



#### Volume 8 Issue 7

## March 2021

## March Greetings from ET's 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Gavel Taps

Hello sorors and welcome to March! March is the month that brings us Spring! With that comes, warmer weather, beautiful flowers, greener grass and just an overwhelming feeling of renewal, hope, and change. Spring evokes a sense of balance as we shed the winter blues and look forward to spring sunshine. It is that increase in sunshine that triggers an increase in our serotonin levels that make us all feel happier. It feels good to feel good, so we all could use a little more happiness in our lives.

March is also recognized as Women's History Month and is dedicated to the celebration of women everyday as well as pillars and pioneers whose accomplishments have allowed for the upcoming generations to feel empowered to break barriers. Women's History Month grew out of Women's History Week which was celebrated in Sonoma County, California in 1978. The month-long celebration of women began when former President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the week of March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1980 as the first National Women's History Week and the week was expanded to a month of appreciation and recognition of women's accomplishments in 1987, by the U.S. Congress.

Black women, in particular, have been accomplishing the unthinkable for centuries. In the face of undue discrimination and hardship, they never gave up. Through hard work and determination, they dared to believe they could achieve just as much or go beyond their wildest dreams just as their white female counterparts and men had. This year, we witnessed a black woman, Kamala Harris, become the first ever female Vice President of the United States of America and this was made possible because other courageous black women such as Stacey Abrams and Keisha Lance Bottoms, along with so many others across this nation led the charge to ensure that our votes were not suppressed, and everyone's voice was heard in the most recent election. As an organization for black women in business, we stand on the shoulders of so many others who have come before us and should never forget that our work is nowhere near the finish line. We must learn from their losses as much as we learn from their wins and continue to break barriers, shatter ceilings, venture into the unknown and use our power to empower so that the next generation has even stronger shoulders to stand on than we did.

Seven gavel taps to Soror Robin Mack and the Health and Wellness committee for getting us all on a path to healthy living. Seven gavel taps to LaToya Randle and the Black History Month committee for amazing and educational events for both the sorors and our youth. Seven gavel taps also go out to all the sorors of Epsilon Tau; it's Women's History Month and I celebrate each and every one of you and I appreciate all you do for our great sorority!

"And blessed is she who believed that there would be fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." Luke 1:45

Sisterly,

Jan Harbert



## Vice President Jan Harbert



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## ET Wears Red for Heart Awareness



EPSILON TAU CHAPTER

CELEBRATES NATIONAL

WEAR RED DAY

The first Friday each February, American Heart Month, the nation comes together, igniting a wave of red from coast to coast.

This year ET came together to wear red and share on our social media outlets to raise awareness about cardiovascular disease and save lives.

Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer of women, causing 1 in 3 deaths each year. That's approximately one woman every minute!

This movement advocates for more research and swifter action for women's heart health. Although "Wear Red and Give Day" has passed, you can volunteer and give throughout the year.

For more information visit:

https://www.goredforwomen.org/en/getinvolved/give/wear-red-and-give

## 2021 Texas Winter Storm



Texas was hit with a devasting winter and ice storm Feb 13-17, 2021 that left millions without electricity and water.

Multiple sorors of Epsilon Tau were affected by this storm with power outages from weathered systems, blackouts from the overwhelming energy demands, freezing conditions and damages to their homes.

The damages from the blackouts are estimated to be at least \$195 billion, making the system the costliest natural disaster in the recorded history of Texas.

We are blessed to report that all members of Epsilon Tau are safe and well.

