



Valparaiso University

2024-2025 Fraternity and Sorority Awards Application Packet

Valparaiso University fraternities and sororities are eligible to apply for and receive any of the following awards for their accomplishments in the 2024-2025 academic year. The annual Fraternity and Sorority Awards program is a cooperative program with the University and the Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils.

Enclosed in this packet are the applications for any awards for which there is a separate application. All other awards will be determined based on the information submitted by the chapter as part of the *Valparaiso University Standards and Expectations* completion.

Individual Awards:

- Kyle James Carson Fraternity Man of the Year
- Dean Dolores Ruosch Sorority Woman of the Year
- Outstanding Fraternity / Sorority Chapter President
- Living Your Values Award
- Outstanding Fraternity / Sorority Emerging Leader
- Pillar of Excellence Award for individuals in the following areas:
 - Academic Achievement
 - Arts
 - Athletics
 - Community Service
 - Faith
 - Leadership
- George T. Kilavos Outstanding Chapter Advisor
- Mark R. Schwehn, Ph.D. Outstanding Faculty Advisor
- Laurel Wreath Society Lifetime Alumni Achievement

Chapter Awards:

- President's Award for Excellence in Fraternity and Sorority Life
- Pillar of Excellence Award for Chapters
- Dr. Roy Austensen Award for Excellence in Campus Involvement
- Dr. Alan Harre, Civic Engagement Award
- Academic Performance Awards for:
 - Overall GPA, New Member GPA, and Most Improved GPA
- Excellence Awards in the following categories:
 - Academic Programming
 - Alumni/ae Development
 - Chapter Development
 - Chapter Management
 - Community Service
 - New Member Education
 - Philanthropic Programming
 - Public Relations
 - Risk Management
 - Recruitment
- Values in Action Award
- Most Improved Chapter

Applications are due March 28, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

Applications must be submitted electronically using the online award submission form.
The Fraternity and Sorority Awards program will be May 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Harre Union

Kyle James Carson Fraternity Man of the Year Dean Dolores Ruosch Sorority Woman of the Year

This award is presented to a fraternity man and a sorority woman who have:

- Served as a positive role model in their respective community
- Excelled in the areas of leadership, scholarship, teamwork, well-roundedness, and balance
- Worked for both positive change and progression as well as maintenance of tradition
- Promoted the positive aspects of the fraternity and sorority community of Valparaiso University

Each chapter may nominate one member and one non-member for this award

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Fraternity/Sorority Affiliation: _____

Nominee E-Mail Address: _____

Nominating Organization: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

The completed application must include the following:

1. A nomination letter(s) from the nominating chapter
2. A copy of the nominees Resume
3. Answers to the following questions to be completed by the nominee:
 - a. Identify one issue facing the Valparaiso fraternity and sorority community and your recommendations for addressing the issue in the future?
 - b. What impact has your fraternity/sorority membership had on your personal development?
 - c. What advice would you give to incoming freshman at Valparaiso University regarding fraternity and sorority membership?

Candidate applications will be screened by the Fraternity and Sorority Awards Selection committee, and finalists will be interviewed the week of March 31, 2025.

Applications are due March 28, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

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Outstanding Fraternity & Sorority Chapter President

This award is presented to a fraternity man and a sorority woman who have given their time, energy, and commitment to improving their fraternity or sorority and the Valparaiso University fraternity and sorority community. The nominee must have served as Chapter President from January – December 2024.

Each chapter may nominate one member and one non-member for this award

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Fraternity/Sorority Affiliation: _____

Nominee E-Mail Address: _____

Nominating Organization: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

The completed application must include the following:

1. A nomination letter(s) from the nominating chapter
2. A copy of the nominees Resume
3. Answers to the following questions to be completed by the nominee:
 - a. What was the greatest achievement of your fraternity/sorority this year?
 - b. What was the most innovative accomplishment for which you were responsible?
 - d. What impact has your fraternity/sorority leadership had on your personal development?
 - e. What is your plan to role model life-long membership following your graduating from Valparaiso University?

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Samantha Salvador Living Your Values Award

This award is presented to a fraternity man and a sorority woman who exemplify fraternal values through their everyday actions. Chapters should nominate members who truly embody the founding values of the fraternity/sorority and live those values in their everyday life.

