



Illinois Epsilon Alumni
Bringing Back the Heart



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The Illinois Epsilon Campaign to Rebuild Our Chapter Home and Brotherhood at NIU



A New Era for Illinois Epsilon

Since our founding at Northern Illinois University in 1969, Sigma Phi Epsilon – Illinois Epsilon has built a legacy of excellence. For decades, we led the way in academics, athletics, philanthropy, and brotherhood, shaping men of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love.

While our charter closed in 2007, the heartbeat of SigEp never stopped. In fall 2024, a bold new vision emerged - one that started with a Hail Mary. Alumni leaders believed it was time to bring SigEp back to NIU and build something extraordinary. The only way to successfully accomplish this was with an actual SigEp house on Greek Row. And with that, the "Bringing Back the Heart" campaign was born.

Now, thanks to our newly secured home at 920 Hillcrest Drive and the energy of over 35 engaged alumni leaders, SigEp is making a powerful return to campus. Renovations (Phase 1) are underway, new undergraduate members have joined our brotherhood, and momentum is growing fast.



Welcome to 920 Hillcrest - Our Future!



Our Return to NIU

Sigma Phi Epsilon is not returning to "do it the old way." We're building a modern fraternity experience—one that rejects hazing, pledging, and the outdated frat stereotypes. Our commitment is to offer something more meaningful, more purposeful, and more impactful than ever before.

This comeback is guided by a few key pillars:

- ***The Balanced Man Program (BMP)*** – A four-year, non-hazing, **leadership** development experience that helps our brothers grow intellectually, physically, professionally, and personally.
- ***The Balanced Man Scholarship (BMS)*** – With 94 applicants this spring alone, our BMS awards reward high-achieving NIU men who embody Sound Mind and Sound Body, regardless of fraternity affiliation.
- ***Strong Alumni Mentorship*** – Our new undergraduate leadership is guided by dedicated alumni mentors, trades professionals, and a committee-driven support system.
- ***A Brotherhood Built on Values*** – This is about character, not clout. It's about leadership, not hierarchy. And it's about cultivating men who give back to their campus, their community, and each other.
- ***An Aggressive Recruiting Plan*** – We're leveraging everything: our Balanced Man Scholarship, our new house and renderings, The Balanced Man Program and our housing scholarships – to attract the best of the best and get our manpower to critical mass!



Why 920 Hillcrest?

Why Now?

Our new chapter home at 920 Hillcrest is more than brick and mortar - it's our heart. And to attract the best and brightest men at NIU, it must reflect the strength of our values and the pride of our legacy.

Our Vision, Our Future:

- Distinguished Great Room, Durable Chapter/Party Room, Welcoming Foyer, and Community-Building Dining Room.
- Professional-grade kitchen and modern study spaces.
- Secure, clean, and welcoming bedroom suites.
- Advanced safety, security, and technology infrastructure.
- Communal gathering areas to foster brotherhood and community.
- Dedicated space for leadership development and alumni programming.



We are building a space worthy of the past and even more inspiring for the future!



Our Fundraising Vision

Our goal is to raise \$275,000. With your help, we will fund the continued renovations, scholarships, and leadership development programs that will shape generations of SigEp men. Our giving tiers reflect the heart and legacy of our brotherhood.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to strengthen Sigma Phi Epsilon's foundation at NIU, and we are eager to make it happen with your support. Your contribution will directly impact the lives of future brothers and preserve the traditions and values that have made Sigma Phi Epsilon such an essential part of our lives.

Contribution Opportunities:

- **Founders Circle** (\$10,000+): Prominent recognition on Founder's Circle plaque and special acknowledgment at events.
- **Legacy Partner** (\$5,000+): Recognition on the donor wall.
- **Brotherhood Benefactor** (\$2,500+): Recognition on the donor wall.
- **Red Door Contributor** (\$1,000+): Recognition on the donor wall.
- **Heart of SigEp** (\$500+): Recognition on the donor wall.
- **Pride of the House** (\$250+): Prominent recognition on donor plaque.
- **Honor Roll** (\$100+): Recognition on donor plaque.

All Donors will be recognized on our website and listed in the annual newsletter.



