

# Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

## *Austin Alumnae Chapter*

### *Committee Reporting Template*

**Committee Name:** Social Action

**Committee Chair(s):** Veronica Pickett Johnson and Celeste T. Williams

**Date/Time of meeting (MM/DD/YYYY):** 09|10|2024, 6:30 pm cst.

**Attendees:** Veronica Johnson, Celeste Williams, Joan Roberts Scott, Anita Daniels, Adrienne Thrasher, Lisa Newman, Monique Robertson, Paulette Walls, Vanessa Henry, Deneitra Hutchinson, Dewi Smith, Stephanie Shipp, Krishella Robertson, Jacqueline Habersham, Delphea Jester, Tamela Saldana and Melody Southall

**Committee Decisions:** (limit 500 characters)

#### **Social Action Priorities**

Voting & Civic Engagement  
Health Equity  
Reproductive Justice  
Economic Justice  
Reimagining Public Safety  
Reproductive Justice  
Environmental Justice

**Call to Order:** Soror Veronica Pickett-Johnson 6:35 pm

**Prayer:** Soror Veronica Pickett-Johnson

**Old Business:**

#### **Fall 2024 - Calendar Items**

- - School Board Meetings – no update currently – table for next committee meeting
- - City Council Meetings – Soror Dewi Smith (Update provided)
  - Monitoring City of Austin Police Oversight
  - Note: Implementation the Office of Police Oversight for the third quarterly Police Oversight Implementation Workgroup meeting on June 13, 2024. If you attended but could not complete a survey, you can fill one out [here](#) to let them know what you think! Submissions close on September 3rd, 2024. Their next meeting will be on **September 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm**, and will be hosted on Zoom. You can register for the meeting [here](#). Want to stay informed on their next meeting date? Sign up for OPO's **email newsletter** for the latest update. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [OPO.Outreach@austintexas.gov](mailto:OPO.Outreach@austintexas.gov) or call (512) 974-9090.
  - Additional city council updates will be provided as aligned to the social action priorities and how we as a committee can best advocate for those areas as they arise
- - Voter Education Forum - September 14<sup>th</sup> – Soror Veronica Pickett Johnson (Update provided)
  - Location updated to Doris Miller Auditorium
  - 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. We need two members to be at Carvey Library to help redirect traffic in case someone has old flier: Following Sorors have volunteered: Deneitra Hutchinson, Monique Robertson, Paulette Walls
  - 1:00 pm Setup team – chairs, voter registration tables, - Following Sorors have volunteered: Jacqueline Habersham. Anita Daniels,
  - Q|A Microphone runner – Following Sorors have volunteered: Monique Robertson and Melody Southall

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- Soror Paulette Walls to check with her husband on using their church speakers for the event
- Share the Eventbrite link and flier to your network
- We want to pack the house
- Know before you go will be sent to all volunteers
- - National Voter Registration Day - September 17<sup>th</sup> – Soror Celeste Williams (Update provided)
  - Please complete the sign-up genius from League of Women Voters and serve during this national civic holiday
  - Please amplify and share information from our social media post
  - Please ensure you work with your employers and families to ensure they are registered to vote
- - Social Justice Weekend - September 20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> – Soror Veronica Pickett Johnson (Update provided)

#### **Friday, September 20**

**Milwood Branch, 12500 Amherst Dr.**

**Toddler Music Circle - Friday, September 20 – 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM**

**Spicewood Springs Branch, 8637 Spicewood Springs Rd.**

**Imagination Station - Friday, September 20 - 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM**

**Pleasant Hill Branch, 211 E. William Cannon Dr**

**Books and Babies - Friday, September 20 - 2:00 PM to 4:30 PM**

#### **Saturday, September 21**

**Yarborough Branch, 2200 Hancock Dr.**

**Lambada Performance - Saturday, September 21, 10:00-12:30 pm**

**Cepeda Branch, 651 N. Pleasant Valley Rd.**

**Chicano Classics: the art of Lowriding and Bronze Band - Saturday, September 21 – 12:00PM to 3:00 PM**

**Twin Oaks Branch, 1800 S. Fifth St.**

**Peruvian Dance - Saturday, September 21 - 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

**Pleasant Hill Branch, 211 E. William Cannon Dr.**

**Hispanic Heritage Music Festival (All Ages) - Saturday, September 21 - 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

**Southeast Branch, 5803 Nuckols Crossing Rd.**

**Brazilian Dance - Saturday, September 21, 3-5 pm**

#### **Sunday, September 22**

**Central Library's Hispanic Celebration**

**Central Library, 710 W. César Chávez St.**

**Sunday, September 22 - 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

**Carver Branch, 1161 Angelina St.**

**Vinyl Brunch - Sunday, September 22 – 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM**

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**Will request for the flier to be posted on social media immediately following the community forum, along with volunteer deputy registrar sign up for each location to support efforts.**

**Journalist to send out PR announcing the event to the public**

- - Community Forum - October 12<sup>th</sup> – Soror Monique Robertson (Update provided)
  - African American Youth Harvest Foundation – location 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
  - Navigating the Ballot will be the focus of the forum
  - Yasmine Smith – Austin Area Urban League – confirmed speaker
  - Denise Davis – confirmed for October 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Partnership with local AKA chapters, Austin Area Urban League Sigma Gamma Rho Chapter
  - The committee meeting will be held tomorrow, September 11, 2024, at 7 p.m. via zoom; Soror Monique Roberston to send to all who desire to join the call
  - Soror Lisa Newman to reach out to local Zeta representative to see they would like to join the collaborative effort
  - Request was made to understand the communication practices for notifying the community of events, including but not limited to media outlets, churches, etc. Chair recommended those who are inquiring to work with the communication team to learn of the practice for advertising to the public - DSTATX Journalist <dstatx.journalist@gmail.com>
- - Stroll to the Polls - October 26<sup>th</sup> – Soror Krishella Robinson (Update Provided)
  - Letter sent to president for approval; civic organization all will be sent to the letter and ask to collaborate; locations have been identified

