

# SIGMA ALPHA IOTA

## INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER

*"Vita Brevis, Ars Longa"*



## S.A.I. DISTINGUISHED MEMBER PREPARES TO TRAVEL THE UNITED STATES



To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Lincoln Highway, America's first cross-country road, singer, composer and SAI Friend of the Arts Cecelia "Cece" Otto will travel the road in a "singing travelogue."

Cece will travel through fourteen states, from New York to California, singing a mix of opera, operetta and vaudeville songs along the way.

The project's name, "American Songline," is derived from the Songlines of Aboriginal Australia.

"I learned that Aborigines follow ancestral trails when they go on Walkabout," Cece says.

"As they follow these paths, they sing their ancestors back into existence. These trails are called Songlines. I thought about our roads here in America, how they are built on top of old Native American trails and old pioneer trails. I wanted to bring that tradition here to America- to create an American Songline, something that would reach back to our own ancestors and reflect how they once lived and how they entertained each other."

In keeping with the spirit of early car travel in America — when motels were few and far between and people relied on each other in a pinch — Cece is calling on local assistance to make her

project a success: she is staying with friends and supporters on the route and all performances will be with local musicians in each community.

Cece is asking for all the help she can get to make her project a success, and that's where she hopes Sigma Alpha Iota sisters can come in!

If you or someone you know lives near the Lincoln Highway (Here's a link to the route: <http://www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/map/>), Cece is looking for assistance and advice for the following things:

- Finding small concert venues
- Places to stay

- Musicians to accompany her
- Monetary assistance
- Word of mouth advertising/PR

And most important: come to a concert! The more people show up and communities contribute to this project, the more successful American Songline will be. If you can give Cece help in any of these areas, drop her a line and let her know.

You can email Cece at [info@americansongline.net](mailto:info@americansongline.net) and find out more about American Songline by visiting: <http://americansongline.net>.

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Photo by Mike Smith, Photographic Services Intl.