

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

# Southern gazette



## Elected and Appointed Regional Officers and Positions

**Cheryl W. Turner**

23rd Southern Regional Director

**Manica Pierrette**

22nd Southern Regional Representative

**Sandra K. Horton**

Member,  
National Scholarship and Standards Committee

**Vernandi R. Greene**

Member, National Nominating Committee

**Deidre K. Perry**

Chair, Regional Nominating Committee

**Katryna Lowery Ellis**

Member, Regional Nominating Committee

**Terri M. Hall, Ed.S.**

Member, Regional Nominating Committee

**Deborah Robinson Herring**

Member, Regional Nominating Committee

**Janaé Ebony Steele**

Collegiate Member,  
Regional Nominating Committee

**Denise Griffin**

Regional Secretary

**Daphne Higgins**

Assistant Regional Secretary

**Rev. Janae Pitts-Murdock**

Regional Chaplain

**Kanika McKerson**

Regional Journalist

**Stephanie Maxwell**

Assistant Regional Journalist

**Kathryn V. Stanley**

Assistant Regional Journalist

**Jazmyne Butler**

Assistant Regional Journalist

**Yasmin K. Harrell**

Assistant Regional Journalist

**C.M. Lewis**

Regional Compliance Officer

**Rosalind Short**

Regional Emergency Response Coordinator

**Jeanella Fuller Pendleton**

Regional Program Planning Chair

**Donna Bowman**

Regional Social Action Chair



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The **Southern Gazette** is the publication of the Southern Region of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. For submission guidelines please refer to page 72.

## Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location
January 1, 2013	Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade	Pasadena, CA
January 1, 2013	Hollywood Gala	Hollywood, CA
January 10 - 13, 2013	Founders Day Weekend	Washington, D.C.
March 1 -5, 2013	Delta Days in the Nation's Capital Women's Suffrage March Re-Enactment	Washington, D.C.
July 11 - 17, 2013	51st National Convention	Washington, D.C.

## Southern Region Council of Chaplains Prayer Call

Wednesdays 11:30am CST/12:30pm EST  
 Call in: (760) 984-1000  
 Passcode: 152747#

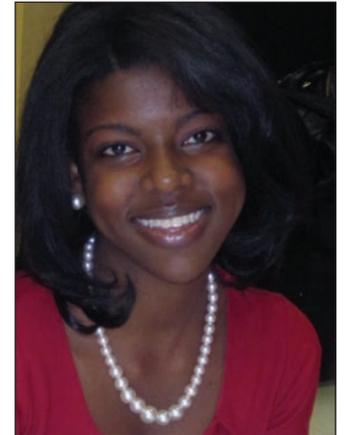
Submit prayer requests in advance to  
[chaplain@dstsouthernregion.com](mailto:chaplain@dstsouthernregion.com).



## Southern Regional Chaplain's Meditation & Inspiration Line

24 hours - 7 days  
 Call in: (760) 984-1099  
 Passcode: 152747#

## Message from the Regional Director and Regional Representative



Greetings to our Sisters of the Southern Region:

Time can go by so fast but yet, it can hold everlasting memories, I cannot think of a better sentiment to describe the past year that Manica Pierrette and I have shared while serving as the Regional Representative and Regional Director of the Dynamic Southern Region.

The past year has blessed us with the opportunity to represent members from the great states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, and the Bahamas. We have also met sisters from around the world as we travel and fellowship beyond the Southern Region in the name of our illustrious sisterhood, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

During this past year, we have seen many changes in Delta, and we are embarking upon the biggest change that our sisterhood will experience this century – our 100th anniversary! If our founders were here to witness this celebration, they would probably ask - where has the time gone?

The answer to that question can have many responses. However, for all who wear the symbols of Delta Sigma Theta, the past 100 years have been an evolution of everlasting memories. We ask that you remember the spirit of the “22” who marched for equality, who spoke out against injustice, and who organized to better serve all humankind. We want you to encourage our sisters to reach out to Deltas everywhere in an effort to **RECLAIM, RETRAIN and RETAIN** the most valuable resource we have - our members. Now is that time!

2013 marks the year that Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., an organization committed to scholarship, sisterhood and service, will celebrate its 100th year of active existence. We are proud of the rich legacy we have, and are excited to enhance and advance our mission for the next 100 years.

Manica and I look forward to seeing all of our sisters of the Southern Region come together in celebration of 100 years of sisterhood. We are embarking upon a new era with an enthusiasm that cannot be curbed. We are creating a new moment in time and building upon everlasting memories.

We know that this time will not last forever, so we don't want any of our sisters to miss it. We are, after all, a sisterhood of college educated women who embrace change and celebrate service. We are Delta women, and our time is now!

*Cheryl Turner*

Cheryl Turner  
 Southern Regional Director

*Manica Pierrette*

Manica Pierrette  
 Southern Regional Representative

*Sorors Join Morehouse College in a "Hats On"  
Tribute To Dr. Dorothy Height's 100th Birthday*



On March 22, 2012, a barrage of sorors donned in bright colors (including red, of course) and matching hats flooded the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel of Morehouse College to mark what would have been the 100th Birthday of Dr. Dorothy Irene Height. This special Crown Forum, also attended by students, faculty and community members, featured a rousing speech by National President, Dr. Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre, and the unveiling of a portrait of Dr. Height, wearing a hat of her own. The portrait will join others in the International Hall of Honor (also in the chapel), which houses the world's largest oil portrait gallery of civil and human rights leaders.

After leaving the Forum, sorors and other celebrants proceeded to the College's Executive Center for a Hats Salute Luncheon in Dr. Height's honor. The beautiful hat-shaped cakes, paying homage to Dr. Height's signature accessory, doubled as centerpieces. Luncheon program participants included Soror Mona Humphries Bailey, 17th National President, who offered

a tribute titled, "Dr. Dorothy I. Height: Leader-Scholar-Grand Lady" and Soror T. Renee Crutcher, who gave a musical tribute.

Young people were also showcased prominently during the luncheon program. Young ladies from the Dorothy Height Leadership Academy at Atlanta's Benjamin E. Mays High School, and students from Spelman and Morehouse Colleges were among those honoring Soror Height. Morehouse students from the Chinese Studies Program recited a poem titled, "To Dr. Dorothy Height" in Chinese.

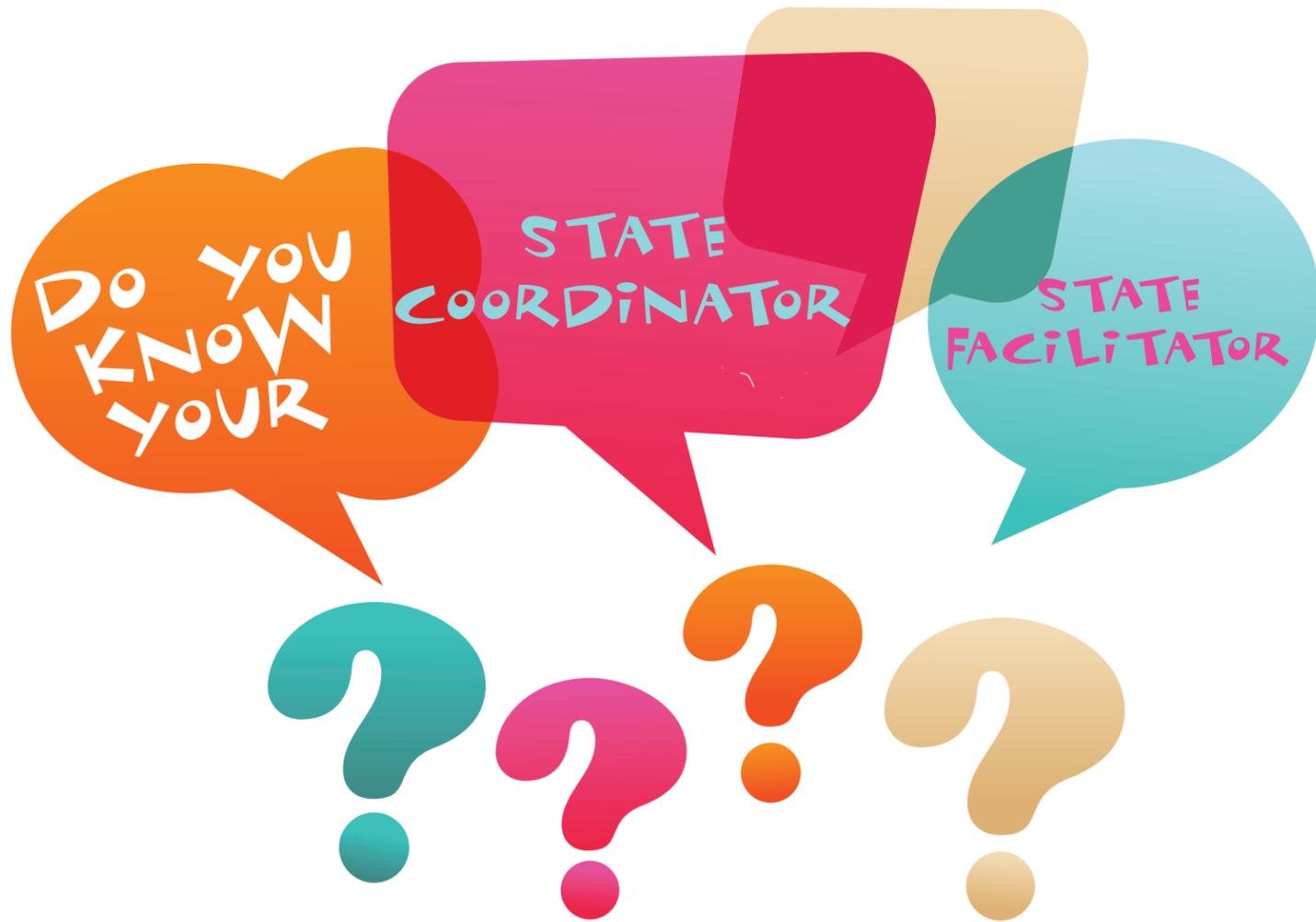
As a lasting tribute to Dr. Height's legacy, Morehouse College has established the Dorothy I. Height Scholarship Fund, to benefit students at the College. Event organizer, Soror Fran Phillips-Calhoun, chief of staff, Office of the President, encourages sorors to donate to the scholarship fund.

Contributions may be sent to the following: Dorothy I. Height Scholarship Fund, c/o Morehouse College  
830 Westview Drive SW, Atlanta, GA 30314

*In Loving Memory  
Soror Clemmie Webber*

*Past Southern Regional Director  
1946 - 1952*





**TaMyra Robinson**



**Jasmyne Watts**

**Note:** We would like to thank **Soror TaMyra Robinson**, previous Alabama Facilitator, and **Soror Jasmyne Watts**, previous North Georgia Facilitator for all of their hard work and dedication to the Southern Region. Soror Robinson relocated to Fort Worth, TX where she works as a Multi Function Financial Analyst at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company. Soror Watts is pursuing her Masters of Public Health Care Organization and Policy at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



**Joy Foster**  
Alabama Coordinator



**Naura Guillame**  
Alabama Facilitator



**Myra Mitchell**  
Bahamas Coordinator



**Amaris Johnson**  
North Florida Coordinator



**Felicity Price**  
North Florida Facilitator



**Joanell Lawson**  
South Florida Coordinator



**Adekemi Akiwole**  
South Florida Facilitator



**Patsy Pattman**  
North Georgia Coordinator



**Tierannye Moore**  
North Georgia Facilitator



**Dr. Lillie D. Ward**  
South Georgia Coordinator



**Jasmine Bowers**  
South Georgia Facilitator



**Rosie King**  
Mississippi Coordinator



**Palara Grant**  
Mississippi Facilitator



**Sandra Cannon**  
Tennessee Coordinator



**Cecily Rivers**  
Tennessee Facilitator



## *Alabama Delta Day at the State Capitol*



The **Montgomery Alumnae Chapter** hosted a successful statewide Delta Day at the Capitol (DDAC). 158 sorors registered, including 20 undergraduates, representing 21 chapters from across the state of Alabama. Attendees included a number of sorors who hold seats in the Alabama Legislature: Dr. Yvonne Kennedy, past National President; the Honorable Laura Hall, Social Action Commissioner, the Honorable Linda Coleman, the Honorable Mary Moore, and the Honorable Peblin Warren, all of whom served as honorary co-chairs. Soror Deborah Anthony served as overall chair of the event.

