



# THE ODYSSEY

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR  
AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER  
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

FEBRUARY 2024

Vol. 6

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## Presidential Press

I started this month with my favorite exercise, swimming. My goal this year on being intentional is rooted in the well-being of my heart, both physically and emotionally. Swimming is a full body exercise that gets the blood flowing throughout your body, and for me it reduces the emotional stress. I'm being intentional on guarding my heart, as mentioned in Proverbs 4:23, because for everything you do flows from the heart.

February, being the heart month, offers a unique opportunity to not only celebrate love but also to raise awareness about heart health. Sorors placing emphasis on self-care, including what you eat, how you move, and the importance of rest, reflects a holistic approach to maintaining a healthy heart. Join us as we Go Red with American Heart Association for Heart Awareness.

The call to action, especially in the face of significant decisions impacting cultural diversity, is a powerful reminder that engagement and advocacy are crucial. This month we will host our first Austin Alumnae Day at the City of Hutto. Every year we say that our engagement and action is more important than ever. As I observe what's happening in our city, state, country and around the globe, we can no longer sit on the sidelines, we must get in the game. Hope to see you in Hutto on February 15. Sign-up today.

I would be remiss if I ended this message without acknowledging how our hearts have been impacted by the loss of our sisters. While the pain is real, I am reminded that the heartache is the price we pay for love. We loved them and loved us in return and I would not change that. May we be comforted and keep their legacy and memory alive through our commitment to the sisterhood they loved so dearly.

From my Heart to yours. I love you!

*Soror Robin J. Blackmon*



### REMINDER:

Our next chapter meeting is in-person at **10 a.m. on Saturday, March 2 at Highland Campus, Austin Community College** (Building 2000, Room 1550). **Parking is available in the South Parking Garage:** 6018 Wilhemina Delco Drive, Austin, Texas 78752



## Chaplain's Message

Shared by Soror Dedurie Kirk, Chaplain

### Peace Comes from Letting God Lead

#### God's Will

Gal 6:1 Brothers, if a man is overtaken in a fault, you the spiritual ones restore such a one in the spirit of meekness, considering yourself, lest you also be tempted.

Gal 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, so you will fulfill the Law of Christ.

These inspired words of God illuminate a path for those who desire to love God, and seek to please Him. As followers of Christ, we are encouraged to forgive and restore our sisters who may have fallen and appear to have done no wrong, or show any remorse for shameful deeds done. However, the Laws of Christ submit to love instead of judgment and definitely in place of submitting ourselves to petite grievances. Being a part of the Chaplains Council affords us the freedom to pray for every one of our Delta Sisters and their families.

As we continue to pray daily for our Dearly beloved Sorors, we encourage the fellowship of our brother's Paul's instructions in Romans 12:13 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. Romans 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Our call expressed by the words of Paul issued to us from God the message of duty, conduct, and character.

"LIFE'S TEST~The test of life is to make, not break us. Trouble may demolish a man's business but build up his character. The blow at the outward man may be the greatest blessing to the inner man. If God, then, puts or permits any-thing hard in our lives, be sure that the real peril, the real trouble, is that we shall lose if we flinch or rebel."

By M.D. Babcock

## Prayer Corner

Members are encouraged to send cards, visit (if allowed by the family), or telephone sorors for additional courtesies. Sorors, please continue to lift the following in fervent prayer:

- Soror Patricia Hicks who recently had knee replacement surgery;
- The family, friends and sorors for the loss of Soror Doris Wilhite;
- The family, friends, and sorors for the loss of Soror Harriet Murphy;
- The family, friends, and sorors for the loss of Soror Jeffrey Archer;
- The family, friends, and sorors for the loss of Soror Sandra "Sam" Yvette Willis;
- Soror Delbra Bradford as she recovers from back surgery;
- Soror Reva Etta Johnson, Great Aunt of Soror Autumn Caviness who is in the hospital.

Sorors, tap the enclosed link to submit your prayer requests and bereavement notices,

<https://dstatx.org/contact-page/pb-request-form/>

## February Omega Omega Assignments

Soror Lakissa Bright through  
Soror Ashley Coffin





# This Month's Highlights

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Sister Keeper Promise!



