



OUTSTANDING CHAPTER PROJECTS

First Book Advisory Board

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT, "READING IS LEADING"

Oregon State University

After being inspired at the 2008 Mortar Board National Conference, the Cap and Gown chapter began its own First Book Advisory Board to help continue the efforts of First Book. The responsibility of the Board is of such importance that it became a University Board, rather than only being affiliated with Mortar Board. The Advisory Board has enabled them to secure a donation of over 1,300 books which will soon be distributed to a local elementary school. The Cap and Gown chapter hopes to reach out to other organizations to join in the efforts.

The Living Book

*IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT, "READING IS LEADING"

Bowling Green State University

The Living Book project was a live presentation of the book "Hello, Freddie Falcon!" The book is about BGSU and features the mascots Freddie and Frieda Falcon. The author came and read the book to the children, who were able to act out scenes of the book. Copies of the book were given away as door prizes and Freddie the Falcon himself even made an appearance!

Mortar Board Mentors

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, SERVICE PROJECT

Northwestern University

MB Mentors paired with freshman students at Northwestern. Together, they traveled throughout the area to read with and tutor elementary students – some of whom had little other exposure to the English language. On one occasion, the pairs even offered SAT advice to high school students. The purposes of the project were to improve literacy among community youth, provide freshman participants with an older mentor, and introduce younger students to Mortar Board and encourage them to be active participants in the future.

Parking Space Raffle

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, FUNDRAISING

University of San Diego

The Alcalá chapter secured two prime location parking spaces to raffle off. Tickets were \$3 each, and the winner was awarded sole privileges to the spot. Proceeds went to the STRIVE scholarship. The project allowed the chapter to increase the funds dedicated to the STRIVE scholarship as well as to increase chapter awareness on campus.

Alumni Career Panel

*ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

The Ohio State University

During Mortar Board Week, this chapter held an Alumni Career Panel, where they asked Mortar Board alums to come back and talk about their professional experiences. They attempted to specifically invite those professionals who were in fields that corresponded with the interests of current Mortar Board members. It contributed to networking and career development, as well as helped the collegiate members connect to the alumni.

Guitar Hero World Tour at OSU

*FUNDRAISING

The Ohio State University

The Guitar Hero World Tour came to Ohio State with the help of Mortar Board members. The chapter worked with the On Tour marketing group to set up a day of Guitar Hero and free food in the South Oval. The chapter set up a location, promoted the event, and handed out free Guitar Hero merchandise. The event was a success with a total attendance of approximately 500 students. The chapter earned almost \$4,000 by dancing, singing, and playing Guitar Hero.

Spring Read

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT, "READING IS LEADING"

Kent State University

Members volunteered at The King Kennedy Center, a center for at-risk children. The chapter hosted an Easter-themed party where children searched for Easter eggs that then indicated which gift basket they had won. The gift baskets were filled with books and Easter candy. Members were able to spend time with the children discussing the importance of literacy as well as make literacy available to the children by giving them books to keep.

Story Book Forest

*SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT, "READING IS LEADING"

University of South Florida

StoryBook Forest is an event where the Athenaeum chapter goes to a local elementary school and sets up the gym like a carnival with games, prizes, toys, face painting, pictures, coloring contests, and reading. This year's event was Halloween-themed. The chapter gave away many books and prizes and the kids had a great time.

University City Spring Fling Library Event

*SERVICE PROJECT

Washington University in St. Louis

The Keod chapter hosted an event open to the entire St. Louis community where children came to the library and rotated through different reading-themed stations. The stations consisted of bookmark making, cross word puzzles, cupcake decorating, writing your own story book, and a story telling station. The entire chapter participated, and they got a great response from the community and positively influenced the lives of over 50 children.