In addition to visiting state legislators to be heard on issues related to voter suppression, education, jobs and health care, the day's activities included an address by Alabama Lt. Governor Kay Ivey, and health screenings, sponsored in conjunction with the Community Care Network and Project H.E.L.P. MRC.

Another highlight of the day was The Dr. Yvonne Kennedy Servant Leadership Social Action luncheon where community leaders were recognized. Honorees were Dora G. Simpson, Mobile Alumnae; Terrian Hicks, Huntsville Alumnae; Deborah P. Anthony, Montgomery Alumnae; Whitney Hollinger, Spring Hill College, Iota Nu Chapter; Maya McKenzie, Alabama State University, Beta Eta Chapter; Leah Graves, Miles



College, Eta Nu Chapter; and Dr. Yvette Richardson, Alabama State Board of Education. Christy Hayes, Esq. and Rochelle A. Conley received certificates of appreciation for their commitment to Social Action. Alabama Power, a corporate sponsor, was presented a plaque. Guest speaker, Dr. Gregory Graves, Executive Secretary of the Alabama Education Association discussed the issue of charter schools and the overall educational health of the state.

For its commitment to service and successful execution of Delta Days, Soror Tamara S. Cofield, chapter president accepted a resolution from the House of Representatives on behalf of the Montgomery Alumnae Chapter.

## Georgia Delta Days at the State Capitol



Delta Days at the Georgia State Capitol was held on February 26-27, 2012 in Atlanta, Georgia. The event provided a fitting conclusion to an exciting State Cluster and Founders Day weekend. Sorors attended in record numbers, totaling over 400.

The two-day event featured an orientation which assisted the sorors in learning the tools of effective advocacy and about the legislative process, and several workshops ranging from tips on running for office to a session on domestic violence, which included a tribute to victims. Day one concluded with a town hall meeting on voter protection moderated by Social Action Commissioner Janice Mathis.

On day two, the 2nd Annual Georganna Sinkfield Servant Leadership Social Action Breakfast was held, during which legislators in each of the five-point programmatic thrust categories were honored, and trailblazer awards were given to sorors who have made significant contributions. The Honorable Rose Sanders, the first African-American female judge in the state of Alabama, was the keynote speaker.

The beautiful ladies in red concluded the day with presentations to both the Georgia House of Representatives and the Senate and meetings with their legislators to discuss Delta's legislative agenda.

## Mississippi Delta Day at the State Capitol



**Jackson (MS) Alumnae Chapter** hosted the Annual Delta Day at the Mississippi State Capitol on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, embracing the sorority's national theme, "Advocacy Through Action: A Stronger Voice, A Stronger Presence." Rep. Adrienne Wooten, a member of the Jackson (MS) Alumnae Chapter and representative of District 71 (which includes Hinds and Rankin counties) arranged the 2012 Delta Day at the Capitol and presented a resolution in the House recognizing the sorority.

Soror Wooten stated, "Delta Day at the Capitol is important because anybody's presence here makes a difference. It's a way to ensure that issues that are taken up

by the sorority are in the public eye and are considered in the law-making process. Everybody is someone's constituent, and our lawmakers have to take that into consideration; we have to hear from you." Wooten also urged Deltas across the state to continue to be actively involved or to become so in the political and legislative issues impacting their communities. She suggested that community forums, constant contact with senators and representatives, determining which bills are being considered in the legislature and voicing our concerns as effective means to impact legislative decision making.

In lieu of a luncheon, a legislative meet and greet



reception was held to give sorority members an opportunity to interact with legislators and discuss issues and bills that impact the community. During the reception, Senator Willie Simmons (District 13) who chairs the Appropriations Committee, introduced the representatives and senators in attendance and provided an update of legislative actions taking place at the Capitol. He encouraged the sorority to continue to be visible and involved, to link with other organizations, to bring forth an agenda of issues, and to hold legislators accountable for their law-making decisions and actions.

## Tennessee Delta Days at the State Capitol

Music City U.S.A. rolled out the “Red Carpet” to sorors for its Tennessee Cluster and Delta Days at the Capitol held March 23 - 27, 2012. Workshops and forums were held to gather and discuss topics that impact the world and to develop and implement plans of action to make a difference in society. Economic, educational, health and domestic violence forums were held with subject matter experts sharing invaluable information on the topics.

The power-packed days featured two public events. On March 24, 2012, a dinner was held in honor of Lois DeBerry, a member of the Tennessee House of Representatives and former Speaker Pro Tempore of the Tennessee House who has served with distinction for over 35 years. Janks Morton, producer of the documentary, “Dear Daddy” served as guest speaker. Also, an “Unsung Hero” from the state of Tennessee was recognized for an ongoing commitment to public service in the community.

On March 26, 2012, an open forum was held to discuss HIV/AIDS at Tennessee State University. The forum was entitled “Women and HIV/AIDS: Fighting for Our Lives in the 21st Century.” Myths concerning the diseases were debunked. Also, free HIV/AIDS testing was offered along with confidential counseling.

The “Ladies in Red” had an opportunity to meet with Tennessee state legislators to discuss



subjects such as the educational system, healthcare, taxes and unemployment. Senator Thelma Harper, Representative Brenda Gilmore, Representative Johnnie Turner and Representative Lois DeBerry, addressed concerns and advocated with the sorority. The sorors then met with the Governor of Tennessee, Bill Haslam.

## Florida Delta Day at the State Capitol



## Advocacy in Action . . .

### Delta Days at the Nation's Capitol



Contributor  
Terri M. Hall  
Member, Regional Nominating Committee

In 2009, the headlines for Delta Days at Nation's Capitol read, "If a woman in red demands to be noticed, a thousand women in red are impossible to ignore." Proceed to 2011, and "Uh Oh, Here They Come!" was the rallying cry. Fast forward to 2012 where our theme was, "Advocacy in Action: A Stronger Presence – A Stronger Voice." We spent another Delta Days in the Nation's Capitol making our presence known and our voices heard.

In her gallant oratory fashion, Soror Vashti McKenzie offered a powerful sermon admonishing those present to always remember, that we are "Equipped to Win!" Bishop McKenzie's words inspiring us into action were followed by a series of informative general sessions that provided the information we needed to be effective advocates.

General Session II was devoted to a discussion of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), a federal law that mandates a number of programs aimed at improving U.S. education in elementary, middle, and high schools by increasing accountability standards. The panel of experts taught, explained and presented their points-of-view about the law and its components. A great deal of the panel discussion centered on how disproportionately this law negatively affects different racial and ethnic groups, as well as the discontent with NCLB which involves its "all or nothing" requirements for meeting the yearly goals.

General Session III focused on the ongoing problem of voter suppression, resulting from the enactment of various state laws, most poignantly voter identification laws. Attendees were encouraged to advocate against laws which result in disfranchising voters.

General Session IV covered women running for office. Because women remain severely

under-represented in the political arena, this session was offered to give some insight, encouragement and to prepare women to accept the challenge of running for office. The panel consisted of sorors who currently hold mayoral, senatorial, and representative offices, among them 21st National President, Soror Marcia L. Fudge [D-OH11].

During General Session V, another group of well-educated and knowledgeable panelists assembled to discuss the state of "jobs" and its affect on Americans. Soror Julianne Malveaux encouraged the assembly to get young people to the polls as their fervor has decreased since the 2008 election. Four suggestions were given to turn the job situation around: 1) entrepreneurship 2) leadership 3) global leadership and perspective 4) communication (because the way you talk is who you are). Soror Malveaux says, "DST is the rock that repels nonsense: be gentle yet firm, be professional, be on-time, and be prepared." Soror Mona Humphries Bailey, 17th National President, concluded the session by charging the audience to embrace President Obama's plan to bring jobs back to America and ensure that Americans have the skills.

The final session addressed the issue of the Affordable Health Care Act. All the sessions were informative, giving sorors who attended the information they need to effectively advocate on issues of importance to the communities Delta serves. In this way, we continue to stand on the shoulders of our founders whose first act of public service was advocating for women's suffrage. We look forward to re-enacting this march during our centennial celebration as we continue to make our presence known and our voices heard.

## Prohibition on Partisan Political Activity by Chapters and Members

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated ("Delta") strictly prohibits, directly or indirectly participation in or intervention in any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for elective public office.**

**According to the IRS, "Political campaign" intervention includes any and all activities that favor or oppose one or more candidates for public office.**

**NOTE: Members of Delta may engage in the political process in their individual capacity to the extent and in the manner they wish. However, sorors must remember that they should not wear any Delta paraphernalia to candidate activities.**





## The Hortense G. Canady International Women's Conference

# Secrets

## Breaking the Culture of Silence

*Contributor*  
*Pamela Jackson-Smith*  
*President, Palm Coast-Flagler County Alumnae*

One of my most memorable experiences was the Hortense G. Canady International Women's Conference entitled "Secrets: Breaking the Culture of Silence" held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Conference was designed to provide a very personal experience for those of us who attended from the 1st session on April 12th to the last session. We were informed, challenged and motivated. Our first Sisterhood session was epic! Our National President, Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre gave a rousing invitation to get on the Delta Love Train. The Conference leaders and national officers were decked out in their train conductor accessories: red bandana neck scarf and a train conductor's hat. As we joined in and marched around the room grouped by regions and following our Regional Directors and Regional Facilitators, we were reminded why we are in this amazing movement called Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

The opening keynote speaker, Dr. Michelle Callahan, spoke of us who are secret superwomen. Secret superwomen make a case against mental health therapy because they rather hold onto the heritage of secret keeping. They are the women who don't put their business in the street; who admit they are going to the gym to lose weight but they do not admit they are therapy. Secret superwomen don't talk about financial mismanagement. They are the ones who do a poor job at managing their finances but are afraid to seek help from those that do a great job managing their finances.

Dr. Johnetta B. Cole, the first African-American female president of Spelman College, Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, founding director of the Women's Research and Resource Center at Spelman College, and Carla Harris led a panel discussion on the culture of silence in health and wellness, race and gender, and generational wealth. The panelists spoke of the demonization of Anita Hill; the 3 P's of Sexuality: Procreation, Prevention and Pleasure; and make the money, grow your money and protect your money.

The international speaker, Dr. Terera Trent was most inspiring. Having been introduced to the world on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," she became Oprah's favorite guest. In Dr. Trent's session titled, "I Broke the Silence and Am Now Changing a Generation," she shared her story on she overcame incredible odds to achieve her dream of education. She directed us to ask one profound question as we seek our authentic selves, "Do I make you feel like a champion, or do I marginalize you and make

you feel invisible?" Finally, she encouraged us all to be "game changers." She left us wanting more of her story, which she will include in the book she is currently writing.

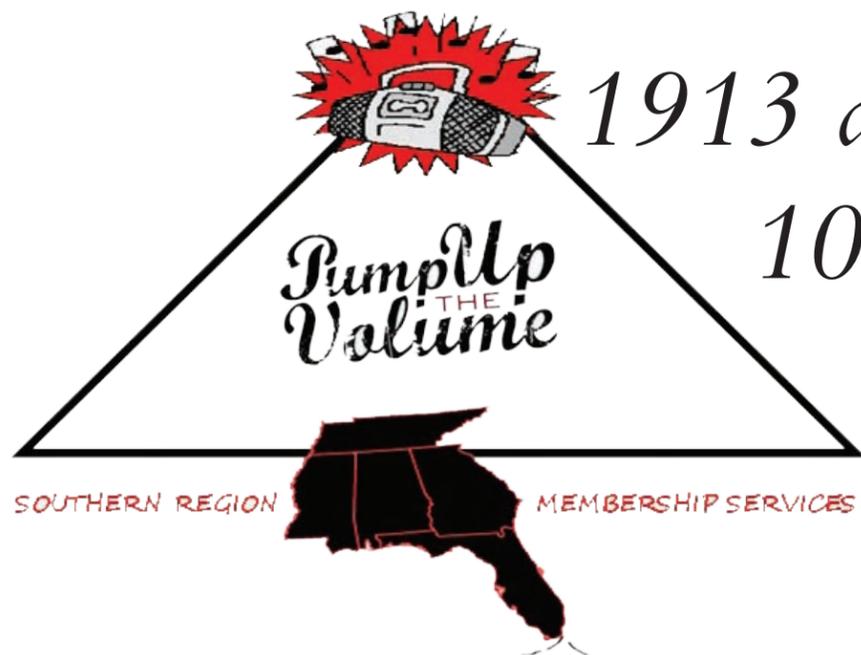
Dr. Portia Hunt, led our session on "Invisible Scars ... Transparent Wounds." She led us into reflection and introspection on the inescapable impacts of individual and/or family history, shame, fear, pain and disappointment while exposing the futility of camouflage.

