

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



Hoag Honored with 2021 International Achievement Award

Distinguished leadership at all three levels of Delta Kappa Gamma is the hallmark of the 2021 International Achievement Award recipient, Dr. Constance Hoag. Becky Sadowski, 2020-2022 International President, presented the Society's highest award to Hoag (widely known as Connie) via Zoom at the San Antonio International Conference.

A member of Mu Chapter in Iowa State Organization, Hoag served as state organization president and was honored with the state organization-level achievement award. She also served on two ad hoc com-

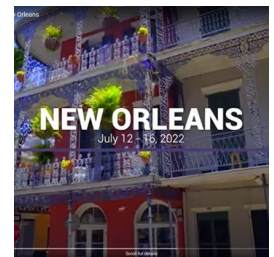
mittees to plan the 50th and 75th anniversaries of the state organization.

A graduate of the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar, Hoag received an international scholarship. She has served on or chaired seven different international committees, some more than once, and currently serves on the scholarship committee and an ad hoc committee authorized by the 2020-2022 Administrative Board. The Delta Kappa Gamma Education Foundation also benefited from her leadership when she served as vice chair of the foundation board.

Hoag's love of the *See HOAG. p. 3*



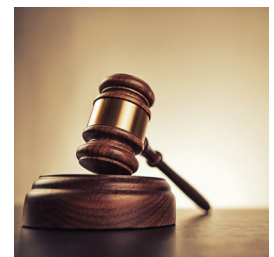
International Conference Wrap-up



2022 International Convention Invitation



2021 Leadership Training



Call for Proposed Amendments

DKG—A Journey of a Lifetime

By **Becky Sadowski**

2020-2022 International President



Have you ever thought of your membership in DKG as a journey? When we become members, the path for our journey isn't clear. Although we don't always understand this in the beginning, each of us plays a key role in determining her own future DKG experience.

Our organization is committed to providing many different kinds of opportunities for its members, but it is **our** responsibility as members to explore those possibilities and decide how we want to participate and contribute to the life of DKG. It is the willingness of our members to learn, grow, lead, and make a difference that will sustain our organization.

“...willingness to recognize opportunities and respond to them allows us to explore DKG and experience the many facets of this organization.”

Along our journey, other members guide us and provide encouragement and support. Attending DKG events at the state organization and international levels helps us see the bigger DKG “picture.” Soon we discover that we are taking this journey with many other women who share our desire to make a difference. Networking connections and lasting friendships develop. If we truly believe in the power of these relationships, perhaps we should occasionally ask ourselves, “What have I done to enrich someone else’s DKG journey?”

I want to share one of the many exciting opportunities I’ve experienced this year on my own journey. Membership Director Trish Woodley and I have begun monthly Zoom sessions with new members who joined

DKG during the previous month. We’re having conversations with them during their first few weeks of membership. It is so interesting to listen to their “stories” – why they joined DKG, what they are looking for in their membership, and their first impressions of the DKG experience. These women express the honor of being asked to join, their gratitude for the support they’ve already been given, and their desire to learn more about our organization. Their questions reinforce the need to continue educating our new members even after they have been inducted. Learning about our organization and our work around the world should be an ongoing effort no matter how long one has been a member. This is both a benefit and a responsibility of membership!

I’m sharing this with all of you with the hope that we will never underestimate the significance of the journey and the importance of being open to possibilities. That willingness to recognize opportunities and respond to them allows us to explore DKG and experience the many facets of this organization.

The journey that you and I are taking is not the only journey we must consider. Actually, Delta Kappa Gamma as an organization is on a journey as well. In 2029, we will celebrate DKG’s 100th anniversary. As we eagerly look forward to celebrating this special milestone, we have the opportunity to look back to our beginning and acknowledge the challenges and successes that are part of our history. This last year has certainly taught us the importance of being flexible, nimble, and forward thinking. DKG continues to evolve as we strive to remain strong and relevant in an ever-changing world.

