

## President's Message

*EXceptional Women doing, EXtraordinary Things*

Happy Holidays!

2020 has been challenging to say the least, but it has made us more resilient, innovative and appreciative for the simpler things in life. Our Education Committee, led by Tonya Tompkins, demonstrated these qualities during American Education Week (AEW). Hats off to all of the members who contributed to the success of AEW and put a sense of pride and fulfillment in the hearts of our educators and support personnel.



Think back over the past year to see what you have learned about yourself or others. How have you adjusted to change? Did you enhance a personal or professional aspect of your career? Were you drawn closer to your family? The Epsilon Chi Chapter has a multitude of positive attributes that have contributed to the betterment of our society and our illustrious sorority. Truly, we are making a difference in the lives of others. It is my hope that you, your family, and loved ones be filled with joy and a spirit of continued peace and love for mankind.



Peace and Blessings

In Sisterhood & Service,  
Donna Mitchell, President

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**Newsletter Articles are due by the 25th of each month**

## Calendar of Events

- December 12 - Chapter Monthly Meeting
- December 25 - Christmas
- December 25 - Newsletter articles due
- January 1 - New Years Day
- January 9 - Chapter Monthly Meeting
- January 25 - Newsletter articles due
- January 25 - FHPW quarterly meeting
- February 13 - Chapter Monthly Meeting



# Epsilon Chi Chapter Announcements

By Redessa Shaw, Dean of Intake

This year has come with many challenges due to COVID-19; however, we are a business women sorority so we improvise, adapt and overcome. As the Dean of intake, the week leading up to the induction and the day of the induction ceremony is a very, very special occasion. It is the time that the Dean is able to see the fruit of her labor and ensure that the day is special for the new inductees. On Friday November 6, 2020, the Dean asked the then Lomepas to meet her so that she could provide many special items from the chapter, like gifts from Sorors, 18 long stem roses, a two cake tower from Nothing Bundt Cake, a framed photo of the candidate and a framed welcome flyer. And of course, being the Dean has its privileges, and Dean was gifted with a beautiful wine glass from the Fall 2020 new members.

On November 7, 2020, Epsilon Chi Chapter held its very first virtual induction ceremony. Formerly known as the Two Virtual Images of Iota while they were Lompeas, we are happy to introduce our two newest Sorors, Soror Audrey Hamilton and Soror Jacqueline Nixon. Welcome sisters! We were deeply honored with many special guests, the National President Dorothy White, President Elect Charlotte Berry, many members of the Executive Board, Southwestern Regional Director Vahnita Loud, members of the Southwestern executive committee and many sister chapters from around the globe.



**Soror Audrey Hamilton**



**Soror Jacqueline Nixon**

Soror Vahnita Loud, our beautiful Southwestern Regional Director, provided us with a wonderful charge that not only ignited a fire for the new members but for all members in attendance. The charge began with a scripture from Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 and it reads, two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Soror Loud went on to charge the new members to be team players, and she provided certain characteristics of a team player. She stated that team players understand their role, embrace collaboration, hold themselves accountable, are committed to their team, they are flexible, optimistic and future-focused, they back up goals with actions, they demonstrate reliability, communicate constructively, listen actively, function as an active participant, share openly and willingly, they cooperate and pitch in to help, they show commitment to the team, work as problem solvers and they treat others in a respectful and supportive manner. Wow, what a word! Madam/Soror Southwestern Regional Director, thanks again for not only attending our virtual conference, but for providing the EXcellent charge.

Again, Welcome to Epsilon Chi Chapter Sorors Audrey Hamilton and Jacquelyn Nixon. We are EXcited to have you all on our TEAM!!!

