



The Minerva

Richmond Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JOYFUL Christmas Sorors.

The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us. With all of the excitement, parties, decorating and family gatherings, we may forget this can also be an overwhelming time of the year for others. The **JOY** and meaning of Christmas are celebrating "Good Tidings of Great **JOY**" – the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Sorors, dispense the Gift of **JOY** through your kind words and acts of kindness. Just a little goes a long way to help balance the challenges of everyday life. You never know what people are going through. Also, please remember to contact our sick and shut-in Sorors throughout the holiday season.

I look forward to seeing you at the in-person Chapter Meeting on Saturday, December 17, 2022, at 10:00 AM, at Huguenot High School. The Executive Board intends to present a comprehensive but abbreviated meeting to allow time to meet our youth initiative participants from Delta GEMS, EMBODI, and Jabberwock. Let the spirit of the holidays bring an abundance of goodwill and **JOY** to your family and home.

Sisterly,
Vanessa

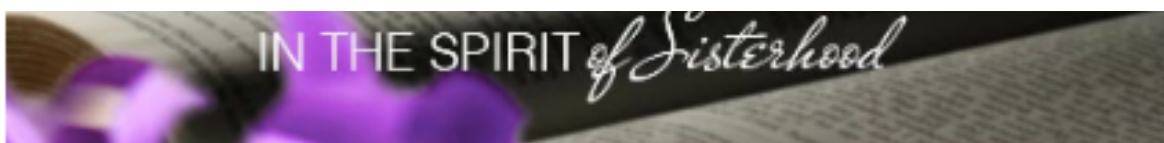
REMINDER:

IN-PERSON DECEMBER CHAPTER MEETING
12/17/22 at 10 AM
HUGUENOT HIGH SCHOOL



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Takeisha Brown, Chaplain
chaplain.dstrichmond@gmail.com



Save-the-Date 12/11/22: Christmas Cantata: Unity in the Body

Greetings Sorors. We will be continuing the Christmas Cantata this biennium. As you plan your chapter events for the remainder of this calendar year, please note that the virtual Christmas Cantata will be on **Sunday December 11, 2022 from 5:00 - 7:00pm.** The **theme this year is "Unity in the Body".** The vision God has given me this year is to include the Divine 9 organizations in the Cantata as we represent our unity in Christ across the Greek color lines. It will again be **open to the public.** Please begin praying for God to send the laborers and to send those who will come to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be saved.

John 12:32 KJV And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Dec 11, 2022 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Christmas Cantata: Unity in the Body of Christ

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_goLA2qRBTh-7Mjg8TZda7w

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

CHAPTER CALENDAR

Kimberly Dabney, Vice President PP&D
3rdvicepres.dstrichmond@gmail.com

December

- 12/10 Jabberwock Workshop | Scholarship
- 12/10 Delta Day at the Virginia General Assembly-Day One Training Webinar | Social Action / Political Awareness & Involvement
- 12/17 Chapter Meeting / *In-Person at Huguenot High School*
- 12/17 Introduction of Youth Initiative participants to Richmond Alumnae Chapter | Jabberwock / DELTA GEMS / EMBODI
- 12/17 Hat and Glove Collection Drive | Educational Development

January

- 1/3 Executive Board Meeting
- 1/7 Blood Drive | EPR
- 1/15 Jabberwock Workshop | Scholarship
- 1/15 National Founders Day Program / *Virtual*
- 1/21 RAC January Chapter Meeting / *CANCELED*
- 1/21 In-Person Founders Day Program | Norfolk Alumnae Host Chapter
- 1/21 Get Financially Fit | Economic Development
- 1/21 Jabberwock Workshop | Scholarship
- 1/22 *Chapter Prayer Call*
- 1/23 Delta Day at the Virginia General Assembly-Legislative Day at the Capitol | Social Action / Political Awareness & Involvement
- 1/28 EMBODI Youth Conference | Educational Development

February

- 2/4 33rd Annual L. Rita Davis Oratorical Contest | Arts & Letters
- 2/7 Executive Board
- 2/18 Chapter Meeting / *Virtual*
- 2/22-4/19 Entrepreneurship Program | Economic Development
- 2/24 Diner en' Rouge | Arts & Letters
- 2/25 Delta Youth Day Conference | Social Action / Political Awareness & Involvement
- 2/25 International Food Crawl/Fashion Show | International Awareness & Involvement
- 2/26 *Chapter Prayer Call*
- 2/27-3/3 Read Across America | Educational Development