The path for our organization’s journey will depend on ALL of us. Every member assuming responsibility for our future will reflect one of Dr. Blanton’s strongest beliefs: There is tremendous power in women working together to accomplish a goal and realize a dream!

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From HOAG p. 1

Society and deep wish to preserve its history led her to accepting the task of co-authoring *Our Heritage III* during the 2008–2010 biennium.

Iowa's state organization president offered the following observations regarding Hoag: "For over 50 years she has been an active leader at all three levels of the Society. Her commitment to and passion for DKG is evident in all she does. She is an excellent communicator and good listener who is confident and thoughtful in her decision making. A role model for the members of her state organization, she has a gift for seeing the leadership potential in others, mentoring, encouraging, and empowering them to succeed."

The International Achievement Award is given annually by the Society to a leader who has merited recognition for her distinguished record in the Society. The recipient of the gold medallion and chain is selected by the executive board from recommendations by members, chapters, or state organizations. Presentation of the 2021 award can be viewed at dkg.org > Events > San Antonio Conference > Virtual Content > Luncheon—DKG: Opportunities, Contributions, Impact.

ISF: Opportunities For Speakers and State Organizations

The current application portal to become a DKG International Speaker is open through September 15, 2021, and can be found at dkg.org > Apply/Submit > Applications > [ISF Application](#). Members are encouraged to pursue this DKG opportunity to share their knowledge, talent, and expertise with others and to learn about different cultures, customs, environments, education systems, and practices while creating friendships across borders and expanding their international network. Applicants should be sure to contact their chapter and state organization presidents and provide a reference who has heard them speak at a professional event (does not have to be a DKG event).

In 2020, the ISF application forms for speakers and host state organizations were revised to include "virtual presentations" in addition to face-to-face, in-person presentations. Although members are anticipating upcoming in-person meetings, all are aware *See ISF p. 4*



Nita R. Scott, CAE
Executive Director

From the Desk of the Director

With the 2021 International Conferences and the Leadership Training in Atlanta concluded, planning is now in progress for the 2022 International Convention in New Orleans. If you attended a conference or participated in the leadership training, your feedback is critical. Be sure to complete the evaluation surveys available online. This valuable information will be used in the planning of not only the convention but also of events in 2023 and beyond for which contracts have been or are currently being negotiated. Whether you attended events in 2021 in person or virtually – and even if you did not attend at all – your input is valued, appreciated, and essential to the success of future events.

As reviewed in previous articles, contracting for DKG events can be complicated:

- Lower room rates require advance contracting, and predicting attendance is difficult.
- Choosing sites based on members' travel preferences is challenging with constitutional mandates for a state organization invitation and fewer invitations being offered.
- The large amount of space needed for conferences/conventions requires a sizable food and beverage (F&B) minimum, which can be problematic when members choose not to participate in meal events.

And then, of course, we have to consider the challenges created by a pandemic!

Although it might be easy simply to move all events to a virtual format, the DKG International Administrative Board, like boards of other member-driven organizations, must consider the importance of human connectivity and personal relationships when determining event formats. Because surveys have shown that many DKG members consider "genuine spiritual fellowship" a critical component of a rich membership experience, we must consider whether a completely virtual environ-

ment will provide members with the connectivity they need. A completely in-person experience, however, limits accessibility for those who cannot attend in person or do not feel comfortable doing so. Hybrid (in-person with a virtual layer) is an obvious compromise; however, it comes with a considerable cost because streaming an in-person experience requires far more equipment and personnel than a completely virtual experience. Once again, your feedback and input will be instrumental to the Administrative Board when considering future event planning.

As we move forward into the coming years, it is our hope that we can provide a membership experience at the international level that reflects everything DKG means to you. To do that, we need you! We *will* listen and we *will* value your thoughts, but the only way we *can* hear you is if you talk to us. So, I look forward to hearing from you soon!

