



**Alpha Chi**  
*National Convention*  
**LITERACY 500**  
April 2-4, 2009 Indianapolis

**Members, start your engines!** And prepare to head to the capitol of Indiana, 2-4 April 2009, for the National Alpha Chi Convention at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis. Start making your plans now to be part of one of our most memorable Alpha Chi conventions ever! The opening convention banquet on Thursday evening will have a “Literacy 500” theme, with the party afterwards featuring “pit crews” competing against each other for prizes. Friday and Saturday mornings are devoted to academic presentations by students and alumni (What a great way to enhance a résumé!), while Friday afternoon and evening are free for exploring Indianapolis. Visit [www.Indianapolis.org](http://www.Indianapolis.org) for points of interest in Indianapolis, many of them within walking distance of our hotel. Put April 2-4 on your calendar now, and get ready for an exciting and meaningful focus on scholarship and service in Indianapolis!

This year, our national theme is the promotion of literacy. As the *Los Angeles Times* reported, “No skill is more crucial to the future of a child, or to a democratic and prosperous society, than literacy.” Because of the crucial importance of literacy, we are issuing several challenges to all Alpha Chi chapters nationally in an effort to “make scholarship effective for good”:

- Come to Alpha Chi’s National Convention and bring children’s books with you to donate to our national literacy project. Because we are in “Indy 500” territory, for our “Literacy 500” project we hope to collect 500+ children’s books to benefit several worthy Indianapolis groups. For example, a children’s hospital there has no book budget and would welcome donations, and several Head Start groups need books for their students. We will have a special Alpha Chi “Literacy 500” T-shirt for everyone who donates at least one book. We want to spotlight Alpha Chi’s profile nationally as an honor society that makes a positive difference in others’ lives.
- If you can’t attend the Convention, you can still participate in the national service project by mailing new and gently used children’s books to the secretary of the Alpha Chi National Council: Dr. Blake Janutolo, Science & Humanities, Anderson University, 1100 E. 5th Street, Anderson, IN 46012. *All contributions will be acknowledged at the Convention.*
- Think of ways to promote literacy in your area. You might choose to have a book drive to benefit needy schools or programs such as Head Start or shelters for abused children; tutor students in reading; volunteer to host a story hour at your local library, a daycare, or after-school program; or contact social services agencies in your area to volunteer to teach adults to read. Be sure to send the national Alpha Chi Office pictures and/or videos of your literacy activities, or bring them with you to the National Convention!

**For chapters that sometimes bring ten or more students, we’ll be thrilled to see you do it again! If you’re a sponsor who typically assumes it will be too expensive for your chapter to participate at all, we hope you’ll investigate whether or not that’s actually true with the information provided in this packet. With national and regional reimbursements, many chapters pay very little out of pocket for at least one sponsor and a couple of students to attend. So we hope your chapter decides to join us in Indy!**

# ***The 2009 Indianapolis Convention Highlights***

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**Registration Fee:** \$30 per person covers the Thursday evening banquet and party afterwards and Friday and Saturday's continental breakfasts. (\$30 is a subsidized fee since the actual cost of these items is closer to \$75 per person—even more for presenters using provided AV.)

**Registering Online:** Information on registering your chapter for the convention and submitting student presentation proposals will be sent in January. We plan to have online registration through our web site at that time.

**Hotel:** Hyatt Regency Indianapolis at State Capitol  
1 S. Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204

**Rate/Reservations:** \$139.00 per room + \$22.24 tax (16%) = \$161.24 (for up to 4 occupants)  
**The cut-off date for guaranteeing availability and Alpha Chi's rate will be March 4.** Call Hyatt at 800-233-1234 to make your hotel reservations, or book online at <http://indianapolis.hyatt.com/groupbooking/indriachi2009>. Rooms for four students contain 2 full-size beds; due to fire codes, roll-away beds will not be permitted in these rooms.

