



A message to our community:

Over the last two days, we have received the long-awaited U.S. Supreme Court decisions on several cases including *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard College and the University of North Carolina*, *Biden v. Nebraska*, and *Department of Education v. Brown*.

We are saddened at the decision of the Supreme Court to overturn and outlaw race-conscious and affirmative action policies in college admissions. Despite precedent in the *Grutter v. Bollinger* 2003 case permitting the consideration of race as part of a holistic admissions process, the decisions set forth yesterday effectively struck down affirmative action in higher education. Plentiful research exists to support the benefits of diversity within universities. While affirmative action has never been perfect, it was a step and an acknowledgment of the centuries of systemic oppression and racism impacting Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color within the United States of America.

In addition to the overturning of affirmative action in higher education, as many predicted, the U.S. Supreme Court also struck down President Biden's student loan debt relief plan, which aimed to help 43 million individuals nationwide get relief from the crippling student loan debt crisis. Despite more than half of Americans being in favor of this plan, the Supreme Court has decided to vote against helping our communities get back on their feet after years of pandemic impact.

Both of these decisions go against what we at the Lambda Theta Alpha Foundation believe to be true. Equitable access to education is a core part of our mission to advance the community. Diversity in higher education helps all students, makes universities competitive in attracting students and professors, and helps support a well-rounded and civically engaged community. The student loan debt crisis continues to disproportionately impact marginalized communities from achieving debt freedom.

In our support of communities around the country, we will continue to support access to higher education through our annual scholarship program. Every year we award seventeen individuals a \$1,000 scholarship to help ease the burden of higher education costs. We're committed to an application process that is accessible and reaches those with the most need. Membership in Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority, Inc. is never a requirement for our scholarships, and we will continue to share this opportunity every chance we can.

If you're interested in helping us in this mission, please consider donating via our website at www.ltafoundation.org, and sharing our organization with your network. For more information on how to prepare for student loan payments to start again, check out our one-pager by visiting the link in our bio or go to bit.ly/StudentLoanSupport.

In Partnership,

Jenna Ortiz

President, Lambda Theta Alpha Foundation