

MIKE NAPOLITANO

70 Kent Road • Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 • (845) 214-5542 • mnapolitano@kkpsi.org

LETTER OF INTENT

Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi:

It is with great excitement that I announce my candidacy for Kappa Kappa Psi **National Vice President for Colonization and Membership** for the 2021-2023 biennium. I believe the combination of my fraternal background, professional experience, and dedication to the ideals of the fraternity will provide the brotherhood confidence that they have an advocate for their values in our maintenance and expansion, and a team player in supporting the vision of the National Council.

I was initiated into the Kappa Upsilon Chapter at Marist College in the Spring of 2002. Upon my initiation, I served as chapter Secretary/Treasurer and President of a newly chartered chapter with recruitment, fundraising, and service issues. During my term as a chapter officer, we successfully tripled in size - becoming the hallmark of service to the Marist College Band and the surrounding community. At Marist College, I received both my undergraduate and graduate degrees, and currently serve as the Assistant Director of the Music Program and Adjunct Lecturer of Music. Upon my hiring by Marist in 2004, I was appointed Chapter Sponsor, a role proudly held until Fall 2018. Throughout my sponsorship, the Marist Chapter has received both district-level and national recognition. While I would never take credit for their successes, I firmly believe that instilling my personal mantra of "do better, try harder" to the chapter has given them the drive to continually challenge themselves to strive for the highest. Through my current position, I continue to advise the chapter and pose leadership with developing innovative ways of serving the Marist College Band.

Aside from my service to the local chapter, I have also served as Membership Director (2013-2015) and National Chairperson of the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association Board of Directors (2015-2016). That experience has given me insight into the operation and function of the National Council as a non-voting member. In 2016, I was appointed Northeast District Governor, placing me in a position to increase the level of support in developing student leaders across the NED. Additionally, I have served on a number of national committees and have presented workshops on a variety of topics. This experience has helped me build a firm understanding of the diversity of interests and skills of our active membership, as well as a growing understanding of the needs of the active membership across the nation.

In serving as your National Vice President for Programs this past biennium, I bear witness to a good deal of the challenges that face our national organization. As a national public health emergency took hold of the country, I was tasked with assisting chapters in maintaining virtual operations and led a team of volunteers to assist with chapter virtual elections. Additionally, our virtual conventions forced us into innovative methods of providing award recognition. I am proud to have created recognition videos for our award recipients and am exceedingly honored to have overseen the AEA scholarship program. During this unprecedented time, access to higher education has been jeopardized by a COVID-caused economic downturn. The AEA Scholarship program, didn't just highlight the best of our students in the classroom, but I believe provided a financial lifeline to many seeking to continue schooling during these difficult times. Additionally, I have spent a good deal of the biennium crafting what I hope to be a national program that will charge our chapters to engage in activities that reflect not just the pillars we stand on, but the values we aspire to. This program, tentatively called *The Pinnacle*, will be reviewed by the Programs Committee at the 2021 National Convention, and gives our chapters a framework on participating in Musicianship, Leadership, and Service activities, but also to use the brotherhood has a means to facilitate events and discussion on diversity, equity, and inclusion in our chapters and band programs.

Harnessing the power of that diversity is something I will always believe is key to being a successful member of the National Leadership Team. The VPCM must continue to view diversity as one of the most valuable assets in continued fraternity expansion. They must be committed to further the work and conversations of the current Council, and have that work lend a demonstrable impact with our chapters and the band world. The VPCM often sees the worst in the fraternity world. Dealing with discipline and investigations with a seemingly constant hum requires an individual

with a level of institutional knowledge and a strong working relationship with all levels of fraternity leadership. Trust that as your VPCM, I will continue to work over the 2021-23 biennium and beyond, to cultivate leaders among those levels – from district level to Chapter Field Representatives - that reflect the power of our collective.

As requested, attached you will find a resume, campaign statement, biographical profile, photo, and letters of recommendation. These letters are from:

- **Jack Lee**, *KKΨ Past National President*
- **Marie Burleigh**, *Former KKΨ Northeast District Governor*
- **Robin Diller Torres**, *Assistant Dean of Student Engagement & Leadership/Adjunct Lecturer in Psychology & Communication, Marist College*
- **Sarah Williams**, *Director of Choral Activities/Senior Lecturer of Music, Marist College (Honorary, KKΨ-KY)*
- **Michael Coppola**, *Marist College '20, KKΨ-KY former VPM, advisor NED Membership Committee*

I believe that my candidacy materials not only demonstrate my commitment to our success as a fraternity, but also provide a vision in how to utilize my skills and passion in building a dynamic, diverse active membership for the future of this honorable organization.