**\$\$ Subsidy Info:** **See the green enclosure titled *Money for Convention Attendance*. This page contains details about the many ways Alpha Chi will help your chapter with convention costs. If you need any clarifications, call the national office.**

**Enclosures:** Please take a moment to look through the entire convention mailing. In it you'll find information on national and regional convention subsidies, student presentations, convention presentation prizes, guaranteed quads, chapter workshops, sponsor service recognition pins, a pre-convention deadlines page, a tentative convention agenda, and more.

**Deadline Information:** Please pay attention to the many different Alpha Chi deadlines coming up this spring. Deadlines that often cannot be extended are hotel reservations (for the AX rate and room availability) and student presentation entries (the program has to go to press well in advance of the convention).

**Student Presentations:** The papers, readings, performances, and exhibits given by students are the centerpiece of the convention, so please encourage your students to make a presentation. These can be from any academic field and should last no longer than 10-12 minutes. All entries submitted by the deadline are accepted, and there is no maximum number of presentations per chapter.

**Convention Presentation Prizes:** We're very excited to offer prizes for the best student presentations, the result of endowment funds given by donors to encourage student participation at the convention and to reward outstanding work. Twenty-five prizes of \$200 each will be awarded. (see enclosure for complete list of categories).

**Air Travel:** The airport is Indianapolis International Airport (IND) [www.IndianapolisAirport.com](http://www.IndianapolisAirport.com)

**Ground Transportation:** Other than grabbing a taxi at baggage claim, here are a few options for the 6-mile ride from the airport. There are more options on the airport's web site.

**Carey Limousine Shared Ride**

[www.careyindiana.com/shared\\_ride.asp](http://www.careyindiana.com/shared_ride.asp) \$15 (approx.) per person each way

**IndyGo City Bus**

[www.indygo.net](http://www.indygo.net) \$7 one-way (pick-up and drop-off at the Hyatt)

**Sponsors will be able to register their chapter's delegation online. Details will be e-mailed as soon as they're available. Check the *Conventions* web page often at [www.AlphaChiHonor.org](http://www.AlphaChiHonor.org), and contact the national office with your questions at 800-477-4225.**



# Money for Convention Attendance

Alpha Chi wants you and your students to attend the National Convention in Indianapolis — so much that there are several ways we help with your expenses. These monies are paid after the convention using forms provided in the convention registration packet given to each chapter at check-in.

## Reimbursements from National

**Housing Subsidy** \$30 per night (up to three nights) each for one sponsor, one student delegate, and one additional student presenter staying in the convention hotel. (\$270 chapter max.)

**Workshop Subsidies** Chapters giving a workshop presentation or preparing a poster for the poster session will receive \$100. (\$100 chapter max.)

**Guaranteed Quad Rate** For chapters that will have fewer than four students in a room, the national office can guarantee each student the “quad rate.” Specifically, the national office will assign them to a shared room (4 students). This ensures that each student pays only one-fourth of the nightly room rate. (Certain rules apply. See *Guaranteed Quad Room* sheet for details.)

**New Chapter Subsidy** Recently installed chapters will receive \$50 each for one sponsor and one student delegate for attendance at the first national convention following their chapter’s inauguration. Eligible chapters should request this subsidy by contacting Lara Noah in the national office. (\$100 chapter max.)

**“Come Back” Subsidy** To encourage chapters that haven’t attended a national convention since Savannah in 2001, those chapters may request a refund of the \$30 registration fee for one sponsor and one student delegate. Eligible chapters should request this subsidy by contacting Lara Noah in the national office. (\$60 chapter max.)

## Reimbursements from Regional

**Region I** \$500 for one sponsor; \$500 for one student; \$300 for additional students making presentations (\$1300 chapter max.) AND an additional one-time \$500 for “reactivating” chapters (those that haven’t attended a convention in 8 years)

**Region II** \$400 for one sponsor; \$400 for one student; \$200 for additional students making presentations (\$1000 chapter max.) [*subject to adjustment by regional board*]

**Region III** \$300 for one sponsor; \$300 for one student; \$50 each for additional students making presentations (\$1000 chapter max.)