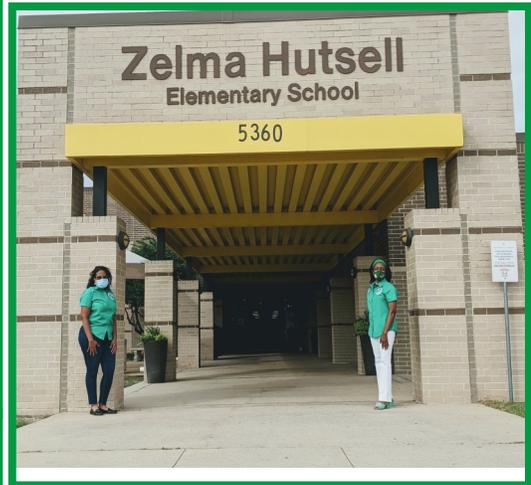
## American Education Week

This year has definitely accentuated the challenges and significant contributions public school systems make in society. Parents are gaining direct experience in the tasks and obstacles educators face (not so easy preparing our future citizens and leaders). The economical contributions are immense because public schools allow parents -especially single mothers- to sustain their households by being allowed to work.

This year EX members were very busy showing appreciation and support for our public school systems during American Education Week (AEW). A trio of outstanding teachers and lead custodian from Hutsell Elementary were honored. A daily social media campaign was put together for every day of AEW. We honored our chapter educators and support personnel. And, our very own Sorors and MOI, Joshua Brown, took the time to put together a video for Career Day!

Please take a look at our links below. AEW has come to an end, but let's continue the support for our public schools.

Click the Links: [PreK-2nd grade](#), [3rd -5th grade](#), [Finale](#)



## Rose Beyond the Wall



The Epsilon Chi Chapter mourns the loss of their sister Soror Pamela Broady and extends their sympathy and condolences to the Beta Pi chapter. Soror Pamela Broady you will be missed and we honor the legacy you have left behind.

## Iota Affiliates

Donna Mitchell and Tameka White attended the quarterly networking meeting for the Federation of Houston Professional Women (FHPW). Donna Mitchell was recognized with a service pin for her contributions while serving on the FHPW board of directors as the President-Elect. Thank you Donna Mitchell for representing the Epsilon Chi Chapter of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority with professionalism and excellence.



# Soror Birthday

## Happy Birthday to Soror



**Trina Moore**  
December 15<sup>th</sup>



**Tierra King**  
December 23<sup>rd</sup>



**Redessa Shaw**  
December 25<sup>th</sup>



**Vanessa Hawkins**  
December 28<sup>th</sup>

## Future Iota Leader Birthday



**Lauren Mitchell**  
December 14<sup>th</sup>



**Dobeart Williams**  
December 30<sup>th</sup>

## Man Of Iota Birthday



**Kelvin Collins**  
December 15<sup>th</sup>

## MOI Working Not Shirking

The Epsilon Chi Men of Iota have played an active part with increasing our visibility and contributing to the success of our sorority's programs and projects. Thank you to MOI Mc Kinnies, Copeland and Hypolite for participating in the drive-by drop-off to further enhance the IMAP program and MOI Stull for assisting with the unloading/loading of diaper and wipes. A special thanks goes to all the MOI's whose households supported the cause. MOI Brown was a panelist in our American Education Week parents day program and showed off his musical skills. The Epsilon Chi Chapter appreciates all of their Men of Iota and is proud to have each of them as an auxiliary member.



### FILs Guest Speaker: Entrepreneur and Child Stars



Delijah McAlpin's love for performing got a young start in Houston, TX working on numerous commercials, print campaigns and short films.

Delijah is known to voice for Modern family, Mixed-ish, Single family and several other network shows.

You will also recognize him on many YouTube series, such as Crate creatures, Terra sect and DreamWorks T.V.

Delijah has worked on a few national commercials that includes Macys, Ford, Juicy drop, Comcast, Cheerios and Xfinity. He recently became one of GAP 2020-21 print models.

When Delijah is not acting he is playing soccer & basketball during his free time. He recently started focusing on becoming an influencer and hopes to make a positive impact on teens in his age range.

