



celebrating 150 Years

SESQUICENTENNIAL CHAPTER AND LOCAL EVENTS GUIDE

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LETTER FROM OUR *President*



1873.

150 years.

Let's stop for a moment and think about that.

It's almost hard to imagine what life was like all those years ago. The first "Great Depression" was experienced, the first successful train robbery occurred in the American West and Carrie S. Burnham began her argument before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for her right to vote.

Yes, a different world, indeed. But, at that same time, our beloved Delta Gamma was founded in Oxford, Mississippi, when three young women envisioned something larger than themselves.

So, as I write to you from seat 15D on a flight to Columbus, Ohio, for a meeting at our Fraternity's Executive Offices, I am mostly reflecting on a collegiate chapter's Initiation that I attended last night. With gratitude and hope, I watched the daughter of my sorority little sister become initiated into the same organization that has brought so much joy into my life. What made last night even more special? Seeing the grandmother of that new member seated right next to her, beaming with pride. Three generations of Delta Gammas. All of whom are important to the future of Delta Gamma.

In that moment, I realized that while many things change over the decades, some things remain the same. It's the women, singularly and collectively, that make Delta Gamma strong. It's the wisdom of Joy, the steadfastness of Jennifer and the promise of Skylar. It's because of you. And, because of me. WE are Delta Gamma.

As we enter our sesquicentennial anniversary, we have so much to celebrate. We hope this toolkit resource will not only assist you in logistical activities, such as outlining gala events, member recognitions and service opportunities, but also provide inspiration for engaging your Delta Gamma community in celebrating 150 years of sisterhood.

Now is the time to reconnect with sisters, plan reunions, dust off the old scrapbook and pull out your stylish composite photos. Take a moment to remember the intramural championship that you won, the date party everyone looked forward to, the late nights spent building the Homecoming float or the day you got your big sister. We encourage you to find your own ways to reflect on your membership, along with how you will help ensure our future.

So, while it is important that we honor our past, it is equally important that we acknowledge the work still to be done. As we celebrate, share our pride, and gather with sisters, let us also commit to moving forward in a way that allows us to do as much good as we can in the most welcoming way that we can. Because what I witnessed last night at that Initiation was a sense of belonging that should be shared with and experienced by the many types of women who are also champions of Doing Good.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Ayres".

Dr. Amy R. Ayres, Alpha Iota-Oklahoma
2022-2024 Fraternity President



THE HISTORY OF THE *Do Good* SISTERHOOD

Delta Gamma Fraternity was founded in 1873 at Lewis School in Oxford, Mississippi, by Anna Boyd, Mary Comfort and Eva Webb when the three friends from Kosciusko, Mississippi, found themselves trapped at school for the winter. School openings in the region had been delayed by a yellow fever outbreak which would cut winter break short, meaning students would remain at school over the holidays. Stranded 100 miles from home, the three young women turned to each other for support. Inspired by male students at the nearby University of Mississippi who were members of Greek letter organizations, they decided to form their own.

They chose the Greek letters Delta and Gamma to stand for “*do good*.” The three young women founded the organization as a literary society and as a club of “mutual helpfulness.” Founded before the term sorority was used, the Greek derivative phratres of phratia, meaning groups or groups of people with similar interests and backgrounds, was the basis for the title Fraternity.

Pins in the shape of the letter H, symbolizing hope, were used for the first few years. In 1877, **Corinne Miller, Psi I-Lewis School**, designed the anchor badge which replaced the H. The first Delta Gamma chapter installed on a northern campus was **Phi I-Franklin** in 1879. This expansion into the North was due in large part to George Banta, a graduate of Franklin College who had an interest in seeing more women’s fraternities installed in colleges in Indiana. His fiancée, **Lillian Vawter** was a charter member of Phi I.

By 1881, there were nine Delta Gamma chapters installed and the first Convention was held. Only two chapters attended: **Eta-Buchtel (Akron)** and **Psi I-Lewis School**. The next Convention was held in 1883, where many milestones were marked: an official jeweler was chosen, the official colors were changed from pink and blue to bronze, pink and blue, and the decision to publish a Fraternity journal was made. The first edition of the *ANCHORA* was published in 1884, and it has been in continuous publication ever since. At the third Convention in 1885, the cream-color rose was chosen as the official flower of Delta Gamma.

In March 1887, former *ANCHORA* editor **Abby Soule, Eta-Akron**, made an appeal in the publication for a reunion day for all Delta Gammas. Eta chapter had been using March 15 (their installation date) as their own reunion day and this was decreed at the 1888 Convention. This date also had the added benefit of not conflicting with the winter holiday season.

At the 1936 Convention, Sight Conservation and Aid to the Blind was adopted as the Fraternity Service Project. By 1942, it was clear Delta Gamma needed a permanent office. **Roberta Abernethy, Epsilon-Ohio State**, was hired as the first paid staff member and she established the first Delta Gamma Central Office in two rented rooms in downtown Columbus, Ohio. In 1951, the Delta Gamma Foundation was incorporated in Ohio. By 1955, the growth of the organization required a larger space, and the office was relocated to the Columbus suburbs as the first Executive Offices.

In 1946, Reunion Day was replaced in the Delta Gamma Constitution with Founders Day as a way to remember Delta Gamma's Founders as the last of the three, Mary, passed away in 1940. Traditionally, chapters hold a luncheon or banquet on or around this day, which usually consists of roll call by chapter, speeches or presentations given by either members or an outside speaker, news of accomplishments, recognition of individual members for service and achievements, and similar activities that serve to highlight pride in and devotion to the Fraternity.

