



**MELISSA BANNON**  
**VICE PRESIDENT FOR**  
**PROGRAMS**

**To the Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi,**

My name is Melissa Bannon and I am writing this letter to apply for the position of National Vice President for Programs. I was initiated into the Nu Omicron chapter at the SWXDof New Haven in April 2016 as one of the founding members of the chapter. In 2018 I graduated with my bachelor's of science in both forensic science and chemistry and then again in 2020 as I graduated with my master's of science in forensic technology. During my time as an active Brother, I have served in the positions of Parliamentarian, Vice President for Projects, fundraising chair, and Northeast District secretary/treasurer. As Vice President for Projects, I was responsible for planning the chapter events, fundraisers, and service projects as well as overseeing two committees. While serving as the NED secretary/treasurer, I became very comfortable taking minutes for our meetings as well as for precinct meetings and district convention. In college I was a member of the marching band for all six years, playing saxophone and baritone horn. I also participated in the pep band, concert band, and jazz band.

I would like the opportunity to serve in the position of Vice President for Programs because I want to make sure that every Brother has the best experience while in the Fraternity, like I have. I believe that the best way to do that is to create meaningful events to bring Brothers closer together and recognize the accomplishments and unique activities that chapters do. In this position, I want to encourage Brothers to make connections with people outside of their home chapters. I would do this by hosting events online where they can see Brothers from across the nation and participate in activities such as trivia nights, game nights, and other fun activities. My main mission if elected to this position would be to focus on mental health awareness.

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**VICE PRESIDENT FOR**  
**PROGRAMS**

In life, especially during these times, many people are having difficulty coping with all the changes and being socially distant. Mental health is extremely important on a normal basis but even more so now. I want to ensure that everyone has plenty of information on how to cope, help friends and family, and to recognize the signs in their own behavior and life.

May is national mental health awareness month and I would like Kappa Kappa Psi to observe this month by having events such as talks and panels on different aspects of mental health like coping skills, toxic relationships with friends or significant others, how to help friends that are struggling, and other information about mental health diseases and the stigma around it. I would like to observe Mental Health Awareness month in May by inviting experts to talk on the subject, and by posting relevant information on our social media platforms, such as hotline numbers, and events that will help improve mental health. These events could consist of making stress balls, creating vision boards, and making soothing nebula jars. Brothers and Sisters participating would be responsible for collecting materials ahead of time. A list of materials necessary would be attached to the advertisement for the event. I believe that my experiences as an active Brother and my passion as an alum will contribute bountifully in the position of National Vice President for Programs as I aim to keep all Brothers striving for the highest. While it would be an honor to be selected to serve as the Vice President for Programs, I would be equally as honored to be placed in any council position. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Bannon', written in a cursive style.

**Melissa Bannon**



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**VICE PRESIDENT FOR**  
**PROGRAMS**

## **Platform**

During these difficult times without the ability to travel and meet in person, I would like to push for more nation wide events over Zoom. Events like trivia nights, game nights, and paint/crafting nights are just some of the ideas that I have. While these events may not seem as goal-oriented, like an informational panel would be, I believe it is necessary for Brothers to have the outlet to relax and bond with others without an agenda. My main focus with any of these events is to ensure that Brothers are brought together in the safest way possible, even if it is from the comfort of their own homes. In life, especially now during COVID, many people are having difficulty coping with the everyday changes thrown at us and being socially distanced. Mental health is extremely important on a normal basis but even more so now. As VPP, I want to ensure that everyone has a plethora of information on how to cope, help friends and family, and recognize the signs in their own behavior. May is National Mental Health Awareness month and I would like Kappa Kappa Psi to observe this month by having events such as talks and panels on different aspects of mental health like coping skills, abusive relationships with friends or significant others, how to help friends that are struggling, and other information about mental health diseases and the stigma around it.



## MELISSA BANNON VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMS

### Biography

Melissa Bannon was initiated into the Nu Omicron chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi at the University of New Haven as a founding member in the Spring of 2016. She received her B.S. degrees in Forensic Science and Chemistry with a minor in Criminal Justice. Melissa continued her education at the University of New Haven and completed her M.S. in Forensic Technology. During her time as an active member of the Fraternity she served as Parliamentarian, Vice President for Projects, Fundraising Chair, and Northeast District Secretary/Treasurer. She is currently working in Texas as a Crime Scene Investigator.



