LONE STAR NEWS

Texas State Organization

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Volume 79, Issue 4 *Fall 2026*

Dare to Dream: Grow to the Centennial

What if every Texas DKG chapter dreamed of growing—even just by one member? The TSO Membership Committee is launching Centennial Chapter Recognition in support of DKG's International Centennial Membership Challenge. It's a simple challenge with a big goal: for every chapter to grow its membership by May 1, 2029.

Each TSO chapter will receive a baseline number based on its October 2025 membership total. To earn Centennial Chapter Recognition, a chapter must have at least one more member on May 1, 2029, than its October 2025 baseline. There is no required percentage increase or specific membership target—the goal is simply growth. Chapters that meet this growth requirement will be recognized as a Centennial Chapter at the 2029 TSO Convention.

This is about more than adding names to a membership list. It's about inviting educators to experience the friendships, leadership opportunities, professional growth, service, and sense of belonging that DKG offers. So, as TSO continues to Dare to Dream, let's dream of vibrant chapters, new members, renewed connections, and a strong future for DKG in Texas. The countdown to 2029 has begun. Will your chapter be a Centennial Chapter?

TSO loses beloved DKG/TSO member

Patricia Mulkey "Tish"

TSO lost a beloved DKG/TSO member on September 1, 2026. Tish, as many of us knew her, was a 39-year DKG/TSO member who served in the Mu Beta chapter and, after the merger, in the Iota Omega chapter in Plano. She served on multiple committees in both chapters and served as chapter president in Mu Beta. Tish worked at TSO HQ from 2008 to 2015 as an Executive Assistant to Betty Vines, Executive Secretary / Treasurer. She served as TSO convention treasurer in 2016 in Frisco. Tish worked in Plano ISD and served as Director of Library Services for several years.

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Visit our website
www.dkgtexas.org

"Dare to Dream: ACT"

President
Dr. Stacey Arnold
Kappa Lambda, Area 7

Membership Begins with ME!

Throughout this summer's International Convention, attendees heard this reminder many times each day: Membership begins with ME! Membership is more than a number on a roster. It reflects the people who believe in Delta Kappa Gamma's mission and choose to invest their time, talents, and hearts in the organization.

As Texas embraces the **Centennial Membership Challenge**, each member has an important role in strengthening the organization. Growing membership is not simply the responsibility of a membership committee or chapter leader. **It is the responsibility—and opportunity—of every member.**

Membership begins when I recognize the value DKG brings to my life and share that value with others. Someone invited each of us to become a member. Now it is our turn to extend that invitation.

Who is your "one"? Perhaps it is a colleague, a new educator, a former member, or a woman who shares our commitment to education, leadership, service, and friendship.

The invitation can be simple: **"I would love for you to come with me."**

Membership is also about what happens after the invitation. Welcoming, engaging, and connecting members helps create chapters where everyone feels valued and knows she belongs.

As we work toward the Centennial Membership Challenge, let us remember that every conversation can open a door, every invitation can begin a new journey, and every member can make a difference.

The challenge is simple: **Be the member who invites. Be the member who welcomes. Be the member who inspires.**

Membership begins with **ME**—and together, **WE** can build a stronger, more vibrant DKG for the future.

Stacey

2025 - 2027 TSO Leadership

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Convention Hotel Reservations: Every Room Counts

The summer issue of the Lone Star News explained how convention registration fees cover certain convention expenses for all participants. Hotel accommodations are another area that can affect TSO's finances.

Convention venue contracts are negotiated and signed at least two years in advance and include a commitment to fill a specific number of hotel rooms, known as the room block. TSO is financially responsible for rooms that are not sold by the reservation deadline. Cancellations made before the deadline allow those rooms to become available to other members at the reduced convention rate and still count toward TSO's commitment. Cancellations after the deadline, however, cause TSO to pay for the unused rooms.

Members can help TSO avoid these additional expenses by:

- Reserving a convention hotel room only when attendance is certain.
- Reserving one room only, not multiple rooms in hopes that chapter members will fill the rooms.
- Releasing unneeded reservations as soon as possible and before the deadline.
- Checking back with the hotel prior to the deadline to see if rooms have been released so these rooms do not remain unused and billed to TSO.