Books for Youth Carnival

*SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

Purdue University

The Barbara Cook chapter launched a community-wide book drive to gather books for the "Books for Youth" program. This program, started by the Department of Child Services in conjunction with the Indianapolis Colts, aims to put age-appropriate books into the hands of foster children throughout the state. To launch the book drive, the chapter hosted a reading carnival. Carnival stations were centered on popular children books. For example, "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish" was a fishing game. The carnival also hosted guest readers, such as a local news anchor, a member of the story-tellers guild, and a special visit from the Columbian Park Zoo. Over 200 foster kids attended the

event from five different Indiana counties. The county met its goal of raising over 10,000 books, and Purdue was able to contribute 2,284 books from the participation of twenty-two different student groups.

Cedar Rapids Public Library Fundraising Project

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FUNDRAISING, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

Cornell College

During the summer of 2008, the Cedar Rapids Public Library was flooded. This flood destroyed the 85,000 square foot library and all of its contents. Therefore, the Torch chapter decided to dedicate all of their efforts of the 2008-2009 school year to fundraising for the CRPL. The chapter held eight different fundraisers throughout the year, including asking for donations at football games, delivering food to dorm rooms, trick-or-treating for books, selling t-shirts, and gift wrapping at Barnes and Noble during the holidays. The chapter surpassed their original goal and raised over \$2,700. Not only did they raise funds for the CRPL, they also raised awareness for the plight of flood victims throughout the community as well as increased visibility of their chapter and its mission.

Reading at the Ada Public Library

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

Ohio Northern University

Members of the Aurora chapter visited the local library every other week to read to children. Over 40 different students volunteered their time throughout the academic year. The program teaches children the value of reading and how education is based on being able to read and understand information to gain knowledge. Not only is it beneficial to the community, but it also betters the members. Through the volunteering, reading in front of a crowd, answering questions from children and families, and helping with activities, the members have grown into more active leaders.

ONU Recycles/Adopt-A-Highway

*SERVICE PROJECT

Ohio Northern University

The Aurora Chapter is making efforts to be environmentally conscious. The chapter paired with another group on campus, ONU Recycles, to encourage the campus to recycle. Each week, Mortar Board members go to different campus buildings to collect items that have been disposed of in designated containers, and then deliver them to a recycling center in Ada. The chapter has also adopted a section of highway close to campus for which they are responsible. They ensure that their section of highway is free of litter, to help the environment and keep the area beautiful.

People Who Inspire Celebration

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

People Who Inspire Celebration is an event honoring those individuals who have made a significant impact in the lives of individual Mortar Board members. The 23 honorees included professors, university staff, family members, and one member's junior counselor through a mentoring program. During the ceremony, everyone enjoyed ice cream sundaes while the nominator read a paragraph about the nominee describing how they had been inspirational. The nominees each received a framed copy of a picture of the pair together and the paragraph that was written about them. All members were truly touched to hear about the people who had made such a difference in their fellow chapter members' lives.

Garden of the Gods Section Project

*SERVICE PROJECT

Colorado State University, Colorado College, University of Northern Colorado, University of Denver, University of Wyoming

For the 6th year in a row, multiple chapters from Section 22 worked at the Garden of the Gods. They worked on check dams for erosion control, carried lots of rocks, and removed noxious weeds as well as dead scrub oak. Removing the dead scrub oak greatly reduces the fire hazard in the park. The Garden of the Gods Park is a volunteer-supported park. The fact that the project involves a majority of the section builds relationships within as well as outside of individual Mortar Board chapters.

Service Day at Harvesters

*SERVICE PROJECT

Section 17

Over 30 Mortar Board members gathered at Harvesters, the Community Food Network in Kansas City, Missouri. Members came from Kansas State, Wichita State, William Jewell, University of Missouri, University of Missouri – Kansas City, Northwest Missouri State, and the University of Kansas came together to help with the operations of the enormous center. Together they sorted hundreds of pounds of food for distribution. There was also time for the students to interact and share ideas and traditions, and everyone enjoyed refreshments provided by the area alumni.