**Region IV** \$50 per night each for one sponsor and one student; \$25 per night for any other sponsor or students; \$0.42 per mile, round-trip, from campus to convention for one vehicle (same applies for either airfare or ground travel)

**Region V** \$50 per delegate up to a maximum of seven delegates (\$350) plus mileage for one car to and from the convention at \$0.50 per mile. (\$750 chapter max.)

**Region VI** \$350 each for one sponsor and one student (\$700 chapter max.)

**Region VII** Up to \$700 per chapter to cover documented expenses directly related to attending the convention (up to \$1050 for Hawaii chapters). Note: The national office provides an additional subsidy for Region VII chapters of \$200 each for one sponsor and one student for travel costs.

**If you have any other questions on these reimbursements, please contact the national office at 800-477-4225. Our staff will be glad to answer your questions or direct you to a regional officer who can.**

# Guaranteed Quad Room Arrangements for Students

**“Convention housing will always be most cost effective if you can fill rooms with four students each. If your delegation can’t fill a room on its own, let the national office help.”**

*--Dennis Organ, Exec. Director*



## “Guaranteed Quads” Explained

For chapters unable to fill an entire room (4 students), consider booking some or all of your students through the national office in Guaranteed Quads. This assures that even these students will pay only one-fourth of the room rate per night.

For example, a chapter is bringing 6 female students to the convention. If you fill a room with 4 women, it leaves only 2 to share the other room. To save a little money each night, these 2 students could be assigned to a Guaranteed Quad by the national office. Simply pre-pay one-fourth of the nightly room rate for each student, and the national office will assign them to a room with 2 other female students from one or more colleges.

**Due to the uniqueness of this program, these room arrangements differ in several ways from the rooms a chapter arranges directly with the hotel. The biggest difference is that the national office requires payment in advance for Guaranteed Quads. The quad rate for 2009 is \$40 per student per night.**

Having these rooms pre-paid allows the national office to book students in rooms prior to arrival, which allows your student to check-in by giving his/her name or confirmation number. These students will not have to put down a cash or credit card deposit for incidentals, because no incidentals can be charged to these rooms. Alpha Chi, in trust, is guaranteeing these rooms in the case of a student inadvertently charging something to the room. Theoretically, since these students should not have charged anything to the room, there should be nothing to pay upon check-out. Simply turn in the key and leave. The only problem we ever encounter is when a sponsor assigns a student to one of these rooms without providing them with ALL of the facts (below).

## What Everyone Needs to Understand About Guaranteed Quads This Year

- 1) The national office will assign four students to each room. There will be 4 students and 2 full-size beds. These full-size beds will have to be shared. These rooms cannot accommodate a roll-away bed. **(Please do not sign students up for GQ rooms if they're unaware of or don't agree to this sleeping arrangement.)**
- 2) Room swapping is not allowed unless someone from the national office is notified in advance.
- 3) When a GQ student checks in at the hotel desk, please remind the reservations agent that the room request is for a “double-double” (two beds). You may also ask if someone has already checked in.
- 4) Incidentals such as room service, movies, health club, internet, etc., may NOT be charged to these rooms. If a charge appears, the student's chapter will be held responsible for reimbursing Alpha Chi.
- 5) There will be no phone service in these rooms except to extensions in the hotel. There are pay phones throughout the hotel for local or long distance phone calls.
- 6) Smoking is not allowed in these rooms.
- 7) Please be courteous and as accommodating as possible.

### **Hotel check-in is at 3 p.m., and check-out is at noon.**

Once a student is sure that no incidentals have been mistakenly charged to the room (the account can be checked using guest room TV), they are ready to leave. (You might want to verify this with the front desk staff.) If for some reason you have a major problem at check-out, please ask the desk staff to contact Lara Noah from the Alpha Chi convention staff.



