

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. meets in New Orleans for 13<sup>th</sup> annual convention**

**NEW ORLEANS (August 7, 2011)** -- Members of Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. united in the Big Easy for their 13th annual convention earlier this month. More than 130 members from across the nation gathered for Butterflies Building a Better Tomorrow: ONE Step at a Time, which was held at the Sheraton New Orleans from August 5-7.

The three-day convention began with Friday afternoon's opening ceremony. Attendees participated in training sessions and business meetings, where they reviewed important legislation. Graduate, Alumnae and Professional (GAP) women enjoyed connecting with each other at the GAP Networking Hour.

"I had the best time in New Orleans getting to know my sisters," said Elisé A. Meyers of Douglasville, Ga. "Over the years, I have contacted many sisters through social media network sites and developed close bonds with them. I have never able to travel to go visit them in the states they live. I was happy to be able to meet some of these sisters in person."

On Saturday morning, many members volunteered at the Second Harvest Food Bank. Other members participated in a training session led by CEO and founder of Girls For A Change, Whitney Smith. This special training session allowed women of Theta Nu Xi to implement a condensed version of the Girls For a Change mentoring program in their local communities.

Attendees enjoyed the insight of keynote speaker Sarah Gonzales, director of Racial Justice Programs at the YWCA in Tucson, Ariz., at the Butterfly Banquet and awards ceremony Saturday evening.

Ms. Gonzales' speech about racial issues in America "reminded me why our sisterhood is a necessity in our world," said Anjeli Singh of Orlando, Fla. "We represent the change that society needs and the change many people doubt could exist."

Many drew inspiration from Founder Katherine Stanley's speech on her recent battle with breast cancer, as she urged members to go "back to basics" and promote the organization's tenets in their everyday lives. Attendees witnessed a special informational video detailing the sorority's mission and history, developed by outgoing National Director of Communications Rashida Rawls, as well as the unveiling of a new national logo. The national board also revealed that Detroit, Mich., will be the location for Convention 2012.

At the closing breakfast Sunday morning, three new National Board members were sworn into office and the Alpha Eta Chapter at the University of El Paso was officially installed since obtaining their chapter charter. New Orleans journalist Shawn Chollette reflected on his experiences living in New Orleans before and after Hurricane Katrina. Attendees took his message of living with passion, care and thoughtfulness to heart when reflecting on the weekend.

"Every moment, every laugh, every smile was a pleasant surprise," said Amber Street of Decatur, Ga. "I have a renewed sense of belonging from the creation and strengthening of connections to beautiful, inspirational women from all over the nation that I am lucky enough to call my Sisters. I know this convention will be a memory I will carry with me for all of my life."

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*Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. was founded on April 11, 1997, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with a mission 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. To learn more about Theta Nu Xi Multicultural Sorority, Inc. visit [www.thetanuxi.org](http://www.thetanuxi.org).*

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