

President's message

"Life is stories. We are made from stories. Every moment is part of a story. We live in a forest of stories." This quote is from the play "Aitu Fafine" by local playwright Vicki Kneubuhl. It reminds us that there is never a time when our story is complete: people we meet, things we do, and environmental changes, all require us to adapt and edit our stories as they develop and grow in that 'forest of stories.'



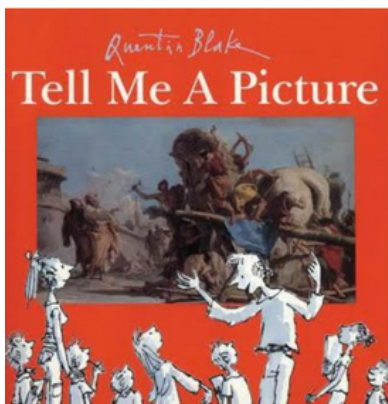
How is your personal DKG story going? What about your chapter? The goal as a state is always to support you and your endeavors by providing opportunities to lead, connect, and share. The 7th anniversary, Fall Form, Spring Convention, and the Leadership Development Workshop in June are all perfect moments to add to your chapter narrative. As we close out this first year of the biennium, please consider enhancing the section of your DKG story by attending more meetings, inviting a friend to an event, or participating in a DKG-sponsored gathering. You are an integral part of our book.

-Stephanie Conching, Hawai'i State President

Recommended

quarterly reading

In "Tell Me a Picture," Quentin Blake picks out some of his favorite paintings and encourages everyone to look for stories in them. This catalogue accompanies the exhibition of the same title held at the National Gallery in 2001. For more information, visit this [website](#).



Congratulations

Congratulations to **Vivian Hee (Mu)** and **Soo Boo Tan (Mu)**, who both have work on display in the DKG Fine Arts Gallery. 'Mu Chapter Song' by Vivian and 'Backyard Musings' by Soo Boo can be found under the subheading of writing/poetry.

White Rose

Eta Chapter shares the loss of **Josephine "Jo" Cortezan Duvauchelle**, who passed away on Kaua'i in January 2024 at the age of 96. She had been a member of the Chapter since May 1983. In 1969, Jo was asked to teach and develop what is now the Nursing Program at Kaua'i Community College. We appreciate her work in organizing and developing the Career Ladder Program, where students are certified for each level of education they achieve. This became the model for many other programs. Her biography was included in Makers of Destiny - Hawaiian Style - Volume III and was written by member **Bonnie Lake**.

-**Rebecca Fries, Eta**

Save the dates:

June 1, 2024

Leadership Development Workshop, hosted by **Beta** Chapter. This will be held on Zoom.

July 9 - July 13, 2024

The DKG International Convention will be held in National Harbor, Maryland.

April 12, 2025

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

Theta's tales

Theta's theme is Mālama Ka Po'e: To take care of one people. We strive to care for our Theta sisters, all DKG sisters, and all people. The opportunity to meet our DKG Japan sisters allowed us to give them the infinity bracelets we made for their chapters. During our Theta retreat, we focused on making stress balls and massagers for the teachers on Maui. The stress balls and massagers were personally delivered to **Gamma** members **Cindy Asato-Kochi** at King Kekaulike HS and **Francois Bell** at Lokelani Intermediate. Stress balls and massagers were also handed out to some of the volunteers at the Maui relief centers.



Theta is committed to supporting and caring for our early educators through the SEE project. The teacher tool kits were well received last year, so we updated them and distributed them on July 24 at their first orientation meeting at August Ahrens Elementary School. When the new teachers met in person on December 14, we brought refreshments and Starbucks gift cards for game prizes.

In December, we celebrated our 61st birthday at Waioli Kitchen and Bake Shop, enjoying delicious salads and pastries.

-Deanne Kanekuni, Theta

Eta's updates

Eta Chapter on Kaua'i has held three meetings this business year. We also cohosted the Virtual Fall Forum in October. At our September meeting, we announced the new State Officers for the next biennium and inducted a new member, **Amber Mokahi**. We also voted to use some of our money donated in memory of members **Joanne Nakashima** and **Gladys Okada** to purchase books for children whose schools were destroyed in the Lahaina fire. In December, our generous donation from DKG helped donate 202 Magic Painting Books to the students of Sacred Hearts School in Lahaina.

During our December meeting, we were serenaded by the choir of one of our members. The meeting also included a fun silent auction of white elephant items donated by members and a lovely brunch. The proceeds from the auction were donated to the World Fellowship Scholarship Fund.

Our last meeting was in February, and it included the election of new officers for the biennium and new member recommendations.

-Rebecca Fries, Eta

Kappa at the Arcadia

Staying connected with family and friends is recognized as extremely important, especially if loved ones are far away. On Sunday, January 21, the **Kappa** Chapter met this need at Arcadia Retirement Residence by offering a Tech Session to interested residents. This Tech Session provided instructions on how to use and navigate programs on their iPads safely and wisely. The attendees demonstrated a wide range of proficiency, which required our members to be flexible in supporting their needs by working with them "1 to 1" or in small groups. Residents were introduced to FaceTime and Email to interact with family and friends. They also learned to locate various apps and games, a fun pastime activity with many benefits. According to Gillian Davis, Programs Manager at Arcadia, "many residents came up to me afterwards impressed and happy they learned something." Thank you to the Kappa presenters, **Donna Shiroma**, **Vicki Kajioka**, **Adele Wada**, and **Sherri Chang**, and to all our members for their usual warmth and support as they interacted with the residents.

