



The Minerva

Richmond Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Sorors,

There is always much to do, so Thank You for every kind word given to another soror, the quick text sent and the time taken to gather and fellowship to show your sisterly love during March Sisterhood Month.

April is Financial Literacy Month worldwide and Delta has provided resources for financial wellness, debt reduction and building wealth to support financial security and stability. It is not lost on us that we have also just passed our March 31st dues deadline. The array of financial opportunities can remind each of us the privileges we have been afforded as members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

On April 29th our chapter will hold a Delta Internal Development workshop and I hope that everyone has registered to attend. Our chapter needs leadership that is always ready and open to learn. This workshop will provide an overview of chapter management which can enhance your Delta knowledge. I truly believe there is a significant difference between leaders who **lead with their title** and leaders who **lead with PASSION**. We can all be passionate leaders in all levels of service, including the Richmond Alumnae Chapter.

Sisterly,
Vanessa

FINANCIAL FORTITUDE MONTH


CHAPLAIN'S CORNER


Takeisha Brown, Chaplain
chaplain.dstrichmond@gmail.com

PRAYER CALL

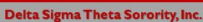
Join us for prayer, song, and an inspirational word on
Sunday, April 23, 2023, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85421067899?pwd=OWluaEpGN0p5aU03cjg0Wk9NK1pSZz09>
Meeting ID: 854 2106 7899
Passcode: 915043

Welcome	.....	Soror Carla Jackson, Assistant Chaplain
Opening Prayer	.....	Soror Kimberly Dabney, 3rd Vice President
Inspirational Song	.....	Soror Ann Wilson
Inspirational Word	.....	Soror Jeanetta Lee
Closing Prayer	.....	Soror Celeste Brown Anderson-Jones
Benediction	.....	Soror Carla Jackson





Richmond Alumnae Chapter



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

When: April 23, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: January Prayer Call

Register in advance for this webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85421067899?pwd=OWluaEpGN0p5aU03cjg0Wk9NK1pSZz09>

Meeting ID: 854 2106 7899

Passcode: 915043

CHAPTER CALENDAR

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

APRIL

- 4/16 Jabberwock Culminating Event
- 4/19 Vegan Cooking Class | Physical and Mental Health
- 4/22 Monument 10K | Physical and Mental Health
- 4/28 SWAP | Educational Development

National Communications:

- o Heritage Moment: Coralie Franklin Cook emailed March 18, 2023
- o Statement on Florida House Bill 999 emailed March 19, 2023
- o **REMINDER:** Delta Red Tank Registration and Submission Deadline is April 10! emailed March 20, 2023
- o Delta Red Carpet and DSTv 2023 emailed March 22, 2023
- o The National Economic Development Subcommittee Observes Financial Fortitude Month emailed March 24, 2023
- o Divine Nine Top Golf Tournament | March 25, 2023 emailed March 24, 2023
- o Social Action Advocacy Day | Engage, Empower, Elevate emailed March 25, 2023
- o 2023 Slate of Candidates emailed March 28, 2023
- o You're Invited | Chartering of the United Kingdom Alumnae Chapter emailed March 31, 2023
- o 56th National Convention Shoppes Open! emailed March 31, 2023

Regional Communications:

- o Bible Study 2023 Series Episode 1-Registration Open Now! emailed March 19, 2023
- o **WEBINAR:** Delta PEARL Program 2023-2024 emailed March 26, 2023
- o A Sisterhood Message emailed March 27, 2023
- o Membership Services Message emailed March 31, 2023
- o Healthy Divas - Yoga and Meditation April 22, 2023 emailed April 1, 2023

Local Communications:

- o Sisterly Connection 3.19.23 emailed March 19, 2023 – Top Topic: DID Workshop, April 29, 2023
- o Sisterly Connection 3.26.23 emailed March 26, 2023 – Top Topic: Sisterhood Month Prayer Call
- o DDNC2023 Advocacy Day - Tuesday, March 28, 2023 emailed March 27, 2023
- o Sisterly Connection 4.1.23 emailed April 1, 2023 – Top Topic: April Birthdays

Organization/event announcements received from:

- o **Highland Springs High School** invites us to join the 100 Women Challenge to welcome, empower, encourage and inspire students at the start of the school day on Thursday, April 27, 2023, from 8 to 9 a.m. Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/HS100WOMENCHALLENGE>

April 2023

Financial Fortitude Month

Important Dates and Activities

Remember to **download Delta's 2023 Financial Literacy Month Frame** and use it on social media throughout the month of April to highlight your smart money moves.

