

## President's message

"In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." –Albert Einstein



A friend of mine watches cat videos. Another friend stops for a mani-pedi on her way home from work. I partake in a little retail therapy at the thrift store or I might visit my favorite barista when the day is cloudy. Where do you find opportunities amid the hustle and bustle of the world?

Soon the holidays will be here and we will be caught up in the stresses of parties, shopping, resolutions...the list is never ending. You might find some calming elements in your kitchen: tea bags to depuff the eyes, coffee grounds for a body scrub, and dark chocolate for, well, everything. Your chapter may want to plan a Stress-Free Meeting and make a foot soak, bring favorite smelling lotions to swap, or enjoy a walk around the park.

This season would be a good time to share fun social activities with your chapter, too. Don't worry about minutes and parliamentary procedure, just enjoy each other's company by attending the Nutcracker, testing your skill at ice skating, or sitting and sipping a peppermint mocha.

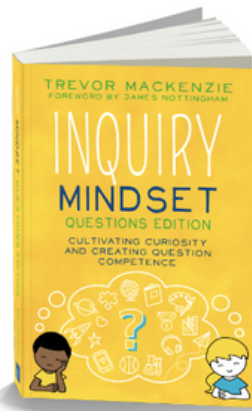
If you are having a holiday gathering with your chapter, I would really enjoy visiting. Let me know the particulars and I'll do my best to be there!

Share your story...  
-Stephanie Conching,  
Hawai'i State President

## Recommended quarterly reading

Inquiry is the process of investigating to answer questions about the world around us. Inquiry based learning is a positive way to engage students in the topics. Consider using inquiry as a way to engage your chapter and prospective members.

A creative activity from the book: The pencil routine is designed to help students create more powerful questions that enhance their inquiry skills. This clear framework connects question stems with their purposes, making it an excellent tool for question writing.



"With the belief that all students deserve a chance to dig into their wonders and curiosities, MacKenzie proposes a scaffolded approach to student-centred learning by identifying the Types of Student Inquiry: Structured, Controlled, Guided and Free Inquiry. Each type requires students take progressively more control over their own learning. This inquiry-based learning model equips students to become lifelong learners by nurturing wonder, curiosity and agency in the classroom."

## Save the date

**February 15,  
2025**

Submission deadline for DKG Scholarships

**February 17,  
2025**

Deadline to submit presentation proposals for the 2025 DKG Spring Convention

**April 12, 2025**

Mu Chapter kindly asks that you save the day for the 2025 Spring Convention. More information will follow.

## Second VP message

I hope this message finds all of you well as we head into the holiday season, a time for reflection, reaching out, and sharing love and hope. The role of the State-Wide and Chapter Second Vice Presidents is to focus on membership retention and recruitment. Last December, the second vice president from some of the various chapters met via Zoom with me to discuss this focus. We shared common issues in recruiting and retaining members and effective strategies to address membership retention and encourage onboarding new members.

Some common issues across chapters are the retention of current members, fluctuating and, in some cases, decreasing participation rates. Common strategies that have supported improvement in these areas include:

- Encourage members to invite potential members, such as colleagues, to participate in engaging activities, especially those that demonstrate our purposes. Knowing someone else makes it easier to consider joining and participating.
- Share with potential members how chapters can support educational efforts across the state and continue to provide opportunities for personal and professional growth.
- Join with other chapters around common topics/activities.
- Incorporate time within meetings for members to get to know one another and maintain ongoing communication with members.

We also shared new ideas for embracing a broader pool of potential members in education-related career paths who may not know their membership eligibility.

Looking forward, we will meet again during this second year of the biennium to continue discussing effective strategies for improving recruitment and retention and the next steps in soliciting further feedback and ideas from our membership.

So this holiday season, let's optimize our efforts to invite potential members to join in with your chapter's holiday celebrations to participate in engaging activities, learn about Hawai'i State Delta Kappa Gamma, and lay a foundation for potential membership in the coming year. In addition, we can attend events focused on Supporting Early Career Educators and engage with them in sharing more about our chapters and statewide efforts.

I wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with many blessings for 2025!