# MELISSA BANNON VPP GOALS



## BRING BROTHERS TOGETHER

Facilitate communication and interactions between brothers across the country so they can build long lasting, enjoyable relationships

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## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Work to erase the stigma surrounding mental health and its awareness through the sharing of information, programing, and events



## COMMUNICATION

Increase the communication between chapters and brothers but also between brothers and the national council members

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## PROMOTE AWARDS

Promote the awards sponsored by the national fraternity in order to showcase all the achievements of chapters and brothers across the nation



## SOCIAL MEDIA SHOWCASES

Continue to use our social media platforms to share important information as well as showcase the accomplishments of chapters and brothers

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## PROGRAMING

Create worthwhile, exciting programs to educate brothers as well as bring them together and create long lasting memories



# Mental Health Initiative

I want to erase the stigma around mental health and spread awareness on the subject.

Hold discussions, panels and events to share information on mental health awareness

Share information on how to cope, help friends and families, and recognize signs

Observe National Mental Health Awareness in May through the sharing of information and hosting of events



## Contact Information

Melissa Bannon  
Email: [mbann726@gmail.com](mailto:mbann726@gmail.com)  
Cell: 774-254-7836

MELISSA  
BANNON  
FOR VICE  
PRESIDENT  
FOR  
PROGRAMS

KAPPA  
KAPPA  
PSI

STRIVE  
CONNECT  
INSPIRE

## Goals

### Bringing Brothers Together

Facilitate communication and interactions between brothers across the country so they can build long lasting, enjoyable relationships

### Mental Health

Work to erase the stigma surrounding mental health and its awareness through the sharing of information, programing, and events

### Programs

Create worthwhile, exciting programs to educate brothers as well as bring them together and create long lasting memories

### Awards

Promote the awards sponsored by the national fraternity in order to showcase all the achievements of chapters and brothers across the nation



**MELISSA  
BANNON**

**VICE  
PRESIDENT  
FOR  
PROGRAMS**

## Biography

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Melissa continued her education at the University of New Haven and completed her M.S. in Forensic Technology. During her time as an active member of the Fraternity she served as Parliamentarian, Vice President for Projects, Fundraising Chair, and Northeast District Secretary/Treasurer. She is currently working in Texas as a Crime Scene Investigator.

# Melissa Bannon

15 Cliff Drive Plainville Ma 02762 | (774)-254-7836 | [melissabannon508@gmail.com](mailto:melissabannon508@gmail.com)

## Education

Master's Degree in Forensic Technology University of New Haven	September 2018-May 2020
Bachelor of Science, Forensic Science University of New Haven	September 2014-May 2018
Bachelor of Science, Chemistry University of New Haven	September 2014-May 2018
Senior Research Project Documentation of Bruises caused by Blunt Force Trauma using Alternate Light Sources	October 2017-May 2018

### Relevant Course Work Undergraduate:

Introduction to Criminal Justice, Criminal Law, Introduction to Forensic Science, Criminalists with lab, Forensic Biology with lab, Forensic Photography, Crime Scene Investigation, and Fingerprinting with lab

### Relevant Course Work Graduate:

Advanced Crime Scene Investigations, Firearms Evidence Analysis, Criminal Procedure, Principles of Forensic Science, Crime Scene Reconstruction, Medicolegal Death Investigation, Accident Reconstruction

## Certifications

Medicolegal Death Investigator Certified by Death Investigation Training Academy	August 4, 2020
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## Awards and Scholarships

Presidential Scholarship Value \$20,000/year	September 2014-May 2018
Dean's List	September 2014-December 2016
Phenomenal Women of the University of New Haven	February 2018

## Career Related Experience

27 <sup>th</sup> Annual Arnold Markle Symposium Investigation of Drug Related Deaths	October 2018
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## Internship

Susquehanna County Coroner's Office

June 2019-July 2019

## Work Experience

Field Technician

August 2020-present

Aftermath Services North Attleboro, MA

Clean up biohazard materials from suicides, unattended deaths, etc. Wear full PPE when working, be on call and arrive within an hour when called for a scene.