Kyrie Mcalpin's love for performing got a young start in Houston, TX working on numerous print campaigns and short films.

Her lead role in the feature *Birdie*, directed by Gregory Allen Williams, won the Audience Award at the 2020 Deadcenter Film Festival.

Kyrie voiced the lead in, the 2020 Emmy-Nominated *Star Trek: Short Treks 'The Girl Who made the Stars'*, one of the first animated *Star Trek* episodes since the 70s.

Currently you can see her recurring on the new Netflix series *Sneakerheads* and upcoming as young Shahadi Wright Joseph/Ruby in *Them: Covenant* for Amazon.

Her latest work was premiered on November 13 on Apple TV+ making her series regular debut as Emma in *Doug Unplugs*.

When she's not acting Kyrie loves to dance and be a role model.



## Making a Difference Diaper Drive

By FIL Kennedy Mitchell



On November 8th, 2020, there was an interesting FIL meeting. It started with a quick recap on the Making a Difference Diaper Drive, where FILS reflected and shared what happened during the event. The FILS also discussed the upcoming Christmas event, who gave vibrant ideas on what they could do to commemorate another year together!

There were also some fantastic guest speakers, Deliah and Kyrie McAlpin, who came to talk with their FILS regarding the experiences as young actors. They explained to the FILS the daily work they have to do regarding their jobs and the pros and cons of working at a young age. The FILS was very intrigued and asked what advice the speakers could give them to succeed as young entrepreneurs. Overall it was a great presentation that left the FILS inspired and ready to be entrepreneurs!



## Executive Committee Corner



Soror LaSandra Collins

How do you communicate all of the wonderful events and programs that the chapter partakes in? Well, this cannot be achieved without the “power of the pen” from your journalist. The journalist is the orchestrator of the chapter newsletter. Her qualities of organization, attention to detail and communication propels the chapter to another level helping the community witness the deeds and actions of the chapter. Her insight into planning and preparation of monthly articles requires a dedication. We give thanks that our journalist, LaSandra Collins uses her knowledge of words to shine light on the Epsilon Chi Chapter.

## Soror on the Move



Get your copy of Soror Collins’ book using the link below:

[Uniquely You: Pulling Off the Mask](#)

I wrote this book to encourage others who are hiding their true selves from the world like I once did. In this book, I share the steps I took to shed those masks, embrace who I am in Christ, and walk-in my divine purpose. My hope is that this book encourages and inspires others to take the journey to embrace their uniqueness.

*“Being who God called you to be takes courage, strength and tenacity” ~LaSandra Collins*



Now Available on Amazon

Get your copy today!

## Promoting Our Soror 's Business

Soror Redessa Shaw is the Owner and CEO of H.E.R.B.S. Of Nature, LLC, which are acronyms for Healing, Energizing, Revitalizing, Bodies, Systematically.

Motivated by the teachings of the late great Dr. Sebi, Alfredo Bowman, who was an herbalist, healer and naturalist from Honduras, H.E.R.B.S. Of Nature, LLC. was formed. The purpose of H.E.R.B.S. Of Nature, LLC is to educate people on the powerful benefits of natural herbs and the advantages of alkalizing the body in order to bring the body into a healthy alkaline state. Additionally, the owner wanted to ensure and that the best quality herbs were provided to consumers as all herbs are not created equally.

Let H.E.R.B.S. Of Nature, LLC handle all of your herbal needs as you take the journey to alkalinity and beyond.

For more info click link:

[H.E.R.B.S. of Nature, LLC](#)



## Supporting Black Owned Business

Through the Epsilon Chi Buy Black initiative, we are proud to encourage entrepreneurship and promote economic empowerment of black owned businesses (BOB) by intentionally spending our dollars . Whether virtually or in-person, a product or service, youth or adult we will invest in our community to help raise awareness and enhance the financial stability of BOB's. During the month of November the following businesses were patronized by Epsilon Chi Sorors, MOI's and FIL's.