From ISF p. 3 that the virtual world is here to stay. Potential ISF Speaker applicants who have been unable to travel due to other obligations should consider this an ideal time to apply to connect globally in DKG as a virtual presenter. State organizations looking for a speaker will thus have another option to consider – especially if cost is a concern.

State organization presidents currently have 29 DKG members from a variety of countries who are willing to speak on a variety of topics. Such speakers are not only available for conventions or conferences but also for personal and professional development opportunities any time during the year. Application deadlines for **requesting** a speaker are November 1 and May 1.

The International Speakers Fund is financed by members' donations through the DKGIEF. For additional information on becoming a speaker, recommending a speaker, or requesting a speaker for a state organization function, contact any member of the International Speakers Fund Committee or its co-liaison, Trish Woodley.

Designing DKG

from your
Members-at-Large

The Best of Both Worlds

DKG members value genuine spiritual fellowship. When chapters were unable to meet in person over the last year, leaders quickly found creative ways to keep members connected. Along the way, they learned that some members who had been missing in-person meetings were now able to join virtual meetings. Active teachers with multiple responsibilities and elderly members who weren't mobile felt included for the first time in a long time.

As chapters begin planning to get together in the coming months, how can they take advantage of the lessons that have been learned to include members and meet their needs? One suggestion is to have hybrid meetings that include a virtual component with in-person meetings. Here are some tips to help manage hybrid meetings:

- Assign a person other than the meeting chair to be the virtual host at each meeting. This host will bring a device such as a laptop or tablet and set up and monitor the virtual aspect of the meeting. If possible, develop a committee in which members rotate into this role.
- Don't forget that members attending virtually are part of the meeting. Intentionally plan ways for them to participate. For example, they could share joys and concerns or weigh in on a discussion.
- Open the virtual meeting early to allow in-person members a chance to say hello and chat with members who attend virtually.
- Moving the device will help members online see the people in the room during discussion. Move the device to different tables during the meeting so virtual attendees get to 'sit with' a variety of members. Be sure to spotlight speakers during the program.
- To include the voices of all members, virtual hosts should also moderate the chat box and share comments with in-person members.
- Plan a way to support and include members who need assistance to attend virtually. Some chapters have two or three tech-savvy members who volunteer to help such members connect. They can trade off attending the meeting in person and acting as tech support for individual members.

What are some other ways your chapter has had success with hybrid meetings to keep members connected? Please share ideas with your Members-at-Large by contacting them at memberatlargedkg@gmail.com.

DEADLINES

- **September 15**
Submissions to DKG Fine Arts Gallery
- **September 15**
International Speakers Fund speaker applications
- **September 15**
Nomination Recommendations and Endorsement Forms: International Officers/Elected Committees
- @ **September 30**
All dues must be entered in the portal to avoid members being dropped Oct.1.
- **October 1**
Bulletin: Journal submissions
- **October 1**
Proposed amendments to *Constitution/ISRs*
- **October 15**
Society Representative requests
- **November 1**
DKGIEF Cornetet CIPD applications
- **November 1**
DKGIEF Cornetet CSPD applications
- @ **November 1**
SOPs to request international speaker from International Speakers Fund
- **November 15**
All Treasurers to file IRS 990 (US Only)

HQ CLOSED

September 6
October 11

International Conferences Unite Members

For the first time, portions of the two international conferences in the United States were presented virtually to registered members in all 17 countries! Keynote speakers and some breakout sessions were available during the conference period and will continue to be available to registrants in the events section of the DKG website. Registrants may use these recorded presentations for an extended time. What a great opportunity for programs that will continue the impact of the conferences at the chapter and state organization levels!

Both conferences closed with an inspirational speech by 2020–2022 International President, Becky Sadowski, who reminded listeners that DKG provides many opportunities – but members must say “Yes” to bring them to life. All who chose to say “yes” and attend the international conferences, whether in-person or virtually, certainly embraced the opportunity for events that were informational and inspiring!