National Communications:

- Statement on the 2022 Midterm Elections emailed November 21, 2022
- In All Things Give Thanks emailed November 23, 2022
- Engaging Our Sisterhood to Empower Our Communities emailed November 29, 2022
- Webinar | Strategic Planning In Action, emailed December 1, 2022
- Public Website Outage Notification emailed December 2, 2022
- Presenting Art in Action News - Episode 1 emailed December 2, 2022
- Heritage Moment: 100-year old Membership Certificate emailed December 4, 2022
- Delta Red Pages Registration is Now Open! emailed December 5, 2022

Regional Communications:

- Sending thankful praise your way emailed November 24, 2022
- Investigation Team Application 2022 emailed December 1, 2022
- Investigation Team Application 2022 - Repaired Link emailed December 1, 2022
- Christmas Cantata - Unity in the Body of Chris emailed December 2, 2022

SOROR SPOTLIGHT

BONNIE NEWMAN DAVIS



Soror Bonnie Newman Davis has been a journalist for more than four decades. Born in Roxboro, N.C., and raised in Greensboro, N.C., Soror Davis received her bachelor's degree in English from North Carolina A&T State University and her master's degree in journalism from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Soror Davis' journalism career has been extensive and rewarding. She was a reporter and editor for the Richmond News Leader and, later, the Richmond Times-Dispatch right here in Richmond; and she has worked for newspapers in Kentucky, North Carolina, and Michigan, as well as for MSNBC's thegrio.com and BlackAmericaWeb.com. She has served as a journalism professor at Virginia Commonwealth University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and North Carolina A&T State University.

Paving the way always has been Bonnie's mission. On Sunday, November 27, Bonnie launched her new work, 'Truth Tellers: The Power and Presence of Black Women Journalists Since 1960,' which tells the stories of 24 Black women whose journalism careers spanned the last forty years of the 20th century. The women highlighted are print and broadcast journalists who courageously bore the burden of being a Black woman in America's newsrooms. During the book launch, Bonnie's daughter, Erin, presented her mother with a beautiful bouquet of flowers, a fitting tribute to one who has done so much for so many in her field and beyond.

Congratulations, Soror Bonnie Newman Davis, on the successful launch of your new book. We can't wait to get our copies signed!

Bernita Williams, Vice President Scholarship
1stVP.dstrichmond@gmail.com

Scholarship Committee Application

The Scholarship Committee is looking to add new members. If you are interested in advancing our Scholarship programs, please consider applying for a position on the committee. For more information and to apply, please click on the link below:

[Scholarship Committee Application](#)

Mildred Barden, Chair
leadershipdev@gmail.com

The Leadership Development Committee is responsible for providing training or training resources to assist sorors in becoming local, regional, and national officers. To assist the committee with identifying the training needs of the chapter, please complete the survey that was previously sent out via the chapter's Constant Contact communication. Your completion of the survey is greatly appreciated.

To complete the survey, please use this [LINK](#) or the QR code included below.



Renee Johnson, 2nd VP, Membership Services
2ndvp.dstrichmond@gmail.com

OPERATION HARVEST

Thank you, sorors, for your support of this year's Operation Harvest community event. Thanks to you, we provided more than 1,600 boxes of mac and cheese to families in need. We collected enough to support two additional community events. In addition to the boxes of mac and cheese, we also donated 20 gift cards to assist families in purchasing turkeys for Thanksgiving.



2023 Oratorical Contest



**Richmond Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Arts and Letters Committee**
presents

The L. Rita Davis 33rd Annual

ORATORICAL CONTEST

*Creativity Is My
Mind's Paintbrush*

**Saturday
Feb. 4, 2023 * 9:30 AM**

**John Marshall High School
4225 Old Brook Road
Richmond, Virginia**

**YOUTH FROM PreK - 12TH GRADE
ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!**

Contact your school administrator to register

Questions? Contact
artsandletters.dstrichmond@gmail.com

Friday, December 30, 2022 | Greater Richmond Convention Center | 5pm-10pm |
403 N. 3rd Street

save the date

Elegba Folklore Society presents the 2022 Capital City Kwanzaa Festival
Volunteers needed to help with ticket taking and wristband distribution at the door.
RAC will work 2-hour shifts. 5-7pm 7-9pm If you are able to volunteer, send your
name, phone number, and preferred shift to artsandletters.dstrichmond@gmail.com
no later than *Saturday, December 17th*. Volunteer names will also be collected at the
chapter meeting.

