



## Bid Night

*'Twas the night before bid day,  
And all through the school,  
Not a sister was stirring — not even a few,  
Our matching shirts were hung on their  
hangers with care,  
With hope that PNMs would love what we  
wear.  
The babies were tucked so tightly in their  
beds,  
While visions of bids danced through their  
heads.  
My sisters packed their mints and I some  
warm tea,  
Then settled into bed all warm and snuggly.  
When all of Greek town began to scatter,  
I heard in the hallway some nervous chatter.*

*Away to the bathroom I flew like a flash,  
Put on my makeup in a very quick dash.  
The sun on the crest made our letters glow,  
As PNMs began to line up in a row.  
When what to my wondering eye should appear,  
But our recruitment chair with a look of no fear.  
With a little, old golf cart so lively and quick,  
We knew in an instant the stopwatch would  
tick,  
More rapid than eagles her courses they came,  
And chapters chanted and called out their  
names.  
Then conversations started without a delay  
And bid day 2014 was on its way.*



## Big and Little

*The Big & Little stereotypes— every  
sorority has them. Maybe you know  
exactly what category you fall into,  
or maybe you didn't realize until just  
now that you two even had an image  
that you were known for. Or maybe  
you even fall into more categories than  
one!*

*10. The Long Distance Pair  
Maybe the Big is already graduated  
or maybe one of you had to transfer  
schools or move away, but either way,  
you never stopped being Big and Lit-  
tle. You're constantly texting 24/7, so  
it's almost like you're together anyway.*

*You live for your occasional phone calls and  
Skype sessions, and you're obviously best  
friends with each other on Snapchat. The  
best part is that when you two do get to  
hang out again, it's like no time has passed  
and you fall right back into being the best  
Big and Little pair ever. Your relationship is  
so strong that not even distance can hurt it,  
and that's pretty amazing.*





## Crafting

*Whether stereotypical or not, crafting is a huge part of each srat girl's regiment. There are a few staple crafts necessary for each girl to create.*

*Recommended crafting procedure: Gather supplies for craft, gather sisters, gather wine. Obliging by this procedure will ensure optimal craft turnout, and optimal crafting enjoyment. Girls night encouraged.*



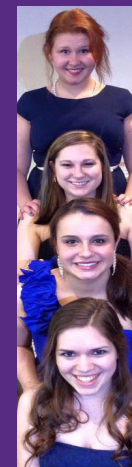
## Bae Family Tree

*Bae*

*Pronunciation: Bay*

*By actual definition bae is an acronym for "before anything else;" however sorority girls beg to differ. Bae to a sorority girl is a way of expressing cutesy emotion while trying to seem ghetto and cool. It's like "hey I pose for solo shots in front of white walls BUT I'm wearing a clever costume." It's basic, but above average and therefore acceptable. It's how to say ify without being overly emotional about the person and keeping it calm.*

*You and your big went on a couple of lunch dates before you met and hung out with the entire sorority. You instantly became friends when you had an hour long coffee date talking about nothing and everything. If your big thinks your twin is as worthy of being her little as you are, then you know your family is perfect.*





## Philanthropies

Every Greek chapter has a designated philanthropy that they sponsor. Each year, college students raise thousands of dollars to donate to these charities and organizations. How often are these philanthropic efforts reported on in the media? Rarely. How many people do the efforts of Greek philanthropy impact? More than I, or anyone, can count. On the University of Maryland's campus alone, Greek chapters hold dozens of philanthropy events and fundraisers each semester. They range from afternoon food sales to galas and balls that take months to coordinate. For example, last semester, the Delta Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi raised \$22,790 for Women's Cardiac Care at their Red Dress Gala.

In the fall of 2014, the Iota Omega chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha and Beta Kappa chapter of Kappa Alpha raised a combined total of \$50,871 for breast cancer education and awareness at the Breastfest of Champions. Terp Thon 2015 raised more than \$604,000 for the Children's National Health System in D.C. More than 70 percent of that total was raised by members of Greek life.



## Fundraising

Everyone just seems to be outdoing themselves lately, and for Alpha Chi Omega at Southern Methodist University that means big bucks for victims of domestic violence. The girls put on a fashion show called "Alpha Chi Couture" and it really was couture. Girls walked down the runway wearing Culwell and Sons, Betty Reiter, and longtime Alpha Chi Omega Couture sponsor Tootsies and over 500 people came to see it.

The focus of the show was to raise awareness for domestic violence, and the girls raised over \$80,000 for their cause to be donated to the Genesis Women's Shelter. Emcee Janice Strimple shared empowering facts about each of the models (sisters) as they walked down the runway to empower victims of domestic violence. What's really cool, though, is this was not just a campuswide event. Taking place at the Dallas Market Center, women from all over the Dallas community were able to benefit.

