

2021 Sororal Year in Retrospect

Introducing Our Newest Sorors (2021)

Faiza Onque

Ayeisha Seawright-Moses

Michelle Smith

Kolleen Thomas

Our Newest Sorors (2020)

Kisha Banyan

Renee Cook

Jewel Mendoza

Thanksgiving Food Distribution in Fort Green-November 2021



Left to right: Donna M. Sowerby-Basileus, Jewel Mendoza, Tanisha Dorvil, Yvette Wilds, Cathleen Snyder, and in front Karen Bull.



Theta Sorors spent the day servicing the residents of the Ingersoll Community by distributing food for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

In October 2021, Theta Chapter participated in our annual fundraising initiative for the American Cancer Society. Once again, we surpassed our goal and raised over \$1,300. The organizers of the Brooklyn Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Coney Island, Brooklyn, NY invited Theta to this evening of entertainment, dining, and fun to show their appreciation for our dedication and commitment.



Yvette Wilds, ACS Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Team Leader



Left to Right: Yvette Wilds, Yvette Grant, Mary Jimmerson, Donna Sowerby, Cathleen Snyder



Left to Right: Mary Jimmerson, Donna Sowerby, Cathleen Snyder, Yvette Wilds

Sisterly Bonding Activities:

On Saturday, November 13, 2021, Theta Chapter Sorors gathered together at **Shirley Chisholm State Park** to take chapter pictures. We were honored to come together and take pictures in front of the beautiful mural of Shirley Chisholm, Theta's own Honorary Member.



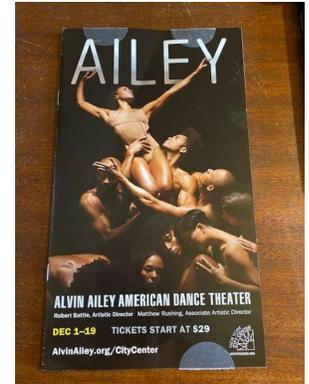
Left to Right (Front Row): Yvette Wilds, Tanisha Dorvil, Renee Cook, Sharon Oliver-Henderson, Yvette Grant, Heather Soudatt

Left to Right (Back Row): Tanisha Dorvil, Jewel Mendoza, Ayeisha Seawright-Moses, Vanessa Parkinson



Left to Right: Yvette Grant, Yvette Wilds, Renee Cook, Sharon Oliver-Henderson, Jewel Mendoza, Heather Soudatt

On Sunday, December 5, 2021, Theta Chapter Sorors went to New York City Center, New York, NY to enjoy Alvin Ailey Dance Theater. This show included the following; REVELATIONS, the cultural treasure, beloved by generations of fans and dance enthusiasts. BUSK, a performance which invites the viewer to enjoy the many facets of the human experience. Finally, SHELTER, a passionate statement about the physical and emotional deprivation of homeless people. The show left us captivated and ignited thought-provoking questions and a discussion with the dancers following the show.



Left to Right: Yvette Grant, Sandra Louise Moore, Yvette Wilds



Left to Right: Cathleen Snyder, Sandra Louise Moore. Yvette Grant, Mary Jimmerson, Jewel Mendoza, Donna Sowerby, Yvette Wilds, Sharon Oliver-Henderson, Karen Bull (not photographed)



Left to Right: Sharon Oliver-Henderson, Donna Sowerby, Cathleen Snyder



Left to Right: Cathleen Snyder, Sharon Oliver-Henderson

Theta Sister Pics



Book Club Corner (Sister Bonding)

We began this Sororal Year with a Summer reading of the book **“Promised Land”** by Barack Obama. Then, we moved into **“Believing”** by Anita Hill. It was a very spirited discussion related to “Sexual abuse”. Our next book will be **“As the Wicked Watch”** by Tameron Hall. This is a mystery based on facts.

