

Grand Valley State University
2024 Greek Awards
Awards Information Packet

Greetings,

Greek Awards provide us an invaluable opportunity to honor and celebrate the remarkable achievements of individuals and chapters within our Fraternity & Sorority Life community. Your participation in this process ensures that deserving individuals and chapters receive the recognition they deserve.

I encourage you to reflect on the outstanding contributions of your peers and consider nominating those who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, leadership, and service within our community. Your nominations acknowledge the hard work and commitment of your fellow members and serve as a source of inspiration for others to continue striving for excellence.

Celebrating success and recognizing the achievements of our peers is essential in fostering a culture of camaraderie, motivation, and mutual support within our Greek community. Your involvement in the nomination process contributes to cultivating a vibrant and inclusive environment where every member feels valued and appreciated.

Should you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. Thank you again for taking the time to recognize your peers—it does not go unnoticed!

Fraternally,
Jeremy Paul
Assistant Director of Student Life
Grand Valley State University

Table of Contents

Individual Awards:

Chapter President of the Year.....	3
Emerging Leader of the Year.....	4
New Member of the Year.....	5
Fraternity Member of the Year.....	6
Sorority Member of the Year.....	7

Chapter Awards:

Chapter of the Year.....	8
Most Improved Chapter of the Year.....	9
Program of the Year.....	10

Individual Awards - Chapter President of the Year

Eligibility: Chapter Presidents whose terms end/ended at the end of the Fall 2023 or Winter 2024 semester.

Requirements: They must be in good standing or on a status their respective organization has approved.

Criteria:

1. **Demonstrated Leadership:** The nominee should exhibit strong leadership qualities, including practical communication skills, strategic decision-making abilities, and the capacity to inspire and motivate others within their chapter and the broader FSL community.
2. **Commitment to Values:** The nominee should exemplify the core values of their fraternity or sorority and demonstrate a commitment to upholding these values in their actions and leadership style. This includes fostering a culture of integrity, respect, inclusivity, and service within their chapter.
3. **Organizational Impact:** Nominations should highlight the nominee's impact on their chapter's growth, development, and success during their tenure as president. This may include membership recruitment and retention achievements, academic excellence, philanthropy and service initiatives, and organizational sustainability.
4. **Advancement of FSL Community:** The nominee should demonstrate a proactive approach to advancing the FSL community at GVSU. This could involve participation in collaborative efforts with other chapters and FSL governing bodies, advocacy for the interests of the FSL community to university administration, and initiatives aimed at enhancing the overall reputation and impact of FSL organizations on campus.
5. **Innovation and Vision:** Judges will look for evidence of the nominee's innovative ideas, initiatives, and strategies implemented during their presidency. This could include introducing new programs or events, adopting best practices from within or outside the FSL community, and visionary leadership that anticipates and addresses future challenges and opportunities.

These criteria aim to recognize and celebrate chapter presidents who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, commitment to their organization's values, and dedication to advancing the FSL community at Grand Valley State University.

Individual Awards – Emerging Leader of the Year

Eligibility: Chapter members who may or may not be serving in official capacities but demonstrate an ability to serve as a future leader within the chapter/community.

Requirements: They must be in good standing and not currently serve as their chapter's president and must not currently serve as their council's president.

Criteria:

1. **Dedication to Organization:** The nominee should exhibit a strong commitment to their fraternity or sorority, actively participating in chapter activities, events, and initiatives. Nominations should provide examples of the nominee's contributions to their organization's success, regardless of their position within the chapter hierarchy.
2. **Leadership Potential:** Judges will look for evidence of the nominee's leadership potential, including initiative, problem-solving skills, collaboration, and the ability to motivate and inspire others. This could be demonstrated through their involvement in projects or activities showcasing their leadership abilities and capacity to take on increasing responsibilities within their chapter and the FSL community.
3. **Bridge Building:** The nominee should demonstrate a commitment to bridging gaps between new members (e.g., freshmen, transfers) and upper-class members within their chapter. This could involve mentorship programs, social events facilitating interaction between members of different class years, or educational workshops to foster understanding and collaboration among members at varying stages of their collegiate experience.
4. **Involvement and Engagement:** Nominations should highlight the nominee's active involvement in the FSL community beyond their chapter. This could include participation in FSL-sponsored events, leadership development workshops, or involvement in FSL governing bodies or committees.
5. **Positive Impact:** Judges will assess the nominee's impact on their chapter and the FSL community. This may include contributions to recruitment efforts, academic success initiatives, philanthropy, and service projects, or efforts to promote a positive and inclusive chapter culture.

These criteria aim to recognize and celebrate emerging GVSU Fraternity & Sorority Life community leaders who have demonstrated a strong commitment to their organization, displayed potential for future leadership roles, and actively worked to build connections and foster inclusivity among members.

Individual Awards – New Member of the Year

Eligibility: Chapter members who were new members during the Fall 2023 or Winter 2024 new member cycle.

Requirements: They must be in good standing and be initiated members of their respective organizations.

Criteria:

1. **Commitment to Learning:** The nominee should demonstrate a genuine interest in learning about their organization's values, traditions, and history. This could include participation in new member education programs, engagement with alumni mentors, and active involvement in activities that promote a deeper understanding of the organization's principles and heritage.
2. **Living Organization's Values:** Judges will look for evidence of the nominee's alignment with their organization's values in everyday interactions. This could involve examples of how the nominee has demonstrated leadership, service, scholarship, brotherhood/sisterhood, or other core values of their organization in their personal and academic life.
3. **Integration into the Greek Community:** The nominee should be able to connect with and contribute to the larger Greek community at GVSU. This could include participation in interfraternal or intersorority events, collaboration with other chapters on service projects or social activities, and efforts to build positive relationships with members of other organizations.
4. **Leadership Potential:** Judges will assess the nominee's potential for future leadership roles within their organization and the FSL community. This could be demonstrated through their active participation in chapter activities, willingness to take on responsibilities, and positive influence on fellow new members and chapter members.
5. **Community Engagement:** Nominations should highlight the nominee's involvement in community service and philanthropic initiatives within their organization and the broader GVSU community. This could include participation in organized service projects, fundraising efforts for charitable causes, or volunteering with local organizations.

These criteria aim to recognize and celebrate emerging GVSU Fraternity & Sorority Life community leaders who have demonstrated a strong commitment to their organization, displayed potential for future leadership roles, and actively worked to build connections and foster inclusivity among members.

Individual Awards – Fraternity Member of the Year

Eligibility: Individuals who are members of recognized social fraternities.

Requirements: They must be in good standing and be initiated members of their respective organizations.

Criteria:

1. **Commitment to the Organization's Values:** The nominee should exemplify the core values of their fraternity in their actions and interactions. This includes demonstrating qualities such as leadership, integrity, siblinghood, scholarship, and service in their everyday life.
2. **Community Betterment:** Judges will look for evidence of the nominee's efforts to impact the GVSU and the greater Grand Rapids community positively. This could include participation in philanthropic activities, volunteering with local organizations, or leading initiatives that address community needs.
3. **Legacy and Impact:** Nominations should highlight the nominee's lasting legacy on their chapter and the GVSU community. This may include significant achievements, initiatives, or improvements spearheaded by the nominee during their time as a fraternity member, as well as their positive influence on their peers and successors.
4. **Leadership:** The nominee should demonstrate exemplary leadership qualities, including the ability to inspire and motivate others, foster collaboration, and enact positive change. This could be evidenced by positions held within their fraternity, participation in campus leadership roles, or involvement in community organizations.
5. **Service and Philanthropy:** Judges will assess the nominee's dedication to service and philanthropy within their fraternity and the broader community. This could include organizing or participating in service projects, fundraising for charitable causes, or advocating for social justice initiatives.
6. **Academic Excellence:** Nominations should highlight the nominee's commitment to academic success and intellectual growth. This could include maintaining a high GPA, participating in educational enrichment programs, or supporting academic initiatives within their fraternity and the GVSU community.
7. **Positive Role Model:** The nominee should be a positive role model for their fraternity members, fellow students, and community members. This includes demonstrating ethical behavior, inclusivity, and respect for others in all aspects of their life.

