



THE LINK



2019-2020

Officers & Appointees

Casey Preston
President

Ada R. Thomas
Vice President /
Journalist

Brenda Sanders
Recording Secretary

Mildred Williams
Financial Secretary

Jacqueline Guillory
Correspondence
Secretary

Lana J. Samuel
Treasurer

Ronique Hinchon
Dean of Intake

Pamela Broady
Parliamentarian

Ada Tasso
Chaplain

Dorothy M. White, 23rd National President

National Theme:

*“Business and Professional Women Building the Foundation for
Generational Financial Empowerment”*

Vahnita Loud, SWR Director

Regional Theme:

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



Greetings Sorors,

As we continue this sorority year, we are thankful for each other and the celebrations so far. In October, we were able to celebrate the lives of Cancer Survivors, Sisterhood with fellowship and the induction of new members and assisting young mothers through our IMAP Program.

I look forward to moving into November knowing that we will celebrate American Education Week and the beginning of the holiday season. I pray that each of you remains grateful for life, health, strength and the amazing sisterhood of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority!

As we look back in celebration of our legacies, we forge ahead in our unwavering commitment to public service and scholarship, guided by the principles and ideals set forth by our Founder. To you, my AMAZING Sorors of BRILLIANT Beta Pi, thank you again for the opportunity to serve as the 27th President of this chapter.

Yours in Service,

Casey C. Preston, M.Ed.
Chapter President

Casey Preston, Chapter President

Chapter Theme: “A New E.R.A.: Emphasizing Rededication & Action”

Beta Pi Chapter Welcomes New Sorors: “The Chosen Ones”



On Sunday, October 26, 2019, Chapter President Casey Preston and Beta Pi Chapter sorors welcomed five outstanding women into the sisterhood of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. The Chosen Ones, as they named their line, are **Soror Jennifer Jermany, Soror Tyrasia Starghill, Soror Velma Howze Collins, Soror Tanya Pace, and Soror Bettina McKinney**. These sorors bring many talents and experiences to the Chapter and will be a great asset to the Sorority. The Chosen Ones generously gifted the Chapter with a \$500 fundraiser donation from candy sales and the creation of a new Chapter website.

The Chapter was elated to have in attendance from the Southwestern Region Assistant Regional Director Soror Rosetta Davis (Alpha Kappa), Regional Journalist Valencia Dutton-Hall (Epsilon Phi), and sorors from Alpha Kappa and Epsilon Xi, including Chapter President Gloria Davis. The induction ceremony was followed by a luncheon and presentation by the new sorors with additional guest including family and friends.

Kudos to Dean of Intake Soror Ronique Hinchon and her assistant Soror Jackie Guillory on an outstand job.





The Chosen Ones
BΠ
10.26.19





IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.

American Education Week Observance

November 18-22, 2019

Calling All High School and Middle School Students

EVELYN D. WILKEY NATIONAL YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST



National Essay Topic: *“CYBER BULLYING” . . . its impact on today’s youth*

DEADLINE SUBMISSION – NOVEMBER 9, 2019

Context – The topic of cyberbullying has been and continues to be one of national concern for youth. There are many different types of bullying. Some are obvious, while others are more subtle. Types of bullying to look out for in your school and community include: hazing, cyberbullying and teen dating violence. When a youth of any age, up to 18 is threatened, harassed, or humiliated via use of technology --- this is Cyber Bullying - a form of digital abuse. **It’s harmful and it’s dangerous!**

CYBER BULLYING



Cyberbullying is willful and repeated bullying behavior that takes place using electronic technology. It can involve text, gaming devices, internet, social media, emails, blogs, cell phones, etc. Unlike traditional bullying it can happen anywhere at all hours of the day.

National Make A Difference Day



On October 26, 2019 Beta Pi Chapter joined its sister Houston area Chapters for our first annual National Make A Difference Day Iota Mothers' Assistance Program (IMAP) Walk. Sorors met at the Bayou Hermann Park for a cool brisk morning walk. In making a difference, the Houston area Chapters held a citywide diaper drive in support Iota's IMAP national project, an outreach service to meet the needs of teen and disadvantaged mothers that includes activities such as tutoring, interviewing, networking, shadowing, monitoring, training programs, and providing resources and referrals for health, employment, scholarships, and financial assistance for further education.



The event was well attended by sorors, agency recipients of our diaper drive, and interested onlookers inquiring more information about the ladies in green and white. The recipient of Beta Pi's diaper drive was Jewel's Day Care Center, represented by owner Jewel McFarlin. Ms. McFarlin was very grateful for the trunk load of diapers that will assist her inner-city clients.