Thank you for your consideration in my candidacy for **National Vice President for Colonization and Membership**. Although my preference is to serve as your next VPCM, I welcome consideration for other positions on the National Council as well. Feel free to contact me with any questions or thoughts at mnapolitano@kkpsi.org. I look forward to the great work our National Council will do as we forge forward after the most challenging time in our history, and hope to be a part of that team.

Fraternally submitted,



Mike Napolitano
National Vice President for Programs
Life Member – Kappa Kappa Psi, Kappa Upsilon (Marist College)

MIKE NAPOLITANO

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CAMPAIGN STATEMENT

Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi:

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit my candidacy for the office of National Vice President for Colonization and Membership this upcoming biennium. Chief among responsibilities is oversight over the fraternity ritual, membership education, expansion initiatives, chapter discipline, and the Chapter Field Representative program. With my fraternal and professional experience and training, I believe I can provide innovative service to the brotherhood. As a college administrator with more than eighteen years of fraternal involvement, I have always believed that this organization is more than a group of people with shared interests. This organization is a dynamic group of servant leaders, committed to creating life-long relationships and experiences that benefit a greater good. For our organization to continue to be the world-standard in service to college and university bands, we must realize our potential to create a unified voice that demands continued progress by our active membership. Now, more than ever, we must unite in order to grow. Here are a few initiatives that I hope will serve to unite the Fraternity as we emerge from these difficult times.

Commission for Discipline Reform: A major issue impacting the unity of our organization is a distrust of the National Leadership by our membership. More often than not, this issue is rooted in the disparity of disciplinary measures that have occurred between our HBCU chapters and PWIs. While we recognize there is no tolerance for actions that violate our risk management policies, the severity of discipline is often based on a series of recommendations relying on past precedent to create current guidance.

I propose creating a commission of volunteers to evaluate the past several years of disciplinary action made by National Councils to address VPCM best practices in determining disciplinary recommendations following investigations. My hope is to create a corps of individuals ranging from the National Leadership Team, Past National Presidents, District Governors, previous investigators, and student affairs professionals that will review previous investigations and the resulting sanctions. Additionally, this group would also research the disciplinary process of organizations similar to Kappa Kappa Psi. The summary of their work would be used to bring to light any disparities, but to also develop a standard set of guidelines and framework to be used by future VPCMs in recommending disciplinary measures for chapters found in violation of our policies.

It is my hope that through developing a standard for disciplinary actions, we will start to rebuild our relationships with chapters that view the National Council as a hostile force.

Continued Commitment to Considerate Investigations: As well as renewing trust through reforming discipline. It should also be noted that a major concern regarding the investigation process, is that many times investigators are sent to investigate chapters that may not have a full understanding of a campus culture. By example, investigating an allegation on an HBCU campus where the investigators may not understand the scope of activity and traditions could result in an unintentionally biased resulting recommendation. Current VPCM Lee has made significant strides in creating investigations that utilize the skill sets, institutional knowledge, and experience of the investigator corps. My goal is to cast a wider net in training an increasingly diverse volunteer investigator corps, as well as provide annual training opportunities (in person or virtual) as part of the National Leadership Conference each summer.

It is my hope that the considerate training and selection of investigative teams will result in equitable disciplinary measures – further rebuilding confidence and trust in the actions of the National Council.

Unified Membership Resources: Comprehensive membership education and ritual performance education falls under the purview of the VPCM. As the pandemic has taught us, there are no easy methods to meet these educational needs in a virtual environment. We find ourselves in a position, where if we fail to leverage technology to our benefit, we will cultivate a generation of brothers who lack a full understanding of our membership education curriculum and ritual. The National Council is reviewing the feasibility of transitioning away from our OMRS system to a product that is more suited to meet our needs.

Working with the next National President, I hope to bring the training modules of the Road to Wisdom, the Inner Circle, and the Founders' Circle into an easily accessible platform with a variety of levels of security in place to ensure our secrets remain safe while providing ease of access to membership candidates and active members engaging in further fraternal development. Ideally, this platform could also house our reporting obligations, and accept payment for our financial obligations. As these platforms are being evaluated, as VPCM it would be my goal to ensure that we have Google Classroom certified brothers on each of these teams to maintain the existing platforms and lend their expertise in future content creation and development.

