

What Are the Criteria for Featured Pi Phis?

To nominate a Pi Phi (perhaps yourself?) to be featured, please contact **Nancy Dickinson** at nancy@dickinsonx.com. We have room for about 33 more, as of March 26, to reach 150 by April 28, 2023. Right now we are capping it at three per pledge class.

The Criteria for the featured Pi Phis include one or more of the following:

1. Use of her KU education in the broader world in career or public service over many decades.
2. Historical impact.
3. Being one of the first women “in the room” in certain careers or other endeavors.
4. Recognition by peers.
5. A career or public service being illustrative of a broader historical development.
6. Illustrating the variety in the careers and public service KU Pi Phis have been pursuing.
7. Highly articulate in verbal or other expression about the position of women in her time.

Why are the Criteria so strict when there are so many obstacles to a woman accomplishing them?

I wish it had not been so difficult for more Pi Phis to meet these Criteria. One purpose of the Timeline is specifically to illustrate why it has been so difficult. The Timeline includes some of the obstacles, some of which remain today. It might be possible to remove some or even all of these obstacles in the future.

The Timeline is meant in part for young Pi Phis, who stand in a very different position on the KU campus and in the broader world than any Pi Phis who went before them, a position of women students being the majority and of potential economic strength upon graduation. They face some different challenges as well as some age-old ones, and I hope the Timeline helps them feel the psychological support of these previous Pi Phis, both on campus and as they set out in their post-college lives and face these challenges.

How Can I Network With Other KU Pi Phis?

To network with other KU Pi Phis on career and public service work, please join the LinkedIn Group: “Pi Beta Phi – Kansas Alpha”, <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12575122/>

How Can I Suggest Some Historical Context to Add?

To provide some historical Context that relates to what one or more of the featured Pi Phis have been doing, please contact Nancy Dickinson at nancy@dickinsonx.com.

The Criteria for Context include one or more of the following:

1. The “criticisms” and “queries” and other obstacles college-educated women faced in 1873 (and/or face today) and how college-educated women have answered them and have been asserting their view of the world.
2. The historical context and other environment in which a featured Pi Phi was doing what she did.
3. Background circumstances that limit more women doing more with their educations, historically and/or today.
4. Background circumstances that help more women doing more with their educations, historically and/or today.

Why aren't all Pi Phis with careers included?

The Timeline is not a comprehensive listing of Pi Phis with careers, it's a Timeline of 150 Representative Pi Phis Using their Educations in their Historical Context. Some careers are notable because, until recently, a woman maintaining a career for 30+ hours/week for the majority of her working life (e.g. age 25-60) in certain professions, contributing half the financial support to her marriage/children was very rare, even unheard of. So, for a Pi Phi to do this is a historical act in and of itself.

Why aren't all historical events included?

The Timeline is KU Pi Phi-centric history, not comprehensive history. The historical events are included to provide context to the public activities of the Pi Phis of that era. The Timeline was thus developed both subjectively and objectively from the KU Pi Phis' perspective. For example, when I found a KU Pi Phi had done something in public life, I added historical context for that act.