In 1961, ground was broken for the construction of the new Delta Gamma headquarters in Upper Arlington, Ohio. With construction complete, Delta Gamma became the first women's Fraternity to build its own headquarters. The first Anchor Splash, an event to raise money for the Fraternity's philanthropy, was held by **Beta Tau-Miami (Florida)** in 1966.

The 1990s were a time of progress and change for Delta Gamma. More space was needed at Executive Offices due to the growth of the organization, which resulted in Project 90, a fundraising campaign to expand Executive Offices. This growth provided room for Foundation staff, leadership training and programming resources. The completion of the project made Delta Gamma the first women's Fraternity to build a facility dedicated to serving the philanthropic activities of its Foundation. Sight Conservation and Aid to the Blind was changed to Service for Sight in 1995.

To learn more about the history of Delta Gamma, purchase a copy of the limited edition sesquicentennial book, [*Celebrating 150 Years of Delta Gamma*](#) from Hannah's Closet.

Delta Gamma was formed in 1873 with the purpose of doing good.

Almost 150 years later, doing good is still at the heart of everything we stand for, growing into one of the largest international women's organizations with more than 250,000 members, 150 collegiate chapters, and 200 alumnae groups.



DELTA GAMMA *Today*

Delta Gamma has a long and storied history as a pioneer in the women's fraternal movement. Founded in 1873 at Lewis School in Oxford, Mississippi, by three young women who sparked a movement to create safe and empowering communities for women on college campuses.

Today, Delta Gamma Fraternity has 150 chapters across North America and more than 250,000 members living across North America and around the world. Our sisterhood shapes their lives, promotes their educational and cultural interests, creates a true sense of social responsibility and develops in them the best qualities of character.

Delta Gamma has stood the test of time, but not by standing still. We continue to seek and find ways to live our motto to do good. One of the most recent efforts was launched in 2019, the Contextualization project. This process examines aspects of our history using the framework of contextualization, which argues it is better to educate and contextualize than to ignore or erase. Specifically, contextualization is an exercise to explore instances when our history has run afoul with the shared, transcendent values of our organization.


**We continue
to drive
Delta Gamma's
promise to
*do good.***

265,000
initiated members

18,000
undergraduate
members

150
active collegiate
chapters

217,000+
living alumnae

189
alumnae groups

200 total
collegiate chapters

11
chapters established
in the last five years

126
average
chapter size

ABOUT OUR *Founders*



Evelyn "Eva" Webb was born on July 5, 1855, into a well-to-do family in Kosciusko, Mississippi. Her cousin Anna Boyd and their future friend Mary Comfort were born the following January. She was the daughter of Matilda Anna Boyd and Robert Berry Webb. Being economically well-off allowed her family to send her to school in Oxford, Mississippi, where she attended Lewis School with Anna and Mary. Eva would spend two years at Lewis School.

On October 12, 1875, she married the Honorable Samuel L. Dodd, an attorney in Kosciusko. They would have eight children together. Samuel passed away in 1928; Eva outlived him by about six years, passing away on January 28, 1934. After her passing, Mary wrote of her, "She was a charter member of the Twentieth Century Club and for a long time led the civic work of the club. She also took an active part in the organization of the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs in 1896. She was a devout and consecrated member of the Presbyterian Church and she lived the religion she professed."



Mary Ellen Comfort was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi, on January 22, 1856, the same day as Anna Boyd. She was the daughter of Daniel Benjamin Comfort and Eliza Love Durham. Eliza passed at the age of 22 when Mary was still a young child. Daniel would then marry Eliza's sister. All together, Mary had 12 siblings and they referred to her by the nickname "Mac-Ellen." Like her friend Anna, Mary's family was relatively well-off which allowed her to get an education at Lewis School. She would spend three years there.

She married Charles H. Leonard in 1880. They relocated to Tennessee where they both worked as teachers. Just a few years later Charles' health began to decline and the couple moved to Florida where he passed away in 1887. They had three sons, Cecil, William and Herbert. After her husband's passing Mary returned to Kosciusko where she continued teaching for 16 years. She would live to see her granddaughter initiated as a Delta Gamma. Mary passed away on August 4, 1940, and was remembered fondly in her community by the generation of students she taught.



Anna Rebecca Boyd was born on January 22, 1856, in Kosciusko, Mississippi. She was the daughter of James Madison Boyd and Caroline A. Kennedy Boyd. Her father was a politician and served as a member of the Mississippi legislature, and her mother was a school teacher. The family was relatively well-off, allowing Anna to receive a formal education at Lewis School.

Like her own mother, Anna became a school teacher. Upon marrying Daniel A. Ellington in 1882, she gave up her career and the two moved to California. They had four daughters together. Sadly, Daniel passed away in 1890. A few years after her husband's death, Anna returned to Kosciusko with her children. She placed great importance on educating her daughters. By 1907 her goal was almost completed. Her first two daughters had graduated, one was a sophomore, and the youngest was ready to begin college. Anna would not live to see her dream achieved; she passed away on August 12 of that year at the age of 51. Remembered for her bright mind and quick wit, she was also artistically gifted.