Sorors were honored to have in attendance Iota's 18th National President and White Rose Queen Soror Lillian Parker. Soror Parker spoke on the history of IMAP and the brainstorming idea of the diaper drive from her dining room table years ago. She gave an eloquently spoken charged for the Chapters to continue to work together as one to be a major force in the Houston community, and to make the event bigger and better each year.



In a collective effort on Make a Difference Day, the Houston area Chapters made an on the spot difference by blessing a mother and her twin baby girls with diapers after she inquired about the Sorority when meeting sorors walking in the park. Iota blessings overflowed on Make a Difference Day!!



IOTA



Beta Pi

Painting with a Purpose



Sisterhood



Fundraiser \$



Turtles



Goodtimes



Auxiliary Focus

Man of Iota (MOI)



Man of Iota, ***John E. Sanders, Sr.***, is the husband of Soror Brenda Sanders. They have been married for 50 years. He has been associated with Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., Beta Pi Chapter, since his wife's induction in 1979. He has always been actively involved.

He is a native of Silsbee, Texas, and graduated from Waldo Mathews High School. He was active in athletics, where he was a star athlete and lettered in three sports, football, baseball and track. He was also an outstanding musician and was awarded the coveted John Phillip Souza Award for Excellence in Music. He attended and graduated from Lamar State College of Technology, (later renamed Lamar University).

He served as a Little League coach for both basketball and football and worked with other organizations in the community. He attends Holman Street Baptist Church. He worked in private industry for Bocard Industries and retired in 2008. He and Soror Sanders have one son, John, who is the Gulf Coast Regional Compliance Manager for FedEx Ground, daughter -in-law, Aericia, and is the grandfather of 3, Christopher, a 2018 graduate of Texas Southern University, Jonathan, a freshmen at Sam Houston State University, and FIL Leila, who is a 6th grader at Thompkins Magnet School.

We thank him for his continued support of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., and his presence at our programs and projects.

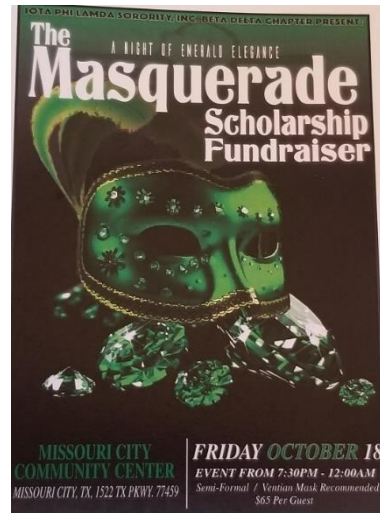




Supporting



Sister



Chapters



The Woke Woman's Guide To Building Generational Wealth

Erickka Sy Savané

Jun. 20, 2019

Try to escape a conversation about money.

Whether it's a new poll showing that blacks aren't prepared for retirement, actress Kerry Washington urging women to be "financially literate," or Jay-Z rapping about generational wealth - conversations about money are all around us.

Honestly, these are topics that I've avoided for years based on bad financial choices from the past. But burying my head in the sand won't change anything and, the truth is, black women are winning in business. It can't be said enough that we're the fastest growing group of entrepreneurs in this country and our businesses generate \$51.4 billion in revenues. Those are the kind of numbers that motivate a girl to get it together.

That and my kids.

I want to give them a better life than I had and enough money to never have to struggle when I'm gone. So, how do I get there? According to financial advisor Lola C. West, who has been educating people about money for over 20 years, building the type of wealth that can be passed down to future generations is easier than we might think. In fact, a lot of it has to do with awareness and the right mindset.

The key to generational wealth is having awareness and the right mindset.

Fortunately, she's broken down some gems about building generational wealth that can strengthen our financial literacy IQ exponentially, whether we're new to the conversation or just brushing up. So, in the spirit of sharing, here's the Woke Woman's Guide To Building Generational Wealth!

It Never Too Late To Start Saving

It's never too late to start building wealth. First, you have to know how much it costs to be you. If you spend more than you make, then you have to look at your daily habits and create a budget. At least, 10% or more of your income should go into a savings that you don't touch, and it's critical to have at least six months of living expenses saved up in case you lose your job.

Also, the first day you start a job, take out the max (in 2017, \$18,000 per year, and \$24,000 for 50 years of age and over) for your retirement account. By taking out the maximum amount, it could put you into a lower tax bracket, which could save you more money.

If you're self-employed, put at least 30% of what you earn away for taxes.

You could also speak to a financial advisor about setting up an SEP IRA. A Simplified Employee Pension Individual Retirement Account allows entrepreneurs, or anyone with freelance income to open an account and make tax-deductible contributions. Like a traditional IRA, the money in a SEP IRA is not taxable until withdrawal and business owners can contribute up to 25% of income, or \$53,000, whichever is less.

