

January 2, 2019

Monica Evans Antonio is a Motown girl, born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. She moved to the DMV in 2011 to escape the cold Midwestern winters and to pursue a career in Federal service. Monica is also a glowing newlywed whose blended family includes her wonderful husband, three young adult children, and an adoring grandchild.

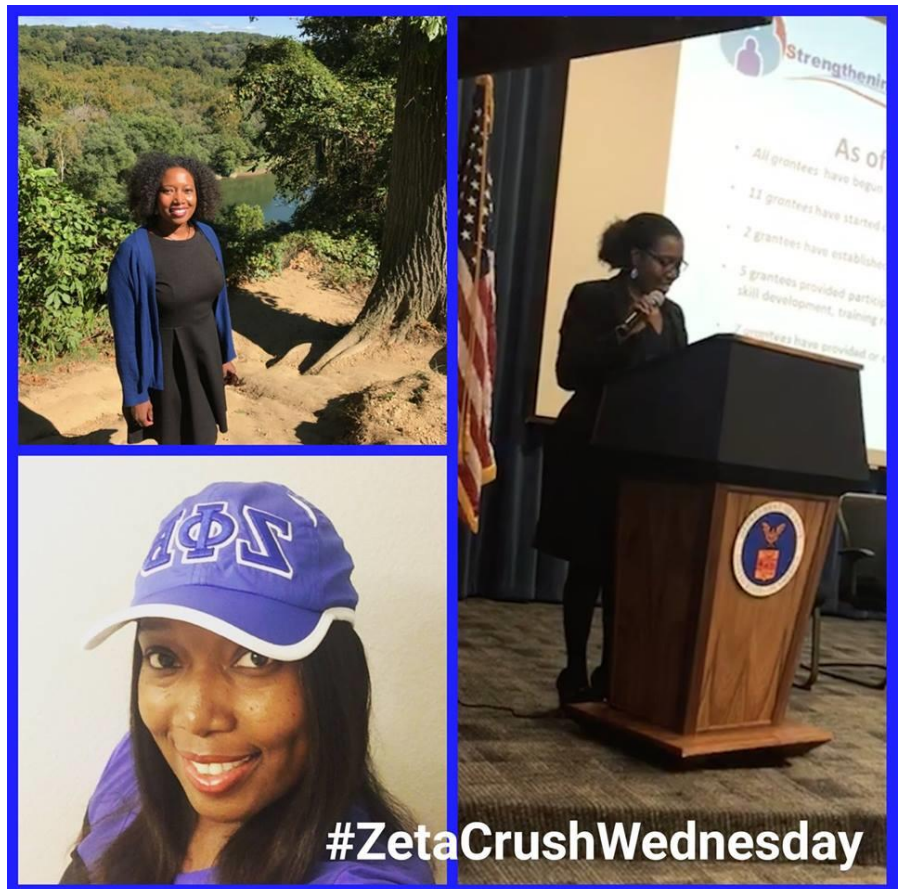
Honoring the legacy of African American physicist and NASA astronaut Ronald E. McNair, Monica is a McNair scholar and renaissance woman. She has a Ph.D. in Educational Policy and was a Fulbright fellow in Brazil, where she taught and conducted research. She has been part of an African dance troupe, sang in a reggae band, and served as a run coordinator for a national running club. She has led women on their first camping and trail running experiences.

Monica enjoys learning new languages (her life goal is to be conversant in Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Italian), and stretching herself creatively and professionally. She is currently building a hotel development company and a talent development consulting company, doing so while holding down a full-time day job in which she leads several national workforce development programs.

Service to the community is vitally important to Monica. This is what brought her to Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, Eta Pi Zeta Chapter in Spring 2016. Since joining the sisterhood, Monica has participated in numerous public service activities, most notably as lead of the yearly Zeta Boutique that is held at an emergency overnight shelter for women who are experiencing homelessness.

In addition, Monica is very active in her church, All Souls DC, Unitarian, serving as an ESL (English as a Second Language) instructor, a worship leader, and on the church's foundation committee, which provides grants to community groups in Washington D.C. Service with a smile is this Soror's motto!

For all that she does, Soror Monica Evans Antonio is our Zeta crush for this Wednesday!



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. **March 13, 2019**

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!