# Student Presentations: What's Involved?

**The papers, readings, performances, and exhibits given by students are the centerpiece of the convention, so please encourage your students to make a presentation.**

Student presentations can be from any academic field and should last no longer than 10-12 minutes. There is no maximum number of presentations per chapter, and all entries submitted by the deadline will be accepted. It is a good idea to have your students present to your local chapter before the convention. This will give them a chance to practice and assure you that they are prepared. **The deadline for presentation entries is February 18, 2009.**

## What Student Presenters Need to Know Prior to Entering

- 1) Each presenter may select **one** of the audio-visual options they will see on the entry form. These options are provided for the presenter free of charge.
- 2) Students will be able to submit presentation entries directly to the national office either online or by e-mail. Stay tuned for further information. You will need to clearly title your presentation as this is what delegates will see to determine which presentations they wish to attend.
- 3) Prizes will be given in 25 academic categories. Quality of content and presentational skills are the judging criteria for a \$200 Convention Presentation Prize. Students will, upon submission, select the category most appropriate for their presentation: business administration, American literature, British literature, Shakespeare, creative writing, education, communication, world history, American history, political science & economics, anthropology & geology, psychology, art/music/dance papers, performing arts, visual art, religion, contemporary bioethical issues, molecular/cellular biology, organismal/ecological biology, exercise & nutrition science, health sciences, chemistry, physics/geology/astronomy, computer science/engineering, and mathematics.
- 4) Presentation is not an element of the Sledge/Benedict or Gaston/Nolle national scholarship competitions. Do not confuse regional scholarships with national scholarships or presentation prizes.
- 5) For PowerPoint Presentations: All presentations should be saved in Office PowerPoint 2003 format and must run in Microsoft Office or Microsoft Explorer. Acceptable media: CD or USB pin drive. Please bring two copies of your media. Technical problems can occur; have printed slides ready as backup.
- 6) For Artwork Presentations: Electronic portfolios will be required this year. All works submitted are to be digital files on a CD readable by Mac or PC. Each artist is eligible to submit up to 5 works for the exhibition. Three-Dimensional works (and only 3D works) may have two views. All images of student artwork will be compiled into a single PowerPoint presentation that will run on a loop in the art room. The online presentation entry form will require greater detail on these submissions. Presenters also wanting to bring artwork for display may set up on a first-come, first-served basis between 3 and 6 p.m., April 2. The electronic portfolios alone will be judged for the presentation prize.
- 7) Music/Drama Presentations: Most, if not all, musical and dramatic performance presentations will be grouped together in a room with a piano, music stand, and microphone. Upon arriving, pianists should check with someone at the registration area to see if a practice time can be arranged.
- 8) Once the program has gone to press, the program will be posted at AlphaChiHonor.org. Otherwise, presenters will only know their presentation day and time when they pick up a program on April 2.



# Convention Presentation Prizes

**Inform your students about this feature of the convention, and encourage them to give a presentation so they can be eligible for one of the twenty-five \$200 awards.**

Although the convention offers many opportunities, we want the student scholarly and artistic program to remain as the centerpiece. Many donors have joined in this goal by contributing to an endowment fund of \$50,000 that will furnish these convention prizes far into the future.

When students complete the online presentation entry form, they will be asked to specify the academic field that best suits their presentation. We will award a prize in each category where there are sufficient presentations to ensure the quality of competition, probably about four presentations. Encourage students and perhaps help them to select a paper or presentation that matches one of our categories. Although "other" will be a choice on the entry form, we cannot guarantee that such presentations will be eligible to compete for a prize. Here are our categories:

**American Literature**  
**British Literature**  
**Shakespeare**  
**Creative Writing**  
**Education**  
**Communication**  
**World History**  
**American History**  
**Political Science and Economics**  
**Anthropology and Sociology**  
**Psychology**  
**Art/Music/Dance Papers**  
**Performing Arts**  
**Visual Art (original)**  
**Religion**  
**Contemporary Bioethical Issues**  
**Molecular/Cellular Biology**  
**Organismal/Ecological Biology**  
**Exercise Science and Nutrition**  
**Health Science**  
**Chemistry**  
**Physics/Geology/Astronomy**  
**Computer Science/Engineering**  
**Mathematics**  
**Business Administration**

The National Office will send a call for judges later by e-mail. We hope you and your assistant sponsors will consider being judges for your academic areas.

