

# NATIONAL SORORITY OF PHI DELTA KAPPA, INC.

## IOTA CHAPTER

### NEWSLETTER

Volume 1

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**SPECIAL  
EDITION  
DECEMBER  
2020**

## Soror Spotlight

### Soror Dr. Juanita J. High

Soror Dr. Juanita High became a member of NSPDK Iota



Chapter in the fall of 1954. She decided to join the sorority upon becoming an educator. Her most memorable Iota experiences were in chairing/co-chairing three (3) Eastern Regional Conferences and in accompanying the Xinos to Washington, DC during the riots in 1968. What she finds most rewarding about being a member of Iota Chapter is the sisterhood, meeting new friends, forging lasting friendships, traveling to other regions, and sharing a learning insight about teaching.

Dr. High is an Atlantic City native and still resides in the city. She has a large family of 25. She keeps her hand in the educational field as a retired educator by volunteering with

various educational projects, as a member of the Stockton University Foundation Board of Directors and by doing youth work at St. James A.M.E. Church. Soror High believes. "Education is an essential right for an individual's and society's progress. It should be free and accessible to all. Everyone should have opportunity to pursue his/her dreams and aspirations without worrying about costs, placement, teacher quality, institutional bureaucracy, etc. Education must become a priority in this nation with educators given appropriate recognition and compensation. Unfortunately, educators are not generally respected in a system that values wealth and materialism above all else. No matter what the field, an educator/teacher has been instrumental in instilling knowledge and hope: scientists, engineers, politicians, doctors, lawyers, plumbers, electricians, whatever occupation, in the background there was a teacher to encourage, inspire and guide. Disparity in educational opportunity and achievement between urban and rural areas and the more affluent suburbs must be eradicated. Classroom teachers and on-site administrators must be involved in policymaking, goal setting and implementation of sound and effective educational programming. Regrettably, educational policy appears to be dictated by those who don't

know what education policy and programming should be. It is my hope that grassroots educational entities will be able to engage in and influence requisite education policies and procedures."

Soror Juanita enjoys playing cards, watching TV, and writing. One thing many do not know about Soror High is that she is not an only child.

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Jingle Bells



I saw Mommy kissing Santa Klaze



## Soror Spotlight

### Ruth Henderson



Soror Ruth Henderson became a member of Iota Chapter in 1959. What inspired her to become a member was two-fold: a lot of her schoolteachers were Iota Chapter members and she had an older sister, who was in the Krinon Club. Sadly, her sister died of Lupus at age 24. A lot of Iota Chapter members knew her sister and asked Ruth if she wanted to become a member. She said, "Yes," and the rest is history.

The top three memorable Iota Chapter moments were in working with the cotillion. The cotillion brought the groups of sorors together because there was so much work to be done and were things that the sorority worked on all year long. Another memory is, "Whenever we entertained, like the ER Conference - they were always highlighting". A third memory was when sorors would meet at a restaurant for Saturday luncheon meetings. Soror Ruth says, "I tried to be a good soror."

What was most rewarding about being a member of Iota Chapter

for Soror Ruth, was the sisterhood." The sisterly feeling and attitude that we had in the way we all worked together, especially with the cotillion, was great. That is what I think really brought us close together."

Soror Henderson is an Atlantic City native. She has nieces and nephews and lots of great nieces and nephews. Up until the 2020 pandemic hit, she was the Adult Sunday School teacher keeping her hand in education. Her educational philosophy is that "Every child has value and they are capable of doing well in something." Soror Henderson likes to read and what a lot of us probably don't know about her is that she played the piano as a child.

## Soror Spotlight

### Eleanor Hall



Soror Eleanor Hall became a member of Iota Chapter I 1974. She was invited by Soror Lula Pope Howard, who asked her if she would like to become a member and Soror Hall said, "Yes I would like that." Soror Eleanor says really enjoyed service in the sorority and was the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President under Soror Rita Krall. Soror Hall related, "I enjoy the women." Some of her best memories were of attending the

conferences and conclaves. What Soror Hall finds most rewarding about being a member of Iota chapter is enjoying the women in the sorority. She relayed one story. On her first day of teaching in Pleasantville, Soror Hall didn't know that you had to have your own lunch, but Soror Manning did and took Eleanor home and gave her lunch and treated her like a little sister from that point forward. Soror Dorothy Manning taking her under her wing when she first started teaching in Pleasantville really had an impact.