The profile frame will be available on all of Delta's social media platforms! Once posted, download it and showcase your picture! Also, be sure to use the hashtag #FinancialFortitude as you celebrate online activities!

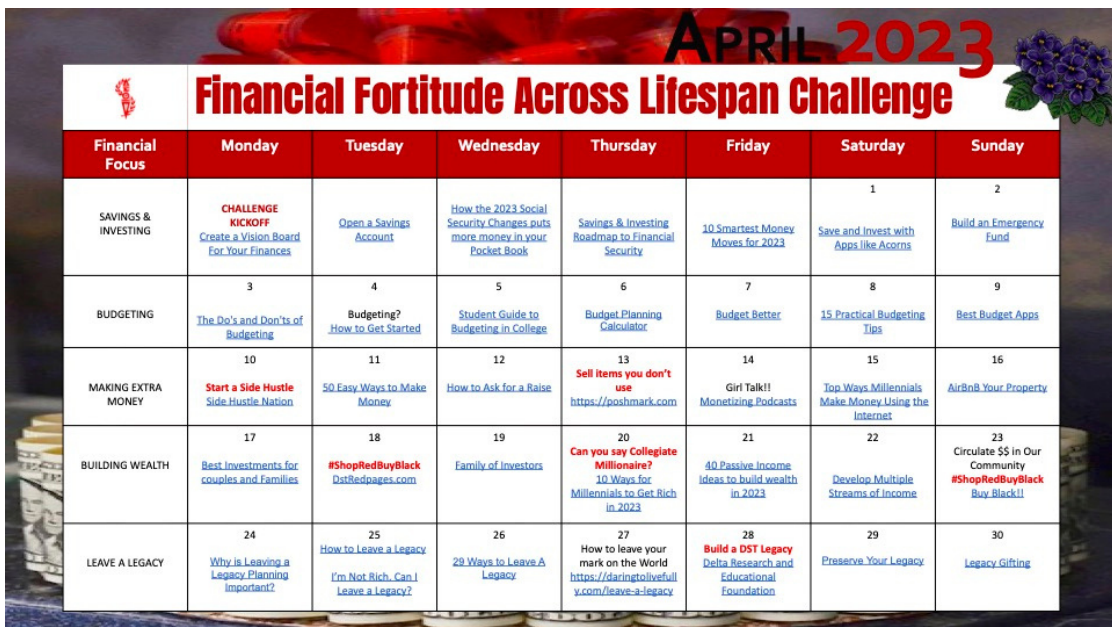
April 18, 2023

Financial Fortitude and Building Generational Wealth Session

(refer to March 24th Informz email communication)

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH CALENDAR

The Financial Literacy Month Calendar is a simple, fun and effective resource that calls attention to your financial health. Using this tool, chapters and communities can promote action-oriented tasks to improve and strengthen economic growth and stability. The calendar may be used any month of the year to actively engage chapters and communities in financial empowerment. Every strategy noted on the calendar promotes real-world action steps to help achieve and maintain financial wellness and support economic development.

							
Financial Focus	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
SAVINGS & INVESTING	CHALLENGE KICKOFF Create a Vision Board For Your Finances	Open a Savings Account	How the 2023 Social Security Changes puts more money in your Pocket Book	Savings & Investing Roadmap to Financial Security	10 Smartest Money Moves for 2023	Save and Invest with Apps like Acorns	Build an Emergency Fund
BUDGETING	3 The Do's and Don'ts of Budgeting	4 Budgeting? How to Get Started	5 Student Guide to Budgeting in College	6 Budget Planning Calculator	7 Budget Better	8 15 Practical Budgeting Tips	9 Best Budget Apps
MAKING EXTRA MONEY	10 Start a Side Hustle Side Hustle Nation	11 50 Easy Ways to Make Money	12 How to Ask for a Raise	13 Sell Items you don't use https://poshmark.com	14 Girl Talk!! Monetizing Podcasts	15 Top Ways Millennials Make Money Using the Internet	16 AirBnB Your Property
BUILDING WEALTH	17 Best Investments for couples and Families	18 #ShopRedBuyBlack DstRedpages.com	19 Family of Investors	20 Can you say Collegiate Millionaire? 10 Ways for Millennials to Get Rich in 2023	21 40 Passive Income Ideas to build wealth in 2023	22 Develop Multiple Streams of Income	23 Circulate \$\$ in Our Community #ShopRedBuyBlack Buy Black!!
LEAVE A LEGACY	24 Why is Leaving a Legacy Planning Important?	25 How to Leave a Legacy I'm Not Rich, Can I Leave a Legacy?	26 28 Ways to Leave A Legacy	27 How to leave your mark on the World https://darlingtolyefully.com/leave-a-legacy	28 Build a DST Legacy Delta Research and Educational Foundation	29 Preserve Your Legacy	30 Legacy Gifting



