

105 YEARS

ONCE, ALWAYS

PHI SIGMA SIGMA

Dear Sister,

On the eve of our 105th Founders' Day, I want to extend my most heartfelt greeting as we come together and celebrate our sisterhood. In thinking about this Founders' Day message, I was drawn to the following line in the Phi Sigma Sigma creed:

***I will find strength in the lifelong friendships
I share in the bonds of our sisterhood.***

As I reflect upon my membership in Phi Sigma Sigma and the awesome privilege of serving as grand archon, I am so incredibly grateful for the lifelong friendships that have formed the foundation of sisterhood in my life. Indeed, even in the midst of the most challenging personal and professional times of my life, it is my sisters that continue to motivate, encourage and support me, ensuring that I am never alone.

Truth be told, I'm reasonably certain that the vast majority of us joined Phi Sigma Sigma not because of the legacy of our Founders or our philanthropic cause, but rather, because we connected with a sister during a class or recruitment event. Little did we know in those moments that this connection would lead to something greater. For me, that connection was with Katie David. She has an infectious positive attitude, a tremendous sense of humor, and the uncanny ability of making you feel like the most important person in the room. I



wanted to be a Phi Sigma Sigma because, more than anything, I wanted to be friends with Katie. Throughout our collegiate years she served as a mentor and confidant, and I followed in her footsteps serving as membership recruitment chair and archon. My friendship with Katie continues 19 years after accepting my bid and, even with 3,000 miles separating us, we remain connected due to the deep bonds of our sisterhood.



I am grateful that among the legacies our Founders left us is the blessing of lifelong friendships and the bonds of sisterhood. In 1923, Sphinx Editor Lillian Slater, said it best, *"To them the name of Phi Sigma Sigma carried the splendid significance of fine friendships and of the desire to serve philanthropically."*

And so, on this Founders' Day, I hope you will join me in celebrating the fine friendships that

Phi Sigma Sigma has brought into your life. I know my life is far more enriched because of these friendships, expanding well beyond the walls of the Epsilon Delta Chapter to include sisters from across North America and across badges. May we be ever focused on creating a culture within our sisterhood that adheres to the spirit of our Founders, *splendid significance of fine friendship.*

Happy Founders' Day & In Our Bond,

Katie

Katie Vlietstra Wonnenberg
Grand Archon

P.S. If you haven't already made a donation to the 2018 Founders' Day campaign in support of the Phi Sigma Sigma Foundation, please consider doing so today!

[*2018 Founders' Day Campaign Contribution Link*](#)