Soror Hall is an Atlantic City native, but now lives in Egg Harbor Township. She had one brother, but he passed away when he was 20. She has one son, Darryl G. Scott, Sr., two grandchildren, Dorrelle (Dobie) Scott, Darryl G. Scott, Jr. (Chewie) and three great-grandchildren, Julianne, Elias, and Tyree Scott,

Soror Hall is worried about the state of our current educational process. "At this time, I'm very concerned and little upset that we're going to be leaving a whole of kids behind with the pandemic. None of us control what happens in nature but it's one of those things. A lot of kids who have parents who aren't into education are going to get left behind because the parents aren't going to be helpful." She believes that we must educate our young and be very concerned if they don't have a good foundation. "

One thing a lot of people don't know about Soror Eleanor is

that she was married twice and has a son by her first marriage.

## Soror Spotlight Jean Martin



Soror Jean Martin became a member of NSPDK Iota Chapter in 1959. She became a member because Mrs. Goens, one of her former teachers was a member, who was also the basileus. Her most memorable Iota experience was when she was First Vice President. Other memories include being the Mistress of Ceremonies for the Debutante Cotillion for many years. Another memory that stands out is that Iota Chapter used to go to the Black nursing homes and sing Christmas carols and give out gifts from the sorority. She also remembers the Black History Programs, where they would invite students to participate. One student was Michael Bailey, who grew up and really helped the community.

Soror Martin believes that she was introduced to a lot of people she would never have met, had she not been a member of NSPDK Iota Chapter. She likes the way that we presented ourselves to the community, because we showed that we cared and respected the with how we tried to help them, their children, and the community. Many times, the sorority

selected a family and the membership would go out and buy gifts for that family.

One of Soror Jean's prized moments in education was when she was picked to represent the state of New Jersey and went to Wisconsin with all expenses paid for six weeks, teaching ESL -Black. She was also Teacher of the Year. Another prized memory is in teaching state mandated Alternate Route classes for aspiring teachers, who had college degrees, but had neither experience nor education degrees. She feels strongly, "During this time of Covid 19, it is critical to educate all children, not only academically, but socially, religiously, and mentally to promote better critical thinking in dealing with other people in our society

Soror Martin has two children Walter R. Forth, Jr (Kipp), and Patrice Leatherberry and four grandchildren, Walter Frederick Forth, James Harrington Forth, Daune Leatherberry Jr, and Eric Leatherberry.

Soror Martin's past hobbies are crocheting, making afghans, scarves, and vests. One thing people probably don't know about her is that she did not like to fly, because of fear of the plane crashing, but did like to take cruises, even though she wasn't a strong swimmer. Her friends teased her about that irony.



### Newsletter Editors

Dr. Sheree N. Alexander

Dr. Sherri Parmenter

## Iota Chapter's Founders' Day Commemoration Iota's First-Ever Virtual Founders' Day Bingo Fundraiser was a Tremendous Success

Thanks to every soror for your assistance. Special thanks to our chairs, Sorors Letitia Jones-Johnson, First Vice and Lateefah Scott, Third Vice Presidents, and special thanks to Hollisha Bridgers, Grammateus for her big part in planning and executing this fundraiser. Special thanks also go to Sorors Jackie Carrington-Brown, Sheryl Marable, Gladys Fowlkes, and Elaine Milan for making and contributing the beautiful baskets.







**Happy birthday**

**SORORS**

Ruth Henderson - Dec 8

Dr. Sheree Alexander Dec 10

Agnes Howard Dec 17

A  
Twelve  
In a Year  
Two Turtle Doves  
Three French Hens  
Four Calling Birds  
Five Gold Rings  
Six Geese A Laying  
Seven Swans A Swimming  
Eight Maids A Milking  
Nine Ladies Dancing  
Ten Lords A Leaping  
Eleven Pipers Piping  
TWELVE  
DRUMMERS  
DRUMMING



Winter Begins  
Monday, December 21st

Iota Chapter Wishes you a

**Merry Christmas**



**The 7 Principles of Kwanzaa**



**Kwanzaa is an annual  
African American  
celebration that takes place  
Dec 26 -Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Kwanza Dec 26-Jan 1st**

**Unity:Umoja (oo-MO-jah)**

To strive for and maintain  
unity in the family, community,  
nation, and race.

**Self-determination:**

**Kujichagulia (koo-gee-cha-  
goo-LEE-yah)**

To define ourselves, name  
ourselves, create for  
ourselves, and speak for  
ourselves.

**Collective Work and  
Responsibility: Ujima (oo-  
GEE-mah)**

To build and maintain our  
community together and make  
our brother's and sister's  
problems our problems and to  
solve them together.

**Cooperative Economics:  
Ujamaa (oo-JAH-mah)**

To build and maintain our own  
stores, shops, and other  
businesses and to profit from  
them together.