TSO conventions are expected to be self-funded and are not included in the TSO budget. Helping meet the hotel room block is an important way members can support that goal and keep convention expenses manageable for everyone.

96th TSO Convention 2027
June 15 - 18, 2027
Embassy Suites and Conference Center
San Marcos, Texas

TEXAS ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERS
MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 797787, DALLAS, TX 75379-7787
PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 6220 CAMPBELL ROAD
SUITE 204, DALLAS, TX 75248
PHONE: OFFICE 972-930-9945 /
FAX 972.447.0471

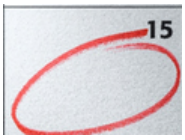
NEWS TO KNOW FROM TSO HQ

Please utilize the DKG Texas website / Treasurer's Page for timely tips, helpful support documents, and monthly to-do lists!

Treasurer Due Dates

Form 15 Annual Treasurer Report – was due September 30

- One hundred sixty-four chapters (out of two hundred) have submitted the report as of September 10 – article deadline
- Chapters that merged or dissolved are required to file this final report
- Chapters may continue to submit through October 30
- TSO HQ submits a compiled report to International from your chapter's data



Auto-drop date was on or near October 1

- Members listed as Unbilled in the dues portal were dropped
- These members can be reinstated once they pay dues to the chapter

990n E-postcard filing final due date: November 15

- TSO due date for E-postcard was September 30
- October 15 begins multiple reminders to chapters
- The filing link and help sheets are on the DKG Texas Treasurer's Page, under 990n

New items to know about:

The state dynamic calendar with deadlines has a new home

- The deadline button is on the DKG Texas home page
- The view can change from Month to Schedule

Access International Membership forms without signing in to DKG.org

- Hover over Membership & select Member Forms
- Forms and reports of all types are available

Form 110, Report of Chapter Officers, is required by International each spring of even years – even if there are no changes

- Presidents and treasurers need to check Chapter Connect / Dues Portal
- Those presidents and treasurers who have lost access can submit Form 110 to International and to TSO HQ

The half-dues cycle in January & February has been eliminated

- Members voted it out at the 2026 International convention
- Members joining, reinstating, or transferring – at any time – pay dues according to their member type. Refer to the updated Dues Chart and Dues Calendar on the DKG Texas website

Operating budgets:

- Every chapter needs an operating budget
- Template and samples are located on the DKG Texas Treasurer's Page, under Important Information
- A chapter vote is required to review and vote on a budget annually
- Deviating from the approved budget requires a chapter vote
- Treasurers provide an oral and written financial report monthly

TSO Chapter Websites

CHAPTER WEBSITE COMPLIANCE DUE OCTOBER 31

All chapter websites must reassert compliance to remain listed on the TSO website and linked to the international website. The process is easy to complete.

Instructions are available on the international website under Resources>Webmaster. Complete compliance through an online Form 72, which you can access on that page. The page also includes the Standards for Compliance Guidelines. Download the PDF file to guide you in updating your chapter website to meet compliance requirements.

1. Review your website to ensure you have met all of the standards required by International.
2. Once you have verified that you have met the standards, complete Form 72 – Society Website Compliance Assurance Form, which is included on the Webmaster Resources page.
3. After Society headquarters receives your submitted Form 72, the webmaster will send you a seal of linkage once your form is reviewed and no changes are needed.
4. Post the seal at the bottom of your homepage when you receive it from international headquarters. They will link your website to the international website.
5. The final step is to notify the TSO Webmaster at dkgtexas.org once you have posted the new seal on your page.

The deadline for submitting Form 72 is October 31, 2026.
NOTE: Any chapter website that does not display the new compliance seal will be removed from the international website and the TSO website.
Please contact *TSO Multimedia Designer/Coordinator Debbi Ball at dkgtexas@gmail.com with* any questions.

