



# SIGMA PI

## Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Project Award Proposal

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<b>Project Proposal Title</b>	<b>Black Legacies: A Heritage Induction &amp; Alumni Legacy Night</b>
<b>Name of School</b>	<b>North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University</b>
<b>Sigma Pi Sigma Chapter Number</b>	<b>4819</b>
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>

### Abstract

NCAT's Sigma Pi Sigma chapter proposes *Black Legacies*, a heritage-centered induction and alumni celebration honoring the contributions of Black physicists at NCAT—from Ronald McNair to modern scholars—and strengthening community among alumni, faculty, new inductees, and physics students through meaningful recognition and connection.

# Proposal Statement

## Overview of Proposed Project

### Brief Description

*Black Legacies* is a signature Sigma Pi Sigma induction and alumni event celebrating NCAT's historic Black physicist lineage. The program includes a formal induction ceremony, a heritage presentation on McNair and McNeil, awards recognizing student excellence, and a community mixer connecting alumni, inductees, and current students.

### Goals of the Project

- Restore prestige and cultural meaning to the Sigma Pi Sigma induction at an HBCU.
- Strengthen alumni engagement and mentorship opportunities.
- Recognize outstanding achievement among current students.
- Recruit and inspire new members by showcasing legacy and community.
- Build a tradition that honors Black excellence in physics.

### Intended Audience

- New Sigma Pi Sigma inductees
- SPS & Sigma Pi Sigma members
- Physics alumni
- Faculty & staff
- Underclassmen exploring STEM

Expected attendance: 50–70 participants.

### Background and Motivation

NCAT's physics program is historically rooted in national impact—from Ronald E. McNair's contributions to aerospace to Joseph McNeil's leadership in the Civil Rights Movement. Yet Sigma Pi Sigma's visibility has fluctuated in recent years.

*Black Legacies* aims to reignite pride and belonging by placing this powerful heritage at the center of the induction experience, making the ceremony not just a formality—but a rite of passage grounded in history and identity.

## How Proposed Project Meets the Purpose of the Award

### 1. Raise awareness of Sigma Pi Sigma

Branded programs, posters, and ceremonies educate students about the society's purpose and opportunities.

### 2. Build community among alumni and members

Alumni speakers and networking tables connect generations of NCAT physicists.

### 3. Add distinction to induction ceremonies

Formal decorations, heritage displays, and recognition awards elevate ceremony quality.

### 4. Increase induction of new members

Students are motivated by a strong sense of tradition, support, and community.

## 5. Encourage fundraisers and scholarships

Alumni discussions highlight future fundraising possibilities.

## 6. Encourage inter-chapter activities

Nearby Sigma Pi Sigma chapters will be invited to attend or observe.

## 7. Recognize outstanding achievement

Awards highlight top-performing or service-oriented students.

*Black Legacies* strengthens identity, honors heritage, and builds a sustainable community tradition.

## Plan for Carrying Out Proposed Project

### Personnel

- **Project Director: SPS Vice President**
- **Induction Coordinator: Manages inductees, RSVPs, ceremony flow**
- **Alumni Liaison: Contacts alumni and arranges speakers**
- **Treasurer: Handles purchasing and budgeting**
- **Media Lead: Designs programs, captures media, promotional materials**

### Marketing

- **Flyers campuswide**
- **Instagram & email campaigns**
- **Invitations to alumni networks**
- **Classroom announcements by SPS officers**

### Member Participation

20+ SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma members will assist with:

- **Event setup**
- **Running mentoring stations**
- **Award presentations**
- **Photography and livestream**
- **Ceremony reading roles**

## Project Timeline

### Weeks 1-2: Foundations

- **Set event date & reserve venue**
- **Begin alumni outreach**
- **Draft heritage program (McNair, McNeil)**
- **Purchase decorations**

### Weeks 3-4: Preparation

- **Confirm inductees**
- **Print programs & certificates**
- **Order catering**
- **Rehearse ceremony flow**

### Week 5: Event Execution — *Black Legacies Night*

- **Heritage presentation**

- **Candle/lighting ceremony**
- **Recognition awards**
- **Alumni-student networking mixer**
- **Professional photography**

#### **Week 6: Follow-Up**

- **Thank-you letters to alumni**
- **Social media recap**
- **Chapter documentation for continuity**

## **Project Evaluation Plan**

Success of *Black Legacies* will be measured using:

### **1. Quantitative Metrics**

- Total attendance
- Number of alumni participating
- Number of inductees
- Participation of underclassmen
- Increase in future induction interest

### **2. Qualitative Feedback**

- Surveys assessing belonging, ceremony quality, and cultural impact
- Alumni reflections about community connection
- Student testimonials

### **3. Membership & Engagement Data**

- Increased SPS meeting participation
- Increase in Sigma Pi Sigma eligibility and interest
- New mentorship commitments

### **4. Public Reach**

- Social media metrics (likes, shares, saves)
- Faculty feedback on event's prestige

Together, these metrics will demonstrate how *Black Legacies* strengthens the chapter's heritage, community, and visibility.

## **Budget Justification**

**The \$600 will enhance the ceremony's professionalism, cultural relevance, and community impact.**

**Decorations & Heritage Displays (\$150)**

- **Sigma Pi Sigma banner**
- **Candle-lighting elements**
- **Portrait displays of McNair & McNeil**
- **Table décor**

**These elevate the ceremony and reinforce cultural heritage.**

**Food & Catering (\$250)**

- **Catering trays (finger foods, pastries, fruit)**
- **Refreshments**
- **Plates, cups, utensils**

**This supports a welcoming environment and encourages attendance.**

**Programs, Certificates & Printing (\$80)**

- **Professionally printed ceremony booklets**
  - **Certificates for inductees**
  - **Printed invitations**
- These increase distinction and lasting impact.**

**Recognition Awards (\$70)**

- **Small plaques, medals, or acrylic awards**
  - **Frames for inductee photos**
- These uplift chapter recognition efforts.**

**Media & Technical Needs (\$50)**

- **Backdrop, lighting, props for photo area**
- Supports documentation and future promotion.**

**All expenditures align with the purpose of adding prestige, community connection, and heritage-centered excellence to the Sigma Pi Sigma induction experience.**