Each chapter may nominate one member and one non-member for this award

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Fraternity/Sorority Affiliation: _____

Nominee E-Mail Address: _____

Nominating Organization: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

The completed application must include the following:

1. A nomination letter(s) from the nominating chapter. The letter should include the following:
 - a. The foundational values of the fraternity/sorority
 - b. Three to five examples of how this member exemplifies organizational values
2. A copy of the nominee's Resume

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Outstanding Fraternity & Sorority Emerging Leader

This award is presented to a fraternity man and a sorority woman who have been identified as emerging leaders on campus, in the fraternity and sorority community and/or within their chapter. Nominees for this award should have participated in a new member process within the last four semesters (Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, or Spring 2025).

Each chapter may nominate two current fraternity/sorority members for this award

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Fraternity/Sorority Affiliation: _____

Nominee E-Mail Address: _____

Nominating Organization: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

The completed application must include the following

1. A nomination letter(s) from the nominating chapter.
2. A copy of the nominees Resume
3. Answers to the following questions to be completed by the nominee:
 - a. What was the primary influence on your decision to join a fraternity or sorority?
 - b. What has been your most significant leadership experience at Valparaiso University?
 - c. What impact has your fraternity/sorority membership had on your personal development?
 - d. In what ways are you planning to lead within your chapter and/or the fraternity and sorority community next year?

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Pillar of Excellence Awards

These awards are presented to a fraternity man and a sorority woman who have committed to excellence in one of the areas values by fraternities and sororities. Please select for which Pillar of Excellence Award you are nominating:

_____ Academics
_____ Arts
_____ Athletics

_____ Community Service
_____ Faith
_____ Leadership

Each chapter may nominate two current fraternity/sorority members for each area award

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Fraternity/Sorority Affiliation: _____

Nominee E-Mail Address: _____

Nominating Organization: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

The completed application must include the following:

1. A nomination letter from the nominating chapter indicating why you believe that this member exemplifies the best characteristics of the pillar area award (ie: academics, arts, athletics, community service, faith, leadership).

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Outstanding Chapter and Faculty Advisor Award

This award is presented to men and women who serve in an advisory capacity to a fraternity or sorority at Valparaiso University. One award will be given to a Chapter Advisor and one award will be given to a Faculty Advisor on an annual basis.

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Fraternity/Sorority Affiliation: _____

Nominee E-Mail Address: _____

Nominating Organization: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

Award Category: Chapter Advisor Faculty Advisor

The completed application must include the following:

1. A nomination letter(s) from the nominating chapter. The letter should include the following:
 - a. Please describe in detail why your advisor should be recognized as Chapter/Faculty Advisor of the Year within the Valparaiso University fraternity and sorority community.
 - b. What qualities does your advisor possess that makes him/her an outstanding advisor?
 - c. Please give an example of a time your advisor was called upon to serve the chapter and went beyond expectations.

Applications are due March 28, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

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Dr. Alan Harre Civic Engagement Award

This award is presented to a fraternity or sorority chapter that has completed a specific initiative within the City of Valparaiso or Northwest Indiana that has made an impact on a specific population or area of the community in partnership with an area non-profit.

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Fraternity/Sorority: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Civic Engagement Initiative: _____

The completed application must include the following:

1. A nomination letter(s) from the nominating chapter. The letter should include the following:
 - a. A specific description of the event or program implemented by the fraternity or sorority.
 - b. A description of the population or area within the community impacted by the initiative.
2. A letter of support from the area non-profit organization with whom the chapter worked.

Applications are due March 28, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

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Laurel Wreath Society Award

This award is presented as a lifetime achievement award to fraternity and sorority alumni who have dedicated their time, talents and treasure to advancing the work of fraternities and sororities either on the local level here at Valpo or on the inter/national level. This award is presented at the Alumni Awards Banquet during homecoming weekend.

The cover sheet for the application must include the following information:

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee Fraternity/Sorority Affiliation: _____

Nominee E-Mail Address: _____

Nominating Organization: _____

Person Completing the Nomination: _____

The completed application must include the following:

1. A nomination letter(s) from the nominating chapter. The letter should include the following:
 - a. Please describe in detail why this alumnus should be recognized with the Laurel Wreath Society lifetime achievement award.
 - b. How has this individual advanced the work of fraternities or sororities either on the local or national level throughout their lifetime?
2. A letter of support from the local alumni advisory group or inter/national organization.

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This award will be presented at the Alumni Awards Dinner during Homecoming 2025.**