Deadlines to Remember

October 15, 2026
- Leadership Seminar application and recommendation letters

October 31, 2026:
- Chapter Website recertification (Form 72) can be downloaded from International website

November 1, 2026:
- International Cornetet application
- Yearbook Early Bird submission

November 15, 2026:
- Chapter 990n filing (IRS deadline)

December 1, 2026:
- Chapter Yearbooks
- Lone Star News submission

December 7, 2026:
- State Leader Expenses

January 1, 2027:
- Nominations for 2027-2029 Elected Positions

February 1, 2027
- Application for State Leader (AC, Com. Chair, Committee Mem.)
- Achievement Awards Nominations

Sherri Davenport
Iota Epsilon
Area 18

DKG Ignite: Leaders Empowering Leaders

This summer, I had the incredible honor of being one of 20 DKG members selected from around the world to participate in DKG Ignite 2026, a weeklong leadership seminar held at The University of Texas at Austin. From July 12–19, we came together for a week of leadership, learning, reflection, and connection. I arrived excited about what I might learn and left with renewed purpose and a deeper appreciation for DKG.

One word that best describes my Ignite experience is connection. Twenty women with different backgrounds, experiences, and leadership strengths quickly became a learning community. We were challenged to think beyond titles and positions and consider what it truly means to lead—listening, encouraging others, building relationships, and recognizing the strengths in those around us.

A highlight of Ignite was the outstanding instruction provided by our professors. Our courses went far beyond leadership theory, offering practical strategies and tools we could put into action immediately. We learned ways to communicate more effectively, strengthen teams, navigate challenges, and lead with greater purpose. So often, I found myself thinking, “I can use this!” These strategies were applicable not only to DKG, but also to our professional and personal lives.

One takeaway that especially resonated with me was the importance of leading with intention rather than simply reacting. Effective leaders listen, ask thoughtful questions, consider different perspectives, and then determine the best way forward. Ignite also reinforced my belief that strong organizations grow when leaders intentionally develop other leaders. Sometimes leadership begins simply because someone sees potential in another person and says, “I think you would be great at this.”

Just as valuable were the friendships and connections formed with my fellow participants. We learned from one another, challenged one another, laughed together, and created relationships that will continue long after our week in Austin.

I am incredibly grateful to the DKG Ignite Selection Committee for choosing me for this extraordinary opportunity. I returned home energized and inspired to put what I learned into action as I continue to learn, lead, and serve. As we look toward the future of DKG, I hope we will keep investing in one another, encouraging emerging leaders, and remembering one simple but powerful idea: **Leaders empower leaders.**

Nominations

TSO Nominations Committee

The deadline for submitting applications for TSO elected officers: president, first vice president, second vice president, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary. Elected committee positions include finance and nominations.

Qualifications and duties for elected positions are available in Information for

- Applicants for TSO Elected Positions at www.dkgtexas.org/nominations--committee.
- Applications for TSO Elected Officers, Finance Committee, and Nominations Committee may be found on the same page.

The Nominations Committee is looking forward to YOUR application by January 1, 2027. Send applications to *Judy Evans, TSO Nominations Chair*, at *nominationstso@gmail.com*

Achievement Awards

It's time again to start gathering information to nominate DKG women of excellence for the State Achievement and Golden Rose Awards.

At the 2026 Regional conferences this past summer, we celebrated Elvira Barrera, Marilyn Bishop, Veronica Martinez, and Lynda McQuaid as ***Golden Rose*** recipients.

Risa McCann, Phyllis McPherson, and Mellie Smithwick earned the prestigious ***State Achievement Awards***. The 2027 nomination forms are available at www.dkgtexas.org under the Achievement Awards Committee page.

Although the forms for both awards are not due until **February 1, 2027**, it is helpful to start collecting the necessary information. It is critical to follow the guidelines. Incomplete applications will not be considered. All applications must be submitted electronically to *Achievement Awards Committee chair, Deborah Payne,* at *AAwardsTSO@gmail.com*

Scholarships

TSO awards scholarships to members in five areas: Mini-Grants, Life-Long Learner, 3-, 6-, and 9-hour Graduate Study, Doctoral Study, and Maetha Weatherby Educational Travel. You can find applications, guidelines, and scoring criteria at www.dkgtexas.org under Scholarship Committee. These scholarships offer many opportunities for professional growth through workshops, conferences, educational travel, and college courses. TSO would love to help its members monetarily as they grow professionally. Changes to some of the scholarships will be presented to the TSO Executive Board for approval at their September meeting. Updated scholarships, guidelines, and rubrics will be available on the TSO website by October 15, 2026. **All applications are due March 1, 2027.** For more information, contact *Darlene Hargett, TSO Scholarship Chair*, at tsoscholarshipdkg@gmail.com.

