Bernaciak, who also desired to found an organization with high ideals, one with a true and diverse sisterhood and a strong commitment to service. In late Fall, the Founding Sisters submitted a proposal for the colonization of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc., on the University of Pittsburgh campus.

On April 14, 2002 Founding Sisters Khan, Strauss, and Bernaciak crossed into this sisterhood as "ONE-der Women", and by August 2002 the Nu Colony was revealed to the University of Pittsburgh, becoming the first and only Multicultural Greek Letter organization on campus. In February of 2003 the Nu colony became a recognized student organization at the University of Pittsburgh.

The colony became an Associate Chapter of Theta Nu Xi in August 2004. After their acceptance into the Panhellenic Council at the University of Pittsburgh as an associate chapter, Nu was able to obtain its Full Chapter Status from the National Organization in May of 2005.

3. Mission Statement, Motto, and Tenets of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.:

Mission Statement: "To promote leadership, multiculturalism, and self-improvement, through academic excellence, involvement in and service to the campus and community, as well as being living examples of sisterhood across different races, cultures, religions, backgrounds, and lifestyles."

Motto: "Sisters of Diversity Together as ONE"

Tenets: Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood, Multiculturalism, and Leadership.

4. Scholarship Information:

With this scholarship, Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc., would like to recognize and reward a member of the University of Pittsburgh community who embodies the qualities of Leadership, Scholarship, Service, and Multiculturalism through their involvement with the campus and community and their dedication to success at the collegiate level.

This award will be given every Spring Semester to one full-time undergraduate female who is currently enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh. *The applicant may not be a member of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.* The award will be given in the amount of \$200 to be used at any University of Pittsburgh bookstore. The applicant must fulfill the following requirements to be eligible for the Scholarship:

- Applicant must have minimum GPA of 2.5
- Applicant must include an unofficial transcript
- Applicant must include a resume
- Applicant must complete attached Application Materials (see page 3)
- Applicant must **not** be a member of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc.

5. Application Materials

Name: _____

Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Email address: _____

Year in School: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

Major(s): _____

Minor(s)/Related Area(s): _____

Local Address: _____ Permanent Address: _____

Local Phone: _____ Permanent Phone: _____

Please explain how you have shown dedication and commitment to each of the following categories:

- **Campus Involvement** – Please list campus organizations or activities that you have been involved with since you have been enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh. Attach another sheet if necessary.

Organization/Activity	What was/is your involvement with this organization or activity?

- **Service Activities** – Please include any service events done while you have been enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh. Attach another sheet if necessary.

Service Event	What was your role in this service event?

- **Scholarship Awards/Honors**– Please list any Honors or Awards that you have received since you have been enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh. Attach another sheet if necessary.

<i>Scholarships/Awards/Honors</i>	<i>Date received</i>

- **Multiculturalism Essay** – In essay format not exceeding one page (typed, double or single spaced at 12 pt font with 1 inch margins), we would like to know: *What does multiculturalism mean to you, and how have you helped to spread the ideal of multiculturalism and diversity on the University of Pittsburgh campus?* Please attach your essay on Multiculturalism to the rest of your applications materials.
- **Leadership Essay** – In essay format not exceeding one page (typed, double or single spaced at 12 pt font with 1 inch margins), we would like to know: *How have you been a leader since your arrival to the University of Pittsburgh campus?* Please attach your essay on Leadership to the rest of your applications materials.
- **Scholarship Essay**- – In essay format not exceeding one page (typed, double or single spaced at 12 pt font with 1 inch margins), we would like to know: *What are your future academic plans and how close are you to achieving them?* Please attach your essay on Scholarship to the rest of your application materials.

Please turn in all parts of the application by **April 1, 2009**, to the following address:

Theta Nu Xi
c/o Nana Ama Sarfo
732 S. Millvale Avenue, Apt A8
Pittsburgh PA 15213

Applications can also be emailed to the following email: **nana.sarfo@yahoo.com**

Applications **must be complete** to be considered. Complete applications consist of:

- Unofficial Transcript
- Resume
- ALL Application Materials, including personal information, campus involvement, service activities, scholarship awards/honors, and multiculturalism, leadership and scholarship essays (pages 3 and 4 of this packet).

Please see our website at <http://www.thetanuxi.org/> for more information on Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. If you have any questions about the scholarship, please contact Ama Sarfo, Education Chair, at nana.sarfo@yahoo.com or 717-887-3674. **Thank you for your interest!**