**Purpose: Nia (nee-YAH)**

To make our collective  
vocation the building and  
developing of our community  
in order to restore our people  
to their traditional greatness.

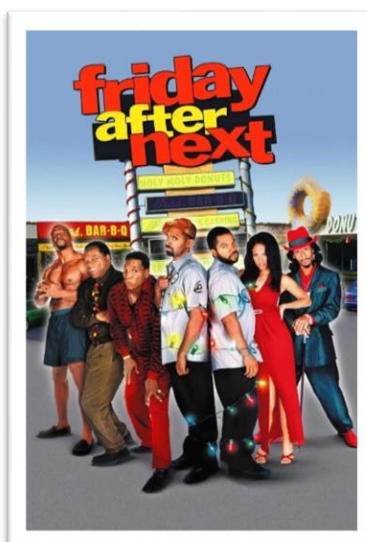
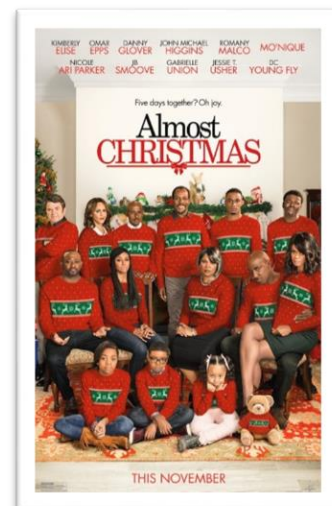
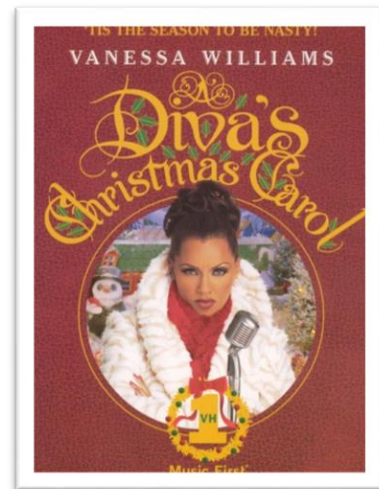
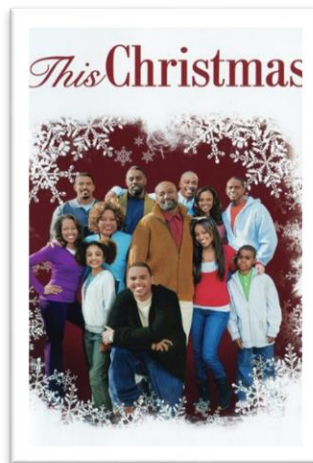
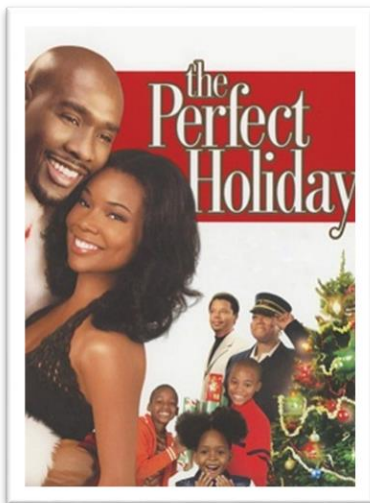
**Creativity: Kuumba (koo-  
OOM-bah)**

To do always as much as we  
can, in the way we can, in  
order to leave our community  
more beautiful and beneficial  
than we inherited it.

**Faith: Imani (ee-MAH-nee)**

To believe with all our heart in  
our people, our parents, our  
teachers, our leaders, and the  
righteousness and victory of  
our struggle.

<https://people.howstuffworks.com/culture-traditions/holidays-other/kwanzaa3.html>



## Top 10 African American Christmas Movies

List from

<https://theundefeated.com/features/best-books-for-christmas-holiday-gifts-2020/>



## YOUR 2020-2021 OFFICERS



Dr. Sherri Parmenter  
Basileus



Letitia Jones-Johnson  
1<sup>st</sup> Anti-Basileus



Nicole Williams  
2<sup>nd</sup> Anti-Basileus



Lateefah Scott  
3<sup>rd</sup> Anti- Basileus



Hollisha Bridgers  
Grammateus



Kaisha Medina  
Tamias



Deneen McQueen  
Tamiochos



Tamia Murphy  
Epistoleus



Agnes D. Howard  
Executive Advisor



Dr. Juanita High  
Parliamentarian



Miriam Martin  
Dean of Pledges



Dr. Sheree' Alexander  
Director of PR/Krionon

***NSPDK IOTA CHAPTER***