About **THIS GUIDE**



Celebrating the Centennial at the 1972 Convention in Los Angeles

In this guide, you will find tips and tools to help your chapter or local group plan celebrations for 150 years of Delta Gamma: our Sesquicentennial.

The size and extent of your celebration will depend on your collegiate chapter or local alumnae group. Some may plan a single event, which may be a large, formal affair or a smaller and less formal one, while others may plan celebrations for days, months or even years before a larger event. Some chapters and groups may wish to celebrate together in a city- or state-wide celebration, while others may wish to celebrate within their chapters or groups.

This guide is to serve simply as a resource with ideas for your chapter or group. You do not have to do everything listed, and you're welcome to create your own ideas. Each of our chapters and groups is unique, and with that, we understand everyone's celebration may look a little different.

Delta Gamma will be offering a variety of programming in celebration of the Sesquicentennial. Be sure to check out communications and social media posts from Executive Offices and share events, hashtags and celebrations with your members.

LEADING UP TO THE EVENT

While the main celebration for the Sesquicentennial should occur during your Founders Day event for 2024, celebrating this milestone can occur days, months or even a year leading up to the main celebration.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Including your membership in pre-event programming will get them excited about the upcoming milestone celebration. Pre-event programs should be rooted in Article II.

A few ideas to consider include:

Sisterhood Stories. Host a local event with alumnae to share their stories or interview alumnae. Ask questions like: When did you join and why? What was the world, the community or Delta Gamma like at that time? What does Delta Gamma mean to you?
Try to record a few stories to share on social media or through other channels or during the event.

150 for 150 Years. Ask each member to fundraise \$150 for the Foundation's comprehensive Anchoring the Future campaign, complete 150 service hours before the celebration, share 150 member stories, recognize 150 members locally or share 150 anchors from members' anchor collections. Be creative and come up with something attainable and meaningful for your chapter or group.

Do Good December. Consider hosting a special service event in December 2023 to celebrate during the month Delta Gamma was founded, or highlight individual acts of doing good from your local collegiate and alumnae members. Share photos and stories on social media, utilizing #DoGoodDecember #serviceforsight.

Build a Time Capsule. Encourage members to contribute to a virtual or physical time capsule.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engaging with your local community and campus(es) leading up to the Sesquicentennial allows many others to share the excitement in our celebration. Consider developing special celebratory stories that can be shared with the community and campuses via social media, newsletters or press releases.

Some ideas for shareable moments may include:

- Your chapter or group story. Consider sharing the following:
- When did your story start? When were you established?
- Why did you become a group?
- How do you contribute to the larger purpose of Delta Gamma?
- What volunteer work does your group or chapter do in the community?
- How is your chapter or group involved with the Foundation and Service for Sight?
- Share key details from Delta Gamma Fraternity, including information about the Sesquicentennial and Anchoring the Future: The Campaign for Delta Gamma.
- Write a letter to university staff or your Fraternity and Sorority Advisor (FSA) about the celebration and key local dates.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Utilize social media channels to engage members before the event.

Ideas to consider:

- Member engagement ideas.
- Date, time and venue of the event.
- Highlight speakers (photo and bio).
- Poll members on their favorite Delta Gamma traditions or their chapter of Initiation.
- Recognize milestone members (25-, 50-, 60-, 70-, 75-year) or graduating seniors.
- Highlight any accomplishments (recent or since installation).
- Fun facts about alumnae groups or collegiate chapters that will attend the event:
 - Date founded.
 - Charter members or first officers.
 - First chapter house.
 - First Foundation, Service for Sight or fundraising event, or other firsts such as First Anchor Splash, First DG Desserts, Lectureships, etc.
 - Total money raised for the Foundation or total service hours each decade, or current.
 - Notable DGs, famous initiates, CDCs, members of Cabinet/Council/Board of Trustees/EO.
 - List and/or total of awards won by chapter or individuals.
- Share photos of alumnae or collegiate members in the alumnae groups or collegiate chapters that will attend the event.
- Share quotes from our Founders, which can be found in the [Think Anchor Deep Handbook](#).
- Share Delta Gamma facts, graphics or resources.

THE EVENT

Founders Day 2024 is the ideal time to celebrate, as it is already a time of gathering, sisterhood and reunion, and one of our most honored traditions. When planning the event to celebrate the Sesquicentennial of Delta Gamma, instead of planning a separate event, focus on making Founders Day 2024 more meaningful and celebratory. This multi-purpose programming will help with engagement and cost, while still appropriately allowing for celebrations of such a milestone.



PLANNING COMMITTEE

Your chapter or group should have or form a committee that is responsible for planning Founders Day each year, including the event to commemorate the Sesquicentennial.

This committee should include representatives from all chapters and alumnae groups that will attend the celebration. Consider including vp: finance, chapter finance adviser (CFA), director of alumnae relations, director of rituals, programming officers, vp: Foundation, Foundation adviser and specific committee chairs.

In some areas where no collegiate chapters are nearby, the Founders Day committee may be comprised of representatives from a single alumnae group. In other areas, multiple alumnae groups and collegiate chapters may need to work together on the planning. All groups involved must have representation on the committee and play a role in the planning. Members should be invited/appointed to the committee one year before the event. Many groups may wish to start planning after Founders Day 2023; however, you can start working on ideas before then. Ideally, a meeting with all the collegiate chapters and alumnae groups that will be in attendance should take place in the spring of 2023, so dates, budgets and other details that affect all groups can be determined.