Shop Local Shop Black Contest

Did you know that 90% of consumers will read reviews before visiting or purchasing an item from a business? And 72% of consumers state a positive review makes them trust a local business more. We hope sorors will remember to share their love and patronage at locally owned-black businesses this holiday season. To help with this promotion, the the committee is hosting a contest encouraging sorors to write online reviews for black-owned businesses.

How does it work:

- Write an online review for a black-owned business. You can use social media sites like Google, Twitter, Facebook, OpenTable, Yelp, etc.
- To qualify for the contest, you have to write a minimum of 5 online reviews
- Send a copy of your online reviews to our committee mailbox by 12/10: economicdev.dstrichmond@gmail.com
- The top THREE submitters of online reviews will receive a gift card of \$100. Winners will be announced during the December chapter meeting.

To participate in this contest, a purchase at the business is not required.

DeCardra Jackson & Dionne Ward, Co-Chairs
educationaldev1.dstrichmond@gmail.com



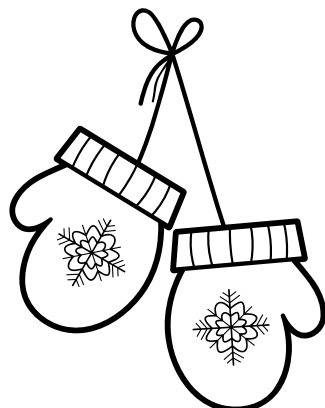
Please support our annual Hat, Glove, and Mitten Drive!

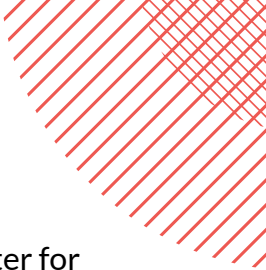
During cold Richmond winters, many students in our city do not have the basic necessities to stay warm. Please help by donating hats, gloves, and/or mittens to help our children who are in need.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED WITH ONLINE PURCHASES OR DROPPED OFF ITEMS SATURDAY, 12/3.

Additional donations will be collected at the December Chapter Meeting.

We value, appreciate, and thank you for your continuous dedication and commitment to making our initiatives successful.





2022-2023 FITNESS CHALLENGE

Sorors, we are well into the 2022-2023 fitness challenge. It's never too late to get healthy. Register for this year's fitness challenge by clicking the link below. We've even made it easy for you to include all exercises and convert them to steps by using the conversion calculator. [RAC DST Fitness Challenge 2022-2023 Activity to Steps Converter | Good Calculators](#)

WALK/RUN RESULTS

The walk to end Alzheimer's took place on Saturday, Nov 5th at Libbie Mill Midtown. RAC DST's "Unstoppable Alzheimer's Angels" led by Soror Renee Fleming Mills raised a total of \$2,570. Thank you to all that contributed, helped with parking, and walked for the cause.



UPCOMING EVENTS *POSTPONED*

The Physical and Mental Health Committee Presents:
'SUSTAINING YOUR MENTAL RESILIENCY: HOW SOCIAL ISSUES IMPACT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH'
Virtual Symposium is RESCHEDULED TO JANUARY 14, 2023! *Look for an updated flyer in the constant contact.*



SEASONS GREETING FROM PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

As we prepare for the holidays with our family and friends, let us be thankful for all our blessings. Let us be grateful for our health and for those that care for us when we are not at our best! Let us continue to be our sister's keeper and protect her mental health. As we look to close out another year, let us reflect on what we have shared with one another and pray that in the new year we will be healthier, more conscious, more giving, and continue to do the work of Delta!