#### SISTER KEEPER PROMISE

Hello Sorors,

This is the time of year where we celebrate the founding of our beloved Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and remember our 22 courageous Founders and their boldness to be change makers. **Happy 111 Years of Sisterhood, Scholarship, Service, and Social Action!** This year we celebrate: **THE POWER OF ONE: ONE SISTERHOOD. ONE CHAPTER. ONE SOROR.**

During the South Atlantic Region's 2023 Fall State Meeting Cycle, regional director Dr. Patricia "Trish" Johnson, challenged the region to commit to a sister keeper promise. She expressed her concern for the growing "mean girl image" throughout the organization and reminded us that we are an organization founded on Christian principles. To this end, we thought it fitting to ask ALL of us to make the promise.

**The Sister Keeper Promise is a commitment to:**

1. Never harm my sisters with words from my mouth.
2. Celebrate the successes of my sisters and encourage them to follow their dreams.
3. Show my sisters that I value peace and harmony in my life and discourage anyone from choosing to bring discord and drama into our spaces.
4. Always SEE and HEAR my sisters.
5. Keep Sister in Sisterhood because we need each other to survive.

Recognizing the impact of our individual actions on our chapters and our sorority, we understand that one negative interaction can tarnish the collective spirit. We acknowledge that our sorority's integrity rests on each individual's conduct. Therefore, we promise to exemplify our values, safeguarding the sanctity of our sisterhood.

We recognize the power of one Soror's influence and the ripple effect it can create. By pledging to discourage drama, avoid harmful gossip, and truly listen to and support our sisters, we affirm our commitment to preserving Delta's legacy for generations to come.

In embracing this promise, we take responsibility for our actions, understanding that each of us plays a pivotal role in shaping not only our chapter's future but our sorority's future.

Together, as **'One Soror, One Chapter, One Sisterhood,'** we must be true to our commitment of closing our ears and sealing our lips to slanderous gossip, fostering a stronger, united Sisterhood. Scripture reminds us that "Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined and a house divided against itself will fall" (Luke 11:17). This year as we celebrate our Founders, let us honor our founding principles and protect the legacy of our sorority for another 111 years by committing to and earnestly honoring this Sister Keeper Promise.

A promise is a declaration or assurance that one will do a particular thing or that a particular thing will happen. Will you join us in making the Sister Keeper Promise for the longevity and sustainability of our beloved Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

**I PROMISE**

Sorors, be counted and make the Sister Keeper Promise. Austin Alumnae initiated the Sister II Sister Circles so we are already our Sister Keeper. Sisterhood is the core of our identity, let's be 100% in and make the promise to be your Sister's Keeper. Click this link and make the promise now.

<https://form.jotform.com/DSTHQ/SisterKeeperPromise2024DST>

# *This Month's Highlights*

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Count Me In! I am Southwest 100!



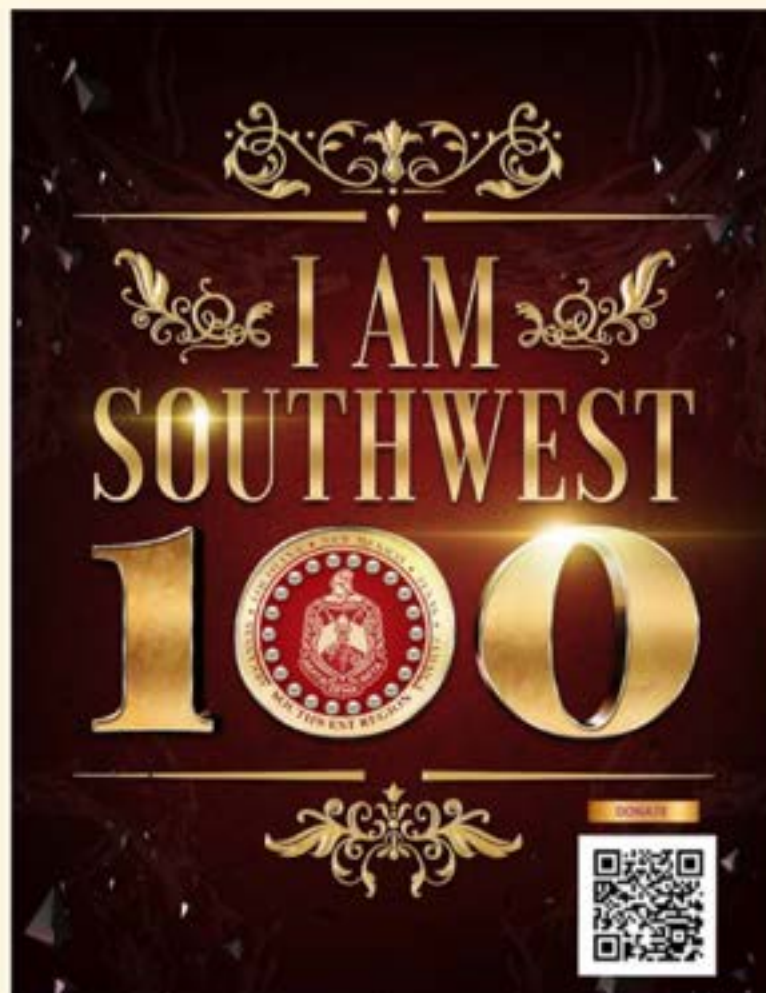
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