Sherri Wagemann (Washington State Organization) shares insights with DKG colleagues in Portland.

Portland, Oregon

Two well-attended preconference sessions offered members a chance to plan how to rejuvenate chapters or learn parliamentary procedure. At the opening luncheon of the conference, Leigh Wintz, one of the authors of *The Will to Govern Well*, enticed participants to build trust and transform DKG into a nimble organization with greater appeal to younger and to more diverse educators. A selection of 46 breakout sessions offered topics from personal and professional growth to Society business. An opening event welcomed members with the Portland Rosarians’ ceremony and

a lively theatre group of Portland youth with song, dance, and theatre scenes.

The celebration luncheon collected \$5,444.00 for the emergency fund and featured presentation of the 2021 Educators Book Award, a World Fellowship highlight, and Executive Director Nita Scott, who challenged members to be more and do more in order to strengthen the Society for the future. The Art Gallery and Marketplace provided opportunities to feature artists and to shop! The Technology Station not only supported the DKG app but also offered valuable workshops and mini-sessions. Dr. Gene Sharratt, with his presentation titled “What’s in the Way: Is the Way,” built hope and encouraged a positive outlook as DKG continues to meet challenges and opportunities and considers the impact its members have all over the world. The chorus presentations as well as California’s wonderful sing-along closed participants’ time together.

The Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund and a Cornetet Professional Development grant provided enormous support for a speaker and the parliamentary procedure workshop. Planners are grateful for members’ funding of these grants!

San Antonio, Texas

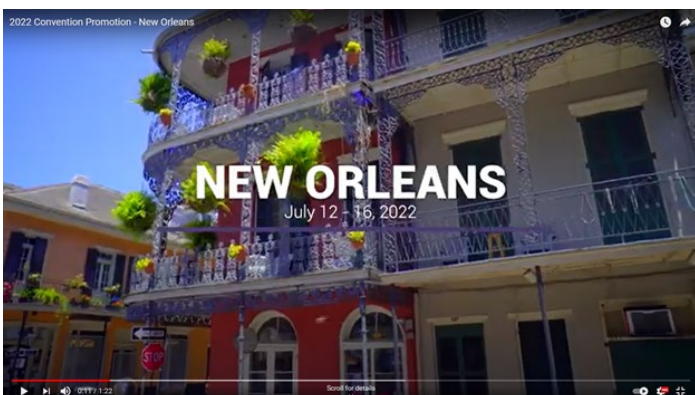
The San Antonio International Conference opened on Thursday morning with the DKGIEF- sponsored breakfast and an interesting presentation by Tom Jackson, who shared his love for the Alamo and its rich history. Thursday evening, members enjoyed Dessert, Drinks, and Friends, where they were entertained by Legacy of Educational Excellence (LEE) High School Mariachi Orchestra. Friday and Saturday were filled with general sessions, moving “Moments at the Mic,” and inspiring keynote speakers: Eva-Maria Kangro of Estonia;

See CONF. p. 7

International Convention—New Orleans

Laissez le bon temps rouler! Let the good times roll! Excitement is in the air as members and guests of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International anticipate gathering in the vibrant city of New Orleans, LA. On July 12–16, 2022, the DKG International Convention will be held at the Sheraton Hotel on Canal Street in the heart of the city...and the convention will be filled with good times.

Come and enjoy the food, music, markets, historical districts, and the sights of the city while connecting with DKG friends. Attend informative sessions on a myriad of topics. Learn from incredible keynote speakers who will inspire and motivate. Be a part of groundbreaking work for the Society. Share in the election and installation of international officers. With so much to enjoy, this is one convention everyone will want to attend! Keep an eye on the *DKG News* and the website for more information.