Note: Although alumni and graduate student members are welcome to make presentations on the program, at this time eligibility for prizes will be limited to individuals who are or have been undergraduates during the 2008-09 academic year.

# Chapter Workshops/Poster Sessions

**Now a regular event at the Alpha Chi National College Honor Scholarship Society Convention, workshop sessions will again be offered on Friday and Saturday mornings. Join us for these sessions and take valuable inspiration and knowledge to your campus members. Plus, consider presenting a chapter workshop or a poster session.**



Chapter workshops and a poster session will be held concurrently with the continental breakfasts on Friday and Saturday mornings.

## **Chapter Workshops**

Friday morning's sessions will focus on issues important to students and chapters. Topics to consider include understanding credit management and financial planning, getting into graduate school, giving a successful academic presentation, writing for publication, marketing Alpha Chi on campus, creating a meaningful induction ceremony, emphasizing academic integrity, soliciting competitive scholarship applications, and highlighting successful chapter activities. There will also be sessions for new sponsors. Workshop session leaders will be asked to send electronic versions of their presentations to the national office for distribution to all chapters.

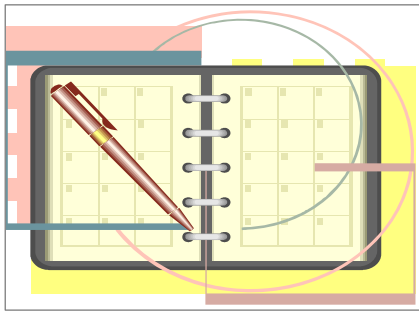
Some chapter members may choose to present topics in a poster format on Saturday morning. Each presentation will include a poster or table display and one or more students to interact with convention delegates.

## **Call for Workshop Presenters**

Later this fall, a call for chapter workshop presenters will be sent to sponsors via the Alpha Chi email list serve, AXList. Sponsors may be interested in presenting one of the sessions concerning student interests, such as getting into graduate school. Students may be excited about describing innovative chapter activities. Presentations will be approximately twenty-five minutes in length, and some will be offered twice.

## **Subsidies for Participation**

Each chapter that has a member or sponsor making a workshop or poster presentation will receive one \$100 subsidy for the chapter. This subsidy will be a reimbursement that can be requested on the form provided in the sponsor's convention packet available at check-in. More information regarding workshop subsidies will be given when the call for proposals is sent to sponsors via email.



# Tentative Convention Agenda

**Alpha Chi's convention agenda cannot be finalized until we get nearer to the actual convention dates; however, this is the tentative schedule of events. This information might be helpful as you make your chapter's travel and free-time plans.**

## Thursday

- 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. Registration (one member may check in for entire chapter)
- 3:00 p.m. Hotel Check-In
- 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Banquet with Keynote Speaker (business attire)
- 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. Dessert Party
- 9:00 - 9:45 p.m. Meeting of Section Presiders and Presentation Prize Judges

## Friday

- 7:00 - 8:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 7:30 - 8:15 a.m. Chapter Workshops
- 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Keynote Address  
National Council Elections
- 9:45 - Noon Student Presentations (13-14 concurrent sessions)
- 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. Regional Business Meetings
- 1:00 p.m. Lunch (on your own)  
Afternoon and evening free to enjoy Indianapolis

## Saturday

- 7:00 - 8:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 7:30 - 8:15 a.m. Chapter Poster Session
- 8:30 - 10:45 a.m. Student Presentations (13-14 concurrent sessions)
- 11:00 - 12:15 p.m. General Business Meeting / Award Presentations  
Announcements  
Conclusion of Convention
- Noon Hotel Check-Out (If you're checking out today, please check out and store your luggage prior to attending the 11 a.m. general business meeting, or secure a late check-out from the hotel's front desk.)