

GALA HELD IN CELEBRATION OF PHI SIGMA SIGMA'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

By Kelly Rogan

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Oct. 7, 2017—Saturday night, the Pi Chapter of Phi Sigma Sigma hosted a gala to celebrate its 90th anniversary. The gala was hosted at The Oncenter, in downtown Syracuse, New York. Around 5:30 p.m., the current sisters arrived at the venue and the alumni arrived promptly after that.

The gala was a grand event for the national Phi Sigma Sigma sisterhood and received a lot of attention. The entire Supreme Council was in attendance, including the Grand Archon, Katie Vlietstra Wonnenber. Four former archons, or presidents, of the Pi Chapter also attended the event, along with countless alumni and all of the current sisters. This was the first time the current sisters were able to meet many alumni.

Although a fun and glamorous evening, the sisters still placed a huge emphasis on following traditions and rituals, and making sure the event would benefit their philanthropic endeavors. Each sister had to wear their Phi Sigma Sigma golden pin to the gala and everyone had to stand each time Wonnenber entered the room. There was also a silent auction at the event, where a variety of items ranging from clothing to season tickets were auctioned off. The proceeds of the silent auction went directly towards the Pi Chapter's annual donation to Phi Sigma Sigma's Kids in Need Foundation. This elaborate night was held not only to honor the Pi Chapter's 90th anniversary, but to also recognize the chapter for its major accomplishments and contributions to Phi Sigma Sigma, nationally.

In her speech, Wonnenber thanked the Pi Chapter for “being the chapter who raised the

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most money for the Phi Sigma Sigma Foundation last school year.” She later mentioned that she “was so proud of the Pi Chapter for winning Chapter of the Year at Syracuse University and also Chapter of the Year of all Phi Sigma Sigma chapters.”

Along with Wonenber, three other speeches were made. Speeches were made by the Pi Chapter’s advisor, Heather Durant; the current archon of the Pi Chapter, Christine Coy; and the current vice archon of the Pi Chapter, Rebekkah Hall. The Pi Chapter is the largest chapter of Phi Sigma Sigma and it has a large presence at Syracuse University. Therefore, each speech focused on a different aspect of the chapter and worked to highlight the wide variety of accomplishments the sisters have made.

Coy stated, “I am proudest of our fundraising through our philanthropy events, Phi Sig Inferno and Pies at Pi. I hope that we can accomplish even more than we did last year, and once again win Chapter of the Year.”

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