*Glazing* Southwest Region

Arkansas - Louisiana - New Mexico - Texas - Jamaica

Count me in! I am Southwest 100!

*Believe & Love*



Sorors, thanks for supporting the chapter, the region and the conference by ensuring you are Southwest 100. At this time, about 1/3 of our membership has donated. The ultimate goal for our chapter is to have 100% participation. Our contributions to this campaign will demonstrate our commitment to corporations and other organizations as we ask for their support. You can make your contribution in \$25 increments or the full \$100. All donations will go to put on a Southwest Regional Conference to remember.

**Donate today!**



# This Month's Highlights

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Count Me In! I am Southwest 100!

#### Greetings Sorors,



As we announce the countdown to our conference, exactly five months away, we invite you to join us as we demonstrate the power of the "I Am Southwest 100" campaign.

The mindset for I Am Southwest 100 is to display the love and support you have for our region and to contribute to the sponsorship for our 49th Regional Conference. This vision of our Regional Director, Crystal T. Barker, was shared with our sister regions, and other Regional Directors were as excited and have taken on the concept within their region...we are ONE!

EVERYTHING is bigger in Texas, so our fundraising efforts must match that mantra to assist our Austin chapters in rolling out the red carpet. "I Am Southwest 100" gives all sorors of the Blazing Southwest Region the opportunity to contribute toward the success of our conference. You can share the link with others.

As a thank you, Sorors who donate \$100 will receive:

- An exclusive commemorative "I Am Southwest 100" lapel pin to wear proudly throughout the Regional Conference. The pin is for Deltas only.
- An exclusive social media photo frame to display your commitment across all social media channels.
- Signage with your name on it throughout the conference.

Donate Today – On the 13th of every month, you will receive an I Am Southwest 100 update, as we strive to reach a goal of raising \$222,000.00 (That is 2,220 Sorors donating \$100.00). We pray we can count on your support to make the 49th Southwest Regional Conference an unforgettable experience.

Thank you for being an essential part of this remarkable journey. Your support is invaluable, and we look forward to seeing the impact we make together. Together, let us do more in 2024!



*Believe & Love,*  
*Crystal T. Barker, Regional Director*  
*Aniecia Browning, Regional Representative*





# This Month's Highlights

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Austin Alumnae Day at City of Hutto!



Austin Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

**AUSTIN ALUMNAE DAY  
AT  
CITY OF HUTTO**



**February 15, 2024  
8 A.M. - 1 P.M.**



Mike Snyder  
Mayor  
CITY OF  
**HUTTO**



REGISTRATION

Learn more about Austin Alumnae Chapter by  
visiting: <https://dsatx.org/>  
Learn more about the city by visiting:  
<https://www.huttotx.gov/>

**SIGN UP TODAY** to attend the Austin Alumnae Day at the City of Hutto, February 15, 2024. It is time to bring our seat to the table and become involved in local government so that we can forge a partnership that will be long lasting and leave our footprint within the community in which we live, worship and serve. During our time at the city we will hear from the mayor, and the following departments within the city: Public Safety/Public Works, Development Services, Economic Development, and Financial Services. Sorors let's show the city why as Deltas, WE ARE SOCIAL ACTION!

Learn more about the City of Hutto departments, visit  
<https://www.huttotx.gov/157/Departments>

# This Month's Highlights

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Texas Legislative Advocacy Day!



