

Audrae Helen Hudson-Tavares Adams

Alpha Chapter 1927

Howard University

Diamond Member 2002

Ivy Beyond the Wall November 23, 2009



Audrae Hudson-Tavares Adam's parents, Charles Federico and Alberta Hudson-Tavares lived in Guanajuato, Mexico. They traveled to Denver, Colorado for her birth on December 21, 1906, so she would be born in the United States. Her family returned to Mexico while Audrae was still an infant. She completed elementary and middle school in Mexico during the revolution years, but her father wanted her to attend high school in his homeland, Jamaica, which in 1919 was part of the British West Indies. After graduating from a strict boarding school in Jamaica, she enrolled in Howard University in Washington, D.C. She graduated cum laude in 1930.

Attending Howard University in 1926 was Audrae's first experience in the United States. She had never heard of sororities, but something prompted a desire in her to become a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Her preparation to become a member of AKA was a very serious and rewarding experience. She was initiated in the spring of 1927. She served as treasurer her junior year and as president her senior year. In June of 1930, a skit she had written in French was published in the Ivy Leaf, the official magazine of the sorority. Audrae had the privilege of knowing Lucy D. Slowe, one of the Alpha Kappa Alpha founders and the Dean of Women at Howard. She also met member Bobbye Scott and founders, Ethel Hedgeman Lyle and Norma Boyd.

In 1933, Audrae earned her master's degree in French from Columbia University in New York City. Returning home after graduating from Columbia, Audrae decided that she wanted to teach languages in the United States. She applied to several schools and St. Philip's College was the first to respond. She moved to San Antonio in 1934 to begin her teaching career at St. Philip's. She worked there for a year teaching Spanish, English and religious education and served as the secretary for Miss Artemesia Bowden, the inspiration and founder of St. Philip's College.

In 1935, Audrae was employed by the San Antonio Independent School District. She taught ten years at Douglass Junior High, twenty-five years at the former Phyllis Wheatley High School, and two years at Fox Tech. She taught several summers at Prairie View University and Wiley College. Also, in 1935, Audrae married Bernard A. Adam, they had two daughters, Sylvia Adams and Hudson Tavares (formerly Monica E. Adams).

Audrae became a member of Alpha Tau Omega chapter in 1935. She remembered the warm greetings from members of the four-year old chapter. She became a member of the chapter under president, Bettye S. Brown. During her tenure with Alpha Tau Omega chapter, Audrae became Silver, Golden, and finally the highest honor of all, a Diamond Soror in 2002. She was the first member of Alpha Tau Omega be entitled with such an honor. Audrae counted it a joy and a privilege to have worked and been part of the many contributions and services rendered by Alpha Tau Omega Chapter.