



# THE GATOR SIG



SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

## BREAKING NEWS at Gamma Theta

*Revised Chapter House Plans Approved, Construction Timeline Set!*

Worthy Brothers,

We have reached a milestone in our Gamma Theta capital campaign, and we are excited to report that plans for our chapter house were unanimously approved by your house corporation, with construction scheduled to break ground in spring 2026!

Plan development and permitting will commence this fall, and to ensure success, we have assembled the Jordan Standard Team, a group of distinguished Gamma Theta alumni who are industry leaders in design, construction, development, and finance. Their expertise will help value-engineer our construction plans and keep us on track to complete the house in time for a **fall 2027 move-in date**.

Rising costs, driven by inflation and higher interest rates, have required some adjustments to our original plans from 2020. The projected cost of a ground-up new house build was planned for \$9 million in 2020. In 2025, the cost for those plans increased by over \$5 million, exceeding our current budget. As a result, we are pursuing a hybrid approach that combines new construction with an extensive remodel of the existing structure. This strategy preserves financial sustainability while retaining the planned Collegiate Gothic aesthetic in line with UF's campus.

We are thrilled to share our revised plans and construction schedule that will finally bring this long-awaited project to life! **We are projecting that this new plan will cost approximately \$8.7 million, with \$4.8 million in new debt.** While plans are still being finalized, key features are expected to include:

- An expanded secret chapter room.
- The restoration of our beloved band room.
- A dedicated alumni-only room connected to a courtyard space. Perfect for gathering on game days.



One donor described this vision as “a modern rebuild that preserves the most cherished elements of our chapter house”—a sentiment we fully embrace. With the Jordan Standard Team guiding the process, we are confident in bringing this vision to life for our undergraduate brothers, our alumni brothers, and our future brothers. As we enter this new phase of the campaign, we want to emphasize **it's not too late to make your impact on the future of Gamma Theta**. We have raised approximately \$3.7 million net of expenses, plus an additional \$200,000 from our house corp, but the challenges of COVID and inflation have extended the timeline and increased costs.

**Today, less than 13% of our brotherhood has made a pledge.** Greater participation could reduce the amount we need to borrow and allow us to include vital upgrades to the kitchen, furnishings, HVAC system, and other amenities. **Our goal is to raise an additional \$1 million this fall to cover as much of our plans as possible, but we'll need your help.**

- If you've already given, thank you.
- If you're in a position to increase your pledge, we would be deeply grateful.
- If you haven't yet contributed and would like to see your name recognized alongside your brothers, please visit **ufsigmachicausevox.com** or scan the QR code to make your pledge today.

Importantly, this new plan would not be possible without the support and cooperation of our active brotherhood, who continue to excel.

*(Continued on page 2)*

MAKE YOUR GIFT



SCAN ME

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS, BUILDING FOR 100 MORE

# REVISED CHAPTER HOUSE PLANS APPROVED, CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE SET!

*(Continued from page 1)*

Despite an aging house well past its useful life, our chapter currently:

- Ranks No. 1 in GPA among all UF fraternities (spring 2024), carrying a 3.8 for the spring pledge class and a 3.7 overall GPA.
- Places in the top five in intramural athletics.
- Maintains a top-tier reputation on campus as one of the best fraternities to join.

