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# Collegiate secret societies in North America

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There are many **collegiate secret societies in North America**. They vary greatly in their levels of secrecy and independence from their universities. As the term is used in this article, a *secret society* is a collegiate society where significant effort is made to keep affairs, membership rolls, signs of recognition, initiation, or other aspects secret from the public.

Some collegiate secret societies are referred to as 'class societies', which restrict membership to one class year. Most class societies are restricted to the senior class, and are therefore also called *senior societies* on many campuses.

## Categorization

There is no strict rule on the categorization of secret societies. Secret societies can have ceremonial initiations, secret signs of recognition (gestures, handshakes, passwords), formal secrets, (the 'true' name of the society, a motto, or a society history); but, college fraternities or "social fraternities" have the same, and some of these elements can also be a part of literary societies, singing groups, editorial boards, and honorary and pre-professional groups. Some secret societies have kept their membership secret, for example Seven Society and Gridiron, and some have not, like Skull and Bones (the Yale societies had published their membership lists in the yearbooks and the Yale Daily News).

One key concept in distinguishing secret societies from fraternities is that, on campuses that have both kind of organizations, one can be a member of both, (that is, membership is not mutually exclusive). Usually, being a member of more than one fraternity is not considered appropriate, because that member would have divided loyalties; however, typically, there is not an issue being a member of a secret society and a fraternity, because they are not considered similar organizations or competing organizations.<sup>[1]</sup>

An especially difficult problem is the degree to which any one society is an actual society or is simply an honorary designation. Phi Beta Kappa, for example, was a true secret society, until after its secrets were divulged, the society continued on. It claims today to still be an actual society that has meetings, conducts its affairs, and is a living social entity, however membership for most members consists of one evening's initiation, and no more, which would make the society completely an honorary in most people's eyes.

Many such societies exist which operate as honoraries on one campus, and which may have been at one time actual meeting societies, and which are kept alive by one or two dedicated local alumni or an alumni affairs or Dean's office person, who see to it that an annual initiation are held every year. Some of these frankly state that they are honoraries, other seek to perpetuate the image of a continuing active society where there is none.

While there are some guideline criteria for the neutral observer to understand what sort of society any given organization is, much of the analysis reverts to what any one society has been traditionally understood to be. There are additional means, such as societies that were more or less explicitly established in emulation of some previous secret society, or using historical records to show that society X was created out of society Y.

## Common traits

There are several common traits among these societies. The pattern for many of these societies has been set by practices at Yale. For example, many societies have two part names which follow the pattern set by Yale's Skull and Bones or Scroll and Key. The Yale societies also limited their membership to 15, sometimes 16, in a class year, and it is common to find similar numerical limits in many of these societies. Extensive mortuary imagery is associated with many secret societies, maintaining a pretense of great seriousness, and, again following Yale, clubhouses are often called "tombs."

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## Tapping

The archetypical selection process for entry into a collegiate secret society began at Yale University by a process called *tapping*.<sup>[1]</sup> On a publicly announced evening, Yale undergraduates would assemble informally in the College Yard. Current members of Yale's secret societies would walk through the crowd and literally tap a prospective member on the shoulder and then walk with him up to the tapped man's dorm room. There, in private, they would ask him to become a member of their secret society, of which the inductee had the choice of accepting or rejecting the offer of membership. During this process, it was publicly known who was being tapped for the coming year. Today, the selection process is not quite as formal, but is still public.<sup>[2]</sup> Formal tapping days used to exist at Berkeley, and still exist in a much more formal setting at Missouri.

## 'Honoraries'

Several campuses distinguish societies called 'Honoraries' from secret societies. Where the society is considered to operate in name only, and membership is an honor given in recognition of some achievement, and that such a society is distinct from a secret society. However, functionally, such organizations can operate identically to secret societies, and historically, most honoraries operated on a secret society basis. Phi Beta Kappa is the most well-known such example, where it originally operated on a secret chapter basis, and it became the progenitor of all college fraternities, and at the same time, some time after its secrets were made public in the 1830s, Phi Beta Kappa continued on as an honorary. Virtually all the oldest honoraries were once clearly secret societies, and to the extent that they are distinct now is at least ambiguous.

## History

Often considered the first secret collegiate society in North America, the Phi Beta Kappa Society, founded in 1776 by students at the College of William and Mary, was in fact antedated by other societies at the College established as long as a generation earlier.<sup>[3]</sup> The society had a rudimentary initiation and maintained an uncertain level of secrecy. Those secrets were exposed in the mid 1830s by students at Harvard University acting under the patronage of John Quincy Adams. Since the 1840s, Phi Beta Kappa has operated openly as an academic honor society. The spread of Phi Beta Kappa to different institutions likely sparked the creation of such competing societies as Kappa Alpha (1825) and Sigma Phi Society (1827) many of which continue as American collegiate social fraternities (and, later, sororities) to the present day. Sigma Phi remains the oldest continuously running collegiate secret society, and has been rumored to have declined the founding members of Skull & Bones a charter prior to their becoming their own society. Yet there was also a second strain of development, when at Yale University, Chi Delta Theta (1821) and Skull and Bones (1832) were founded — ultimately serving as antecedents for what would become known as *class societies*.

Skull & Bones aroused competition on campus, bringing forth Scroll & Key (1841), and later Wolf's Head (1883), among students in the senior class. But the prestige of the senior societies was able to keep the very influential fraternities Alpha Delta Phi and Psi Upsilon from ever becoming full four year institutions at Yale. They remained junior class societies there. There were sophomore and freshman societies at Yale as well. A stable system of eight class societies (two competing chains of four class societies each) was in place by the late 1840s.

Delta Kappa Epsilon is actually a highly successful junior class society, founded at Yale in 1844. None of the 51 chapters the parent chapter spawned operates as a junior society, but DKE did come from the class society system. Likewise, Alpha Sigma Phi started out as a Yale sophomore society and now has 68 chapters (although, again, none of Alpha Sigma Phi's chapters have remained sophomore societies).

The development of class societies spread from Yale to other campuses in the northeastern States. Seniors at neighboring Wesleyan established a senior society, Skull & Serpent (1865), and a second society, originally a chapter of Skull and Bones, but then independent as a sophomore society, Theta Nu Epsilon (1870), which began to drastically increase the number of campuses with class societies. William Raimond Baird noted in the 1905 edition

of his *Manual* that, "In addition to the regular fraternities, there are in the Eastern colleges many societies which draw members from only one of the undergraduate classes, and which have only a few features of the general fraternity system."<sup>[4]</sup> From Wesleyan, the practice spread more widely across the Northeast, with full systems soon in place at Brown, Rutgers, and other institutions.

