



## University Libraries Special Collections & University Archives

### Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Collection

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#### Collection Summary

<b>Title:</b>	Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Collection
<b>Call Number:</b>	MS 2016-09
<b>Size:</b>	9.5 linear feet (10 boxes and 1 OS folder)
<b>Acquisition:</b>	Donated by Dr. Sharon Cranford of the Beta Kappa Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., 2015
<b>Processed by:</b>	JZ, 3-2016
<b>Restrictions:</b>	Box 10 is restricted

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#### Literary Rights

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#### Content Note

This collection contains material primarily relating to the Beta Kappa Omega (BKΩ) Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA), the first Greek-lettered sorority founded by African-American women. Record types include meeting minutes, budget reports, magazines, photographs, notes, ephemera, audiovisual material, and artifacts. Bulk dates are from 1944-2015.

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#### Administrative History

The Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority was established on January 15, 1908, at Howard University by nine students wishing to create an organization that would support the academic and personal goals of African-American women. In 1930 the Alpha Rho Chapter of AKA was established at the University of Wichita, but disbanded in 1938. In 1935 alumnae who had been a part of Alpha Rho founded a graduate chapter of AKA, BKΩ. In 1967 WSU students formed a second undergraduate chapter of AKA, Epsilon Alpha. This chapter and BKΩ have become known for their extensive community service and sponsorship of Fashionetta, an annual event during which African-American high school

girls in their senior year compete for college scholarships by engaging in various academic and civic activities.

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## Series Listing

Series 1	Box 1 FF 1-11	Administrative, Business, and Historical Records. This series mainly consists of meeting minutes and financial records relating to BKΩ's activities with respect to AKA and the Wichita community, 1944-mid 1980s. There are also notes on the histories of local chapters and early membership in BKΩ. Material is arranged chronologically.
Series 2	Box 1 FF 12-21, Box 3 FF 6	Fashionetta. This series contains material relating to the annual pageant of the same name; items include event guidelines, invitations, programs, news clippings, and correspondence, 1984-2013. Material is arranged chronologically.
Series 3	Box 1 FF 22-35, Box 2 FF 1-3, Box 3 FF 1-2, OS 1	Press Clippings, Publications, and Conference Material. This series consists of press items on AKA, numbers of the sorority newsletter Ivy Leaf, AKA conference programs, and BKΩ newsletters and histories, 1962-2015. Material is arranged by item type and then chronologically.
Series 4	Box 2 FF 4-8, Box 3 FF 3-7	Images. This series consists of loose photographs and reproductions of AKA/BKΩ members, as well as Fashionetta contestants, c. 1920-2010. Pictures of AKA/BKΩ members are arranged chronologically, followed by Fashionetta items.
Series 5	Box 2 FF 9-13	Audiovisual. This series consists of material mainly documenting Fashionetta pageants during the mid-1990s, along with a 2008 DVD celebrating the centennial of AKA, 1989-2010. Material is arranged chronologically.
Series 6	Box 2 FF 14-26, Box 3 FF 7, Box 4-Box 10	Artifacts. This series contains ephemera relating to AKA and BKΩ events and members, along with assorted handicrafts, writings, and record books by sorors, c. 1920-2015. Of note are the respective scrapbooks by Jo Brown and members BKΩ; these items provide an in-depth look at chapter life during the latter half of the 20th century.

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## Box and Folder Listing

### Series 1 – Administrative, Business, and Historical Records

Box 1	FF 1	Meeting minutes for BKΩ, 1944-1954
Box 1	FF 2	Notebook containing BKΩ financial records and notes, 1949-1950
Box 1	FF 3	Meeting minutes for BKΩ, 1954-1972
Box 1	FF 4	Budget sheets for BKΩ, March-June 1952
Box 1	FF 5	Budget ledger for BKΩ, 1954-1971

Box 1	FF 6	Draft typescript of minutes for September 3, 1968 meeting of BKΩ
Box 1	FF 7	Financial reports for BKΩ, 1969-1970
Box 1	FF 8	Notebook on early BKΩ membership and finances for 1976-1977, c. 1976-1977
Box 1	FF 9	Budget worksheets and account statements for 54th Mid-Western Regional Conference of AKA, 1984
Box 1	FF 10	Notes on AKA chapters and members at WSU, c. 1970s-1980s
Box 1	FF 11	Receipts, 1954-1982

## **Series 2 – Fashionetta**

Box 3	FF 6	Reproduction of organizational chart for 1984 Fashionetta
Box 1	FF 12	Fashionetta committee meeting minutes and correspondence, 1984
Box 1	FF 13	Fashionetta guidelines, 1984-1986, 1988
Box 1	FF 14	Fashionetta invitations and programs, 1984-2008
Box 1	FF 15	Correspondence, song lyrics, and certificates, 1986-2008
Box 1	FF 16	Clippings on Fashionetta, 1992-2013
Box 1	FF 17	Fashionetta Fashion and Talent Workshop, 1998
Box 1	FF 18	Fashionetta 2005 Pearl Guidebook, 2005
Box 1	FF 19	<i>Fashionetta 2010</i> program
Box 1	FF 20	<i>Fashionetta 2011</i> program
Box 1	FF 21	<i>Fashionetta 2012</i> program