The poster features a black background with a yellow circle on the right side. At the top left, there is a white circular logo with three horizontal lines. To its right, the text 'NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE', 'HOUSTON AREA URBAN LEAGUE', and 'AUSTIN AREA URBAN LEAGUE' is listed in white. The main title 'Texas Legislative Advocacy Day' is in large, bold, yellow font. Below it, the date 'Tuesday, February 6' is shown with a calendar icon, followed by the location 'Texas Capitol (South Steps)' and '1100 Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701' with a pin icon. The time '10:00 AM-6:30 PM CT' is also listed with a clock icon. A red box contains the text: 'Join Urban Leaguers and partners from across the state for a day of action to advocate for criminal justice and clean slate legislative priorities that affect our communities.' Below this, a list of activities is provided: 'Rally & Press Conference', 'Advocacy Training Workshop (lunch provided)', 'Meetings with Legislators', and 'Networking Reception'. At the bottom, a yellow button says 'REGISTER HERE' with a small icon, and the text 'Registration is required.' is next to it.

**Texas Legislative Advocacy Day**

**Tuesday, February 6**  
Texas Capitol (South Steps)  
1100 Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78701  
10:00 AM-6:30 PM CT

Join Urban Leaguers and partners from across the state for a day of action to advocate for criminal justice and clean slate legislative priorities that affect our communities.

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:**

- Rally & Press Conference
- Advocacy Training Workshop (lunch provided)
- Meetings with Legislators
- Networking Reception

**REGISTER HERE**  Registration is required.

We are excited to invite you to Texas Legislative Advocacy Day, a crucial event where we come together to learn, discuss, and advocate for meaningful legislation that impacts those who are incarcerated and those who are coming out of prison. This event provides a unique opportunity to engage with experts, community leaders, and fellow advocates. By participating, you contribute to the collective effort to shape policies that can positively impact the lives of individuals affected by the criminal justice system.

Whether you're a seasoned advocate or new to the cause, your presence matters. Together, we can make a difference and bring about change in our community. Join us in making our voices heard and advocating for a more just and equitable future. [RSVP now](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1QGj6yTBaIyIPcShUxf_nurUBXpP4ZECxmQjOAKROaoJvLw/viewform) to secure your spot and be a part of this impactful day. Let's stand united for a better tomorrow,  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1QGj6yTBaIyIPcShUxf\\_nurUBXpP4ZECxmQjOAKROaoJvLw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1QGj6yTBaIyIPcShUxf_nurUBXpP4ZECxmQjOAKROaoJvLw/viewform)



# *This Month's Highlights*

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Emergency Response Team!

As we feature February as American Heart Month, it is important that we know the facts around heart disease.

What is heart disease?

The term "heart disease" refers to several types of heart conditions. The most common type of heart disease in the United States is coronary artery disease (CAD), which affects the blood flow to the heart. Decreased blood flow can cause a heart attack.

What are the symptoms of heart disease?

Sometimes heart disease may be "silent" and not diagnosed until a person experiences signs or symptoms of a heart attack, heart failure, or an arrhythmia. When these events happen, symptoms may include:

- Heart attack: Chest pain or discomfort, upper back or neck pain, indigestion, heartburn, nausea or vomiting, extreme fatigue, upper body discomfort, dizziness, and shortness of breath.
- Arrhythmia: Fluttering feelings in the chest (palpitations).
- Heart failure: Shortness of breath, fatigue, or swelling of the feet, ankles, legs, abdomen, or neck veins.

What are the risk factors for heart disease?

High blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, and smoking are key risk factors for heart disease. About half of people in the United States (47%) have at least one of these three risk factors.<sup>2</sup> Several other medical conditions and lifestyle choices can also put people at a higher risk for heart disease, including,

- Diabetes
- Overweight and obesity
- Unhealthy diet
- Physical inactivity
- Excessive alcohol use

- Test your knowledge of heart disease, [https://www.riddle.com/view/471795?qzr=1&CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/quiz.htm](https://www.riddle.com/view/471795?qzr=1&CDC_AA_refVal=https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/quiz.htm)

More Information

- American Heart Association, <https://www.heart.org/>
- National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/>





# *This Month's Highlights*

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Emergency Response Team!



## State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR)

**The State of Texas offers the option to register with the STEAR program, a free registry that provides local emergency management planners and responders with information related to your needs during an emergency.**

### Who Should Register?

- People with disabilities
- People who are medically fragile
- People with functional needs such as:
  - Limited mobility
  - Communication barriers
  - Require additional medical assistance during an emergency event
  - Require personal care assistance
- People who require transportation assistance



Register online at  
[Stear.tdem.texas.gov](https://Stear.tdem.texas.gov)



Call 2-1-1 or use your video  
phone relay option of choice

Registering in STEAR **DOES NOT** guarantee you will receive a specific service during emergencies.