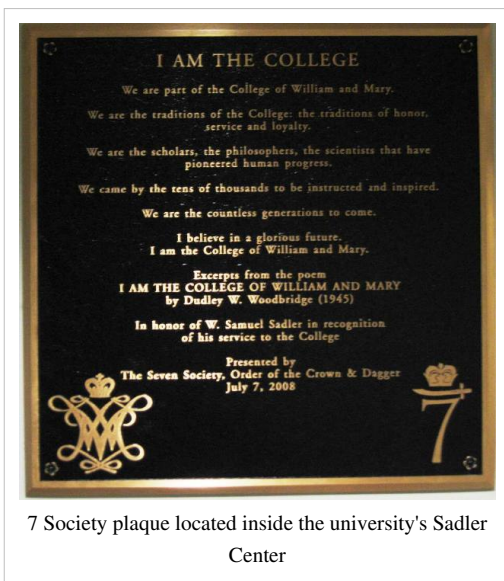
Kappa Sigma Theta, Phi Theta Psi, Delta Beta Xi, Delta Sigma Phi,<sup>[5]</sup> were all sophomore societies at Yale, and the two large freshman societies of Delta Kappa and Kappa Sigma Epsilon lived until 1880.<sup>[6]</sup> Delta Kappa established chapters at Amherst, the University of North Carolina, Virginia, Mississippi, Dartmouth College, and Centre College. Kappa Sigma Epsilon had chapters at Amherst, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Dartmouth.<sup>[6]</sup> Other class societies existed at Brown, Harvard, Syracuse, Colgate, Cornell, and other Northeastern institutions.

Theta Nu Epsilon spread to about 120 colleges and universities, but many of its chapters operated as three year societies where operating as a class year society was inappropriate.

It is from this class society historical base and the desire to emulate the most well-known of all the class societies, Skull & Bones, that senior societies in particular began to spread nationally between 1900 and 1930. Junior, sophomore, and freshman class societies also are to be found at campuses across the country today.

## Significant individual institutions

### The College of William & Mary



7 Society plaque located inside the university's Sadler Center

The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, was home to the first known secret collegiate society in the United States, the F.H.C. Society (founded in 1750). The initials of the society stand for a Latin phrase, likely "Fraternitas, Humanitas, et Cognito" or "Fraternitas Humanitas Cognitoque" (two renderings of "brotherhood, humaneness, and knowledge"), but it has long been publicly nicknamed the "Flat Hat Club". William & Mary alumnus and third American President, Thomas Jefferson, was perhaps the most famous member of the F.H.C. Society.<sup>[7]</sup> Other notable members of the original society included Col. James Innes, St. George Tucker, and George Wythe.<sup>[8]</sup> Jefferson noted that, "When I was a student of Wm. & Mary college of this state, there existed a society called the F.H.C. society, confined to the number of six students only, of which I was a member, but it had no useful object, nor do I know whether it now exists."<sup>[9]</sup> The best opinion is

that the society did not survive the British invasion of Virginia at the end of the American Revolution.<sup>[7]</sup> The society was revived in 1916 (at first, as the Flat Hat Club) and again in 1972.<sup>[10]</sup>

William & Mary students John Heath and William Short (Class of 1779) founded the nation's first collegiate Greek-letter organization, Phi Beta Kappa, on December 5, 1776, as a secret literary and philosophical society. Additional chapters were established in 1780 and 1781 at Yale and Harvard.<sup>[11]</sup> With nearly 300 chapters across the country and no longer secret, Phi Beta Kappa has grown to become the nation's premier academic honor society.<sup>[12]</sup> Alumni John Marshall and Bushrod Washington were two of the earliest members of the society, elected in 1778 and 1780, respectively.<sup>[13]</sup>

Although the pressures of the American Civil War forced several societies to disappear, many were revived during the 20th century. Some of the secret societies known to currently exist at the College are: The 7 Society, 13 Club, Alpha Club, The Orange Society, Bishop James Madison Society, Flat Hat Club, The Society, The Spades, W Society and Wren Society.<sup>[7][14]</sup>

## Union College

The Union Triad was founded at Union College in Schenectady, New York. This began with the creation of the Kappa Alpha Society in 1825. Shortly followed by The Sigma Phi Society in 1827 and Delta Phi later that year. While the Kappa Alpha Society is considered a "Social Fraternity", The Sigma Phi Society has maintained it's consideration as a secret society. The Union Triad is said to have pioneered the way for modern fraternities, making Union College a significant contributor to collegiate secret societies.

## Cornell University

Cornell University has a rich history of secret societies on campus. Andrew Dickson White, the first President of Cornell University and himself a Bonesman, is said to have encouraged the formation of a "secret society" on campus.<sup>[15]</sup> In the early years, the fraternities were called the "secret societies," but as the Greek system developed into a larger, more public entity, "secret society" began to refer only to the class societies. In the early twentieth century, Cornell students belonged to sophomore, junior, and senior societies, as well as honorary societies for particular fields of study. Liberalization of the 1960s spelled the end of these organizations as students rebelled against the establishment. The majority of the societies disappeared or became inactive in a very short time period, and today, the two organizations which operate on campus are: Sphinx Head (founded in 1890) and Quill and Dagger (founded in 1893).<sup>[16][17]</sup>



Quill and Dagger Tower on the Cornell campus

## Dartmouth College



The tomb of the Sphinx secret society at Dartmouth College

Dartmouth College's Office of Residential Life states that the earliest senior societies on campus date to 1783 and "continue to be a vibrant tradition within the campus community." Six of the eight senior societies keep their membership secret, while the other societies maintain secretive elements. According to the college, "approximately 25% of the senior class members are affiliated with a senior society."<sup>[18]</sup> The college's administration of the society system at Dartmouth focuses on keeping track of membership and tapping lists, and differs from that of Yale's, though there are historical parallels between the two colleges' societies.<sup>[19][20]</sup>

## Dickinson College

The Raven's Claw is an all male senior honorary society at Dickinson College. It was founded in 1896, making it the first society unique to Dickinson College and one of the oldest in the country. Membership is limited to seven senior men who are selected by the seven previous members. The new members are chosen based on a variety of factors, these include: campus leadership, a solid academic record, and athletic participation. New members are inducted in a "Tapping Ceremony" which is held on the "Old Stone Steps of Old West." The ceremony is traditionally conducted during commencement weekend. They are called "claws" or "white hats", denoting the white caps they wear around campus to signify unity and loyalty. The Raven's Claw Society is very loyal and has been a part of Dickinson's history for over 100 years. While the members of the group are known, the majority of their actions and traditions are concealed. The group prides itself in serving the Dickinson College and Carlisle, Pennsylvania communities through discreet service activities. The group's alumni organization is also responsible for founding one of the college's largest scholarship funds and the McAndrews Fund for athletics. Additionally, Dickinson College has named several buildings on campus after Raven's Claw members in recognition of their generous service and/or financial contributions to the school.

