



Application for International Sweetheart of Sigma Chi

Serving as the Sigma Chi Fraternity International Sweetheart provides a unique opportunity for a female student to visit campuses throughout North America, meet hundreds of undergraduates and alumni, participate in enjoyable and educational events, and contribute to and benefit from a number of positive experiences that provide opportunities for educational and personal growth.

The undergraduate representatives at this year's Grand Chapter, which will take place from June 22 to 25, 2023, in Toronto, Canada, will elect the 38th International Sweetheart of Sigma Chi. Each undergraduate chapter is strongly encouraged to nominate its sweetheart as a candidate for this prestigious honor and role as the 2023 to 2025 International Sweetheart. Regardless of whether your sweetheart is selected, your nomination packet will be a tribute to the many ways she has affected your members, and something she will cherish for a lifetime.

A note from Shelby Mecklenborg, 2021 to 2023 International Sweetheart

I am incredibly honored to welcome you into the journey of an International Sweetheart applicant. First and foremost, congratulations on being nominated by your chapter! It is a gift from your brothers that you will cherish for the rest of your life. The nomination alone speaks to the impact you have made in their lives. Through your position as chapter sweetheart, you have earned their love and respect as they now believe you are worthy of representing their brotherhood on a further level. From one Sweetheart to another, thank you for the dedication, time, and love you have given to Sigma Chi thus far.

Serving as International Sweetheart is a once in a lifetime opportunity. If elected, you will have the immense responsibility of representing the Fraternity for two years by acting as its female ambassador and speaking on behalf of sweethearts throughout North America. You will witness how far and wide the bonds of their brotherhood travel. You will meet brothers and sweethearts from all walks of life, or as we like to say in Sigma Chi: different temperaments, talents, and convictions. You will gain an even greater appreciation for Sigma Chi by seeing its values in action and watching the way it shapes men through and beyond their undergraduate years. Having the opportunity to positively impact thousands of undergraduates is extremely rewarding. Most of all, in these two years you will grow, learn, push yourself, and ultimately love this fraternity in ways you never imagined.

If elected as International Sweetheart, you will have a platform to promote philanthropic issues that you hold close to your heart. In my term, I have had the incredible opportunity to support the Fraternity's mental health awareness efforts as well as serve as an ambassador for Huntsman Cancer Institute. It has been one of my greatest joys to have a

direct hand in the development of mental health initiatives within the Fraternity, and I hope you will find a cause that you are equally passionate about. Furthermore, speaking on and representing the Fraternity's relationship with Huntsman has been my very favorite responsibility in this role, consistently strengthening my love for Sigma Chi. No matter what philanthropic endeavors she chooses to support, the work of the International Sweetheart will be greatly impactful on both herself and the Fraternity.

Throughout this journey, I urge you to remember and stay in tune with your voice. Your unique personal experiences and opinions will be your greatest strength. If elected, you will find yourself in a position where your voice can be amplified internationally, which is an invaluable experience that will push you out of your comfort zone every day. You will have the chance to speak about your passions and beliefs, and the Fraternity will be eager to listen. An experience like this is once in a lifetime, and I'm overjoyed that I will get to share it with you!

I remember being intimidated and nervous about completing my application at this time two years ago, but just remember that your chapter nominated you for a reason. I will be there for you every step of the way, so please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions about the position or application. This role has been truly exceptional, and I cannot wait to watch you grow throughout your application process! Congratulations on taking your first step towards further representing the Fraternity we treasure.

Shelby Mecklenborg
2021-2023 International Sweetheart
Shelby.Mecklenborg@sigmachi.org

Elected Term and Expectations

The International Sweetheart will serve for a two-year term. Throughout that period, she will be expected to travel to a number of chapter, provincial and international events including the Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop from August 1 – 4, 2023 and Grand Chapter from June 22-25, 2023. She will also have the opportunity to share in numerous optional events such as province workshops, chapter anniversaries, leadership retreats, and sweetheart balls. A more detailed description of the International Sweetheart's role has been provided with this application. Brothers and sweethearts are encouraged to review this document before submitting an application to ensure that the candidate will be excited and able to fulfill her responsibilities if elected.