PLANNING TIMELINE

APRIL/MAY YEAR PRIOR TO THE EVENT

- Establish a planning committee, with representatives from any collegiate chapters and alumnae groups that will be attending the celebration.
- Determine the budget.
- Select tentative dates.
- Begin reviewing possible venues.

JUNE/JULY YEAR PRIOR TO THE EVENT

- Finalize date and venue.
- Add event to calendars.
- Brainstorm theme, speakers and entertainment.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER YEAR PRIOR TO THE EVENT

- Send "Save the Date" to alumnae.
- Divide tasks to committee members.
- Consider incorporating a Foundation fundraiser into your event.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER YEAR PRIOR TO THE EVENT

- Send invitations.
- Continue to work on details and finalize plans.
- Verify Founders Day is listed on the collegiate spring calendar.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH YEAR OF THE EVENT

- Finalize plans and set-up time.
- Verify food/beverage selection.
- Collect cost per attendee.
- Purchase all supplies and decorations.
- Volunteers should encourage payment of alumnae dues, greet and assist attendees and hand out nametags.

AFTER THE EVENT

- Retain records of budget, attendees, venue, entertainment, etc.,
- Consider sending out a survey to those who attended.

SELECTING A DATE



The event should be planned as close to March 15 as possible, and should be suitable for all groups involved. Weather, collegiate schedules, local school breaks and holidays often dictate a group's celebration date. Ideally, the date should be selected by April 2023 to allow for proper planning and communication.

ATTENDEES



All collegiate, alumnae members and new members within a reasonable geographic area should be invited to Founders Day and the 150 Year Celebration. If a collegiate chapter is planning Founders Day and there is not an alumnae group nearby, the collegiate chapter should invite individual local alumnae (e.g., via personal invitations). Alumnae groups should extend invitations to all alumnae in their area, even those who may not be members of a local alumnae group.

Remember to also include regional team members who may or may not live nearby as well as current/past Cabinet and Council members. Attendance does not need to be limited to members only. For example, the spouse, partner or family of a woman receiving an award may be invited or a non-Delta Gamma guest speaker may be invited. Given the special milestone being celebrated, you also may wish to invite other representatives from campus or your community.

NOTE: the Oath of Friendship, as recited during formal rituals, and "Faithful and True," the song sung by some chapters and groups during formal rituals, cannot be used when non-members are present and may not be printed in the program nor written down. If non-Delta Gamma guests are in attendance, they must be escorted out of the venue before the recitation of the Oath of Friendship or singing of "Faithful and True."

BUDGET



A budget should be determined early. Collegiate chapter budgets will be approved by spring of 2023, so planning ahead is crucial to allow for proper budgeting. The approved budgeted number cannot be modified. If an event is more expensive than the available budget, a collegiate chapter cannot be charged by an alumnae group beyond what is available in their budget. Collegiate chapters pay the cost for their members to attend, and alumnae pay individually. The committee must work within the budget and consider the cost for individual alumnae.

Keep costs down by carefully selecting a venue and food, subsidizing costs through raffling off centerpieces or seeking sponsors or other donated items to help offset some costs of the event and avoiding unnecessary expenses. A group may decide to sponsor a guest speaker or donate the decor to further reduce expenses. To help you plan, use a sample budget.

BUDGET TEMPLATES

Collegiate Chapters

Alumnae Groups

The cost per person should include:

- Venue cost and fees
- Food and non-alcoholic beverages* (including tax/service fees/tips)
- Décor
- Programming: entertainment, guest speakers (including travel costs & gifts)
- Printed materials (including name tags, programs, invitations)

Other costs to consider:

NOTE: All groups involved must be represented on the Founders Day committee involved to determine the budget. If a group is not represented, they may not be held responsible for any costs associated with the planning or executing of the event.

COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS:

- Gifts or recognition for advisers, House Corporation volunteers or house directors
- Collegiate awards (examples: chapter-specific awards, scholarship recognition, scholarship honorees, senior recognition)

ALUMNAE GROUPS:

- Gifts or recognition for alumnae officers or individual alumnae group awards
- Costs associated with Individual Alumnae Awards
- Recognition for membership milestones (25-, 50-, 60-, 70-, and 75-year members)

VENUE



Selecting a venue for the celebration is one of the most important choices made by the Founders Day committee. It is essential to select a venue that is available on the dates that work for the collegiate chapters and alumnae groups involved, can work within the budget set by the Founders Day committee, and can accommodate the number of guests expected. A banquet hall, hotel/campus conference room, restaurant or garden may all be appropriate venues. Avoid holding Founders Day at a member's home. Members who do not know the host may feel unwelcome.

Consider the following when meeting with and selecting a venue:

- Will food and beverage be provided by the venue, or will you need to hire an outside caterer?
- What costs are included in the venue (technology, parking, etc.)?
- Can members easily access this location?
- Is it too far outside your local area? Or is it in a congested part of the city with limited parking?
- For our older alumnae, does the venue require a lot of walking or stairs?



FOOD & BEVERAGE

Food and beverage served at the event are determined by the event budget. There is no meal requirement. Some groups prefer to have a plated meal, while others prefer to have appetizers. Working with your venue and caterer will help you find the best fit.