# *This Month's Highlights*

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Physical & Mental Health News!

CENTRAL TEXAS AFRICAN AMERICAN  
FAMILY SUPPORT CONFERENCE 2024

February 6, 2024

**STRENGTH OVER STIGMA**

KEYNOTE  
SPEAKER:

**KEVIN  
BERTHIA**



PALMER EVENTS CENTER | AUSTIN, TEXAS

February 6th, 2024



Central Texas African American  
Family Support Conference

**REGISTER TODAY**

 [CTAAFSC.COM/REGISTER](https://ctaaafsc.com/register)

2024 THEME:  
**STRENGTH OVER STIGMA**



Register here,  
[ctaaafsc.com/register](https://ctaaafsc.com/register)



# This Month's Highlights

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Economic Development News!



2024

#### "Crimson and Cream Goes Black For Green"

From Your Southwest Region Economic Development Sub-Committee

A 2021 McKinsey & Company study noted the buying power of African-Americans in the United States is expected to grow from \$910 billion in 2019 to \$1.7 trillion in 2030

The support of black-owned business and building wealth are essential to maximizing this power. In the BLAZING Southwest Region, we don't just ignite the flame of change, we lead the changes we want to see in ourselves, our families and our communities. To tap into this buying power in 2024 and beyond we must be Diligent, Strategic, and Tactical.

#### Educate and Elevate

At the core of economic development is education and savvy spending. The National Program Planning & Development Committee has provided foundational tools and guides to equip each chapter with delivering quality programs on saving money and living debt free. Continue to build on the creativity in delivering the content of your programs. For example, utilize technology and the reach of social media to discuss how to move from consumer to investor or develop an engaging and exciting project that incorporates youth initiatives and social action.

#### Evaluate: Track the Impact

We encourage ALL chapters to participate in our second annual "Crimson and Cream goes Black for Green" challenge in February 2024. For the entire month of February 2024, we are asking you to spend your dollars with black-owned businesses. Dollars can be spent at storefronts, online (The Delta Red Pages or other websites), just make sure to turn the receipts into your Economic Development or PPD Chair. Chapter totals should be submitted to the SW Regional Economic Development Subcommittee by March 12, 2024 using the attached designated form.

To submit the form or if you have questions, please email [dst.sw.economic@gmail.com](mailto:dst.sw.economic@gmail.com)

As always, remember to spend and invest where it matters.

Southwest Region Program Planning and Development Committee  
Economic Development Sub-Committee Chair  
Delta SigmaTheta Sorority, Inc.



Sorors,

Join Austin Alumnae as we participate in the second annual "Crimson and Cream goes Black for Green" challenge for February 2024. We ask that beginning today that you support the black businesses in our community, online using The Delta Red Pages and other online black businesses. Every time you spend please submit the information in the google form link here <https://form.jotform.com/240327705246049>

All receipts will be totaled and submitted to the SW Regional Economic Development Subcommittee. As always, remember to spend and invest where it matters.



# This Month's Highlights

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Educational Development Committee News!



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

*in collaboration with*



**GAMMA ETA LAMBDA CHAPTER**

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT  
INSTITUTES

**ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.**

# HBCU COLLEGE TOUR

March 10 - March 15, 2024

Contact:

Latasha Robinson

[dstEdDev@gmail.com](mailto:dstEdDev@gmail.com)

512.716.9065

**\$395**

#### ATLANTA, GA

- CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY
- MOREHOUSE COLLEGE
- MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE
- SPELMAN COLLEGE

#### ALBANY, GA

- ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY



# *This Month's Highlights*

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Arts & Letters Committee News!

THE NATIONAL ARTS AND LETTERS COMMISSION

## DELTA RED CARPET SPOTLIGHT



### Exciting News from The National Arts and Letters Commission!

Greetings and best wishes for a fantastic start to your new year! The Delta Red Carpet/DSTv Subcommittee of the National Arts and Letters Commission (NALC) is thrilled to share some exciting upcoming films featuring Delta women!

To add even more excitement, the NALC will host a webinar on January 29th with Ava DuVernay and Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor to discuss *ORIGIN*.

We'll also have another webinar on February 8th featuring special guests to discuss the films *Kemba* and *Shirley*. Register now to get an up-close and personal view of these projects. Don't miss it!