Thanks are extended to all who participated in this year's **"Read Across America"** program that was held February 27 – March 3, 2023, at two Richmond Preschools: Mary Scott and Maymont, and three elementary schools: Woodville, Redd, and Blackwell. Reading is one of the doorways to incalculable proficiencies and possibilities and it positions children on the track to a life of success and discovery. We continue to be proud to support this program annually that was initially started by Soror Lola

McDowell. This year's event was quite successful! We read to more than 200 children and various leaders in our city volunteered their time and talent including Mayor Levar Stoney, Superintendent Jason Karmas, the Interim State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Aimee Rogstad Guidera, Councilwoman Ann-Frances Lambert, members from the Richmond City Sheriff's Office, officers that serve in the Richmond Police and Fire Departments, members from the Virginia Education Association, school social workers, current and former RPS employees, our own Richmond Alumnae Sorors, and other outstanding community members.



Plans are proceeding for **SWAP** (Students with a Promise). SWAP is a program designed to inspire, motivate, and celebrate the strengths and "promise" of students who have made significant gains in reading and language arts. It is intended to increase self-esteem and encourage students to continue striving to be successful. School personnel from each Richmond school are asked to recommend students based on academic and personal growth. Students in grades 3, 5, 6, and 9 are then recognized with a gift card and a certificate during an end-of-the-year program.



Additionally, plans are being arranged for our annual **College Shower** that will conclude in June 2023. While academic readiness is often the focus of college preparation for high school students, it is just one of many factors to consider. One recommended soon-to-be-college student from Open and Huguenot High School will receive a "College Shower" to provide some of the basic necessities and essentials for college life. Committee members will assist identified students in creating an account on Amazon or another website of their choice. Students will then select the gifts they would like to

receive, up to a maximum of \$300.00. The "shopping spree" allows students the ability to personalize their new living spaces by getting the things they need to have a wonderful first year experience in college.

Reminder

100 BIRTHING KITS

MALAWI PROJECT

Reminder

COLLECTION DATES

IN-PERSON CHAPTER MEETINGS

~~SATURDAY, MARCH 18~~

SATURDAY, MAY 20

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

FINAL COLLECTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 24
12 NOON - 2:00 PM
NORTH PARK LIBRARY
8508 FRANCONIA ROAD
HENRICO VA 23227

**RICHMOND ALUMNAE CHAPTER
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.**

... will again work with Altrusa Capital City of Virginia, to support the Malawi Project. We are seeking donations to provide items for 100 NEWBORN BIRTHING KITS.

INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS & INVOLVMENT COMMITTEE

... is requesting each of Richmond Alumnae Chapter's 430+ members to select, purchase and donate one or more items from the following list.

- 0-3 month onesies
- Baby hat
- Baby washcloth
- Mother washcloth
- Vinyl gloves (latex free)
- Dental floss (umbilical ties)
- Razor blade
- Bar of soap



DIRECT INQUIRIES TO:

Intlawareness.dstrichmond@gmail.com

**Malawi Project-100
Newborn Birthing
Kits**

**Birthing Kit items
collected in March:**

0-3 onesies- 12

**Baby washcloths-
42**

**Mother washcloths-
16**

Baby Hats- 5

Baby socks-8

Soap- 10

Reminder

**Remember to bring your items to the
May meeting!**

Let's see what RAC can do!

2022-2023 FITNESS CHALLENGE

Sorors, it's SISTERHOOD MONTH!! Let's encourage one another to do some form of exercise every day. If you haven't registered yet do so by using the link below and logging your activity. We've even made it easy for you to include all exercises and convert them to steps by using the conversion calculator. We will report the results at the end of each quarter. Next report will be in June. If you have any questions, email: racfitnesschallenge2018@gmail.com.

[RAC DST Fitness Challenge 2022-2023 Activity to Steps Converter](#) | [Good Calculators](#)



Join us as we celebrate our 2nd quarter leaders!



VIRTUAL VEGAN COOKING CLASS WITH SHAYOLA BINTA

The PMH Committee presents a virtual vegan cooking class on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 5:45pm -7:45pm. Shayola is the founder of Emerald Scarab Enterprises, an organization that focuses on nourishment for mind, body, spirit, and financial freedom. Please save the date so you can join us as we prepare a delicious vegan meal. Be sure to register because the grocery list will be emailed the week before to allow time for preparation.