Chapter Field Representative Oversight: As a National Organization, we would be remiss if we did not thank Nicole Brooks and Justin Jensen for their continued service as Chapter Field Representatives during our pandemic operations. They provide a sense of continuity and security that our chapters need during constantly changing times. As we expect their terms to end at the end of this biennium, we will now be faced with the challenges of recruiting and onboarding a new set of Chapter Field Representatives during a National Convention year in 2021, and potentially again in 2023. It is necessary for the VPCM to cultivate a strong working relationship with new Chapter Field Representatives, as their oversight falls to that office. As VPCM, it is necessary to ensure that new Chapter Field Representatives are given the keys to successful employment. This includes:

- Building a chapter visitation schedule that not only prioritizes chapters that have not received a recent visit, but to also meet with chapters that have specific operational needs that require remedy. A thorough, documented transition should be used when crafting that plan.
- Ensuring that prior to a physical visit with a chapter, there is a virtual pre-visit with the Chapter president to allow for the host president to build a rapport with the CFR. Too often, chapters receive a CFR visit and believe that it is a way for the national organization to snoop on local chapters. CFR visits provide diagnostic and educational opportunities for our chapters and allow chapters to receive guidance from those who have travelled the country surveying the fraternal experience. This pre-visit also allows the CFR to talk about campus and chapter climate, allowing their visit to be more focused.
- Continued professional development – to include investigating organizational membership in NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators), an organization dedicated to the professional development of Student Affairs professionals. Keeping our CFRs aware of issues regarding the landscape of higher education allows them to better serve our student members.

Cultivating Relationships to Create a Pipeline for Membership Expansion: Those who pride themselves on setting the world standard for excellence in the band world should always be investigating new ways to cultivate relationships that expand the scope of our work and influence. We should not be shy about broadcasting our values to the larger band world. As VPCM, I would like to work with our National President and Leadership Team to broaden the visibility of our brand and mission.

Specifically, I would like to work with our National President to develop a moderated meet and greet/college fair experience centered around the National Intercollegiate Band. This event would connect high school students from the convention host city to our hallmark music program, as well as meet with our participating college students. Additionally, we could provide NIB member institutions the opportunity to place informational sheets in the NIB program or identify a home on the NIB/National Convention website to promote NIB member institutions. The ability for those high school students to interact with brothers and sisters from across the nation would provide another level of awareness to pique their interest in continuing with band in college. Further, I would like to investigate a range of options to include a limited advertising spend with the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). Through NAfME, we would have the opportunity for a print presence in their two print journals, or banner ad presence throughout their website. Additionally, through an online NAfME presence, we gain exposure to Tri-M high school members. These students have proven themselves as leaders in their high school programs, and we should be in a position to cultivate them into leaders in our organization. Introducing Kappa Kappa Psi to an interested high school student could provide a pipeline for fraternal success should they enroll at a Kappa Kappa Psi member institution.

Additionally, while continuing our relationships with professional conferences like the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Texas Music Educators Association Conference, and CBDNA Athletic Band Consortium, we should strengthen our presence in the HBCU community through programming associated with Honda Battle of the Bands and HBCU Band Directors Consortium. Earning a seat at the table in these prominent events will develop relationships with directors that could serve to better our existing national programming as well as expand to additional campuses. After being introduced to Kappa Kappa Psi, we want directors not only interested in having us on their campus, but wondering how they ever lived without us.

Our National Vice President for Colonization and Membership should be an individual you trust to balance the institutional working knowledge of the Fraternity with a vision that unifies and elevates us into the future. Thank you for your consideration in my candidacy for National Vice President for Colonization and Membership.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or thoughts at mnapolitano@kkpsi.org.

MIKE NAPOLITANO

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BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

Mike Napolitano currently serves as Kappa Kappa Psi National Vice President for Programs. He was initiated into the Kappa Upsilon Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi in 2002 at Marist College. He was a member of the Marist College Band program, which encompassed a full symphonic band program, football marching band, and basketball pep band. He also performed with the College Brass Ensemble and Low Brass Choir as a tenor and bass trombone player, as well as a euphonium player.

While at Marist, Mike was initiated into the Beta Class of the Kappa Upsilon chapter, and in the semester following initiation was elected Chapter Secretary/Treasurer. In his senior year, he served as Chapter President. In danger of the chapter failing in 2003, Mike was responsible for re-focusing the chapter's service and recruitment programs to improve its perception within the Marist Band program. Within one year of his term, the chapter tripled in size, initiated its first female members, substantially increased its service output for the band program, and rebuilt the Chapter Constitution and Membership Education Plan.

Upon his hiring by Marist College in 2004 as a Human Resources Generalist, Mike was appointed Chapter Sponsor of the Marist chapter. In 2005, he was hired as Operations Manager for the Music Program, and currently serves as Assistant Director of Music for Marist College and Adjunct Lecturer of Music.

In 2011, Mike chartered the Kappa Kappa Psi New York Metro Local Alumni Association, and served as its chairperson through May 2018. In 2013, Mike was appointed to the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association Board of Directors and served as its Membership Director through 2015. In 2015, Mike was appointed National Chairperson for the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association, wherein he was responsible for creating an organizational structure that would provide stability for the organization to begin the process of becoming self-determined and financially sound. Mike was appointed to the position of Northeast District Governor in 2016. At the 2019 Convention in Stillwater, Mike was elected to the office of National Vice President for Programs, where he currently serves.