REGISTER FOR THE ORIGIN WEBINAR ON JAN 29, 2024 at 9pm EST, [HERE](#).

REGISTER FOR KEMBA & SHIRLEY WEBINAR ON FEB 8, 2024 at 8:30pm EST, [HERE](#).

REGISTER FOR KEMBA & SHIRLEY WEBINAR ON FEB 8, 2024 at 8:30pm EST, [HERE,   
https://deltasigmamatheta-  
org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_zMmJ3PloShqVLHUTu8q1mw#/registration](https://deltasigmamatheta-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zMmJ3PloShqVLHUTu8q1mw#/registration)



# This Month's Highlights

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Arts & Letters Committee News!

#### ORIGIN – Starring Soror Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor

In theaters January 19th – <https://www.originfilm.com/>

One of our distinguished sorors, the multi-award winner **Aunjanue Ellis-Taylor** will showcase her exceptional talent in Ava DuVernay's highly anticipated feature film, "Origin." This biographical drama is based on the book "Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents" by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Isabel Wilkerson, which delves into the subject of racism in the United States as an aspect of a caste system.



#### SHIRLEY - Netflix

March 22, 2024

*Shirley* is the intimate portrayal of trailblazing political icon **Shirley Chisholm**, the first Black Congresswoman and the first Black woman to run for President of the U.S, and the cost of accomplishment for Shirley herself. This film will tell the story of Chisholm's boundary-breaking and historic presidential campaign.

#### KEMBA – BET+

February / March 2024

Based on the true story of now **Soror Kemba Smith**, *Kemba* follows the journey of a sheltered college student who falls in love with a man, only to find out he isn't who he seems. This strait-laced college student receives an outrageous sentence for her boyfriend's crimes – placing her in the middle of the government's "war on drugs". Never losing hope, harnessing the power of Black civic organizations, sororities, celebrities, and lawmakers help free Kemba.



# *This Month's Highlights*

## AUSTIN ALUMNAE CHAPTER NEWS

### Arts & Letters Committee News!

#### GEORGETOWN CULTURAL CITIZEN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## 2024 THEME AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE ARTS

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024**

### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH BANQUET**

Celebrate African Americans and the Arts

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
Southwestern University  
1001 E University Ave, Georgetown, TX

Ticket Donations: \$30 Each \$300 Table



**SOUTHWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY**

Special Thanks to our  
**CO-SPONSORS**



**LARK & OWL**  
BOOKSELLERS

For more information & banquet tickets, visit: [www.gccmatx.org](http://www.gccmatx.org)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024**

### **BLACK ART IN ACTION**

African American Authors Panel Discussion  
& Open Mic - Creative Expressions

Panel Discussion 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm  
Open Mic 7:00 pm -  
Lark & Owl Booksellers  
205 W 6th St Ste 101, Georgetown, TX

Free to the Public. Refreshment served.



# This Month's Highlights

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**REAL TALK**

## FEBRUARY VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**For Parents:****3 Ways to Attend College with Less Debt**

Tuesday, February 13, 8 P.M. ET / 7 P.M. CT / 5 P.M. PT

Attend our virtual event to discover timely strategies on how to minimize your teen's college debt. You'll leave our event with the big picture of how paying for college works so you can reduce debt. Our experts will show you how the colleges you consider, major you pick, and financial aid you pursue all matter when it comes to limiting college debt. Real Talk has your back!

**For Students:****Secure the Bag & Your Dream Job**

Tuesday, February 27, 8 P.M. ET / 7 P.M. CT / 5 P.M. PT

Register now for this special #RealTalkTuesday! During our virtual event, learn how to unleash your career potential by hearing directly from members of our community who secured the bag and landed their dream job after college. This event is all about how to explore careers that pay and fulfill your passion. Make your \$\$\$ goals and dream job a reality!

**What is Real Talk?**

Real Talk is a career and college exploration initiative designed to connect Black students and families with Black professionals and representatives from colleges and access organizations across the country. We empower Black students to own their future their way.

**Start Planning for Your Future**

Real Talk is a safe space for you to learn and engage, while also getting answers to your most pressing questions about life after high school. No matter where you are on your journey, we're here for you. Family members and educators are also encouraged to participate!



