

## NEWS RELEASE

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### CONTACT:

Ayana D. Hernandez

Media Relation & Production Committee Chairman  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Mid-Atlantic Region  
[mediarelationsmidatlanticaka@gmail.com](mailto:mediarelationsmidatlanticaka@gmail.com) or 919-335-8256

### **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® To Host 71<sup>st</sup> Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference In Charlotte April 11-14; Free Community Job Fair Scheduled For April 11 At Johnson C. Smith University**

*More Than 5,500 Members Registered for Four-Day Conference; Community Career and Job Fair Powered by TIAA Will Feature Over 40 Employers*

**CHARLOTTE, N.C.**— More than 5,500 members of [Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®](#) – the oldest service organization founded by college-educated African American women in 1908– will travel to Charlotte, North Carolina, for its 71st [Mid-Atlantic Regional](#) Conference from April 11-14, 2024.

Members will attend conference events and workshops and participate in several activities, including the Region’s first-ever [Community Career and Job Fair](#) and other events that are open to the general public. Conference attendees will leave an impact locally through a community book drive that supports literacy efforts in the greater Charlotte community for children in grades K-5 in partnership with the Charlotte Hornets Book Bus.

“I am thrilled that the Mid-Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® will bring 5,500 members and our sought-after service and signature sisterhood to the Queen City for our 71<sup>st</sup> Regional Conference,” said Nadine Vargas Stewart, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director for Alpha Kappa Alpha. “We plan to make a lasting impact in Charlotte through our service project, as well as the new Community Career and Job Fair in partnership with Johnson C. Smith University. As the 15<sup>th</sup> largest city in the U.S., the fair offers a tangible way to expand opportunities for the community and our members who seek positions in high-demand industries in North Carolina and the region.”

“We are excited to have the Mid-Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., return to Charlotte for its regional conference this year,” said Mike Butts, Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority Vice President of Sales and Visit Charlotte Executive Director. “Members of the sorority have positively impacted the city’s hospitality industry during past conferences by staying in hotels, eating at our award-winning culinary establishments, shopping at our array of retail

outlets, as well as visiting cultural and entertainment attractions. We expect the economic impact to continue this year when members turn Charlotte into a sea of pink and green. CRVA does not estimate the economic impact of events in advance and recognizes there are additional positive outcomes from large events like Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's regional conference. These events help raise the region's profile and introduce many visitors to Charlotte who may not have been here before or who haven't visited in a while."

### **Community Career and Job Fair**

A free community job fair sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Region of [Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority](#) will include Fortune 500 businesses, local, state and government agencies from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at [Johnson C. Smith University](#) on Thursday, April 11. The onsite event will include workshops with corporate sponsor [TIAA](#), along with [NCWorks](#) and [Charlotte Works](#). Nearly 40 other confirmed businesses and organizations will represent industries ranging from banking and finance and retail to education and construction and logistics. Targeted sectors include white-collar and blue-collar, as well as private, public and government entities. Several national entities and companies with a presence in North Carolina and Virginia will be onsite, with most companies located in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area. Companies that offer remote positions will also be part of the fair.

"The Mid-Atlantic Region's Community Career and Job Fair will allow individuals who are interested in exploring career opportunities—whether they are recent graduates, career changers or seasoned professionals—to interact directly with recruiters," said Harriett Johnson, Mid-Atlantic Job Fair Committee Chairman. "The fair will also allow job seekers to better understand different industries and make meaningful connections."

Individuals can register in advance online at <https://aka1908.com/midatlantic/71st-marc-job-fair>. Parking is free. A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for 9:45 a.m., on April 11.

### **Public Meeting and 50 Years of Hip Hop-Themed Party**

The conference will include a host of guests at the Public Meeting on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 7 p.m., at the Charlotte Convention Center. The meeting will honor community leaders who significantly contributed to the international initiatives of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, to include Empowering Our Families, Building Our Economic Wealth, Enhancing Our Environment, Advocating for Social Justice, Uplifting Our Local Communities, Service, and Education.

Celebrate 50 years of hip hop with legendary DJ and rapper Kid Capri on Friday, April 12, from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. (Attendees must be 21-year-old to purchase tickets and attend this function.) The event will take place in the Charlotte Convention Center. Tickets are available online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kid-capri-live-tickets-827547736557?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

### **Media Resources**

Here is the [link](#) to a media kit, including a fact sheet on the Mid-Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® and a biography of Nadine Vargas Stewart, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director.

### **About Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® and the Mid-Atlantic Region**

[Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®](#) (AKA), a 116-year-old international service organization founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. Comprised of more than 325,000 members who hail from 1,060 graduate and undergraduate chapters worldwide, Alpha Kappa Alpha is the nation's oldest Greek letter organization established by African American college-educated women. The Mid-Atlantic Region of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® has 130 chapters and 13,000 members in North Carolina and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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