

Lambda Theta Nu



Before we start here is a little history about Lambda Theta Nu, just to get your feet wet. In the fall of 1985, at California State University, Chico a handful of Latina women were in search of something to enhance their college experiences. Some had tried, unsuccessfully, to join other organizations, only to be cast aside because of their social groups, income level, or the color of our skin. Others had no idea what a Sorority was or what membership in one entailed.

When the opportunity to establish the first known Latina Sorority in the region presented itself, some came with great eagerness, while others were extremely cautious. Some wanted the organization to be a supportive network of Latinas, experiencing the same alienation from the campus, community, and other already-established organizations. Others looked forward to having a group of friends with shared cultural beliefs, which wanted to help the Hispanic community. There were even those who just wanted to see another friendly brown face on campus, since at that time, Hispanics/Latinos made up only 2% of the university population.

Lambda Theta Nu is now recognized as a leading Latina sorority across the nation serving all Latina university students, wishing to network, learn and establish relationships with their surrounding communities. They currently have 22 chapters and are now seeking expansion in California, Texas, Nebraska and Colorado.

Sororities are usually known for partying, but Lambda Theta Nu, understands that there is a time to work as well as a time to play. They have designed outstanding community service programs on a national level. Such as: Tijeras (Scissors) - “Cutting through to enhance educational opportunities for Latinos” Tijeras serves as the umbrella concept to address the Latino communities educational needs by focusing in the areas of Latina leadership and Latino literacy.

Addressing Latino Literacy - Lambda Theta Nu Sorority Inc. undergraduate sisters raise funds to award to nonprofit organizations that concentrate in the area of Latino Literacy. They do this by organizing a Lambda Valentines Gram which takes place January through March of each year at their respective campuses.

And most importantly **Latina Leadership!** Lambda Theta Nu organizes; bank rolls and runs a Latina Youth Leadership Conference for junior high school students in their surrounding campuses. Their intention is to improve self-esteem, leadership ability, promoting higher education and demonstrating cultural pride at the same time. Sounds like a mission impossible? Nah...it’s a piece of cake.

Sororities have bad labels surrounding them; in Lambda Theta Nu’s case that is completely false. I bet many Mijas would’ve stayed in college if there was a sorority like theirs around. Just think when a “Sisterhood” is established accountability is born, the bond is unbreakable. The best part about it is they distribute their gifts and talents with the neighborhood. I always say it takes a village to raise a child. If you are fortunate to live close to one of Lambda Theta Nu’s chapters, you best bet your village will be in good hands.

Now Mijas, they are not trying to hide under a rock or anything, so if your organization needs some help at an event or you are a Latina student at a university and would like to start a chapter of your own please visit their website at <http://www.lambdathetanu.org>.

I would especially thank Yvette Media for telling me about this wonderful sorority. You go Mijas... whoop whoop!

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