



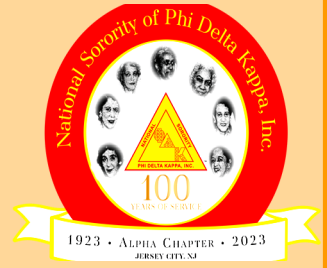
National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Incorporated

Alpha Chapter

In Jersey City, NJ... Where It All Began

From Eastern Region Conference to Conclave

Volume 8 Issue IV
August 2021



What a Summer! What a wonderful way to conclude a very successful Sororal year! Soror Francenia Britton-Sheppert and I were Alpha Chapter's delegates at two virtual conferences. The one-day Eastern Regional Conference took place on Saturday, June 19, the day many celebrated Juneteenth. The meeting began with delegates checking in with the Eastern Region Credentials Chair.

The first session began with the approval of the minutes followed by the reports from the Member at Large, the Recommendations Committee Chair and the By Laws Committee Chair who pointed out that all chapters should be receiving their documents from National. This was an election year for Member-At Large, Grammateus and Tamias. Following Campaign video speeches by the candidates, the Election's Chair explained the process for voting. The results were quickly obtained. The new officers are Soror Monica Lewis, Gamma Chapter, Grammateus and Soror Tiffany Ladson-Lang, Delta Phi Chapter was elected Member-At-Large. She was installed at 98th Anniversary Biennial Conclave. There still remains a vacancy in the region for the office of Tamias.

The report on Membership addressed the chartering of three new Chapters in the Eastern Region; Zeta Epsilon sponsored by Alpha Chapter, Zeta Zeta sponsored by Beta Omicron and Theta, and Zeta Eta sponsored by Epsilon Chi and Beta Epsilon Chapters. The Commission on Civil Rights presented a video that addressed Juneteenth becoming a Federal Holiday. The Literacy Report focused on the activities that were presented

throughout the Sororal year.

All chapters were given various literacy challenges. Alpha Chapter received two awards for the Read Across NSDPK Challenge for 2020 and 2021.

International and National Project chairs reported on the increased collection of donations from the Eastern Region Chapters.

The Perpetual Scholarship Foundation's Board held its meeting and elected new members to its Board of Directors. Alpha Chapter Soror Gwendolyn Jackson was one of the three elected. Eighty percent of the chapter membership contributed to the Perpetual Foundation this year. The chapter was delighted to hear that an Alpha Kudos, Johnathan Dale III, won the National Scholarship which is partially funded by the Perpetual Scholarship Foundation. He will receive a total of \$6,000 over a four year period.

Information on the 2022 Youth and Eastern Regional Conferences was provided. Hopefully, they will be in person.

The Sorority's National Conference, known as the Biennial Conclave, was held virtually July 17-20. The National Kappa Omicron Tau (KOT) Conference was also a one day virtual event that took place on Monday, July 19. A new KOT Executive Cabinet was created. KOT Jai'da Richardson, a former Alpha Chapter Xinos, was elected President. Several amusing Pre-Conference activities took place on Saturday, July 17. Conclave Delegates were given time to review how to utilize the new electronic platform and what to expect during the Conclave.

A review of the scheduled workshops revealed that presentations could be accessed later utilizing the Whova application.

The Vital Issues theme "Dreaming Black to the Future: Encouraging Our Students to Dream of the Future for Themselves", was presented by keynote speaker, Ytasha Womack, who coined the term 'Afrofuturism'. The panelists who joined her were daughters of former National Presidents and a Regional Director. On Monday, National President, Dr. Etta F. Carter delivered her State of the Organization address followed by the invitation to our 100th Centennial Conclave to be held in Orlando, Florida and hosted by the Eastern Region.

Candidates for National offices were met via video presentations. The election was done electronically with the following results: National President, Soror Margarette Galloway; 2nd Vice President, Dr. Sylvia M. Williams; Recording Secretary, Soror Barbara Nettles; Treasurer, Soror Brenda J. Jackson, Editor in Chief of the National Journal, The Krinon, Soror Esther Philips. The following Sorors were elected to the Board of Trustees: State of New Jersey, Anona Huntley, Eastern Region, Noreen Little, Southeast Region, Ann D. Black, Midwest Region, Shanette Rooks, Southeast Region, Dr. Etta F. Carter and Far West Region, Dr. Elcendia Nord.