Communications and Publicity Committee

Making things easier~ The Newsletter Tracker

The Communications and Publicity Committee is excited to be rolling out a simpler way to send and receive chapter newsletters: the *Newsletter Tracker*. The Tracker is designed to reduce the number of people who need to receive an email copy of their newsletter. It will also help track outstanding newsletters for the end-of-year 5 Star Newsletter. The Tracker will allow you to upload one copy that will reach TSO President Dr. Stacey Arnold, Lone Star News Editor Connie Hernandez, Communications Chair Dr. Barbara Derrick, and each Area's Communication Committee Member. Mentors and ACs may use the Tracker or continue with the current system.

Directions have been emailed to all Chapter Editors. A helpful guide is on the TSO website's Communication and Publicity webpage. We also included information in the Area Coordinators' Newsletter sent to all Chapter Presidents. If you need additional help or support, please reach out to the Area's Communication Committee member or Communications Chair, Dr. Barbara Derrick.

This streamlined approach should make it easier and more efficient to share the great things happening in each chapter through the vital Chapter Newsletter.
Dr. Barbara Derrick, Communications Chair

Personal and Professional Enrichment

The Personal and Professional Enrichment Committee is offering a CPE Virtual Conference on January 30, 2027. As we plan for this event, we would love your feedback. We have extended the original feedback deadline. Below is a survey link to support our work.

Survey Link: https://bit.ly/TSO2027aspire
Closes on October 19, 6 PM

If you are interested in presenting, you can indicate this in the survey. This survey will stay open until October 19 at 6 PM. The PPE Committee is excited to provide this opportunity to our TSO members. If you have any questions, please email tshea@c-isd.com. Thank you!
Personal and Professional Enrichment Chair

Membership

Growing DKG Together

As we head into a new DKG year, let's talk about membership! We know many chapters are facing the same challenge: we are losing members faster than we are gaining them. So, what can we do about it? How can we turn the tide? How can each of us help make a difference?

At the regional conferences in June, membership training included some great roundtable conversations about ways to gain members and strengthen our chapters. There were a lot of wonderful ideas, and three themes emerged: **Cultivate, Connect, and Thrive.**

Cultivate Membership

One way to cultivate membership is to reach out to members who have left your chapter. Life changes and sometimes members step away because they simply have too much on their plates. Call them up. See how life is going. Let them know they are missed and invite them back!

Could a different meeting day or time work better? Could you record meetings so members can watch when they have time? Could you offer a Zoom option? Ask what would work for them, and then see what your chapter can do.

Connect with Members

How do we keep the members we have? Find out what they need and what they enjoy about DKG. A quick survey can help you learn which topics interest them and what kinds of activities would bring them together.

And don't forget your newest members! Get them involved. Invite them to participate, ask for their ideas, and let them know how great it is to have them in your chapter. When people feel connected and valued, they are much more likely to stay.

Thrive Through Recruitment

When looking for new members, think outside the school system. Remember that women who teach are everywhere! Workplace trainers, nurses who train new nurses, instructional coaches, business leaders who mentor others and the list goes on and on. When you invite someone to join, tell them why you love DKG. Talk about professional growth, travel, learning, service, leadership, community, and lifelong friendships. The benefits are many, but your personal story may be what makes someone say, "I want to be part of that!"

Your regional Membership Committee representative would love to visit your chapter in person or by Zoom. Request a presentation at **bit.ly/chapterprogramrequest.**

You are also always welcome at our **Membership Momentum Zoom** meetings, held every other month. Our next meeting is **November 5, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.**

TSO has challenged us to achieve **net growth of 100 members by 2029** as part of our Centennial Challenge. Let's get out there, cultivate, connect, thrive, and grow this amazing society together!