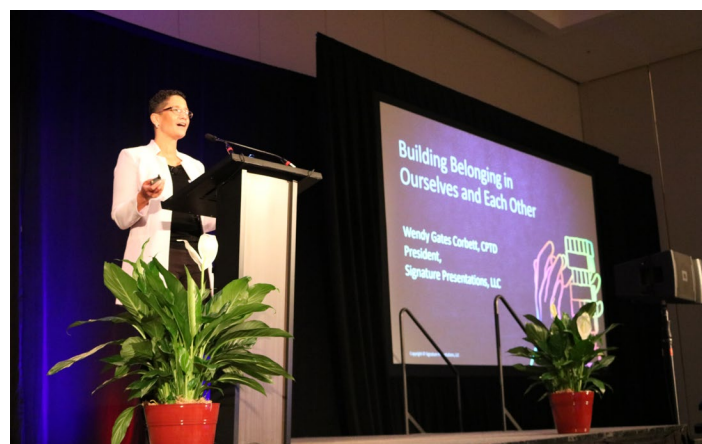


While in New Orleans, take a dinner tour on the Steamboat Natchez, ride the trolley to the Garden District, find the ghosts that haunt New Orleans after dark, shop on Jackson Square, eat beignets at Café du Monde, and truly experience the history and culture of a city like no other. Save the date and plan to come to New Orleans! Get ready for a great time and let the good times roll!

Left: Click the thumbnail to watch the video invitation to the 2022 International Convention.

From CONF. p. 6

Diana Phillips of Quebec, Canada; Wendy Gates Corbett, Eunah Temple Holden Speaker; and Becky Sadowski, 2020–2022 International President. Delicious meals, informative Breakout Sessions, and Fast Breaks completed the rest of the program. The conference Marketplace presented a variety of vendors, and members certainly enjoyed the opportunity to shop in person. The laughter and conversations of members heard in the hallways and open spaces were a warm reminder of why DKG connections are special.



Eunah Temple Holden Fund Speaker Wendy Gates Corbett delivers keynote address at luncheon in San Antonio.

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Friday's Opportunities, Contributions, Impact Luncheon featured presentations of the 2021 Educators Book Award and International Achievement Award. Congratulations to Dr. Karen Gross of DC, author of *Trauma Doesn't Stop at the School Door*, and to Dr. Constance Hoag of Iowa, 2021 International Achievement Award recipient, on these recognitions of excellence.

Know the Facts! Marketing 101

Marketing DKG within and beyond the Society requires knowing the facts. President Becky Sadowski recently stated that knowing ‘who we are’ and ‘why we are’ is integral to telling the DKG story – and is the epitome of marketing. Capturing the essence of the ‘who’ and ‘why’ of DKG is the first step in successful marketing for member recruitment and retention and for marketing DKG in communities.

The DKG Vision statement captures the ‘who.’ DKG is *Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*.

The DKG Mission statement clearly explains the “why.” *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*

But those who market DKG within and beyond the Society must remember that, in order for others to appreciate the ‘who’ and ‘why,’ they must believe that the message is authentic. Authenticity is often enhanced through personalization. Make marketing personal by sharing your DKG story. Explain the benefits you have gained as a result of your membership. Tell of projects and initiatives that have impacted the community, and note ways in which donors’ contributions have enabled the Society to fulfill the ‘who’ and ‘why’ of DKG. Taking time to personalize your marketing message so that prospective members, community agencies, and potential donors see DKG as an integral part of your life, their communities, and the educational world as a whole is Marketing 101.

TEAMWORK Makes the Dream Work

Reflections on the 2021 State Organization Leadership Team Training

“**W**ow, what a fabulous experience!” “I cannot believe how energized I am by this opportunity!” “Great hearing how other *experienced* state organization treasurers approach issues and the strategies they use!” “Thanks so much for offering the virtual option – loved the chat room for questions.” “By far, the best training I have attended in a long time!” These are just a few of the positive comments heard about the recent state organization team training in Atlanta, Georgia. Because many were unable to travel, the training was offered in a hybrid format: 153 participated in person and more than 180 selected the virtual format.



