

Singing up a Storm

She has performed solos with more than 150 symphony orchestras and has graced concert halls around the world. She's been nominated for a Grammy, has sung for four different presidents and has taught students who went on to hold lead Broadway roles. She was inducted into the Oklahoma City University Performance Hall of Honor, and, in December 2007, was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Music by the same university. And she's a Gamma Phi Beta.



Demetra George, formerly Deborah Giannopoulos Mustafoglu (Oklahoma City), has been the resident soprano for the Nevada Opera Theatre in Las Vegas for the last 10 years.

Demetra began her career at Oklahoma City University, where she was crowned Miss Oklahoma and the All College Basketball Queen. The accolades and accomplishments continued after Demetra's collegiate years. In 1995, the governors of Oklahoma and Florida honored her for her production of "Help for the Heartland, With Love From Florida," a concert that collected money for victims of the Oklahoma City bombing. In 2002, Demetra was nominated for a Grammy for her CD, "Demetra George Sings Love Arias."

Demetra has been married to her husband Mike for more than 30 years, and has two daughters in college. She credits her husband for his business management skills and her children for showing her the path to teaching, which helped her to become an amazing performer and teacher.

Gamma Phi Beta also plays a role in Demetra's life, and she credits the Sorority with more than just fond memories. "Gamma Phi Beta gave me a wonderful grounding with a sisterhood that accompanied me through my life and career," says Demetra. "My chapter supported my accomplishments and forgave my absences when I was away competing and performing. In later years, my sisters never forgot me during honors and special events. They came and sang the GPhiB song with me and we returned to young women again, if only for a few minutes!"

Gamma Phi Beta also taught Demetra about philanthropy. She founded TALL, a ladies organization in Los Angeles that supports the needs of blind and underprivileged children in the United States and abroad. Indeed, Demetra is active and involved in many organizations, including the World Affairs Council, the Los Angeles Consular Corps, the American Friends of Israel and Turkey and more.

This spring, Demetra will become a part of history when she performs as the first American artist with the Baku,

Azerbaijan Philharmonic in a pops concert of opera and Broadway songs.

Demetra has had remarkable experiences throughout her life, but Gamma Phi Beta has been a constant presence as well. "I am always excited when I find a Gamma Phi somewhere I am performing," says Demetra. "My life was blessed the day I walked through those doors and I hope in some way to touch the lives of my sisters down the road."

Flying High

On a sunny fall day in 1971, Kathy Fox (McGill) celebrated McGill University's 150th anniversary by making a rather unusual entrance onto campus... by parachute. Kathy was only 19 at the time, but she says she will never forget that experience.

Kathy is no stranger to the skies. She's been extensively involved in various aviation activities, including parachuting and commercial aviation, for more than 35 years. She led parachute teams in international competitions, has co-owned a flight school, and has represented Canada three times as a member the Canadian Precision Flying Team.

Kathy began her career as an air traffic controller, working at Transport Canada and Montreal Area control centers. From 1982 to 1986 she was in charge of air traffic control training, coordinated by Transport Canada and the Quebec Ministry of Education.

In 1992, Kathy left operational controlling to work with Air Traffic Services in Ottawa. She transferred to NAV CANADA in 1996 and began taking on progressively senior positions in the company. As the vice president of operations, she took a familiarization ride in an F-18 fighter jet to better understand the operational issues pilots faced. As an experienced pilot, Kathy was also given the opportunity to fly the powerful F-18 at supersonic speed.

Kathy received several distinguished awards for her contributions to sport parachuting in Canada and, in November 2004, she was inducted into the Quebec Air and Space Hall of Fame.