The final business meeting took place on Tuesday and included the ceremonial closing and a time to celebrate the outgoing Leader, Dr. Etta Carter with presentations of gifts from all chapters presented by each regional director. Dr. Carter's desire was to begin a scholarship. Best wishes were extended as well as a tremendous "thank you for an outstanding four years!"

Esteemed Founders

Gladys C. Nunery
Julia A. Barnes
Gladys M. Ross
Florence S. Hunt
Ella W. Butler
Marguerite Gross
Mildred M. Williams

Not Shown- **Edna McConnell**

*All are in Omega Chapter

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Soror Perry L. Jackson
Basileus and Delegate



Soror Francenia
Britton-Sheppert
2nd Anti-Basileus
and Delegate



Eastern Region Board of Directors 2021- 2025

Sheila Evans – Gamma Chapter
Gwendolyn Jackson– Alpha Chapter
Kathleen Thomas – Beta Chapter

	2020	2021
	Winners	Winners
	1st Place	1st Place
	Alpha \$50 Gift Card	Alpha \$50 Gift Card
	2nd Place	2nd Place
Rho \$35 Gift Card	Epsilon Chi \$35 Gift Card	
3rd Place Epsilon	3rd Place Epsilon	
\$25 Gift Card	Sigma	
	\$25 Gift Card	

Welcome New Sorors! Soror Diana Ondande

Sorors of Alpha Chapter assembled in the yard at the home of Soror Verna Sims on Sunday, June 13, 2021 to welcome its Krinon Club members into our dynamic sisterhood. **The Majestic Gems: Soror Muneerah Barnes Marshall**, a teacher at North Star Academy Charter School-Lincoln Park High School, Newark, NJ. She has a BA in Sociology & Anthropology, and a MA in School Counseling and is a NJ Certified School Counselor.

Soror Ta-Tanisha Wright-Mays has been teaching for 8 years for the Jersey City Board of Education. She is presently a Kindergarten teacher at the Fred Martin Center for the Arts-P.S. #41 where she was selected as the school's Teacher of the Year. She has a BA in Psychology and is working on a MA in Educational Leadership.

Soror Dr. Daphney Civil-Acosta has been working in the Jersey City School District for 10 years. She is currently a Kindergarten Inclusion Teacher at the Joseph H. Bresinger School-P.S.#17. She has a BA in Business Administration, and a MA in Teaching (P-3 and Special Education) and earned her Ed.D in Educational leadership in June 2021.

Soror Gwendolyn White has worked in the District of Hoboken, NJ for 27 years and is currently a Grade 1 and 2 Inclusion Teacher. She has a BA in Business Administration and a MA as Teacher of the Handicap.

The ladies had an exciting pledge period and conducted an excellent virtual educational presentation. Alpha Chapter has welcomed them with opened arms and numerous gifts!



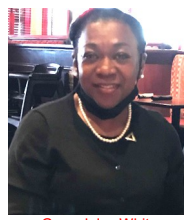
Muneerah Marshall
'Song Bird'



TaTanisha Mays-Wright
'The Wiz'



Dr. Daphney Civil-Acosta
'Boss Lady'



Gwendolyn White
'The Rock'



The Majestic Gems with
Dean of Pledges



Ladies share photo opportunity with
Dean of Pledges and Chapter Basileus



The Ladies show their beautiful scrapbooks and paddles



The Krinon and the Committee
met for dinner at Houlihan's
Restaurant in Bayonne, NJ



New sorors presented a monetary
gift for the chapter to Basileus Perry
Jackson



New sorors received numerous gifts



New sorors with their chapter sponsors



Gifts and Good Will Soror Adrienne Lofton



September:

Sorors
Frances Harold 9/10
Brenda Calloway 9/14
Verna Sims 9/14
Leisa Brown 9/16
Mildred English 9/19
Adrienne Lofton 9/26
Hazel Williams 9/30



October:

Sorors
Lauren Brown 10/3
Stacey Abdul-Qawi 10/21
Jawharah Muhammad 10/24

November:

Sorors
Gwendolyn Jackson 11/3
Adrain Braker-Davis 11/5
Sandra Webster 11/26
Muneerah Marshall 11/30



Our Thoughts and Prayers—

are extended to sorors who have suffered losses of loved ones and to chapters and families of sorors who have entered Omega Chapter. A portion of **Psalm 121:5** says "The Lord himself watches over you." Alpha Chapter is praying for you. Prayers are also extended to our Red and Gold Sorors Dorcia Berry, June Day and Mildred Dorsey. We are praying for a speedy recovery for Anthrosos Dr. Elnardo Webster and Kenneth Bryant.

Congratulations to— Graduating Xinos and Kudos



Kudos Jonathan Nicholas Dale, III, Recipient of the NSPDK, Inc. National Scholarship!



KOT Jai'da Richardson elected as NSPDK, Inc, National President of the Kappa Omicron Tau!

A Tribute to Our Youth Soror Rhonda Baskerville



The Xinos and Kudos **Class of 2021** seniors were given a tribute by their advisors for their tenacity, cooperative skills, work ethics, and academic achievement. Roseberly Pierre was selected Xinos of the Year because of her display of exceptional leadership and sisterhood with her Xinos sisters and her participation in community service, educational, social, and fundraising projects. Jonathan Nicholas Dale, III and Ryan Salmon were selected Kudos of the Year because of their dedication to the Alpha Kudos, especially during the past eighteen months of COVID. We must also remember Xinos Caiya Edwards walker who received the Gladys Merritt Ross Scholarship.

At the June 12, 2021 Chapter meeting, Soror Mary Webb-Miller, Scholarship chair, named the scholarship recipients for 2021-2022. Adriana Green will receive the 4th and final payment of \$1,000 of her \$4,000 1st Place scholarship. Jonathan Nicholas Dale, III received the 2nd Place award of \$1,500 and Roseberly Pierre was awarded 3rd Place of \$1,000.

Alpha Anthropos Vice President Kenneth Bryant was introduced by Anthropos Chairperson Soror Bernadette Robinson. He awarded two scholarships from them to Kudos Jonathan Nicholas Dale, III \$400 and Ryan Salmon \$300.

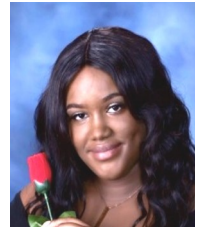
Alpha Chapter congratulates the graduates and wishes them much success in the years ahead.



Roseberly Pierre



Za'Nea Danae McMillian



Nevaeh Shadae Mustipher



Eliza Serenity



Sariah Madison Turner



Caiya J. Edwards-Walker



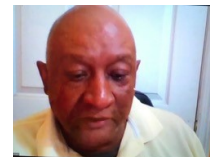
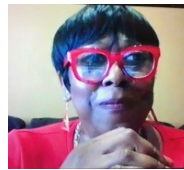
Raymond Covington



Jonathan Nicholas Dale, III



Ryan Salmon



Congratulations!

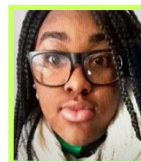


Sorors Perry L. Jackson and Mary E. Ennon were among the six **special guests** recognized by New Jersey City University on the 50th Anniversary of their graduation. The ladies wore the robes of their school of study and were applauded by the current graduates and other attendees at the Commencement on June 15, 2021. Following the ceremony, the graduates had a photo opportunity with University President, Dr. Sue Henderson.

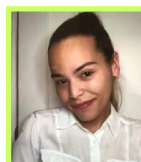


Congratulations!

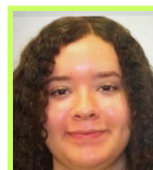
Current recipients of the Dr. Florence Steele Hunt Scholarship at New Jersey City University (NJCU)



A'lajaih Palms—Junior
Health Science and Education Major
3.6 GPA



Angelica Barrios—Junior
Psychology and Education Major
3.2 GPA



Genesis Amaro—Junior
Spanish and Education Major
3.4 GPA

Lunch at Houlihan's Soror Rhonda Baskerville

The Alpha Chapter Xinos gathered at Houlihan's in Bayonne, NJ, for lunch on May 29, 2021. The young ladies enjoy any occasions that allow them to spend time with each other. They especially relish getting together with good food to top it off. In the midst of having to contend with Zoom meetings for more than a year, the Xinos thoroughly treasured their moments together. This particular outing provided them an opportunity to socialize, laugh and have a good time with each other.