Founded in 2001, **The Order of Scroll and Key** is a senior honor society at Dickinson College which recognizes seven senior men each year. Every member is tapped at the end of their junior year on the basis of their dedication to the College and the surrounding Carlisle community. Their current membership includes fraternity presidents, community advisers, community service leaders, as well as many other outstanding individuals. Their alumni have gone on to be successful community leaders, businessmen, artists, etc. The Order of Scroll and Key works to benefit numerous area charities and philanthropies, and in recent years has supported Carlisle C.A.R.E.S., Safe Harbor, and Sadler Health Clinic, among others. As one of Dickinson's distinctive "hat" societies, members can always be recognized by the gray hats that they wear.<sup>[21][22]</sup>

**Wheel and Chain** is Dickinson College's Senior Women's Honorary Society. Founded in 1924, members are elected in the spring of their junior year on the basis of participation in campus activities, service to the college and community, leadership skills and personal character. Membership is limited to ten senior women. New members are inducted in a "Tapping Ceremony" which is held on the "Old Stone Steps of Old West" in April. In May, each incoming Wheel and Chain class ceremoniously rings the bell in Denny Hall during Commencement ceremonies. Colloquially known as the "blue hats", members are known to the public; however, the society's activities remain secret.<sup>[21]</sup>

## Emory University

Emory University has five secret societies—the Paladin Society, the D.V.S. Senior Honor Society, Ducemus, Speculum, and the Order of Ammon. The Paladin Society endeavors to make positive contributions to Emory's "spirit" anonymously and confers the Knights of Emory Spirit Award on two members of the Emory community each semester. D.V.S. has provided the university mace that is used each year at the Convocation and Commencement ceremonies. The societies have been populated by many of Emory's best, including university and student group leaders, members of the Board of Trustees and recipients of Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships. In addition to the societies on the Atlanta campus, several secret societies exist on Emory's Oxford campus as well. These societies have strong alumni networks.

## Georgia Institute of Technology

The ANAK Society is the oldest known secret society and honor society at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) in Atlanta, Georgia. Founded in 1908, ANAK's purpose is "to honor outstanding juniors and seniors who have shown both exemplary leadership and a true love for Georgia Tech."<sup>[23]</sup> The society's name refers to Anak, a biblical figure said to be the forefather of a race of giants.

Although not originally founded as a secret society, ANAK has kept its activities and membership rosters confidential since 1961. Membership is made public upon a student's graduation or a faculty member's retirement. The ANAK Society's membership comprises at least 1,100 Georgia Tech graduates, faculty members, and honorary members. Notable members include Jimmy Carter (honorary), astronaut John W. Young, Bobby Dodd (honorary), Tsu Ping, Ivan Allen Jr., Ho Chi Tao (honorary), and most of Georgia Tech's presidents.

The society has been influential in the history of Georgia Tech. ANAK played a major role in establishing several of Georgia Tech's most active student organizations – including Georgia Tech's yearbook, the *Blueprint*; Georgia Tech's student newspaper, *The Technique*,<sup>[24]</sup> and Georgia Tech's Student Government Association – as well as several lasting Georgia Tech traditions. The society also claims involvement in a number of civil rights projects, most notably in peacefully integrating Georgia Tech's first African American students in 1961, preventing the Ku Klux Klan from setting up a student chapter at Georgia Tech.

## Harvard University

Harvard does not have secret societies in the usual sense, though it does have Final Clubs, fraternities, sororities, and a variety of other secret or semi-secret organizations.

Final Clubs are secretive about their election procedures, and they have secret initiations and meetings. However, there is little secrecy about who is a member. They are larger than secret societies generally are, (approximately forty students per club). Guests are admitted under restrictions. However the Owl, Porcellian, AD, Delphic, Fox are somewhat stricter than the others, having rules against admitting non-members to most areas of their buildings. "Punch Season" and the "Final Dinner" is analogous to "Tap" at Yale.



Clubhouse of the *Fly Club*, a final club at Harvard University

Final Clubs at Harvard include the Porcellian (1791, originally called The Argonauts); The Delphic Club (1846); Fly Club, (1836), a successor of Alpha Delta Phi; The Phoenix - S K Club (1897); Owl Club, originally called Phi Delta Psi, (1896); The Fox Club (1898); and the Spee Club.

There are also five female clubs: The Bee, The Sabliere Society, The Pleiades Society, La Vie, and The Isis.

Harvard also has three fraternities, Sigma Chi, Alpha Epsilon Pi, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and three sororities: Delta Gamma, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and Kappa Alpha Theta. These organizations are semi-secret in nature, have secret initiation processes and meetings but a more transparent process for gaining membership. All three sororities and the Sigma Chi fraternity also have rules against admitting non-members to many parts of their buildings.

There are also several final clubs and fraternities which are now defunct, including Pi Eta, The DU Club, Delta Upsilon, Pi Kappa Alpha, and The Iroquois.

Approximately 10% of men and 5% of women are in final clubs. Approximately 7% of men and 15% of women are in Greek letter organizations. Additionally, an unknown number of students are in other secretive on-campus groups.

Other secretive social groups include the Hasty Pudding Club, Oak Club, Harvard Lampoon, Harvard Advocate, and The Seneca.



The Signet Society is a Harvard arts & letters society that requires a creative body of work to be considered for membership, and publishes its roster of members on its website. It has an historic house at which it serves lunches, and most members are elected in their junior and senior years.

Finally, The Harvard Lodge is Harvard's chapter of Freemasonry, founded in 1922 by Harvard Law School Dean/Professor Roscoe Pound, members of the Harvard Square & Compass Club, and members of the Harvard Masonic Club (which included Theodore Roosevelt). It is the oldest academic lodge in North America, its membership is restricted to males with a Harvard affiliation, and it operates from an undisclosed property overlooking Boston Common.

## Norwich University

Norwich University banned all secret societies in the late 1990s, citing controversy regarding hazing and abuse of students. Prior to the ban Norwich was home to a handful of long standing secret societies such as the Night Riders 192, Skull and Swords 572, and LOS 314..<sup>[25][26][27]</sup>

## Penn State University

Penn State University is known for its three senior societies; *Parmi Nous Senior Society* organized in 1907, the *Lion's Paw Senior Society* founded in 1908 in the midst of a student strike and *Skull and Bones Senior Society* organized there in 1912. This society is unrelated to the more prominent organization of similar name at Yale University. Lion's Paw has extensive alumni participation, and strong links to the alumni affairs office of the university, thus making it somewhat different than other societies included here. Lion's Paw also has an office in Old Main the University's Administrative Building.

Lion's Paw Alumni have gone on to serve in Congress, become titans of industry and head up financial and technological firms.

## Princeton University

Princeton's eating clubs are not fraternities, nor are they secret societies by any standard measure, but they are often seen as being tenuously analogous.

