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WELCOME!

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is adjusting well to the new semester! Inside you'll find recaps of the regional team's activities over the summer, and initiatives we're excited to move forward with! You'll also see what other chapters are doing around the region. Enjoy!
HAPPY FALL!!!

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer, full of sun and relaxation! Congratulations to all of our scholarship winners! We know that all of our members, whether transferring to a new school or staying at their community college, will have a fantastic year of success and excellence.

Your regional team has had a great vacation too, but that doesn't mean we haven't been working hard to get ready for New York's school year! We had our Mock Chapter in June, and in July we had the amazing opportunity to visit Phi Theta Kappa headquarters in Jackson, Mississippi. Beverly will tell you more about it, but I wanted to touch on a couple of items.

We were able to meet with the scholarship team and got great advice for applications and personal statements. The most important bit we heard, I think, was NOT to tell them what they want to hear — be honest, and show who you really are!

We also had the opportunity to hear about Employment Edge just days before it was released. I was really touched by the presentation. We were told that 75% of Kappans are in associates programs, and 25% were in technical programs. This is significant, because the numbers are inverted when you look at the composition of community college students: 75% of PTK-eligible students are technical students and only 25% are associate degree candidates. This leaves a huge number of students that we are unable to serve.

I'd like to challenge our chapters to reach out to these students. You could appoint an ambassador to the continuing education or technical programs departments at your school; table events in those departments. Let's reach these students so they have the same amazing opportunities that PTK has afforded us!

Another thing that we're really proud of and excited for is our newly written Diversity and Inclusion statement. We want to make sure that everyone is comfortable in our organization, regardless and inspired by race, sex, religion, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and however else they may identify.

I hope everyone has an incredible and successful school year! Do amazing things and be your wonderful selves!

Kyle Aaron Reese
New York Regional President
OUR FALL CONFERENCE SERVICE FELLOWSHIP PROJECT

The New York Regional team has decided that our Fall 2019 fellowship event would be to decorate holiday packages that include holiday cards, bookmarks and crossword books for seniors in nursing facilities. The reason we are choosing this fellowship event is that we want to be able to spread appreciation to all people who may feel as if they are forgotten.

One of our goals as a regional team is to provide a sense of connection with not only our members but with our biggest supporters who cheer us on in the background of our success. We want to give back the love and joy they give to us. This fellowship will be affecting the nursing home(s) and the students who create holiday cards/bookmarks.

Samantha Parajon
Southern Vice President

CHAPTER SPOTLIGHTS

Alpha Eta Psi- Suffolk County Community College Eastern Campus

Alpha Eta Psi at Suffolk County Community College Eastern Campus promotes the hallmark of fellowship between members all year round. Particularly, over the summer, they hosted a PTK paint night, where members of their chapter came together to paint anchors. They did this as a fundraiser for their chapter. At the Paint Night, they also held a Chinese Auction. People could purchase tickets to put in a bag to win items. If their ticket was picked, the person would win the basket. The event was organized by the officers and was attended by approximately 30 people!

Michelle Ferraino
Alumni Representative
Alpha Theta Phi @ Laguardia Community College

Alpha Theta Phi (LaGuardia Community College) has always been an incredible chapter. This semester, Alpha Theta Phi has planned amazing workshops that they intend to do throughout the semester. The workshops include:

Scholarship workshop: The purpose of this workshop is to assist current and prospective PTK members in applying for PTK scholarships. They give tips and tricks on writing winning scholarship essays.

Leadership workshop: They use the True color activity, to help students identify some of their personality traits and help students learn how to effectively use what they know about themselves to improve both personal and professional relationships.

Resume writing workshop: Attendees learn how to write a proper resume and will get guidance to complete and polish their resume.

Wellness workshop: This workshop helps students reduce their stress level especially during finals and midterms.
Alpha Alpha Upsilon at FMCC promotes the hallmark of scholarship in several forms, especially when it comes to rewarding ambitious students. Each May, the chapter hosts the Annual Academic Awards ceremony for the college, recognizing the most academically successful students, as well as students who excel in their community service, regardless of PTK status. (Although, many of the students being recognized are PTK members as well.) The chapter also plays a large role in their college’s graduation. A few of their PTK students, particularly the officers, serve as student marshals in the ceremony, leading the new graduates into the theater to receive their diplomas. At this year’s graduation, the Student Commencement Speaker for 2019 was their president, Princess Armstrong!

Michelle Ferraino
Alumni Representative
During this summer the NY Regional Officers had the amazing opportunity to visit Phi Theta Kappa Headquarters in Jackson, Mississippi. Our team met Carolinas Region and spent a few days in Jackson, training at Headquarters and seeing what Jackson has to offer! We had the great honor meet Dr. Lynn Tincher Ladner, President and CEO of PTK. We toured her office, had lunch with her, and she took us out for an amazing dinner in Jackson Mississippi.

We were able to spend an entire day at PTK Headquarters, tour the campus, and had the opportunity to see how PTK works! We saw where the filming for outreach videos and Facebook Lives takes place, where PTK advertisements and posters are created, and had the chance to visit each office at Headquarters and learn what they do and how they support students. PTK staff also spent the day training our regional officer teams on PTK initiatives and programming, which we will bring back to our regions and chapters. We learned more about HIA, College Project, Scholarships, Fundraising tips and tricks, and the importance of chapter outreach. We even got a sneak peak of new marketing materials, which feature real members that staff met at Catalyst!