Beth Lowry, Membership Committee

Technology

Click with Confidence

Tip #3: Don't Let One Password Unlock Everything

Many people still use the same password—or slight variations—across email, banking, social media, and organizational accounts. If one website is breached, criminals can try that same username/password combination elsewhere.

The practical takeaway would be:

- Use a unique password/passphrase for every important account.
- Turn on multifactor authentication (MFA) whenever available.
- Consider using a password manager rather than keeping passwords in a document, notebook, or email.
- Give special attention to your email account, because access to email can allow criminals to reset other passwords.

Protect your accounts like you protect your home: one lock is good, but multiple layers are better.

Tip #4: Is It Really Them?

Scammers can now use AI to create remarkably convincing emails, text messages, images, voice recordings, and even video. A message that appears to come from a colleague, family member, organization leader, or trusted company isn't automatically legitimate.

1. Verify unusual requests. Especially requests involving money, passwords, gift cards, personal information, or urgent transfers.
2. Don't trust a familiar voice alone. If someone calls asking for something unusual, independently contact them using a known phone number.
3. Look for context clues. Strange wording, unusual requests, unexpected urgency, or a change in normal communication patterns can be warning signs.
4. Use a second channel. If an email asks you to do something unusual, verify it by phone or through a separate, trusted communication method.

When a request is unusual, verify it before you trust it. AI can imitate a person's voice or appearance, but it can't replace your common sense.

Technology Committee Chair, Anita Callaway

Necrology

Remembrance of TSO members

TSO mourns the passing and celebrates the lives of those cherished members of the Society whose deaths have been reported to the Texas Necrology Chair. They are reported by their chapter and place of residence at the time of death using Form 6, Report of the Death of a Member, found at www.dkgtexas.org under Committees - Necrology.

Viola “Bettye” Nelson, Kappa - 15, El Paso
Mary Helen Brumley, Epsilon - 9, Troy
Evelyn Elise Bell, Kappa - 15, El Paso
Dr. Annette Keller, Theta Theta - 10, Fort Worth
Mary Ellen Trahan, Theta Zeta - 3, Houston
Deborah Jean Duke, Eta Zeta - 9, Terrell
Jane Garza Sims, Epsilon Upsilon - 5, Mission
Nonie Ripley, Theta Lambda - 18, Houston
Evelyn Frances Bochow, Theta Nu - 1, Tyler
Illa Myrle Duncan, Gamma Epsilon - 16, Bridgeport
Janice Marie Bragg, Iota Epsilon - 18, Spring
Sandra Kay McMillen, Kappa Upsilon - 9, Duncanville
Patricia “Tish” Mulkey, Iota Omega - 9, Plano
Cynthia Elizabeth Collier, Zeta - 8, Waco
Mary Alice Barrow, Beta Tau - 6, San Antonio

Fall Reflections: A Season of New Beginnings, Gratitude, and Remembrance

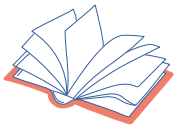
As educators return to their classrooms and others reflect on the many happy moments of their service, autumn offers a meaningful opportunity to celebrate learning, leadership, and lasting contributions. The season reminds us that every chapter of life leaves a legacy.

The Necrology Committee extends appreciation to members who participated in the June 2026 Regional Conferences and Ceremonies/Necrology breakout sessions. The committee recognizes each chapter’s thoughtful preparation and dedication to honoring members and encourages continued review of the Jewelry Dispensation Form and Form 6. Committee members also gained valuable inspiration at the International Convention in Aurora, Colorado.

The committee continues preparations for the Celebration of Life and Remembrance Ceremony at the June 2027 Texas State Convention. Members are invited to join in honoring those whose lives, service, and commitment have enriched The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Dr. Cindy Kates, Necrology Chair

Yearbook



Capture Your Chapter's Story: 2026–2027 Yearbook Submissions Open!

The TSO 2025–2027 Yearbook Committee looks forward to reviewing your yearbooks and discovering the exciting programs, events, and projects happening across our chapters. Your yearbook serves as the historical record of your chapter's "Dare to Dream" journey in Delta Kappa Gamma throughout the year—don't miss the chance to share your achievements!

