

Saturday, April 24, 2010

[Jobs and internships for students - click here](#)

New sisterhood dances onto campus

By Katherine Clark

Senior Staff Writer

Published: Friday, April 23, 2010

Updated: Thursday, April 22, 2010

Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. emerged at Plattsburgh State in a ceremony April 11, beginning with all six sisters dressed in matching black skirts, white button up shirts, hats, cuffs and stilettos. The sisters danced in step, stomping, clapping and chanting in unison, "scholarship, service, sisterhood, leadership and multiculturalism."

"It was our coming out to the campus," Theta Nu Xi President Genesys Nunez said. "We paid tribute to women who helped us become members of the sorority."

Following the national history chant, the ceremony included three-minute speeches by each member of the sorority, giving each a chance to reveal herself to the community.

"The emergence went enormously well," said expansion team leader of Alpha Iota Colony Jennis Brandon-Watson. "There was a lot of support from the Greek community, and the girls fed off of that energy. They did the best performance."

Brandon-Watson was one of 14 women from nationals who came to support the sisters on the day of their emergence. Other women came from the Xi Alpha Chapter in New York City and from the Xi Iota chapters in Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri and Kentucky.

"In the fall semester, we will hopefully come out with a bang. We'll have to get right to work," Nunez said. "We are so excited about everything, so many ideas, so excited to just be here, and we are excited for Girls for (a) Change, to educate not just the campus, but also the community. The campus is only a part of the community."

According to their Web site, GFC is a "national organization that empowers teen girls to create social change and teaches them to lead social change. It provides girls with professional female role models, leadership training and the inspiration to work together in teams to solve persistent societal problems in their communities."

Allison Swick-Duttine, director of fraternity and sorority life, said Theta Nu Xi became the first national Greek letter organization at PSUC to call itself multicultural.

Its members will work to promote multiculturalism and facilitate the movement from tolerance to deep respect for the beauty of difference through educational, cultural and social events.

“We are the first and only multicultural sorority on campus,” Vice President Carina Diaz said.

According to Theta Nu Xi’s Web site, the sorority’s mission is 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.”

The Alpha Iota Colony represents the 30th undergraduate installation of the national organization and the 45th entity among the organization’s undergraduate and graduate, alumnae and professional colonies and chapters, which are maintained by nearly 1,000 initiated women.

“Theta Nu Xi is something really important to me and my sisters,” Nunez said. “(It’s) really great to have something that has never been here before — everyone is being really positive.

“We want to be strong role models, and Girls for (a) Change is very willing to help with whatever we need,” Sporbert said.

Nunez said Theta Nu Xi will be focusing on educating the campus and community about poverty and will be looking for schools that would be interested in their help.

“There are a lot of alternatives, and there is always a way (to help) out,” Habiba Braiman said. “We want to educate people. You have to be specific about who you are helping so they know you care.”

The sisters of Theta Nu Xi will be planting a blossom tree as part of their sorority tradition, symbolizing beautiful leaders of social serenity overcoming multicultural stereotypes.