Some suggestions include:

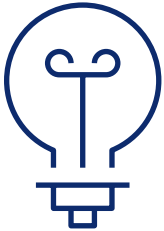
- Plated meal (brunch, lunch or dinner)
- Buffet
- Themed food items
- Appetizers
- Desserts
- Non-alcoholic beverages*

***NOTE:** Delta Gamma policy states alcohol should not be served at rituals, including Founders Day. Out of respect for our Founders and ritual, pre-and post-events should not serve alcohol, even if the events are only for alumnae. Fraternity funds/chapter funds may not be used to pay for alcohol. For more information on alcohol, view the [Collegiate Alcohol Policy](#) and [Alumnae Alcohol Responsibilities Guide](#).



CONTRACTS & DEPOSITS

Various services may require signed contracts, including the venue, caterer and some entertainment. Ideally, contracts and deposits should be handled by the alumnae group(s) involved in the planning. Collegiate chapters should remember to follow the procedure for contracts and forms outlined in the [Collegiate Finance Handbook](#).



EVENT PROGRAM

When planning the program for the event, it is important to keep timing in mind. Keep the program a reasonable length for your members and venue reservation (< 90 minutes).

Suggested Program

- Inspiration/Grace/Blessing (see page 26 of the [Rituals Handbook](#))
- Short memorial for deceased group members, if desired (See pages 73-76 of the [Rituals Handbook](#))
- Opening/Welcome
- Introduction of honorees
 - Example: current and former Council/Cabinet officers; advisory team members; charter members of chapters; house corporation board members; past officers; Foundation, Fraternity or local award winners
- Chapter roll call of all Delta Gamma chapters that have ever been in existence
 - It is appropriate to acknowledge all chapters in founding order, even if there are no members in attendance that day or the chapters no longer exist. This can be done by reading the chapters, displaying the names on a PowerPoint or printing the names for each table. This tradition provides a broad scope of the Fraternity to members, and offers a history of the Fraternity. A current Collegiate Chapters List can be found [here](#)
- Songs or other entertainment by the collegiate chapter or alumnae group.
- Highlights of the past year and plans for the future (collegiate chapter, alumnae group and/or house corporation)
- Recognition and presentation of awards
- Introduction of speaker and speaker's remarks
 - As an alternative, Delta Gamma will provide a speech, similar to what is done at Founders Day each year that can be presented during this time
- Information about any Founders Day Foundation fundraising activities
- Rituals
 - The official Fraternity ceremony for Founders Day is the Candlelighting ceremony (found in the [Rituals Handbook](#); Non-members may be present for this non-secret ritual
 - Sesquicentennial ritual
- Omega Toast (found in the [Rituals Handbook](#))
- The Oath of Friendship and "Faithful and True" may be used to close Founders Day
 - The words are never to be printed and cannot be used with non-members present
 - See the [Rituals Handbook](#)



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Awards are special at all Delta Gamma events, and the Sesquicentennial celebration is no different! Receiving a Fraternity award during this special celebration would be meaningful to many members.

When planning for awards, check to see which alumnae are eligible for Individual Alumnae Awards, including the Rose, Loyalty, Anchor, Shield, Oxford, Cable or Hope Awards. The applications for these awards will be due in fall of 2023 to present in spring of 2024.

In addition to Fraternity awards, consider any special local awards your alumnae group or collegiate chapter may present. Delta Gamma has endorsed the customizable [Beacon of Light Award](#) that may be used by alumnae groups and collegiate chapters. Phoenix alumnae chapter created the Beacon of Light Award as a recognition for sisters who are a guiding light, a safe harbor, a beacon of hope, and a strong foundation for those around them. These women have demonstrated life-time engagement through countless years of service to the Fraternity in a variety of ways with special, extraordinary efforts to render support. These sisters emulate the Oath of Friendship in all they do and inspire others in the ongoing pursuit to do good. Groups may continue to utilize the [Stellar Award](#) and customize it for specific honorees.

In addition to awards, Delta Gamma recognizes milestones for each Founders Day. Such milestones include 25-, 50-, 60-, 70- and 75-year recognitions. Search “awards” in the Delta Gamma library to learn more about individual alumnae awards and other award ideas. The Rituals Handbook has additional details on recognition and awards presentations.



GUEST SPEAKER

Consider inviting a guest speaker such as a Fraternity or Foundation visitor or a local Service for Sight representative. When selecting a speaker, think of someone who may inspire your members or speak on a topic of interest.

If you do not select a Fraternity or Foundation guest speaker, consider contacting EO at dg-eo@deltagamma.org to obtain a copy of the official Founders Day speech to use during your program or show a pre-recorded version, if possible. Ideally, the cost of a guest speaker is absorbed by the individual ticket prices. All groups involved should have a say in who the speaker is through their committee representative.

A guest speaker may incur costs including:

- Potential costs for the speaker
- Meals and lodging
 - *Delta Gamma guest speakers may be guests at the home of another Delta Gamma, but sometimes hotel arrangements are preferable.*
- Travel (airfare, rental car, mileage, taxi, etc.)
 - *A local Delta Gamma may pick up the speaker at the airport and drive to the event as a welcoming gesture and cost-saving measure.*
- A small token or gift for the speaker

Note: The Oath of Friendship and “Faithful and True” cannot be used when non-members are present or if broadcasting publicly (i.e., Facebook Live) and may not be printed or written down.

