

!Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
Omega Iota Zeta Chapter
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**Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Honors Local Co-Founder of Crossroads Academy of Kansas City
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Kansas City, MO – At its annual joint Founders’ Day Luncheon with Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Omega Iota Zeta Chapter honored one of its own, Tysie McDowell-Ray as Chapter Member of the Year. Tysie McDowell-Ray was born and raised in Davenport, Iowa. She graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.A. in Elementary Education and a minor in African World Studies. In August 2011, Crossroads Academy was born. With Co-Founder Dean Johnson, Tysie McDowell-Ray brought the dream of superior education to urban Kansas City to life. As the co-founder and Principal of Crossroads Academy, her mission and vision for the birth and success of students in the Kansas City urban core embodies the spirit of the founding members and principles of Zeta Phi Beta: Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood, and Finer Womanhood. Ms. McDowell-Ray is married to Albert Ray and has two children. They reside in Kansas City, Missouri. She was initiated into Zeta Phi Beta while a matriculating student at the University of Iowa, Pi Kappa Chapter. Omega Iota Zeta Chapter President Melissa Jones presented the award before more than 150 guests in attendance stating proudly “She is a daughter, sister, wife, and mother. For her dedication and commitment to superior education for our children, we salute her and are proud to select her as our Chapter Member of the Year.”

About Crossroads Academy

Crossroads Academy of Kansas City is a tuition-free charter school located in Downtown Kansas City, Missouri. It is the mission of Crossroads Academy of Kansas City to prepare students to excel in high school by providing an academically rigorous K-8 education. It is the vision of Crossroads Academy of Kansas City to be the premier urban school serving Kansas City’s youth and a destination for other educators seeking inspiration and best practices. Crossroads opened in 2012 with 190 students in grades K-5 and will eventually grow to serve 370 students in grades K-8. Graduates of Crossroads Academy will be scholarly, culturally literate and service- oriented individuals who will pursue their dreams relentlessly and have a positive impact on their family, their community and the world. For more information visit www.crossroadsacademykc.org

About Omega Iota Zeta

Kansas City, Missouri is home to the Omega Iota Zeta Graduate Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. The mission of Omega Iota Zeta Chapter is to enhance the quality of life for the residents in the Kansas City, Missouri and its surrounding areas. We will endeavor to promote and implement the programmatic thrust of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., which include service, charity, civil and cultural endeavors, while promoting the ideals of Scholarship, Service, Sisterhood, and Finer Womanhood while ultimately increasing visibility of Zeta in the Kansas City Metropolitan area. We will ensure that our conduct is a true representation of Christian character and class and dignity, that of our beloved sisterhood. For more information on Omega Iota Zeta Chapter visit their website at www.zpb1920oiz.org.

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