Individual Awards – Sorority Member of the Year

Eligibility: Individuals who are members of recognized social sororities.

Requirements: They must be in good standing and be initiated members of their respective organizations.

Criteria:

1. **Commitment to the Organization's Values:** The nominee should exemplify the core values of their sorority in their actions and interactions. This includes demonstrating qualities such as leadership, integrity, siblinghood, scholarship, and service in their everyday life.
2. **Community Betterment:** Judges will look for evidence of the nominee's efforts to impact the GVSU and the greater Grand Rapids community positively. This could include participation in philanthropic activities, volunteering with local organizations, or leading initiatives that address community needs.
3. **Legacy and Impact:** Nominations should highlight the nominee's lasting legacy on their chapter and the GVSU community. This may include significant achievements, initiatives, or improvements spearheaded by the nominee during their time as a sorority member, as well as their positive influence on their peers and successors.
4. **Leadership:** The nominee should demonstrate exemplary leadership qualities, including the ability to inspire and motivate others, foster collaboration, and enact positive change. This could be evidenced by positions held within their fraternity, participation in campus leadership roles, or involvement in community organizations.
5. **Service and Philanthropy:** Judges will assess the nominee's dedication to service and philanthropy within their fraternity and the broader community. This could include organizing or participating in service projects, fundraising for charitable causes, or advocating for social justice initiatives.
6. **Academic Excellence:** Nominations should highlight the nominee's commitment to academic success and intellectual growth. This could include maintaining a high GPA, participating in educational enrichment programs, or supporting academic initiatives within their fraternity and the GVSU community.
7. **Positive Role Model:** The nominee should be a positive role model for their sorority members, fellow students, and community members. This includes demonstrating ethical behavior, inclusivity, and respect for others in all aspects of their life.

Chapter Awards – Chapter of the Year

Eligibility: Recognized chapters at GVSU

Criteria:

1. **Demonstration of Values:** The chapter should exemplify and uphold the core values of their fraternity or sorority in their actions, events, and initiatives. This includes fostering a culture of integrity, leadership, scholarship, service, brotherhood/sisterhood, inclusivity, and personal growth within the chapter.
2. **Community Contributions:** Judges will assess the chapter's contributions to the greater GVSU and Grand Rapids community through service projects, philanthropic efforts, and other community engagement initiatives. This could include participation in organized volunteer activities, fundraising for charitable causes, and collaboration with local organizations to address community needs.
3. **Commitment to GVSU Greek Community:** The chapter should demonstrate a commitment to supporting and enhancing the GVSU Greek community. This could involve participation in interfraternal or intersorority events, collaboration with other chapters on joint initiatives, and efforts to promote unity, inclusivity, and positive relationships among Greek organizations.
4. **Enhancement of College Experience:** Nominations should highlight the chapter's efforts to enhance the overall college experience provided to its members. This could include providing academic development opportunities such as tutoring programs or study groups, offering leadership development opportunities through workshops or training sessions, and creating a supportive and engaging social environment for members to thrive in.
5. **Innovation and Excellence:** Judges will look for evidence of the chapter's innovation, creativity, and excellence in programming, event planning, and organizational management. This could include the introduction of new initiatives, events, or programs that have positively impacted members and the broader community.
6. **Academic Achievement:** The chapter should prioritize academic success and support members in achieving their academic goals. This could include implementing academic support programs, recognizing academic achievements, and promoting a culture of academic excellence within the chapter.
7. **Leadership Development:** Nominations should highlight the chapter's efforts to develop leadership skills among its members. This could include providing opportunities for members to take on leadership roles within the chapter, organizing leadership workshops or retreats, and encouraging participation in campus leadership positions.