Join us! Register here,  
[bigfuture.org/RealTalk](https://bigfuture.org/RealTalk)

**BigFuture**© 2024 College Board. NAB-02907

Sorors, you are invited to attend College Board and BigFuture's Real Talk events for parents and high school students. Real Talk's Director is Soror Autumn Caviness. The event on February 13, "3 Ways to Attend College with Less Debt" features Robert Mason, Founder of the Common Black Common Application. Register here to attend, [bigfuture.org/RealTalk](https://bigfuture.org/RealTalk)!



# *Membership Spotlight*

## *Happy Birthday, Sorors!*

Happy Birthday to our February birthdays!

02/03: Maya Frazier, Cendra King & Karen Ware

02/05: Betty Simmons

02/06: Etta Ferguson

02/07: Roslyn Martin-Sessum

02/09: Glyn Walker

02/12: Youlander Dean

02/14: Diane Holland

02/17: Dewi Smith

02/18: Bennee Brown & De'Sean Roby

02/20: Courtney Nolan

02/21: Angela Woods & Helen Wright

02/26: Jennifer Nix

02/27: Tamar Ambers & Carolyn Golden

02/28: Susan McQueen



Soror Scraphoook





Soror Scrapbook



ΔΣΘ





# Soror Scrapbook



ΔΣΘ



# *Austin Alumnae Leadership Team*

## 2023-2024 Committee Chairs

### Economic Development

Sylvia Holt-Rabb & Avis Gipson

### Educational Development

Paulette Walls

### International Awareness & Involvement

Akeshia Johnson Smothers

### Physical and Mental Health

Sherri Fleming & April Briscoe

### Political Awareness and Involvement/

### Social Action

Celeste Williams & Veronica Johnson

### Arts and Letters

Jonna LaGrone-Haynes & Tamara Diggs-Tate

### Risk Management Coordinator

Nancy Knight-Brown

### Internal Audit

Sophia Williams

### Rituals and Ceremonies

Michelle Scruggs

### Technology

Kathryn Foster & Khaison Reed

### Emergency Response

Ollie White & Tanya Rippenkroger

### Founders Day

Tamela Saldana & Kelly Smith

### National Pan Hellenic Representative(s)

Kim Whitlock & Darralyn Johnson

### Nominating Committee

Carla Grace

### Parliamentarian/Chair of Policies and Procedures

Patricia Shorter

### Charitable Partners

Pamela Hall & Sonya Harry

### Protocol and Traditions

Cedel Evans & Sandra Marshall

### Records Management and Retention

Darralyn Johnson

### Ways and Means

Alnita Foote

### Communications and Public Relations

Autumn Caviness

### Heritage and Archives

Nancy Thompson, Historian & Tashia Coleman

### Program, Planning, and Development

Kacey Hanson

### Chaplain

Dedurie Kirk

### Strategic Planning

Dewi Smith

## Officers

Robin T. Blackmon, President

Jacqueline Habersham, 1st Vice President

Kacey Hanson, 2nd Vice President

Deborah Shaw-Boatner, Treasurer

Kimily Johnson, Asst. Treasurer

Darralyn Johnson, Recording Secretary

La'Kisha Crenshaw, Corresponding Secretary

Courtney Nolan, Asst. Corresponding Secretary

Anita Daniels, Financial Secretary

Tennile Thomas, Asst. Financial Secretary

Laronica Moise, Sergeant at Arms

Autumn Caviness, Journalist

Immediate Past President Lisa Newman



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*Sorors,*

**Please don't forget our Chapter meeting  
is in-person at 10 a.m. on  
Saturday, March 2,  
Highland Campus  
Austin Community College  
(Building 2000, Room 1550).  
Parking is available  
in the South Parking Garage:  
6018 Wilhemina Delco Drive,  
Austin, Texas 78752**

**Southwest Regional Conference Committee Signup!**

Sorors,

We are excited to present this opportunity for you to be involved in the planning and the work of our upcoming **49th Southwest Regional Conference**.

Below, you will find the link to the Jotform. Please review carefully and if your schedule allows, sign up for two (2) committees.

The co-chairs will contact you for meeting information and next steps.

Tap the enclosed link to signup now,

<https://form.jotform.com/AustinAlumnaeDST/committee-registration-form>

Sorors, please remember, we have several key documents available on our **Member Only Portal**. Please review the upcoming meeting documents under **Chapter Meeting Docs**, located on our Member's Only portal..



Austin Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
P.O. BOX 143381  
Austin, Texas 78714