The keynote for the Mental/Physical Health and Wellness was titled "Health Care Disparities, Overview of Women's Health – Dispelling Secrets" given by Dr. Jocelyn Elders. She presented statistics on healthcare and the impact on African-Americans in the U.S.

During the conference, I also attended the viewing of "Dark Girls" co-directed by Bill Duke. The documentary explores the deep-seated biases and attitudes about skin color particularly dark skinned women, outside of and within the Black American culture. The viewing evoked many emotions for those of us gathered in that room who have been touched by this bias.

Whenever this conference is held again, it would be most beneficial for as many sorors as possible to attend and delve into the recesses of our hearts and minds regarding our African-American womanhood. The bonding with sorors and other women from around the world was such a rich experience.

Message from the Regional Membership Services Committee



1913 and counting . . .

100 years of service and sisterhood

The Membership Services Committee “pumped up the volume” at each state cluster to increase the enthusiasm of the “dynamic” sorors of the Southern Region. The committee’s goal is to enhance and promote continuous programs for the reclamation and retention of Delta STAARs (Sisters That Are Actively Reclaimed), as well as provide strategies to mentor new initiates.

In preparation for the state clusters, the committee designed a logo for the Regional Membership Services Committee. The logo, along with a quarterly newsletter of national and regional ideas, strategies and initiatives was unveiled at the clusters. A presentation was developed from power point resources obtained from Henry County Alumnae (GA). The workshops presented were very interactive and motivating. Delta Dears, Divas, and Dolls had up to two minutes to spotlight their talents as the various decades presented skits, songs, poems and/or strolls to set the tone for the workshops. Sorors discussed reasons why members leave the sorority, as well as why they return to our sisterhood. They had the opportunity to discuss and share ideas, strategies and activities that worked well with their chapters and would assist in retaining reclaimed members. STAARs and other sorors were given “Soror

**MISSION:** The Regional Membership Services committee provides a variety of support services during state and regional events. We support our Regional Director, Soror Cheryl Turner, and the Regional Leadership Team in addressing the needs and desires of our sorors.

Survival Kits”. A card in the kit explained what each item represented. Each workshop participant was energized to go back to their chapters ready to “pump up the volume” for Membership Services.

Each State Membership Services Team was instrumental in “turning up the enthusiasm--one Delta chapter at a time, one Delta soror at a time.” The Regional Membership Services Committee would like for each chapter to have a Membership Services Committee and chairperson as a contact person for information to be distributed to and from their respective chapters.

The Regional Membership Services Committee members are Kelley Bailey, Chair (FL), Gwendolyn J. Whitelaw, Co-chair (TN), Angela Dixon (FL), Shandon Wilson, collegiate (FL), Shafonda Spain (AL), Cynthia Hardy (GA), and Barbara Lockett (MS).

☪ Sisterhood is many things. It is a warm smile on a cold and rainy day, a friendly hug, a cheerful hello... It is all that a good and lasting friendship is, only better. It is treasured. It is sacred. It is knowing that there will always be someone there for you. It is dreams shared, and goals achieved. It is counting on others and being counted on. It is real. ☪  
 – Author Unknown

TENNESSEE

△ Gwendolyn Whitelaw, Co-Chair

**Tennessee State Team Members**

Tyscha Batts	Jo Dell Cox	Letoia Crozier	Yvette Forrest	Thelma Harrington
Nekiessia Henderson	Kathy R. Howard	Tarsha Hubbard	Necole Jones	Sandra R. King
Cynthia Lacy-Janes	Tammi Lavender	Sherrill B. Scott	Venita Washington	

MISSISSIPPI

△ Barbara Lockett, State Representative

**Mississippi State Team Members**

Patrice Bradshaw	Glenda Brinkley	Tracy Davis	Connie Fitzhugh	Keisha Graham
Winna Hyche	Karen Matlock	Cassandra Neal-Ayozie	Robin Silas	Felicia Stewart
Regenia Sulton	LaKeshia Sutton	Joyce White		

FLORIDA

△ Kelley Bailey, Chair

△ Angela Dixon, State Representative

△ Shandon Wilson, Collegiate State Representative

**Florida State Team Members**

Primrose Cameron	Earnestine Carswell	Ericka Collins	Joni Ellis-Hughes	Annette Singleton Jackson
Robin Kinsey	Wanda Knight	Tanya Matthews	Maxine McPherson	Kara Palmer Smith
Bessyee Washington	LaTanya White	Karen Wiggins		

ALABAMA

△ Shafonda Spain, State Representative

**Alabama State Team Members**

Jessyca Darrington	Erika Faulk	Jaleesa Foster	Janice January	Jessica Nathan
Sandra Sudduth	Beverly Summerlin	Deloris Alsup-Smothers		

GEORGIA

△ Cynthia Hardy, State Representative

**Georgia State Team Members**

Myesha Davis	Dr. Gloria Dodson	Gean Beasley	Jenelle Griffiths	Gloria Lee Hawkins
Vivian Key	Aliya Rashid	Joni Howard-Skipper	Michelle Thompson	



## Message from the Regional Arts & Letters Committee

# Cluster Cycle Deemed Successful

The Regional Arts and Letters Committee cluster cycle workshops ended with a lot of enthusiasm, as members targeted inactive sorors known as STAARs (**S**isters **T**hat **A**re **A**ctively **R**eclaimed). They might have been a little shy in the beginning, but before the end of the one-hour sessions, STARRs were clamoring for more and said the time was too short. With just a little urging, that true Delta woman we all know so well emerged. Questions, singing, comments and just plain fun were the order of the day in the region. Committee members Soror Maisie Reddy presented at the Florida Cluster; Sorors Maxcine

Burnette and Michelle Gibson supported by Soror Bonita Moore presented at the Georgia Cluster; Sorors Betty Jean Hill-Underwood and Lady Shivers Tucker, committee chair attended the Alabama Cluster; Soror Maya Lee led the Tennessee Cluster workshop; and Soror Laurie Lawson supported by Soror Orbra Porter helped at the Mississippi Cluster.

All of our efforts are aimed toward 2013, when we will stand together and proudly celebrate 100 years of faithful and dedicated service. We will steadfastly sing with honor, the praises of our powerful and strong sorority.

## Message from the Regional Protocol and Traditions Committee

# It's Not Personal - It's Just Protocol

The Regional Protocol and Traditions Committee has been very busy since the beginning of the year. Members made sure that proper protocol was followed at the Founders Day, State Cluster, and Delta Days at the State Capitol (DDAC) activities held in each state. The regional committee and the state teams assisted chapters with individual Founders Day celebrations and a number of chapter anniversaries.

At the Statewide Clusters the Committee presented a workshop "It's Not Personal - It's Just Protocol." This workshop was developed by the Protocol Committee and the Regional Ritual and Ceremonies Committee. The workshop was presented to record numbers of sorors at each of the five clusters. Presenters in Florida were Sorors Rose Kalala and Pamela Chandler, Ritual and Ceremonies. Sorors Carolyn Jackson and Shirley Williams presented in Georgia assisted

by Dr. Jackie Williams, Ritual and Ceremonies chair, and Janice Harris, Ritual and Ceremonies co-chair. The Alabama workshop was presented by Sorors Violet Lowery, co-chair, Myrtis Ramsey, and Chasity Cauthen with assistance from Celeste Morgan Russell, Ritual and Ceremonies. Sorors Gloria Hughes and Dionne Woody stepped up to present in Mississippi. Tennessee completed the cluster cycle with presentations led by Cynthia Williams, Rosa Paris and Karen Cooperwood from Ritual and Ceremonies.

The workshop presentation has been sent to the Technology, Information, and Communications Committee to be placed on the Southern Region's website. The questions and answers from the workshop are being compiled to add to the website. The new Protocol and Traditions Manual referred to in the presentation is available for sale on the national website in the Sisters Only portal.

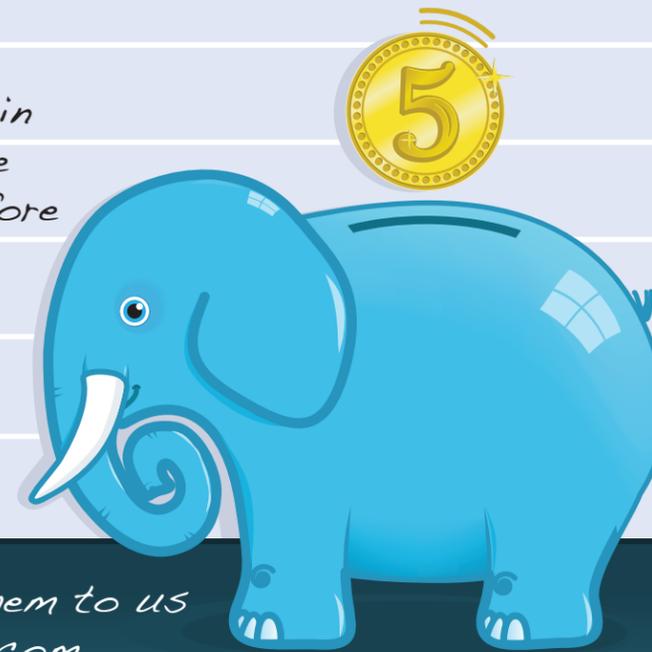
## Message from the Regional Program Planning and Development Committee

# PP&D Prepared to Equip Sorors

The Southern Region's Program Planning and Development team is poised and prepared to E.Q.U.I.P. chapters to ignite Delta programs that will impact our communities. This energetic team is prepared to keep chapters abreast with "What's Hot" in PP&D. Through well prepared presentations, communication and program tips, we will lead the way for the chapters in the Southern Region to plan and implement excellent, quality, unique and innovative programming that supports the foundation of our sorority...The Five Point Programmatic Thrust. We are serious about providing information and support as we implement the risk management program for our sorority. Expert advice is available through this committee. We are fired up and ready to serve, you the stellar chapters and sorors of the Dynamic Southern Region!

## Go To The Centennial Debt Free

1. Open a savings account specifically for the centennial.
2. Have payroll deposit money into your centennial savings account each pay period.
3. That bonus and raise you received . . . set it aside for the centennial.
4. Skip the Starbucks coffee in the morning. Instead prepare your coffee at work or before you leave the house in the morning.



What ideas do you have? Send them to us at [journalist@dstsouthernregion.com](mailto:journalist@dstsouthernregion.com).



# collegiate retreat memories





# God Wants to Connect with Us

“Can you hear me now?” It is the popular slogan from the Verizon Wireless commercials that took on new meaning during the Prayer Breakfast at the Southern Region Collegiate Retreat in Atlanta. The slogan was the topic of Regional Chaplain, the **Rev. Janae Pitts-Murdock’s** speech at Clark Atlanta University. Rev. Murdock’s message was taken from the scripture 2 Kings 2:23.



Rev. Murdock said the man in the Verizon commercials traveled almost anywhere, even places we’ve never heard of, but always had a cellphone signal.

“There was a strange man, a quirky man, a weird man who really did go to the uttermost parts of the world, who really did go up into the mountains, down into the valleys and out into the water to ensure no matter where you were—no matter where your circumstances led you—you would never be alone, and you would always have a connection,” she told sorors.

The Regional Chaplain explained, “There’s no place we can ever go where God does not see us, and God does not want to connect with us.” Murdock reminded sorors about trouble with our connections, because our signals get weak and we get a bad signal. She said the bad signal could be from the crowd around us.

“When you’re on your way up, not everybody can go up,” she explained. “But that doesn’t mean you don’t go. You may have to do it alone.”

According to the scripture, Elijah was going with a different crowd. Rev. Murdock told sorors that it’s okay when everyone does not agree with you. “Your destiny could be bigger than anyone understands. The crowd around you could take you on a path that’s not assigned to you.”



