

Torch Tidbits

Beta Centennial Scholarship Announced

The Sigma Delta Tau Foundation — in collaboration with the Beta 100 committee — has announced a \$30,000 campaign to establish an endowed scholarship to help Beta sisters achieve their academic goals. \$10,000 has been donated by the Beta–University of Pennsylvania Housing Corporation to kick-off this effort that will offer a perpetual celebration of sisterhood. To give, visit: bit.ly/Beta100.

Alpha Zeta Returns to Campus in 2020

Alpha Zeta–University of Pittsburgh has been approved to recolonize the chapter this spring. The SDT extension team would love to have local alumnae in the Pittsburgh area help with this new chapter. If you are interested in learning more about being a part of the recruitment process or assisting with the chapter's advisory team, please contact: sdtatpitt@gmail.com.



Greek Week Win Benefits the SDT Foundation

Our sisters at Chi–University of Michigan beamed with SigDelt pride as the 2019 Overall Greek Week Winner. Their award includes a \$1,500 donation from the University to the SDT Foundation.



Welcome Delta Pi Chapter at Stockton University

This Spring our 106th chapter was chartered at Stockton University, welcoming 106 Founding members! Currently, there are 63 active Sigma Delta Tau chapters across the United States.

Alumnae Online Portal Coming Soon

The next phase of our database transition is the launch of a portal exclusively for our alumnae. More information will be shared later this fall. If there are recent changes to your contact information, specifically email, please submit the updates to: bit.ly/sdt-contact.

SDT Expands to Israel

Recently, a group of women at IDC Herzliya contacted SDT to start an international affiliate group on their campus. SDT eagerly responded and have supported the women in electing officers and starting their group. The women held a philanthropic event with the campus AEPi. They are off to an exciting start!

Collegian Receives Disney Award

Congratulations to SDT sister and 2018 Foundation scholarship recipient, Brittney Barros, Delta Alpha–Eastern Michigan University, who was honored with Disney's Heroes for Change Award at the ARDYs: A Radio Disney Music Celebration. Brittney recently met with Congress and the White House to introduce a new bill, National Sibling Bill of Rights, which would give young people in foster care the right to live with their siblings. We are so proud to see the impact our women are making on the world. 🌟



Ways to Give

Sigma Delta Tau Foundation Giving Options

Tailor your donation to impact sisters of Sigma Delta Tau through one of the following giving options below.



This 2019 initiative focuses on helping sisters of all ages every day of the year. 365 days of leadership opportunities, tuition assistance and life-changing initiatives to support the growth of empowered SigDelt women. One dollar a day. \$365 annually.



Our distinguished giving society for donors committed to extending the legacy of SDT with a donation to our Annual Sisterhood Fund. Giving levels range from \$250 to \$5,000. In 2018, we celebrated 87 Torch Society donors dedicated to the overall program needs of our sisters.



Donors can choose to directly support an initiative, establish or contribute to a scholarship fund or work with the Foundation to develop a mission-driven named opportunity for the benefit of our sisterhood.



This giving society acknowledges those who have designated a charitable bequest to the Foundation. This can be completed by including language in your will or trust specifying a gift be made to the SDT Foundation as part of your estate plan. Gifts can be designated for a specific purpose or can help grow our sisterhood impact.

Every donation made to the SDT Foundation can include a tribute request. The Foundation will mail a personalized card to the recipient of your choice. Donors utilize this giving option for birthdays, condolences, gratitude, accomplishments and heartfelt connections. 🌟

Donations can be made online, by phone or mail:



714 Adams Street, Carmel, IN 46032
317-846-7747 | sigmadeltatau.org/foundation

THE Flame

Carrying the Torch from generation to generation of sisters.



2019 National Council Scholarship Recipient

Abigail Kukura

Alpha Tau–George Washington University

As a freshman at the George Washington University, I began studying International Affairs, Arabic and the Middle East. My classes were exciting and challenging, exposing me to new ideas and teaching me to think critically about the world around me.

At times, however, I found it difficult to reconcile my studies and my Jewish identity. How could I go from a discussion in Arabic class about Palestinian perspectives on the 1948 war, to Shabbat dinner at the Chabad House? It would have been easy to compartmentalize these facets of my identity or to dismiss my Jewish identity altogether. Greek life and the life-long friends I made in Sigma Delta Tau however, challenged me to explore and layer these and other diverse perspectives.