- ⇒ Real Nurturing Family Practice
- ⇒ EM Cee Shoppe
- ⇒ Herbs of Nature
- ⇒ Katrina's Kloset
- ⇒ Suga's Bakery
- ⇒ Roland's Soulfood
- ⇒ Texas 202 Barbeque
- ⇒ That's My Dog
- ⇒ Eleven 87
- ⇒ Brock Orthodontics
- ⇒ Y'all's New Orleans Restaurant
- ⇒ Blaque Beaute



Soror White is modeling a dress purchased from Sugar Krush Boutique.

## Get to Know our Soror

Epsilon Chi invites you to get to know Soror Redessa Shaw

We asked Soror: Soror Shaw

### What makes you who you are?

My strong spiritual belief, morals, values and ethics, which makes up my character. To me character is everything. My family and friends make me who I am as well. I'm a lover of people, a giver, down to earth, kind hearted, genuine and true.

### What is your greatest achievement?

My greatest achievement, hands down is being a mother. It is the most difficult job I've had in my whole entire existence and it's never-ending. It's also the most rewarding job I've ever had. Looking back, I've done a pretty amazing job, looking forward, I will continue to lead, guide and protect these souls to the best of my ability.

### Name an influential woman you would like to invite over for dinner and conversation?

The 80 year old Redessa Shaw! Hey, I have questions.

### Name one thing you wish someone had told you when you were younger?

Doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result is insanity. Live life on purpose!

### What do you like to do for fun?

I love working out, spending time with family





## Amending the Main Motion

By Soror Donna Mitchell, Registered Parliamentarian Texas State Association of Parliamentarians, Recording Secretary

There may be occasions when the main motion will need to be altered. Many times during debate, conversation triggers additional information which may initiate a desire to change the motion. This act is called “amending the motion”. Roberts Rules of Order allows for several methods of amending the main motion. I will discuss three types of amendments. RONR (12<sup>th</sup> ed.) (12)

**E.g. MAIN MOTION:** *“That we sponsor a delegate to our Southwestern Regional Conference in March”*

### Amendment by STRIKING OUT

“ Madam Chair, I move to amend the main motion by striking out the words “In March” (Such an amendment would be useful if the exact dates of the conference are not known). Striking out removes the word/s from the motion.

### Amendment by ADDITION (or INSERTION)

“ Madam Chair, I move to amend the main motion by adding ‘providing however that the chapter shall not be responsible for expenses in excess of \$150’ “. Adding puts the word/s at the end of a sentence.

“Madam Chair, I move to amend the main motion by inserting 70<sup>th</sup> before Southwestern.”  
Inserting puts the word/s between other words in the sentence.

### Amendment by STRIKING OUT AND INSERTING

“ Madam Chair, I move to amend the main motion by striking out the words ‘a delegate’ and inserting ‘two delegates.’“

### General Considerations

1. Amendments, like main motions, require a second, are amendable, are debatable and require a majority vote.
2. An amendment should be stated so that it indicates exactly what is being done to the main motion.
3. An amendment must always be handled before voting on the main motion to which I was applied.

You are within your right to amend the motion if you so please. But, be careful to follow the guidelines stated in RONR (12<sup>th</sup> ed.) (12:22) to ensure your amendment is in order.



You may have noticed our Sorors posting selfies of themselves #IotaTalk1929; we were engaging with our leaders and showing solidarity with our sorority. We were also EXemplifying another attribute of the 7UpLift campaign, and the best way to show it is by deepening our knowledge about Iota and sharing that knowledge with the communities we serve.

On November 15, 2020, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. hosted another Iota Talks Web Series installation. This series is a conversation led by National Officers and Executive board members. These talks are designed to develop leadership within our sorority and increase the knowledge base on our history and new business processes.