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*“When you lay down with dogs, you will wake up with fleas. You have to choose the dogs you go with. Their dirt and filth can rub off on you.”*

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Murdock detailed her relationship with her Labrador Retriever named Sparkle. She revealed how she always takes Sparkle to the groomer, and how she feeds the dog good food. Rev. Murdock was stunned one day when the groomer said her dog had fleas. The groomer believed Sparkle had taken up with “dirty dogs that had fleas.”

“You can’t hang out with some dogs,” Murdock instructed. “When you lay down with dogs, you will wake up with fleas. You have to choose the dogs you go with. Their dirt and filth can rub off on you.”

God assigns us to places and assignments, and sometimes we waste it on the wrong people at the wrong time, said Rev. Murdock.

You are fearfully and wonderfully made,” Murdock said. “You are God’s creation. You are beautiful, smart, gifted, talented. You are God’s creation. Can you hear me now?”



# LEADERSHIP DELTA

## DEFINING EMERGING LEADERS THROUGH ADVOCACY

The Dynamic Southern Region is pleased to highlight the 23 sorors of our region who were a part of the 2011 - 2012 Leadership DELTA cohort. Leadership DELTA launched in 2002 and is a partnership with the General Electric Company (GE). Leadership DELTA draws sorors from many different majors, which include mathematics, science, engineering, technology, computer science and business. Through the program, sorors have secured internships and full-time positions in GE. Sorors will graduate at the 2013 National Convention.



**Name:** Soror Cecilie Davis

**Chapter:** Beta Alpha

**School:** Florida A&M University

**Classification:** Senior

**Major:** Construction Engineering

**One Word That Describes Me:** Determined

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

The Leadership DELTA program has been one of the best experiences of my life! I gained friendships, mentors, and guidance to help me succeed in the future. Transitioning from college to the real world may be tough but having the right resources and connections can make the transition a lot smoother. Based on what I have learned throughout my participation in Leadership DELTA I will be able to become a leader in the classroom, in my chapter, and in my clubs on campus. I will use what I learned to become a better person so that I can grow mentally and professionally.

**Name:** Soror Avery Curtis

**Chapter:** Kappa Upsilon

**School:** Auburn University

**Classification:** Senior

**Major:** Spanish with International Trade

**One Word That Describes Me:** Driven

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Leadership DELTA was an amazing experience that I will treasure forever. I was able to connect with sorors from all over and to build long-lasting relationships that will be helpful as I move forward throughout my career.



**Name:** Soror Jasmine Moore

**Chapter:** Iota Tau Chapter  
*Rutherford County Alumnae*

**School:** Middle Tennessee State University

**Classification:** Graduated December 17, 2011

**Major:** Business Administration

**One Word That Describes Me:** Vivacious

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

I learned how to network effectively from my participation in the Leadership DELTA Program.



**Name:** Soror Maya McKenzie  
**Chapter:** Beta Eta Chapter  
**School:** Alabama State University  
**Classification:** Junior  
**Major:** Political Science

**One Word That Describes Me:** Motivated  
**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

As one of the few liberal arts majors, I was a bit intimidated by the STEM and business majors for whom the program was designed. After working on the case study project, I realized that I should be confident in my skills and what I can contribute, regardless of my difference in background. This paid off, because my group's case competition won!



**Name:** Soror Lorry Henderson  
**Chapter:** Tau Rho Chapter  
**School:** University of Miami  
**Classification:** Senior  
**Major:** Management  
**One Word That Describes Me:** Tenacious  
**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Through my participation in Leadership DELTA, I have learned that leadership comes in many different styles, and that success in a field is determined by my willingness to go out of my comfort zone and challenge myself. Through workshops focusing on leadership skills, financial stability, and professional etiquette, I have learned a lot about myself with the help of women in our illustrious sorority. I have applied these workshops to "real life" through monthly assignments and encouragement from my mentor. Leadership DELTA has been an invaluable experience that I would encourage many others to pursue!



**Name:** Soror Britney Sylvain  
**Chapter:** Eta  
**School:** Fort Valley State University  
**Classification:** Senior  
**Major:** Computer Science  
**One Word That Describes Me:** Ambitious  
**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Leadership DELTA has taught how great communication, networking, and leadership skills play a vital role in the careers. This program has also taught me how I can utilize my strengths to succeed. I am so grateful to be apart of Leadership Delta!

**Name:** Soror Latoya Bowe  
**Chapter:** Tau Iota  
**School:** University of Tampa  
**Classification:** Senior  
**Major:** Biochemistry  
**One Word That Describes Me:** Versatile  
**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

I have learned a lot about the transition from college into the professional world. I've learned how to market myself and build my brand.



**Name:** Soror Rosaline D. Honer  
**Chapter:** Delta Pi  
**School:** Jackson State University  
**Classification:** Senior  
**Major:** Accounting  
**One Word That Describes Me:** Outspoken  
**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Through my participation in Leadership DELTA this past year, I learned the value of networking and the importance of interview preparation.

**Name:** Soror Kemecia Bruce

**Chapter:** Nu Beta Chapter

**School:** Mississippi State University

**Classification:** Graduating Senior

**Major:** Biomedical Engineering

**One Word That Describes Me:** Blessed

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

I frequently hear about the amazing accomplishments of Delta women, but to see so many wonderful, intelligent, and inspiring ladies at the Leadership DELTA Conference was simply mind-blowing. Leadership DELTA reinforced the lesson of giving back to the sorority in every capacity. Sorors near and far took the time to fellowship and empower all the Leadership DELTA participants. We received tools to enhance our networking and time management skills to help us in our different career paths. I am particularly appreciative of the members of the planning committee who made this experience so wonderful for us. All of the members of Leadership DELTA Class Cohort #9 are amazing women whom I feel honored to have been able to meet. They truly embody the spirit of the sorority.



**Name:** Soror Jasmine Bowers

**Chapter:** Eta

**School:** Fort Valley State University

**Classification:** Senior

**Major:** Mathematics / Computer Science

**One Word That Describes Me:** Driven

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

As a Leadership DELTA participant, I had the opportunity to listen first-hand to some of the most influential leaders of our illustrious sorority, including Madam President, Cynthia M.A. Butler-McIntyre, First Vice President, Dr. Paulette Walker, Second Vice President, Chelsea Hayes, National Secretary Beverly Smith, and National Treasurer, Terri Prunty. During the conference, I learned an abundance of pertinent information needed in order to be successful in corporate America. From resume building to office etiquette to ethics, Leadership DELTA was a life-changing experience, and I will continue to utilize the skills that I learned as I progress in my profession.



**Name:** Soror Marissa A. West

**Chapter:** Beta Alpha Chapter

**School:** Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University

**Classification:** 4th Year Student

**Major:** Pharmacy (Doctoral Candidate ~ 2014)

**One Word That Describes Me:** Driven

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Networking & collaboration strengthen one's leadership skills, and allow one to make more valuable contributions to the world.



**Name:** Soror Ashley Kearney

**Chapter:** Tau Iota

**School:** The University of Tampa

**Classification:** Senior

**Major:** Sport Management

**Minor:** Business Administration

**One Word That Describes Me:** Tenacious

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Leadership DELTA taught me things as simple as where to place a name tag to the difference between a mentor and sponsor, how to effectively network, and how to make your major and resume transferable so that it works for you. The experience was amazing. Leaders were more than willing to share their knowledge and that re-confirmed that "Delta is the Bomb.com".





**Name:** Soror Bathsheba Wariso

**Chapter:** Epsilon Eta

**School:** Stillman College

**Classification:** Senior

**Major:** Biology/ Pre-Med

**One Word That Describes Me:** Dedicated

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

I've learned that networking is a very important skill to have and by using it effectively, one can be pleasantly surprised at the doors of opportunity which can be opened.

Leadership Delta Sorors Not Pictured

Gwynetta Henderson

Gamma Tau

Tuskegee University

Chinelo Okany

Beta Alpha

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

Melanie Shelton

Delta Pi

Jackson State University

Natalie Woodson

Delta Pi

Jackson State University

Jessica Brownlow

Eta Alpha

Mississippi Valley State University

JerKendra Holloway

Theta Tau

Valdosta State University

Name: Toacca Taylor (*Not Pictured*)

Chapter: Omicron Gamma

School: University of Alabama in Huntsville

Classification: Graduating Senior

Major: Biology

**One Word That Describes Me:** Determined

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

From my participation in Leadership DELTA, I have learned how to make a BRAND for myself. I learned that good leaders recognize, not only their potential, but the potential in the people they lead. This program has truly inspired me to be a better leader with a strong brand that will leave a legacy behind.

**Name:** Soror Halima Stringer

**Chapter:** Delta Pi

**School:** Jackson State University

**Classification:** Senior

**Major:** Biology

**One Word That Describes Me:** Determined

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Anything is possible if you set your mind to it. Stay open-minded and look for the path less traveled and make an impact in whatever you decide to do. I grasped additional understanding of our purpose as an organization and as individuals on how we can use our talents to make a difference in the community.



**Name:** Soror Demetria Davis

**Chapter:** Omicron Mu

**School:** Auburn University Montgomery

**Classification:** Senior

**Major:** Accounting

**One Word That Describes Me:** Determined

**What have I learned from participating in Leadership DELTA?**

Since my participation in Leadership DELTA I have gained a vast amount of information pertaining to the business world, and steps that will prepare me for that world after graduation. The skills, techniques, and insights that were shared at the national conference have been a valuable asset that I am grateful to have received. I enjoyed being a part of this program, and I am glad that I was able to witness this experience.

## Southern Miss SGA President Does A Superb Balancing Act



“Bridge the Gap: Service, Accountability, Progress” is the platform for the University of Southern Mississippi’s Student Government Association (SGA) President, **Soror Jazmyne Butler**.

She was elected in March 2012 to represent the student body and oversee the SGA cabinet and executives. She also serves as president of the Mu Nu Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Soror Butler says she decided to run for SGA President because she wanted to make a difference. “It sounds cliché, but I truly believe that I can represent a diverse group of students,” she said. “After prayer and reflection about how I could be used for a greater purpose, I decided to run.”

She balances a number of activities, including Southern Style (student orientation team), Eagle Connection (student

recruiters), NAACP: Southern Miss Chapter, Southern Miss Activities Council, USM Delegate to the National Conference on Ethics in America at West Point Military Academy, Honors College Scholar, Leadership Scholar and Golden Eagle Welcome Week Executive Planning Team. She is also collegiate Assistant Journalist for the Southern Regional Leadership Team and a member of the 2012-2013 Leadership DELTA cohort.

Soror Butler is a broadcast journalism major. She plans to attend graduate school for journalism and eventually work in the field.

## Soror Ellis Completes Reign As Miss Alcorn State University



**Soror ArKayla Ellis** has completed her reign as 2011-2012 Miss Alcorn State University. She graduated from Alcorn State University (ASU), after majoring in biochemistry/pre-medicine. She is the daughter of Samuel Ellis, Jr. and Mae Julie Ellis. She began at ASU in the fall of 2008 as a participant in the Honors Curriculum Program. She was active on campus, participating in Khem Klub, Student National Medical Association, Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students, Pre-Medicine club and Alpha Chi Sigma Professional Chemistry Fraternity, Inc.

Soror Ellis is a woman of God and strives to live by the standards of a virtuous woman. She aspires to attend the medical college of her choice and work to receive her M.D. and PhD.

## Kappa Upsilon Unites With Others For Diabetes Awareness



Coach Dye, Kendall Simmons, Rachel Smith (Chi-Omega event liaison), Soror Avery Curtis, Auburn Lion Club Representative and Terry Ackley, Executive Director at Diabetes Education and Camping Association

On March 28, the **Kappa Upsilon Chapter** of Auburn University joined forces with Chi Omega Sorority to present a fun-filled diabetes awareness event called *Tie Dye with Pat Dye for Diabetes*. Attracting over 600 people and raising over \$5,000, the event was featured on the local news and on the front page of the *Auburn-Opelika News* newspaper. Football Hall of Fame inductee and former Auburn head coach, Pat Dye, hosted the event along with two-time Super Bowl winner, Kendall Simmons. All attendees were assessed a three dollar minimum donation to enter, and all proceeds were awarded to Camp Seale Harris located near Jackson’s Gap, AL.

Camp Seale Harris is a program for adolescents who are living with diabetes that teaches them how to manage the disease daily. The camp has impacted the lives of thousands of children by connecting them with peers who are learning to live with diabetes.