Important Submission Deadlines

- Early Bird Deadline: November 1st
- On-Time Deadline: December 1st

To submit, please email your completed yearbook directly to DKGYearbook@gmail.com.

Resources & Required Documents:

Before sending in your entry, visit the Yearbook Committee page at dkgtexas.org to access essential materials:

- **Yearbook Guidelines 2026–2027** (Note: This required form must be submitted along with your yearbook)
- **Yearbook Tips and Suggestions 2026–2027**
- **ASTEF Information Link**

Thank you for your hard work in documenting the spirit and accomplishments of your chapter!

Angie Smith, Committee Chair

Legislation

Voting Resources for the 2026 Midterm Election

Public education remains committed to serving every child, regardless of background, location, or socioeconomic status. That commitment faces challenges including funding shortfalls, teacher shortages, debates over curriculum, and efforts to privatize public education.

With the 2026 midterm election approaching, the Legislative Committee is providing resources to help members identify candidates and prepare to vote:

- **ActiVote:** activote.net — Download the app for election and ballot information.
- **Vote411:** Vote411.org — Check voter registration, access candidate guides, and review voting rights.

Important Dates

- Last day to register to vote: **October 5, 2026**
- Last day to apply for Ballot by Mail: **October 23, 2026**
- Early Voting: **October 19–30, 2026**
- **Election Day: November 3, 2026**

Members with legislative questions are encouraged to contact a Legislative Committee member for assistance.

Leslie Valentincic, Committee Chair

STAR TALK

Have you heard members and guests talk about how much fun they had after coming home from STAR? Have you ever wished you could have gone? Well, we can help you with each item.

Please note that STAR has an ongoing waiting list. When someone drops out for any reason, the STAR team goes straight to this list. From here, members are contacted and asked if they are still interested in coming. Most of the time, the wait list is completely full or very close to full. We encourage you to join the wait list. You can find the information on the dkgtexas homepage. All you do is sign up. Do not send any money until you are contacted that you are moving off the wait list. It's simple and easy.

The second way to have that same experience is to attend an Area STAR. Area STARS are now in Areas 3, 10, 7, 1, and 5. Plans are in the works for Area 16. Contact your Area Coordinator for more information. Most are a full day of crafting, fellowship, and fun!

Don't see your area? Why not start your own Area Star? It is really very simple and very gratifying. The STAR Committee has created a One-Pager on how to get started. You can find this document on the Women in the Arts webpage on the dkgtexas website. The committee is excited and ready to help however you need. Let's spread ART around the State!

Lone Star News

Members are encouraged to submit information to be used in the **Lone Star News** to Connie Hernandez

lonestarnewstx@gmail.com

Fall edition goes out October 10th
*Deadline for submissions Sept. 1st
Winter edition goes out January 10th
*Deadline for submissions Dec. 1st
Spring edition goes out April 10th
*Deadline for submissions March 1st
Summer edition goes out July 10th
*Deadline for submissions June 1st

Information Sources

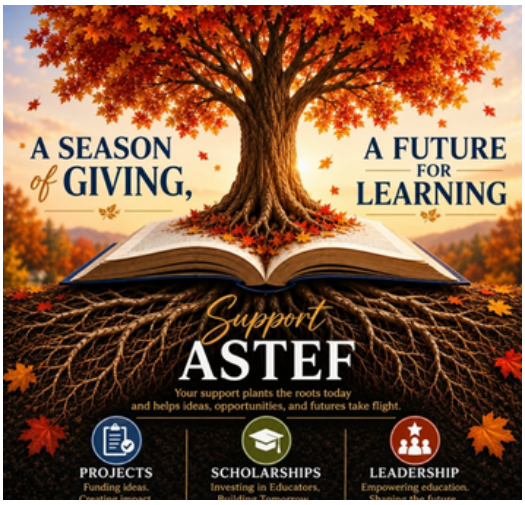
DKG Texas Website
www.dkgtexas.org
DKG Texas on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/tso.deltakappagamma
ASTEF Website
www.astef.org
ASTEF on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/astef.org
International
www.dkg.org

*****Clipart in Lone Star News newsletter by Canva, Pixabay.com and Magnific.com**

ASTEF Happenings —

ASTEF Fall Campaign

ASTEF's fall campaign, *"A Season of Giving, a Future of Learning,"* will run from October 28 - December 9. This special season provides DKG members and supporters with an opportunity to invest in education and support the creation of meaningful learning opportunities for Texas students and educators. Every gift helps shape brighter futures!



