



Induction Ceremony

The College of Wooster
Saturday, May 11, 2024

Brief History of Phi Beta Kappa

Founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, Phi Beta Kappa is the nation's oldest academic honor society. New England branches were founded at Yale in 1780 and Harvard in 1781. During the next 50 years, four more chapters were founded. By 1875, the society extended the privilege of membership to women. By 1883, 25 local chapters existed, and the need for closer unity and greater uniformity of practices led to the organization of the national body: the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa. Today, Phi Beta Kappa has chapters at 286 of the foremost



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