



The Minerva

Richmond Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Sorors,

Get Ready, Get Set, Let's Summer!

As you take the summer break to relax and refresh with family and friends, please know that I thank all of the officers, position holders, committee chairs and members for all of the hard work this sorority year as we moved toward more in-person meetings and programs.

We continued to fellowship and stay connected as a sisterhood. We now move forward to the final year of our biennium, and I know we will continue to build upon our accomplishments. Sorors, I am so proud of you and I appreciate each and every one of you for your dedication, resilience, support and of course your PASSION.

I look forward to the upcoming 56th National Convention in Indianapolis IN where we will gather to celebrate Delta sisterhood and experience all that "Indy" has to offer. If you are a virtual attendant for the convention, we will still be on the lookout for your social media posts with other registered sorors.

Reminder that although we will not produce the monthly Minerva newsletter in July and August, we will send out a few "Sisterly Connections" to ensure we keep up with our sister happenings and of course birthday greetings.

Sorors, I wish you blessings for a safe and joyous summer.

Sisterly,
Vanessa



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Takeisha Brown, Chaplain
chaplain.dstrichmond@gmail.com

PRAYER CALL

Join us for prayer, song, and an inspirational word on
Sunday, June 25, 2023, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81346842406?pwd=c0RsZmZLL1o1T25Zbis0ZWhYaUhzUT09>

Meeting ID: 813 4684 2406
Passcode: 368142

Welcome	Soror Carla Jackson, Assistant Chaplain
Opening Prayer	Soror Sharlene Wrenn
Inspirational Song	Soror Jacci Whitaker Miller
Inspirational Word	Soror Kimberly Dabney, 3rd Vice President
Closing Prayer	Soror Patrice Jones
Benediction	Soror Carla Jackson



Richmond Alumnae Chapter



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

When: June 25, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: May Prayer Call

Register in advance for this webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81346842406?pwd=c0RsZmZLL1o1T25Zbis0ZWhYaUhzUT09>

Meeting ID: 813 4684 2406
Passcode: 368142

IN THE SPIRIT *of Sisterhood*

Summer Bible Reading

Sorors, there is no specific Truth Tuesday for this last Tuesday message of the Sorority year. I just want to encourage you to continue reading through Proverbs this summer to gain wisdom from God's word.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Reminder: No Standing Prayer for the Summer

Pray for one another each Thursday morning during your own mediation and prayer time. Use this summer to form new habits or to reestablish old habits around your prayer life.

Thank you to all who have been faithful in their attendance during the calls. To God be all the glory for the many answered prayers!

CHAPTER CALENDAR

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

2023-2024 Proposed Calendar located on the Chapter Website. The chapter will vote on the calendar at the June 2023 Chapter meeting.

JUNE

- 6/17 Chapter Meeting
- 6/25 Chapter Prayer Call

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Renee Johnson, Vice President Membership Services
2ndvp.dstrichmond@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. Elizabeth Prom Wormley, PhD. Soror Wormley has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Family Medicine & Population Health, School of Medicine, Effective July 1, 2023.



Soror Barbara S. Brown, was featured in the May issue of Richmond Magazine. Soror Brown is the coordinator of the Older Adult Program at Richmond's Peter Paul Development Center. At the center she helps older adults age without limits.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Please join the Richmond Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
in extending **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**
wishes to our chapter Sorors!



June 2023 Birthdays

6/1

Sondra Draper
Toyce Small

6/2

Rita Devaughn

6/3

Alethia Elam
Brenda Ellsworth-Petteway
Anna Gee

6/5

Kathy Fields

6/6

Mariana Johnson

6/9

Taylor Roane

6/10

Christine Bates

6/12

Mary Studevaut

6/13

Kenya Batts

6/14

Renee Johnson
Raynell Reid

6/15

Trudy Watkins

6/19

Queen Zuequal Bailey
Odetta Johnson
Kimberly Wilkerson

6/22

Elizabeth Robinson

6/23

Sheila Green

6/25

Joann Henry
Rita Robinson

6/26

Thomasina Cunningham

6/27

Melani Jones

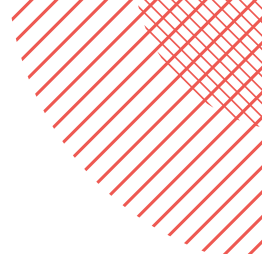
6/29

Threnodiez Baugh

6/30

Ananda Jones





National Communications:

- o Delta Red Tank Semi-finalist Announcement emailed May 22, 2023
- o 56th National Convention – Virtual Registration Opening emailed May 22, 2023
- o Hot Off the Press - May 2023 Announcement emailed May 23, 2023
- o UNITED WE STAND: THE FIERCE URGENCY OF NOW - A statement from the National Pan-Hellenic Council of Presidents emailed May 25, 2023
- o 56th National Convention: Virtual Registration Now Open - Updated Registration Link! emailed May 26, 2023
- o COVID-19 Protocols Update as of May 2023 emailed May 26, 2023
- o 56th National Convention Step Show Application Deadline Extended to June 3, 2023 emailed May 30, 2023
- o 56th National Convention Early Bird Workshops emailed June 1, 2023

Regional Communications:

- o Regional Pin – LIMITED TIME PRE-ORDER emailed May 22, 2023

Local Communications:

- o Happy Mother’s Day and Updated Minerva emailed May 22, 2023
- o Sisterly Connection 052323 emailed May 23, 2023 – Top Topic: NPHC Communication – Otieno Town Hall
- o Sisterly Connection 060123 emailed June 1, 2023 – Top Topic: June Birthday Greetings

Community Communications:

- o Virginia Higher Education Fund announces the 12th Annual Jazz Inside/Out, 8-11 p.m. Saturday, July 1, 2023. Tickets available at www.vahigheredfund.com
- o Hats Off to Powerful Women Brunch, 11 a.m. Saturday, August 5, 2023, featuring Sen. Jennifer McClellan and Nikki Giovanni. Tickets available at bit.ly/empowerme2023



SOROR SPOTLIGHT

SOROR SHAYLA HOLEMAN



The 2nd Annual RPS Shines event was held on May 23, 2023 where they celebrated over 100 teachers, support staff, and administrators.

At the end of the evening, Soror Shayla Holeman was named the RPS 2023 Principal of the Year.

Soror Shayla, who is the principal of Overby-Sheppard ES, received the 2023 Principal of the Year Award for truly exemplifying what it means to Lead with Love. Way to go, Soror!

Also, Soror Bernita Williams, with Richmond Community High School was a finalist for 2023 Division Teacher of the Year.



The **SWAP** (*Student with a Promise*) Program was successful one again! 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 were asked to recommend students based on academic and personal growth. Students in grades 3, 5, 6, and 9 were recognized with a gift card and a certificate. This year, seventeen elementary schools participated, 6 middle schools and 4 high schools.

The College Shower was also successful! One student from Huguenot High School and one from John Marshall High School were selected to receive this year’s **Shower**. While academic readiness is essential for college preparation, it is just one of many factors to consider. The “Shower” provides some of the necessities and essentials for college life. These students were recommended from the school’s counselor, and both were elated to have been selected for this award. The students received approximately \$300 worth of needed items.



Many thanks to all committee members and chapter sorors for your continuous and unwavering support. If anyone is interested in joining our committee, our next virtual meeting is scheduled **September 13, 2023, at 7:00 PM**. Please contact one of the chairs for the login information.

The Richmond Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

**has donated items for the Malawi Project so that we
can pack**

100 NEWBORN BIRTHING KITS!



“ZIKOMO” (Thank you!)

Please, come out and help us pack the kits!

When: Saturday, June 24, 2023

Time: 1:30pm-3:30pm

Where: North Park Library

8508 Franconia Road

Henrico, VA 23227

Stephanie Ruffin and Syndra Yancey, Co-Chairs
pmh.dstrichmond@gmail.com

2022-2023 FITNESS CHALLENGE

Sorors, the time has arrived! We have spent the last 8 months tracking our activities. You've been walking, running, weight training and doing aerobics all in the name of a healthier lifestyle. The fitness challenge ended May 30, 2023. The winners of the 2023-2024 fitness challenge will be announced at the next chapter meeting. If you have any questions, email: racfitnesschallenge2018@gmail.com



A MESSAGE FROM THE PMH CO-CHAIRS

Thank you Sorors for supporting the Physical and Mental Health Committee activities this sorority year. We hope we were able to get you up and moving with all the walks and work out activities as well as provided tools for mental stability with our symposium. We look forward to the next sorority year BUT in the meantime, enjoy a relaxing and safe summer. Sisterly,
Stephanie and Syndra



17TH ANNUAL "WE CARE" FESTIVAL

To support the backpack drive at this year's WE CARE FESTIVAL, please consider purchasing a box of crayons using the link below. The church needs **300 boxes** of the 24ct Crayola Crayons. You can bring crayons to the June Sorority Meeting. You can also order crayons and ship them to:

[Amazon Crayola Crayons](#)

Ship to:
Stephanie Ruffin
10951 Little Five Loop
Glen Allen, VA 23059



Once ordered, please send an email to the PMH mailbox so we can track your purchases at pmh.dstrichmond@gmail.com.
Feel free to get the crayons anywhere that has the best deal. All orders will be delivered to 5th Street Baptist at the end of July.

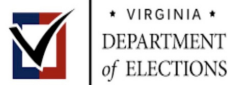
TIPS FOR A HEALTHY SUMMER

Follow these tips to help prevent chronic disease and have a #HealthySummer.

