



# Eta Sigma Alpha

NATIONAL HOMESCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY

## About ETA

Eta Sigma Alpha is the first honor society established exclusively for homeschooled students in Grades 9-12. Founded in 1999 by Joanne E. Juren, M.Ed., Executive Director of the Home Education Partnership of Texas Inc., it has grown into a national organization.

As a former public school administrator, Juren contacted the National Honor Society with the intent of forming a homeschool chapter for her sons and others in a local support group in 1997. When told that NHS did not accept homeschool students, Juren decided to start a new honor society for homeschoolers. Over the next two years, the idea for Eta Sigma Alpha was refined and the "Alpha" chapter was started in 1999, through the Home Education Partnership of Texas Inc. Barbara Gorman served as the first lead sponsor along with Joanne Juren and Terry Arnold as co-sponsors.

## History of the Name

Eta, the Greek letter that is shaped like an "h" and Sigma, the letter for "s" were chosen, along with Alpha, the first letter of the Greek alphabet to create the name of Eta Sigma Alpha. Eta Sigma Alpha means the "first home school" honor society.

## Mission Statement

"The purpose of Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among home school students. To achieve this purpose, Eta Sigma Alpha National Home School Honor Society shall provide opportunities for the development of leadership and service. Eta Sigma Alpha shall encourage the development of an intellectual climate that will stimulate the exchange of ideas and ideals, foster scholarship, and promote academic excellence. Eta Sigma Alpha shall also advocate homeschooling as a viable and successful educational methodology and act as a liaison for homeschooling to the general public, colleges/universities, and the media."