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## **20,000 Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Coming to Atlanta July 9-16 for Biennial Conference**

Chicago, Illinois (April 13, 2016) – More than 20,000 members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (AKA) – from all over the world – will converge on Atlanta from July 9-16 for its biennial conference. Led by International President Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson, L.H.D., attendees will engage in service projects as well as leadership training and development.

The conference will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center, as well as several hotels. Members from as far away as Germany, Japan, South Korea, Liberia, South Africa and Dubai are expected to attend.

Atlanta was selected as the host site for the conference based on its deep civil rights roots and historical significance to the Sorority. The city has served as home to icons such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Alpha Kappa Alpha founder Marie Woolfolk Taylor, who is buried there; and the late Dr. Mary Shy Scott, a prominent educator and motivational speaker who served as the Sorority's 23<sup>rd</sup> International President. Atlanta last hosted the organization's international conference in 1980.

“Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is thrilled to bring our biennial conference to Atlanta,” said Buckhanan Wilson. “After more than 30 years since our last international conference here, the Sorority returns to the city of Atlanta, home to thousands of members. As more than 20,000 members descend on the city, our service impact will be felt by the Atlanta community for years to come.”

As part of the Alpha Kappa Alpha's international program theme, “Launching New Dimensions of Service,” the sorority will host “23 Moments of Service” during the conference in honor of Dr. Scott. Dressed in their signature pink and green, members will package 100,000 meals in collaboration with Stop Hunger Now, participate in five playground restoration projects at local parks and schools, hold a school supply and backpack donation drive and receive hands-on CPR training, among other service activities.

Also, the sorority will host the Think HBCU Expo on July 9, showcasing historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) as critical venues for moving students to and through college. Local high school students and families can explore offerings at many of the nation's best HBCUs.

On July 10, there will be a public meeting to highlight Alpha Kappa Alpha's global service mission and accomplishments and to honor civic leaders, both locally and worldwide. Awards will be presented to international leaders during this event, which is also free and open to the public.

Kappa Omega, the oldest AKA chapter in Atlanta, was chartered in 1923. For years, it was the only Alpha Kappa Alpha chapter serving the Atlanta community until the chartering of Alpha Pi Chapter at Clark Atlanta University in 1930. There are also AKA chapters at Emory University, Spelman College, Georgia State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Mercer University and Oglethorpe University, and several graduate chapters throughout metro Atlanta.

**About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.**

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is an international service organization that was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek letter organization established by African-American college-educated women. Alpha Kappa Alpha is comprised of more than 290,000 members in 993 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States, Liberia, the Bahamas, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Germany, South Korea, Bermuda, Japan, Canada, South Africa and Dubai. Led by International President Dorothy Buckhanan Wilson, L.H.D., Alpha Kappa Alpha is often hailed as “America’s premier Greek-letter organization for African-American women.”

For more information on Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and its programs, visit [AKA1908.com](http://AKA1908.com).