



## PHI THETA KAPPA

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Contact: Melissa Mayer [melissa.mayer@ptk.org](mailto:melissa.mayer@ptk.org)

601.984.3684

4/19/16

### **NSPA Presented with 2016 Alliance for Educational Excellence Award**

Jackson, Mississippi – Phi Theta Kappa presented the 2016 Alliance for Educational Excellence Award to the National Scholarship Providers Association (NSPA) during its annual convention held April 7-9 in National Harbor, Maryland. Executive Director Amy Weinstein accepted the award on behalf of NSPA.

“The NSPA is honored to receive this prestigious award. We are always eager to advocate for and raise awareness of entities that grant scholarships to community college students and those interested in transferring to four-year colleges,” Weinstein said. “The students and professionals who support them are doing the hard work of getting to and through college and I admire their perseverance.”

In 2001, Phi Theta Kappa, Phi Beta Kappa and the National Honor Society (high schools) launched the Alliance for Educational Excellence to promote excellence at all levels of education. Phi Theta Kappa has assumed the leadership role on this initiative, which now includes many education-based organizations. This award is not presented every year and is reserved for organizations and individuals that have provided extraordinary leadership on a national or international level in the field of education.

The 2016 Alliance for Educational Excellence Award was presented in recognition of the constant effort from NSPA to improve student success and college completion. NSPA has worked diligently to advance the collective impact of scholarship providers and the scholarships they deliver. In addition, NSPA has demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting community college scholarship providers, including Phi Theta Kappa.

With over 360 member organizations, NSPA has worked to develop standards for scholarship administration, conduct research to better understand the scholarship industry, create professional resources, encourage the development of scholarship programs, and advocate changes in policy to help students maximize all sources of financial aid available to them.

Past recipients of the Alliance for Educational Excellence Award have included the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation for their support of several Phi Theta Kappa scholarship programs, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation for providing opportunities to community college students, and the Hites Family Community College Scholarship Foundation for endowing a Phi Theta Kappa transfer scholarship.

### **About the National Scholarship Providers Association**

The [NSPA](http://www.nspa.org) is a membership association that brings together private foundations, public charities, colleges and universities, corporate giving programs, and government agencies from across

North America that provide scholarships for higher education. Its mission is to advance the collective impact of scholarship providers and the scholarships they award. NSPA supports its over 360 member organizations through professional development opportunities, industry effective practices, research, and policy advocacy. In the 2014-2015 academic year, NSPA members awarded over \$1.1 billion in scholarships to more than 180,000 students. For additional information about the NSPA visit [www.scholarshipproviders.org](http://www.scholarshipproviders.org) and follow on Twitter @NSPA\_Tweets.

### **About Phi Theta Kappa**

Phi Theta Kappa is the oldest, largest and most prestigious honor society recognizing students pursuing two-year degrees. Phi Theta Kappa is made up of more than 3 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in nine nations.