DECEMBER 2022 PROTOCOL MOMENT

RAC Protocol and Traditions Committee Word Scramble

Scrambled Words:

1. EMERBMRE

2. UYO

3. LAYSAW

4. RAEW

5. YROU

6. ERESTLT



CARE PACKAGE PROJECT

INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS & INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE
WILL COLLECT ITEMS FOR
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



**KROGER
TARGET
WALMART**



TOILETRIES

Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Floss
Deodorant
Soap
Etc.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Laundry Detergent
Dish Detergent
Etc.

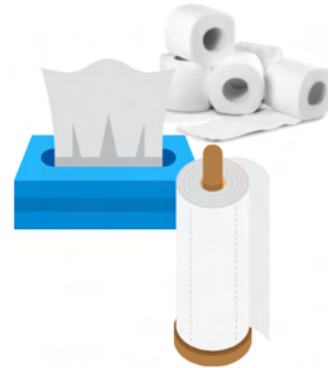
PAPER PRODUCTS

Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Tissues
Etc.

HEALTH

Bandaids
Ointment
Ibuprofen
Hand Sanitizer

PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS



ITEMS WILL BE COLLECTED:

DECEMBER 17, 2022
CHAPTER MEETING

JANUARY 7, 2023
12 NOON-2PM
ST. PHILIPS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2900 HANES AVENUE

JANUARY 14, 2023
12 NOON-2PM
LAPRADE LIBRARY
9000 HULL STREET ROAD

QUESTIONS, CONTACT:
INTLAWARENESS.DSTRICHMOND@GMAIL.COM

2023 DELTA DAYS AT THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
“SOLIDARITY IN DEFENSE OF OUR DEMOCRACY”
TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2023

Mark your calendars and plan now to attend our annual Legislative Conference and Advocacy Day at the Virginia General Assembly on *Tuesday, January 24, 2023*. Plans for a dynamic and engaging program are underway for this day which will provide the opportunity for our members to be active and involved in the state political process and engage legislators during the 2023 legislative session.

Sorors, you know the legacy of the founders of our illustrious sorority includes raising our voices, giving our time, and implementing efforts for public service. Here in Virginia, we continue this legacy through our legislative conference, Delta Days at the Virginia General Assembly. In this spirit, the theme for our 2023 Delta Days at the Virginia General Assembly is “Solidarity in Defense of Our Democracy!”

Registration for the in-person Advocacy Day being held Tuesday, January 24, 2023, from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Virginia State Capitol is now open. The cost for registration is \$30 for Alumnae members and \$20 for Collegiate members. Continental breakfast and a boxed lunch will be provided. The deadline for registration is January 10, 2023. More details and registration information are coming soon!

Richmond Alumnae Chapter, along with our area chapters, Chesterfield Alumnae, Henrico Alumnae, and Petersburg Alumnae have come together to provide an impactful schedule of activities. The day will include information, advocacy, interactive engagement, and more to keep us relevant, responsive, and ready for service to our communities. Wear **RED** and join us as we engage and inform elected officials on issues of importance to our communities!



GIVE BLOOD. SAVE LIVES.



ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND

THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
OF THE RICHMOND ALUMNAE CHAPTER
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

BLOOD DRIVE

10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2023

ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PARISH HALL

2900 HANES AVENUE

RICHMOND, VA 23222



#StPhilips
#RichmondAlumDST



TO SIGN UP, VISIT [REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG](https://www.redcrossblood.org) (SPONSOR CODE: PHILIP) OR SCAN QR CODE

Click this link and use Sponsor Code "Philip" to register
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>
You also may register by scanning the QR code on the flyer

Nicole Deveaux, Chair
hospitality.dstrichmond@gmail.com



Carolyn Johnson, Chair
policiesprocedures.dstrichmond@gmail.com

The Policies and Procedures committee is now accepting proposed amendments to the 2022-2023 Policies and Procedures. Chapter members are encouraged to review the document and to submit recommended updates to the committee, via the Proposed Amendment form. *The deadline for submission of proposed amendments is February 1, 2023.*

The 2022-2023 Policies and Procedures, Rules of Order, and the Proposed Amendment form are posted to the chapter website in the Members Only area. Proposed amendments should be submitted to the committee at *policiesprocedures.dstrichmond@gmail.com*.

Committee meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month.



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