Mike received his undergraduate degree in Integrative Studies, with a focus on Music and Communications, from Marist College in 2006. In 2017, he earned his graduate degree in Integrated Marketing Communication from Marist College.

Mike is a Life Member of the Kappa Upsilon Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Iota Alpha Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma at Marist College. He was awarded the national Outstanding Sponsor Award and was the inaugural recipient of the Scott Stowell Alumni Excellence Award at the 2013 National Convention. Mike has presented at the 2013 and 2015 National Conventions, and in 2017 served on the Nominations Committee and advised the Jurisdiction Committee. In 2019, he advised the Ways and Means Committee. He has attended district conventions in the Northeast District (2002-2005, 2011-2013 attendee, 2014-2019 as a presenter), Southeast District (2015 & 2016, presenter), North Central District (2016 & 2017, presenter and committee advisor), Southwest District (2016, presenter & 2018, attendee), and Midwest District (2019, presenter).

Mike is an honorary member of the Kappa Upsilon Chapter (Marist College), the Theta Beta Chapter (Boston University), the Northeast District (Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma), Midwest District, and National Chapter. He is also a member of the Northeast District Alumni Association and Marist College Alumni Association. Mike currently holds memberships in the National Association for Music Education, New York State School Music Association, American Choral Directors Association and the Association of Concert Bands - serving as host for the 2012 ACB National Convention.

MICHAEL NAPOLITANO

70 Kent Road • Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 • (845) 214-5542 • mnapolitano@kkpsi.org

EDUCATION

Marist College

Poughkeepsie, NY

Master of Arts, 2017

Integrated Marketing Communications

GPA 3.935

Marist College

Poughkeepsie, NY

Bachelor of Science, 2006

Integrative Studies

GPA 3.000

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Assistant Director of Music

July 2018 - present

Responsibilities include:

- Oversight of the daily operation of a 400-student academic/extracurricular hybrid music program
- Budget forecasting and procurement
- Faculty assignment and scheduling
- Creating new student recruitment strategies and marketing materials
- Attendance at professional workshops and symposia
- Coordinating on- and off-campus performance engagements
- Developing marketing and publicity materials for all department performances and public engagements
- Student academic and club advising
- Supervision of 18-25 part-time faculty, 7-10 student employees, 1-3 marketing interns per semester
- Liaison to Office of Undergraduate Admission, Student Financial Services, College Advancement, and Student Affairs

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Adjunct Lecturer of Music

July 2007 – present

Course topics include:

- Music History and Appreciation
- Music Production
- Music Publicity and Marketing
- Ensemble Direction

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Senior Operations Manager, Music Department

July 2016 – July 2018

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Operations Manager, Music Department

March 2005 – July 2016

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Human Resources Assistant

September 2004 – March 2005

Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY

Student Financial Aid Assistant

February 2001 – September 2004

COURSES TAUGHT

Summer 2007	MUS 382L	Independent Study: Early American Sacred Music
Fall 2007	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2007	MUS 250N	Singers Men
Fall 2007	MUS 255N	Women's Select Choir
Fall 2007	MUS 378L	Independent Study: Musical Theater
Fall 2007	MUS 387L	Music and Film
Spring 2008	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2008	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2008	MUS 383L	Independent Study: Video Game Soundtracking
Fall 2008	MUS 226L	Music Cultures of the World
Fall 2008	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2009	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2009	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2009	MUS 386N	Independent Study: Tuba/Sousaphone Instruction
Fall 2009	MUS 226L	Music Cultures of the World
Fall 2009	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2010	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2010	MUS 379L	History of Rock and Roll
Fall 2010	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2010	MUS 237N	Wind Symphony
Spring 2011	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2011	MUS 392L	Special Topic: Case Studies in Popular Music
Fall 2011	MUS 105L	Introduction to Music
Fall 2011	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2012	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2012	MUS 378L	Special Topic: Music Production
Fall 2012	MUS 105L	Introduction to Music
Fall 2012	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2012	MUS 383L	Independent Study: Music Internship
Spring 2013	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2013	MUS 378L	Special Topic: Publicity for Music
Fall 2013	MUS 105L	Introduction to Music
Fall 2013	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2014	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2014	MUS 378L	Special Topic: Publicity for Music
Fall 2014	MUS 105L	Introduction to Music
Fall 2014	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2015	MUS 378L	Special Topic: US Popular Music: Culture and Society
Spring 2015	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2015	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Fall 2015	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2016	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2016	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Fall 2016	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2017	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2017	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2017	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Fall 2017	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2018	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2018	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2018	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Fall 2018	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2019	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2019	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Fall 2019	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Fall 2019	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir
Spring 2020	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2020	MUS 253N	Handbell Choir