Chapter Awards – Most Improved Chapter of the Year

Eligibility: Recognized chapters at GVSU who completed the GSAP the previous year

Criteria:

1. **Quantifiable Improvement:** The chapter should demonstrate measurable improvement in various aspects of chapter operations, membership engagement, and community involvement compared to the previous year. This could include increases in membership retention, academic achievement, philanthropic impact, or other relevant metrics.
2. **Leadership Development:** Nominations should highlight the chapter's efforts to develop leadership skills among its members and cultivate a leadership culture within the organization. This could include providing leadership training, mentorship programs, or opportunities for members to take on leadership roles within the chapter.
3. **Membership Engagement:** The chapter should demonstrate improved engagement and participation among its members in chapter activities, events, and initiatives. This could include increased attendance at meetings and events, greater involvement in planning and executing activities, and enhanced camaraderie and morale among members.
4. **Academic Achievement:** Judges will look for evidence of improvement in the chapter's academic performance and support for members' academic success. This could include increases in GPA averages, implementation of academic support programs, or recognition of educational achievements within the chapter.
5. **Community Impact:** Nominations should highlight the chapter's increased impact on the GVSU and greater Grand Rapids community through service projects, philanthropic efforts, and other community engagement initiatives. This could include expanded volunteer opportunities, higher levels of fundraising for charitable causes, or greater collaboration with local organizations.
6. **Organizational Development:** The chapter should demonstrate improvements in organizational management, planning, and execution of chapter activities and events. This could include enhanced communication and coordination among chapter officers, more efficient use of chapter resources, and greater adherence to organizational policies and procedures.
7. **Points of Pride:** Nominations should identify specific achievements or milestones that serve as points of pride for the chapter and highlight the progress made in these areas. This could include successful recruitment efforts, outstanding event planning, notable philanthropic contributions, or other noteworthy accomplishments.

Chapter Awards – Program of the Year

Eligibility: Program hosted or co-hosted by a recognized social fraternity or sorority at GVSU.

Criteria:

1. **Identification of Need:** The program should address a specific need or challenge within the chapter or the broader GVSU and Grand Rapids community. Nominations should provide clear evidence of the need for the program, supported by data, testimonials, or other relevant information.
2. **Impact on Chapter:** Judges will assess the program's impact on the hosting chapter, including its effectiveness in addressing the identified need, enhancing member experiences, and fostering a positive chapter culture. This could include membership engagement increases, chapter operations improvements, or other measurable outcomes.
3. **Impact on Community:** The program should significantly impact the larger GVSU and Grand Rapids community. This could include contributions to community service or philanthropic efforts, promotion of inclusivity and diversity, or initiatives to address social issues and improve community well-being.
4. **Evidence of Impact:** Nominations should provide clear evidence of the program's impact, supported by quantitative and qualitative data, testimonials, and examples of success stories. This could include participant feedback, photos, videos, media coverage, or other forms of documentation.
5. **Experiential Learning:** The program should provide valuable learning experiences for participants, contributing to their personal and professional development. This could include opportunities for leadership development, skill-building workshops, networking opportunities, or experiential learning activities.
6. **Innovation and Creativity:** Judges will look for evidence of innovation and creativity in the program's design and implementation. This could include unique event formats, novel approaches to addressing community needs, or creative use of resources to maximize impact.
7. **Sustainability:** The program should demonstrate a commitment to sustainability through ongoing efforts or by leaving a legacy within the community. This could include the establishment of recurring events, the creation of resources for future initiatives, or the development of sustainable partnerships.
8. **Presentation of Evidence:** Submissions should include clear and compelling evidence of the program's need, impact, and learning experiences, supported by relevant documentation such as photos, testimonials, and data analysis.