Register: [Vegan Cooking Class Sign-up](#)

Zoom link: [Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)

We look forward to cooking with you!

UKROP'S MONUMENT AVENUE 10K CHEER TEAM - APRIL 22, 2023

The Ukrop's Monument Avenue 10K is fast approaching. The Physical and Mental Health committee is planning an event to remember as we encourage the walkers and runners as they pass between Davis Ave and Strawberry Street. Please join us in cheering them on with this year's theme: **"Run With DST In 2023"** Click the link to sign up. [Soror 10K Cheer Team Signup](#)

SISTERHOOD ZUMBA WORKOUT

On behalf of the Physical and Mental Health and Membership Services committees, thank you for attending Sisterhood Zumba last month. We had an amazing time and look forward to the next opportunity to get together. Sisters who exercise and practice self-care together...



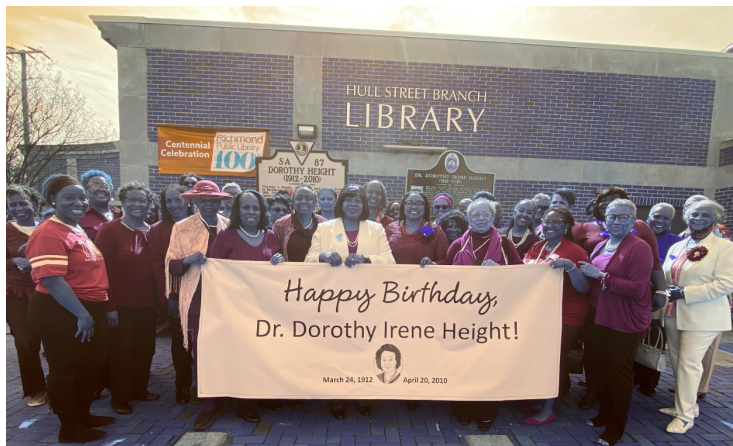
HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

Spring is here! It symbolizes new beginnings and transformation. Think about words like rebirth, refresh, rejuvenation, renewal, or resurrection. You've heard of spring cleaning and understood it's an opportunity to thoroughly clean. Take this time to think about how you can apply this to not only your surroundings but also your life. There's no better time than the present. Spring into what's to come!

-Soror Syndra Yancey

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT

On March 24, Richmond Alumnae Chapter celebrated Dr. Dorothy I. Height Day on what would have been her 111th birthday! Activities included hosting an informative and interactive program with the 3rd to 5th-grade students at Blackwell Elementary School, which is located in the community where Dr. Height was born. The skit provided an overview of the life and legacy of Dr. Height; and, each student received a copy of the book, *"She Persisted: Dorothy Height"* to serve as further inspiration for the students. Following the presentation, members gathered at the Dorothy Height historic markers located at the Hull Street Library to say "Happy Birthday Dr. Height!" The chapter was honored to be joined by Dr. Height's grandnephew, Jeffery Randolph, and the National Council of Negro Women – Richmond Section, and Rosalyn Dance, Vice Chair of the Virginia State Board of Directors, Virginia State Board of Elections.



2023 DELTA DAYS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL - FORWARD WITH FORTITUDE: ELEVATING OUR POWER FOR A NEW ERA OF IMPACT

Richmond Alumnae Chapter members recently traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the 34th Delta Days in the Nation's Capital from March 25-28th! Established in 1989 by the National Social Action Commission, Delta Days in the Nation's Capital is an annual legislative conference to increase our involvement in the national public policy-making process. The conference includes legislative briefings, issue forums, and advocacy skills development. The conference culminates with a day of advocacy at the capitol with visits to the offices of federal legislators in the United States Senate and House of Representatives. The 2023 Conference marked the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the National Social Action Commission, which included Delta Sigma Theta Social Action Awards being presented to many notable legislators who represent the communities we serve.



**The National Leadership Academy has created L.E.A.D.
Leadership, Excellence, Achievement and Development Mentoring Program**

OBJECTIVES

**Increase skills in implementing
the Mentoring framework
provided by Leadership
Academy**

**Increase awareness in the value
of developing personal,
professional and Delta
leadership skills**

**Increase leaders on the chapter
level who will strengthen and
sustain Delta leadership on all
levels**



The L.E.A.D. program information is located on
the National website: Grand Chapter -
National Committees - Leadership Academy.

CHAPTER SURVEY

The responses identified three
areas that chapter members
indicated would assist with
their decision to serve as a
leader in RAC.