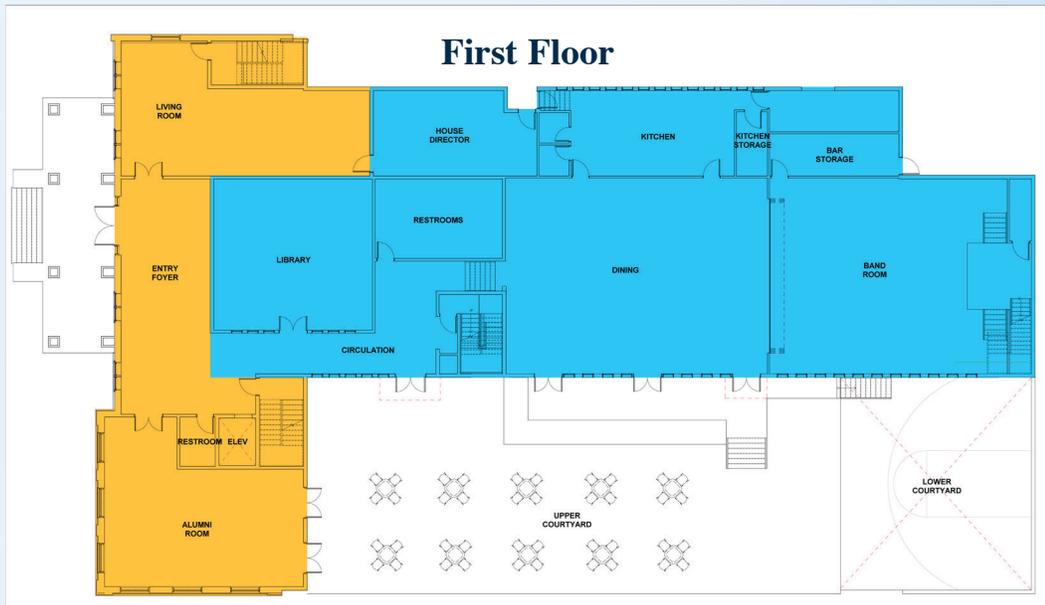
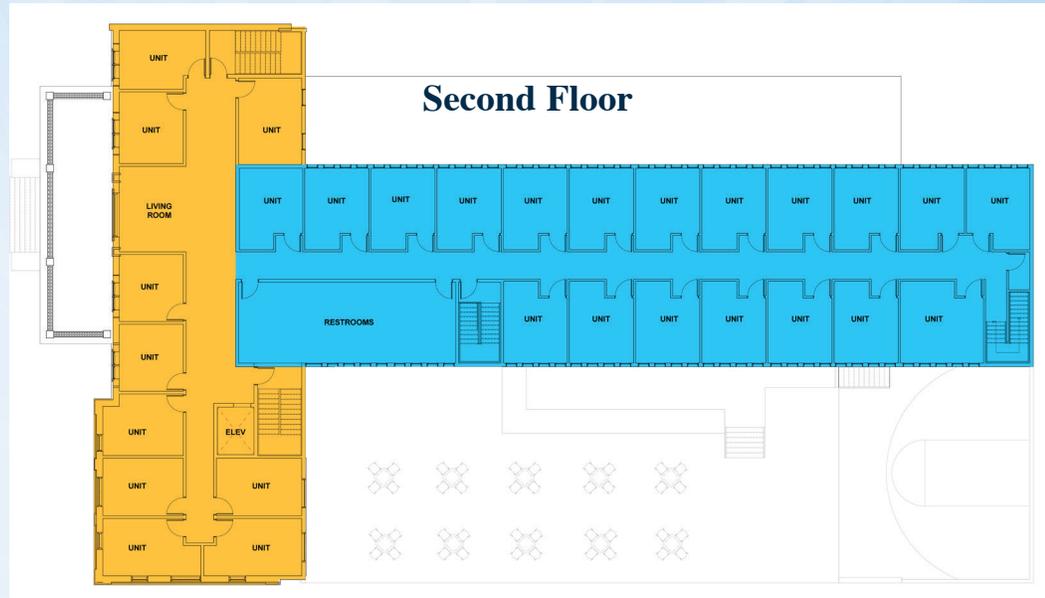
A new chapter home will empower Gamma Theta to remain a leading force—shaping principled leaders who will make their mark in business, medicine, science, government, law, and every field they touch. During construction, the House Corporation will work closely with the active brothers to assist with temporary housing options and provide a meeting space near campus, ensuring that our brotherhood remains strong and connected.