1. Move More, Sit Less
2. Wear Sunscreen & Insect Repellent
3. Keep Cool in Extreme Heat
4. And Many More. Click Below.

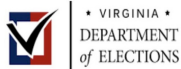
[Tips for a Healthy Summer | CDC](#)





VIRGINIA PRIMARIES ARE JUNE 20, 2023 EARLY VOTING HAS STARTED!!!!

- **MAY 30 ~ Last day to register to vote or update your address**
- **JUNE 9 BY 5PM ~ Last day to request a ballot**
- **JUNE 17 AT 5PM ~ Last day to VOTE EARLY IN PERSON**
- **JUNE 20 ~ ELECTION DAY...VOTE 6AM TO 7PM**
- **USE THIS QR CODE FOR VDE CITIZEN PORTAL**



IT'S TIME TO GET CERTIFIED! VOTER REGISTRATION TRAINING

- **VIRTUAL TRAINING** conducted by the Virginia Department of Elections:
May 24, 2023 through October 5, 2023 VIA WEBEX
MUST DOWNLOAD WEBEX TO JOIN!!
- **SELECT a DATE and TIME** convenient for you!!
- **COMPLETE TRAINING AND SUBMIT YOUR AFFIDAVIT APPLICATION**
- **CONFIRM your CERTIFICATION STATUS**
- **Notify Social Action Co-chairs at social.act.dstrichmond1@gmail.com who will confirm your certification with the VA Department of Elections**
- **USE THIS QR CODE** to access dates, times, and training information!



SORORS IN ACTION



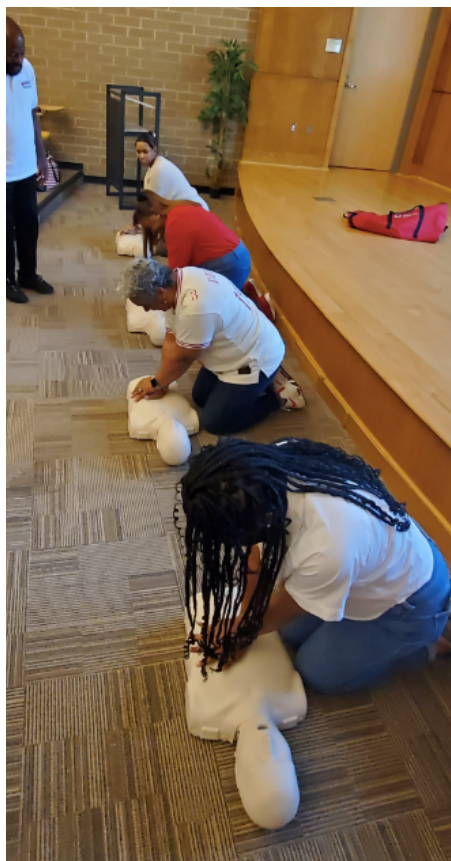
CPR, FIRST AID TRAINING GETS SORORS CERTIFIED, READY FOR AN EMERGENCY

If someone collapsed in front of you, what would you do? About 15 sorors and several community members found out Saturday, May 20, after Chapter Meeting at Huguenot High School.

Certified American Red Cross Instructor Ed Gates, Sr. took participants through an interactive and informative session on CPR and first aid that also kept everyone entertained.

Participants learned that the first thing we should do if someone collapses is call 911. While someone calls 911, you should check to see if the person is breathing. If they are not breathing, begin CPR if you are trained. The CPR mannequins gave participants a real workout in getting trained and certified. Mr. Gates also covered basic first aid training for cuts, scrapes and burns.

Hopefully the participants will never have to use this training, but in the event they do, they are ready to help in case of emergency.



Carolyn Johnson, Chair
policiesprocedures.dstrichmond@gmail.com



Sorors, please be sure to review the May edition of *Hot Off The Press* that was distributed in a communication from Grand Chapter on May 23, 2023. The communication provides the process for submitting Policies and Procedures and Rules of Order for the 2023-2024 Sorority year, and there are some changes from the process that has been executed in previous years.

In addition, the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) from the Policies and Procedures webinar held earlier this year is now available on the national website in the Scholarship and Standards area in the Member Portal. This document also provides an overview of the updated process for submitting the 2023-2024 Policies and Procedures.

All sorors are encouraged to review the May edition of *Hot Off The Press* and the FAQ document for awareness of process changes and any potential impacts.