Opening session of the 2021 Leadership Training in Atlanta, Georgia.

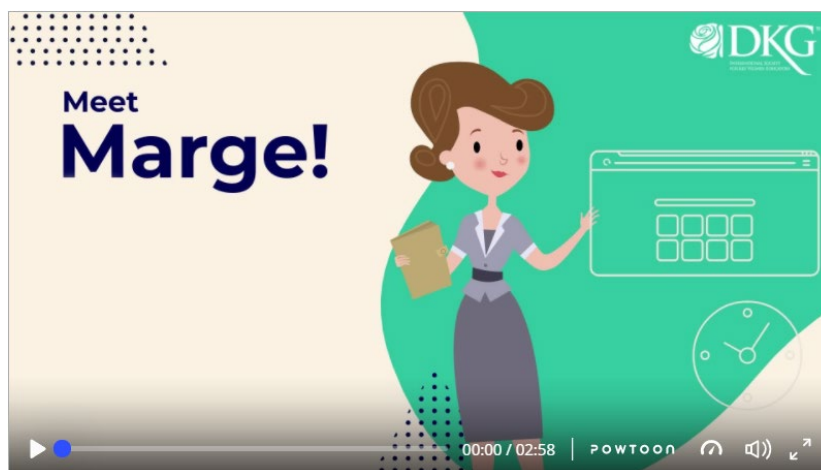
State organization presidents, treasurers, EEC chairs, membership chairs, and new state executive secretaries were invited to participate in the program planned by the International Leadership Development, Educational Excellence, Finance, and Membership Committees. Participants only needed to make travel arrangements to Atlanta...and the rest of the details, including meals, lodging, login information for those attending virtually, as well as all expenses, were handled by Headquarters staff. The 2020–2022 Administrative Board clearly “put their money where their mouth is” as they invested completely in providing a quality training experience for all, both in person and virtually.

See TEAM p. 11

Forward Thinkers Can Make Change

Do the governing documents of DKG need to be changed or updated? Perhaps unintended barriers keep your chapter from addressing one of the seven Purposes? Simplify wording, make a change, or create a totally new Proposed Amendment (PA) by following these steps:

- Fill out the form found on the DKG website (www.dkg.org). Sign in and click on Apply/Submit > Submissions > [Submit a Proposal for the Constitution and ISR](#). Scroll to the bottom of the page and select the link for the document for which you wish to submit a proposal.
 - The form **MUST** be received by the Constitution Committee by October 1, 2021.
PAs will then take the following path on the way to becoming part of DKG governing documents:
 - Following October 1, completed PA forms will be compiled and reviewed by the International Constitution Committee. The International Finance Committee will also consider the fiscal impact on the Society.
 - With or without changes, the PAs will go to the International Administrative Board for its review.
 - PAs for consideration by the full membership will then be published for all to read and consider. Members can let their leaders know how they feel about each PA.
 - PAs will be voted on by members at the international convention in New Orleans in 2022. Approved proposals will go into effect as soon as they are approved.
 - PAs carried forward from 2018-2020 will be considered at the convention in 2022. Proposers have already been contacted.
- Forward thinkers: Let's be prepared to make important changes as we look to the future of DKG!



Click this thumbnail to watch a tutorial video about submitting PAs.

Contributions Impact Education Worldwide

Thank you to all who supported the first annual envelope campaign that raised \$11,092.00 for the DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF). Your contribution

Increases the number of awards DKG can give to members and non-members;

Multiplies our ability to give to educational projects that meet our standard of excellence;

Provides educators with increased professional development opportunities;

Amplifies the reach of DKG scholarship and leadership initiatives;

Creates more opportunities to fund projects to enhance education worldwide;

Transforms the lives of more international students who study in the United States and Canada; and

Supports effective educational projects, the educational and charitable activities of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, and professional growth of educators worldwide.

Watch for the DKGIEF's second annual envelope campaign that will launch with the copy of the December *Collegial Exchange*.