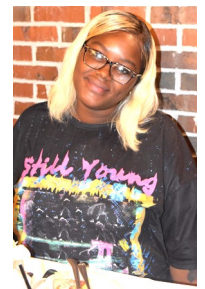
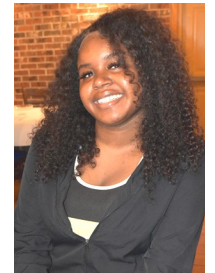
In addition to Xinos advisors, Sorors Rhonda Baskerville and Jamila Bass, Soror Abdul-Qawi, KOT advisor, Soror McTague, Basileus Perry Jackson, and Journey Baskerville joined in on fun.



Class of 2021- "So Long" Soror Rhonda Baskerville

The graduating Alpha Chapter Xinos and Kudos are truly special. These young adults have been with us since the 9th and 10th grades and have grown tremendously. Additionally, they have been a remarkable asset to our youth groups because of their leadership, talent, academic achievement, and sisterhood/brotherhood. As advisors, we wanted to create special memories for them at a "So Long" event.

We met at Laico's Italian Restaurant in Jersey City on June 21, 2021 for dinner. Following the meal, each of them were honored with a token of our love as a remembrance of their years in our organization. They will truly be missed. **Good luck and best wishes always** to Eliza Brooks, Dana Carter, Raymond Covington, Jonathan Dale III, Caiya Edwards-Walker, Za'Nea McMillan, Nevaeh Mustipher, Roseberly Pierre, Ryan Salmon, and Sariah Turner.

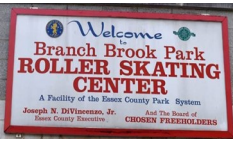


Community Service Soror Rhonda Baskerville

Our youth had to take a respite from serving at the NJ Community Foodbank in Hillside, NJ, because of the Covid-19 pandemic. But, on June 5, 2021, they were able to return to the facility and received a warm welcome. The Xinos, Kudos, KOTs, Youth Advisors, and Hub Parents showed up ready for the job at hand. Because we came with such a large group of people, we were required to separate into groups in order to adhere to the CDC guidelines. The groups worked in two different areas. One group worked in the pasta room and the main distribution area with some youth and advisors working in teams of three. They packed hundreds of bags of pasta, sealed and packed them in boxes for delivery to needy families and individuals. Other youth and advisors in the main room were assigned to sort items, check expiration dates, and pack boxes according to a given weight requirement before sealing for distribution. The group worked for two hours to help support those less fortunate, which is always gratifying.

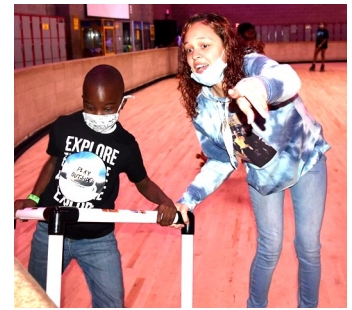
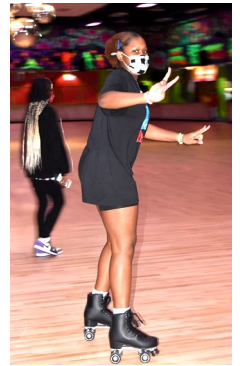
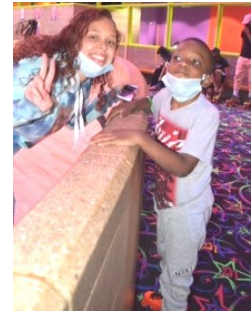
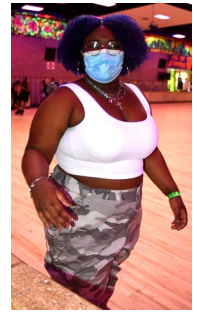


Roller Skating Fun Soror Rhonda Baskerville



The Alpha Chapter Xinos and SONIX (Xinos Pledges) participated in a Family Skate afternoon at Branch Brook Park Roller Skating Center in Newark, NJ on June 12, 2021. It

was exceedingly enjoyable to see everyone take a break from the Zoom activities. Watching the young people coming together in person was extremely heartwarming. As bursts of laughter filled the air, one could see that everyone was having a great fun-time with each other on their roller skates. This was a great way to end the day and take a break from the virtual experiences.