- * One-on-One confidential
discussion with a current or
former leader
- * Shadow a current officer in
her role
- * Participate in a
Mentor/Mentee Relationship
with a current or former
chapter leader or member

**The National Leadership Academy has created L.E.A.D.
Leadership, Excellence, Achievement and Development Mentoring Program**

PROPOSAL

**To support chapter members
and implement the L.E.A.D.
program, the Leadership
Development Committee
proposes to use the foundation
of the L.E.A.D. program in a
modified version. The modified
version would be comprised of
three levels:**

- *One-on-One Discussion
- *Shadowing
- * Mentor/Mentee Relationship



The L.E.A.D. program information is located on
the National website: Grand Chapter -
National Committees - Leadership Academy.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**Finalize all details for program
participation by the end of the
current sorority year.**

**Begin the modified L.E.A.D.
program with the start of
sorority year 2023-2024.**

**Chapter members will feel
more comfortable with running
for leadership positions in
2023-2024.**

Tranelle Pollard, Chair
maymonth.dstrichmond@gmail.com



May Month Luncheon

"PEARLS, PASSION, AND PURPOSE"
Saturday, May 6, 2023
Noon
The American Legion Post 175
8700 Bell Creek Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23116

Ticket Price: \$45.00 per person, checks due by April 28, 2023
Square payments will also be accepted until April 21, 2023
(to allow processing time)
<https://richmondalumnaechapter.square.site/may-month-luncheon>

Please send all commendations and retirements to
maymonth.dstrichmond@gmail.com by April 21, 2023.



SAVE THE DATE

MIX AND MINGLE

Thursday, May 25, 2023
6:00 pm

More information to follow.

Carolyn Johnson, Chair
policiesprocedures.dstrichmond@gmail.com

The National Constitution and Bylaws Committee conducted two webinars providing an overview of the Proposed Amendments to the 2021 Constitution and Bylaws. The Proposed Amendments will be voted on at the 56th National Convention.

The webinar on March 30th was primarily for Delegates and Chapter Designees and the April 5th webinar was open to all sorors. A recording of the event, along with the Frequently Asked Questions and responses will be posted to the National website in the Members Only Portal.

A brief review of the Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws will be provided at the April Chapter meeting. In preparation for this review, the 2021 Constitution and Bylaws can be found on the front page of the National website under Membership Policies or in the Members Only Portal. The Proposed Amendments can be found in the Members Only Portal, as well.

All sorors are encouraged to review the Proposed Amendments for awareness of potential policy changes and impacts.

PROTOCOL RAP

RAP

HOOK (2X)

This is why we rap
This is why we rap
This is why, this is why, this is why we rap

1 RAP:

Get your head in the game
We'll all be the same
One rap times three
Use **A-B-E**
A is attention
B - be seated
E - ends the ceremony
Need that repeated?

HOOK (2X)

2 RAPS:

If the rap is two,
What do you do
Affirm our sacred vow
Or our sacred trust too

HOOK (2X)

3 RAPS:

But, when the rap is three
Sorors rise and stand
It's not just a notion
It's a command

HOOK (2X)



The time has come to renew your annual chapter and Grand Chapter dues for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated's extended 2022-2023 fiscal year. **Dues for July 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023 are payable now through March 31, 2023.**

FISCAL YEAR CHANGE

As you may recall, Grand Chapter elected to move the annual accounting period to a calendar year fiscal reporting beginning January 2024. **Grand Chapter has also elected to extend the 2022-2023 membership period by six months to accommodate the change in the fiscal year.** Payments of membership dues at this time will make you financial for the extended 2022-2023 fiscal year and eligible to participate in all activities from July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

MEMBER PAYMENT TO CHAPTER

Chapter dues for the **extended 2022-2023 fiscal year** are payable January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023, if you are a member of a local chapter. For those currently financial for 2022-2023, no further late or reinstatement fees will be applied, as the national dues have been paid. However, each member must pay six months of chapter dues (\$77.50) by July 1, 2023, to keep financial status for the extended period of July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023. **You will go into a non-financial status if you do not pay the associated chapter dues.**

Please mail your personal check, certified check or money order to the chapter's P.O. Box or use the Square link 2023 Annual Dues. If Square is used, you will be responsible for paying the convenience fee.

If you are reclaiming a Soror or are currently not financial for the 2022-2023 sorority year, please remember that Sorors must pay dues for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 **before** they may pay dues for July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

If you have questions, please reach out to the Financial Secretary at finsecretary.dstrichmond@gmail.com.