DKG INTERNATIONAL EDUCATORS FOUNDATION COLUMN

Foundation Funding at Work: The Golden Gift Fund



The Golden Gift Fund, overseen by the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Educators Foundation ([DKGIEF](#)), makes available professional, life-changing leadership management seminars to DKG members during even-numbered years. This fund began as part of the Golden Anniversary celebration of the Society with a generous donation from the late Dr. Eula Lee Carter (Texas) coupled with donations from members throughout the Society. This fund continues to rely solely on donations.

Golden Gift Fund recipients eagerly express how attending this program, made possible through awards bestowed through this fund, has enriched their lives:

“One of the things I have carried with me since Austin is my presence, how I present myself in front of large groups. I have become more aware of my body language and my voice. This has carried over into leadership on committees in my district, as well as in my chapter.” Sarah Hoff, KS

“The seminar sessions were informative, motivational, and carefully planned to meet the needs of our diverse group. That...experience helped me understand and appreciate the investment our organization makes in its members.” Becky Sadowski, 2020-2022 International President, TN

“It was very empowering for me to see that the ideology of leadership I studied at the University of Iceland was the same as the teachers at Austin emphasized...I can say that my confidence as a leader has not only grown from participating in the projects during the course but also from seeing in a tangible way that the studies I already had done were on par with the best in Austin.” Jona Benediktsdottir, Chair, 2020-2022 Golden Gift Fund Committee, ISL

During 2018–2020, the seminar underwent major revisions in the application process, program length, and curriculum. Today the Golden Gift Fund supports a 1-week leadership management seminar known as **DKG Ignite: Leaders Empowering Leaders Program** held in coordination with staff and faculty at the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas in Austin.

To donate to the Golden Gift Fund or any of the nine funds managed by DKGIEF, go to the Society website and click on DKGIEF.

Submit Recommendations for the Educators Book Award!

Attention all female authors! It is again time to consider submissions for the Educators Book Award. The 2021 winner was *Trauma Doesn't Stop at the School Door* by Karen Gross, so the search is back on for books that meet the following [requirements](#):

- written by a woman author(s);
- subject relates directly or indirectly to a field in education;
- scope of the book is global, not local; and
- copyright date of 2021.

Copies of the recommended book must be sent

to all members of the Educators Book Award Committee, with submissions postmarked by February 1, 2022. Authors are not required to be DKG members, but submissions must meet all criteria listed above.

Direct questions to [Trish Woodley](#), Educators Book Award Committee Liaison.

Monetary contributions can also be made to the Educators Award Fund to continue the honoring of a woman author writing on an education-related topic. For information on how to donate, visit the DKGIEF page on [dkg.org](#) and select [Educators Award Fund](#).

Fundraising Ideas & World Fellowship

This list of new and creative ways to raise money for World Fellowship supplements information in the July/August 2021 *DKG NEWS* about how to find the list of World Fellowship recipients and connect with these wonderful women. Whatever you choose to do to raise money to donate to World Fellowship will be appreciated! The efforts of one person can't move mountains. It is the strength of all working together that makes a change.

Sales

- Holiday wreaths/flowers/plants
- Foods: Baked goods, nuts, candy, fruit
- Yard/garage sales or trunk/car boot sales
- Homemade items/crafts
- Old jewelry
- DKG Society items
- Tickets for a 50/50 drawing
- Tickets for a painting or quilt or other work of art
- Tickets to win a week at a timeshare, beach house, mountain house

Events

- Basket auction—each basket has a theme and the items in the basket relate to that theme
- Silent auction—items donated by members or the community
- Book auction—bag/baskets with books for adults/children or focused on a specific genre of books
- Hosted and served holiday meal
- Chicken BBQ
- Hosted and served tea
- Game night—bingo, trivia, cards
- Lunch or dinner with an inspiring speaker
- Day trip—flower show, dinner theater, concert, sightseeing, sporting event

DKG Store is on the Move!