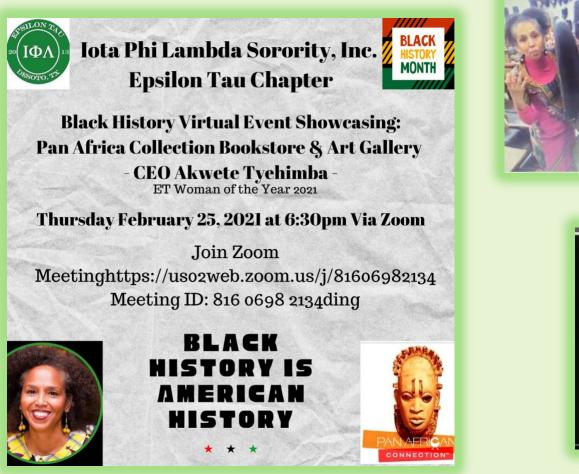
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#### **Black History Month Activities**

Each February, lota takes time to observe and acknowledge the contributions of African Americans. This year ET dedicated 2 nights to this celebration.



On Thursday, February 25th the Black History Committee organized a virtual celebration. It was an amazing evening with ET Woman of the Year, Akwete Tyehimba who took ET on a virtual tour of her business, Pan African Connection. Sister Akwete shared her vast knowledge of all things African and showcased her wonderful story telling skills. She gave life to the beautiful African artifacts and reminded all of us of the strength we have from our rich culture. The evening included authentic drumming to usher us in and lead us out! The members of Epsilon Tau were truly blessed by this event.

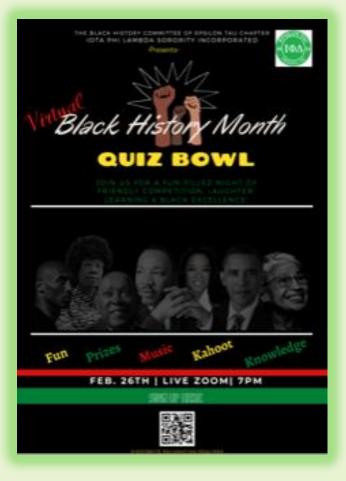


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On Friday, February 26th Epsilon Tau hosted a Virtual Black History Quiz Bowl focusing on the youth. It was a fun and exciting way to learn and share interesting Black History facts. Did you know that HipHop Billionaire Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter created his stage name by combining the subway stops on his trips to BedStuy? Or that the first blood bank was started by the African-American Doctor Charles Drew? This information and so much more was discussed during the invigorating bowl. The young scholars, FIL, Men of lota and Sorors all came together to show off their knowledge of our History!









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#### **Business Month Activities**







<u>Wednesday, April 7th Wine Down Wednesday 7:00-8:30p</u> <u>Saturday, April 10th Virtual Pop-up Shop | 1-3p</u> <u>Saturday April 17th Women in Business Webinar | 1-3p</u> <u>Saturday, April 24th 6th Annual Tastes and Toasts Reception | 7-9p</u>

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Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. www.iota1929.org

www.iotaswr.org

#### ETs 2021 Business Month Honorees

# Ashley Hemphill



Ashley Hemphill is a native of Dallas, TX, and is the Owner/CEO of Beauty Kulture Academy located in Desoto, TX. is a TDLR-Approved Beauty School that offers Esthetics, Nail Technician Programs, and Eyelash Extension Programs. Her passion lies within beauty and education. Her aim is to leave each individual who crosses her path, better than how she met them! She strives to do this by sharing knowledge, investing in her students and staff, and providing nothing less than top-notch customer service, product, and treatments to her clients!

For more info visit beautykulture.com

# Yasmeen Thompson

Yasmeen is the owner of Yassy Treats. The self-taught baker and single mother began baking a few years ago and grew to love it. Shortly after she created Yassy Treats and a YouTube channel. She now has aspirations to purchase a store front. Yasmeen is a new entrepreneur to look out for!



# Dania Carter



Dania Carter is the Founder/CEO of Heart of Courage a non-profit organization founded in 2013. Heart of Courage is designed to help mothers who want a better life and want to fight for their families. She believes that sometimes all a mother needs is someone to support them and believe in them to let them know that you will walk with them on their journey. Dania has big dreams for Heart of Courage and hopes to continue to see it grow and have a bigger impact on the community.