For the sake of school spirit, each attendee was able to tie-dye a t-shirt orange and blue while Coach Dye and Kendall Simmons signed autographs and took pictures with Auburn fans. The event featured electric performances by Auburn University’s hip-hop genre dance group, AU Rhythm, as well as the Auburn-Opelika Kappa League. People of all ages came out and enjoyed face painting, inflatables, music, free food and prize giveaways, ranging from gift cards to local restaurants to a large basket of MAC Cosmetics. Miss Auburn University along with Aubie, the university mascot, and the Auburn



School of nursing student, Soror Kayce Anthony provides free blood glucose screening to Aisha McCollum.

University Cheerleaders made appearances at the event and contributed to the lively atmosphere and success.

*Tie Dye with Pat Dye for Diabetes* not only entertained, but it served a purposeful cause. Soror Jasmine Johnson, whose father had been diagnosed with diabetes, inspired the event. According to the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, there are over 400,000 Alabamians living with diabetes. The goal of the event was to raise public awareness about diabetes while educating patients to be active in preventative measures such as daily exercise and healthy lifestyles. The Auburn Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy disseminated valuable information while providing free blood glucose screenings and risk assessment tests to everyone who attended the event. Health professionals from the East Alabama Medical Center as well as Camp Seale Harris were on hand to inform the public about the impact of diabetes. Sponsored by Auburn University’s Office of Outreach, the event not only raised money but also involved the Auburn community at-large. Physical and Mental Health is a central focus of the sorority, and the Kappa Upsilon Chapter of Auburn University has endeavored to uphold the ideals through creative programming that has a positive impact on the community. This public service event serves as one example of how the chapter continues to carry the torch set forth by our 22 illustrious founders.

## Theta Tau Ends The Year With A Prestigious Award

The **Theta Tau Chapter** stands on the promise to be outstanding “Delta Women” on their campus.

At the end of each academic year, all greek chapters at Valdosta State University must submit an excellence packet highlighting events and community service

projects.

Theta Tau walked away with Chapter of Greek Excellence, Highest Chapter GPA, Chapter Excellence in Campus Involvement and Leadership with 100% of chapter members involved in other organizations and 50% of the members holding

an office in those organizations, Greek President of the Year (**Soror Jasmine Coer**), Greek Achiever of the Year (**Soror Kenda Davis**), Greek New Member of the Year (**Soror Claudia Cole**) and Highest GPA of the Year From A New Member.

## Southern Mississippi’s Mu Nu Chapter Receives Numerous Awards Throughout the 2011 - 2012 Academic Year



(from left to right) Sorors Rachael Edwards, Monique Brogan, Jessica Miller, Jazmyne Butler, Jasmine Allen, Christy Pace

The **Mu Nu Chapter** has received numerous awards this year. These awards were not only recognized among NPHC, but among all three Greek Life councils at Southern Miss, which is composed of over 25 sororities and fraternities.

- ▲ Best Community Service Event
- ▲ Outstanding Public Relations
- ▲ Community Servant Award ~ **Soror Kadreanna Johnson**
- ▲ Chapter Member of the Year ~ **Soror Yuronda Powell**
- ▲ Officer of the Year ~ **Soror Jazmyne Butler**
- ▲ Rock for Autism Award ~ *raised the most money toward the cause*
- ▲ Hop Contest winners
- ▲ Second place in Greek Life Cook-Off
- ▲ Best Display Case for Event
- ▲ Distinguished Service Award ~ *most community service hours completed/ philanthropy dollars donated among the entire Greek Life council*

## Mu Zeta Chapter Receives Highest Award Given By the University



Soror Goode, Mu Nu Chapter advisor and Soror Hannah Ashitey, President of the Mu Nu Chapter proudly display the Chancellor's Citation.

The **Mu Zeta Chapter** received the 2012 Chancellor's Citation for Extraordinary Community Service. The Chancellor's Citation is the highest award given by the University of Tennessee.

## Iota Tau Finishes The Year Strong With Several Distinguished Awards



The Iota Tau Chapter with chapter president, Kara Jones (first row center holding President's Cup) and chapter advisors (first row far right) holding its awards.

**Iota Tau Chapter** has proven repeatedly its commitment to making a positive and lasting impact on the campus and in the Murfreesboro community. The chapter's efforts in keeping with this commitment have been recognized by both the Southern Region and Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU).

On a regional level, Iota Tau received the awards for the Tennessee Chapter of the Year, Advisor of the Year, and Educational Development Program of the Year. These awards were presented during the 2011 Southern Regional Conference in Memphis.

On campus, the chapter won several distinguished awards at the MTSU 2011 Greek Awards Ceremony. Iota Tau was one of only five (out of 27 chapters) to receive Gold Standard, an

assessment program which recognizes chapters who meet the minimum standards in the areas of academic performance and planning, campus service, community service, risk management, and leadership development. The chapter's primary advisor, Soror Gail Boyd, won MTSU Chapter Advisor of the Year, and the chapter's president, Soror Kara Jones, won MTSU National Pan-Hellenic Council President of the Year.

Iota Tau also won the Alumni Relations Award for its involvement and collaboration with Rutherford County Alumnae Chapter, as well as communication and outreach efforts to past members of the chapter. Iota Tau won MTSU's most prestigious Greek award, the President's Cup, which recognizes the chapter that best

demonstrates overall excellence in all facets of operations and programming. Additionally, Iota Tau was recognized by MTSU's Office of Intercultural Affairs as Impactful Sorority of the Year at the Student Government Association banquet.

The chapter also excelled academically and maintained the highest NPHC grade point average for the past year. The members of Iota Tau are excited to have the privilege to carry out the vision of the 22 and its charter members through sisterhood, scholarship, and service. The chapter attributes much of its success to the guidance of advisors, and to the leadership of the president, executive board, and hardworking and dedicated members of Iota Tau.



## Miami Alumnae Donates Hats To Children With Cancer

As part of their Sisterhood Month initiatives, **Miami Alumnae Chapter** partnered with Hats Off for Cancer to raise awareness, and impact the lives of children who have lost their hair due to cancer. Sorors and invited guests generously donated an assortment of over 150 hats. Rhinestone fedoras, colored caps and pageboy hats are among a few of the beautiful hats that were donated.

In June, sorors were invited to visit the Holtz Children's Hospital at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center, one of the largest children's hospitals in the southeast United States. While there, the Hats Off for Cancer donations were delivered to children who were receiving medical treatment in the hematology and oncology departments. Greeted by bright smiles and beautiful spirits, the sorors were welcomed by the children and their families who eagerly accepted the new



hats. The children selected the hats based on their favorite color or personality. One young patient exclaimed that her "purple sparkling hat was made for her because she was a princess."

## Bolivar County Alumnae And Kappa Pi Chapters Celebrate Mothers



On December 17, 2012, the **Bolivar County Alumnae** and **Kappa Pi** (Delta State University) chapters in collaboration with the Bolivar County Community Action Agency hosted an annual baby shower for mothers served by the Bolivar County Community Action Agency.

Coordinated by Soror Kimberly S. Jones, a licensed social worker, moms-to-be received gift bags containing diapers, clothes, shoes, blankets and toys, and were awarded door prizes and treated to a variety of entertainment organized by Soror

Koronda Smith and her two daughters.

"This event is a way to celebrate the pending or recent birth of a child by presenting the parents with gifts in a festive environment," remarked Soror Jones.

Soror Patricia Bradshaw-Ross, chair of Program Planning and Development stated, "This event is a way for the chapter to acknowledge the 'mind, body, spirit' connection of the Physical and Mental Health Thrust."

In addition to showering the expectant mothers with gifts, Soror Arlene S. Sanders, chair of the chapter's Political Awareness and Social Action Thrust shared information about the importance of civic engagement.

Bolivar County Alumnae Chapter President Dr. Elaine Baker and Kappa Pi President Soror Barbara McKnight were excited about collaborating on this important event that serves Bolivar and North Sunflower counties. Through it, the chapters embody the sorority's guiding theme, "*Sisterhood Called to Serve: Transforming Lives and Impacting Communities.*"

## Honoring The Service Of Delta Dears During Sisterhood Month



On Saturday, March 31, 2012, the **Huntsville (AL) Alumnae Chapter** gathered at the Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church to culminate its Sisterhood Month celebration with an elegant tea honoring Delta Dears. Dressed in their fabulous spring attire, complete with hats and gloves, Delta Dears enjoyed an exquisite afternoon of delicious delicacies, accolades and sisterhood activities. Excitement and appreciation filled the air as the seasoned sorors were reminded of their invaluable contributions to the chapter. Soror Carla F. Parker, the event's chair and committee members went to great lengths to ensure a heart-warming and memorable experience.

The Delta Dear Tea was an initiative of chapter president Soror Jacqueline Wyse to celebrate and communicate the exceptional legacy of service within the chapter. Dr. Margaret Kelly, immediate past president and Delta Dear herself, expressed sincere appreciation for the chapter's efforts to recognize the talents and work of the Delta Dears. A program highlight was a "roll call slide show" by Soror Rekeisha Davis which featured pictures of the Delta Dears, each of whom stood and spoke of her respective years of service in Delta. Two sorors, Frances Stewart and Dorothy Johnson, each had over 50 years of service.

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*“May we continue to remember these four guiding principles as we honor our Delta Dears, not just for a day, but everyday! It is the way of Delta, the way of life and tradition.”*

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President Wyse remarked that the Japanese Zen tradition of tea reflects a simple and quiet taste and four guiding principles: harmony, respect, purity and tranquility. "May we continue to remember these four guiding principles as we honor our Delta Dears, not just for a day, but everyday! It is the way of Delta, the way of life and tradition," she said.

The special day of sisterly bonding was rejuvenating for all. Chapter members enjoyed the fellowship and the opportunity to glean wisdom from the Delta Dear honorees. The beautiful smiling faces of the Delta Dears indicated that the event was a rousing success.

## Soror Paulette Walker Speaks About Injustice And Faith



Even before the sun was up on January 16, 2012, the Deltas had converged on the ballroom of the Downtown Hyatt for the 32nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Breakfast hosted by the Tampa Organization of Black Affairs (TOBA). The keynote speaker was **National First Vice President, Dr. Paulette C. Walker.**

Whenever Soror Walker speaks, it is an opportunity to be educated, enlightened, and even entertained. And once again, she did not disappoint. She set the audience of over 1,000 on fire!

The theme for the breakfast was *"The March Continues . . . The Right Time to Do What is Right."* Soror Walker began by telling

the audience that "faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase." She reminded attendees that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," and that as a people we have not yet arrived at the place that Dr. King dreamed we would be.

She incited the audience when she said that instead of "jumping the broom" to sweep away the old and welcome in the new, community organizations need to lock arms and "jump the mop" to clean away the dirt in our communities." Needless to say, all of the Deltas in the room were more than proud to call her "soror".

During the program, several

community members and youth were recognized for their contributions to the Tampa Bay Area. Soror Chloe Coney was recognized for her outstanding achievements and accomplishments. The Youth Development Committee, whose purpose is to "refine the leadership skills of our youth as well as support and encourage young people so that they can develop pride and gain confidence within themselves," recognized the recipients of TOBAs oratorical awards. Soror Veronica Blakely serves as the Youth Oratorical Facilitator for TOBA.

## Tampa Alumnae Sorors And Youth Groups March In MLK Parade

The **Tampa Alumnae Chapter** proudly participates in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade each year to commemorate the life and accomplishments of Dr. King. This year marked the 24th year that the parade marched through the streets of Tampa. Tampa Alumnae's Delta G.E.M.S. and Delta Academy participants also marched through the streets of East Tampa greeting the parade watchers lining the streets and throwing them "Mardi Gras-style" beads. "Mr. and Miss Jabberwock" were also presented to the community, as they led the way of the parade holding the Tampa

Alumnae banner.

Participating in the parade affords Tampa Alumnae the opportunity to promote Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., have fun, and simulate the great marches of the Civil Rights era. The parade route is approximately 3 miles from start to finish. Participants include other sororities and fraternities, churches, school bands, businesses, and other civic organizations.

Along with having fun, the members of Tampa Alumnae tracked their miles for "2013 miles by 2013."

