

The Reporter

The Delta Kappa
Gamma Society
International

Epsilon Kappa
Chapter #130

Texas State
Organization
Austin, TX
Area 7

International Mission: Delta Kappa Gamma promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education

International Theme: DKG: Leading Women Educators, Impacting Education Worldwide

State Theme: YOU are the key

Chapter Theme: Women Educators ... inspire and be inspired

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President's Message

Editor

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It is cold and flu season. I have heard in the news that schools are feeling the impact of these seasonal illnesses. With the influx of travel, stress, and the demands of life, we are reminded to take care of ourselves. Let's be healthy of mind and body.

As we move forward to a new year, 2020, The spring schedule is full of inspiration and information. Our February luncheon is at the Saltgrass Steak House, 10614 Research Boulevard, on **Saturday, February 1, 2019, 11:00 am. Our speaker is Dr. Ballard, St. Edwards' University Dean of Education.** She is an amazing chapter member and an inspiring speaker. She will speak to us about empowering women.

March brings a new topic "Cultural Relevant Pedagogy" presented to our members by Zolia Cardenas, Assistant Principal at Wooten Elementary, and PhD student at Texas State. Plan to attend this opportunity for professional and personal growth as women educators.

We are all looking forward to the 91st TSO Convention, June 17-19, 2020, in McAllen, Texas. McAllen welcomes everyone to the heart of the Rio Grande Valley. This convention will be ushering in some changes from previous conventions. To help

everyone celebrate Father's Day, the convention is scheduled from Wednesday through Friday. Please go to the Texas State Organizations website www.dkgtexas.org for the Winter 2019 edition of the *Lone Star News*. The schedule at a glance, registration form and hotel registration link are included in this issue. Hotel registration is open. Also, check out the latest Convention Keys, the most updated and informative source of news about the McAllen Convention, which is available monthly on the website as well.

I hope everyone will enjoy their time spent with family and friends near and far during the holidays. To those of you that have lost loved ones during this season, you will continue to be in our prayers.

Learn, grow and celebrate this spring and summer!

Kathy Mihalik



October Highlights



New Members Priscilla Sanchez Emamian and Danielle Sanders with Gracie Esquivel

Induction of two new members, an interactive presentation by the immediate past TSO president, a presentation about Founder Dr. Annie Webb Blanton by our area coordinator, awarding of an "Outstanding Educator Award" to our own Carolyn Wilson, and lots of fellowship.



Area 7 coordinator, Carole Lowe as Annie Webb Blanton.



Dr. Jo Murphy center designed and coordinated the Chapter Leadership activity. From left to right Linda Holt, Sue Bires, Dr. Earin Martin, and Bernadine Eaton reporting for their groups.



2019 Outstanding Educator Carolyn Wilson and Kathy Mihalik

November Highlights

For November's meeting at Pillow Elementary, Cara Hamlin and Sarah Cable presented "Moving STEM from the Classroom to Beyond!" They shared on ways to not only make your classroom a more interactive environment for all learners, but they also shared the importance of exposing our students to opportunities in the Computer Science industry, for all career paths and interests. Counselors 4 Computing provided many resources for the presentation, including Google Cardboard glasses for our participants to try out (as well as one that was raffled off for the lucky winner, Pam Kelly). Counselors for Computing is a project of NCWIT, the National Center for Women & Information Technology. NCWIT is a consortium of over 1000 institutional members from K12 education, Academia and Industry, all interested in increasing the meaningful participation of women and other traditionally underrepresented groups in computing. ncwit.org/c4c.

Jobs in the computing industry are the #1 source of new ages in America. 58% of all new jobs in STEM are in Computing, but only 8% of STEM graduates major in Computer Science. Women who try AP Computer Science in HS are ten times more likely to major in it, while Black and Latinx students are seven times more likely. Out of all the computing jobs (the fastest-growing, highest-paying, and most in-demand jobs) in our entire economy, women make up only a quarter of our workforce. The stats are similar for Black and Hispanic students.