Fall 2020	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Fall 2020	MUS 253N	Handbell Choir
Winter 2021	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2021	MUS 242L	Popular Music in America
Spring 2021	MUS 235N	Handbell Choir

COMMITTEE WORK

Marist College

- Campus Diversity Committee, *LGBTQ+ Subcommittee/Marist Ally Network* 2017 - present
- Red Fox Collective for BIPOC 2020 - present
- School of Communication & the Arts Ad Hoc DEI Committee 2020 - present
- Creative Arts Council 2011-2014

Kappa Kappa Psi

- National Committee on Nominations 2017
- National Committee on Jurisdiction, Advisor 2017
- National Committee on Ways and Means, Advisor 2019
- National Ritual Performance and Education Committee, member 2019-2021
- Midwest District Committee on Ways and Means, Advisor April 2019
- Northeast District Committee on Nominations, Advisor March 2017
- Northeast District Committee on Nominations, Advisor March 2019
- North Central District Committee on Awards, Advisor April 2016
- North Central District Governors' Cup Selection Committee April 2017
- Southeast District Committee on Ways and Means, Advisor April 2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity
 - Initiated: Spring 2002, Kappa Upsilon Chapter (Marist College)
 - Chapter Sponsor/Advisor: Fall 2004 – Fall 2018, Kappa Upsilon Chapter (Marist College)
 - Life Member, Spring 2005
 - Honorary Member:
 - Northeast District (March 2017)
 - Midwest District (April 2019)
 - National Chapter (July 2019)
 - Boston University (February 2020)
 - Marist College (May 2020)
 - Northeast District Governor: August 2016 – July 2019
 - National Vice President for Programs: July 2019 - present
 - New York Metro Local Alumni Association: Founder and President (2011 – 2018)
 - Northeast District Alumni Association, member
 - Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association: Membership Director, 2013-15
 - Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association: National Chairperson, 2015-16
 - North Central District Convention: Presenter, April 2016
 - Northeast District Convention: Presenter, 2014-2019
 - Northeast District Convention Host Advisor: March 2016
 - Southeast District Convention: Alumni Affairs Office Hours, April 2015 & April 2016
 - Midwest District Convention: Presenter, April 2019
 - Southwest District Convention: Presenter, 2016
- Tau Beta Sigma, National Honorary Band Sorority
 - Honorary Member: Spring 2005, Iota Alpha Chapter (Marist College)
 - Honorary Member: Spring 2017, Northeast District
 - Life Member: Spring 2005
 - Chapter Sponsor/Advisor: 2006-2009, 2014-2018 - Iota Alpha Chapter (Marist College)
 - Northeast District Convention Host Advisor: March 2016

- Association of Choral Directors of America
- Association of Concert Bands
 - 2012 National Convention Chairperson
 - Education/Outreach Committee, 2012-2016
- National Association for Music Education
- New York State School of Music Association
- Marist College Alumni Association

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

"The Dichotomy of Being 'That Guy' "

The Podium, National Publication of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma

Fall 2014

Article speaks to strategies of engaging alumni for effective active chapter operations and financial development.

"Creating a Local Alumni Association"

Kappa Kappa Psi/Tau Beta Sigma National Convention – Springfield, MA

July 2013

As member of the Kappa Kappa Psi Alumni Association Board of Directors, presented on the procedure to charter new local alumni associations and maintain membership requirements.

"Innovative Service and Group Identity"/"Brother, Sister...What's the Difference?"

Kappa Kappa Psi Northeast District Convention – University of Connecticut

March 2014

Kappa Kappa Psi Northeast District Convention – West Chester University of PA

March 2015

Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma National Convention – Lexington, KY

July 2015

Kappa Kappa Psi Northeast District Convention – Marist College

March 2016

Kappa Kappa Psi Southeast District Convention – Auburn University

April 2016

Kappa Kappa Psi Northeast District Convention – Lancaster, PA

March 2017

Kappa Kappa Psi Northeast District Convention – Virginia Tech University

April 2018

Where chapters of both Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma exist on the same campus, joint relationships can be strained when the groups develop service and recruitment initiatives that find each other competing over shared interest. By taking a close look at each organization's values and missions, participants in this workshop will be able to better speak to their chapter's perception of self, as well as break through any misconceptions of the complementary organization.

"Bridging the Gap – Making the Connection between Alumni and Actives"

Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma National Convention – Lexington, KY

July 2015

Kappa Kappa Psi Southwest District Convention – Mesquite, TX

April 2016

Maintaining a relationship with your alumni can often pose a challenge, especially when it comes to communicating about our ever-changing organization. Updating alumni on new events and policies and can be difficult as your alumni base ages. In this workshop, participants will be broken into smaller groups and given situations wherein they will develop communication strategies that will assist in a number of alumni affairs issues.