Additionally, Princeton has secret societies; the most visible is a chapter of St. Anthony Hall, the literary society. The 21 Club, an all-male drinking society, is also a notorious Princeton secret society.<sup>[28]</sup> Princeton also has a long tradition of underground societies. While secret society membership is relatively public at some schools, Princeton's historical secret society rolls are very secretive because of Woodrow



Colonial Club

Wilson's ban on clandestine organizations and his threat to expel secret fraternity members from Princeton. One such society is Phi (pronounced *fē*), a society dating to 1929 when members of the Whig society splintered off after the merger of the Whig and Cliosophic debating societies. Phi's membership is secretive and difficult to discern, because no more than 10 active "Phis" exist at one time: Phis usually receive offers at the end of their 3rd year. As an adaptation to Princeton's stringent anti-society rules, each active class does not meet the preceding class that selected

it until the 1st of June (after their first Reunions and before graduation). 1.6... is the Golden Ratio, hence the name Phi.<sup>[29]</sup>

## Rutgers University

As one of the oldest colleges in the United States, Rutgers University has had several secret societies on campus. Documented societies date as far back as 1872 with the establishment of the Sword and Serpent. Allegedly, a senior class society known as The Order of the Poor Knights of the Bull's Blood was established in 1834. At the turn of the 20th century, Rutgers had developed two full sets of class year societies based on the Yale model,<sup>[30]</sup> down to the freshman societies such as the Chain and Bones and Serpent and Coffin.<sup>[31]</sup> The senior class societies at Rutgers included the Brotherhood of the Golden Dagger (1898–1940), Casque and Dagger (1901) and Cap and Skull (1900).



Cap and Skull (1900) Class of '19; Paul Robeson at far left.

Of these, only Cap and Skull is still known to be in operation; however, after a reorganization in 1982, it is became university-sanctioned and had shed much of its secrecy. Today, it is more generally an honor society although members still engage in the society's long-standing traditions. In its early days, members of Cap and Skull had also engaged in later "attacks" of the infamous Cannon War with Princeton. Cap and Skull class year pictures were often taken with members standing around the buried cannons.<sup>[30]</sup> Today, less than one-half percent of Rutgers students are tapped for Cap and Skull membership.

## University of Georgia

University of Georgia is home to at least four secret societies — Gridiron Secret Society, Order of the Greek Horsemen, *Palladia Secret Society* and *Trust of the Pearl*.

*Gridiron Secret Society*, founded in 1908, has been described as a highly-secret society connected to the University of Georgia. Its membership is all male but not limited to the Greek system. Its alumni include a number of prominent business and political leaders from throughout the United States, such as President Jimmy Carter, Attorneys General (such as Griffin Bell), past and current U.S. Senators throughout the country and each Governor of Georgia since the 1930s along with other of the country's Governors. Gridiron has extensive alumni participation, with well-attended banquets held in Athens twice each year, but its purposes and activities remain a closely guarded secret.

*Order of the Greek Horsemen*, founded in 1955, is composed of fraternity men and annually inducts five new members from among the male leaders of the Greek system. It is considered the highest honor a fraternity man at UGA may attain. Its selection criteria remain a mystery, and its members are not revealed until the end of each school year. New members are always active students, but honorary alumni members have been selected by the group.

*Palladia Secret Society* Palladia was founded in the early 1960s and is known as "the highest honor a woman may attain at the University of Georgia." Palladia inducts approximately 12 women each fall. Palladia has an extensive network of alumni, including administrators of the University of Georgia and prominent female leaders across the state.

*Trust of the Pearl*, founded when the first sororities were chartered at UGA, is a secret society for sorority women. The Trust of the Pearl is considered the highest honor a sorority woman may attain at UGA and inducts five new members each spring. Pearls are rumored to play a heavy role in selecting future leaders of the Panhellenic System



but the purpose of the society is unknown. Members often wear black g-strings and a pearl necklace when gathering in public.

## University of Michigan

The University of Michigan Ann Arbor hosts three secret societies: Order of Angell, Adara, and Vulcan Senior Engineering Society. Order of Angell and Adara were once under the umbrella group "The Tower Society", the name referring to their location in the top of the Michigan Union tower. Order of Angell was all male while Adara was all female.

**Order of Angell**, known as "Order", is an evolved version of a previous society Michigauma. It was inspired by the rituals and culture of the Native Americans of the United States. Since its creation in 1902 the group is credited with creating Dance Marathon, one of the largest charitable events at the University of Michigan and construction of the Michigan Union for which it was granted permanent space in the top floors of the tower which they refer to as the "tomb".<sup>[32][33]</sup> In 2007 the group changed its name to Order of Angell to distance itself from its controversial past.

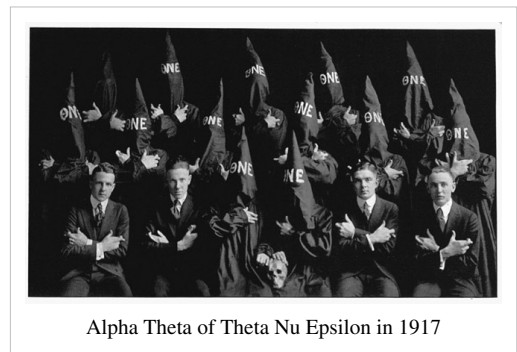
**Adara** Holding to astrological roots, Adara formed in the late 1970s by the women leaders on campus. In the early 80's they joined the tower society and occupied the 6th floor of the tower just below Michigamua.

**Vulcan Senior Engineering Society**, known as "the Vulcans", occupied the 5th floor of the Union tower though were not formally a part of the tower society. They draw their heritage from the Roman god Vulcan. The group which used to do its tapping publicly is known for its long black robes and for its financial contributions of the University of Michigan College of Engineering.

## University of Missouri

In 1895, the Alpha Theta Chapter of the Theta Nu Epsilon sophomore society was founded under the guidance of faculty member Luther DeFoe. DeFoe also served as a mentor to the founding members of the QEBH senior men's society, which was founded in 1898. Mystical Seven was founded in 1907 and has become the second most well known society on campus. Some have suggested that Missouri's Mystical Seven was modeled after Virginia's Seven Society, which had been established just a couple years earlier. Other secret societies followed, including Society of the Hidden Eye for junior/senior men, LSV for senior women,

Thadstek for freshman/sophomore men, Tomb and Key for freshman/sophomore men, Steinmetz for senior engineers, and Kappa Kappa whose membership composition was unknown. During this period of rapid expansion of secret societies, a network of sub-rosa inter-fraternity organizations also established itself on campus with no purpose other than socializing and mischief making. This network, known commonly as the "Greek Underworld" included organizations such as Seven Equals, Kappa Beta Phi, Sigma Phi Sigma, Kappa Nu Theta, and Sigma Alpha Beta.