If you would like to stay informed on our progress with the new house as well as upcoming alumni events, please visit [sigmachief.com/alumni/update-your-information](https://sigmachief.com/alumni/update-your-information) or scan the QR code to enter your contact information.



We look forward to sharing more news on our progress as we finalize our plans for permitting and continue our fundraising toward a successful groundbreaking in spring 2026!

- In Hoc,  
Gamma Theta House Corporation  
**Mark Weinberg '97 - President**  
**Jim East '95**  
**Todd Menke '90**  
**John Briggs '67**  
**Bill Olinger '64**  
**Frank Green '64**



New Construction     Existing to Be Renovated

# The Jordan Standard Team

*Leading the New House Renovation/New Build*

The vision for the new Sigma Chi house is being led by the Jordan Standard Team, a dedicated standards committee comprised of distinguished alumni with deep ties to Gamma Theta Chapter and extensive experience in real estate, finance, construction, and architecture.

These brothers have generously volunteered their time and expertise to ensure every phase of this project is executed with integrity, strategic oversight, and a deep respect for our brotherhood's traditions.

United by a shared commitment to honoring our legacy while building for the future, the committee is overseeing all aspects of the design and development process, including site planning, budgeting, architectural vision, and construction management.

Pictured here are the alumni leading this initiative. In addition to these leaders, several other brothers have been invited to contribute their time and talents, uniting multiple generations of Sigma Chis around a common goal: to construct an enduring home that reflects our values and meets our chapter's needs for generations to come.

Thanks to their leadership, this project is more than just a construction effort; it is a tribute to our past and an investment in the future of Gamma Theta.