Elijah's Socks

Since he was a child, Elijah Chisolm, an Alpha Chapter Kudos has voiced a desire to help the less fortunate in his community. Young "Eli" cooked for the homeless with Chef Jesse, a professional chef who taught him the basics of cooking because he was too young to go into the industrial kitchen.

Like many other neighborhoods in this country, the homeless population is still huge in Elijah's area. Although some people gave a bit of money, discussions arose in this young man's home on what could be done to have an impact on more people. The mother and son first thought of cooking meals, but the shelters were not taking any home cooked food at the time because of Covid 19. Through inquiry, it was discovered that what shelters needed most was socks.

Eli was not sure how to get enough socks to make a difference, so his mom suggested that he out to people for donations. He was hesitant, but through his mom's encouragement, he began to ask for donations of white socks. He asked his church family, out of state family members and Alpha Chapter sorors. His Kudos brothers donated, also. Eli reached out on Instagram and Facebook. People in other states began to send socks via US mail and Amazon. That was a WIN! From the middle of April through the end of May, Elijah collected more than 807 pairs of socks which were donated to the Help Center in Newark, NJ.

This fourth year Kudos is going into his senior year at Union Catholic Regional High School. Not only does this young man have a beautiful singing voice, he has helping hands that reach out to those in need.



End of Year Barbecue Soror Rhonda Baskerville

Covid-19 did not beat us this year! The annual Alpha Chapter Xinos and Kudos End of Year Barbecue was a blast! This year we had a lot of "firsts": New Xinos Advisor, Soror Jamila Bass took over the grill for Soror Huntley, the Xinos and Kudos joined another group in the grass and danced the afternoon away. The clouds opened up, and we were all soaked; thankfully at the end of our activities.

We had such a great time with our youth, hub parents, sorors, advisors, and our former Xinos and Kudos who always return to support us. This traditional end of year event was great, especially since Covid-19 stopped us from enjoying ourselves in 2020. We are all looking forward to 2022.



Xinos Induction Soror Rhonda Baskerville

The Alpha Chapter Xinos inducted four young ladies into their sisterhood on July 1, 2021. It has been a wonderful experience getting to know Morgan Scott ("Ace"), Briana Davis ("Forti2ude"), Gadisha Monsanto ("B.H.A.D" (Bold, Honest and Determined)), and Farida Wahby. ("2 Cents")

These young ladies learned their material, bonded with each other and had an opportunity to experience activities with their big sisters and prepare for the new year. We are thankful to their family members who supported them along the way.

The Xinos and Advisors are anxiously waiting for a great 2021-2022 school year with these new young ladies who are definitely going to add something fresh and new to the group.



RSVP Soror Perry Jackson

The Retired Sorors, Volunteer Program (RSVP) completed its effort of collecting medicine bottles from the sorors for the Matthew 25 Ministries (M25M) in Cincinnati, Ohio. All bottles had labels removed and were cleaned by the sorors before being donated to the committee members. Sorors Hazel Williams, Adrienne Lofton and Brenda Callo-way met to count and package the bottles according to size. More than 600 bottles were donated to enable M25M to ship them with additional medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in developing countries.



Best Wishes



Soror Ta-Tanisha Wright-Mays
2020-2021
Teacher of the Year
Fred W. Martin Center for the Arts
Public School #41



Soror Dr. Daphney Civil-Acosta
Received her Doctorate of Education
Saint Peter's University
Jersey City, NJ



Soror Dr. Tamika Pollins
New Position
Director of Assessment, Accountability and
Intervention
West Orange Board of Education



Soror Muneerah Barnes Marshall
Promoted to Academy Leader/Head of the
Lower School at North Star Academy
Charter School, Newark, NJ