International Sweetheart Educational Grant

Thanks to the generosity of several alumni brothers and former International Sweethearts, the 2023 to 2025 International Sweetheart will receive a special educational grant. The fund provides the International Sweetheart with \$5,000 for each of the two years of her term to assist with the expense of completing her education or expenses relating to her travel for selected Sigma Chi events.

Eligibility

Each nominee must fulfill the following requirements:

1. She must be a registered full-time student on March 1, 2023, at the nominating chapter's school or, if such has only a male student body, from a nearby college, university or finishing school; and
2. The nominee must have been elected as the chapter sweetheart by the members of the nominating active chapter.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Finalists are chosen on the basis of campus and Sigma Chi activity, general achievements, community service, academic performance, character, personality and public speaking abilities. Candidates are further encouraged to have a firm understanding of the values and ideals that the Fraternity embodies.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE

Nominations must be submitted by email to awards@sigmachi.org by end of the day on March 1, 2023.

All nominations must be submitted in a single Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat .pdf file. Any pictures, documents, or transcripts that have to be submitted should be scanned and inserted into the nomination document. **All pictures for the application must be submitted as jpg files.** (*Please note:* To ensure fairness, paper applications sent to International Headquarters by mail will not be accepted.) If you are having any difficulties submitting your application materials, please contact Barb Sara at 847-425-4443, or email awards@sigmachi.org.

The application must include the following items and strictly adhere to the page limitations provided:

Page	Item
1	Cover page including the candidate's name, nominating chapter, and university
2	Candidate Information: college program and anticipated graduation date, current and summer address, phone numbers, and email address
3	One color picture of at least 500kb displaying the head and shoulders of the
4	A formal, written letter from the chapter, indicating why its members have nominated their sweetheart for the role of International Sweetheart
5-6	Candidate's resume
7 ¹	Candidate's educational transcript
8	Letter of recommendation from a Sigma Chi alumnus
9	Letter of recommendation from a non-Sigma Chi
10-11	A formal, written letter by the candidate to the International Sweetheart Selection Committee answering the following question:

¹ We understand that transcripts may be more than one page; thus, the page restriction for this item does not apply.

	<i>Please compile a personal statement telling us why you are applying for the position and, if selected, what your ambitions are for the 2023 to 2025 term of office. Your statement should be no more than two pages, single-spaced in 12-point font, and should give selection committee members insight into your unique character and personality that your other supporting materials do not.</i>
12-14	Three additional color pictures of the candidate's choice. (Note: Please select pictures that portray the candidate's unique personality, interests, friends, family, or community involvement. I.e. the candidate with the chapter, at a campus event; or, if she has traveled abroad, an image depicting a memorable experience; etc.)

SELECTION PROCESS

The International Sweetheart Selection Committee will review all applications received by the March 1, 2023 deadline that adhere to the previously stated requirements. The committee will select three finalists who will attend the 2023 Grand Chapter from June 22-25 in Toronto, Canada, at which our new International Sweetheart will be chosen. Your chapter will be notified of the committee's decision no later than May 1, 2023. All travel and lodging expenses for the finalists will be paid by the Fraternity. The new International Sweetheart will be selected by a vote of the undergraduate chapter delegates during a special session at Grand Chapter. The official crowning will occur at the Grand Chapter Sweetheart event.

At Grand Chapter, the candidates will have the opportunity to meet all of the brothers in attendance. They will have a chance to attend social functions, meetings, and events that will allow them to speak with all of the voting delegates. Further details will be provided to the three finalists before Grand Chapter.

QUESTIONS

Please direct any questions to awards@sigmachi.org, or call Barb Sara 847-425-4443.