Not only did SDT help me stay in touch with my Judaism, but it helped me realize that I can learn even more by exploring these seams of my identity. This lesson in layering perspectives continues to drive my academic and professional pursuits.

My ultimate career goal is to work within the U.S. government to shape U.S. policy in the Middle East and other conflict areas. I have been accepted to the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy's Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy program at Tufts University.

I am passionate about public service, and after earning my master's degree, I hope to participate in alumnae networking events in the Washington, D.C. area. I will make sure that sisters at the outset of their careers recognize the support they have not just from their chapter, but from the SDT Sisterhood in its entirety. 🌟

Women supporting women,
sisters supporting sisters,
a family of empowered
women changing the world.



Scholarship Recipients

Graduate Scholarship Recipients

Rachel Fernandes
Alpha Beta—University of Rhode Island
Alpha Beta Chapter Scholarship

Melanie Gershman
Alpha Mu—University of Miami
Joan Ellis Shatkin Scholarship

Avital Gurman
Tau—University of Texas
SDT Foundation Scholarship

Sarriyah Hanif
Gamma Alpha—Binghamton University
National Council Scholarship

Abigail Kukura
Alpha Tau—George Washington University
National Council Scholarship

Catie-Grace Manno
Beta Tau—Rutgers University
Maxine Foreman Zarrow/Gail Zarrow Richards Scholarship

Grace Solomita
Gamma Epsilon—SUNY Oneonta
Regene Freund Cohane Scholarship

Undergraduate Scholarship Recipients

Kamryn Abraskin
Chi—University of Michigan
Brandi Gurwitch Memorial Scholarship

Hannah Arp
Gamma Rho—Ramapo College of New Jersey
Elevate Scholarship

Bonnie Bower
Gamma Rho—Ramapo College of New Jersey
Regene Freund Cohane Scholarship

Lauren Brown
Gamma Mu—Northeastern University
Sunflower Scholarship in memory of Pricilla Perez Torres

Christine Cooper
Alpha Mu—University of Miami
SDT Foundation Scholarship

Casey Cushing
Kappa—University of Illinois
Ruth Metzger Katz Scholarship

Julina Darmanin
Gamma Omega—Adelphi University
Elevate Scholarship

Emma Maki
Gamma Iota—University of Hartford
Sister-to-Sister Scholarship

Victoria Monforte
Delta Lambda—Farmingdale State College
Sister-to-Sister Scholarship

Blake Price
Phi—Pennsylvania State University
Beth Metzger Gruber Scholarship

“SDT has helped me grow far beyond what I ever expected after joining a sorority. I truly believe that if every woman could experience the same support and love I receive from my sisters, that women empowerment would be so prominent in our world today.”

—Bonnie Bower

Gamma Rho—Ramapo College of New Jersey
2019 Scholarship Recipient

Hannah Fey
Upsilon—Indiana University
Upsilon Chapter Scholarship

Mikaela Fox
Delta Zeta—Rutgers University—Camden
Sister-to-Sister Scholarship

Juliana Giannone
Gamma Omega—Adelphi University
Sister-to-Sister Scholarship

Sarah Goldfarb
Beta—University of Pennsylvania
Sister-to-Sister Scholarship

Noa Hubara
Eta—University of Georgia
Elevate Scholarship

Caitlin Kukura
Gamma Theta—SUNY Cortland
Sister-to-Sister Scholarship

Olivia Weber
Gamma Eta—University of South Florida
Marissa Altman Gottfried Scholarship

Melissa Weinstein
Gamma Delta—American University
Elevate Scholarship

Angela Zisa
Alpha Tau—George Washington University
Sister-to-Sister Scholarship

Amber Zoppel
Delta Pi—Stockton University
Stockton University Scholarship

Dear Generous Donors,

What a grΣΔT time to be a part of the Sigma Delta Tau Foundation! I am sincerely thankful for all your gifts; be they gifts of time or treasure.

Our “Friends of the Foundation” have become a terrific asset and way for alumnae to become involved. These ladies include scholarship application reviewers, Thanks for Giving callers, event representatives and committee members. Donations given as a part of the Torch Society, 365 Founders Day initiative and special designated gifts made a significant impact in the work of the Foundation already this year. As you plan your fall and year-end charitable giving, I ask that you include the Sigma Delta Tau Foundation as one of your charities of choice.