Premier Legacy Sponsorship Opportunities

For Sigma Phi Epsilon alumni who are able and wish to leave a lasting legacy with the new house, we proudly offer an exclusive opportunity to sponsor specific rooms and areas within 920 Hillcrest. Through a Premier Legacy Sponsorship, you can make an enduring impact on the Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter house, preserving your name and contributions for generations to come.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

- **Legacy Sponsorship:** \$10,000 per bedroom
- **Premier Legacy Sponsorship:** \$25,000 per room or area
- **Ultimate Legacy Sponsorship:** \$100,000 for the Entire House

Available Premier Sponsorship Areas:

- **The Great Room:** The central gathering space for all members and visitors.
- **Basement Chapter & Party Room:** A dedicated area for events and brotherhood gatherings.
- **The Bar** (including sound system, laser light show, and smoke machine): The heart of our social space.
- **Kitchen:** Where we create the meals that create the memories.
- **The Dining Room:** Where our members share meals and create memories.
- **The Exec Board Room:** The command center of leadership, where strategic decisions, executive meetings, and chapter planning will take place.
- **Study & Group Project Room:** A modern academic success area for focus on academic success.
- **The Gym:** A workout space where brothers can train, stay active, and push each other to be the best versions of themselves.
- **First Floor:** The first impression of SigEp's new era at NIU - where visitors, alumni, and future brothers will feel the power of our tradition, brotherhood, and ambition. With a grand entrance, welcoming common areas, and a space that reflects the pride of SigEp, this floor sets the tone for who we are and where we're going.
- **Second Floor:** Private living quarters of SigEp. This space will provide comfort, connection, and brotherhood through modernized rooms, gathering areas, and spaces for impromptu discussions, study sessions, and personal growth.

As a Premier Legacy Sponsor

You will receive the following benefits:

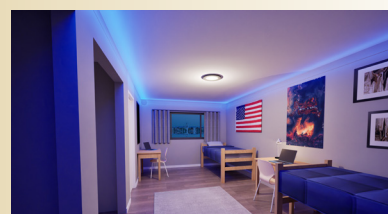
- **Naming Rights:** Your chosen area will be named in your honor, creating a personal legacy within the Sigma Phi Epsilon house.
- **Design Involvement:** You will have the option to be as involved as you wish in designing and decorating the space you sponsor.
- **Lasting Recognition:** A plaque commemorating your gift will be permanently installed in the sponsored area, serving as a tribute to your contribution.