Blitz Week Art Auction

*FUNDRAISING, SERVICE PROJECT

Oklahoma Baptist University

Blitz Week is an annual fundraiser for a non-profit organization that occurs on OBU's campus each spring. This year, proceeds from the event went to Family Promise, a group of churches who encourage and care for families who have lost their homes. The Blitz Week committee handled all promotional materials as well as the set up of the event. Mortar Board members collected and auctioned off over 200 paintings – twice as many as they had in years past.

Excellence in Teaching Award

*SERVICE PROJECT, MORTAR BOARD WEEK PROJECT

University of Washington

The Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes faculty for exceptional contributions to the education of University of Washington undergraduate students. Tolo chapter considers this an iconic chapter project, exemplifying the Mortar Board ideals of scholarship and leadership. The award is presented at the faculty's departmental graduation, which further increases visibility of Mortar Board within the academic community. This year the chapter received over 80 nominations for the award – the largest response in the award's history.

Emeritus Faculty and Staff Outstanding Service Awards Ceremony and Brunch

*SERVICE PROJECT, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

San Diego State University

The purpose of this award is to honor retired faculty, staff and administrators who gave generously to the university, its students, and the community. The event is self-supporting as attendees pay for the brunch as well as donate money towards the award itself. This is the 23rd consecutive year that the event has taken place, and many attendees of the inaugural event have come every year.

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Dinner

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, SERVICE PROJECT

San Diego State University

This is the 19th year that Mortar Board has sponsored a dinner to honor faculty and staff who have made significant contributions to the education and academic achievement of the SDSU members of Mortar Board. They also invite the current and former advisors to be recognized. The Cap and Gown chapter feels that this is a great service project for the campus. It is seldom that faculty and staff are thanked and recognized publicly for the tremendous contributions that they make. The honorees who attend are always pleased to be able to meet with the students and to be recognized and thanked.

Honors Council

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, SERVICE PROJECT

San Diego State University

The SDSU Honors Council was founded by Mortar Board in 1989 and is made up of student and faculty representatives of the University Honors Program, Phi Eta Sigma, Golden Key, Phi Kappa Phi, Mortar Board, and Phi Beta Kappa multidisciplinary honor societies. The purpose of the council is to advise, promote the interests of each chapter as well as those interests common to all six societies, recognize students and faculty for their achievements, and represent honor societies on the Associated Students Council. Honors Council hosts multiple service events, such as canned food drives, study abroad workshops, and a holiday toy drive.

Backpack Stuffing

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING," MORTAR BOARD WEEK PROJECT

San Diego State University

For the eighth consecutive year, Mortar Board members stuffed backpacks with school supplies and donated them to needy children. This year the bags went to an orphanage in Mexico. The SDSU members also involved members from the University of San Diego chapter as well as the alumni board. The backpack stuffing was a great opportunity for members to mingle as well as a service to the children who needed assistance.

Alumni Relations

*ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING," MORTAR BOARD WEEK PROJECT

San Diego State University

This chapter takes great measures to keep their alumni involved. The active/alumni relations chair attends all alumni board meetings. The chapter holds an annual Alumni Luncheon where \$7,000 in scholarship money is awarded to actives who are attending graduate and professional schools. The alumni are also very involved with the Backpack Stuffing project. In fact, the idea for the project came from an alumni member.

Last Lecture Series

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT

San Diego State University

Many of the degree programs at SDSU require a capstone (a culminating experience that asks students to integrate their major with their overall coursework, within the context of life). With this idea in mind, the Last Lecture series was created with the intent of honoring teachers and scholars at SDSU by providing a distinguished career capstone event. Honorees give a public lecture. They are asked to sum up in one final lecture what they believe has made their lives and work meaningful and worthwhile.

Mortar Board Planner/Calendar of Events

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FUNDRAISING, SERVICE PROJECT

San Diego State University

For almost two decades now, the Cap and Gown chapter has been creating a planner specifically for SDSU students. Included in the planner is the SDSU academic calendar; final exam schedule; testing dates; important dates; athletic, music, and drama events; listing of clubs and organizations; campus map; valuable coupons; important offices and telephone numbers; and much more. This year, the planner was sold out, and the chapter received over \$16,000 for their efforts.