Receptionist

June 2020-August 2020

HairCuts Ltds

Book appointments for clients, check clients in and out using computer program, sanitize store and equipment regularly, collect payments using register

Chemistry Laboratory Assistant

January 2016-March 2020

University of New Haven West Haven, Ct

Assist instructors teach laboratory techniques and maintain a safe working environment

Chemistry Laboratory Prep Team

January 2017-March 2020

University of New Haven West Haven, Ct

Prepare necessary chemicals for laboratory experiments, mainly through the process of solution preparation and dilution, manage waste generated from past experiments

Pralines Ice Cream Server Milford, Ct

December 2018-October 2019

Serve and collect payment for ice cream orders while having a positive interaction with customers

Dunkin Donuts Crew Member Plainville, Ma

March 2012-August 2018

Prepare, serve and collect payment for food and drink orders while having a positive interaction with the customers, help train and educate new team members

South Street Pizza Plainville, Ma

May 2018-August 2018

Receive, cook and serve food orders, focusing mainly on sandwiches, grilled, and fried food items

Dunkin Donuts Baker Plainville, Ma

May 2016- August 2018

Bake all bread items, frost, fill and decorate donuts, receive supplies shipments, and inventory items

## Leadership Experience

- Fundraising Chair, Kappa Kappa Psi April 2018-May 2020  
Create, organize, and execute fundraisers for the fraternity. Headed a committee of four to seven people for the planning and execution of fundraisers. Raised approximately \$1000 per semester
- Northeast District Secretary/Treasurer, Kappa Kappa Psi March 2019-March 2020  
Maintain record of meetings, create fundraisers for the district, head the fundraising committee for the district, manage finances with the help of the district governors, work together with other district officers to plan three precinct meetings and the first online district convention
- Logistics Team Member, Chargers Marching Band May 2017-November 2018  
Plan and organize travel for the marching band, including overnight trips, coordinate busses, trucks and equipment, organize, size, fit, and distribute uniforms and plumes, maintenance of uniforms
- Vice President of Projects, Kappa Kappa Psi April 2017-May 2018  
Organize events, fundraisers and service projects for the fraternity, oversee the fundraising and service committees. Book all event using the online platform through the university
- President, University Pep Band September 2016-April 2017  
Run weekly meetings, plan and organize events and fundraisers, complete required paperwork
- Parliamentarian, Kappa Kappa Psi January 2016-April 2017  
Maintain the constitution and propose updates, enforce Robert's Rules and general order
- Executive Assistant, University Pep Band October 2015-May 2016  
Maintain email correspondence with general members, organize calendar of events, complete paperwork required by the university

## Extra-Curricular Activities

- Kappa Kappa Psi Honorary Band Fraternity January 2016-May 2020
- Kappa Kappa Psi District Council March 2019-March 2020
- University of New Haven Chargers Marching Band September 2014-November 2019
- Concert Band September 2014-May 2019
- Jazz Band September 2015-May 2016
- Chargers Pep Band September 2015-May 2018
- Theater Club September 2014-May 2016
- PRIDE January 2015-May 2016

Orchestra

September 2014-May 2015

Rotaract

September 2014-May 2015

## Skills

- Basic knowledge of the Spanish language
- Extensive experience with scientific report writing
- Experience in taking minutes and notes for meetings
- Works well independently as well as in groups
- Event planning, fundraising, organization, leadership
- Customer service, teaching, learns new tasks quickly
- Reliable, problem solving, multitasking

### Technology Skills

- Extensive use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel
- Experience with DLSR camera operation

### Laboratory Skills

- Experienced in laboratory procedures, techniques, and safety procedures
- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy: SpinSolve Magritek with Spinsolve1.9.0 and MestReNova Software
- Fourier-transform Infrared Spectroscopy: IRPrestige 21Shimadzu with IR solution software
- Ultraviolet-visible Spectroscopy: UV-2600 Shimadzu with UV probe 2.60 software



KKΨ

(908) 635-9704

[mirel1@unh.newhaven.edu](mailto:mirel1@unh.newhaven.edu)

To the Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi,

I write this letter in support of Melissa Bannon in her run for National Vice President for Programs. Since my initiation, and even before my time as an active, I have seen Melissa be an exemplary leader. As a founding member of the Nu Omicron chapter at the University of New Haven, Melissa served as our first Parliamentarian and subsequently as our own Vice President for Projects. After receiving her B.S. in forensic science, Melissa remained active in Nu Omicron while she obtained her M.S. in forensic technology. While in her graduate program, Melissa served as our fundraising chair for both years, and served consecutively as the Northeast District Secretary/Treasurer in her last year. Now, after becoming an alumna, Melissa has been involved in the Northeast District Alumni Association as their social chair.

