

The Voice

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



The Energy of Fresh Beginnings

There is something energizing about the start of a new school year. Freshly prepared classrooms, new faces and names to learn, calendars waiting to be filled, and goals ready to pursue all carry a sense of possibility. Whether we are working in schools, supporting education in other roles, or enjoying a well-earned retirement, educators recognize the promise in those two simple words: **fresh beginnings**.

Beginnings are not limited to the first day of school. Life continually offers us opportunities to begin again – to try something new, deepen connections, accept a leadership role, renew a commitment, or simply approach the familiar with fresh energy. A beginning does not require us to erase what came before. Instead, it invites us to build on what we have learned and move forward with greater purpose and focus.

For members, this new biennium can be our invitation to kick-start something meaningful. Perhaps it means reconnecting with a member we have not seen in a while, mentoring an active educator, volunteering for a new responsibility, bringing fresh energy to a chapter meeting, and taking to heart DKG's message that **"Membership begins with me."** Even a small start can create momentum. One conversation can spark a connection. One idea can inspire a chapter. One decision to become more involved can strengthen and energize our organization.

That spirit reflects who we are as DKG. Our mission calls us to promote the professional and personal development of women educators and to advance excellence in education. By its very nature, development asks us to remain open to learning, change, growth, and sometimes beginning again.

As another school year gets underway, let us draw on its energy. We do not need a blank bulletin board, a new planner, or a sharpened pencil to start fresh. We simply need the willingness to ask, **"What can I start doing to help DKG-OHSO become stronger and more relevant?"**

Maybe this is the year to step forward and get actively involved in the chapter and/or at the State level.

Maybe this is the year to make meaningful connections that result in increased membership.

Maybe this is the year to turn an idea into action that energizes others and builds momentum in your chapter.

Maybe this is the year to discover that a fresh start can happen at any age and at any stage of life.

Fresh beginnings don't ask us to start over – they invite us to move forward. Here's to a new school year and to the beginnings, big and small, that still await each of us.

The beginning is always today. - Mary Shelley

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

Step Into LEADERSHIP OHSO Needs YOU!

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

Your talents can make a difference!

OHSO of Delta Kappa Gamma has been blessed with dedicated women who have generously shared their time and talents to keep our organization strong. As we look ahead, we invite members to consider taking the next step by serving in a leadership role.

We are currently seeking members willing to serve as:

- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Correspondence Secretary
- Area Representative of the Nominating Committee

Leadership is not about doing everything alone—it's about working together, supporting one another, and **ensuring OHSO continues to thrive**. Whether you are a longtime member or someone looking to become more involved, **your ideas, enthusiasm, and unique gifts are valuable.**

Serving in a leadership position is an opportunity to:

- Build lasting friendships.
- Develop new skills.
- Help shape the future of OHSO
- Support women educators and the mission of Delta Kappa Gamma.
- Leave a lasting legacy for future members.

Please thoughtfully consider saying **"yes"** to serving in a position that interests you. Together, we can continue to strengthen OHSO and make a meaningful difference in the lives of educators and our communities.

HELP LEAD US FORWARD!

Leadership is a journey! Every role offers opportunities to develop new skills and build lasting friendships. Please consider applying today by clicking the link!

<https://forms.gle/AY5TJxDuxNgAK7gF8>



OHSO Chapter Spotlight Alpha Psi

Alpha Psi Chapter members participated once again in Head to Toe, Ready to Go! Our chapter is always well represented in this back-to-school event that serves the children/families in Muskingum County.



White Roses

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

Jean L. Wetmore
Beta Zeta

Membership Matters

As you celebrate your chapter membership, remember that the Ohio State Organization Bylaws and your Chapter Rules must align with the recently revised International Bylaws. Payment for providing educational services qualifies women to join. Women interested in joining or invited to join the Society are eligible for membership. A chapter vote isn't required for admission. An induction ceremony may be held at a chapter's discretion, but membership begins with dues payment which can occur anytime during the year.

Let's seek out and welcome women educators to our chapters!

Meier Bauer, Gamma Phi
OHSO Recording Secretary
OHSO Membership Chair



Welcome New & Reinstated Members



Alpha Psi Chapter

Dr. Larisa Leigh Harper
Mallory Hughes
Misty Johnson
Meredith Kutscherenko
Katrin Vandergriff

Gamma Upsilon Chapter

Kylie Maciak
Alyssa Heers

Delta Alpha Chapter

Margaret Anderson
Kristin Haney
Sherry Riffer

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:

Tuesday, September 1 @ 1:30 p.m. Eastern
Tuesday, October 6 @ 6:30 p.m. Eastern
Tuesday, November 3 @ 1:30 p.m. Eastern
Tuesday, December 1 @ 6:30 p.m. Eastern

News from DKG International Educators Foundation

There are two DKGIEF awards available to apply for right now. One is the Educational Project Award and the other is the Lucile Cornetet Individual Professional Development Award (CIPD).