## Atlanta Alumnae Top Fund Raiser For Georgia Alzheimer's Walk

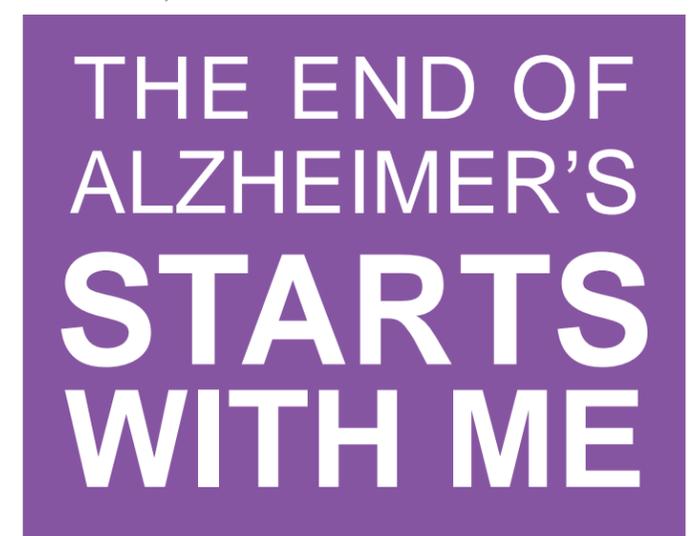


The **Atlanta Alumnae Chapter** raised over \$20,000 for the Alzheimer's Association of Georgia's 2011 Walk To End Alzheimer's. The chapter, which raised the highest amount among the 300 participating walk teams, made history by becoming the first Greek-letter organization in the state to donate this amount of money to the Alzheimer's Association. For its outstanding service, the chapter was given proclamations from both the Atlanta City Council and the Fulton County Commission.

In the weeks leading to the walk, the chapter hosted a community forum on Alzheimer's to educate its members and the public about the disease. The chapter plans to continue its work with the Alzheimer's Association of Georgia.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia. According to the Alzheimer's Association, as many as 5.4 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, and 10.5 million baby boomers are approaching the age of being at

greatest risk of developing this fatal disease. While there is no current cure for Alzheimer's, treatment for symptoms is available. Its causes unknown, researchers have identified factors that signal a greater risk, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, lack of exercise and diabetes.



## East Point/College Park Alumnae Honors Women Of The Arts At Annual Kuumba Tribute

On Sunday, May 6, 2012, the Arts and Letters Committee of the **East Point/College Park Alumnae (EP/CP) Chapter** held its 23rd Annual Kuumba Tribute at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic High School in Fayetteville, GA. Named for the sixth principle of Kwanzaa, Kuumba means creativity. The tribute was established in 1990 by the EP/CP Arts and Letters Committee to honor African-American females who excelled in the arts in the community and was established in response to the sorority's national initiative to advance the black experience through arts and letters.

Over the last two plus decades, EP/CP has celebrated playwrights, authors, singers, dancers, arts activists, poets, storytellers, fashion designers, actresses, sculptors, and visual and fabric artists. Past honorees include Stephanie Hughley, former executive director of the National Black Arts Festival; Civil Rights activist/actress, Elizabeth Omilami; actress, author, Tina McElroy Ansa; and Keisha Knight Pulliam, actress best known for her role on the television series *The Cosby Show*. In addition to receiving a uniquely designed Kuumba award trophy, each honoree has received proclamations from the cities of East Point, College Park and from Fulton County, Georgia.

This year's honoree, Lynn Marshall-Linnemeier,



is a visual mythologist, whose art work uses photography, painting, oral tradition and primary source documents to re-imagine historical incidents, especially that are informed by race, gender and stereotypes. Ms. Marshall-Linnemeier brought her work to life for the over 85 Kuumba attendees through a rich, live display and a slide presentation of her art, which spans four decades. She was honored with a spoken word and several musical tributes by the EP/CP Ensemble. Guests had the opportunity to visit personally with the artist during a reception that followed the formal program.

## Coat And Jacket Drive Benefit Orphans In Swaziland

On March 29, 2012, the **Greenville (MS) Alumnae Chapter** mailed boxes of new and gently used coats to orphans at the Selulasandla AME Vashti Village in Mbabane, Swaziland.

The International Awareness and Involvement committee held the coat and jacket drive in February 2012 and advertised the event in the Community Events section of the local newspaper and on the Delta Foundation's Community Radio. The committee was very successful in collecting coats and jackets of all sizes from the community and from members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Orphans and vulnerable children comprise one-fifth of Swaziland's roughly 1 million people.



This is 80,000 more than predicted in 2004. 26.1 percent of people from ages 15-49 are living with the HIV/AIDS virus.

## Gwinnett County Alumnae Rounds Up Support For "Red Tails"



On Jan. 21, 2012, nearly 75 people joined **Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter (GCAC)** to support the movie "*Red Tails*." Produced by George Lucas and distributed by Twentieth Century Fox, "*Red Tails*" is a movie that was rejected by major Hollywood studios and tells the story of African-American pilots, Tuskegee Airmen, who were an integral part of the World War II effort. When Lucas could not attain support for the movie, he funded it himself.

"Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter is proud to support quality films that tell the rich history of African-Americans in this country," said Dr. Shenila

Hill Rodriguez, GCAC President. "We felt it was particularly important to support this film and show Hollywood that quality African-American films are supported by our communities."

By joining forces with the local alumni chapters of seven fraternities and sororities, the movie at AMC Discover Mills sold out. Members of Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter and members of other greek-lettered service-based organizations took time to stand together in a show of unity to support this film. Soror Sandra Horton, Southern Region Member of National Scholarship and Standards committee, also attended the event.

## Lake Oconee Alumnae Continues The Fight Against Cancer



The **Lake Oconee Area Alumnae Chapter** contributed to the fight against cancer by participating in the Morgan County Relay for Life in Madison, Georgia. On Friday, April 20, 2012, sorors were among the survivors and supporters at the event that supports the American Cancer Society. Chapter members were able to contribute 700 dollars to the cause by selling fish plates and providing other activities for the youth.

The Lake Oconee Area Alumnae Chapter serves Greene, Morgan, and Taliaferro counties.

## Academy & G.E.M.S. Learn To Use Less In Order To Give More

**Jacksonville (FL) Alumnae Chapter** put a modern twist on service to the community. The chapter's Economic Development Committee determined that the "Power of Half" is more than just a book; it can also serve as a teacher of life lessons. In October, the chapter presented a challenge to 80 Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy and Dr. Jeanne L. Noble G.E.M.S. participants to read the book, "The Power of Half."

"The Power of Half" is about a family that makes the bizarre decision to sell their Atlanta mansion, buys a house half its size, and gives half of the sale price of their mansion to a worthy charity. The family's goal

was to inspire countless others to experience "The Power of Half," regardless of financial means or resources.

The committee initiated the challenge to the Dr. Betty Shabazz



Delta Academy and G.E.M.S. students by presenting a video, book, and a plan to assist the young ladies to began developing their "half." The committee

organized a Family Feud activity as a way to actively discuss the book, and the girls shared ways to contribute to the community in similar ways. Their ideas included developing a community environmental plan to control littering, organizing a charity event to provide needy families with clothing, and developing a community tutoring business to support children with reading and math deficiencies. The girls also helped to supply personal items for their international project. Most importantly, the young ladies discovered the true "power of half" by learning to use less in order to give more.

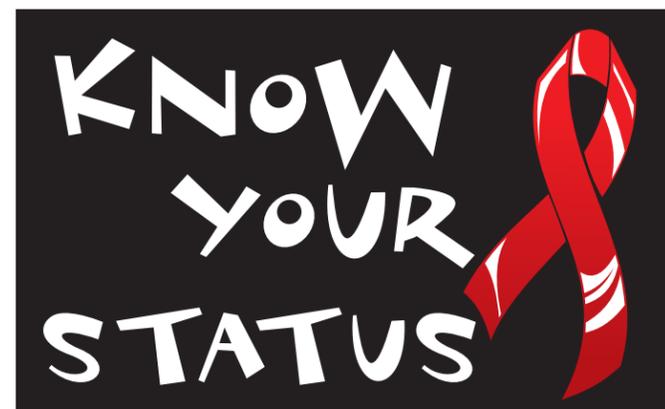
## Henry County Alumnae Helps Community Know Their Status



**Henry County Alumnae Chapter** in conjunction with the Atlanta Chapter of AID Atlanta offered free HIV/AIDS testing to the community on Dec. 3, 2011. "World AIDS Day: Free Anonymous HIV Screening" happened at the Walmart Superstore in McDonough, GA.

The International Awareness and Involvement committee, led by Soror Alisha King, offered the testing from a group of trained volunteers from AID

Atlanta. The process involved a simple mouth swab with no needles required. The testing and results were confidential. While waiting on their results, the participants were able to socialize with members of the chapter and find out more about what is planned for the Henry County area. The results were given to participants within 20 minutes. Each participant also received gifts from the chapter, which included a water bottle. At the end of the day, 70 members of the community were able to "Know Their Status."



## Gifted Students Benefit From Celebrity Bowl-A-Thon



On Saturday, May 5, 2012, **Sanford Alumnae Chapter** held its first Celebrity Bowl-A-Thon. The activity held at Airport Lanes in Sanford, FL was a fundraiser to provide scholarships for academically gifted students in the Seminole County community.

Celebrities who participated included residents of Sanford and other Central Florida communities. Soror Ericka Dunlap, Miss America 2004, Mayor

Jeff Triplett and Anthony Bowie, past player for Orlando Magic, were among the participants in the Bowl-A-Thon. Soror Shenique Gilbert maintained the excitement of the crowd as the emcee for the event. The Celebrity Bowl-A-Thon was a tremendous success that entertained and raised funds for a worthy cause.

## Memphis Alumnae Commits To The International Community

**Memphis Alumnae Chapter's** International Awareness Committee (IAC) is committed to helping women in underserved countries realize their dreams of becoming self-sufficient by way of entrepreneurship. The IAC's mission is to explore opportunities to assist women and girls in third-world countries to become financially self-sufficient by providing direct investments in already established international micro-lending and grant-making programs, which support women and creates community awareness.

In collaboration with KIVA.org, the chapter has also granted loans to eleven women who own businesses in Kenya, Rwanda, Benin, Ecuador, Uganda and Senegal. The loans to individuals and groups range from \$50-\$350. The owners are responsible for repaying the loan to the IAC, and the repayment of the loans is used to finance additional loans through KIVA.org.

In addition to KIVA.org, the IAC donated \$300 to Women for Women International to sponsor

a woman for a year in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Women for Women International helps women survivors of war rebuild their lives. The IAC's financial assistance will aid the recipient in learning new job skills and rights awareness, while also giving her hope and support.

*"When you inspire a woman, you set her free."*

The IAC believes, "When you inspire a woman, you set her free." The committee plans to further their mission by involving chapter members with KIVA.org and providing educational opportunities to the young ladies in their Delta G.E.M.S. program.

## Good Feelings Come From Doing Something For Someone Else



On December 10, 2011, **Okaloosa County Alumnae Chapter's** Delta G.E.M.S and Delta Academy members really got into the “spirit of the season.” A Christmas party was held and the celebration was all about giving back to children and families in need. Participants decorated and donated eleven wreaths to the Opportunity Place Homeless Shelter located in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. The shelter is part of the Okaloosa Walton Homeless Continuum of Care/Opportunity, Inc. The wreaths were beautifully showcased outside each unit used to house those in need of short term shelter.

Additionally, pocket change was collected for the “Making Change with your Change” initiative. Sixty dollars was collected and donated to the Waterfront Rescue Mission, which is a program dedicated to serving the needs of the poor, addicted, abused and homeless by spreading God’s goodness. The money raised was able to feed 25 men, women, and children in the community. To join in on the spirit of giving, chapter sorors donated dolls to the Emerald Coast

Children’s Advocacy Center (ECCAC). ECCAC provides services to help identify, treat and support children in physical and sexual abusive situations as well as severely neglected children.

The celebration continued with a talent showcase presented by G.E.M.S. and Academy members. The talent showcase included a songstress, praise dancers, ballroom dancers, and musicians. Afterwards, the girls went green with fashions to promote their “Go Green” initiative. The purpose of the show was to transform recycled objects into functional and wearable garments or accessories. Each participant strolled down the runway, looking “fierce” in their original designs made out of discarded products such as plastic bags, newspapers and cans. Onlookers were dazzled by the creative abilities of the girls.

