

# The Voice

*Delta Kappa Gamma promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*



## **Explore the Redesigned OHSO Website A Stronger Connection for all Ohio DKG Members**

Have you checked out the redesigned Ohio State Organization (OHSO) website yet? It's more than just a makeover; it's a refreshed, user-friendly hub designed to focus, connect, inform, and inspire every DKG member in Ohio.

The new design makes it easy to:

- Align with DKG International by exploring links, resources, and programs that support our shared mission to promote both professional and personal growth for women educators.
- Connect with the State Executive Focus Team for updates, resources, announcements, and more.
- Find and share resources from chapters across the state, including links to chapters' websites.
- Access State Committees' information.
- Explore exciting engagement opportunities in DKG at the chapter, state, and international levels.

The redesigned website creates a seamless connection among members, chapters, committees, and the state. It emphasizes our focus on building relationships, increasing membership, and fostering leadership. The website serves as a valuable tool not only for staying informed but also for strengthening the bonds that unite us as DKG women in Ohio.

I encourage all members to spend a few minutes visiting the OHSO website at [dkgohio.org](http://dkgohio.org) to explore the latest updates. Use it to stay connected, discover opportunities, and share our stories with women who might be seeking a professional home within DKG. Together, we can make the OHSO website a vibrant hub that connects us all—member to member, chapters to chapters, across the Buckeye State, beyond borders to DKG International, and through generations of women educators.

*What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.*  
~Jane Goodall

Energetically,  
Dr. Molly Helmlinger, Beta Kappa  
OHSO State President



# White Roses



We are saddened by the loss of our treasured OHSO Sisters.  
We appreciate and remember their service.

**Kimberly Conrad**  
Alpha Xi

**Florence "Becky" Leighty**  
Gamma Xi

**Bonnie Sasaki**  
Beta Zeta

**Joan Donley**  
Gamma Nu

## Inside International

DKG Ohio members are encouraged to participate in the monthly *Inside International Meetings* via Zoom. Join the meeting for half an hour to enjoy a conversation with International leaders and staff. Directors and elected leaders will be available to answer questions and welcome comments. As the links to these meetings are available, Ohio members will be notified via Constant Contact.

**Upcoming Inside International Dates:**  
(Eastern Time)

**Tuesday, December 2nd @ 6:30 p.m.**

Preliminary Draft of Proposed Bylaws

**Tuesday, January 6 @ 1:30 p.m.**

Leadership Discovery Centre



# OHSO CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT



## Zeta Chapter

**Zeta Chapter** members helped decorate for Veterans Day at a local elementary school as part of our Zeta Adopt a Classroom program. The chapter also donated money for classroom STEM supplies. Pictured are Carol Hiszem, Kathy McClendon, Linda Carino, Pat Reda, and JoAnn Krock.

## Ohio State Organization

President

Dr. Molly Helmlinger, Beta Kappa

First Vice President

Second Vice President

Karen Dombrowski, Alpha Nu

Recording Secretary

Meier Bauer, Gamma Phi

Corresponding Secretary

Cathy Tenney, Beta Kappa

Parliamentarian

Joyce Jones-Weinkam, Gamma Xi

Treasurer

Diana Haskell, Gamma Phi

Immediate Past President

Melodie McGee, Gamma Nu

Editor of *The Voice*

Cathy Tenney, Beta Kappa

Interim Web Administrator

Sue Datish, Beta Chi

Registered Statutory Agent

## Membership Matters

A deceased member of your chapter is a loss to your chapter, to the history and relationships within your chapter, and to the community. In addition to remembering and celebrating her life at a chapter meeting, you may wish to be part of the service for family and friends. Providing a red or white rose at the service is a tradition for some chapters.

If your chapter still has the red book of *Ceremonies* (mine was published in 1994), it contains a Ceremony of Remembrance and an Internment Ceremony. Either of these could be the basis of your contribution to the service. If you do not have the little red book and would like of copy of these ceremonies, please contact [membership@dkgohio.org](mailto:membership@dkgohio.org).