Educate Your Kids About Budgeting and Good Money Habits

We have to look at the conversations we have at home about money and what we are teaching our children. For example: giving a child as young as five years old a \$5 weekly allowance can build their understanding of money. 1/3 of that money could go to a savings account, 1/3 could be for philanthropy, and 1/3 for spending....NO CANDY!

By taking a child into the bank, they understand this is an institution. An ATM does not leave that impression. Explain that if you buy something with a credit card today, a bill will be at your doorstep in 30 days, and if you don't pay on time there are late fees. You can also give them things to budget. For example: give them the amount of money you plan to use for back-to-school clothes and let them help make the list based on how much you have to spend.

Invest In Your Child's Future

Also, establish a 529 College Fund account when your child is born, and every birthday, Christmas, and holiday that your child gets money - at least 50% of it should go into a savings vehicle. If you have significant assets or a child with special needs, establishing a trust with the support of a qualified estate attorney can be a powerful way to foster the longevity of assets and/or protect the welfare of your child throughout their lifetime.

Multiple Streams of Income and Diversifying Investments

I always use the analogy that if you're in an elevator that has three cables and one of them breaks, the other two will still hold it up. It's the same with multiple streams of income. If one stream doesn't work, the others should help balance. It's also the strategy behind diversifying investments between three asset classes: stocks, bonds and cash.

Stocks are the equity that you buy when a company is selling shares. You can buy one, two, or many. Bonds are considered fixed income. For instance, a company says if you give me \$1,000, I will pay you 4 percent interest for the year. At the end of the year, I will give you back your \$1,000 and you will have received \$40 for letting us use your money.

Cash is the money you put in a bank that they pay you interest on. Interest rates for savings accounts are low now, but save anyway! You continue to earn because of the compounding effect of interest, which is interest on top of interest earned when you don't withdraw your money.

Property Investment

People often ask if buying a house is still a good investment? Yes. Because it allows you to build equity. You build equity in a house as you pay down your mortgage. The less you owe on the property, the more equity you have. When you have equity in your home, you can "borrow" money against it - we call that refinancing your home. The danger is mortgaging your home to its market value. You will then have no equity in your home. Property is one of the main assets that are passed from generation to generation.

Deeds And Setting Up A Will

A deed and a will are very important. A deed establishes ownership of a piece of property. If you and your partner buy a house, it's important that both names be on the deed so there are no issues when transferring the property to someone else. Because of the complexity of federal and state laws, we recommend working with a qualified estate attorney to draft your will to lessen the possibility of family conflict. Be specific in terms of what you want each child to have, even children you don't wish to leave anything, so that your will won't be contested. For example: each child should be mentioned by name and left something, even if that sum is \$1, so it is clear that the child was not forgotten, and he or she can't contest your will.


Study Wealth Building

One of the best ways to build the wealth you desire is research. Attend workshops, study online, find a mentor, etc. There's a great book called *50 Billion Dollar Boss: African American Women Sharing Stories of Success in Entrepreneurship and Leadership* that I strongly recommend because it highlights how successful black women worked through the challenges of creating their businesses. When you look at generational wealth beyond dollars and cents, it's also our stories of resilience that we want to pass down to future generations.

Lola C. West is a co-founder and managing director at WestFuller Advisors.


Erickka Sy Savané is a wife, mom, and freelance writer based in Jersey City, NJ. Her work has appeared in Essence.com, Madamemoire.com, Ebony.com and more. When the former model and actress is not writing, she's watching Power and spending time with friends and fam! Follow her on Twitter, Instagram, or ErickkaSySavane.com.

20



IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.
 73rd SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE
 Houston City Place Marriott at Springwood Village
 1200 Lake Plaza Drive
 Spring, Texas 77389
 March 26-29, 2020

Host Chapter: Epsilon Phi Chapter
Elegance Personified



Conference Focus
"Iota Nuts and Bolts"

20



Community Service Project

Motto for our Community Service Project: If you see a Need, take the lead
 Mission: Continue uncompromising Commitment to Communities:

Targeted Area :
 Creating new possibilities for today's youth whose parents are low income, incarcerated or on drugs.

Donate uniforms for Elementary Students grades 3rd to 9th grade. Shirt colors red, golden yellow, navy blue, hunter green, white, yellow, purple, grey.
 Bottoms: Blue or Khaki
 Possible Partnership With:
 Pace Youth
 CEO and Founder : Steven Holloway

S
W
R
C

Jerseys and Jeans Evening Musical Celebration
 Sorors*Pelati*Men of Iota*Fil
 73rd Regional Conference
 Epsilon Phi Chapter Scholarship Fundraiser
 Friday , March 27, 2020 8:30 pm-12:00 a.m.

Featuring
 Minister-Gospel Rapper-Motivational Speaker-Author



CHRIST CLEAR #SWAGG



PrizesAdditional Information Coming Soon