



The

OLA

Experience

March 2018

OLA Brothers' Profile

By Brother James Wright Jr.

OLA Associate Editor to *The Sphinx*

One of Alpha Phi Alpha's mottos is "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All" and Bro. Brocklin Qualls is an excellent example of this.

Bro. Qualls, who became a brother of Omicron Lambda Alpha in 1999 received a special service award from the MAAC at the Founders Day Breakfast that took place on Dec. 2, 2017 at the Metro Points Hotel in New Carrollton, Md. He was tapped by the leaders of the MAAC for his service to young people and the passion he has for their goodwill. He is a member of the MAAC Leadership Institute.

Bro. Qualls is a New Orleans native and got his bachelor's degree in 1993 from Xavier University. In 1999, the same year that he became a part of the brotherhood, Bro. Qualls received a master's degree in education from Trinity University in Washington, D.C.

He is the principal consultant for The BQ Definitive, a mentorship and thought leadership organization that reaches out to young men aged 13-18 and helps them grow spiritually and educationally. He has served as a charter school early childhood leadership consultant, a director and associate director of government affairs for Head Start and as a kindergarten, first and third grade teacher.

"I have mentored young people who are in school in D.C., Prince George's County and Montgomery County schools," he said. "I try to connect one on one with young people to help them become better human beings."

Bro. Qualls, 48, is a nationally recognized motivational speaker who seeks to lift up anyone who hears his messages. He also has an inspirational blog that appears on his Facebook page, and that has been going on for six years. His speaking engagements have landed him in some interesting situations.

"I remember when I was asked to be the opening speaker for Daymond John," he said, referring to the "Shark Tank" television star and multimillionaire entrepreneur. "I was so nervous but I did the opener. I had the chance to meet him but it was only for a few seconds because he had to speak."

He has a son, Langston and he is proud of being a product of OLA.

"OLA is not a chapter of popularity but a chapter of purpose," he said. "I am proud to have been 'Brother of the Year' twice, received The Order of the Sphinx once and the Presidential Award once."

Bro. Qualls said one of his mentors in Alpha is Bro. Denny Johnson, who serves as the Assistant Executive Director, Membership Services & Brotherhood Engagement. He said that Bro. Johnson has given him solid advice and counsel in his quest to being a good brother of the fraternity.



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Bro. Rudy Williams, who came to Alpha Phi Alpha through the OLA chapter in the Spring 2017 line, is leaving the United States to further his career.

Bro. Williams is joining the U.S. Air Force's Judge Advocate General's Office (JAG), which is the legal arm of the service. Members of the JAG provide civil and criminal services to Air Force personnel and it is considered a great training ground for a civilian career as an attorney or a powerful stepping stone for one wishes to stay in the military service.

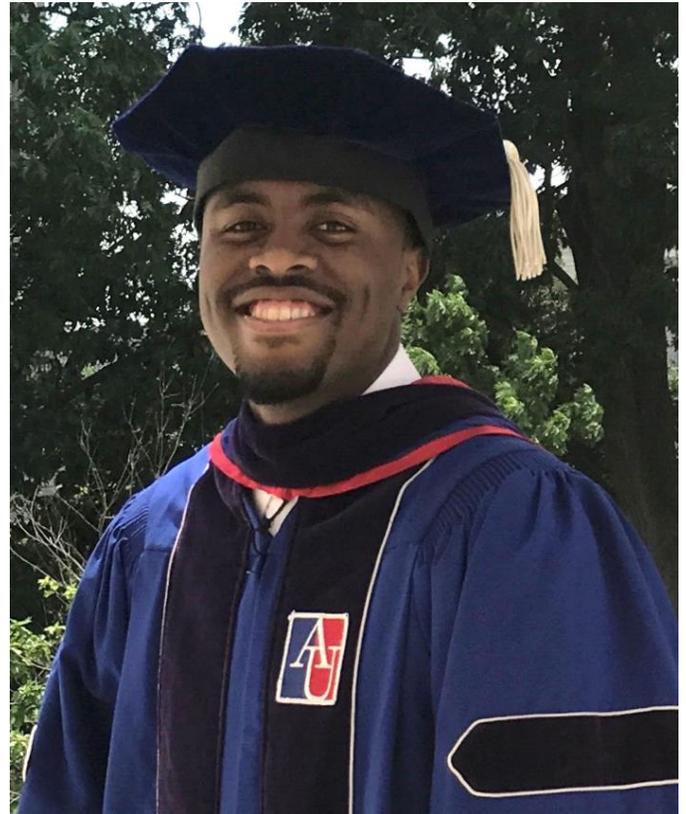
He got his bachelor's degree from George Mason University in 2013 and his juris doctorate from American University School of Law in 2017. He has worked as a law clerk for the prestigious D.C. Public Defender Service, considered the best agency of its kind in the country as well as for Northern Virginia's public defender service, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and the Employment Justice Center. Williams is from Los Angeles, Calif.

He will go through basic training at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala., starting on March 25, 2018. After he finished basic training through Maxwell's officer training school, he will head to Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany.

"When I get to Germany, I will be a first lieutenant and can work my way up to captain in possibly four years," Williams said.

Ramstein is about 120 miles from Frankfurt, a major German city. However, the base is self-containing with recreational activities, social outlets such as a bar and dance hall and a commissary.

Williams will likely find a brother or two because Ramstein has a workforce of 54,000 service and 5,400 civilian employees. So even though Williams will leave OLA, he will still be "In the House."



OΛA Participates in Asbury UMC's Neighbor to Neighbor Breakfast

By Brother James Wright Jr.
OΛA Associate Editor to *The Sphinx*

One of Omicron Lambda Alpha's community service projects is serving breakfast to the homeless residents of Washington, D.C. through Asbury United Methodist Church's Neighbor to Neighbor Breakfast

Each fourth Sunday of the month since September 2017, Alpha brothers of OLA and aspirants of Alpha, have put on gloves and served a diet of eggs, meat, biscuits, with orange juice, tea and coffee. Depending on the weather, the brothers could serve up to 300 people from 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m. in the church's social hall.

In addition, people can receive toiletries and personal items that will be helpful in their daily lives.

Before the people are served, world-renowned surgeon Dr. Clive Callendar, who is a member of Asbury, talks about practicing good health. There is also a medical van outside of the church where people can get their health diagnosed in the form of checking blood pressure and basic body maintenance.

After Dr. Callendar, Asbury Minister Matthew Wilke delivers the spiritual message which is upbeat and God-centered. The program has taken place for over 20 years and groups such as Zeta Phi Beta, Delta Sigma Theta and White House Fellows have served the people. The program is paid for by the church and it is always happy to accept donations of clothing, toiletries and food.

On Dec. 24, 2017, Christmas Eve, a throng of OLA brothers and aspirants showed up to serve the people. Brothers and aspirants brought along friends and family to help serve the people.

Bro. Galen Muhammad has been a mainstay with the program, along with the author of this story. All OLA

brothers and indeed, all brothers of Alpha and their aspirants are welcomed to serve. They can do so by emailing Carlotta Jones, the program coordinator, at serve@asburyumcdc.org.



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