Potential speaker topics include:

- Personal Delta Gamma stories, demonstrating membership for a lifetime
- Delta Gamma founding and history
- Delta Gamma Foundation and Service for Sight
- Delta Gamma Today: what is happening in Delta Gamma now and the plan for the future

Other Program Ideas

- Installation of alumnae group officers (see page 38 of the Rituals Handbook)
- Collegiate scholarship awards (see page 38 of the Rituals Handbook for the Presentation of Mu Chapter Lamps of Knowledge)
- Senior recognition by the collegiate chapter and/or performing the Senior Recommitment ceremony
- Recognize members who are abroad/who have studied abroad in the past academic year
- Adviser appreciation by the collegiate chapter (see the Rituals Handbook)
- Other rituals, such as In the Beginning... Our Founders (to be read immediately before Candlelighting ceremony), By the Light of Delta Gamma, inspirations, informal rituals or readings. See the [Rituals Handbook](#) for additional ideas.
- Highlighting Service for Sight or other service opportunities with a speaker from one of the Delta Gamma Schools for Children with Visual Impairments or other Service for Sight organization

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Not all members may be able to attend the celebration due to distance, health or other factors. Consider offering a virtual format to reach members who are unable to attend in person. A virtual option is a wonderful way to model inclusivity across generations, celebrate our sisterhood and share time together. By offering a virtual format, you can also include sisters living or studying abroad.

When utilizing a virtual programming option, consider which platform would be best to host your event. If you're using Zoom and are unfamiliar with its capabilities, check out Zoom Meeting Basics or watch this [Intro to Zoom recording](#), hosted by Delta Gamma's Events team. Some other options for virtual platforms include Google Meet, WebEx, Facebook Live, etc.

Keep the total broadcasted program limited to 90 minutes or less, though the ideal time is one hour. It is challenging for participants to remain engaged in virtual formats for the same length of time as they would during an in-person event. Consider utilizing breakout rooms for optional time to socialize in a virtual format. Breakout rooms allow for a more intimate connection among members.

If opting to use a virtual format, in whole or in part, please be sure to schedule time in advance to practice. If using a virtual format to broadcast the live event, be sure those attending virtually are engaged and feel welcome. Also, don't forget to ensure your venue has the technology needed to offer a virtual format.

PRINTED MATERIALS

You will want to print a variety of materials for the event.



Program

Consider printing a full program with the schedule of events and each speaker. To keep printing costs down, the full program may be available on a projector for attendees to see during the event or available for download by scanning a QR code (learn how to make a QR code [here](#)).

The program should include:

- Schedule of events, speakers, names of candle lighters for Candlelighting ceremony.
- Recognition of 25-, 50-, 60-, 70- and 75-year members. All names should be acknowledged, even if the honoree cannot attend.
- If you have a guest speaker, consider printing a short biography in the event program.
- Past Individual Alumnae Award winners.
- Menu, if applicable.
- Words to Delta Gamma songs, toast, or blessing, as applicable. *Remember, the Oath of Friendship and the words to "Faithful and True" cannot be printed in the program.*
- Foundation or fundraising initiatives, such as [Anchoring the Future: The Campaign for Delta Gamma](#) and Foundation fundraising specific to the event. *(Pro Tip: Include a QR code to link to the Foundation giving page in the program and also print cards for the tables. Reach out to dogood@deltagamma.org for more information!)*

Invitations

Alumnae members should receive a save-the-date notice during fall of 2023 and be invited six-to-eight weeks prior, but the earlier the better. As soon as you've selected the date, time and venue, let people know! Be sure to periodically send reminders.

While collegiate chapter members are likely to be informed of the event through their Founders Day committee members, consider having an alumna or group of alumnae visit the chapter(s) to formally invite them to the event. Visiting alumnae can offer some background on the history of Delta Gamma and explain the importance of the Sesquicentennial. This is a great opportunity to model lifetime engagement.

When inviting alumnae members, consider the preferred method of communication. Paperless and electronic communication are excellent ways to reach members, but there are groups of members who are not connected this way. Consider calling or sending physical invitations to members who may not be connected digitally, especially if they are honorees.

Here are some ideas for inviting alumnae members:

- Include Founders Day announcements in all newsletters and emails beginning in the fall.
- Have a flyer of events available at each event for members to take with them.
- Send an invitation through memberplanet when tickets are available for purchase.
- Invite members through alumnae group social media pages, such as Facebook, and encourage members to share with sisters who may not be included.
- Mail a postcard or invitation to all alumnae in the area, remembering a segment of your alumnae group may not use electronic communication.
- Send special invitations in the mail to honorees, such as 25-, 50-, 60-, 70- and 75-year members. Handwritten notes from collegiate members are always well received.
- Consider hand delivering invitations with a cream-colored rose to honorees

The preferred method for alumnae to purchase tickets for Founders Day is through memberplanet, the official Fraternity funding platform. Some members may prefer to pay with cash or check, directly to the alumnae group.

