

GOT A PROJECT?



2012-2013 HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTEST WINNERS

The SAE Financial & Housing Corporation supports enhancements to our many chapter houses across the Realm via the Home Improvement Contest. Any chapter or colony, regardless of whether its members live in a house, may make physical improvements to better their living accommodations or to better the community. Applicants have approximately seven months to complete the project application and the resulting improvements.

Applications for the 2013-2014 Home Improvement Contest are now available and can be found online at www.sae.net/forms.



Best Overall Project

OHIO TAU Miami of Ohio

Ohio Tau members decided to turn an unused, out-of-shape room into a movie theater. They cleaned out the trash and old furniture and then cleaned the floor extensively. Next, they designed the room's layout by noting dimensions and choosing wall and carpet colors. The men built the platform to allow for theater-style seating and then laid the carpet over it. Furthermore, they installed new light bulbs and purchased couches, tables, posters and a TV.

Best Exterior Project

NEW YORK EPSILON Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

The end of the front brick path had fallen into disrepair with dead bushes. Since the path had been renovated previously, a group of seniors and younger members decided to update the stairs and to add lighting since the area did not have lights. They created two brick flower planters with LED lights on the sections facing the steps and on the front side to illuminate the walkways. In addition, the lights help to showcase bronze plaques on the planters that contain the address, ΣΑΕ Greek letters and coat-of-arms.

Best Interior Project

CALIFORNIA DELTA UCLA

A powder room at the chapter house had been used for storage instead of its original intent. A group of members decided to improve the room by making it comfortable for female guests. First, they repainted the rooms in a two-color scheme — a soft pink base with a solid purple bar. They added a fleur-de-lis and mirrors on the wall, and then the men installed two large mirrors, a coat rack, a couch, a side table and a light fixture.

Best Green Project

ILLINOIS BETA University of Illinois

Members refreshed the external appearance of their home and made it more appealing to visitors. They hauled away trash, powerwashed surfaces and planted new shrubs and plants. The men also laid down new mulch and built a new brick retaining wall. For the back patio, they purchased new furniture and a fireplace and painted a large, orange "I" for school spirit and a blue "ΣΑΕ" in the middle of it. To assist in funding, they created a donation box at their Mother's Weekend.



Best Community Project

NEVADA BETA University of Nevada at Las Vegas

The chapter house had fallen into poor shape. Peeling paint had exposed termit-infested wood. The backyard had become littered with entirely too much debris and scrap, and the front yard consisted of barren soil and dead trees. During the improvement, the men teamed up with Sigma Kappa to clear out and level the backyard and cover it with red cedar-chip mulch to revive the soil. In the front, the team installed new plants that are drought-tolerant and low-maintenance. They also scrubbed the exterior walls and applied fresh paint to restore the original color.

*Members of the Financial & Housing Corporation board, past and present, pose with outgoing members John Kelley (front, left) and Steve Sikorski (front row, fourth from left) during the evening at the Levere Memorial Temple at the 157th Anniversary Convention.