Alpha Theta of Theta Nu Epsilon in 1917

Mizzou is currently home to at least six secret honor societies that still participate in annual public Tap Day ceremonies at the end of each spring semester. QEBH, Mystical Seven, LSV, Alpha Xi Chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, Friars Chapter of Mortar Board, and Rollins Society each use the Tap Day ceremony at the conclusion of the year to reveal the members who were initiated over the past year. Missouri is one of few remaining institutions in which the local Omicron Delta Kappa and Mortar Board chapters carry out much of their work in secrecy. In addition to Tap Day activities, several of the societies maintain a public presence during some athletic events. QEBH is the caretaker of the Victory Bell, along with Nebraska's Society of Innocents, awarded to the winner of the Missouri–Nebraska Rivalry football game each year. The Friars Chapter of Mortar Board exchanges a gavel with Nebraska (The Black Masque Chapter of Mortar Board) at each MU–UNL football game, symbolizing the rivalry between the Universities. Mystical Seven and Oklahoma's Pe-et Society were likewise entrusted with the Peace Pipe trophy that was awarded to the winner of the biennial Missouri–Oklahoma football match. Omicron Delta Kappa previously served as caretaker of the Indian War Drum trophy awarded to the winner of the annual Border War football game between Missouri and Kansas.<sup>[34][35]</sup>

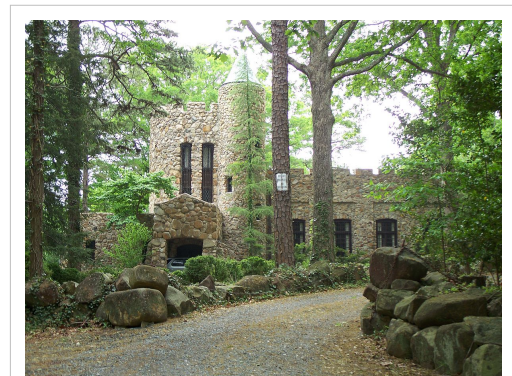


QEBH at Tap Day 2006

## University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill contains the archives of the Order of Gimghoul, a secret society headquartered at the Gimghoul Castle.<sup>[36][37]</sup> The order was founded in 1889 by Robert Worth Bingham, Shepard Bryan, William W. Davies, Edward Wray Martin, and Andrew Henry Patterson, who were students at the time.<sup>[38]</sup>

The society is open to "notable" male students (rising juniors and higher), and faculty members by invitation. The society centers itself around the legend of Peter Dromgoole, a student who mysteriously disappeared from the UNC campus in 1833.<sup>[39]</sup> The founders originally called themselves the Order of Dromgoole, but later changed it to the Order of Gimghoul to be, "in accord with midnight and graves and weirdness," according to the university's archives.<sup>[38]</sup>



Hippol Castle, headquarters of the Order of Gimghoul

Tradition has it that the order upheld the "Dromgoole legend and the ideals of Arthurian knighthood and chivalry." From all accounts, the order is social in nature, and has no clandestine agenda. Membership is closed and information about the order is strictly confidential, as is access to archives which are less than 50 years old.<sup>[38]</sup>

The Order of the Gorgon's Head, another secret society at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was founded in 1896 by Darius Eatman, Edward Kidder Graham, Ralph Henry Graves, Samuel Selden Lamb, Richard Henry Lewis, Jr., and Percy DePonceau Whitaker. Membership has always been limited to male members of the junior, senior, professional, and post-graduate classes along with male faculty members. Inductees may not be members of other societies. Officers include Princes (chief officer), Quaestor, and Scriptor. The purpose of the Order is to promote friendship, good will, and social fellowship among its members. The Order of the Gorgon's Head was one of two "junior orders" established at the University in the 1890s. The two orders had written agreements that they would not attempt to recruit freshmen or sophomores. Each order had a lodge (the Gimghouls later built a castle), where members gathered for meetings and events. Each had secret rituals based on myths. Those of the

Order of the Gorgon's Head centered on the myth of the Gorgons, three monstrous sisters prominent in ancient Greek and Roman lore.

The University's library also contains the archives of the Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies. The Societies were founded in 1795 by some of the first students to attend the University, and are the oldest public school societies in the nation. While at first maintaining strict secrecy in their proceedings, the Societies' meetings are now generally open to the public; however, the Societies reserve the right at all times to call an "Executive Session", at which point all non-members are escorted from the chambers. All undergraduates may attempt to join one of the two societies by petitioning, but only a select few are admitted, upon mutual agreement between current Society members.

Most recently, in 2011, the Daily Tar Heel reported the first of two donations to campus entities by a secret society named Infinity. In 2011, the society gifted \$888.88 to the Eve Carson Scholarship fund, which honors the late Student Body President Eve Carson.<sup>[40]</sup> In 2012, the society gifted \$888.88 to the Student Enrichment Fund, a student-created fund allowing students to apply for grants to attend off-campus events such as speeches, conferences or other academic or extracurricular opportunities.<sup>[41]</sup> The significance of the digit '8' comes from the symbol for infinity that resembles an eight on it's side.

## University of Pennsylvania

At UPenn, secret societies are smaller than their Greek counterparts, and tend to vary in degree of secrecy.<sup>[42][43]</sup> There are three senior honorary societies. The Sphinx Senior Society and the Friars Senior Society were both founded at the turn of the 20th century, while The Mortar Board Senior Society was founded in 1922. None of these societies were intended to be secret, in that their undergraduate and alumni membership were and continue to be publicly known, they share many of the characteristics of undergraduate secret societies of the time; they tap a diverse group of campus leaders to become members during their senior year, organize social and service activities throughout the year, and maintain an extensive network of successful and notable alumni. Alumni of Friars, for example, include Harold Ford Jr. and Ed Rendell; the Sphinx alumni roster boasts Richard A. Clarke and John Legend. In addition, there are several other groups called "secret societies". These groups generally denote a social club that is independent of any official organization. For this reason, the society is not regulated by the university and is not accountable to a national organization. Many of the all-male secret societies, such as "The Owl Society," (founded 1992), "THEOS," (founded 2000) and "OZ," (founded 2004) were founded by former members of fraternities after severing ties to a national organization. Most of these groups have members from a variety of class years and are more similar to single chapter fraternities. Other societies, such as the all-female "Tabard Society" (founded 1987), were founded by students who were not affiliated with any particular Greek organization.

## Maryville College

Secret societies have been present at Maryville College for a very long time. Little is known about the secret societies that are at Maryville College. The current groups that are known about are The Colors (three different groups: The Reds, The Purples, and The Greens) which are designated for women. These groups have been around for many years and supposedly have roots in the college history. The groups for men are the UTs and the DUDs. Both of these groups have adopted Greek Letters in their names but they are not actually fraternities. There is only one fraternity at Maryville College and it is Delta Kappa Epsilon and one local sorority Kappa Zeta Delta. During Homecoming each year, the secret societies place flowers and symbols across campus to welcome their alumni back to the campus and provide visibility that they are still present at Maryville College.

## University of Virginia

Secret societies have been a part of University of Virginia student life since the founding of the Eli Banana society in 1878.<sup>[44]</sup> Early secret societies, such as Eli Banana and T.I.L.K.A., had secret initiations but public membership; some, such as the Hot Feet, now the IMP Society, were very public, incurring the wrath of the administration for public revels.<sup>[45]</sup>

The first truly "secret society" was the Seven Society, founded circa 1905.<sup>[46]</sup> Nothing is known about the Seven Society except for their philanthropy to the University; members are revealed at their death. A few other societies that flourished around the turn of the 20th century, such as the Z Society (formerly Zeta), who were founded in 1892,<sup>[47]</sup> the IMP Society, reformulated in 1913 after the Hot Feet were banned in 1908, and Eli Banana, are still active at the University today.

