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H09-1695. Dorian Sorority (Kappa Beta Phi). Records, 1922-2008. 9.00 linear ft.

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H09-1695. Dorian Sorority (Kappa Beta Phi). Records, 1922-2008. 9.00 linear ft.

Abstract

The Dorian Society was organized at Hope College in 1921. The name Dorian represents that which is highest, finest, and simplest. The Doric column, notable for its strength, simplicity, and beauty, became the symbol of the society. Lavender and gold were chosen as the society’s official colors and the yellow rose became the symbol of Dorian friendship. Dorian was the first sorority at Hope College to break away from the classic sorority uniform style and the first to request a sorority house on campus. Hope College agreed to give the sorority a house in the fall of 1970. Dorian was temporarily given Kleis Cottage as their first sorority house. Due to widespread conflict over the Vietnam War and civil rights issues felt on campuses across the nation, the Dorian Sorority members became divided and disbanded, temporarily, on February 18, 1971. The Dorian Sorority was reinstated in 1988. The collection contains alumni information, bid acceptances, photograph composites of members, constitution, cottage photographs, disbandment materials, photograph albums, Dorian Doings, history, homecoming materials, scrapbooks, minutes, news clippings, new member book, pledge information, record book, reinstatement materials, Roll Book, and songs.

Accession No: H09-1695
Provenance: Dorian Sorority (Kappa Beta Phi)
Donor: Dorian Sorority (Kappa Beta Phi)
Photographs: 556 of images (Boxes 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7)
Processed by: Jeffrey Harrison, March 2010

History

The Dorian Society was organized at Hope in 1921. The name Dorian represents that which is highest, finest, and simplest. The Doric column, notable for its strength, simplicity, and beauty, became the symbol of the society. Lavender and gold were chosen as the society’s official colors and the yellow rose became the symbol of Dorian friendship.

In 1941, the Dorian Society became a sorority with the Greek Letters Kappa (love and community) Beta (loyalty and reliability) Phi (friendship). The sorority adopted the wearing of lavender and yellow pledge pins in 1954, followed by the adoption of the sorority crest in 1961. The Dorians’ brother fraternity was originally the Emersonians, with whom they held frequent literary meetings. Eventually, Dorian was the first sorority at Hope to break away from the classic sorority uniform style. Dorian was also the first to request a sorority house on campus. Hope College agreed to give the sorority a house in the fall of 1970. Dorian was temporarily given Kleis Cottage as their first sorority house.

Due to widespread conflict over the Vietnam War and civil rights issues felt on campuses across the nation, the Dorian Sorority members divided. On February 18, 1971, the final result to disband was made as a result of internal conflict, financial problems, changing needs, and different interests.

Fortunately, a group of women who shared the values and ideals of Dorian came together to reinstate the sorority in 1988. After many meetings with Pan-Hel, the group succeeded in
brining the Kappa Beta Phi Sorority back to Hope College. Over a decade later, Dorian is alive and well on Hope’s campus, carrying out the ideals of Kappa Beta Phi.

Scope and Content

The collection contains alumni information, bid acceptances, photograph composites of members, constitution, cottage photographs, disbandment materials, photograph albums, *Dorian Doings*, history, homecoming materials, scrapbooks, minutes, news clippings, new member book, pledge information, record book, reinstatement materials, Roll Book, and songs. The collection is organized alphabetically by topic and chronologically within folders.

Container List

Box 1

  Alumni Information, 1989 (2 folders)
  Alumni Letters, 1953-1995
  Alumni Questionnaires, n.d.
  Constitution, 1991
  Date Book, n.d. (57 images)
  Disbandment, 1971
  *Dorian Doings*, 1954-1969
  Dorian History, n.d.
  Greek 101 Magazine, 2000
  Greek Articles, 1998
  Greek Policies, 1998
  Homecoming, 1953-1966
  Judicial Board, 1986
  Judicial Procedures, n.d.
  Letters of Interest in Wanting to Become a Dorian, 1988
  Literary Meetings, 1993
  MGCA Conference, 2000 (2 folders)
  News Clippings, 1969-1988
  New Member Books, 1992-2005 (3 folders)
  New Member Education, 1998

Box 2

  Photographs
    Cottage Photographs, n.d. (38 images) (5 folders)
    Dorian Christmas Photo Album, 1990-1996 (132 images) (4 folders)
  Pledge Information, 1961-1988
  Prayer Book, 2003-2008
  Record Book, 1991-1992
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Reinstatement, 1988
Roll Book, 1938-1971 (2 folders)
Rush Guidelines, 1995
Rush Information, 1965-1967
Social Activities, n.d., 1966
Songs, n.d.

Box 3

Bid Acceptances, 1989-1998
Photograph Album, 1989-1990
Photographs of Christmas Party, 1997
Scrapbook, 1962-1965
Scrapbook, 1926-1966

Box 4

Pledge Paddles (2 items)

Box 5

Scrapbook, 1962-1965
Scrapbook, 2003-2005

Box 6

Photograph Album, 1991-1994
Programs, 1948-1951

Box 7

Composite Photographs, 1964-2008 (incomplete) (38 images) (2 folders)
Scrapbook, 1967-1970

Oversized (stored in Hope College Oversized Collections Cabinet Drawer)

Pledge and Rush Posters (20 items)