This workshop discusses:

- Keeping an updated alumni directory, and useful record keeping methods
 - Alumni/Active chapter conflict resolution
 - Keeping your alumni updated on local and national organization policy
 - Keeping your alumni engaged and interested in further activity
-

“Sponsors Don’t Know it All”

Kappa Kappa Psi Northeast District Convention 2016 – Marist College

March 2016

At times, fraternity advisors may have had no affiliation with the organization prior to accepting the role as Chapter Sponsor. Sponsors may not be familiar with national policy, local history or campus culture. This can create a great deal of distance between the chapter and the Sponsor.

This workshop discusses:

- *Understanding the Chapter Sponsor role in chapter operations*
 - *How does the Sponsor fit into the chapter culture?*
 - *What are the chapter’s expectations of the Sponsor and vice versa*
 - *Strengthening communication between the chapter, DOB and Chapter Sponsor*
-

“Blue & White with a Touch of Golden Girls”

Kappa Kappa Psi North Central District Convention 2016 – Fort Wayne, IN

April 2016

Kappa Kappa Psi Northeast District Convention 2018 – Virginia Tech University

March 2018

Airing from 1985-1992, this popular show followed the relationship of four strangers, who late in life found commonality and camaraderie by celebrating their differences and sharing their lives. This rite of passage is universal, as brothers in Kappa Kappa Psi find themselves experiencing some of the same challenges in trying to find common ground and friendship in order to serve our college and university bands. In this workshop, we prove that some of the lessons learned from our four blue-haired best friends transcend across our television screens and into what we can contribute as vital, active brothers in our everyday lives. This workshop uses examples from the show to keep the attendees engaged and entertained but uses discussion and reflection to demonstrate how these lessons relate back to our fraternal vision and purposes.

“How to Conduct Yourself”

Marist College Emerging Leaders Program

Spring 2020

Presented with Sarah Williams, Marist College Director of Choral Activities, this workshop takes the foundational elements of music and applies them to concepts related to servant leadership.

“The Unicorn is the National Animal of Scotland”

The Podium, National Publication of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma

Spring 2020

Article speaks to incorporating National Programs as a way to provide continued learning opportunities in Kappa Kappa Psi.

“COVID-19(19): Creating Opportunities: Virtual, In-Person, Dynamic”

The Podium, National Publication of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma

Fall 2020

Article speaks to strategies of engaging music students for effective activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Kappa Kappa Psi: National Outstanding Sponsor Award: 2013

Kappa Kappa Psi: Scott A. Stowell Alumni Excellence Award: 2013 (Inaugural Winner)

Marist College: Student Employment Supervisor of the Year: 2019

REFERENCES

Furnished upon request.



KKΨ

Jack Lee
Past
National
President

December 29, 2020

Brothers:

I am honored to recommend **Mike Napolitano** to be the next Kappa Kappa Psi Vice President for Colonization and Membership.

Throughout the many years that I have known Mike, there is one unequivocal trait that he consistently demonstrates: he has an ability to cultivate a common and shared vision among those he works alongside. As the Chairperson of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, I was fortunate to see the passion that Mike held for the active member experience. The Alumni Association moved forward under his leadership, and I quickly realized that he had more to offer for our active membership. Because of this, I quickly appointed him as the Northeast District Governor. I was excited to see his election to the National Council as the Vice President for Programs. In that role, he has sought to bring greater awareness and participation in our national programs; a difficult task given today's societal experiences. This was in addition to the large-scale immediate programming that was required to ensure that our chapters and districts were able to continue their operations through elections and meetings.

As a candidate for Vice President for Colonization and Membership, I continue to see the passion that Mike has for Kappa Kappa Psi as a whole, but most importantly for the active experience. His plans for creating a commission on discipline reform shows he is committed to finding solutions not excuses. This is supported further by his desire to ensure a considerate investigation process. I am confident that Mike will begin the work of gathering necessary information and trends, analyzing them, and appropriately planning for necessary change.

Additionally, he has outlined plans for the Chapter Field Representative position, a component of the fraternity that must regularly be evaluated for better practices to support chapter and individual brothers. His desire to have unified membership resources is essential to the continued progress of the past few years with *The Road to Wisdom*. Finally, continuing to cultivate our relationships among other organizations will only advance our work as a fraternity that promotes college and university band programs.

The future of Kappa Kappa Psi is dependent upon brothers that are willing to critically evaluate where we stand as an fraternal organization, strategically develop a plan to move us forward, and then challenge the process to see change. All this must be accomplished while staying true to the purposes, ideals, and embodiments of our great Fraternity. I have no doubt that Mike is the individual that is up to this task, and I am excited to see where he will take us as the next Vice President for Colonization and Membership.