St. Mary's Home Holiday Event

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

University of South Alabama

This annual event is held at a local home for abused and neglected children, called St. Mary's Home. Throughout the year, Mortar Board members tutor and mentor children in an effort to instill self confidence and a love of learning. Members also encourage the students' desire to further their education and complete high school. At the end of the fall term, Mortar Board sponsors a party at which time they present gifts and at least one new book to each child. They also donate books to the library so that future children may have access to these materials.

The Colorado College presents David Axelrod

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FUNDRAISING

The Colorado College

This chapter brought to campus David Axelrod, chief strategist and media consultant for Obama's 2008 presidential campaign and current senior advisor to President Obama. Mr. Axelrod gave a speech entitled "How Change Won." The event was free and open to the public, and was attended by approximately 1,000 people. The chapter's goal was to increase visibility on campus; during the event they were praised by the president of Colorado College for their efforts. The speaker was very graciously received and appreciated by students, faculty, and the community at large.

Reading is Leading Promotion

*SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

Oklahoma State University

In November, the chapter held an event on campus to promote reading. All elementary students in the community were invited to read books and make Thanksgiving crafts. Each child was given a book to take home. The event was a success, with 35 children in attendance.

Nursing Home Outreach

*SERVICE PROJECT

Oklahoma State University

In December, members of the Achafoa chapter began a new Christmas tradition. With the desire to reach out in a unique way during the holiday season, the group set up an angel tree at a local nursing home. Wishes were collected for each resident, and chapter members volunteered to purchase and wrap gifts to fulfill these wishes. The gifts were delivered to seventeen residents at the nursing home. Members feel that it was a great and rewarding way to wrap up the semester and allowed the chapter to give back to the community.

First Annual Charity Art Auction

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FUNDRAISING, SERVICE PROJECT

Hood College

The First Annual Charity Art Auction was a great success. Starting with a nonexistent budget, chapter members organized an art auction to benefit the Community Agency School Services, a program that helps underprivileged

families by providing things such as school supplies. Through great networking skills, the chapter got everything donated free of charge. Over 60 people attended the event, and the chapter was able to donate over \$1500 for CASS.

Torchbearer Ceremony

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

The Torchbearer Ceremony is where the graduating seniors pass on the ideals and responsibilities of Mortar Board to the incoming class. The ceremony is held at midnight, outside by the Torchbearer statue, an icon of the university. Alumni come and speak of their experiences as a member of Mortar Board. The ceremony is a great way to challenge and inspire the new members to carry on the history of Mortar Board.

29th Annual Turkey Basket Drive

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FUNDRAISING, SERVICE PROJECT

University of North Dakota

The Turkey Basket Drive is the largest and most successful project that this chapter undertakes each year. The chapter asked for support from over 900 businesses and coordinated with a high school honor society and local non-profit agencies. This year, 30 members raised over \$18,000 to assist 920 families. The project requires a lot of hard work, but thanks to the dedication of these Mortar Board members, over 3,600 individuals were able to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixings.

Turkey for a Day

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FUNDRAISING, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

This chapter recruited 15 professors from all different backgrounds and degree programs to participate in the event. The professors would collect donations from their students for one week. At the end of that week, the professor with the most donations would deliver his or her lecture in a turkey suit. The event was well advertised and students were informed that all donations made would go to purchasing books for a local elementary school. The winning professor collected \$240, contributing to a total greater than \$1,200. The alumni chapter was also involved, donating \$100 as well as numerous books. The final donation to the elementary school consisted of 150 brand new books and over 2500 used books. The children were extremely grateful, and hosted a rally to say thank you to Mortar Board members.

Why Your Education COUNTS

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING," MORTAR BOARD WEEK PROJECT

University of Arkansas

In honor of Mortar Board week, chapter members spent every afternoon of that week at the Yvonne Richardson Community Center helping underprivileged and minority children with their homework, reading, and building social skills in an intensive mentoring program. Members focused on being good role models for these children, to hopefully show them that a college education is something attainable for them. To leave an impact, the chapter created an acronym: COUNTS.