New societies have periodically appeared at the University during the 20th century. The most notable are the P.U.M.P.K.I.N. Society, a secret group that rewards contributions to the University and which was founded prior to 1970,<sup>[48][49]</sup> and the Society of the Purple Shadows, founded 1963, who are only seen in public in purple robes and hoods and who seek to "safeguard vigilantly the University traditions".<sup>[50][51]</sup> Many of the secret societies listed contribute to the University either financially or through awards or some other form of recognition of excellence at the University.



North Steps of the Rotunda, with Z Society logo

## Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Known nationally as Virginia Tech, VPI has chapters and circles of both Omnicron Delta Kappa and Phi Beta Kappa which both allow applications throughout the academic school year.

In the early 1900s a group of cadets modeled a senior society based on Yale University's Skull and Bones. Both the membership and initiation was kept hidden, as the university had banned all secret college societies and associations. As time passed, this Skull and Bones society absorbed the less prominent and public Scorpions Club, and merged names to become Skull and Scorpion. This senior secret society taps nine member of VPI's Corps of Cadets each spring before their senior year during a time known as Military Weekend. In the late 1960s the society changed its name officially to the Order of the Pylons, in order to more accurately represent its military history, as well as the recognize the recent monument that had been erected on VPI's campus. members are referred to as The Nine, and are tapped to represent each pylon, as well as the centerpiece of the memorial, the cenotaph a marble block engraved with the names of VPI's medal of honor winners.

Also considered secret society in its early history, the German Club, a club unique to Virginia Tech has since stopped tapping candidates and has begun allowing applications to be prospectives for membership. The German Club still contributes significant financial and philanthropic service to the University and community as a whole.

## Wake Forest University

Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC has at least one secret society, known as the Order of 23. The Order is rumored to have 22 student members and a faculty advisor. The age of the society is not known, though most say that it has been around since the school's move to Winston-Salem in 1956. The goal of the society is to foster school traditions and spirit, and at Freshmen orientation every year, the society welcomes all new students by dropping leaflets from the Wait Chapel catwalk. The Order of 23 taps male and female students who are juniors (rising seniors). Membership in the 23s is secret until graduation, when all members wear a medallion over their graduation robes, which reveals their place in the society.

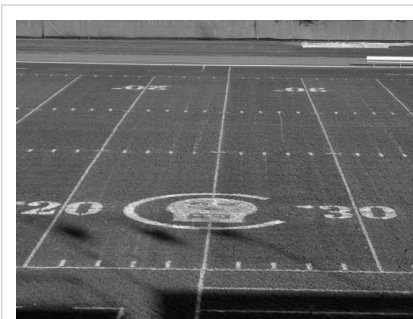
Another known secret society on campus is the Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Club. Presumably named for the characters from Shakespeare's Hamlet, the Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Club (or RGC) is rumored to have been active on campus since 1961. Membership in the RGC is completely secret, even after graduation.

## Washington and Lee University

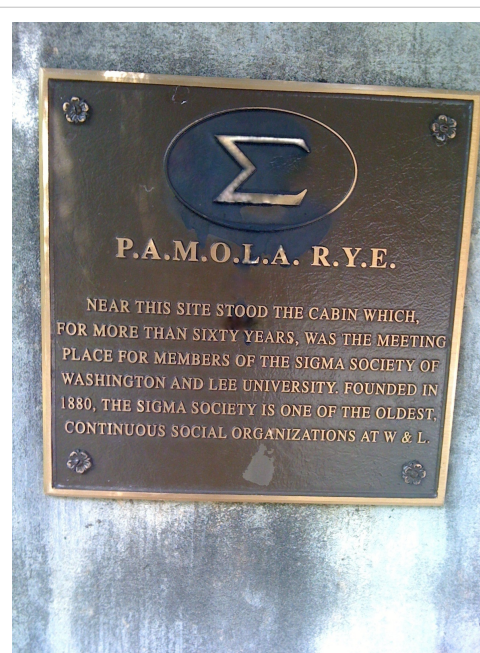
Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia is known for two secret societies, the Cadaver Society and the Sigma Society.

The membership and organizational structure of the Cadaver Society are largely unknown. Cadaver has been in continuous operation since its founding in 1957. The Cadavers have a bridge that bears their name, connecting the main campus to Wilson Field, as well as their symbol in many prominent places throughout the campus. The society has been criticized for their secrecy and many of their activities which include running around dressed in all black and masks late at night as well as drawing their symbol all over campus.<sup>[52]</sup> They have been known to run through the Sorority houses, talking in high voices and attempting to wake everyone in the houses up.

Founded in 1880, the Sigma Society is one of Washington and Lee's "oldest, continuous social organizations."<sup>[53][54][55]</sup> While membership information is not necessarily anonymous, the group's purpose and inner workings remain a secret.



Cadaver Logo Spray Painted on Wilson Field



Sigma Plaque, commemorating the location of the Sigma cabin from 1930-1994. The plaque, which was established by the University in 1994, hangs on a wall of the new Science Library near the cabin's former location. The plaque is all that remains after the school tore the cabin down to pursue campus expansion.



The group has long had a connection to President George Washington, though the extent of that relationship is unknown to the public at large.<sup>[54][56]</sup> Similarly, the acronym P.A.M.O.L.A. R.Y.E. - which can be seen inscribed on buildings and in classrooms throughout the Lexington area - also bears an unknown significance to the group. The group has largely gone underground since undergoing a public spat with the University in 1994 when University officials paid the Sigmas \$15,000 after it tore down the Sigma cabin. As noted by Chief Justice William Rehnquist, Associate Justice to the Supreme Court Lewis Powell, Jr. is one of the group's most prominent members.<sup>[57]</sup>



Sigma Society Rings worn by campus members

## Yale University

The term "Secret society" at Yale University encompasses organizations with many shared but not identical characteristics. The oldest surviving undergraduate secret societies at Yale parallel various 19th century fraternal organizations.

In the traditional Yale system societies were organized by class year.<sup>[58]</sup> There were two, (then three), senior societies, three junior societies, two sophomore societies, and two freshman societies. All the societies were independent, all had their own traditions, and each class-year pair or trio shared common traits appropriate to their class year; the freshmen societies were rambunctious and owned little real property, the sophomore and junior ones were progressively more elaborate, (the sophomore ones regularly maintained live theater in their halls), and the senior ones were extremely small and elite, and with quite expensive property and celebrations.

Each of the societies had a link to a society in the class year before it and after it; that is, members of one freshman society would all get elected to the same sophomore society year after year, and so on, so that there were two or three parallel sets of linked societies. From time to time, there would be a coup, and one society would break the pattern, forcing the other societies to likewise change election strategies, or cause the creation of a new society. Delta Kappa Epsilon, a junior society, was created in reaction to a botched election process to the junior class societies in 1844.