Theta Trailblazers' Virtual Tour of South Africa (January 15, 2022) Johannesburg, Soweto, and Cape Town

AFRICA PROUD
By Wayne Visser

I stand upright and tall -
No more bowed back
No more bent knees
I look straight ahead -
No more downcast eyes
No more cowering glances
For I am Africa Proud

See me:
My name is Africa
And I am rising to greet you
I am leading the way
And I am Proud

Extend me your hand -
In friendship, not pity
In peace, not trickery
Send me your prayers -
In communion, not guilt
In hope, not resignation
For I am Africa Proud

Hear me:
My name is Africa
And I am calling to welcome you
I am waiting to embrace you
And I am Proud



I dance wild and free -
No more slave chains
No more puppet strings
I sing loud and strong -
No more lamentation
No more discord
For I am Africa Proud

Feel me:
My name is Africa
And I am drumming to wake you
I am singing to inspire you
And I am Proud

Bring me your gifts -
Of fair trade, not charity
Of respect, not advice
Show me your spirit -
Of community, not greed
Of faith, not fear
For I am Africa Proud

Join me:
My name is Africa
And I am seeding the future
I am shining with beauty
And I am Proud

Featured Poem read by Soror Renee Cook

Computer Literacy for All

Increasing student engagement, evening the playing field, providing equitable resources, remaining committed at the NSPDK National, Regional and local levels, and strongly thriving during an endless pandemic are some of the motivations that lead us directly to the digital world.

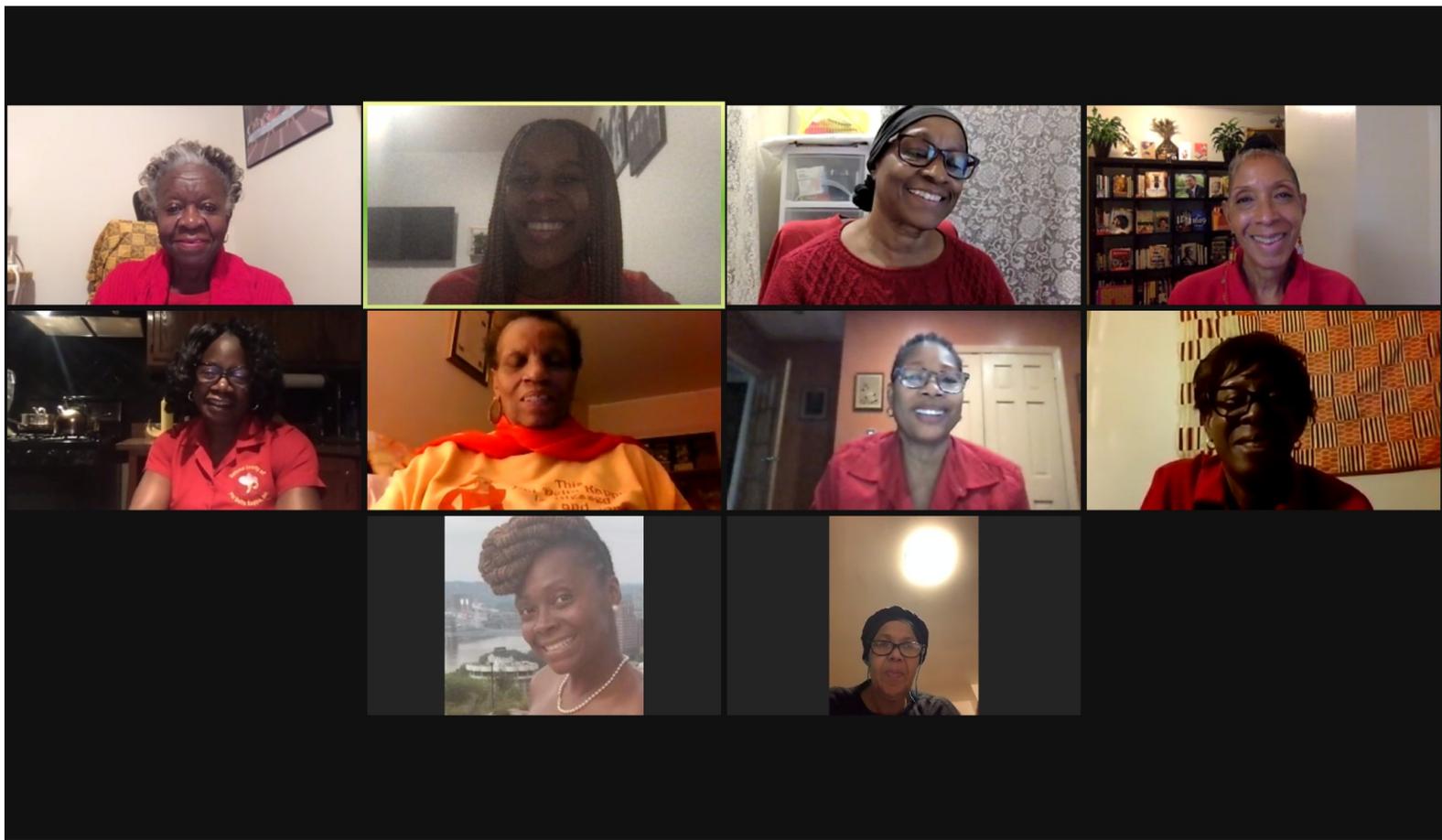
NSPDK, Inc. Theta Chapter continues to increase computer literacy for both active and retired sorors. Theta Sorors participated in a Google Drive session on Wednesday, December 15, 2021. One of our newest sorors, Faiza Onque, presented the detailed Google Drive 101 session. Soror Onque is supported by her line sister, Soror Ayeisha Moses. The two sorors will be leading a series of technology sessions held on Zoom and Google Classroom. One of the many benefits from the virtual session is that all attending sorors secured a gmail NSPDK Theta account.