Mildred Barden, Chair
leadershipdev.dstrichmond@gmail.com

The Leadership Development Committee previously shared that it will be implementing a modified version of the L.E.A.D. (Leadership, Excellence, Achievement, Development) Mentoring Program. The committee is pleased to announce that it will be implementing this modified program at the beginning of the 2023-2024 sorority year. **The committee will be hosting an orientation session (overview) on June 22, 2023, to share information about the program.**

The information to be shared will include the different levels of participation, roles and responsibilities, timelines, application process, and other pertinent information. Please mark your calendars and join the committee for this informational session.

The L.E.A.D. orientation session dial in information is included below. The orientation session will follow the National Convention Overview. **If you only want to attend the L.E.A.D. orientation session, please log on at 7:00p.m.**

Topic: National Convention Overview / L.E.A.D. Overview Time: Jun 22, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89428589195?pwd=Rk8zWGd5czlRTE1pMDBPM3JES0ZTQT09>

Meeting ID: 894 2858 9195 | Passcode: 386945

Dial by your location

+1 305 224 1968 US

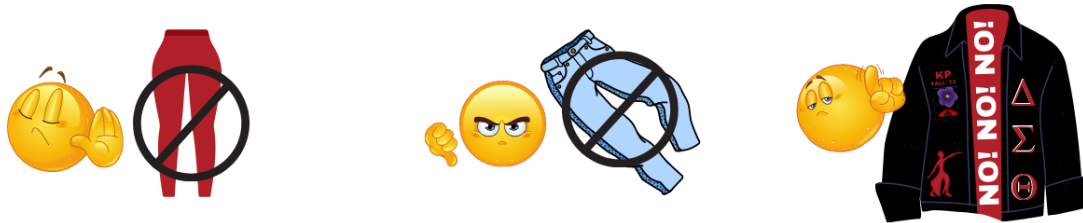
+1 309 205 3325 US

What is ΔΣΘ business attire?

Delta Business attire is appropriate for most occasions except as specifically noted. Business attire is traditionally a business suit, dress, skirt, pants, sleeveless blouse, blouse, and blazer -- clothing, and religious head-wrap that reflects a professional style. Delta's business attire must satisfy the Sorority's accepted business, social and aesthetic standards.



(#1) Leggings worn as pants are not considered appropriate business meeting attire at any time. (#2) Wearing denim of any color and (#3) line jackets of any kind or color are inappropriate for any ceremony.



Ponchos and shawls containing symbols on one side or the crest on one side are appropriate and can be worn as a covering for business meetings.

DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY INC. has established attire protocol for its various ceremonies. Non-adherence means non-admission. Visiting sorors CANNOT be excused from wearing proper attire at Rites of Passage ceremonies.

Yes No	SOLID COLOR	HATS (1)	PANTS	HOSIERY	SHOE COLOR (5)	VIOLET and/or PIN
	White, including wrap (2)	X	X	Not mandated	White preferred Not mandated	✓
	Red, black or white (2, 3)	X	X	Not mandated	Black preferred Not mandated	✓
	Red, black or white (4)	✓	✓	Not mandated	Not mandated	✓
	Formal or after-five	✓	✓	Not mandated	Do your THANG!	✓
	Black (2)	X	X	Not mandated	Black preferred Not mandated	✓
	Black (2)	X	X	Not mandated	Black preferred Not mandated	✓
	Business	✓	✓	Not mandated	Not mandated	✓
	Business (6)	✓	✓(6)	Not mandated	Not mandated	✓

(1) Excluding head coverings due to medical and religious reasons. **ALWAYS EXCLUDED:** Baseball hats, cowboy hats, bandanas and bucket hats. (2) This is not to include sewing notions such as buttons, snaps, zippers, and jewelry adornments. (3) Black is preferred, excluding colored patterned material. (4) White is preferred. Hats are permitted. (5) Rubber soled or foam bottomed shoes known as beach style flip flops, shower shoes, and sport slides are inappropriate business attire. Sandals or open toed shoes are acceptable. (6) Color determined by the host chapter(s)/Region in charge. If **Rededication**—business attire, excluding colored patterned material which includes any cover-up, shawls, or sweaters. This is not to include sewing notions such as buttons, snaps, zippers, and jewelry adornments. **Pants are not allowed.**

STEP TEAM

Courtney Rice, Chair
stepteam1.dstrichmond@gmail.com

STROLL 101 GETS SORORS IN STEP

It was a morning of fun, fitness and movement Saturday, June 3, as our own RAC Step Team presented Stroll 101 at First Baptist Church Centralia.

Step Team Chair Courtney Rice got everyone moving with a warmup and then Pamela Knight made sure we were limber and breathing right.

Then it was time to get our stroll on. The Step Team led us through our South Atlantic Regional Conference Host Chapter Stroll, another viral Delta stroll making the rounds on TikTok and an upbeat energetic stroll that the sorors in attendance voted on to learn.

With plenty of water breaks and healthy snacks, the RAC Step Team has all sorors in attendance off on the right foot to do a Delta stroll.