This process held from the 1840s to the 1910s. This system kept Yale out of the more typical intercollegiate college fraternity system, although some regular college fraternities were created out of the Yale system. Yale-type class societies also extended across northeastern colleges.

Class year <sup>[59]</sup>	Society	years
Senior	Skull & Bones	1833–present
Senior	Scroll & Key	1841–present
Senior	Wolf's Head	1883–present
Senior	Elihu	1903–Present
Senior	St. Elmo (secret society)	1889–present
Senior	Aurelian Honor Society	1910–present
Junior	Alpha Delta Phi	1836–1873, 1888–1935, 1990–present
Junior	Psi Upsilon	1839–1934, 2004–present
Junior	Delta Kappa Epsilon	1844–present
Sophomore	Kappa Sigma Theta	1838–1857
Sophomore	Alpha Sigma Phi	1846–1864



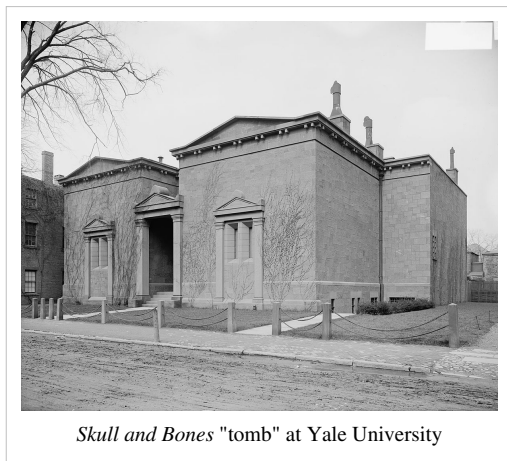
Sophomore	Phi Theta Psi	1864 - ?
Sophomore	Delta Beta Xi	1864–1875
Freshman	Kappa Sigma Epsilon	1840–1880
Freshman	Delta Kappa	1845–1880
Freshman	Sigma Delta	1849–1860
Freshman	Gamma Nu	1860 - ?

This system has not survived the introduction of regular fraternities and other changes. The senior class societies continue prosper today without any of the lower class societies. A similar system was introduced at Wesleyan University in nearby Middletown, Connecticut, but with a pair of societies in each class year and dual memberships between class societies and college fraternities, so that most class society members were also fraternity members. The older societies survived because of their endowments, real estate, and the vigor of their respective alumni organizations and their charitable Trusts.<sup>[60][61]</sup>

In the past century, the size of Yale has allowed for a wider variety of student societies, including regular college fraternity chapters, and other models, so that it can be difficult to categorize the organizations. And there are societies like Sage and Chalice and St. Anthony Hall which cross ordinary categories.

There are typical attributes of the Yale societies. They are often restricted by class year, especially the senior class. They usually have fifteen members per class year. They "tap" their members, mostly on the same "Tap Night," and a member is off-limits to recruitment by another secret society, (i.e. reciprocal exclusivity) The normal pattern now is that a group of secret societies places an advertisement in the *Yale Daily News* in early spring that informs students when Tap Night is taking place and when students should expect to receive formal offers (usually 1 week before official Tap Night). Tap Night is typically held on a Thursday in mid April; the most recently held Tap Night was April 15, 2010.<sup>[62]</sup>

From 1854-1956, "Sheff," the Sheffield Scientific School was the sciences and engineering college of Yale University, and it also had a fraternal culture that differed in some respects from the humanities campus.<sup>[63]</sup>



*Skull and Bones "tomb" at Yale University*

Many societies have owned meeting halls, with different accommodations. Following the example of Skull & Bones, the halls are often referred to as 'tombs'. A series of articles on Dartmouth and Yale secret society architecture provides an overview of the buildings.<sup>[64]</sup> Societies that own tombs or halls are sometimes known as 'landed' societies. The three oldest landed societies are Skull and Bones (1832), Scroll and Key, (1841) and Wolf's Head, (1883). The surviving landed Sheffield societies are Berzelius (1848) and Book and Snake (1863), St. Elmo (1889), and the Aurelian Honor Society (1910). St. Anthony Hall (1867) calls itself a "final society".<sup>[65]</sup> Three newer societies that own property include Elihu (1903) – whose building is the oldest of the senior society buildings at Yale – Manuscript Society (1952), and

Mace and Chain (1956). Yale's Buildings and Grounds Department lists the societies with halls in its online architectural database.<sup>[66]</sup>

There may be any number of unknown or underground secret societies at Yale. Any group of students may self-constitute themselves as a society at any time. Certainly there have been many which did not last long enough to leave any significant records. Indeed, the *Yale Rumpus* has in recent years published names of students it believes are in various secret societies.<sup>[67]</sup> According to the Rumpus, in addition to the secret societies listed in this Wikipedia page, numerous other societies (such as WIPS, Spade and Grave, Ox, Truth and Courage, Linonia, Llama and

Cardigan, Red Mask, Ceres Athena, Gryphon, Fork and Knife, Ink and Needle, etc.) are either active or have been active recently. They typically meet in off campus apartments, fraternity common rooms, classrooms, and other available spaces. Some groups have enough resources to rent a permanent meeting space. Given the extracurricular zeal and competition for society spots evident in the Yale student body culture, a definitive list of secret societies that exist on the campus (or on any campus) can change year by year.

## List of notable North American collegiate secret societies

**This list is limited to societies with a) their own Wikipedia articles, or b) with independent third-party citation links. Editors are invited to add to this list as long as they can provide adequate verifiable citations. The list is not exhaustive; many known societies are not included because they currently lack verifiable citations.**

Name	Year	College or University	Location	Country	Member Limit
Sigma Phi	1827	Union College	Schenectady, New York	US	Sophomore Men at the Alpha
NoZe Brotherhood	1924	Baylor University	Waco, TX	US	
Turtle Mound Society	1901	Beloit College	Beloit, WI	US	<i>Senior</i> <sup>[68]</sup>
CARBON	1990's?	Boston College	Chestnut Hill, MA	US	<i>Senior men</i> <sup>[69]</sup>
Sic Sic	1946	Bowling Green State University	Bowling Green, OH	US	<i>Freshmen</i> <sup>[70]</sup>
Franklin Society	1824	Brown University	Providence, RI	US	
Seven Society, Order of the Crown & Dagger		College of William and Mary	Williamsburg, VA	US	<i>Senior men</i>
Flat Hat Club	1916	College of William and Mary	Williamsburg, VA	US	<i>Senior</i>
The Orange Society	1965	College of William and Mary	Williamsburg, VA	US	
Bishop James Madison Society	20th c.	College of William and Mary	Williamsburg, VA	US	
Wren Society	20th c.	College of William and Mary	Williamsburg, VA	US	
Sphinx Head	1890	Cornell University	Ithaca, NY	US	<i>Senior</i>
Quill and Dagger	1893	Cornell University	Ithaca, NY	US	<i>Senior</i>
Sphinx <sup>[71]</sup>	1886	Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Casque and Gauntlet <sup>[71][72]</sup>	1887	Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Phrygian <sup>[71]</sup>		Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Dragon Society <sup>[71]</sup>	1898	Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Fire & Skoal <sup>[71]</sup>	1975	Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Abaris <sup>[71]</sup>		Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Phoenix <sup>[71]</sup>		Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Gryphon <sup>[71]</sup>		Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Cobra <sup>[71]</sup>		Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH	US	<i>Senior</i>
Raven's Claw Society	1896	Dickinson College	Carlisle, PA	US	<i>Senior men</i>