Again, I want to thank you for continuing the legacy of our great sorority as a Foundation donor. I hope the information in this newsletter connects you to our 27 exceptional scholarship recipients, offers an overview of our programmatic support and includes valuable SDT news for you. I look forward to sharing a future update on how your gifts are making an impact in the lives of our undergraduate and graduate women. Together we are carrying the Torch from generation to generation of SDT women.

With gratitude,

Elizabeth (Beth) McQueen Sesler
Epsilon-University of Cincinnati (1976)
Foundation President
Past National President



Sigma Delta Tau Foundation Board of Trustees (2018)

Upcoming Alumnae Events

September 14 Alpha Zeta—University of Pittsburgh
Return to Campus Celebration
For more information, contact:
nationaloffice@sigmadeltatau.org

November 8-10 Chi—University of Michigan
SDT Reunion: Ladies of the 80s
For more information, contact:
Pam Borstein, 440-465-5527
pamborstein@gmail.com

March 27-29 Beta—University of Pennsylvania
Centennial Celebration
For more information, contact:
sdtbeta100@gmail.com



Chi Reunion (2017)

Volunteer Opportunities

Empowered Alumnae Speaker Series
SDT is proud to welcome alumnae to participate in our Empowered Alumnae Speaker Series (EASS). We are currently in the process of scheduling Empowered Alumnae webinars for the 2019–2020 school year. If you are interested in being a speaker, please fill out the website form at: bit.ly/EASS-Speaker.

Sigma Delta Tau Mentorships
Interested in becoming a SDT Mentor, sign up by September 10 at: bit.ly/sdtmentor19.

Finance, Communications or Sisterhood Outreach

If you are interested in helping the SDT Foundation expand its impact, consider serving on the Finance, Communications or Sisterhood Outreach committees, please contact Sari Factor at: sgfactor@gmail.com.

National Initiatives

SDT is always looking for volunteers to help support our chapters and provide assistance with National initiatives. If you're interested in donating your time and expertise, please email National Vice President, Elizabeth Norton, at: norton.elizabetha@gmail.com.

Programming with Purpose

The Sigma Delta Tau Foundation is honored to help support the following sorority initiatives in 2018–2019:

Elevate

This year offered a new programming opportunity for Sigma Delta Tau. A strategic decision was made to discontinue Leadership School and evolve the Chapter Leader Days program to a new program that would provide training and development for chapter officers and volunteers by region. Over 500 chapter officers and more than 50 volunteers were trained over the course of 11 Elevate programs in 2019.



Alternative Spring/Summer Break

The 2019 program included two trips: Spring Break to St. Pete, Florida, to work with CASA (Community Action Stops Abuse) and Summer Break to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to work with Northern Children Services for the second year. The overall objective for the program is to engage collegiate members in a meaningful experience that builds their connection to our philanthropies, the national organization and empowers them to get more involved in their community.

Collegiate Leadership Team

The ΣΔT Collegiate Leadership Team (CLT) is comprised of dynamic, undergraduate ΣΔT sisters who have demonstrated a personal interest in leadership and who aspire to further develop their leadership skills and their involvement with Sigma Delta Tau. The CLT members shall serve as change agents and represent the collegiate voice at the national level of our organization.

Dear ΣΔT Sisters,

This academic year has been a grΣΔT one! Despite the national decline in women joining sororities, we initiated 2,226 women this year and exceeded our membership numbers from last year. Part of this success can be attributed to the colonization of our 106th chapter at Stockton University where we initiated 106 founders!

Our chapters raised over \$500,000 for our philanthropic partners: Prevent Child Abuse America, Jewish Women International and the Sigma Delta Tau Foundation. This was a record high and we hope to continue this momentum moving forward.

This year we hosted some new and innovative programs for our members. We rebranded our officer transition curriculum and facilitated 11 Elevate programs for all our chapter leaders.

In addition to our Alternative Spring and Summer Break trips, we hosted our first international service trip to Thailand that explored women's issues and empowerment in a global context.

We launched the SDT Mentor Program with our partners, Ambition in Motion. We connected undergraduate members with alumnae sisters based on career interests.

It has been a productive year and we could not have done it without the dedication of our chapters, volunteers, alumnae and headquarters staff. A special thank you to the Sigma Delta Tau Foundation for their continued support. We plan to hit the ground running for an even grΣΔTer 2019–20 academic year!

Fraternally,

Margaux Manley Lima
Alpha Mu-University of Miami
National President

