

PRESS RELEASE

Sigma Chapter Raises \$15,000 for Artz Philadelphia

April 21, 2017

Each year, the Sigma Chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma chooses a charity to fundraise for throughout the entire academic year. In the fall of 2016, the Sigma Chapter chose Artz Philadelphia as its 2016-2017 charity of choice. Beginning in September 2016 and continuing until April of 2017, the chapter hosted bake sales, raffles, a talent show, and a charity auction and collected donations in order to reach its fundraising goal of \$15,000.

At the final body meeting on **Wednesday, April 19, 2017**, we presented our check to Susan Shifrin, the founder and executive director of Artz Philadelphia. Throughout the year, she has spoken to our students about Artz Philadelphia during our Monday Community Affairs committee meetings and hosted a group of our students for a training session in February 2017. We are honored to have been able to work with her and the entire Artz Philadelphia family to give back to our community and gain the skills to further volunteer and aid this organization.

Artz Philadelphia, founded in July 2013, is a non-profit organization that connects people living with dementia and their partners with artists and cultural organizations in a creative community. Their goal is to provide opportunities for self-expression, rebuilding of self-esteem and dignity to people living with dementia and their caretakers through the use of artwork.

If you would like to learn more about Artz Philly and training and volunteer opportunities, please visit <https://artzphilly.org>.



The Sigma Chapters previous charities and past donation totals include:

2015 -2016 Brave Hearts for Strong Minds - \$15,000

2014 - 2015 Brave Hearts for Strong Minds - \$11,200

2013 -2014 For Pete's Sake - \$10,000

2012 - 2013 ESF Dream Camp - \$10,000

2011 -2012 Gift of Life Family House - \$25,000

2010 - 2011 Aid For Friends- \$8,000

2009 -2010 Arnesha Mash-Walker Foundation - \$5,000

2008 - 2009 Children's Alopecia Project - \$5,000