**Polling Locations:**

**Pace Campus Gym Mega Central  
700 West Pecan Street  
Pflugerville, TX 78660**

**Round Rock Randall's  
2051 Gattis School Road  
Round Rock, TX 78664**

**Turner Roberts Recreation Center  
7201 Colony Loop Drive  
Austin, TX 78724**

**Millennium Youth Complex  
1156 Hargrave Street  
Austin, TX 78702**

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**South Park Meadows, Suite 500  
9600 IH35  
Austin, TX 78748**

**Hutto Wilco Annex, Suite 200  
321 Ed Schmidt Blvd  
Hutto, TX 78634**

**Leander Public Library Annex  
1011 South Bagdad Road  
Leander, TX 78641**

- Chair provided the following - We are not providing transportation to the polls; if community and members need information on access to the polls, they may visit [VoteRiders: Voter ID Help](#) • [VoteRiders](#)
- People are encouraged to read the Texas Election code as it relates to transportation to the polls requirements and ensure they are following the law.
- Election Day - November 5<sup>th</sup> Soror Celeste Williams (Update provided) – CALL TO ACTION to take the day off and work the election day
- **Community Forum - What Next After the Election - November 7<sup>th</sup> – tabled to discuss next committee meeting**
- **Community Forum - December 12<sup>th</sup> – tabled to discuss next committee meeting**
- Boards and Commission – Soror Celeste Williams (Update provided) \*Leads Patricia Hicks & Marva Overton, recommended revisiting Bs & Cs initiative in 2025, with the hope that others may be interested in leading the efforts. As currently meeting constraints due to other obligations are limiting the subcommittee to lead the effort and they want to ensure that where possible there is an opportunity for members to engage on a local level for civic engagement.
- Volunteer Deputy Registrar & Election Worker Update \* Soror Celeste Williams (Update provided) – please commit to signing up on the sign-up genius for VDR opportunities. Soror Jester is going to be calling VDRs to sign up and assist with voter registration drives.
- Community Partnerships & Collaboration Agreements – Sorors Celeste Williams and Veronica Pickett-Johnson \*(Update provided) – contact has been made with civic engagement leaders via email based on known contact information. Request support from the committee that if there are known persons in which they have relationships to please engage those parties and ensure to have them contact the chairs to be able to be identified and list collaboration opportunities. MOUs are not required to partner for events, but all partners and collaboration efforts for Social Action, must be submitted to the National Social Action Committee for approval in the JotForm.
- **Book Ban - How We Can Get Involved \*tabled to next committee meeting**
- Why We Vote - Social Media Series \* Soror Celeste Williams (Update Provided) – working with President & videographer on PSA approvals and upon satisfaction the PSAs will be released on chapter's social media channels and ask is for members to engage in the social media posting by liking and sharing.

**New Business:**

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- Strategic Planning – Soror Celeste Williams (Update provided) Committee members encouraged to read the plan and use as a guide to come back with program recommendations for the 2025 sororal program calendar
- 2025 Program & Budget Requirements Soror Celeste Williams (Update provided) – Deadline to submit October 18<sup>th</sup>, request Sorors come prepared with recommendations for the October committee member and be reminded that the submissions will cross administrations, so we want all current committee members to be mindful of the recommendations and the ability to support said recommendations come 2025.

#### **Round table:**

- Soror Williams brought forth recommendation to support Brave New Films' 'SUPPRESSED AND SABOTAGED' Here's the link. <https://www.bravenewfilms.org/suppressed>
- End so members can log into Presidential Debate

7:38 pm cst. closing

#### **Recommendation(s) to Executive Board:** (limit 500 characters)

Social Action Committee, Education Development Committee & Arts & Letters Committee to support hosting watch parties to support Brave New Films' 'SUPPRESSED AND SABOTAGED' Here's the link. <https://www.bravenewfilms.org/suppressed> during the month of October

The rationale for watching the film is the understanding of voting. Having community dialog and ultimately getting all attendees to commit to support our Stroll to the Polls event October 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Next month's activities:** (limit 500 characters)

Committee meeting

#### **Volunteer Activities (include Date/Participants/Time):** (limit 500 characters)

- Voter registration drives – September 12<sup>th</sup> – Norman-Sims Elementary School
- First Vote! – LWV Partnership throughout September voter registration drives
- Social Justice Weekend – September 20 thru September 22, 2024
- SAFE @Grove Place Apartments – September 20<sup>th</sup> - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4FA4AF2EA7FC1-51294036-vdrs>
- VDR for First Vote at Cedar Ridge High Sept. 25-26 - [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848A4AE2DA0F5C70-51320130-vdratcedar#/#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848A4AE2DA0F5C70-51320130-vdratcedar#/)
- Health Day Walk – Dottie Park – September 28, 2024 – Voter Registrations
- Elgin Cares Community Fair – September 28, 2024 - Voter Registrations
- October 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>: National Voter Education Week \*\*
- October 12<sup>th</sup>: African American Youth Harvest Foundation
- October 21<sup>st</sup>: Texas Early Voting Begins

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|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• October 26<sup>th</sup>: Stroll to the Polls</li><li>• October 29<sup>th</sup>: Vote Early Day **</li></ul> |
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Signature of soror making the committee report: Veronica Pickett Johnson (e-board)/Celeste Williams (chapter)

Date of report to Executive Board/Chapter: October 1, 2024 (eboard)/ October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (chapter meeting)

Date/Time of next scheduled committee meeting: October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm cst; via zoom