Iota...One Voice, One Brand "Zoomed" in on efforts to maintain our uniformity of trademark and standardization of processes using our national website. The website and all its capabilities will serve several purposes: generate and strengthen awareness, house secure documentation and applications, and assist in standardizing the LOMEPA process across all chapters.

The leaders did a deep dive into the website, explaining and demonstrating where documents and forms are located, and announced the password. From the Iota1929.org website, an excellent standing member can access Iota secured documentation such as payment documents, membership, and background documentation. The database will also allow members to locate official Iota vendors and foster opportunities to engage diverse groups of business leaders.

As always, this talk was informative and interactive. There were several polls and participatory moments during the discussion that engaged and entertained us all. If you've missed the Iota Talks, mark your calendars; you won't want to miss the next one!

## Iota. Talks Inaugural Webinar

**IOTA TALKS WEB SERIES**  
**IOTA TALKS AND EPSILON CHI LISTENS**  
**By: Soror Tameka White**

IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.

# IOTA.talks WEB SERIES

**BUILDING CAPACITY TO LEAD**

"The single biggest way to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development. There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders and continually develops them."  
John Maxwell

**Sunday, November 15th at 5 PM CST-**  
**"Exploring the National Website,  
National Vendor Protocol & National  
Database"**

**CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR TO REGISTER**

2020 to 2021 Strategy & Next Steps for MP

Phi 21 Members utilize 100%  
Jan 21 Technical Training

Phi 22 by Jan 21 - Email invites to  
members to register

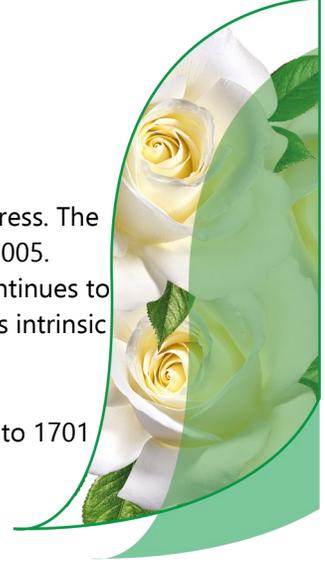
Phi 23 in Jan - Training

Phi 24 Dec - Case Validation





- Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Incorporated's National Headquarters has a new address. The offices relocated to We Works at 1440 G Street, NW, Suite 7-170, Washington, DC20005. The headquarters also has a transitional number of 202-656-1690 as leadership continues to explore a resolution in being able to keep the original phone number because of its intrinsic value to Iota.
- Iota's Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation has a new address. The offices located to 1701 Rhode island Ave NW, 2nd floor, Washington, DC 20036



## Amazon Smile

**Shop with a purpose.** Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation for the Economic Empowerment of Business and Professional Women.

(Click AmazonSmile below to shop.)

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## 2020 - 2021 Epsilon Chi Executive Committee



**Donna Mitchell**  
President



**Jana Gaskin**  
Recording Secretary



**Sheri Marshall**  
Financial Secretary



**Trina Moore**  
Treasurer



**LaSandra Collins**  
Journalist



**Redessa Shaw**  
Dean of Intake

## Sorority Meeting

2nd Saturday of Every Month  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## Epsilon Chi Chapter

P. O. Box 6398, Katy, Texas 77491

Let's stay connected:



### SORORITY LEADERS



**Donna Mitchell**  
Chapter President



**Vahnita D. Loud**  
Southwestern  
Regional Director



**Dorothy White**  
23rd National President



**Lola Mercedes Parker**  
Our Founder

### Chapter Theme:

Together we are Limitless as we Imagine, Excite and Empower

### Regional Theme:

Affirming the Legacy, Bonding in Sisterhood and Committing to Business and Developing Leaders

### National Theme:

Business and Professional Women Building the Foundation for Generational Financial Empowerment

### National Headquarters:



202- 656-1690



1440 G Street NW, Suite 7-170  
Washington, D.C. 20005



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[www.iota1929.org](http://www.iota1929.org)