



Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
3951 Snapfinger Parkway Decatur, GA 30035
Telephone: (404) 284-5533 Fax: (404) 284-0333
www.oppf.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND BASILEUS



For Immediate Release:

Shaquille O'Neal has been a fierce, overpowering and dominating presence on and off the basketball court.

O'Neal's accomplishments on the hard court were legendary: four-time NBA champion; 2015 Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame inductee; 15-time NBA All Star; NBA Most Valuable Player recipient and NBA rookie of the year.

Yet, off the court, O'Neal has earned a Ph.D. and has used his influence and has donated countless dollars and time to efforts that benefit and uplift his community. The Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Feed the Children are among them.

For those reasons and many others, O'Neal will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. The ceremony takes place at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 29, 2018, at the Omega World Center, 3951 Snapfinger Parkway, Decatur, Georgia.

"Brother O'Neal represents the living embodiment of our Cardinal Principle: uplift," said David Marion, the international president or Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi. "Brother O'Neal has partnered with the fraternity on a number of community endeavors, most notably 'Feed the Children,' which provides nutritious meals and other services to worthy families in our community."

"Shaq has never wavered or hesitated to come to the aid of others in need, often without seeking the attention afforded to someone of his celebrity status," Marion said.

For the past 24 years, O'Neal has sponsored "Shaq-A-Claus," which was launched by his mother and has delivered thousands of toys, clothing and educational tools to children and families in need during the Christmas holidays.

His relationship with the Boys & Girls Club of America dates back to his youth growing up in New Jersey.

During his playing days, O'Neal called himself "the Big Aristotle." sports journalists who covered the NBA gave O'Neal several nicknames including "Shaq," "The Diesel," "Shaq Fu" and "The Big Daddy."

In addition, O'Neal finished his stellar NBA career with several statistical achievements including being seventh all-time in points scored, fifth in field goals, thirteenth in rebounds, and seventh in block shots.

O'Neal was initiated into the fraternity on December 7, 1995, through Chi Tau Chapter in Orlando, Florida. He is a life member of the fraternity.

Since the end of his playing days, O'Neal is currently an in-studio commentator for Inside the NBA on TNT. In addition, O'Neal has released four rap albums and he has appeared in numerous films and has starred in his own reality television shows.

"Community service has always been at the core of everything he does," said Mark Stevens, chairman of Omega Psi Phi's International Sports and Entertainment Committee. "He has protected, celebrated and enhanced the rich heritage of Omega and consistently strives to be the best Omega man he can be."

For more information about the ceremony, contact Lamar D. Williams, lamardwilliams@me.com or call 678.595.0139.