**Todd Menke**  
*Managing Partner*  
 GenMark Property Group  
 Pledge Class –  
 Fall 1986



**John Briggs**  
*Construction Attorney*  
 Pledge Class –  
 Fall 1962



**Mark Weinberg**  
*Executive Director*  
 J.P. Morgan  
 Pledge Class –  
 Spring 1994



**Jim Ellspermann**  
*Regional Vice President*  
 Brasfield and Gorrie  
 Pledge Class –  
 Spring 1992



**Paul Ellis**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
 Foundry Commercial  
 Pledge Class –  
 Fall 1985

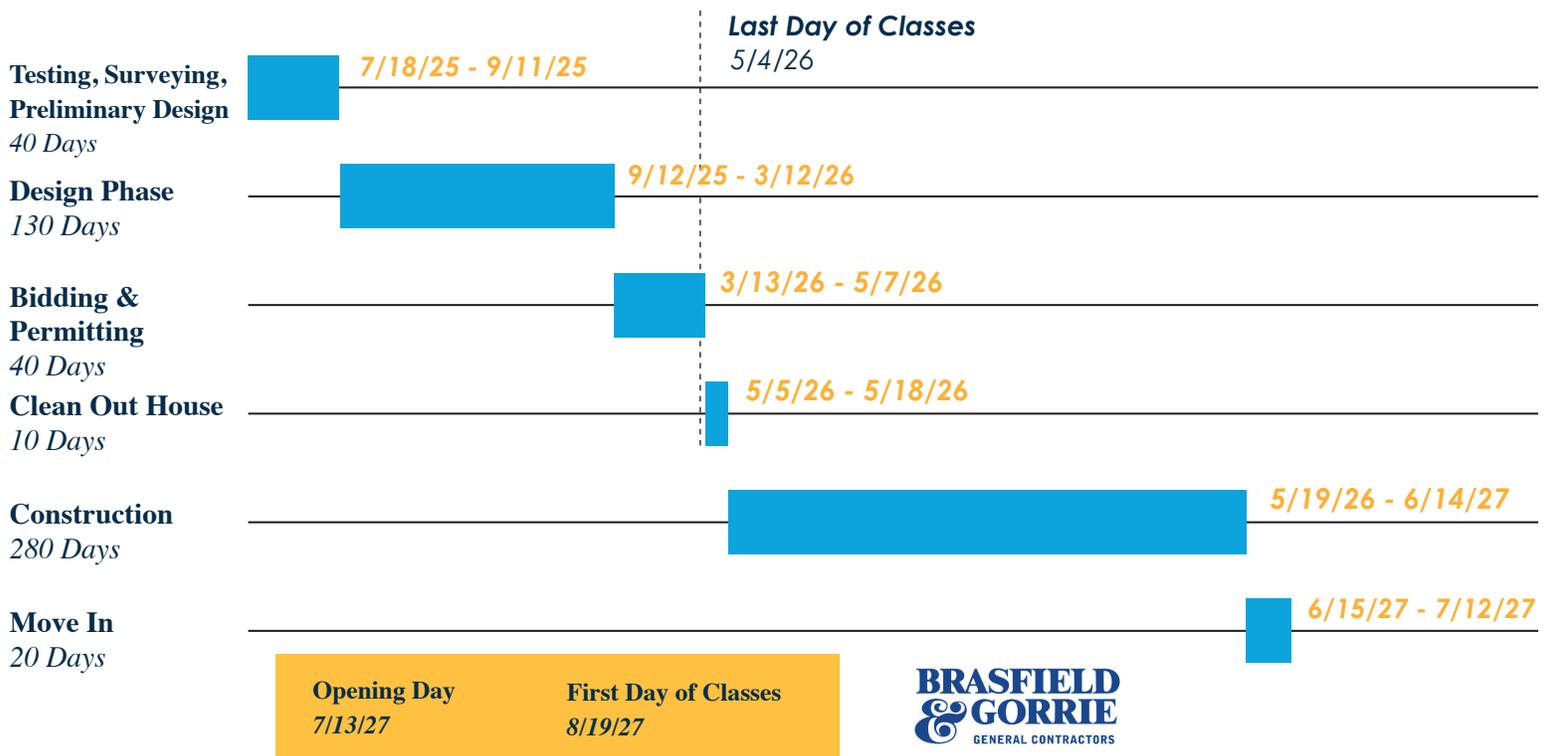


**Travis Vickers**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
 Vickers Design Group  
 Pledge Class –  
 Spring 1992

## Construction Schedule

July 2025

August 2027



# BREAKING NEWS!

See updated design plans, new construction timeline, and more inside.

Don't wait to support the *Celebrating 100 Years - Building 100 More* campaign! Make your pledge at [ufsigmachi.causevox.com](http://ufsigmachi.causevox.com) today!



## THE GATOR SIG



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## A Century of Brotherhood, A Legacy for the Future

*Thank You, Jimmy and George!*

Last fall marked a significant milestone for Gamma Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi at the University of Florida—the celebration of our 100th anniversary. Reflecting on a century filled with brotherhood, tradition, and impact, we also set our sights on an ambitious future. The diligent leadership of two esteemed alumni, **George Stuart '68** and **Jimmy Springer '93**, has greatly contributed to this vision.

As co-chairmen of our capital campaign, George and Jimmy played pivotal roles in surpassing our ambitious \$4 million fundraising goal.

George was instrumental in establishing the Gamma Theta Foundation, which now functions as both a communications hub and a long-term fundraising entity, supporting our chapter rebuild, future projects, and scholarships for upcoming generations of Gamma Thetas.

Jimmy was pivotal in enhancing Gamma Theta's online presence, raising awareness and support for a new chapter house, expanding scholarship and leadership opportunities, and providing consistent updates on the undergraduate brotherhood. His efforts culminated in the creation of the Gamma Theta LinkedIn group, which, with nearly 700 participants, is now the largest LinkedIn group affiliated with any Sigma Chi chapter nationwide.

On behalf of the entire brotherhood, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to George and Jimmy for their purposeful and passionate leadership, laying the foundation for the next hundred years.



*Jimmy Springer '93 and George Stuart '68*