[Submitted to the NSPDK Eastern Region Newsletter](#)

[By Soror Grant](#)

[Images Courtesy by Soror Onque](#)





- Top Left to Right: Mary Jimmerson, Faiza Onque, Marsha Lane, Yvette Grant Middle Left to Right: Sharon Henderson, Cathleen Snyder, Donna Sowerby, Yvette Wilds Bottom Left to Right: Ayeisha Moses,

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In Unity Lies Our Strength

- The definition of Umoja is unity in Swahili. Dr. Maulana Karenga declares this on his Kwanzaa website as: "To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race. ...a principle and practice of togetherness in all things good and of mutual benefit". NSPDK, Inc., Theta Chapter Kudos and Xinos held an annual Kwanzaa event on Sunday, December 26, 2021, vividly depicting the meaning of Umoja.

- The feeling of closeness unfolded right from the start with the action-oriented directors of the combined Theta youth groups. The directing duos, Soror Parkinson and Soror Dorvil, led the Kudos and Xinos into tight preparation for a dynamic and seamless Kwanzaa program. The welcoming introductions included remarks from a conglomerate of NSPDK, Inc. distinct luminaries, inclusive of the Honorable Eastern Region Director Dr. Patsy O. Squire, Theta Basielus Donna Sowerby, Theta HUB Parent Director Karen Bull, and Sorors visiting from other chapters.

- The Kudos and Xinos presented the program virtually with participating youth members taking turns performing, describing and exhibiting the aspects of the seven-day non-religious cultural holiday. Kudos Nijid Murray and Xinos Melissa Vanzie acted as Zoom co-hosts navigating the different Kwanzaa principles on Google Slides.

— Not only did the digital Kwanzaa program allow for total involvement with onlookers gaining insight and entertainment of the vibrant and purposeful cultural traditions, attendees also closely listened to Soror Yvette Wilds rhythmically read aloud “Kwanzaa”, and played the Kahoot Kwanzaa Jeopardy Game. Soror Ayeisha Moses won the game with the highest points in Kwanzaa trivia, earning a gift card.

