



PHI THETA KAPPA
HONOR SOCIETY

Candidate Questionnaire: Getting to Know You

*Please complete this questionnaire. Answers should be brief.
Responses will appear unedited on Phi Theta Kappa's Catalyst website.*

Candidate for (highlight ONE):

- International President
- Division I Vice President
- Division II Vice President
- Division III Vice President
- Division IV Vice President

Your Name: Andrea Pizarro

1. What is your college major?

Business Administration, Accounting, Management, and Marketing.

2. What is your ultimate career goal?

Upon completing my bachelor's degree in business administration, one of my primary objectives is to establish my own dance academy. Dancing represents a significant passion in my life, and I aspire to create a space dedicated to teaching and preserving Peruvian dance traditions. In addition to dancing, baking is another personal passion, particularly creating traditional Peruvian treats such as "Alfajores." After acquiring the requisite education and experience, I plan to launch a bakery specializing in these authentic Peruvian desserts.

3. What was your primary reason for accepting PTK membership?

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) came into my life at an important moment. I had recently arrived in the country, and my main reason for joining was to improve my English through public speaking opportunities. I knew that developing better communication skills would not only benefit me academically but also enable me to contribute more to my community. PTK gave me a space to practice English while connecting with others who shared my interest in service. It was the perfect fit, a place where I could grow personally while helping others.

4. What's your go-to "fun fact" during an icebreaker?

My go-to fun fact is that I performed as Anna from Frozen in a theater production. This experience combined my love for performing with the joy of bringing a beloved character to life on stage. Theater taught me a lot about confidence, teamwork, and connecting with an audience, skills that have helped me in many areas of my life. It is always a great conversation starter because people are curious about what it is like to step into such an iconic role, and I enjoy sharing stories from that experience.

5. If you could thank your past self for one decision, what would it be?

Leaving Peru will always be a painful memory in my life. At first, I honestly thought my life was ruined. But if I could go back in time, I would thank my past self and tell her: Thank you for taking that plane. Thank you for deciding to move forward even when it felt impossible, even when fear and sadness made it hard to breathe. If it were not for that decision, I would not be here right now, and I would have missed so many opportunities that have profoundly changed my life.

6. What's a small, everyday thing that brings you joy?

When it comes to dancing, I feel free. There are many things I had to leave behind after moving to a new country, but dancing is something that has never left me. I cannot put into words the emotions I feel when I dance. It helps me release stress, express my feelings, and reminds me of where I come from. It is a small part of my everyday life that brings me immense joy and keeps me connected to who I am.

7. If you could instantly master a random skill (tightrope walking, speaking fluent whale), what would it be and why?

If I could instantly master a random skill, it would be duplicating myself. One thing that really defines me is that I am always involved in way too many things at once. I love helping, and no matter how many times I tell myself, "No more commitments," I always end up saying yes to something new. If I could clone myself, it would be a total game-changer. I cannot even count how many times I have caught myself thinking, "I wish there were two Andreas right now!" It would solve so many of my problems.

8. What's your go-to hype song when you want to feel unstoppable?

"José Antonio" is my go-to song when I want to feel unstoppable because it connects me deeply to my culture and reminds me of who I am and where I come from. It is a marinera, which is a traditional Peruvian music and dance style that represents elegance, pride, and cultural identity. Even though it is not a typical hype song, it gives me calm, confident strength and a sense of pride that keeps me grounded. Listening to it makes me feel secure in my identity and motivated to keep moving forward with confidence.

9. What's your favorite way to recharge when you're running on empty?

When I am running on empty, my favorite way to recharge is making alfajores. These delicate Peruvian cookies have this incredible way of lifting my spirits and taking me back home, even if just for a few minutes. Whether I am stressed, tired, or overwhelmed, baking these dulce de leche-filled treats instantly helps me relax and reminds me of the good things in life. It is like a reset button that never fails to work.

10. What's your favorite tradition – family, personal, or something you invented?

I have so many favorite traditions, but if I had to choose one, it would be Fiestas Patrias, Peru's Independence Day celebration, in late July. It is more than just a holiday; it is nearly a week of parades, traditional music and dance, and incredible Peruvian food like ceviche. There is something special about this time of year that fills me with pride and nostalgia. Streets are decorated in red and white, families gather, and there is a powerful sense of community as everyone celebrates our culture and heritage together.