Name Tags

Consider identifying members with a sticker or printed symbol for various recognition including:

- 25-, 50-, 60-, 70- or 75-year members
- Founders Day committee members and volunteers who planned the event
- Alumnae or collegiate officers, chapter advisers, and House Corporation officers
- Regional Team/Cabinet/Council/Board of Trustees members
- Past Individual Alumnae Award winners
- Foundation scholarship/fellowship recipients
- Foundation donors

SOCIAL MEDIA

Take photos and share them on social media or via email afterward with members! Don't forget to tag the Fraternity and Foundation in your social media images or email photos to photos@deltagamma.org so your group may be featured. If posting on social media, be sure to use the official sesquicentennial hashtags **#DG150** and **#AnchoringtheFuture!**

ANCHORING THE FUTURE

THE CAMPAIGN FOR DELTA GAMMA



In celebration of the 2022-24 Sesquicentennial Biennium, the Delta Gamma Foundation, in partnership with the Fraternity, is in the final year of a comprehensive campaign to ensure the future of our sisterhood. **Anchoring the Future: The Campaign for Delta Gamma** is for all alumnae and collegiate members of Delta Gamma and will provide a lasting foundation to build upon the ideals we cherish.

With the support of collegiate chapters, alumnae groups, and individual donors, the Campaign will sustain our sisterhood for generations to come as Delta Gamma remains an unstoppable force for good.

Your Founders Day event is a great place to raise funds to support Anchoring the Future. Consider printing Campaign fundraising details in the program or showing the [Campaign video](#) as part of the event. Some fundraising ideas include:

- a live or silent auction
- asking members to make a personal gift of \$150 for 150 years to the Foundation
- a centerpiece sale
- a raffle
- selling candles in bronze, pink and blue at different price points to go on a celebratory birthday cake at Founders Day
- having QR codes on the presentation screen and on handouts on the tables with links to the giving page

NOTE: Only the Delta Gamma Foundation has a 501(c)(3) designation. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible in the U.S. as allowed by law. Any funds used to pay for the event, the collegiate chapter, alumnae group or House Corporation (unless there is an active housing campaign) are not tax deductible.

Collegiate Chapters: Your Regional Foundation Coordinators (RFNC) will serve as excellent resources to help you plan the Campaign fundraising component of your event. Please reach out to your appropriate RFNC as you plan fundraising activities.

- Region 1: rfnc1@deltagamma.org
- Region 2: rfnc2@deltagamma.org
- Region 3: rfnc3@deltagamma.org
- Region 4: rfnc4@deltagamma.org
- Region 5: rfnc5@deltagamma.org
- Region 6: rfnc6@deltagamma.org
- Region 7: rfnc7@deltagamma.org
- Region 8: rfnc8@deltagamma.org

Alumnae Groups: Your Regional Foundation Coordinators (RFNC) can connect you to your region's Alumnae Campaign Captain (ACC), a specially appointed Campaign representative to support your alumnae group's involvement in Anchoring the Future. Please reach out to your appropriate RFNC (listed above) to obtain your ACC's contact information.

- Region 1: Betsy Lynn Teti, Gamma Epsilon-Kent State
- Region 2: Jan Pasek, Delta Iota-Georgia
- Region 3-South: June Griffith Shively, Beta Iota-Purdue
- Region 3-Southeast: Ruth Grant Alsbrooks, Beta Psi-Alabama
- Region 4: Mary Beth Russell Seiler, Gamma Epsilon-Kent State
- Region 5: Carolyn Schnure Hill, Alpha Lambda-Drake
- Region 6-East: Sally Davis Bacon, Beta Psi-Alabama
- Region 6-West: Missy Ankenbrandt Shackelford, Gamma Phi-Arizona State
- Region 7: Liz Kuster Carroll, Delta Eta-Cal State Sacramento
- Region 8-North: Shari Emick Kawelo, Delta Eta-Cal State, Sacramento
- Region 8-South: Michelle Xavier Dean, Epsilon Zeta-Loyola Marymount

ABOUT ANCHORING THE FUTURE



Anchoring the Future

The Campaign for Delta Gamma

As one of the finest women's organizations in North America, Delta Gamma has stood the test of time — but not by standing still. Our Founders' "little club of mutual helpfulness" has grown into a mighty network of compassionate, driven and authentic women like you, determined to make the world better. Delta Gammas empower each other to serve and lead, to learn and grow, and to develop the best qualities of their character.

With the goal of inspiring a sense of true belonging and advancing opportunities for all members to put purpose to practice, we are committed to four Campaign Pillars:

- **Training and Programming** to grow training and programming for members so they can flourish as their authentic selves
- **Individual Member Support** to increase support for members based on financial need or academic achievement, expanding their possibilities
- **Heartfelt Giving and Philanthropy** to increase our service and philanthropic commitments, sparking a spirit of continual altruism
- **Capital Initiatives** to expand our facilities, allowing us to strengthen member support at every life stage

Interested in learning more? Visit [the Delta Gamma website](#), watch the [Anchoring the Future Campaign launch video](#) or [view the Case for Support](#).

SESQUICENTENNIAL *Ritual*

THE HERITAGE CANDLELIGHTING CEREMONY

Speaker 1: 150 years ago, three young women in Oxford, Mississippi, were unable to travel home for the holidays in December. They decided to form a club of mutual helpfulness and chose the letters “Delta Gamma” to represent this club’s desire to Do Good. We are here today to celebrate the perseverance of our sisterhood and recognize the path that led to Delta Gamma Fraternity.

Since our founding in 1873, Delta Gamma has initiated over 250,000 members. Leading the way were three women: Anna Boyd, Eva Webb, and Mary Comfort. They saw the Fraternity as a chance to add to their education beyond the classroom, a place to encourage intellectual interests. In pursuing these interests and striving to be their best, these early Delta Gamma members found lifelong friendships. In gratitude to our Founders, we light the first candle.