D.V.S. Senior Honor Society	1902	Emory University	Atlanta, GA	US	
Order of the Torch	2003	Florida International University	Miami, FL	US	
Fontaneda Society	2010	Florida International University	Miami, FL	US	<i>Fraternity and sorority leaders &amp; athletes</i>
Burning Spear Society	1993	Florida State University	Tallahassee, FL	US	<i>Senior</i>
ANAK Society	1908	Georgia Institute of Technology	Atlanta, GA	US	<i>Junior and Senior</i>
Pithotomy Club <sup>[73]</sup>	1896	Johns Hopkins University	Baltimore, MD	US	<i>Men</i>
Chi <sup>[74]</sup>	1900	Longwood University	Farmville, VA	US	
1540 <sup>[75]</sup>	1998	Loyola University New Orleans	New Orleans, LA	US	
Brick & Mortar	2009	Maryland Institute College of Art	Baltimore, MD	US	
IDT Social Order		Morehouse College	Atlanta, GA	US	<i>Men</i>
Eucleian Society	1832	New York University	New York, NY, United States		
Red Dragon Society	1898	New York University	New York, NY, United States		
Mufti	1940	Pomona College	Claremont, CA	US	
Cap and Skull	1900	Rutgers University	New Brunswick, NJ	US	<i>Senior</i>
Khoda	1909	Stevens Institute of Technology	Hoboken, NJ	US	<i>Senior</i>
Stickers	1898	Texas A&M University	College Station, TX	US	<i>Senior</i>
St. Anthony Hall	1850	Trinity College	Hartford, CT	US	<i>Sophomore</i>
The Machine	1914	University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL	US	<i>Fraternity &amp; sorority leaders</i>
Order of the Golden Bear <sup>[76]</sup>	1900	University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA	US	<i>Senior</i>
Gun Club <sup>[77]</sup>	1912	University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA	US	<i>Junior</i>
Society of the Golden Rose <sup>[78]</sup>	1942	University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA	US	<i>Junior and Senior women</i>
Sigma Sigma <sup>[79]</sup>	1898	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH	US	<i>Junior and Senior men</i>
Men of Metro <sup>[80]</sup>	1946	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH	US	<i>Men</i>
Florida Blue Key	1923	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL	US	
Order of the Greek Horsemen	1955	University of Georgia	Athens, GA	US	<i>Fraternity men</i>
Gridiron Secret Society		University of Georgia	Athens, GA	US	
Ma-Wan-Da <sup>[81]</sup>	1912	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Urbana, IL	US	<i>Senior</i>
Senior Skull <sup>[82]</sup>	1906	University of Maine	Orono, ME	US	<i>Senior Men</i>
Arete	2006	University of Maryland	College Park, MD	US	<i>Greek Life, unknown years</i>
Iron Arrow	1926	University of Miami	Coral Gables, FL	US	
Order of Angell	1902	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor, MI	US	<i>Senior</i>
QEBH	1897	University of Missouri	Columbia, MO	US	<i>Senior</i>

LSV Society <sup>[83]</sup>	1907	University of Missouri	Columbia, MO	US	<i>Senior women</i>
Mystical Seven	1907	University of Missouri	Columbia, MO	US	<i>Senior</i>
Coffin and Keys <sup>[84]</sup>	1916	University of Nevada, Reno	Reno, NV	US	
OBC		University of North Carolina at Asheville	Asheville, NC	US	
Society of Innocents	1903	University of Nebraska	Lincoln, NE	US	<i>Senior</i>
Order of Gimghoul	1889	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC	US	<i>Senior</i>
Order of the Golden Fleece <sup>[85][86]</sup>	1904	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC	US	<i>Senior</i>
Order of the Grail-Valkyries <sup>[87]</sup>	1920	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC	US	<i>Senior</i>
Loyal Knights of Old Trusty <sup>[88]</sup>	1920	University of Oklahoma	Norman, OK	US	<i>Engineering</i>
Sphinx Senior Society <sup>[89]</sup>	1900	University of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, PA	US	<i>Senior</i>
Friars <sup>[90]</sup>	1901	University of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, PA	US	<i>Senior</i>
Mortar Board <sup>[91]</sup>	1922	University of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, PA	US	<i>Senior</i>
Druids	1923	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA	US	
Scarabbean Senior Society <sup>[92]</sup>	1915	University of Tennessee	Knoxville, TN	US	
Eyes of Texas <sup>[93]</sup>	1975	University of Texas	Austin, TX	US	
Friar Society <sup>[94]</sup>	1911	University of Texas	Austin, TX	US	
Episkopon	1858	University of Trinity College	Toronto, ON	Canada	
Castor		University of Toronto	Toronto, ON	Canada	
Gentlemen's Club	2011	University of Toronto, OISE	Toronto, ON	Canada	<i>Senior</i>
Eli Banana	1878	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	US	
T.I.L.K.A.	1889	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	US	
Z Society	1892	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	US	
IMP Society	1902	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	US	
Seven Society	1905	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	US	
Society of the Purple Shadows	1963	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	US	
P.U.M.P.K.I.N. Society	1967	University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	US	
Gentlemen's Club	2010	University of Waterloo	Waterloo, ON	Canada	<i>Senior</i>
Iron Cross	1902	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Madison, WI	US	<i>Junior and Senior</i>
Cadaver Society	1957	Washington and Lee University	Lexington, VA	US	
Sigma Society	1880	Washington and Lee University	Lexington, VA	US	
Immortals		Washington and Lee University	Lexington, VA	US	
Ma'at		Wellesley College	Wellesley, MA	US	
Mystical 7	1867	Wesleyan University	Middletown, CT	US	<i>Senior</i>
Theta Nu Epsilon	1870	Wesleyan University	Middletown, CT	US	<i>Sophomore</i>

Skulls of Seven <sup>[95]</sup>	1898	Westminster College	Fulton, MO	US	Senior
Mountain	1867	West Virginia University	Morgantown, WV	US	Senior
Skull <sup>[96][97]</sup>	1911	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	Worcester, MA	US	Senior
Skull and Bones	1832	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Scroll and Key	1842	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Berzelius	1848	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Book and Snake	1863	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Wolf's Head	1883	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
St. Elmo	1899	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Elihu	1903	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Aurelian Honor Society	1910	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Manuscript Society	1952	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior
Mace and Chain	1956	Yale University	New Haven, CT	US	Senior

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