Let us recognize, respect, and celebrate our departed members. They are a part of who we are

Meier Bauer, Gamma Phi  
OHSO Recording Secretary  
OHSO Membership Chair



## Welcome New & Reinstated Members



### Alpha Alpha Chapter

Patricia Baker

Sherrie Beebe

Marie Best

Carrie Brockway

Karen Campbell

Diana Collins

Elizabeth McMannes

Michelle Sardella

Patricia Simpson

Sara Smith

Barb Tack

### Alpha Gamma Chapter

Beth Downs

Dawn Michele Wilson

### Gamma Xi Chapter

Ann Nebraski\*

### Delta Mu Chapter

Valerie Causey

### Delta Psi Chapter

Mary Pat Kay\*

\*Denotes Reinstated Member



**Gamma Theta Chapter** initiated four new members during their November meeting. Tanya Headley endorsed by Jacinta Bertone; Anita Daniels endorsed by Hannah Fairbanks; Dr. Betty Jo Malchesky endorsed by Gretchen Baptie and Sally Jo Rogus; and Norma Gutierrez endorsed by Terri Martin.

### Ohio Membership Data for 2025 - 2026

Active Paid Members	Collegiate Paid Members	Reserve Paid Members	Total Paid Members	Ohio Chapters
2,081	7	262	2,350	67

### DKG Ohio Financial Update for July 1 – October 31, 2025

#### Statement of Financial Activity

Revenue	\$51,918.00
Expenses	\$23,358.00
Net Income	<b>\$28,560.00</b>

#### Statement of Financial Position

Checking/Savings	\$ 40,661.00
Available Fund Reserve*	\$ 15,000.00
Investments	\$258,931.00
Total Assets	<b>\$314,592.00</b>
Credit Card Liabilities	\$ 2,466.00
Total Equity	<b>\$312,126.00</b>

\*Available Fund Reserve is an Executive Board Directed fund for technology-related upgrades and licenses. Constitution Article IV, Section F, 2, f, (3). p. C-5.

Diana Haskell, Gamma Phi  
OHSO Treasurer

## Exploring the Data

*DKG Purpose Five: To endow awards to aid members in pursuing personal and professional growth and to provide grants to non-member educators*

Ohio Chapter Award data from 2024-2025:

- Thirty-three (33) Chapters provided grants to 135 non-members totaling \$49,067.

Last month we unpacked the data on chapter awards to members. This month we will use the data on awards to non-members to generate chapter conversations.

For pondering...

- To date, 30 Chapters have recruited 75 retired and current educators to membership.
- Why are chapters providing so few member awards?
- Why are chapters providing so many non-member awards?

Chapters with funds for non-member awards may consider...

- When recruiting, did your chapter consider the educators receiving non-member awards for membership?
- Does your chapter have a process for inviting non-member award recipients to membership?
- What could your chapter do differently to increase membership by using your chapter non-member awards to recruit new members?

Diana Haskell, Gamma Phi  
OHSO Treasurer

**Gamma Theta Chapter** has scheduled monthly meet ups with the majority of these scheduled on Saturdays and they meet at the various Metroparks in Lake County for a nhour walk. They have invited Gamma Iota sisters to join them. Here they are pictured enjoying River Road Park and Lake Erie Bluffs.

## DKG International Educators Foundation Information from DKGIEF

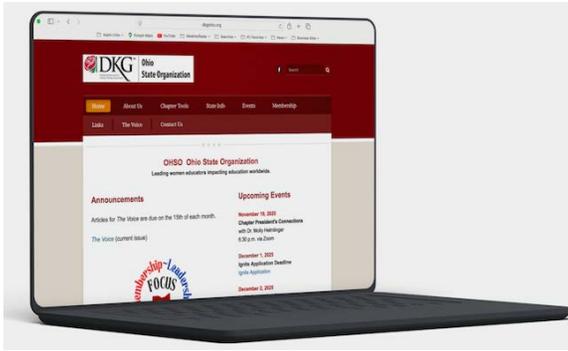
The Virtual Envelope Campaign will be going on during the Centennial Celebration of DKG. The Virtual Envelope will be one way of giving to DKGIEF. Contributions are essential to continuing the work of the Foundation. For every dollar contributed, 86 cents goes directly to programs managed by DKGIEF. Programs managed by the Foundation are The Cornet Award, Educational Projects, Educators Book Award, the Emergency Fund, Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund, Golden Gift Fund, International Speakers Fund, Scholarship Fund and World Fellowship Fund. Go to the DKG website, to learn more about each of these funds. Your contributions are tax-deductible and support DKGIEF efforts to promote intercultural understanding, encourage improvement in education and support professional development of educators worldwide. More information will be forthcoming in the *DKG Bulletin: Collegial Exchange*.