-Carole Mitsuyoshi-Sugai, Kappa

US Forum Ad Hoc Committee

Please consider being a candidate for the 2024–2026 U.S. Forum Steering Committee. Each member of the U.S. Forum has an equal opportunity to be nominated and elected to a position on the Steering Committee. You will serve a two-year term as Regional Representative or Chair of the Steering Committee.

As a Regional Representative, your role will be to help identify and address major issues of concern to DKG U.S. Forum members and to provide current information regarding pending federal legislation affecting women, children, and education. In addition, you will collaborate with state U.S. Forum representatives, interested members, and state presidents.

Importantly, you will also help to plan and organize the 2026 National Legislative Seminar in Washington DC, which typically is a four-day seminar that offers attendees many opportunities to learn and practice advocacy skills, network with DKG members, discuss important issues, meet with congressional representatives; hear legislative briefings; and, participate in historical tours.

Interested members are encouraged to visit the U.S. Forum website's Operational Guidelines as a source for detailed and up-to-date information concerning "Duties of Elected Leadership Team Members" and the election process.

The process is simple! Go to the U.S. Forum website at www.dkgusforum.org to download a copy of the candidate application. Submit it by email to the current U.S. Forum Chair, Darlene Cook (dcook.dkg@gmail.com), no later than May 17, 2024. The election for the next U.S. Forum Steering Committee will be held at the 2024 International Convention in National Harbor, Maryland (Gaylord National, D.C.), July 9-13, 2024.

Spread your enthusiasm! Take the next step and apply for a leadership position as the U.S. Forum Steering Committee Chair or Regional Representative! Your opportunity to make a difference is here!

-Gwen Mau, Theta

Blooming Roses 2023

Judith Hook exemplifies the seven DKG purposes. As a teacher for 17 years, Judith has engaged in various school leadership roles at Kahului Elementary, supporting students and teachers. She has coached the Math Matter teams for ten years, mentored six new teachers, and was a Field Experience Mentor Teacher for a student teacher. She worked collaboratively on the May Day committee, Formative Instruction Data Teams, WASC FOL Groups, and their Steering Committee. She is the 5th Grade Level Chairperson and Math Lead, collaborating on various ideas for navigating our new norm and student needs.

Judith attended Leadership Development Workshops and several Forums/Conventions to increase her professional growth and strengthen our chapter. She participated in the Communications & Publicity and World Fellowship Committees, helped plan the Maui 2017 Fall Forum, was a Chapter Linker for the 2021 Supporting Early Educators (SEE) Committee, mentored two prospective members, and served on the Scholarship Committee. Judith is currently serving her second biennium as Gamma's Recording Secretary and is always gracious, positive, and supportive in her suggestions.

**-Cindy Asato-Kochi and Melanie Nakashima,
Gamma**



Happenings at Kahauiki Village

The days are speeding by, and the second session for Adult Learners enrolled in Adult Education will soon come to an end. They have improved their literacy with their use of Chromebooks and interesting lessons. In addition, they have several hands-on projects that they also enjoy, which also helps them increase their vocabulary. They made wreaths from strips of fabric and Valentine posters, which culminated in previous lessons. **Ellen Tanoura (Mu)** and **Carol Mitsuyoshi-Sugai (Kappa)** are the lead teachers. Volunteer helpers are **Lena Kanemori** and **Ann Takazono** from **Kappa**, and **Gladys Umemoto** and **Sharon Inamine** from **Mu** Chapter.



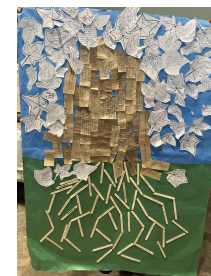
The children are getting tutored with homework help, flashcards, and educational games after school with DKG members **Ellen Tanoura** and **Sharon Inamine** on Tuesdays, **Kaye Kroehler (Lambda)** and **Gail Ogawa (Kappa)** on Wednesdays, and **Eva Somers (continental U.S. DKG)** and **Patti Urso (Beta)** on Thursdays.



-**Sharon Inamine, Mu**

DKG Hawai'i turns 75!

On January 27, 2024, sisters from all of our O'ahu chapters gathered to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of DKG in Hawai'i. It was a great treat to share our own stories of DKG with each other. Many of us took the opportunity to share our story on video. These will be put together as a history compilation.



Zoe Green of Beta Chapter helped us create a visual of our experiences - from our roots to our strong values, and into our future goals.

The lovely centerpieces were created by members of **Kappa** Chapter. Not only are they beautiful, but the shells you see in the centerpieces came from **Mu** Chapter's **Elsie Hu**.



She gathered the shells during the early years of career - in Lahaina. Wow! This particular centerpiece is now in the home of **Epsilon** member **Marlynn Hutton**.



On display were our charter documents, books about our pioneering women, and reminders of our key role in education. A great time was had by all! Now on to 80 and beyond!

-**Stephanie Conching**

Save the Date

SPRING CONVENTION 2025

Hosted by Mu Chapter
APRIL 12, 2025

More information to follow