Any member of DKG or non-member may apply for the Educational Project Award. This award is to support and encourage projects. Applicants need to complete and submit their application electronically by **March 1, 2027**. Applicants may be awarded up to \$8000.

Another opportunity is the Lucile Cornetet Individual Professional Development Award (CIPD). Applicants must be employed educators and may be DKG members or non-members. This award may fund participation in conferences, seminars, lecture series, online courses and workshops, plus other non-degree programs. Applications are due on **November 1, 2026, and May 1, 2027**.

For more information on these two opportunities or to obtain an application, go to dkg.org, sign-in, click on DKGIEF and in the pull-down menu select Funds.

The Emergency Fund is solely supported by your donations. It helps members with a major loss due to a natural disaster such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, wildfires and other natural disasters. Members could receive \$500.00 in assistance. If you do not have a preference but want to donate, you can donate to the Area of Greatest Need fund. This provides donors with an opportunity to donate without designating a specific need. The money can then be allocated where it is most needed.

There are ways members may donate to DKGIEF. DKGIEF is very active in helping its members in time of need.

DKGIEF is working for its members by supporting them in a time of need or offering monetary awards for teachers to improve themselves, their teaching or the awesome projects they want to do with their students. Please consider applying for one of the awards or donating to help your fellow educators.

Karen Dombrowski, Alpha Nu
Second Vice President
Gold Key Coordinator
OHSO Ambassador to DKGIEF

ATTENTION OHSO-DKG Members
If you have experienced storm related
damage, please submit Form 84 to OHSO
President. Forms are found under
"MYDKG" at dkg.org.

Membership Data for 2026-2027

Based upon data from the DKG Ohio Dues Portal July 15, 2026

Active Paid Members	Collegiate Paid Members	Reserve Paid Members	Life Members	Honorary Members	Total	Ohio Chapters
2032	12	276	2	37	2359	65

DKG Ohio Financial Update for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Statement of Financial Activity

Dues Revenue	\$20,329.00
Non-dues Revenue	\$ 859.00
Investment Revenue	\$ (739.00) (unrealized)
Total Revenue	\$20,449.00
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,461.00
Administrative	\$ 90.00
Committee	\$ 0.00
Contributions	\$ 50.00
DKG Conferences	\$ 0.00
Ex Bd Meetings	\$ 0.00
Member Engagement	\$ 187.00
Total Expenses	\$ 1,788.00
Net Income	\$18,661.00

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Statement of Financial Position

Total Assets	\$ 340,822.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 0.00
Total Equity	\$ 340.822.00

*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.

Treasurer-in-Training Position

OHSO is investing in the future of our organization and invites you to grow with us. We are seeking a member interested in serving as Treasurer-in-Training, an excellent opportunity to learn about the financial operations of our state organization while preparing for a possible transition to treasurer.

Working closely with our current treasurer, Diana Haskell, the Treasurer-in-Training will gain hands-on experience and become familiar with OHSO's financial procedures, responsibilities, and reporting requirement. No prior experience is required, and mentoring, support, and training will be provided.

The Treasurer-in-Training position includes a \$2,000 stipend.

Application deadline is September 15, 2026. To apply, please review the job description and complete the application using the link provided here. <https://forms.gle/aPorro4BfyzS89VG6>

If you are interested in this position, or know someone who may be a great fit, we encourage you to apply.

Attention Chapter Officers

Great news from DKG International President Connie Rensink.

As a change designed to make accessing and sharing DKG forms easier, many forms on the DKG Society International website are now available without requiring members to log in.

This allows state organizations to link directly to the forms and provides members with easier access when they need them. We encourage you to link to the DKG Society International website whenever possible to help ensure that members are always accessing the most current version of each form.

Sue Datish, OHSO Web Administrator has updated our Forms page to link directly to the DKG forms. Go to dkgohio.org, under Chapter Tools, click on Forms. Listed on the right-hand side are links to the most current forms on DKG's website. Or you can find the forms on dkg.org without logging in under Membership > Member forms



Ohio State Organization

President
Dr. Molly Helmlinger, Beta Kappa

First Vice President - Open

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
Debby Canter, Delta Epsilon

Important Upcoming Dates to Remember

September 1, 2026

International Speakers Fund applications due

September 1, 2026

1:30 p.m. Eastern
Inside International

September 15, 2026

Arts & Humanities submissions due for Fall Gallery

September 27, 2026

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Chapter Connections

September 30, 2026

All dues to be entered in Portal

October 3, 2026

OHSO Fall Executive Board Meeting
The Integrated Education Center
Ohio University's Dublin Campus
6895 Bobcat Way, Dublin, Ohio

October 6, 2026

6:30 p.m. Eastern
Inside International

October 18, 2026

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Chapter Connections

October 31, 2026

Form 72 Society Website Compliance Assurance Forms Due

November 1, 2026

Cornetet Individual Professional Development Applications Due
Cornetet Seminar Professional Development Applications Due

November 3, 2026

1:30 p.m. Eastern
Inside International

November 15, 2026

All U.S. treasurers file IRS Form 990

November 15, 2026

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Chapter Connections