



Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.[®]

Jacksonville (FL) Alumni Chapter

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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LOCAL FRATERNITY DONATES BOOKS TO GRADUATING SENIORS

Approximately 600 copies of former First Couple's books given to Raines and Ribault Graduates

Jacksonville, FL – During the traditional graduation season, thousands of Jacksonville high school seniors missed that official rite-of-passage. Now, students have a chance to participate in a belated celebration and , one local fraternity is making the milestone extra special.

Due to concerns surrounding COVID-19, commencement exercises for many local high schools were postponed. Raines and Ribault High Schools on the northside have now been able to plan outdoor ceremonies that will follow CDC Physical Distancing recommendations.

“Our fraternity memorial house literally sits across the street from Raines and around the corner from Ribault. Those are *our* schools in *our* community, and we wanted to do our part to show them that we care”, said the Polemarch (President) of the group Scott Channing Armstrong.

Since 2008, Jacksonville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi has provided access to SAT and ACT prep courses for interested students. Kappa is also in the process of developing more than 2 acres of property on Moncrief Road to create a community development and learning center that will be accessible by the entire community.

Lawrence Dennis, a retired local public-school administrator, and Executive Director of the organization's foundation says that this is just one small way that the fraternity is doing its part to serve the community.

“Both books [that we are giving out] are powerful examples of that fact that with perseverance, the possibilities are endless”, he said.

With support from the Kappa Alpha Psi Jacksonville Foundation, Inc., young ladies will be given a copy of former First Lady Michelle Obama's bestseller “Becoming”, and gentlemen will receive former President Obama's best-selling memoir, “Dreams From My Father”. Members of Kappa Alpha Psi will be on hand in their signature crimson blazers as the books are distributed.

Ceremonies will take place on Monday and Tuesday at 9:00am in the respective football stadiums at each school. Physical distancing guidelines and mask wearing will be strictly enforced.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., is one of the premier African-American Greek Letter inter-collegiate fraternal organizations. The group holds membership in the National Pan-Hellenic Council and has more than 150,000 members in 22 countries worldwide.

The Jacksonville Alumni Chapter was chartered in 1925 on the premise of civic engagement and training men for leadership in life. Undergraduate chapters are active at Edward Waters College, Jacksonville University and the University of North Florida. Through the Kappa Alpha Psi Jacksonville Foundation, Inc., the Jacksonville Alumni Chapter has awarded over \$400,000 in scholarship funds to deserving students.

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