

National Pan-Hellenic Council Garden



This garden is located on the lawn south of the Center for Leadership and the Moseley Student Center. The monuments represent the nine historically African American sorority and fraternity Greek organizations. This garden was established in 2005.

Features of the garden include a 300-foot walking path, gazebo, towering white oaks (*Quercus alba*), understory dogwoods (*Cornus florida*), flowering yoshino cherries (*Prunus x yedoensis*), colorful azalea bushes, and 9 large granite stones located all on a quarter acre plot.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is the unifying and governing body for international, historically African American fraternities and sororities, also known as The Divine Nine. Each of the nine (9) NPHC organizations evolved during a period when African Americans were being denied essential rights and privileges afforded others. Racial isolation and social barriers of class created a need for African Americans to align themselves with other individuals sharing common goals and ideals. Thus, the African American (Black) Greek-lettered organization movement took on the personae of a haven and outlet, which could foster brotherhood and sisterhood in this pursuit.

The purpose of the NPHC is to foster cooperative actions of its members in dealing with matters of mutual concern. The focus of NPHC member organizations remains community awareness and action through educational, economic, and cultural service activities.

The NPHC Garden at Elon University is designed to represent each historically Black Greek-lettered organization within the NPHC, while giving alumni and current members an area for reflection, and celebration. This garden serves as a gathering place and symbolic honor for the past and future generations of Black Greek members.

- 1906 - Cornell University - Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
- 1908 - Howard University - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
- 1911 - Indiana University - Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
- 1911 - Howard University - Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.
- 1913 - Howard University - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- 1914 - Howard University - Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.
- 1920 - Howard University - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
- 1922 - Butler University - Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
- 1963 - Morgan State University - Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.