The DKG Store, although still accessed via the DKG website, will now be managed by the Society's printing company and warehoused physically at their business location. Take note of changes that impact members and tips for placing orders.

- Members will need to create an account upon their first visit to the new order site. The username and password do NOT need to be the same as used to log in to the DKG website, but users may choose to use that login information for simplicity. After registering, members will only need to log in for future visits and orders.
- When registering, members will receive a temporary password in the inbox of the email address that they used to register. This is a temporary password used only until the member manually sets the password of her choice.
- Items are categorized the same way members are used to seeing in the current DKG Store. However, some items have been discontinued due to customized designs and/or decreased supply and demand.
- Some items, such as the DKG Girl Scout Patch, are available via the HQ staff member managing that item. Please contact HQ for detailed information and availability.

From *TEAM* p. 8

The training began Friday evening with a skit overviewing the plan for the weekend and was followed by a thorough review of the DKG website and the vast array of information readily available there. Saturday sessions were in the respective areas of responsibility, with 90 minutes of the day set aside for TEAM planning by the individual state organization groups with assistance from members of the committees. A time of sharing followed the TEAM planning time. Dinner and a puzzle activity cemented the importance of working together as a team to achieve a vision. Sunday morning concluded with sharing takeaways of the weekend's experiences and a follow-up TEAM cheer! Truly the weekend experience was "tutu" special!

The consensus in input received thus far is that working and training together as a TEAM was extremely beneficial. Everyone left with a positive attitude for the upcoming biennium and the future of DKG. Indeed, it was good to be together charting the course for the future of the Society.

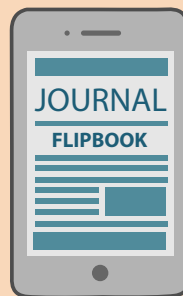
DKG AROUND THE WEB



DKG PUBLICATIONS

Read the *Bulletin: Collegial Exchange* in print, right from your mailbox—or online in Flipbook format.

Read the *Bulletin: Journal* online in Flipbook format.



DKG™ Collegial Exchange

UPDATE: CANADA

Through virtual conventions, professional development sessions, and their forum, Canada members have worked to achieve Purpose 7: “To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.” This summer, excessive heat and smoke from numerous forest fires affected air quality throughout the country. These challenges did not deter members from holding virtual spring conventions in most of the provinces, with themes ranging from “Hope” in Alberta to “Preserving New Brunswick’s Heritage” in the East.

Members also attended two virtual professional development sessions in June. The first speaker was Dr. Dorothy Williams, a leading authority on Black Canadian history and one of the creators of the *ABCs of Canadian Black History* kit. She spoke on systemic racism and the need to teach Canadian-focused Black history. Second speaker Georgette Reed, a former Olympian and now Health and Fitness Coordinator for Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, shared her experiences in overcoming the challenges of being recognized for her skills instead of the color of her skin. She also imparted ways to create a balanced approach when living a life of service.

In their annual forum, Canadian members turned their thoughts to how to become better informed about

current issues facing the country. Recently, hundreds of unmarked graves on the grounds of former residential schools where Indigenous children were sent to be educated have come to light. These schools robbed the Indigenous people of their languages, cultures, and communities. At the virtual Canadian Forum in July, a breakout session focused on next steps in provinces and chapters to move toward meaningful reconciliation. Suggestions included the following:

1. Read the *94 Calls to Action* from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission document.
2. Understand the Indigenous people’s point of view.
3. Ask Indigenous women to join local chapters.
4. Be aware of and supply resources needed for the teaching of Indigenous culture.
5. Invite Indigenous speakers to present to chapters.
6. Participate in the *Red Dress Project* or blanket activities.
7. Move beyond superficial efforts to meaningful learning.

Canada has 1 more year for its current project, *Arts-Can Circle*, but some members are already considering a new project that addresses the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s recommendations. Several proposals will likely be considered when the deadline for voting arrives.