**-Ronnie Kopp, CHAPTER**

## Call for presentations

Please consider sharing your special talents as leading women educators at our Spring Convention on Saturday, April 12, 2025. In keeping with our theme, Ha'i Molelo—Tell your own story, we are seeking a variety of 60-minute presentations addressing personal and professional development topics that will inspire us as educators and learners to pivot with our society's changing needs.

Possible presentation topics could include those focused on personal or professional growth, health, and wellness, DKG-related current/specific topics, technology, classroom instruction, and current topics in the community, state, and nation.

Interested presenters should submit the [2025 DKG Spring Convention Call for Presentations form](#) by Monday, February 17, 2025. All proposals received by February 17, 2025, will be reviewed. You will be contacted shortly after that with information as to the status of your proposal.

Please feel free to contact **Lori Furoyama (Mu)**, [lori.furoyama@hawaii.edu](mailto:lori.furoyama@hawaii.edu) if you have any questions.

Thank you!  
**Mu** Chapter

## County Store help wanted

Before we know it, it will be Spring! Sisters from each chapter are being asked to begin letting their creative juices flow—think of what excites you when you attend the holiday craft fairs and purchase to donate to the country store or make your own. Sewn, crocheted, or knitted items; cards and stationery; bags and jewelry.... Begin planting or grooming plants to sell! Think of what you will bake or make for your fellow sisters!

The chairs of the Country Store, **Sharon Inamine** and **Ellen Tanoura (Mu)**, have already contacted an individual from your chapter to be a liaison for the country store. Presidents on the Neighbor Island chapters are asked to be the liaisons. We will send out a more complete instruction sheet soon, though the following instructions are definite:

- All goods should be wrapped or bagged in clear cellophane or plastic bags, named and described briefly, especially if food items may cause allergic reactions.
- All goods should be priced in whole dollar amounts on each package
- No "white elephant" or used items, including books

More detailed instructions on dropping off nonperishable items to Sharon and Ellen will be shared later.

If you have questions, please write to [Inamine.sharon@gmail.com](mailto:Inamine.sharon@gmail.com) or [ellen.tanoura@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.tanoura@gmail.com).

All proceeds will go to Hawaii State DKG projects and programs.

**-Ellen Tanoura, Mu**

## Congratulations

The DKG International Arts and Humaniteis Jury has accepted **Stephanie Conching's** Three-Dimensional Art, 'Brooms' into the DKG Fine Arts Gallery for the August 15 - September 15, 2024, submission period.  
-Carli Miyashiro, Theta



## Kappa updates

Kappa Chapter kicked off the new biennium at our August meeting at Moonga Bistro in Kaneohe. Members enjoyed seeing each other, getting reacquainted, and catching up on news and trips. We updated our SAP and planned meetings and activities for the new year. In addition, we were joined by three prospective members. Kappa Chapter looks forward to an exciting and interesting year.

**-Donna Shiroma, Kappa**



## Eta's News

Eta chapter members came together for a lively paniolo-style party at their September meeting, where laughter and friendship filled the air. One memorable moment was a fun line-dancing session following their business meeting and lunch. Yeehaw!

**-Sarah Iha, Eta**



## Shaka/Choose Love

The Early Career Educators Committee supports the launch of the movie Shaka across the state by volunteering and promoting DKG chapter membership at the launch on their island. There are great curriculum materials that accompany the movie, too! If anyone is interested in working with the ECE Committee or learning more about the movie, please contact **Phyllis Unebasami (Mu)** at [dkg.mu.pres1@gmail.com](mailto:dkg.mu.pres1@gmail.com) for information.

**-Phyllis Unebasami, Mu**

## Scholarship committee

The Hawai'i State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is pleased to announce its 2025 Selective Recruitment Grant Program which is open to any college student pursuing a career in education.

Two Lucille Hodgins Selective Recruitment Grants of \$1,000 per grant will be awarded for the 2025-2026 academic year. Applications for this grant will be available from December 16, 2024, and are due February 15, 2025.

Stipends are also available to active members for the 2025-2026 academic year:

- The Josephine E. Day Perpetual Scholarship Fund provides stipends up to \$1,000 to active members who pursue National Board Certification.
- The Eva Phillip Curry State Scholarship Fund provides stipends up to \$500 for special certification or professional improvement, or to fund a school, state or community project.