Everyone left the celebration “full” from all the good food, fun and fellowship, but most of all from the deep down good feeling that comes from doing something for someone else.

## Dade County Alumnae Awards More Than \$18,000 In Scholarships



**Dade County Alumnae Chapter** hosted its first public scholarship awards event on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at the New Birth Enterprise in Miami, Florida. Using the theme, “Dare to Dream: Striving to Make a Difference One Dream at a Time,” the chapter awarded more than \$18,000 in scholarships to 18 college-bound, female high school seniors.

With the glamour and elegance of a Grammy-style awards ceremony, the event highlighted the academic, community service and extracurricular accomplishments of each winner. As each award recipient was announced, the winner “walked

the red carpet” and joined the presenting sorors on stage for photos and their moment in the spotlight. Award amounts ranged from book scholarships of \$250 to the chapter’s top award of \$8,000 over a four-year period. Some awardees received laptop computers, ensuring that the winners are tech-ready as they enter college.

A local youth dance company and a spoken word artist provided entertainment and inspiration to the scholarship recipients, their families and Deltas in attendance. The program also featured a career medley to introduce the scholarship winners and guests to the variety of professions in

which sorors are employed.

“The Dade County Alumnae Chapter has provided scholarships to young ladies of African-American descent for over 20 years. We are very proud of our chapter’s ongoing commitment to providing financial resources that enable young women to obtain a college degree,” said chapter president, Soror Janice P. Hopton.

“Our inaugural scholarship event was the perfect forum to publically recognize and spotlight our winners, and we look forward to hosting this activity for years to come,” added Soror Hopton.

## Grand Bahama Alumnae Salutes Most Improved Students



In keeping with the sorority's Educational Development Programmatic Thrust, the ladies of the **Grand Bahama Alumnae Chapter** recognized the "most improved" sixth grade students from several primary schools on the island through its Reach for the Stars program. Grand Bahama Alumnae realizes that many students are challenging themselves and

achieving excellence through no fortuitous act but through hard work. It is in this spirit of determination and recognition of such efforts that the chapter established its Reach for The Stars program.

Reach for the Stars is one of the first initiatives that the Grand Bahama Alumnae Chapter commenced after chartering in 2009. The objective of

the program is to highlight those primary school students who, through hard work and determination, were able to succeed academically.

Chapter president, Soror Shery Poitier said that the chapter chose to recognize the "most improved" student because often emphasis is only placed on top achievers, neglecting those who are making a conscious effort to improve their academic standing.

"We wanted to encourage them to do more as they enter high school. Sometimes all students need is a little push and someone to show some interest and make them feel special so that they would do better," she said.

Presentations are made to the students the school selects at their respective graduation ceremonies. The chapter follows up with each student annually to ensure that they remain on the right track academically.

## LaGrange Alumnae Gets S.A.S.S.Y.



Dr. Marc E. Guy, Mrs. Dawn Revere, Mrs. Danielle Flournoy and Ms. Sabrena Brawley were presenters at the S.A.S.S.Y. program.

The **LaGrange Alumnae Chapter** presented the annual SASSY Program- "Students Achieving Scholastically and Socially as Youth." This year the program was held at East Coweta High School in Sharpsburg, GA.

Teens from Coweta, Troup and Chambers Counties participated and were engaged in discussions on topics such as Social Media-The Do's and Don'ts, College Admissions and other collegiate information, Dressing For Success, Pregnancy, and HIV/AIDS Awareness.

PowerPoint presentations were designed so that the teens might observe helpful information that could be shared with peers at their local high schools.

## Broward County Welcomes Superintendent Robert Runcie



The **Broward County (FL) Alumnae Chapter** hosted a welcome reception for Broward Schools 20th superintendent, Mr. Robert Runcie at the Kathleen C. Wright Life Development Center. Over 100 individuals attended the event, including Deltas from area chapters, EMBODI (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence) male mentoring group participants, and others of the Broward County community.

Patricia Taylor Johnson, chapter president, explained the significance and history of the name of the facility and provided an overview of the programs conducted at the center. Soror Stephanie

Evans presented her debut children's book titled "Steven James," to Superintendent Runcie, and Soror Barbara H. Wilson introduced Mr. Runcie, highlighting his background and credentials.

During his remarks, Superintendent Runcie solicited input and ideas to help improve schools throughout the county and encouraged the audience to serve and participate in upcoming teacher forums. He assured attendees that his focus was on improving quality instruction for all students in the sixth largest urban school district, and stated that "a lot of positive things are going on in our schools, but it does not get highlighted." He further stressed the importance of partnering with faith-based institutions, businesses, and community service based organizations, like the Broward County Alumnae Chapter, to ensure that the schools provide the best educational environments possible for students. Superintendent Runcie entertained questions and answers and posed for photographs with past and current educators and administrators.

In her closing remarks, Soror Johnson promised the superintendent that the Broward County Alumnae Chapter is committed to advancing his vision and mission of education for the youth of Broward County.

## Chapter Raises Awareness Of Heart Disease



Greenwood Itta-Bena Alumnae Chapter sorors and guests participate in a Zumba workout lead by Soror Angela Morton.

In recognition of National Heart Disease Awareness month, the **Greenwood Itta-Bena Alumnae Chapter** hosted a "Healthy Heart"

forum and Zumba fitness class on February 11 at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Greenwood, MS. Attendees received blood pressure and blood glucose screenings and had their weight checked. Soror Angela Morton, a registered nurse at St. Dominic and Greenwood-Leflore hospitals, led a 25-minute heart disease educational component and taught a 25 minute Zumba fitness class.

"Heart disease is the number one killer of women in the United States. The disease disproportionately affects African-Americans," said Soror Shani K. Collins, the chair of the Social Action Commission. "I believe that every person should regard their health as an important issue. We should all make strides to live healthier lives."

## 2012 Miss Jabberwock Is Crowned At Columbus State University



(from left to right) 2nd Runner-up, Miss Kaylah Green; 2012 Miss Jabberwock, Miss Brittney Wheeler; 1st Runner-up, Miss Jessica Roberts.

The Delta Life Development Foundation, Inc., **Columbus (GA) Alumnae** and **Theta Phi chapters** presented its 2012 Jabberwock “Jewels are Forever” on Saturday, June 9th at Columbus State University’s University Hall.

Miss Brittney Wheeler was crowned the 2012 Miss Jabberwock for raising the most amount of money for scholarships. Miss Jessica Roberts was First Runner-up and Miss Kaylah Green was Second Runner-up.

2012 Jabberwock participants were Jamyah Bennett, Adrianna Lindsey, Vinessa Taylor, Ciara Toliver, Joy Mobley, Zaria Howard, and Anna Swanier. The young ladies range from Pre-K to the 8th grade and reside in the Columbus, Georgia metro area.

The Jewels were presented during the event after showcasing their talents of singing the theme song from the Disney movie “Aladdin,” “A Whole New World” and a dance routine to recording artist Willow Smith’s “Whip my Hair.”

Participants attended various workshops over a period of four months which focused on science, black history, self-esteem and awareness, physical health awareness, etiquette and participation in the arts.

## Rome (GA) Alumnae Gives Back For Christmas

**Rome (GA) Alumnae** donated not to one, not two, but three worthy organizations for Christmas.

AIDS Resource Council in Rome received three Christmas baskets. Included in the baskets were fixins for a holiday meal, sweet treats and personal care items. Pastor Linda Smith of Mountain Top Ministries received 50 shoeboxes for girls or boys. Included in the shoeboxes were school supplies, small toiletries, and a little something sweet.

Angel Express, an organization that provides dolls and other items to children during Christmas received 60 dolls from Rome (GA) Alumnae. This is the seventh year that the chapter has donated dolls to Angel Express in the memory of Soror Alri Leah Aker who made dolls, doll clothes, doll bed and blankets and donated them to Angel Express.



Soror Karen Nelson, chapter president on the left is pictured with board members of the AIDS Resource Council of Rome.

## Delta Academy And Delta G.E.M.S. Go On A College Tour



**Dothan Alumnae Chapter’s** sixteen Delta Academy and Delta G.E.M.S. (DADG), seven advisors and one parent/volunteer traveled to multiple destinations in Florida for a college tour.

The college tour included stops at Florida A&M University (FAMU) and Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Arts College. While at FAMU, two Delta G.E.M.S. participated in an interview with

the campus news show, where they were asked to express their thoughts about bullying. At Le Cordon Bleu, the young ladies met with one of 72 master chefs in the world who is also a professor at the college.

The young ladies also met with the director of human resources for Universal Parks – Orlando, where they received behind-the-scene career talk. The director

spoke about how to dress for an interview, how to greet an interviewer and internships available at Universal Park. After “career-talk,” everyone enjoyed two parks, Universal Studios and Islands of Adventures.

The group attended the Pirates Dinner Theater, where one of the DADG participants had the opportunity to participate in the show.

## Palm Coast-Flagler County Alumnae Recognize Delta Academy and Delta G.E.M.S. Participants

On May 20, 2012, sixteen Delta Academy and Delta G.E.M.S. participants, six sorors and nine guests attended **Palm Coast-Flagler County Alumnae’s** closing celebration of the 2011-2012 academic school year.

Each young lady received a certificate of participation. They were also recognized for their participation in the African-American Culture Society’s Black History Reality Show, completing community service and maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA.

Delta Academy participant, Shanteria Few, was recognized for her acceptance into the “Take Stock in Children Program.” Upon successful completion of the program, she will be awarded a full scholarship to any Florida college of her choice. Delta G.E.M.S. participant, Crystal Buchanan, was accepted into the Daytona State College Dual enrollment program. Upon her graduation from high school, she will have completed two years of college and will graduate with an Associate Degree for free.

## The Bahamas Celebrates Their Newfound Voice In The Region



For the first time, The Bahamas will have a voice where the country's concerns will go directly to the Regional Director. **Soror Myra E. Mitchell**, born and raised in Nassau, Bahamas,

has been appointed Bahamas Coordinator for the Southern Region. She served as president of the Nassau, Bahamas Alumnae Chapter from 1998 to 2002.

Soror Mitchell's goals include encouraging more Bahamian sorors to fill positions on the Regional Leadership Team, establishing an advisory team for the collegiate chapter that will ensure proper compliance of chapter business, assisting with the establishment of a collegiate chapter in Grand Bahama and assisting chapters with the transition from collegiate to alumnae chapters.

"I am humbled to serve in this capacity and invite any Bahamian soror to call me with any regional concerns," Soror Mitchell said. "I will ensure the concern is addressed by the appropriate regional officer, keeping with the Regional Director's motto 'Striving to Make Delta Better, One Chapter at a Time.'"

## We've Come This Far By Faith: Soror Nancy Vaughan Honors History With Bethel

Often people imagine themselves writing plays, but quickly find the task overwhelming. **Soror Nancy Vaughan**, on the other hand, our Delta Dear on the move, wrote an historic play which was performed last November. "*Bethel*," an original play by Vaughan is about an 1853 black slave community in southeast Rutherford County, Tennessee, where a black preacher, Nelson Grover Merry was sent to bring forth the word of God. The play is about what was then called "black" First Baptist Church, a church that is still in existence today, and is an integral part of the Murfreesboro, Tennessee community.

In "*Bethel*," Soror Vaughan brought to life a history of Murfreesboro that was unknown to many of its residents. "This (story) had been bothering me for almost a year before I had really given in to (writing) it," Soror Vaughan said. "Every night when I would get into the bed, something would invade my thoughts (and tell me that I had to) write this down."

"*Bethel*" is especially noteworthy because of its inclusion in the Murfreesboro Bicentennial



Celebration, which commemorates the rich history of the city. Soror Vaughan, Historian for First Baptist Church and the past historian for the **Rutherford County Alumnae Chapter**, believes in the importance and the value of learning and

honoring one's history. The overall message that Soror Vaughan would like audience members to leave with is that "we've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord." And, it is indeed, that faith will usher African-Americans in this community and beyond into a brighter future.

Another performance of "*Bethel*" was held on April 21st, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at Patterson Community Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

## Mississippi News Anchor Selected "Top 40 Under 40"

The Mississippi Business Journal tapped **Soror Stephanie Maxwell** to its 20th class of "Top 40 Under 40". Every year, the program honors 40 of the state's best and brightest leaders who have made significant contributions to their communities, businesses and professions.