Giving Tuesday on December 2, 2025, will be another great time to give. Your contributions may be made by going online to [dkg.org](http://dkg.org) and clicking on DKGIEF then go to the Ways to Contribute page.

Please consider supporting DKGIEF and its efforts to support our educators.

Karen Dombrowski, Alpha Nu  
OHSO Second Vice President  
OHSO DKGIEF Ambassador





## Check it out!

Your Ohio State Organization's Communications and Marketing Committee has been hard at work on big changes to the state website!

It has been completely updated and re-designed to be more user-friendly, and provide great information for chapter members, as well as prospective members who might be interested in joining.

Take a few minutes to look at all the exciting new items included on the tabs at the top, as well as all the upcoming dates on the homepage.

There is even a link to OHSO chapter websites under Links! <https://www.dkqohio.org/>

Katie Gantz, Gamma Phi  
Communications & Marketing Chair



**Nu Rho Chapter's** guest speaker Beth Elsass, of the Gathering Place, talked about the impact of cancer and self-care programs and services they provide.



**Nu Rho Chapter** Co-President Charleen Johnson-Miller shared information on OHSO President Dr. Molly Helmlinger's state initiative Mental Health Awareness and Wellness as well as her theme FOCUS.





**Gamma Lambda and Phi Chapters** gathered recently at The Hill Church in Kent, Ohio. Pastor Michael Wells spoke about the Point-In-Time Count of homeless people which takes place across the United States. The Hill Church conducts their count during the month of January. Members present at the meeting tied 10 blankets which will be included in backpacks with other items such as socks and food. These backpacks will be given to the homeless during Point-In-Time Count. Following the project, members had a working lunch/business meeting while enjoying sandwiches from the Brimfield Bread Oven and cookies from BJ's.

**Gamma Lambda and Phi Chapters** gathered to make XaLights (zay-lites). The mission of XaLights is to honor the life of an amazing boy named Xavier. While he was in the hospital, his family created a night light from a plastic jar covering it with colored tissue pieces and special messages illuminated by battery powered night lights. Standing behind the XaLights are Ellen Franks, Barbara Baltrinic, Michelle Worthing (grandmother of Xavier), Ginny Snyder and in the front, Mary Vasek.



Ohio DKG members from northeast and southwest Ohio meet up for tailgating at the Ohio State vs UCLA football game. Pictured are Katie Gantz, Gamma Phi and Sue Datish, Beta Chi.



Beta Upsilon Chapter members sing the DKG Song after food and fellowship at their September social meeting.



**Gamma Theta Chapter** member Jacinta Bertone hosted a hat making session for chapter members. Jacinta is pictured on the right.



**Beta Zeta and Beta Eta Chapters** celebrated together a birthday luncheon November 8 with Dr. Molly Helmlinger, Ohio State Organization President. She delivered an amazing message, FOCUS! Pictured are Angela Miesle, Beta Eta President; Suzanne Geis, Beta Zeta President and Dr. Molly Helmlinger.



**OHSO Spring Executive Board Meeting**

**May 2, 2026**

**Ohio University**

**Dublin Integrated Education Center**

**6805 Bobcat Way**

**Dublin, OH 43016**

**Important Upcoming Dates to Remember**

**December 1, 2025**

**DKG Ignite Application Deadline**  
[Ignite Application](#)

**December 2, 2025**

**Giving Tuesday**

**December 2, 2025**

**Inside International  
Preliminary Draft of Proposed Bylaws**  
6:30 p.m. via Zoom

**December 3, 2025**

**U.S. Forum NLS & You**  
7:30 p.m. via Zoom

**December 18, 2025**

**Chapter President's Connections**  
with Dr. Molly Helmlinger  
6:30 p.m. via Zoom

**December 22, 2025 - January 4, 2026**

International Headquarters Closed for the Holidays

**January 6, 2026**

**Inside International  
Leadership Discovery Centre**  
1:30 p.m. via Zoom

**January 10, 2026**

**Treasurers Talk**  
11 a.m. via Zoom

**January 15 - February 15, 2026**

**2026 DKG Spring Fine Arts Gallery  
Submission Window**

**February 15 - March 15, 2026**

**DKG International Convention Fine Arts Gallery  
Submission Window**

# DKG VISIONARY NETWORK

VIRTUAL GROUPS

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 20, 2025



## PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

### Friendship Quilts

**Facilitators:** Risa McCann (TX) & Marsha Brewer (TN) • **Interest Meeting:** January 6, 2026 @ 6:30PM CT

This group offers a forum for sharing the joy of quilting while exploring and sharing quilting tips, techniques, and methods. Participants will be encouraged to share their quilted creations, favorite patterns, and best places to source fabrics and supplies. Meeting discussions will include retreat experiences and venues as well as philanthropies that utilize donated quilts and quilted items.