As evidenced by her eagerness to serve the Fraternity, Melissa's ambition would serve her well in pursuance of the position of Vice President for Programs. Her preparedness in serving in all of these positions will also prove to be helpful on the National Council. Melissa is always very prepared in all of her endeavors, and is very knowledgeable in the policies and practices of Kappa Kappa Psi. Melissa would additionally do well in promoting programs and developing them to help Brothers reach their utmost potential as active members.

As Melissa runs for the position of National Vice President for Programs, I offer my full support for her. She would do well in the position, and bring the Fraternity to a new height in her pursuance of the position.

Fraternally submitted,

Michael C. "Ike" Ireland

Nu Omicron President

Northeast District Vice President for Programs

KAPPA KAPPA PSI



MUSICIANSHIP • LEADERSHIP • SERVICE

To the Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi,

It is my pleasure to write to you today to recommend Melissa Bannon, Nu Omicron chapter, for candidacy for National Vice President of Programs. Brother Bannon and I worked together on the Northeast District Council for the 2019-2020 academic year. Despite our short time working together cut short by COVID, I was still able to see her work ethic shine through. Our time on the council has certainly prepared her to work in a virtual environment, even before the shutdown. Working with a council spread across the District, Melissa paid great attention to detail when documenting our meeting minutes. She was extremely reliable whenever called to action by her fellow Council members and/or the NED Governors.

In the weeks leading up to our travel season, Melissa brought innovative ideas to the Council, both fundraising and programming wise. Even when the future of our District Convention looked grim, Melissa continued to work tirelessly to propose ideas in the always-changing environment we were dealt. During our Winter Meeting, the precursor to our tumultuous year to come, she even offered to help with my work on top of the workload she was already given. She exhibited not only a hard working approach to her position, but a loving commitment to our brotherhood.

In talking with Melissa about her candidacy, she most notably mentioned the fraternal bond as a large reason she is interested in joining the National Council. A driving point for both of our service to the Fraternity is giving back to a community that has provided us with friendships and bonds of a lifetime. On my visit to Nu Omicron chapter last year, I saw this special community that she had a part in creating. Along her journey from being a colonist to brother and officer to the Northeast District, every person who has met her go-happy, hard working personality has been blessed with the fraternal bond that will last a lifetime. It is for this reason that I reiterate my support for her candidacy for National Vice President of Projects of our beloved Fraternity.

In the upcoming days, the Nominations Committee and delegation will have the opportunity to shape the future of our Fraternity, rebuilding from our hiatus, and setting the path for the next 100 years. Melissa Bannon is the person for this job. She brings many perspectives from the successes of the highest of highs to the lessons of the lowest of lows. Every time I have watched her grow and rebuild stronger than ever and have no doubt she is fit for this position in this time of our Fraternity. AEA, brothers, and thank you for your hard work.

Fraternally submitted,

Evan Choy

Life Member #5089

KKPsi, Kappa Gamma - Lehigh University

Hello,

My name is Jason DeGroff and I am the Director of Bands at the University of New Haven in Connecticut. Melissa Bannon was a student of mine for six years as a member of the Marching Band, Jazz Band, and Concert Band, where she was an outstanding member of the baritone/euphonium section, saxophone section, and trombone section.

I have witnessed her growth firsthand, both as a student, and as a leader amongst her peers on and off the field. I really like how helpful she was with new members who come in each year to the ensembles, especially the ones in her section. If I ever needed anyone for anything, she was always the first to offer her help. Melissa is a member of the Charter class of Kappa Kappa Psi. Her growth in KKY and in the band program is amazing and I am impressed with what she has accomplished in such a short time!

What is most impressive to me about it, is she did it all while receiving three difficult degrees: a Bachelor's Degree in Forensic Science and a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry, and then a Master's Degree in Forensic Technology! In Kappa Kappa Psi Melissa was the Parliamentarian in 2016-2017, Vice President of Projects in 2017-2018, the Fundraising Chair in 2018-2020, and then served on the District Council as the Northeast District Secretary/Treasurer in 2019-2020. As if that wasn't enough, she was a Logistics Team Member for the Chargers Marching Band where her organizational skills really shined. She was also the President and Executive Assistant of the University Pep Band.