Some organizations that help partner with you and your students to expose students to STEM and computing are: DigiGirlz, Code2College, Coder Dojo, Code Club, The Coding , Space, CODE.org and TEALS (<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/diversity/programs/digigirlz/default.aspx>, <https://code2college.org/>, <https://coderdojo.com/>, <https://codeclub.org/en/>, <https://www.thecodingspace.com/>, <https://code.org/>, <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/teals>

Unplugged activities were also explored. Unplugged activities are activities that can be done in the absence of technology/electronics. Most activities can be done with paper, pencil, and problem-solving. From these activities, students get the basic essence of coding, and communicating to someone/something what they want it/them to do. Some of the websites given as options for exploring unplugged activities were: <https://code.org/curriculum/unplugged>, <https://code.org/files/CSEDbinary.pdf>, https://classic.csunplugged.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/unplugged-02-image_representation.pdf.

Hour of Code is a great way to introduce students to Coding Activities for all age groups/interests. The official week for the Hour of Code is December 9-15, but the activities can be explored /completed at any time. <https://hourofcode.com/us>, <https://hourofcode.com/us/learn>

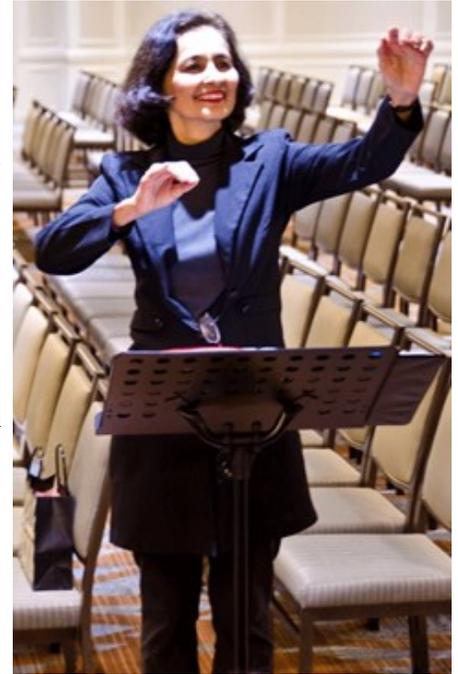
A good way to help students explore potential fields for them, is to not ask them, "What do you want to be when you grow up," rather "What problems do you want to solve?" "This helps shift the conversation from who do I want to work for, to what do I need to learn in order to be able to do that." - Jamie Casap, Google Education Evangelist.

Submitted by Cara Hamlin



Member Spotlight

Music brings me so much joy! It has been a major part of my life since childhood especially through song. Singing in choirs, small groups, musicals, singing as a soloist, and conducting the Riverbend Choir on Sunday mornings surrounds me with beautiful music. I spent twenty-seven wonderful years teaching elementary school music in public schools and enjoyed teaching my students about music. In DKG I have had the pleasure of serving as the Epsilon Kappa Chapter Music Chairman and working with art teacher and EK member Charlotte Brown to help our chapter members make a chapter set of homemade instruments. Singing in International and TSO Convention Choruses, serving as the TSO Music Chairman/Chorus Director under Marilyn Gregory's 2015-17 Presidency and directing the 2019 Costa Mesa Conference Chorus provided opportunities to meet multi-talented DKG members.



Cathy Daugherty, International President, has asked me to serve as the DKG 2020 Philadelphia International Convention Fine Arts Coordinator. She has created a Fine Arts Committee that will select the entertainment for the convention. We will do a lot of the behind the scenes work to be sure we have needed equipment and materials for our entertainers, and select and schedule members/others to share their musical talents at the convention. Looking forward to another musical adventure!



Conducting 2019 Costa Mesa Convention Chorus



Deb leading crowd in National Anthem



Book Lovers

Please join us for a lively discussion of Motherless Brooklyn by Jonathan Lethem on Sunday, February 9 at 3:00 pm at the home of Sandi Causey.