Our trip wasn’t all work though! We had the opportunity to visit the historic Civil Rights Museum, which was a powerful and transformative experience. We learned the stories of Mississippians like Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer and Vernon Dahmer and learned about how they fought to make our nation more equitable for all. Further, our youngest Regional Officer, Lana Esho, is from Nigeria, and she really had never learned about the Civil Rights Movement or the historical struggle that Blacks have endured in our country. Therefore, the museum really opened her eyes and impacted her on a deep, personal level.

Overall, the trip was very successful, and we all went home with our brains filled with new knowledge and brilliant PTK ideas! We also bonded as a team and grew together. We can’t wait to see what great things each chapter and region can do!

Beverly Escobar-Gonzalez
Western Vice President
Dual Region Initiative

When the New York Region visited headquarters with the Carolinas Region, we quickly developed a strong bond, and discovered we work really well as a team. We also found that both of us were focusing on similar hallmarks; particularly, Chapter Engagement and Service. Seeing that we had similar goals, we decided to team up and create a dual-regional initiative that incorporates both of these goals. The first step was to pick a population in need of service. Both regions in the past and present have served diverse populations, such as the homeless, incarcerated people, the elderly, and even animals in shelters. We wanted to focus on a population that often times gets overlooked by Phi Theta Kappa service initiatives.

The team at headquarters informed us that the group that seems to be the most overlooked in PTK initiatives are veterans, the people who served this country. They are right, this populations in many cases goes overlooked. Some of the statistics pertaining to homeless veterans are appalling. About 1 out of 10 veterans will experience homelessness, and there are over 40,000 veterans living on the streets in America on any given night. The majority (55%) of these veterans have a disability, and approximately 59 percent of homeless veterans are above the age of 51. Although the VA and other Veteran groups are trying their best to tackle this issue, it is still a huge problem. In fact, in some demographic groups, the homelessness issue is becoming much worse. The amount of elderly veterans (veterans 62 or older,) has increased by about 54 percent between 2009 and 2016. These veterans not only lack success to shelter, but food, and clean clothing.

The New York Region and Carolinas Region decided this was something we could help tackle by doing a drive at our conferences. Many shelters have food pantries for homeless veterans, and they distribute clean clothing to people who come in. They need donations and drives to keep their stock continuing so they can help out more homeless veterans. To assist the shelters in their efforts, the New York and Carolinas Regions will be holding a sock and underwear drive at each of our conferences. We are asking that each chapter in attendance collect and bring in as many pairs of socks and underwear to the conference as possible, so we can donate them to the homeless veterans shelters and help them give aid to the thousands of homeless veterans on the street that take advantage of these shelters. The chapter from each region that brings in the most pairs of socks will be featured on social media and each of our newsletter’s chapter spotlights. We ask that each chapter please help us help those who sacrificed so much to serve this country.

Michelle Ferraino
Alumni Representative
Diversity and Inclusion Statment

At New York Phi Theta Kappa (NYPTK), we know that much of our strength lies in our diversity. NYPTK strives to create a diverse and inclusive environment where all members feel valued and respected regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. We embrace individual uniqueness, respect and value diverse life experiences, and value inclusion. NYPTK commits to nurturing a safe space where the diversity of our members is welcomed, embraced, and celebrated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Conference
October 18-20th
Ithaca, NY

Spring Conference
March 13-15
New York, NY

Catalyst
April 2- 4
Grapevine, TX
FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Facebook:
New York Region
Phi Theta Kappa
@nyphithetakappa

Instagram:
NY Region
Phi Theta Kappa
@nyregionptk

CALL FOR CONTENT

We'd like to feature YOU each month! Send us anything your chapter's been up to! We want to see important events, student achievements, and the wonderful ways you're serving your communities and encouraging diversity!

Send materials to:
newyorkregionptk@gmail.com
NYPTK FALL SERVICE INITIATIVE

Sponsor an Incarcerated Member!

The Region wants to increase access to PTK for diverse groups. One method is for chapters to sponsor incarcerated members!

We are partnering with Mohawk Valley Community College to sponsor potential PTK members who are pursuing higher education degrees while incarcerated.

What we need from you:
- Set a goal for how many members your chapter wants to sponsor
- Fundraise membership fees for your inductees

The chapter who raises the most will win two free registrations for the NY Regional Conference in NYC!

An induction for incarcerated members will be held in November.

***The International Membership fee is $60. Your advisors will have information on steps for fundraising monies.

Deadline: November 30, 2019

Keep an eye out for mentorship opportunities with incarcerated members!
NYPTK T-Shirt Contest!

Who: Anyone from the NY Region PTK
This includes current members, alumni, prospective members, and advisors.

Design parameters:

- One sided

- Contains a variation of the phrase "NY Region" (NY Region, New York Region, NY, New York)

- Contains a variation of the phrase "Phi Theta Kappa" (Phi Theta Kappa, PTK, or the Greek letters)

- Maximum of 2 ink colors

- Shirt may be one of the following: black, dark grey, light grey, white, navy blue, light blue, yellow, or gold/deep yellow.

The winner will receive a $100 Visa gift card and be featured on social media!

The winning shirt will be announced and distributed to everyone in attendance at our Spring Conference in NYC!

Keep an eye on Facebook and Instagram to vote on your favorite submission finalist!

Send your PDF, PNG, or JPG/JPEG submission to:

newyorkregionptk@gmail.com

Deadline 5 PM on December 1st, 2019