



Awards and Recognitions

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There are three organizations which recognize and celebrate student achievement that have been on the University's campus for decades. They are Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society (ODK), Mortar Board, and the A-Key Award presented by Undergraduate Student Government (USG). What distinguishes these organizations is their long-standing tradition of honoring students who achieve at the highest levels in both academics and campus and community involvement.

Theta Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa was chartered by the national organization on April 29, 1922, making it the

eighth oldest chapter of ODK. Mortar Board had its beginnings as Pierian in 1923 and was installed as a chapter of Mortar Board on April 24, 1964. When established, ODK was a men's organization; Mortar Board was for women. Both organizations are now coed.

USG serves as an advocate for the student body and also sees as its mission assuming a responsibility to help ensure the success of other student organizations. To that end, the A-Key Award was established and is presented annually to undergraduate students who meet its criteria regarding credit hours, GPA, and a high level of campus involvement.

Those students who are recognized by ODK and Mortar Board or receive an A-Key Award realize that college is about more than merely obtaining a degree. The experiences, engagement, and sense of accomplishment they feel from being involved in extracurricular activities will last a lifetime.