Applications for these grants are due March 1, 2025.

A fillable PDF form for all applications as well as additional information regarding required documents will be available on our state website at <https://dkghawaii.org> starting December 15, 2024. Inquiries and completed applications with required documents may be forwarded via email to [sandituitele@gmail.com](mailto:sandituitele@gmail.com) or mailed by U.S. postal service to

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Hawai'i State Organization Scholarship Committee  
c/o Sandi Tuitele  
2306 Coyne Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826-1426  
**-Sandi Tuitele, Beta**

## Theta News

**Theta** started the new biennium with a wonderful retreat at Bea Zane's home on July 13th. We focused on self-care for ourselves and our chapter. It was so nice to have so many members in attendance and to reconnect through fun activities and mindful tasks.

Our ECE committee and many other helping hands successfully assembled and delivered a hundred toolkits to the Waipahu Complex's new teachers. This is truly a passion project for our chapter.

We then had a very successful planning meeting to establish our plans for the next year. The committees are set, and the upcoming meetings are ready to go. On Nov. 2nd, we held the first of our planned committee meetings.

**-Peggy Pavao, Theta**

## White rose

With great sadness, **Theta** shares the loss of **Shuk Fon "Fooney" Yuen**. Fooney passed on August 24, 2024. She was the mother, sister, historian, and dearest friend



to our chapter and its members. As a 66-year member of DKG, she knew it all. She served in nearly every position for the chapter and many state positions. We appreciated her guidance for all those years. Faced with a situation or problem, we just have to ask ourselves...What would Fooney do?

**-Peggy Pavao, Theta**

## Zeta's snapshot

"He Aupunu Palapala Ko'u - My Kingdom is based on literacy."  
King Kamehameha III (as he succeeded the throne at the age of 10)

On Saturday, March 17, 2024, **Zeta** Chapter held our first Keiki Literacy event at IHOP in Hilo. Celebrating King Kamehameha III's birthday, we honored his importance on literacy during his reign from 1825 to 1854. During the event, keiki chose a book to read in our reading corner, colored the historical placemat on Kamehameha III, and listened to a story read by our members during storytelling hour. As for adults, we gave away books as prizes to our raffle-drawing winners throughout the event. This event helped us to fulfill our strategic goal of increasing Zeta Chapter's presence in our Hilo community.

We want to mahalo IHOP Hilo General Manager Isaaca Davis for partnering with Zeta Chapter on our first community outreach event. We also want to mahalo IHOP Hilo Assistant Manager Kealani Haney for her support and hard work before and on the event day. And lastly, a very big mahalo for IHOP's donation of \$734.19 from coins dropped in their wishing well during our event and an extended period. We can't wait for next year!

Mahalo to Zeta sisters **Kahanu Nguyen, Wini Tatsuta,** and **Charlene Miyashiro** for your support at our Keiki Literacy Event.  
-**Keikilani Meyer, Zeta**



## Our newest members

**Jodi Kalawe,**  
Zeta Chapter's  
newest member, has  
taught for 14 years.  
She has a bachelor's  
degree in



Psychology, a post-baccalaureate certificate in elementary education, and a master's Degree from UH Hilo in 2017. After teaching preschool at E Maka'ala for 7 years, she moved to the Hawai'i Department of Education, where she taught kindergarten and Grade 4 for 7 years. Known for her mastery and skill in technology, this year, Jodi became the Technology Coordinator at Waiakeawaena Elementary. Her love for children shines through in her classroom and her volunteer work in the community. For 8 years, "Coach Jodi" spent much of her free time coaching volleyball and now serves as the robotics coach at Haili Christian. She is a breath of fresh air and brings enthusiasm and energy to Zeta Chapter. Welcome, Jodi!

-**Lynn Fujii, Zeta**

## State bylaws

The bylaw committee is accepting edits and revisions to our state governing documents. Submissions must be sent to **Eileen Clarke (Iota)** at [eileenclarke@me.com](mailto:eileenclarke@me.com) by January 15, 2024. All amendments will be shared with the state membership at least 30 days before the Spring Convention in preparation for voting.

-**Eileen Clarke, Iota**