Although contributions are welcome at any time, those who wish to give specifically during the fall campaign are encouraged to watch for additional information through MailChimp, newsletters, Facebook, the ASTEF webpage, and Area and Chapter communications.

MailChimp — ASTEF has changed its marketing tool to MailChimp. TSO and ASTEF members highly recommend MailChimp. This new tool will improve communication with members. An article on the ASTEF Home Page (astef.org) explains the changes and how members can sign up to receive informative emails from ASTEF.

ASTEF Director Applications Now Open

ASTEF invites members to consider applying to serve as an ASTEF Director. This is a wonderful opportunity to get involved, share talents and ideas, and enjoy serving TSO while making a meaningful difference in education. Members are encouraged to take the next step, become involved, and experience the rewards of serving ASTEF. You can find the Director application on the ASTEF webpage under the FORMS tab. Under the Board of Directors heading, members can find the application, rubric, and a description of the Director position. **Applications are due March 1, 2027**. Don't wait—apply now!

Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

*The mission of **Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation** is*

- *to provide funding for activities that support professional and personal growth of women educators in Texas, and*
- *to promote educational excellence for Texas students.*

ASTEF

Project Stipends

ASTEF is pleased to announce that 24 Project Stipends were awarded to well-deserving chapters and individuals. A total of $42,300 was awarded to support innovative projects that enrich educational experiences. If a chapter or individual was awarded an ASTEF Project Stipend at the Regional Conference, required reports are due throughout the year. A mid-year report is due January 31, 2027, and an end-of-the-year report is due June 1, 2027. If the project has been completed by January 31, 2027, the recipient may submit only the end-of-the-year report.

Chapters and individuals are encouraged to consider creative projects that could enrich classrooms, schools, and the lives of Texas students. The ASTEF Project Stipend provides an opportunity to turn innovative ideas into meaningful educational experiences and make a lasting impact on students and their learning. Applicants should ensure that their project idea is original and has not been previously used or funded through the ASTEF Project Stipend program. Previous stipend recipients are welcome to apply again, but they must submit a new project idea or significantly enhance and expand upon a previous project. The 2027-2028 Project Stipend application will be updated and placed on the ASTEF webpage no later than mid-October. **Applications due: April 1, 2027.**

Aspiring Educators Grant

It's never too early for members to start thinking about aspiring educators and ways to support them on their journey into the teaching profession.
Members are encouraged to identify an aspiring educator and encourage her to apply for an ASTEF grant to assist with tuition and educational expenses. The applicant must not be a DKG member. The Aspiring Educator application will be updated and available on the ASTEF webpage by mid-October. In the meantime, members are encouraged to reach out to friends and chapter members to begin identifying ladies who may be interested in applying.
Applications due: March 1, 2027.

2025-27 ASTEF THEME: *DREAM BIG & ACT*

ASTEF Biennium Goals:
A - **Advance** our mission as a Foundation by taking risks to strengthen and move forward with purpose, **Aspire** to excellence in all we do by setting high standards and pursuing them with intention, and **Acknowledge** the value of every member and celebrate contributions big and small.

C - Connect with members, **Cultivate** leadership, skills, and relationships that will carry our mission forward. Connect through events, projects, and shared experiences that build community.

T - Transform through innovation with fresh ideas and creative solutions that help us grow, adapt, and make an even greater impact. Take action on ideas and turn them into tangible results.

CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGNS

Centennial Celebration Book List: The Centennial Celebration Committee, in partnership with the Educators Book Award Committee, is developing the DKG Centennial Celebration Book List, a literacy journey through the decades. This project will feature 100 books, with 10 books representing each decade of DKG. The collection will highlight works that have inspired readers, influenced education, reflected historical moments, and celebrated the power of literature throughout the decades. Submit books to be considered using the following link: https://forms.gle/yz9HCdZtjevkrpYZ6.