In addition to ticket sales, the girls put on a silent auction, but according to AXO's philanthropy chair Brinley Williams, "We actually met our fundraising goals through ticket sales and donations alone so everything we make through the silent auction now is icing on the cake." Alpha Chi is making all types of moves and we should all be taking a lesson from their book. This was the ninth annual event but the first to rake in that kind of dough. It is possible for all of us to up our philanthropy games and actually feel like we have two legs to stand on when we say we're doing good in the community. According to SMU Daily, AXO "is the first to raise \$1.5 million for women and it is also the first women's sorority to partner with the JED Foundation to prevent suicide and mental illness." Let's all try to be like them today.

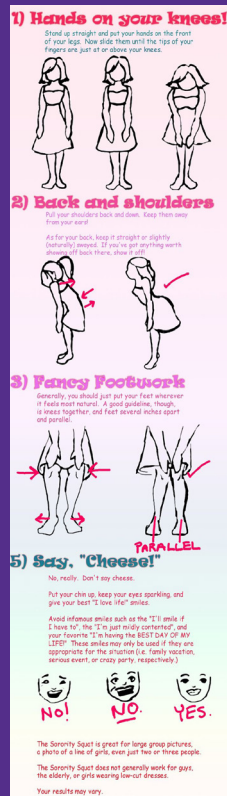


# Sorority Squatting

Frat boys can make fun all they want but there's some serious science behind the squat that's basically second nature to sorority girls.

1. It's the perfect complement to the skinny arm.
2. It's like a workout and a pose all in one.
3. How else would you fit 100+ girls in one pic?
4. If you're the short friend, still works. Scrunch a little less than everyone else and OMG you're entire chapter is, like, totally all the same height and SO meant to be!!
5. If you're the tall friend, it's a savior. Leggy girls unite! The squat was made for you to be able to scrunch to the level of all the petite gals you occasionally envy.

6. It makes your butt actually visible -While we may not all be blessed with the ass-ets that Kim K or Nicki Minaj have, we can at least look one step closer when we bend our knees and stick it out.
  7. It makes you leg muscles (or lack thereof) look ripped.
- Let's be honest, between keeping a killer GPA and finishing an entire bottle of wine by yourself, your legs may not look as good as they did in high school soccer. But when you squat, every muscle engages so you basically look like Hope Solo.



# 'Merica Letters

Up until a couple of years ago the largest trend for greek letters was Lilly Pulitzer or Vera Wang. That fad has recently evolved to American flag letters. Every real sorority girl owns at least one pair of American flag letters. This trend could stem from the idea that sorority women are the perfect all-american girl. I personally think that we just like to show our patriotism.





# Sister-

*When we talk about sorority membership, we often talk about sisterhood — but what does sisterhood really mean? Sorority women are connected by their rituals, their philanthropic causes, their values and sometimes their living arrangements. At some point along the way, they become sisters. Sisterhood is not a bond that happens overnight; just like forming a friendship, it takes time and effort. However, sisterhood is one of the most rewarding aspects of sorority membership, so it is definitely worth it.*

*Sharing a common ritual, or secret traditions and ceremonies that are unique to each sorority, also forms sisterhood bonds. Says one sorority woman “I love that my sorority sisters have found a love and value for the same things that I strive to live by in my life. When I participate in my sorority’s ritual, I feel that the women with me — regardless of our differences — ultimately want the same things I do.” Ritual events are important and almost sacred to sorority women. A sorority may perform a ritual at certain chapter meetings, during Founders’ Day celebrations and for new member initiation.*

*Sorority membership is for a lifetime, so you know that your sorority sisters will stand by you way beyond the four years that you are in college.*

# Hood

*Explains another sorority woman: “My sisters encourage me to be a leader, and they support me in all of my endeavors. My sisters will bum around with me, go to random campus events with me or take me out for a special occasion.” Many women express sisterhood by using this quote: “From the outside looking in, you can never understand it. From the inside looking out, you can never describe it.” This may be true to an extent — it is hard to understand what sisterhood is until you experience it yourself— but many women describe sisterhood as the feeling that their sorority sisters will always be there for them through the good times and the bad.*

*One sorority woman says that her sisters mean more to her than she can describe, and she knows she is never alone with her sorority sisters by her side. “We’ve shared everything in our lives, our highest hopes and deepest fears. They amaze and inspire me each and every day.”*

*Sisterhood — it’s the reason for sorority. There are many benefits to sorority membership, but few are greater than the unconditional and lifetime bonds of friendship that we call sisterhood.*

