

Greetings My Beloved Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated,

"Sankofa" means that "it is not taboo to fetch what is at risk of being left behind." It is in that spirit that I pick up where we last left off, almost three years ago. I asked then, and ask again, "If you were offered a path to the Alpha that you have hoped for, will you be ready to take it?" Today, I urge you to join me in that effort. I am Brother Gregory Parks, and I am a candidate to be your next General President.

I offer myself to be your General President because I have heard so many of our fraternal leaders tell us that—whether it be from hazing or social event liability, sexual assault or rising and more unstable insurance cost—we are "one good lawsuit from extinction."

I offer myself to be your General President because—through commitment, retention, reclamation, and engagement—we aspire to build a stronger brotherhood, to pry ourselves from our financial dependence on IMDP, and to harness the human and intellectual capital of our brothers.

I offer myself to be your General President because we recognize the need to better support our College and Senior Brothers and to make our College Chapters more sustainable. We see that great challenges are at our door and know that we must better support the totality of our brotherhood and strengthen the structure of this House.

I offer myself to be your General President because we understand that in an age of rising, violent White nationalism and antidemocratic ideals, legislatures and courts aimed at rolling back the gains that our ancestors fought and died for, we cannot shrink from the moment.

I offer myself to be your General President because on these and so many other issues—some longstanding, and others more recent—we know that a culture change, a paradigm shift, is needed. It is a call that has echoed across the ages. And just a few years ago, many of you were ready for the change that generations of Alphas have called for.

The test in this election is whether we can set aside regional, district, and chapter clannishness and commit ourselves to the better interests of the Fraternity that we swore an oath to uphold and cast our votes for the candidate who is most desirous and capable of leading Alpha into the future that we say we want and know that Alpha needs.

Humbly, I believe that I am that candidate. I come before you, offering a vision for the future that so many of you have hoped for, a plan to make it a reality, a strategy that charts our best path forward, and a commitment to see it through.

I am ready for this moment. I strongly believe in our brotherhood and your collective ability to rise to the challenge and meet the moment as well. Nonetheless, what matters most is whether you are ready for the Alpha that you hoped for, the change needed to get there, and your belief in yourself and our collective ability seize the future.

In closing, the journey to the Alpha that you hoped for has been long and daunting. But the city where the streets are paved in Old Gold is within our reach. I ask you to consider that your vote is your voice, and it speaks your values. And if you desire to see, and have a hand in creating, the Alpha you imagined when you were first seeking The Light, I ask you to join me on this journey. Are you ready?

In brotherhood, we RISE,

Brother Gregory S. Parks J.D., Ph.D.
Candidate for 37th General President