- C – Community Helper – they can contribute to the community
- O – Opportunity – there are a lot of opportunities for scholarships and financial aid so that students can attend college
- U – University education – An investment in yourself is the best investment you can make
- N – Never giving up – Sometimes things look bleak, but it is important not to give up on yourself
- T – Talent – we are all born with special and unique talents

- S – Salary – if you go to college then you can make more money to support yourself and your family

The chapter chose the word COUNTS because they wanted to leave each child with the feeling that they COUNT and are worth of having a college education as a goal.

Tanzanian Scholarships

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, SERVICE PROJECT

Hope College

The Alcor chapter sponsors scholarships for full tuition as well as room and board for eight Tanzanian college students. Currently, three students have graduated. One has become a secretary, while the other two are now teachers. One woman, who comes from a village where no one had ever attended college, is now in the top government school with the highest grade point average.

Wearing of the Blue Brunch

*MORTAR BOARD WEEK PROJECT

Hope College

The Alcor chapter rewards freshman and sophomores who have earned Dean's List distinction with a free breakfast. The breakfast introduces them to Mortar Board and encourages them to continue striving for academic achievements. The event also promotes applying for membership. Each table had a Mortar Board member or advisor sitting with them to discuss their education and the benefits of Mortar Board and its service projects. This year's event was very well attended. Both advisors, 15 members, 168 students, the Dean of Students, and the President of the College were all present. In addition, a faculty member from the science department spoke.

Mortar Board Week Project

*MORTAR BOARD WEEK PROJECT

Hope College

For Mortar Board Week, the chapter set up a display case in the Student Center to showcase pictures and facts about Mortar Board. They also passed out pamphlets and cookies, had a table where they displayed projects and pictures, with a member in attendance to answer questions. They also sponsored a Euchre competition with prizes for the winners. This project went along with The Wearing of the Blue Brunch project.

Homecoming Book Drive/Reading to Elementary Students

*SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

Hope College

For the annual Homecoming Book Drive, this year's chapter selected a local low-income elementary school with whom to partner. Then, they mailed letters to over 1,100 Mortar Board alumni. The day of Homecoming, three Mortar Board members set up a table outside the football stadium that collected \$4,716.65 of donations, a \$500 gift card to Borders, and many gently used books. All monetary donations went to Van Raalte Elementary School, who was able to purchase at least two new books for each student. The gift card was donated to CASA, a children's after-school tutoring program at Hope College. Lastly, three full boxes of books went to the Boys & Girls Club of Holland, Michigan. In the spring, Mortar Board members visited the elementary school to read to the children.

Candyland Celebration – Disabilities Prom

*SERVICE PROJECT

Hope College

Candyland Celebration is a prom hosted for individuals in the community with disabilities. Disabilities prom is a meaningful experience for Hope students as they bond with adults with disabilities in the Holland community. This is

a wonderful night of celebration, filled with dancing, cooking, and conversation. The event excels because it incorporates the Holland community and reaches out to those with disabilities.

Relay for Life

*FUNDRAISING, SERVICE PROJECT

Hope College

Relay for Life is a twelve hour event to raise money and awareness for the American Cancer Society and its mission to save lives and fight back against cancer. The event remembered those who lost their lives to cancer, celebrated survivors, and encouraged hope for the future of cancer prevention and treatment. The Mortar Board team had 23 team members with at least one person walking the track throughout the course of the event. This year's event included over 700 participants who raised more than \$40,600 for the American Cancer Society. Mortar Board was the top fundraising team in regards to team size as well as the top fundraising team overall, contributing \$6,601.

International Student Thanksgiving Dinner

*SERVICE PROJECT

Hope College

Co-sponsored by Mortar Board and the Provost of the University, this dinner welcomes international students to the United States and to Hope College specifically. Mortar Board members set up, serve and clean up the dinner. This year, 80 students attended. The dinner is an opportunity to share the tradition of Thanksgiving with the incoming students. Mortar Board members are there to explain our traditions to the international students as well as to learn about holidays in their countries. This project aims at breaking down cultural barriers and stereotypes, as well as creating a friendly atmosphere where friendships can be born.