Find more info at Heartofcourage.com

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## Soror Spotlight



## What's New With You? ~ Britni Brown ~

How long have you been a member of lota Phi Lambda Sorority? *3 Months* 

**Occupation?** *Public Health Educator with Dallas County Health and Human Services* 

What new with you? Currently the mother of a 10-month baby boy Grayson and recently purchased a new home.

Why lota? I joined lota to be a part of something bigger than myself and to be around likeminded women who are passionate about the same things I am. I wanted to become a part of a sisterhood of strong women who desire to help each other and the community.

## Iota Woman – Iota Entrepreneur ~ Jasmine Gause ~

#### Residential Inc.

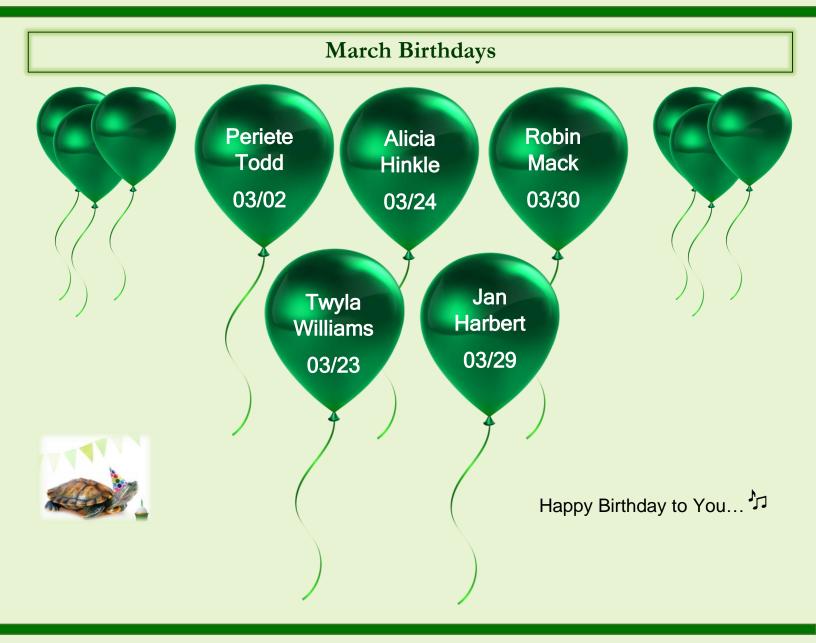
Jasmine is focused on serving clients with new homes, mortgage assistance programs and other mortgage and financial services and is a recognized seasoned senior-level professional with over 16 years in the mortgage and finance industry.

She brings together her extensive background to deliver unique product solutions for lenders to optimize efficiency and lower risk of construction lending.

Visit <u>ResidentialInc.Us</u> for more information.



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## The 74th Southwestern Region Virtual Conference

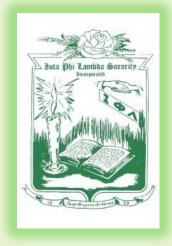
Events Begin Thursday, March 25th - Saturday, March 27th

Dress is business casual attire (Green, White, or Green and White)

Exception: Saturday morning - Chucks and Pearls or Chapter Gear

Sorors shall wear white for the Omega Memorial Service, Officers for Installation and PROC Induction

Axillary (Pelati, MOI and FIL) are welcome to attend the following events: Southwestern Region Leadership Forum - Entertainment Night - Education Forum - Awards Night



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President Wendy B. Jacques

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Eriele Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Jan Harbert

Recording Secretary Malika Walker

Corresponding Secretary Carmon Brown

> Financial Secretary Alicia Hinkle

> > Treasurer Mary Andrews

> > Journalist Calinda Jones

Dean of Intake Nicole Owens

**Contributors to this Issue:** 

President Wendy B. Jacques, Soror Michelle Peace, Soror Shelia C. Fisher, & Soror Eriele Johnson



# **F O i**

Southwestern Region Theme: "Affirming the Legacy, **B**onding in Sisterhood, Committing to Business and **D**eveloping Leaders"

National Theme: "Business and Professional Women Building the Foundation for Generational Financial Empowerment"

## "Upward and Onward in Efficient Service"

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