Centennial Membership Campaign: 100 by 100 – Help your state organization earn Centennial Recognition by welcoming 100 new or reinstated members by May 1, 2029, as we celebrate DKG's 100th anniversary and strengthen our community of educators

Centennial Celebration Campaign Fund: Honor DKG's 100 years of impact with a gift of $19.29 to support the future of the Society; contribute at dkg.org under Events → Centennial Celebration → Contribute..

Visionary Network

Connect with fellow educators through virtual interest-based groups designed for collaboration and growth through dkg.org → Events → Virtual Events Around DKG → Visionary Networks.

DKG Leadership Links

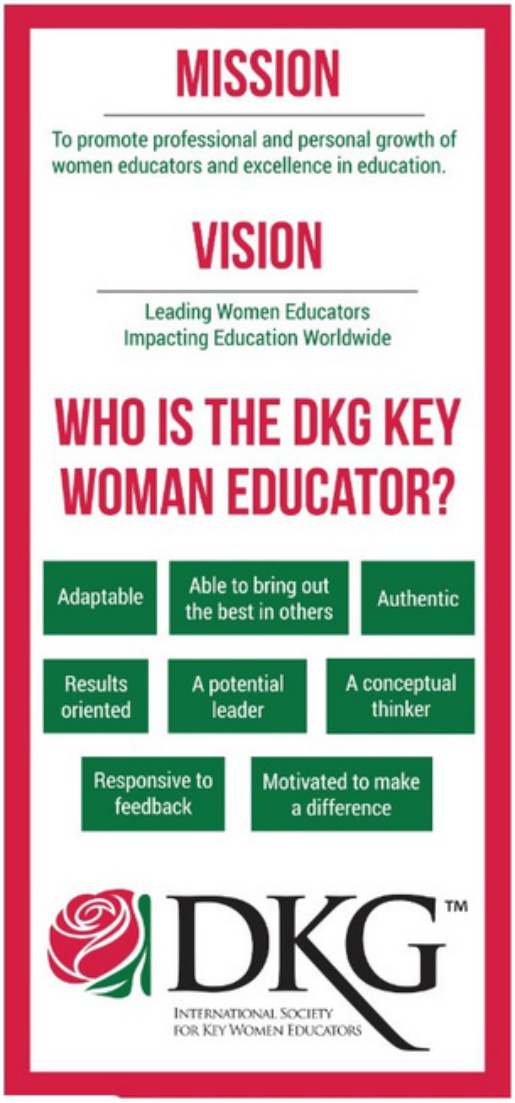
- October 15, 2026 Request for Society Representatives Due
- October 31, 2026 Website Compliance Forms Due
- November 1, 2026 Cornetet Individual Professional Development Applications Due
- November 1, 2026 Cornetet Seminar Professional Development Applications Due
- November 1, 2026 Request for International Speaker Due
- November 3, 2026 Inside International at 12:30 PM
- November 15, 2026 All U.S. treasurers file IRS Form 990 (US Only)
- December 1, 2026 Inside International at 5:30 PM
- December 1, 2026 DKGIEF Giving Tuesday
- December 1, 2026 State Organization Treasurer annual report (Form 16) Due
- December 15, 2026 Deadline to book Highlights of Norway Tour
- December 15, 2026 Bulletin: Collegial Exchange submissions due

The DKG Brand Book

The DKG Brand Book is here!
Created to help keep our visual identity consistent and recognizable, the Brand Book is a helpful resource for members creating materials that represent DKG. You can now find the DKG Brand Book on the website at www.dkg.org.

Be sure to check it out and use it as a guide for your future DKG communications and designs!
To find the Brand Book head to www.dkg.org

Go to Resources > Logo & Graphics.
#DKG #DKGBrand #BrandBook #WomenEducators



Inside International Monthly Zoom

Join a monthly Zoom meeting to enjoy a conversation with International leaders and staff. Directors and elected leaders will be available to answer questions and welcome comments.

Zoom link on the International website / Events

Future Inside International Dates for 2026:
Tuesday, November 3rd @ 12:30pm CT
Tuesday, December 1st @ 5:30pm CT