Soror Maxwell is the multi-award winning anchor of 16 WAPT News at 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Jackson, Mississippi. Since joining the ABC affiliate in 2009, she has anchored newscasts that won the 2012 Southeast EMMY for Best Newscast, 2011 and 2012 Mississippi Associated Press Best Newscast, 2011 Mississippi Associated Press Best



Documentary, and prestigious 2011 Edward R. Murrow Regional award for Continuing Coverage.

She has worked as a News Anchor/Reporter in Greenville, South Carolina; Greenville/New Bern, North Carolina; Augusta, Georgia; and Greenville, Mississippi. In 2007 and 2010, Soror Maxwell received a Southeast EMMY nomination for Best News Anchor.

Soror Maxwell is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta through the New Bern Alumnae Chapter in 2004. She's currently a member of the **Jackson (MS) Alumnae Chapter** and was appointed last year to serve as Assistant Journalist for the Southern Region.

## Mississippi's First African-American Women Judges Honored



On February 21, 2012, the Mississippi Legislature honored **Soror Betty W. Sanders** and four others as the state's first African-American women judges.

In House Concurrent Resolution 50, adopted by both the House and Senate, the legislature recognized

the achievements of the first African-American female judges as "commendable evidence of the progression toward equality in this state."

Soror Sanders has served on the bench since 1989. She became senior judge of the three-county Fourth Judicial District in 2001. Judge Sanders' career includes

many "firsts." She is the first African-American to be elected circuit court judge, post 3 in Mississippi's Fourth Judicial District. She also became the first African-American Circuit Court Magistrate Judge in Mississippi, and the first African-American attorney to represent the Greenwood Public School District.

In addition, Judge Sanders established and presides over drug court whose goal is to reduce substance abuse among nonviolent offenders.

A Golden Life member, Judge Sanders is past president and current parliamentarian of the **Greenwood-Itta Bena Alumnae Chapter**.



The Dynamic Southern Region is home to a host of sorors who are elected or appointed public officials. School boards, city councils, courts in states throughout the region have Deltas in their ranks, advocating for and protecting the rights of citizens. We are pleased to present these sorors, who exemplify that “**public service is what we do!**”

ALABAMA



**Ella B. Bell**  
Member, Alabama State Board of Education  
District 5



**Linda Coleman**  
State Senator  
District 20



**Merika Coleman**  
State Representative  
District 57



**Tommie B. Conaway**  
Daphne City Councilwoman  
District 1



**Brendette Brown Green**  
Municipal Court Judge  
City of Birmingham



**Laura Hall**<sup>‡</sup>  
State Representative  
House District 19



**Dr. Yvonne Kennedy**<sup>‡</sup>  
State Representative  
House District 97



**Dr. Yvette McPherson-Richardson**  
Alabama State Board of Education



**Mary Moore**  
State Representative  
District 59



**Beverly Ross**  
Member, School Board  
Montgomery, Public Schools



**Sandra Sudduth**  
City Council for Jacksonville Alabama  
Mayor-Pro Tem Jacksonville



**Tracie A. Todd**  
Judge  
City of Birmingham

<sup>‡</sup>Past National President

<sup>†</sup>Southern Region Social Action Commission

ALABAMA



Alabama Sorors Not Pictured

**Dr. Mary L. Harrington**  
Aniston City of Board of Education

**Anita L. Kelly**  
15th Judicial Circuit Judge

**Pebblin Warren**  
State Representative  
District 82

BAHAMAS



**Chervita K. Campbell**  
City Council Member

FLORIDA SORORS NOT PICTURED

NAME	Position
Larcenia J. Bullard	State Senator, District 39
Mercerese R. Clark	Member of Orange County, Enterprise Zone Board
Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall	Miami-Dade School Board Member, District 2
Gwyndolen Clarke-Reed	Florida State Representative, District 92

FLORIDA



**M. Margaret Bates**  
City Commissioner



**Angela M. Cox**  
County Court Judge  
Duval County, 4th Judicial Circuit



**Pauline Drake**  
County Court Judge  
Group 4



**Audrey Edmonson**  
Vice Chairman, Miami-Dade  
County Board  
Commissioners



**Kathy Garner**  
Gadsden County Judge



**Audrey Gibson**  
State Senator, District 1



**Shirley Gibson**  
Mayor  
City of Miami Gardens



**Ilona M. Holmes**  
Circuit Court Judge



**Arthenia L. Joyner**  
Democratic Leader Pro Tempore  
State Senator, District 18



**Cassandra Reynolds**  
City Commissioner  
Zone 6, Daytona Beach



**Dr. Brenda C. Snipes**  
Broward County  
Supervisor of Elections



**Patricia Hawkins-Williams**  
City Commissioner



**Berryl Anderson**  
Chief Magistrate Judge  
Magistrate Court of  
DeKalb County



**Donna Bowman<sup>†</sup>**  
Board Member  
Cobb County Commission  
on Children and Youth



**Andrea P. Brooks**  
Sumter County  
Commissioner



**Emma I. Darnell**  
Vice-Chair, District 5  
Fulton County Board of  
Commissioners



**Dr. Virginia J. Dixon**  
Peach County School  
Board District 3



**Dr. Delores Felder**  
Mayor Pro-Tem  
City of Marshallville



**Jessie Goree**  
Clayton County School  
Board, District 3



**Alice Green**  
Sumter County Board of  
Education



**Pat Hugley Green**  
Elected School  
Board Member Muscogee  
County School Board  
District 1



**Irene G. Hines**  
School Board  
Representative, Savannah  
Chatham County  
Public Schools, District 5



**Dr. Dionne L. Hoskins**  
School Board Representative,  
Savannah Chatham County  
Public Schools, District 2



**Lula Lunsford Huff**  
Muscogee County Tax  
Commissioner

<sup>†</sup>Southern Region Social Action Commission



**Elaine Lucas**  
Macon, Georgia  
City Council



**Dr. Oneida Ingram**  
Historic Preservation  
Commission Member



**Edna Branch Jackson**  
Mayor  
Savannah, Georgia



**Shirley Barber James**  
Commissioner, Savannah-  
Hilton Head  
International Airport



**Ruby Jones**  
School Board  
Representative, Savannah  
Chatham County  
Public Schools, District 8



**Sheila Jones**  
State Representative,  
District 53



**Dr. Carolyn Medlock**  
Superintendent  
Macon County  
School District



**Dorothy Patterson**  
Regional Library Board  
Member



**Allyson R. Pitts**  
Chief Judge, Forest Park  
Municipal Court  
Associate Judge, East Point  
Municipal Court



**Linda Dowdell-Pope**  
Board of Commissioners,  
Housing Authority of  
Americus



**Beverly Evans Smith<sup>‡</sup>**  
Chairman, Cobb County  
Board of Elections and  
Registration



**Elsie Strange**  
Regional Library Board  
Member

<sup>‡</sup>National Secretary



**Rhathelia Stroud**  
Judge and Director  
Diversion Treatment Court  
DeKalb County Magistrate  
Court



**Shirley Wynn**  
Greensboro, Georgia  
City Council; Chair,  
Personnel Board Street  
Department

GEORGIA SORORS NOT PICTURED

NAME	Position
Tangela Barrie	DeKalb Superior Court
Keisha Bottoms	Atlanta City Council, District 11
Linda Bryant	Board Vice President, Fulton County Board of Education, District 4
LaChandra Butler Burks	Atlanta Board of Education, District 5
Elaine L. Carlisle	Municipal Court of Atlanta
Myra Dixon	
Alice Green	Member, Sumter County Board of Education
Dee Dawkins-Haigler	State Representative District 93
Melynee Leftridge	
Nora Polk	DeKalb Magistrate
Evelyn Wright Turner Pugh	Mayor Pro-Tem, Columbus, Georgia
Pamela Stephenson	State Representative, District 92
Elizabeth "Diane" Thomas	Brooks County School Board Member At-Large
Daphne M. Walker	Chief Magistrate Judge, Clayton County Magistrate Court
Linda T. Walker	Federal Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia

MISSISSIPPI SORORS NOT PICTURED

NAME	Position
Willie Lavonne Evans	
Jamelda F. Fulton	Western Line, School Board Member
Betty W. Sanders	Senior Circuit Judge, Fourth Circuit District Court of Mississippi Leflore, Sunflower and Washington Counties
Adrienne Wooten	House of Representative, District 71



**Dr. Elaine Baker**  
Member, Delta Strategic  
Compact, AARP District  
Team Lead, Congressional  
District 2



**Bridgett Clayton**  
City of Jackson, Municipal  
Court Judge



**Dorothy Colom**  
Senior Chancery Court  
Judge



**Betty Taylor Dixon**  
Justice Court  
Judge



**S. Jaribu Hill**<sup>†</sup>  
Municipal Judge  
City of Hollandale



**Angela Gibson Hutchins**  
Adams County Supervisor  
District 3



**Timaka James Jones**  
Humphreys County  
Circuit Clerk



**Monique Montgomery**  
City Prosecutor/City  
Attorney



**Gay L. Polk-Payton**  
Forrest County  
Justice Court Judge



**Linda Stringfellow**  
Community Co-Chair  
Mississippi Community  
Planning Group



**Dr. Jacquelyn Carter Thigpen**  
Superintendent of Education  
for the Cleveland School  
District



**Veldore F. Young**  
County, Youth & Drug  
Court Judge

<sup>†</sup>Southern Region Social Action Commission



**Marcia D. Allen**  
Franklin City Planning  
Commissioner



**Keta J. Barnes**  
Smyrna General Sessions  
Court Judge



**Rev. Dr. Judy D. Cummings**  
Nashville, Metropolitan  
Planning Commission &  
Minority Business Advisory  
Board



**Lois Deberry**<sup>†</sup>  
State Representative  
District 91  
Speaker Pro Tem Emeritus  
Minority Floor Leader



**Ardena J. Garth**  
Public Defender  
11th Judicial District  
Hamilton County, Tennessee



**Brenda Gilmore**  
State Representative,  
District 54



**Donna Rossetti Grayer**  
Member, Alarm Appeals  
Board Metropolitan  
Government of Nashville  
and Davidson County



**Thelma M. Harper**  
Senator, 19th District



**Madelyn Scales Harris**  
Murfreesboro City Council



**Tomeka R. Hart**  
Shelby County Schools  
Board of Education  
Commissioner



**Sharon W. Hurt**  
Nashville Metropolitan  
Industrial Development  
Board



**Teresa Jones**  
Shelby County School  
Board District II

<sup>†</sup>Southern Region Social Action Commission



**Carolyn Sneed Lester**  
City of Murfreesboro  
Construction Board of  
Adjustments & Appeals



**Vanecia Kimbrow, Esq**  
Shelby County Board of  
Education, District IV



**Daisy W. Madison**  
City of Chattanooga  
Chief Financial Officer



**Cassandra McGee Stuart**  
Knox County  
Election Commission



**Mary McKnight Wade**  
Chair of Murfreesboro City  
School Board

TENNESSEE SORORS NOT PICTURED

NAME	Position
Carol Carter-Estes	Madison County, School Board, District 6, Position 1
Johnnie Turner	State Legislator

**Disclaimer:** We do apologize in advance for any sorors who were omitted. We know that there are many sorors who are elected or appointed that are serving throughout the Southern Region. Communication about this article was sent out to state coordinators and chapter presidents. Pictures and names were submitted by chapter presidents, state coordinators, and the regional social action committee.



## Guidelines for submitting articles to the newsletter

### How To Submit Articles

- Submissions should be e-mailed to [journalist@dstsouthernregion.com](mailto:journalist@dstsouthernregion.com)
- Articles should be attached as a Word document
- Word count in article should be between 250 - 500 words

### How To Submit Photography

- Photos should be e-mailed as an attachment to [journalist@dstsouthernregion.com](mailto:journalist@dstsouthernregion.com) in jpeg format
- Do not send photos embedded in a Word document
- When submitting a photo please include a caption, identifying everyone in the photo from left to right
- Photos need to be high resolution: 300 dpi or higher
- Do not send photos that are not in focus
- Consider action shots, not just posed photos

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## Do you have the "write" stuff?

The Southern Region needs you. We're looking for chapter journalists, writers, and photographers who are willing to write articles and take pictures for the regional newsletter. If you're interested, e-mail [journalist@dstsouthernregion.com](mailto:journalist@dstsouthernregion.com).