Great Room



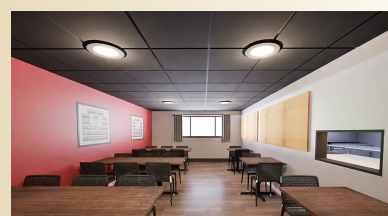
Basement: Chapter & Party Room



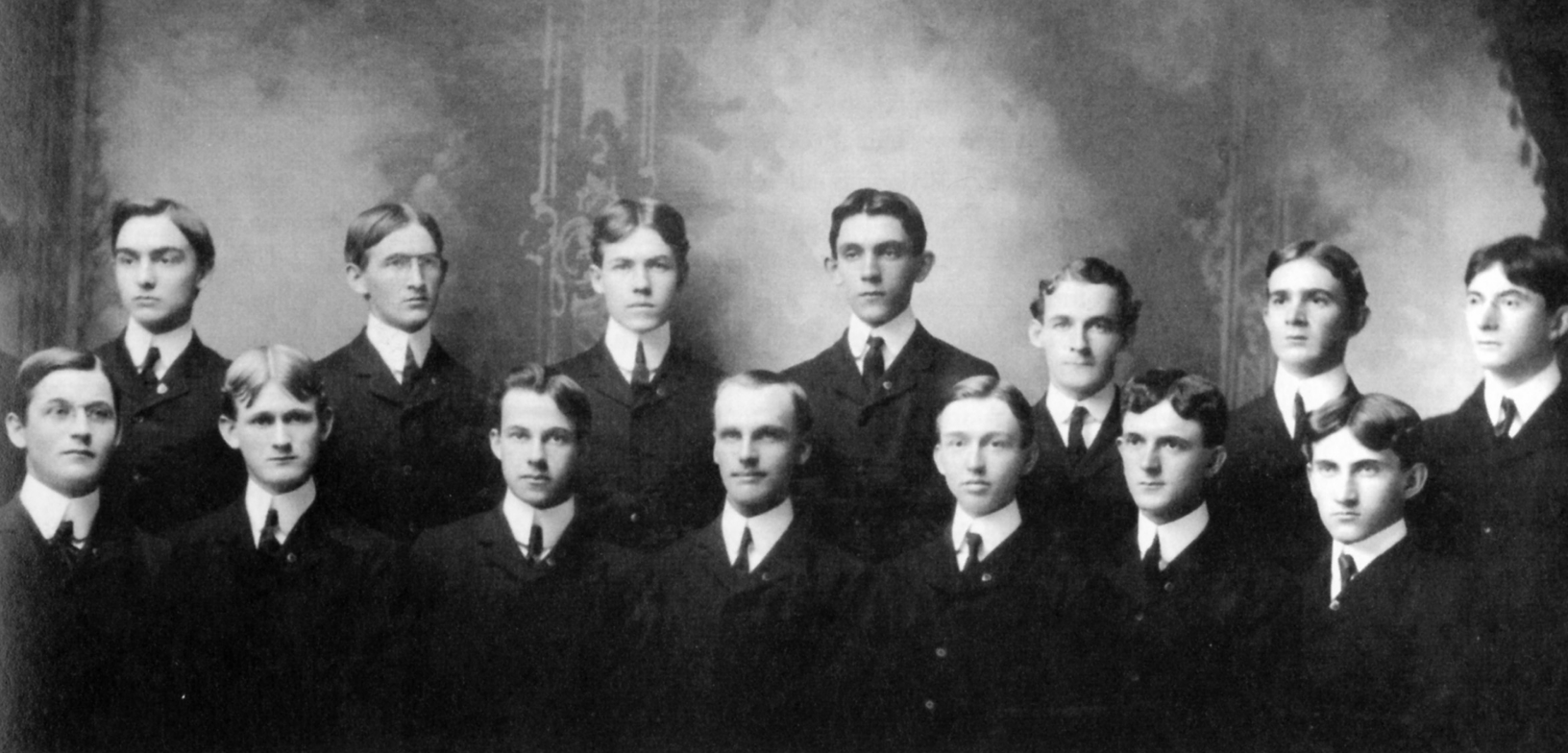
Modernized Rooms



Kitchen



Dining Room

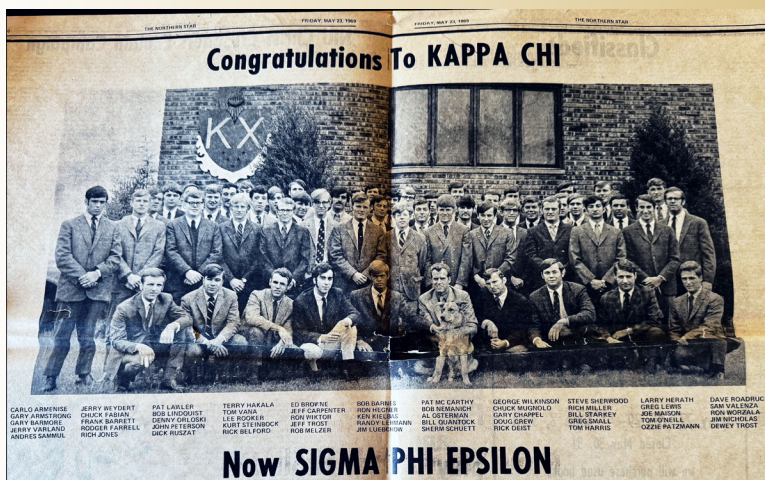


Why Your Support Matters

90% of the college experience happens outside the classroom. And the best lessons - the ones that build men of vision, leadership, and character - happen in spaces like SigEp.

This campaign ensures future NIU men experience the same brotherhood that shaped our lives. But we must act now. Renovation (Phase 1) is nearly complete, and our Grand Opening on April 12 is just the beginning.

Let's show today's students and tomorrow's leaders what it means to be a Balanced Man - and how our alumni invest in something greater than themselves.





Be Part of This Legacy

This isn't just a chapter comeback - it's a transformation of Greek Row. As one of the first fraternities working directly with the university, the city of DeKalb, and fellow Greek organizations, we are proud to lead the way.

We're Bringing Back the Heart to Greek Row. Help us finish what we've started - and ensure the best is yet to come.

920 Hillcrest



Donate Now!

Sigma Phi Epsilon
Illinois Epsilon



zelle



venmo

\$275,000

\$200,000

\$125,000

\$50,000

\$10,000

NIU Center for Greek Life