AEA,

Jack Lee, Ed.D.
Past National President
Board of Trustees

KAPPA KAPPA PSI



MUSICIANSHIP • LEADERSHIP • SERVICE



KKΨ

Marie Burleigh
1807 N. 23rd Street
Clarksburg, WV 26301

1/14/2021

Brothers of the National Nominations Committee,

It is my honor and pleasure to recommend Michael Napolitano for the office of National Vice President for Colonization and Membership.

I have had the good fortune to know Mike since his earliest days in Kappa Kappa Psi. I've worked with him many times as he has filled various roles in the fraternity – active member, alumnus, chapter sponsor, advisor to district convention host chapters, National Alumni Association Director, and so on.

During that time, I found Mike to be a person of great integrity who has a love of music and an almost innate grasp of the values of Kappa Kappa Psi. I was so impressed by his intelligence, foresight, and leadership abilities that when a governor position opened unexpectedly in the Northeast, I knew he had exactly what the district needed at the time and lobbied *very* hard for his appointment.

My faith in him was not misplaced. He quickly developed an excellent rapport with the active membership, tempered with an appropriate level of respect. He lightened my load immeasurably as we struggled through the first years of Road to Wisdom activity reviews. He also showed himself to be thoughtful, level-headed, and fair when disciplinary issues arose. And he never took himself too seriously!

Mike's work with students both as a chapter sponsor and a collegiate music professional, and his contacts in the college and university band world combine with his Road to Wisdom experience to make him extremely well-qualified to be our next VPCM. His creativity and ability to be innovative will be invaluable to the Fraternity as our leadership continues to steer us through these very turbulent times.

Obviously, I'm very enthusiastic about Mike's candidacy. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or need more information!

Fraternally,

Marie Burleigh
Past Northeast District Governor
Life Member #2445

KAPPA KAPPA PSI



MUSICIANSHIP • LEADERSHIP • SERVICE

MARIST

January 2021

Dear Kappa Kappa Psi Nominations Committee,

Given my dual role as Assistant Dean of Student Engagement & Leadership and as a part-time professor with nearly 30 years of experience, I manage, teach, coach, and advise many individuals and therefore, am asked to write dozens of recommendations each term. In some instances, this can be quite the arduous task, but preparing a letter in support of Michael (Mike) Napolitano's quest to run for a position as the National Vice President for Colonization and Membership of Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity is a decidedly different and genuinely special experience. Indeed, the fonts form with ease on the screen, as Mike is an original and a true, true treasure on the Marist campus, in the greater community, and in the music education and leadership field.

His love of students, ethical reasoning, program planning, and "creative destruction" along with his deep commitment to service and to optimizing the well-being of individuals, programs and organizations represents an unusual set of diverse talents that he brings to every area in which he chooses to affiliate. Add his portfolio of talents and accomplishments to his overall department and character, and I can envision a successful, impactful and beneficial person-environment fit in this leadership role. I am confident that Mr. Napolitano would work diligently, collaboratively, and thoughtfully contributing to Kappa Kappa Psi. Let me elaborate.

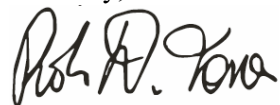
I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Napolitano while he was a respected student leader and then working closely with him through his professional administrative roles in the Music Department, where he now serves as the Assistant Director of Music at Marist. From organizing the onboarding experience for music students to teaching, scheduling courses, and supporting faculty, Mike appears to function as a de facto Department Chair for Music, which is why he was promoted from Senior Operations Manager to an Assistant Directorship. Indeed, from reorganizing the way in which students are placed and signed-up for music classes to co-creating and improving their orientation experience, to sponsoring and then advising Marist's Kappa Upsilon Chapter, he has been responsible for a great many positive changes that have occurred in this area. He has reached a phase where his intellectual curiosity, capacity to manage the rigors of the program, and recognition of the many ways in which widening his leadership reach through the next level of volunteerism can impact a far larger number of music students. He is a gifted teacher and mentor who inspires the best in others, and I think he would do an excellent job promoting leadership and volunteer engagement among constituents.

I am honestly impressed and often amazed at how well he manages the multiple demanding aspects of his life that require him to consistently execute good judgement, patience, energy and strategic thinking. Just about everyone knows, loves and respects Mike on our campus, and everybody who knows him recognizes his focus, dedication, intellect, talent and kindness. He is a thoughtful contributor, a beloved teacher and one who is easy to be around.

Mr. Napolitano is an interesting and interested individual with a long history of dedication to music education, student success and service. He is skilled, passionate, and intelligent and has a fine sense of balance and a tremendous amount to offer the National Council. His written and verbal communication skills are both compelling and clear, and he is a pleasure to work with.