In addition to Melissa being in the Marching Band for 6 years, Jazz Band, and Concert Band, she was in the Pep Band, Theatre Club, PRIDE, Orchestra, and Rotaract. She worked many different jobs, including one summer at the Susquehanna County Coroner's Office as well! I don't know where she found the time for all of this, but she really got a lot out of her college experience, all while excelling at it all being on the Dean's List and maintaining our highest scholarship award – the Presidential Award! She was a great student for me and was always willing to help out. One summer, she built a 30-foot bridge with her father for us to use in our Fall Marching Band show!

She has such a passion for the band program and Kappa Kappa Psi, that I know that will carry over into anything she chooses to pursue. Her dedication and work ethic will be an asset wherever she goes so I

would highly recommend her for the Kappa Kappa Psi National Vice President for Programs.

Thank you,

Jason L. DeGroff  
Director of Bands  
University of New Haven  
203-479-4229

December 23, 2020

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Melissa Bannon

To whom it may concern,

It is with much enthusiasm that I recommend Melissa Bannon for National Vice President of Programs. I've had the pleasure and opportunity to work with Melissa these past few months at Aftermath Services LLC and have been consistently impressed with her diligence, attention to detail, time-management skills, organizational skills and willingness to get things done properly.

Most recently, Melissa has been working for me directly as my lead-technician. Her role consists of ensuring we provide the best quality of service to families that are dealing with the most traumatic time of their lives, and for example what we do here at Aftermath Services LLC needs excellent attention to detail because we can't leave any form of biological fluids/material behind for the families to discover. She provides best interest recommendations to help accordingly with our time schedule, making sure the tasks at hand are completed within a timely manner. Melissa has provided diligent work both in the field, and administratively at our location in North Attleboro, MA and has continued to show her willingness to get things done. Administratively, Melissa has assisted with compiling and filing weekly, & monthly job files for me persistently and has shown eagerness to assist fellow colleagues as well.

I believe Melissa would be an excellent addition to your committee, as I've been consistently impressed with her organizational skills, and time-management under pressure especially within our physically and mentally demanding field of work in our industry. Melissa has always shown an upbeat personality and attitude and willingness to learn more and grown to be an exceptional employee.

I highly recommend Melissa for National Vice President for Programs. She's well organized, detailed oriented, and highly committed to getting things done. She'd make an excellent addition to your committee.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any additional questions about Melissa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sunny Fan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sunny Fan  
Senior Field Supervisor, Aftermath Services LLC  
[sfan@aftermath.com](mailto:sfan@aftermath.com)  
(510)-566-3210



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Dear Nominations Committee,

It is my pleasure to recommend Melissa Bannon for the position of Vice President of Programs of Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with Ms. Bannon on the 2019-2020 Northeast District Council where she served as our Secretary/Treasurer. She was dependable, incredibly hardworking, and a dedicated part of our team. Beyond that, she carried many responsibilities while serving on the NED Council that showcased her time management skill set.

While serving on the NED Council as Secretary/Treasurer, she was also appointed as the Fundraising Chair for the Northeast District. In this position, she was able to create fundraisers that engaged the entire District online and in person at each Precinct Meeting. With this specific achievement, I believe that Ms. Bannon will thrive with engaging the entire Fraternity with fundraisers.

It is also good to note that Ms. Bannon is extremely passionate about serving others. Her platform of mental health and transparency shows just how much she cares about the Brothers of this Fraternity. She will bring forward the importance of Chapter relationships from District to District. She is a true team player and always fosters positive conversations that makes her a joy to work with.

I confidently recommend Melissa Bannon for the position of Vice President of Programs for Kappa Kappa Psi's National Council. As a dedicated and knowledgeable Brother, I know she will bring great assets to the Fraternity.

Please feel free to contact me at 757-334-6189 or [emaalexa001@gmail.com](mailto:emaalexa001@gmail.com) if you would like to communicate further on Ms. Bannon's experience. I would be more than happy to expand on my recommendation.

Fraternally Yours,

Ema Alexander

Past Northeast District President 2019-2020

Nu Rho Chapter - Life Member