Sandi lives at 6105 Oakclaire Drive Austin 78735 which is Oakhill.

This is a story about Lionel Essrog, who doesn't let Tourette's syndrome stand in the way of his job. Lionel sets out to solve the murder of Frank Minna -- his mentor and only friend. Motherless Brooklyn is a classic detective novel written in 1999, which has been turned into a movie currently playing at the theater.

We will be picking our next book at this meeting. We are a fun group! Please come and consider bringing a friend. Your friend does not need to be a DKG member.



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Submitted by Pam Kelly

S.E.E. Project Update

Thankfulness abounds near the end of November. Generous chapter members contributed \$1600 to the Epsilon Kappa Educational Foundation for the purchase of five iPads for our SEE project. Thanks to everyone for that gift to our early career educators.



Please remember our next chapter meeting on Thursday, December 5, at 4:30 pm at Walnut Creek. We will hear how the Osmo system is being used in classrooms by some of our SEE mentees. The Osmo games will be available for members to try solving puzzles with words, numbers, tangrams, fractions and more.

We also delivered 30 goodie bags to all mentees and office staff at our four elementary schools as a way to say thank you for working this first semester to ensure student success.

Submitted by Bernadine Eaton and Marcia Kirkland



Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, December 5th, 2019, 4:30 pm

Location: Walnut Creek Elementary School.

Charity: Warm Clothing Drive benefiting elementary students.

Activity: Make and take Ornament.

Program: SEE – What is it? – Meeting our mentees and mentors as well as better understanding the mission and vision for SEE.

Speaker: Bernardine Eaton

Music: Christmas Caroling

Saturday, February 1st, 2020, 11:00 am

Location: Saltgrass Steakhouse, 10614 Research Blvd

Program: Empowering Women.

Speaker: Dr. Ballard. St. Edwards' University Dean of Education.

Warm Clothing Drive for Students at Walnut Creek Elementary

Santa is looking for help at the December 5th meeting. Thanks, Luisa for setting this warm clothing drive up for members. As we know it can get very cold quickly here in Austin. Elementary students are in need of warm clothing. We are asking chapter members for your help. The children who receive these warm clothes will truly be blessed this holiday season.

Number of Elementary Students by grade

- PK-138
- KG-94
- 1st-91
- 2nd-78
- 3rd-92
- 4th-92
- 5th-80



Suggested items for donation

Scarves, hats, gloves, socks, jackets, pullover hoodie or warm sweatshirts. Blankets or warm throws.

Submitted by Luisa Hernandez



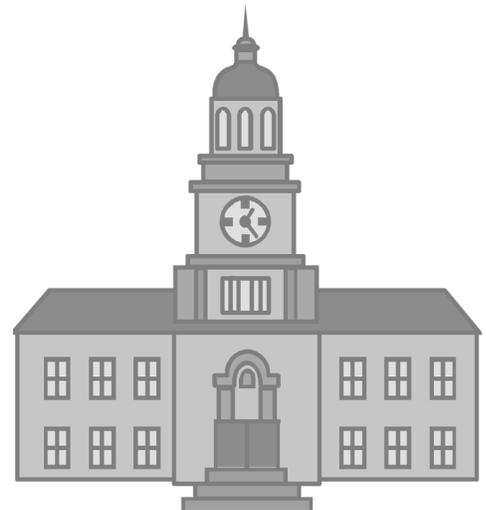
Collegiate Membership Our Newest Membership Opportunity



Collegiate – Collegiate membership shall be granted to undergraduate or graduate students who meet the following criteria:

1. Undergraduate student collegiate members:
 - Be enrolled in an institution offering an education degree and have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education;
 - and
 - Be enrolled within the last two years of their undergraduate education degree.
2. Graduate student collegiate members:
 - Have graduate standing in an institution offering an education degree; and
 - Have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education.
3. Collegiate members have all the privileges of membership except that of holding office and have no obligations except payment of dues.
4. A collegiate member may serve as parliamentarian.
5. Collegiate status is granted by a majority vote of the chapter.
6. When a collegiate member starts her career as a paid educator, she will pay active member dues and become an active member. If a collegiate member does not pursue a career as an educator, her membership will expire upon graduation or withdrawal from the education degree program.