- Jubilant, ending commentary expressed by Sorors, were how our youth were on fire with researched facts, confidence, oratorical prowess, and flawless execution. NSPDK Theta Trailblazers modeling and gathering for thought, intention and values. HARAMBEE!

Submitted and Published to the NSPDK Eastern Region Newsletter
By Soror Grant
Images Courtesy by Soror Dorvil



NATIONAL SORORITY OF
PHI DELTA KAPPA, INC.



THETA CHAPTER XINOS AND KUDOS

HAPPY
KWANZAA

Join Us as We Bring the Meaning of Kwanzaa to Life!



Dec 26, 2021
4:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 857 9302 6968
Passcode: 757209

Margarette Galloway, National President
Dr. Patsy Squire, Eastern Region Director
Donna Sowerby, Theta Chapter President
Karen Bull, HUB Advisor
Tanisha Dorvil, Xinos Advisor
Vanessa Parkinson, Kudos Advisor



Mental and Emotional Bandwidth to the 10th Power

Confidently, we can all relate to educational noise! It is a sound we hear in a learning lab where there is good busy, sometimes with focused chatter, creativity and analytical conversations all occurring at once. This is an image that is all too familiar to educators from 3K - College. It is the sweet-spot sound [many times subconsciously heard] that happens to transcend time. “The period is ALREADY over!”. We thrive on knowing that whichever method [whether from our tried-and-true-never-ever-failing toolkit, or cutting-edge digital technology] is used, our students are “getting it” and “running it” without our help!

Conversely, the nightly news headlines drudge up the darkest tumult to report: an uptick of latest COVID strains, climate shifts of devastation, threats of war, racial injustice and brutality, long lines for COVID testing, critical race theory, toilet paper shortages, and more. Furthermore, educators are tediously testing students much more, although NCLB and Race-to-the-Top mandates have not greatly impacted student achievement. Likewise, extensive research revealed emphasis and funding to increase teacher evaluations has no added value to significantly improve student test scores or educational attainment. Yet still, even during the third year of the pandemic, central and district offices are sending out hawks to make sure educators are following the increasing bureaucracy that robs the necessary time and rhythm of ZPD that we know is on the verge of happening at that very moment.

Educators do [regardless of the mounting distractions], see, feel and hear music to our ears. It is found in a safe haven; the sanctuary is our classrooms. Our hideout is embedded deeply in our souls when the student council candidates’ debates are buzzing, tapping fingers and actually reading an unfamiliar word, Socratic Seminar discussions are taking place, coding sessions giving that one student the confidence she needed, a moving robot the Science Club created, academic controversy’s pinnacle moment of opposing partnerships, a chorus competition, predicting the next chapter’s outcomes in a literature circle, designing a class mosaic, varied strategies for that once tough math discord, building blocks of a city street, surpassing last week’s running pace in PE, drama with puppets, dinging of more parents joining the virtual award-winning illustrator-animator-author visit, strutting to the beat of the drums, and so on and so on!

Finding our capacity to process psychologically and passionately with hope and encouragement is no doubt in the learning milieus where we educators work and volunteer with our promising future.

School Year Reflection
During Pandemic
by Soror Yvette Grant
Actively Co-Leading
At a Red Zone ENY
Brooklyn, NY
Elementary School



Theta's Past Basilei

Soror Cathleen Snyder
Soror Juanita Randolph
Soror Florence O. King
Soror Dorothy Murphy

In Memoriam

Soror Ella Gardner
Anthropos Maurice Douglas
Anthropos William C. Randolph
Marguerite Powell

Sick and Shut-in Sorors

Norma Beckles
Evelyn Sealey
Dorothy Wynn



Theta Talks June 2018

National Sorority of

Phi Delta Kappa, Incorporated **Up and Coming Events and Dates to Remember**

June	1-Executive Board Meeting @ 5:30pm- Theta House 2- Chapter Meeting @ 11am- Theta House 15- Jazz Night – 966 Fulton Street TBA- Book Club Discussion @ 4:00pm- B’klyn Swirl	
July/ August	Rest, Relax and Travel	

