



AN INVITATION TO JOIN PHI BETA KAPPA RECOGNIZES AND HONORS  
EXCEPTIONAL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES.



The Greek letters ΦBK stand for the phrase "love of learning is the guide of life." The gold key, a symbol of extraordinary achievement, bears three stars signifying friendship, morality, and learning, as well as a pointing hand representing scholarly ambition.

## A LIFETIME CONNECTION

Phi Beta Kappa membership lasts a lifetime. It connects diverse, accomplished individuals in nearly every career field. **Employers view Phi Beta Kappa membership as a competitive advantage and a mark of personal distinction.**

"Being inducted into Phi Beta Kappa was the first academic honor I ever received and is still one of the most meaningful," says historian Edward Ayers, a National Humanities Medal recipient. "The key told me that I belonged to a long and great tradition of learning, a tradition I should do my own small part to sustain."

## A RARE HONOR

Ten percent of U.S. colleges and universities have Phi Beta Kappa chapters. These chapters select only the top 10 percent of their arts and sciences graduates to join Phi Beta Kappa, **making Phi Beta Kappa membership one of the most prestigious honors a student can receive.**

## IN GOOD COMPANY



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## A PART OF HISTORY

In 1776, five students at the College of William & Mary founded Phi Beta Kappa as a society devoted to the pursuit of liberal education and intellectual fellowship.

Phi Beta Kappa continues to honor those who achieve excellence in a broad-based exploration of the arts and sciences during their undergraduate years, counting among its members **17 U.S. Presidents, 38 U.S. Supreme Court Justices, more than 130 Nobel Laureates**, noted scientists and researchers, business and civic leaders, artists and athletes.

Today, electronic tablets have replaced quill pens, but freedom of inquiry and liberty of thought live through the students who accept the honor of Phi Beta Kappa membership each year.

Regardless of discipline, all Phi Beta Kappa members represent superior achievement and a commitment to the curiosity and creativity essential to making the most of life's experiences.

## A LIFETIME OF OPPORTUNITY

Induction into Phi Beta Kappa is just the beginning. **Members in more than 50 U.S. cities may join a Phi Beta Kappa alumni association.** These groups provide opportunities to participate in engaging networking events and cultural programs. Many associations are active in their communities, supporting scholarships and partnering with local charitable organizations.

Members receive *The Key Reporter*, a publication with news about Phi Beta Kappa alumni, programs, projects, awards, and activities. Phi Beta Kappa connects members on **LINKEDIN, TWITTER, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, and TUMBLR** – all great avenues to network with other Phi Beta Kappa members.

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EST. 1776

*The* **PHI BETA KAPPA** *Society*

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