I think others on the National Council would find his presence to be rewarding and he would use his role to advance the important mission of the organization - one about which he is personally passionate. He is a calm force, a role model and the kind of warm, engaging and passionate person you would want on your team. Please contact me at (845) 575-3517 if I can be of any further assistance in support of his candidacy.

Sincerely,



Robin Diller Torres, LMHC

Assistant Dean of Student Engagement & Leadership/Adjunct Lecturer in Psychology & Communication

MARIST

January 2021

Kappa Kappa Psi Nominations Committee:

I am writing on behalf of my friend and colleague, Brother Michael Napolitano.

It is with great pleasure and confidence that I recommend Mike as a candidate for the Office of Vice President for Colonization and Membership for Kappa Kappa Psi. I have known Mike since 2007 when I became full time music faculty at Marist College. At that time, Mike was teaching as a member of the adjunct faculty and working side by side with the Director of the Music Department. He worked then, and now, as advisor to student learning outcomes and program completion, mentor to Fraternity (Kappa Kappa Psi) and Sorority (Tau Beta Sigma) leadership, as well as organizing and strategizing for the entire Marist Music Department. Mike spearheads and runs a robust departmental social media campaign that has been crucial to our department's vitality during the pandemic.

The department consists of approximately 400 students, 23 adjunct faculty, 7-10 department student workers and 4 full time employees. Mike oversees all workings of the office, and as seen on his current resume, he now holds the title Assistant Director of Music and has taken on the majority of the work of the Director.

Mike is a dynamic individual who has the ability to make every person feel worthy and respected. He is highly organized, attentive to detail and does not shy away from responsibilities. As an educator Mike is continually recreating his courses to stay relevant to current climates. He is an inspiring educator who thrives not only in the classroom but also on the virtual platform. He is diplomatic in his inquiry of infractions and deals with difficult situations with diligence and fairness. Mike is a leader that has constant positivity when working with groups. He has the ability to ask poignant questions that make individuals think about responses and feelings. Mike also takes guidance gracefully, however, not without thorough and thoughtful exploration of alternative outcomes.

I have met few individuals who take time to set personal goals and map out how best to achieve these goals. Mike takes each goal and strives for excellence through thoughtful industriousness and creativity until the goal has been achieved.

I am confident in my recommendation of Mike Napolitano for the Office of Vice President for Colonization and Membership. Mike would be an absolute asset to this position and to the National Council at large.

Fraternally submitted,



Sarah Williams

Director of Choral Activities/Senior Lecturer of Music
KKΨ-KY (Honorary)

January 2021

Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi:

It is truly an honor and a privilege to write to you on behalf of Michael Napolitano, who is seeking to become the Kappa Kappa Psi National Vice President for Colonization and Membership for the 2021-2023 biennium.

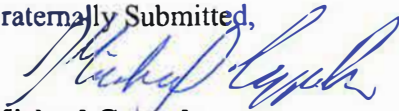
A true servant leader and unsung hero, Michael Napolitano all too often operates from just beyond the spotlight. As a recent graduate of the Marist College Music Department, I have worked with Mikey as his student, employee, and as a chapter officer. From this I have experienced firsthand the degree of compassion and dedication Mikey has for students as well as the lengths he will go for the fraternity and the craft of music. He is not afraid to delegate and takes constructive criticism with grace. Mikey is an innovator, an opportunity seeker and furthermore takes the next step to capitalize on those opportunities to make tangible and lasting positive change on the world around him.

One of Mikey's proven strengths is his ability to connect with students. I have never seen someone with so much on their plate, so readily sacrifice their time to help someone in need. It is almost therapeutic, sitting in the chair across from his desk. He has an uncanny ability to look at an issue, deconstruct it and make it make sense. All it takes is a cursory glance after walking in his office, sometimes an exasperated sigh as you recede into the chair after a long day and without hesitation he will inquire "Door closed?" It is a summation of these experiences between myself and my peers that I am confident that Mikey will carry this compassion forward as the next National Vice President for Colonization and Membership. Once you get past the tasteful sarcasm and the Golden Girls anecdotes, it is abundantly clear that he has a growth mindset that will overcome any challenge the fraternity has in store.

I have no doubt in my mind that Michael Napolitano will not only be an outstanding steward of the fraternity as the National Vice President for Colonization and Membership but in doing so, challenge all of us to "do better, try harder" in all that we do. His institutional knowledge, foresight as a leader and compassion for his fellow man, will prove invaluable as we navigate our way into a new and fragile future.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding his character, please do not hesitate to contact me at (845) 891-3162 or mcoppola@kkpsi.org.

Fraternally Submitted,



Michael Coppola

Marist College 2020

Teachers College, Columbia University 2022

KKΨ-KY (Life)

Northeast District Membership Committee Alumni Liaison

12 Flower Road, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
Telephone: (845) 891-3162 Email: mcoppola@kkpsi.org

