

# MSUM TRIOTA

## Women's Studies National Honor Society



### MSUM Triota History

The MSUM Chapter of TRIOTA was established in Spring 2006. The first six members were inducted in May 2006 at the Women's Studies Graduation Ceremony. Membership in Triota is open year-round (see process below). The induction ceremony is held each May (See other side for National TRIOTA History).

### Purpose

TRIOTA (Iota Iota Iota) is a national academic honor society for the field of women's studies. The purpose of this organization is to encourage and support scholarship and excellence in women's studies.

Triota strives to maintain feminist values central to women's studies: egalitarianism, inclusiveness, and celebration of the diversity of women's experiences. Triota is currently functioning as a national coalition of student clubs organized and recognized at the institutional level.

Triota also works to enhance the experience of students in Women's Studies as well as recognizing their academic achievements. Triota's mission is one of service to other women's studies students.

### Scholarship Opportunities

For students active in Women's Studies there are scholarship opportunities, as well as the opportunity to earn a letter of recognition in Women's Studies.

### Requirements

- GPA of 3.4 or above in women's studies courses
- Have taken at least 6 credit hours in women's studies

### Membership

Please fill out application and return it along with a copy of your *transcript* to the Minnesota State University Women's Studies Department, Triota, MA271N, 1104 7th Ave S, Moorhead, MN 56561. For further information please contact Professor Laurie Blunsom at [womensstu@mnstate.edu](mailto:womensstu@mnstate.edu). 218-477-4606.

# Triota History

Triota was created in 1992, at the Metropolitan State College of Denver. Triota is named for the ancient goddesses Inanna, Ishtar, and Isis.

*Inanna* was one of the primary deities of Sumer, a civilization that flourished from around 3500 BCE to 2500 BCE. She was known as the queen of the land, the source of the earth's life blood. According to some stories, she renewed her virginity each year by descending into the underworld. Mary Daly, who has reinterpreted many words referring to women, suggests that a virgin may be thought of as a wild, lusty, unsubdued woman.

*Ishtar* was the great goddess of Babylonia, a civilization located in the south of present-day Iraq from around 1800 to 1000 BCE. Ishtar - or Star - was the Light of the World, the Lawgiver, the Queen of all Men. Mary Daly might call her the Audacious Truthsayer: unafraid, naming the problems, boldly telling the Truth.

*Isis* was the primary goddess of ancient Egypt, beginning around 3000 BCE. Worship of Isis lasted well into the first millenium of the Christian Era, and many believe she became identified with Christianity's virgin mother Mary. Isis was the goddess from whom all else arose - the Creator, the Giver of Life, the Mother-of All.

"Feminism is the radical notion that women are people."

—Cheris Kramarae and Paula Treichler