**Date/Time:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month @ 6:30 PM CT • **Session Length:** 60 minutes

### Travel: Tips, Tricks, and Treasures

**Facilitators:** Dr. Teresa Cowan (NC) & Becky Riebeling (VA) • **Interest Meeting:** January 10, 2026 @ 11:30AM CT

Do you love to travel? Do you have stories, sagas, and suggestions as a result of your travels? Join fellow travelers as they share, compare, and explore tips, tricks, and treasures of traveling.

**Date/Time:** 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month @ 11:30 AM CT • **Session Length:** 60 minutes

### Roses of Hope: A DKG Breast Cancer Survivor Support Network

**Facilitators:** Emily Kelley (LA) • **Interest Meeting:** January 5, 2026 @ 7:00PM CT

Roses of Hope is a safe ongoing network for DKG sisters who are breast cancer survivors or currently fighting breast cancer. The group provides encouragement, resources, awareness, and tools for sharing one's personal journey while fostering a sisterhood of hope.

**Date/Time:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month @ 7:00 PM CT • **Session Length:** 45-50 minutes

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Education and DKG Sustainability

**Facilitators:** Dr. Tia Neal (LA), Dr. Simone Nance (IN), Mitzi Quinn (LA) • **Interest Meeting:** January 5, 2026 @ 6:00PM CT

This group will explore the use of AI to promote sustainability within Delta Kappa Gamma and to enhance teaching practices in classrooms. Participants will share strategies, tools, and best practices, fostering innovation, collaboration, and the responsible use of AI to advance educational and organizational goals.

**Date/Time:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month @ 6:00 PM CT (subject to change) • **Session Length:** 60 minutes

### Teaching with Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Future Educators

**Facilitators:** Dr. Shannon Manley (TX) • **Interest Meeting:** January 8, 2026 @ 6:00PM CT

Designed for DKG Collegiate Members, this group aims to explore and exchange ideas about how AI tools can enhance instructional design, creativity, and classroom learning. Participants will learn practical strategies for using AI efficiently and discuss responsible ways students can use AI to support assignments and assessments.

**Date/Time:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month @ 6:00 PM CT • **Session Length:** 60 minutes

### Cultivating a Sense of Belonging

**Facilitators:** 2024-2026 DKG Global Task Force on Unity & Belonging • **Interest Meeting:** January 10, 2026 @ 12:30PM CT

This Visionary Network explores how to cultivate unity and strengthen belonging across diverse communities and professional circles. Participants will identify and apply best practices, share experiences, and co-create tools to enhance inclusion, connection, and collaboration within DKG and beyond.

As part of the series, participants will discuss "The Energy of Belonging" by Wendy Gates Corbett, along with other selected resources that illustrate how energy, connection, and community fuel inclusive leadership & belonging. Through shared reflection and dialogue, members will gain practical ideas to apply in their personal, professional, & organizational settings.

**Date/Time:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month @ 11:30 AM CT • **Session Length:** 75 minutes

## SOCIETY BUSINESS

### Exploring Visionary SEE (Supporting Early Educators)

**Facilitators:** Lynn McNamara (AK) • **Interest Meeting:** January 7, 2026 @ 7:00PM CT

This group will explore ways to virtually support early-career educators in geographically remote locations or with no DKG chapter nearby. The group hopes to design virtual events that could engage and meet the needs of these emerging educators and provide the opportunity for information, support, and connection beyond our local communities. The group will be facilitated in English and open to new members as the group progresses.

**Date/Time:** To be determined by confirmed participants • **Session Length:** 45-60 minutes



Visit [www.dkg.org/VisionaryNetwork](http://www.dkg.org/VisionaryNetwork) for more information (must be signed in to access)