*Contact our membership chair, Pam Kelly if you know of undergrads or graduate students that would be interested in joining DKG.



One was wondering if it really mattered.
One was looking for an excuse.
One was tired and lonesome.
Are you the One?

One was wearing a big welcoming smile.
One was helping carry in the load.
One was giving out great big hugs.
Are you the One?

One was busy and overworked.
The meeting was coming up and the registration
deadline was soon.
There's always a lot of regulars attending.
They don't really need me there...
Are you the One?

Or... Maybe you are needed there..
You may be needed to greet a new attendee,
Or you may be the friendly face someone looks for-
ward to seeing.
You may have the words of encouragement and em-
pathy someone needs to hear.
Are you the One?

You may have the committee team report.
Or you may have the next great idea.
You may be the voice of reason.
Or you may be the voice that says, "Why Not?".
Are you the One?

Yes, One does make a difference!
One plus one, plus one, plus one, plus... is what
makes DKG work.
Yes! You are the One who is needed to make our
meeting complete –

Poem by Leila Koenig, Colorado State President 2019
-2012

Single use/further use only by direct permission.

Are You the One?...

Save the Dates 2019—2020

December 2019

Meeting: Thursday, December 5, 2019 - 4:30 PM

Location: Walnut Creek Elementary School, AISD

January 2020

Executive Board Meeting

February 2020

Meeting: Saturday, February 1, 2020 - 11:00 AM

Location: Saltgrass Steakhouse, 10614 Research Blvd Austin, TX 78759

March 2020

Meeting: Thursday, March 5, 2020 - 6:00 PM

Location: Home of Ann Lilie

April 2020

Meeting: Saturday, April 4, 2020 - 9:30 AM

Location: Delta Kappa Gamma International Headquarters

May 2020

Meeting: Saturday, May 2, 2020

Location: TBD

As We Look to the Future

It's the time of the year where, as a chapter, we have to begin to consider officers for the 2020-2022 biennium.

Please, think about how your gifts could benefit the chapter and consider serving as an officer or a committee chair.

If you are interested, please submit your name and how you would be willing to serve the chapter, to the chair of the Nominations Committee.

This great chapter of ours has a history of strong support and leadership –we want that to continue!

Nominations Committee

Pam Kelly, [Chair--pammkelly@gmail.com](mailto:pammkelly@gmail.com)

Debbie Sansom--Debsansom@gmail.com

Kim Thonhoff--kimthonhoff@sbcglobal.net



Epsilon Kappa Chapter The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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Newsletter Information

Please submit your articles and highlights for our next Chapter newsletter on or before Friday, January 17. You can send your submissions by email to Diane Sidoroff at diane.sidoroff@gmail.com or to Kathy Mihalik at kmihalik@airmail.net

During this year, members may be asked to submit articles about their reflections of meetings or other DKG activities. We want to involve as many people as possible to highlight the diversity of our chapter. Also, let us know about your Life Milestones, whether you have attended a meeting or not. News is always appreciated.

Please contact Marcia Kirkland if you wish to receive a printed copy of the newsletter, though we are trying to “go green” and send most by e-mail. Thanks, Marcia, for your help with communications!

Let's Celebrate!

Here is a list of birthdays to celebrate in December and January:

Claudia Knowles	12-04	Debbie Tonne	01-02
Sandi Causey	12-08	Marilyn Gregory	01-08
Kathy Mihalik	12-08	Martha Dolman	01-11
Ann Lilie	12-19	Danielle Sanders	01-13
Janet Bernard	12-22	Sue Bires	01-19
Luisa Hernandez	12-26	Jo Watts	01-23
		Charlotte Hanna	01-26
		Jeanette Abrajan	01-27