Speaker 2: Anna, Eva, and Mary were brought together during their time at Lewis School. This is where our sisterhood first took shape. Lewis School was Delta Gamma’s first home. At the time our first members were initiated, they did not imagine their club would grow beyond the walls of their school. Today, we have over 150 collegiate chapters, none of which would be possible without our first. In honor of Lewis School, we light the second candle.

Speaker 3: When deciding on an emblem for Delta Gamma, our Founders chose the letter H, to stand for Hope. The H formed the first Delta Gamma badges. Four years later, the letter H was exchanged for the age-old symbol of hope, the anchor. Anchors will always hold a special place in the hearts of Delta Gammas, though we must never forget their meaning and origin. In recognition of hope, we light the third candle.

Speaker 4: Over the last 150 years, Delta Gamma has grown far beyond what our Founders could have ever imagined. With these candles, we celebrate the heritage of Delta Gamma, as we read from Anna Boyd Ellington’s first Initiation address:

“Dear sisters, you are now members of the Delta Gamma Club. Ours is an associate sisterhood based upon sincere desire for mutual improvement; its cementing element is love, its stimulating principle, truth; its watchword, duty, and we welcome you cordially to the advantages of our club... Be faithful to yourself, act well on your part, and then when life’s young dream is past, the battles of life fought and won, and the mellow light of evening gathers around your pathway, the scenes enacted here will rise upon your memory like the constellations on the evening sky to cheer and comfort you.”

Now, let us join hands and recite the Oath of Friendship.



150 GRAPHICS

To download these graphics, visit www.deltagamma.org/dg150/events.

150 LOGO



FACEBOOK COVER



TWITTER POST



SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS



ZOOM BACKGROUNDS



POSTCARDS



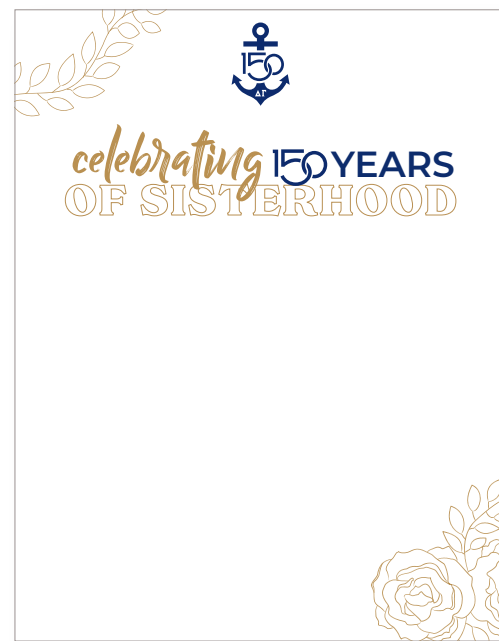
MEMBERPLANET BANNER



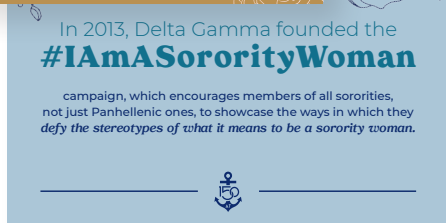
EVENT INVITATION



FLYER



FACTS FOR PRINT & SOCIAL MEDIA



BEACON OF LIGHT AWARD



ANCHORING THE FUTURE GRAPHICS

ANCHORING THE FUTURE BRANDING

To download these graphics and more, visit

www.deltagamma.org/library/images/foundation-anchoring-the-future-campaign-branding/



Anchoring the Future

The Campaign for Delta Gamma



Anchoring the Future

The Campaign for Delta Gamma



150



150

years of
doing good



Delta Gamma

Foundation

COLOR PALETTE

Primary Colors



Secondary Colors



GRAPHIC ELEMENTS



SOCIAL MEDIA GRAPHICS

To download these graphics, visit www.deltagamma.org/foundation/downloadable-graphics/.



We are the
DO GOOD SISTERHOOD
deltagamma.org/anchoring-the-future

**Are you Anchoring
the Future?**
ASK ME HOW!

Anchoring the Future
The Campaign for Delta Gamma

How will you
celebrate
**150 years of
doing good?**

150
years of
doing good

150
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How will you
celebrate
**150 years of
doing good?**
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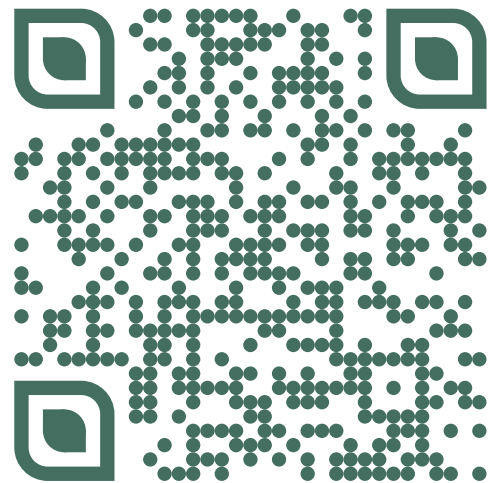
How will you
celebrate
**150 years of
doing good?**
INSERT LINK



How will you *celebrate*
150 years of doing good?

Join the Foundation as
we Anchor the Future
through our first-ever
comprehensive campaign.

Open your camera app and
scan the QR code or visit
donate.deltagamma.org to
make your gift now!



Delta Gamma
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