

MORTAR  
BOARD



# HISTORY OF MORTAR BOARD IN BRIEF

BEFORE 1918, on many university and college campuses there were local senior women's honorary organizations striving to render service to their Alma Maters, with similar standards of membership and ideals of leadership. Through the efforts of four groups a national organization called MORTAR BOARD was formed by groups at Swarthmore College, Cornell University, Ohio State University, and the University of Michigan. At the first convention, February 15-16, 1918, the name from the locals at Michigan and Ohio State, the pin, a small black Mortar Board from Ohio State's, the ritual, constitution and expansion policy were decided upon. The organization represented, at first, a small section of the country. Very rapidly, by 1925, it was nationwide. In seventeen years, there were sixty chapters. Ten conventions have been held. Only minor changes in the ritual and the constitution have been made.

## Purpose of Mortar Board

"To provide for the cooperation between societies, to promote college loyalty, to advance the spirit of service and fellowship among university women, to maintain a high standard of scholarship, to recognize and encourage leadership, and to stimulate and develop a finer type of college woman."

## Object of Mortar Board

"Service, scholarship and leadership."

## Qualifications For Membership

"Service, scholarship and leadership."

## INTERSTING INFORMATION ABOUT MORTAR BOARD

**N**EW members are elected to Mortar Board in the spring from undergraduate women who will have completed their junior year at the opening of the fall term, by unanimous vote of the chapter. No chapter may have more than twenty nor less than five members. There is a scholarship standard to be met by each candidate. A faculty committee works with each chapter in an advisory capacity.

The national convention is the governing body. In the interim between conventions a national council of six, elected at the triennial conventions conducts the business of the society. For purposes of administration the chapters are grouped geographically into nine sections each supervised by a section director who is appointed by the president.

The national publication is the MORTAR BOARD QUARTERLY.

Each chapter contributes some service of value to its campus. Each chapter has traditional services and local responsibilities. No definite activities are scheduled in which the chapter must participate, since each campus is different and has its own needs. The type of service most frequently chosen are the recognition of high scholarship, orientation of new students, philanthropic activities, student government, housing of students, and assisting the administration.

There are now about 8,000 members of Mortar Board, including about 200 honorary members. Each year from the thousands of junior women in colleges, only about six hundred are selected for membership in Mortar Board. Our chapters vary in size within the constitutional limit. We have chapters in colleges and universities varying from 300 to 15,000 students with from 160 to 5,500 women. We have members in every state of the Union, as well as many foreign countries.

The national prestige of Mortar Board is so great that over one hundred local groups are desirous of petitioning

for a chapter. We are welcomed by university and college authorities. No local is considered unless the college or university is given "A" rating by AAU and AAUW, until the local is at least five years old, and meets our other requirements for a strong chapter. Before any vote is taken upon a group, it is inspected by a national officer. Before a formal petition is made to all the chapters and to council, the local must be recommended by Mortar Board chapters located nearby. Careful consideration is given to the membership, the work of the organization locally, as well as the college and university.

Every wearer of the MORTAR BOARD pin must remember that its base represents SERVICE, its board LEADERSHIP, its tassel SCHOLARSHIP, and through her membership increase Mortar Board's merit, reputation and prestige. We welcome and congratulate you, our new members.

## SONGS

### THY IDEALS

Thy ideals, Pi Sigma Alpha,  
We are ever striving toward,  
As we seek to live thy motto,  
In the bonds of Mortar Board.  
And to you, whom we have chosen,  
In the years both far and near,  
Comes the privilege of service,  
To our Alma Mater dear.



### ODE

We Mortar Boards receive you  
With welcome heart and hands  
To represent the noble aims  
For which our college stands.  
And this we charge, whate'er befall  
Respond to Alma Mater's call  
Be honest, loyal, true and strong  
As future Mortar Boards.

## CHAPTER ROLL

1918 Swarthmore College  
1918 Ohio State University  
1918 University of Michigan  
1918 Cornell University  
1918 University of Illinois  
1918 University of Missouri  
1919 University of Minnesota  
1919 DePauw University  
1920 University of Wisconsin  
1920 Knox College  
1920 University of Kentucky  
1921 University of Nebraska  
1921 University of Indiana  
1921 University of Pennsylvania  
1922 Miami University  
1922 Washington University  
1922 Northwestern University  
1922 Lawrence College  
1923 Carnegie Institute of Technology  
1923 University of Pittsburgh  
1923 University of Idaho  
1923 University of Oregon  
1923 Washington State College  
1923 University of Texas  
1924 University of Colorado  
1924 University of Kansas  
1924 University of West Virginia  
1924 University of Vermont  
1925 University of California  
1925 University of Oklahoma

## CHAPTER ROLL

1925 University of Washington  
1925 Iowa State College  
1926 University of Arizona  
1926 Whitman College  
1926 University of Iowa  
1926 Purdue University  
1927 Montana State College  
1927 University of Montana  
1928 Kansas State College  
1928 Middlebury College  
1928 University of South Dakota  
1928 William and Mary College  
1929 University of Southern California  
1929 University of Alabama  
1929 Ohio Wesleyan University  
1930 Pomona College  
1930 Westhampton College  
1931 Florida State College for Women  
1931 Agnes Scott College  
1932 Southern Methodist University  
1932 University of Cincinnati  
1932 University of North Dakota  
1933 Oregon State College  
1933 University of Utah  
1933 University of Wyoming  
1934 Louisiana State University  
1934 Michigan State College  
1934 University of Maryland  
1935 Birmingham Southern College  
1935 Pennsylvania State College  
1936 Denison University

CHAPTER INFORMATION

CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP



THIS IS TO CERTIFY that *Michelle Andrews*

is a member of the class of 19*36* of *Michigan* Chapter of

MORTAR BOARD

Signed:

*Kay Thilla Coleman*  
National President

*Jan Bergquist-Jensen*  
President of Chapter