## **Series 3 – Press Clippings, Publications, and Conference Material**

OS 1		<i>Kansas City Call</i> article on BKΩ debutante ball in Wichita, 1962
Box 1	FF 22	Press clippings, 1983-2012
Box 3	FF 1	<i>Wichita Eagle</i> article on AKA clinic for children, 2000
Box 3	FF 2	<i>Wichita Eagle</i> article on AKA regional conference in Wichita, 2001
Box 1	FF 23	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , May 1967 and Summer 1981
Box 1	FF 24	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Spring, Summer, and Fall/Winter 1985
Box 1	FF 25	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Spring and Winter 1986
Box 1	FF 26	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Spring, Summer, and Winter 1987

Box 1	FF 27	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Winter 1989 and Summer 1990
Box 1	FF 28	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Summer 1992 and Spring 1995
Box 1	FF 29	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Summer 2002 and Winter 2005
Box 1	FF 30	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Spring and Fall 2006
Box 1	FF 31	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Fall 2007, Fall 2008, and Spring 2009
Box 1	FF 32	<i>Ivy Leaf</i> , Spring 2012 and Spring 2013
Box 1	FF 33	BKΩ newsletters, 1981, 1984, 1999
Box 1	FF 34	54th Mid-Western Regional Conference of AKA, 1984
Box 1	FF 35	76th and 81st Mid-Western Regional Conferences of AKA, 2006 and 2011
Box 2	FF 1	Centennial Boule Agenda, 2008
Box 2	FF 2	"A Shining Example of Timeless Service," 2014
Box 2	FF 3	Program for 80th anniversary of BKΩ chapter, 2015

#### **Series 4 – Images**

Box 2	FF 4	Beta Omega Chapter members of AKA in Kansas City, Missouri, c. 1920. Alpha Rho chapter members of AKA, c. 1934. Mary Ellen (Lewis) Cary, 1941, mid-1940s, mid-1980s.
Box 2	FF 5	Jo Brown at Regional Conference in Kansas City, 1951. AKA/ BKΩ members, 1950s. BKΩ sorors and initiates, late 1950s. Carol Parks Hahn, co-leader of Dockum Drug Store sit-in, c. 1960s. BKΩ members at 1st debutante ball and at "La Parisienne" gala, 1962. BKΩ members and officers, 1964. Epsilon Alpha chapter members, 1967.
Box 2	FF 6	Ella Fitzgerald with BKΩ members, 1985
Box 2	FF 7	AKA and BKΩ members, 1990s. AKA receiving Jubilee Citation Award from Urban League of Wichita, 1995. AKA and BKΩ members, 2000-2008. Local BKΩ members at AKA Centennial Boule, 2008. AKA and BKΩ members, 2010- .
Box 3	FF 3	Jo Brown, c. 2000
Box 3	FF 4	Fashionetta committee members, mid-1980s.
Box 2	FF 8	Fashionetta, 1984-2008
Box 3	FF 5	Fashionetta Pearls, 1991

#### **Series 5 – Audiovisual**

Box 2	FF 9	VHS, "Ivy Presentation," 1989
Box 2	FF 10	VHS, "Fashionetta '94, Parts 1-3" (2 videotapes), 1994
Box 2	FF 11	VHS, "Fashionetta '95, Parts 1-4" (2 videotapes), 1995
Box 2	FF 12	VHS, "Fashionetta '97, Parts 1-3 [2 videotapes]," 1997
Box 2	FF 13	CD, "Mid-Western Shines," 1999; DVD, <i>Alpha Kappa Alpha: Sisterhood and Service</i> , 2009; DVD, <i>Fashionetta 2010</i> , 2010

## Series 6 – Artifacts and Ephemera

Box 2	FF 14	Edna Anderson's certificate of membership into the Beta Omega chapter of AKA at the University of Kansas, c.1920
Box 2	FF 15	Reproduction of 1935 BKΩ charter
Box 2	FF 16	Writings of Edna Anderson Lewis, c. 1940, c. 1960s, n.d.
Box 2	FF 17	Program for play, <i>Home</i> , by Samm-Art Williams, 1982
Box 2	FF 18	Invitations and programs to BKΩ and Alpha Epsilon functions, 1982-2015
Box 2	FF 19	Founders' Day invitations and programs, 1984-2015
Box 2	FF 20	Autographed program for Ella Fitzgerald concert in Wichita, 1985
Box 2	FF 21	Guest book for BKΩ meetings, 1989-1991
Box 2	FF 22	Certificates of appreciation to BKΩ, 1994-2015
Box 2	FF 23	Other, 1995-2015
Box 2	FF 24	BKΩ scrapbook (part 1 of 2), 1999
Box 2	FF 25	BKΩ scrapbook (part 2 of 2), 1999
Box 2	FF 26	Proclamation by Wichita Mayor Jeff Longwell honoring BKΩ, 2015. Certificate of thanks from the House of Representatives, State of Kansas, to BKΩ, 2015
Box 3	FF 7	Presentation material on BKΩ in honor of donation to WSU, 2015
Box 4		Undergraduate Songfest Award from AKA to Epsilon Alpha Chapter, 1983
Box 4		Jubilee Citation Award from Urban League of Wichita to AKA, 1995
Box 5		AKA crest, n.d.
OS 2		AKA crest (laminated print), n.d.
Box 5		Notepad holder and BKΩ stationery, n.d.
Box 5		AKA button, n.d.
Box 5		Bookmark commemorating 66th Boule, 1984

Box 5	Rush sachets, 1989
Box 5	2014 EAF Awards Luncheon program, 2014
Box 6	Scrapbook of Josephine "Jo" Pace Brown, 1948-1990
Box 7	Quilt, c. 1990
Box 8	Pillow, c. 1984
Box 9	AKA centennial doll, 2008
Box 9	AKA paddle, n.d.
Box 10	Restricted

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