

December 26, 2018



A chance meeting when she was 16 with her deaf twin led High Point, NC native Jenese E. Portee to the field of interpreting. Jenese earned both her Bachelor's and Master's in American Sign Language/English interpreting.

Jenese became a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Omega Nu Chapter at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. With poise and grace, the Omega Nu ladies strongly supported their community. This sparked Jenese's interest; she realized how much her life and purpose aligned with the sorority's founding principals. Jenese relished the welcoming she received by Eta Pi Zeta Chapter as a visiting soror. When her daughter Jordyn felt the same love as an Amicette with the chapter's Youth Affiliates, Jenese knew Eta Pi Zeta was for her.

Jenese has become a Nationally Certified, highly skilled leader in the interpreting community. After completing her graduate studies at the University of North Florida, she has continued to empower the next generation of interpreters.

Jenese currently serves as staff ASL Interpreter and Reasonable Accommodation Assistant for the Peace Corps. She is a Certified Contracting Officer Representative as well as a Disability Program Manager. In 2018, Jenese was elected as president of the National Alliance of Black Interpreters, Inc., DC Chapter.

Earlier this year, Jenese captured the national stage when she used her acclaimed interpreting skills during Pink's performance at the 60th Annual Grammy Awards. As an advocate for inclusion, Jenese can also be seen interpreting for an expectant mom who is Deaf in the most recent episode of Bustle's Romper's Doula Diaries which can be seen on Facebook and YouTube. When her hands are free--no pun intended--Jenese enjoys travelling.

For all that she does, Soror Jenese E. Portee is our Zeta crush for this Wednesday!

December 19, 2018

A proud and committed member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated for 66 years, Juanita Robinson vividly recalls how hard she had to work to cover her college expenses at Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas during some very tumultuous times in her home state. For more than half a century, she found the sorority's commitment to community service personally gratifying and fulfilling.

Knowing first-hand the struggles of securing a college education, particularly during a time when African Americans were denied access to higher learning, Juanita's main passion in life has been to uplift deserving young people by providing the financial support they need to pursue their education.

This passion led her to serve on the Board of Managers of Zeta's National Education Foundation, where Juanita brought her love for the ideals of our sorority to work; she later serve as Vice Chair of Z-NEF. A retired Head Start public school teacher, Juanita is an accomplished leader and organizer. Her service extends beyond the National Educational Foundation. She served as Board Chair of the Community Health Foundation in Washington, DC.

Juanita became a member of Eta Pi Zeta chapter shortly after the chapter chartered. She led Eta Pi Zeta chapter as President and has often had a vital presence on the chapter's executive board.

Juanita received her Bachelor of Science in Home Economics from Philander Smith College and a Master of Education in Early Childhood Education from the University of Maryland College Park. Juanita resides in Silver Spring, MD, worships at the Church of the Redeemer, Presbyterian in Washington DC, and is a Life Member of the NAACP.

For all that she does, Soror Juanita Robinson is our Zeta crush for this Wednesday!



December 12, 2018



Hailing from the "Big Apple" (but raised southern-style), Brooklyn-bred Lisa Turner is the youngest of four children. Lisa credits her strong roots to her late parents, James and Annie Turner of Hartwell, GA. Lisa enjoyed two worlds growing up, having spent time between NY and GA for family gatherings, story telling, and kitchen cook-offs. When Lisa set out for college, she chose Clark Atlanta University because it reminded her of her own close-knit family.

Lisa became a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated, Psi chapter in the Spring of 1995, joining relatives Living in Maryland now for over 20 years, Lisa currently resides in Prince George's County and serves as Treasurer of Eta Pi Zeta Chapter.

Photography has been Lisa's passion since the age of 10 when she first held a camera in her hands. That passion has served her well; she is currently the Maryland State and Atlantic Region Photographer for the sisterhood. She enjoys capturing the history of the sorority and hopes that her gift for photography will be treasured by future generations to come.

Lisa loves to bake and craft in her spare time. She counts it a blessing to share her gifts and teachings with others. She lent her culinary skills to numerous fundraisers and social gatherings, and has loomed premie hats for infants in hospital neo-natal units.

Lisa received her AAS in Accountancy from New York City Tech, her BA in Accountancy from Clark Atlanta University, and professionally has served as an Internal Auditor and Certified Fraud Examiner for various industries.

For all that she does, Soror Lisa Turner is our Zeta crush for this Wednesday!