Last Lecture Series

*SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM/PROJECT

Hope College

Alcor chapter planned a Last Lecture Series. Last Lectures are hypothetical final lectures given by professors, asked to address the question, "If this were your last time to address a group of students, what would you say?" The series consisted of four professors, and each event was attended to capacity. Fifty free copies of the book of each professor's choice were given out thanks to a local business donation. Additionally, typed copies of the speeches were given out at the end of the lecture. This lecture was a great opportunity for students to see a different side of their professors. The series allowed professors to share life wisdom that is not normally shared in class. Professors spoke about their own personal experiences, life philosophies, and events that impacted their lives.

Reading is Leading: First Book National Challenge

*FUNDRAISING, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING"

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

The Sutton chapter collaborated with Starbucks and Head Start to really make a contribution to the "Reading is Leading" National First Book Challenge. The chapter set up a book sale. Starbucks agreed that for every hour volunteered by a Starbucks employee or non-employee, the company would donate \$10, up to \$10,000. Since two different Starbucks chains were working for this cause, this amounted to \$2,000! That money, combined with the \$1,153 from the book sale itself, earned the chapter third place in the challenge. This chapter alone donated more than 10% of the national goal!

Newcomb Leadership Conference for Girls

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, SERVICE PROJECT

Tulane University

The Newcomb Leadership Conference for Girls is this chapter's signature event. Started in 1998, the program is a day-long conference for New Orleans middle school-aged girls, using leadership focused and team based sessions to develop leadership skills. This year's theme was "America's Next Top Leader." During the conference, Mortar Board members served as group leaders, facilitating numerous activities that encouraged the girls to think about various facets of leadership and to learn more about themselves. The conference followed the guidelines of the Dove Real Beauty Workshop for Girls, and saw the greatest attendance in its eleven year history.

Leaf Raking

*ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT

Kent State University

Current members raked leaves for the in-laws of alumni member Debi Burke. In Debi's words, "We tried to count the bags and it appeared to be about 85!" The property is far too large and difficult for Mrs. Burke's in-laws to manage. The members are proud to have helped an alumni member and their family. The chapter also collects box tops, which Mrs. Burke then donates to the Childhood Development Center at Kent State.

Reading is Leading . . . And Fun!

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FUNDRAISING, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT, IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PROJECT "READING IS LEADING," MORTAR BOARD WEEK PROJECT

University of Nebraska at Kearney

This chapter has continually supported the UNK Child Development Center, the day care on campus. During the academic year, Mortar Board members provided reading and related activities for the children each Friday morning. Each Mortar Board member participated at least four times, and got to know the children very well. Throughout the year, Mortar Board sponsored several fundraisers, including a book sale. Alumni also contributed funds for the project. This project contributes to the promotion of literacy, as well as furthers the name of Mortar Board on campus and in the community, since the members work closely with the children of faculty and community members.

UNK Honors Convocation

*LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT

University of Nebraska at Kearney

All members and new initiates participate in the UNK Honors Convocation. Since 1992, Mortar Board has hosted the university wide Honors Convocation immediately following the initiation of the new members. Parents of current members and parents of new members are invited, along with faculty honorees, seniors who receive awards, and administration. During the ceremony, awards are presented to the students by the Alumni Association, administration, Student Government, and more organizations. The Honors Convocation is a university-wide event that brings together all of the award activities for the university at the end of the year.

Songfest 2009: Starstruck at Savage

*FUNDRAISING, ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT, SERVICE PROJECT

The University of Toledo

This is the largest philanthropic event on campus. It is a song and dance event whose proceeds go to Josina Lott Residential Mental Health and Substance Abuse Home. This year, there were approximately 500 people who performed. This is the second oldest tradition at UT and it is put on by Mortar Board and Blue Key.