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## GSO's M.A.R.T.H.A. Foundation Awards \$3,000 in Scholarships



Shailyn Frazier, Madison Orr and Madeana Taylor

- Wednesday, August 04, 2021

Moving All Races to Higher Achievement (M.A.R.T.H.A.), Incorporated is the nonprofit foundation associated with the Sigma Omega (GSO) Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA). This year, three 2021 graduates of the Savannah Chatham County School system will each receive a \$1000 scholarship as recipients of the inaugural Ivy and Pearl Scholarship. This annual scholarship will be part of the M.A.R.T.H.A. Foundation's larger goal of impacting the community youth. Since its founding in 1944, countless area youth have benefited from M.A.R.T.H.A.'s programming including its educational initiatives for at-risk children and their parents, the mentoring of middle school girls (Precious Gems Mentoring Program), as well as health, economics, and arts initiatives.

This year's Ivy and Pearl Scholarship recipients are a testament to the foundations' mission of advancing education and Alpha Kappa Alpha's pledge to be of service to all mankind. These deserving young women have displayed exceptional leadership and outstanding community engagement.

The recipients are:

**Shailyn Frazier** - Class Valedictorian at Herschel V. Jenkins High and the 2021 Georgia Power Community and Scholarship recipient. Ms. Frazier is the HVJ Girls' basketball Defensive Player of the Year, and DECA's Vice President of Communications. She also earned the Leadership Skills Diploma Seal and Fine Arts Diploma Seal on her high school diploma. Shailyn, who aspires to be a pediatric cardiologist, will major in pre-med at Mercer University. Ms. Frazier, a young woman of faith, "I want to continue my academic excellence and strive to always give my best leaving nothing to regret."

**Madison Orr** - A Savannah Arts Academy graduate is a young entrepreneur and owner of Peace, Pride and Prosperity, a business focusing on building civic awareness and engagement within the Savannah community. Ms. Orr served as Second Vice President for Top Teens of America and was named as the Eugene H. Gadsden Scholar by the Courts and Law Program. She is also the youngest member on the R.E.A.L Task Force, where she works with Savannah leaders.

leadership as the 2021 Chapter President and Denise M. Cooper was recognized for her leadership as the 2020 Chapter President. Both were recognized at the Leadership Breakfast. These recognitions highlight GSO's commitment to excellence even during the unprecedented time of a pandemic.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is an international service organization that was founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1908. It is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-educated women. Alpha Kappa Alpha is comprised of more than 300,000 members in 1,024 graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States and Internationally. Led by International President, Dr. Glenda Glover, Alpha Kappa Alpha is often hailed as "America's premier Greek-letter organization for African American women." Led locally by Charlene E. Jones, the Gamma Sigma Omega Chapter and M.A.R.T.H.A. Foundation have served Chatham County for many years through its initiatives and partnerships. GSO continues to thrive and focus on community service by dedicating resources and energy.

For more information about Gamma Sigma Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, visit <https://www.gammasigmaomega.com> or the Gamma Sigma Omega Facebook page.

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