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Guide to the

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority collection

1960-1995

Sc MG 357

Compiled by Janice Quinter and Diana Lachatanere, 2010. Finding aid edited and adapted to digital form by Kay Menick in 2016.

Summary

Creator: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Title: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority collection

Date: 1960-1995

Size: 1.67 linear feet (2 boxes)

Source: Donated by Josephine Gordon (New York Alumnae Chapter) and Delta Sigma Theta, Queens Alumnae Chapter, 1981-2000.

Abstract: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is an international membership organization of college educated women, predominately black. The Delta Sigma Theta collection comprises two series: the New York Alumnae Chapter and the Queens Alumnae Chapter. It discusses the activities sponsored by these chapters, as well as some of the regional and national programs of the sorority.

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Processing note: Compiled by Janice Quinter and Diana Lachatanere, 2010. Finding aid edited and adapted to digital form by Kay Menick in 2016. Photographs transferred to Photographs and Prints Division. Books and magazines transferred to General Research and Reference Division.

Creator History

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is an international membership organization of college educated

women, predominately black. The New York Alumnae Chapter, Delta's first graduate chapter, was founded in 1920, focusing particularly on the Harlem community. The chapter provides programs for the elderly at the Greater Harlem Nursing Home and for youth, including scholarships and developing and implementing educational and cultural projects. The chapter also sponsors and supports events in the performing and visual arts and letters.

The Queens Alumnae Chapter was chartered in 1951 and is based in Jamaica. Among the programs it sponsors is Project Cherish, a national preservation and beautification program of African-American landmarks, monuments and historic sites, created in 1992. The Queens chapter is a sponsor of the Lewis Latimer House Fund, Inc. through its support and sponsorship of fundraising events. The chapter is also involved with the Teen Lift Program, providing first hand educational and travel experiences for students via annual tours to historically black colleges and universities.

Scope and Content Note

The Delta Sigma Theta collection comprises two series: the New York Alumnae Chapter and the Queens Alumnae Chapter. It discusses the activities sponsored by these chapters, as well as some of the regional and national programs of the sorority.

The New York Alumnae Chapter series has materials from 1960-1994. It includes the constitution and by-laws, history, meeting agendas, and correspondence of the presidents regarding programs and projects in which the sorority was involved and grants that it was awarded. Files regarding committee business contain material about many of the committees, including lists of members and attendance, minutes, reports of regional conferences, lists of committee chairs and co-chairs, program calendars, financial records, and voting ballots. There are numerous programs for the many events sponsored by the New York Alumnae Chapter, the New York Metropolitan Chapters, other chapters, and Eastern Regional conferences and conventions, and national conventions. Among the events represented are May Week and other cultural performances, various forums, tributes, and dances and a host of social activities. The New York State Political Action Forum file (1988-1990) contains some information regarding the forums dedicated to economic and political empowerment, media, and education. This series also houses invitations for events sponsored by the New York and other chapters, as well as flyers, press releases, and news clippings.

The Queens Alumnae Chapter series covers 1985-2000. It provides information about the types of programs offered. Included also is a report relating to members' occupations and African-American social issues (ca. 1997), programs and flyers for chapter and regional events such as the annual historically black colleges and universities tours, Founder's Day, and a tour to Ghana. There are also newsletters, memoranda, and evaluations written by participants of the Teen Lift Program (1997).

Key Terms

Subjects

African American college students -- Societies and clubs
African American women -- Societies and clubs
African Americans -- Societies and clubs
Greek letter societies -- United States
Women -- Societies, etc.

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Agendas (administrative records)
Clippings files
Correspondence
Documents

Geographic Names

New York (N.Y.)_
Queens (New York, N.Y.)_

Container List

- New York Alumnae Chapter
 - b. 1 f. 1 Constitution and By-laws 1960-1987
 - b. 1 f. 2 History
 - b. 1 f. 3-4 Agendas 1981-1994
 - Correspondence
 - b. 1 f. 5 1966
 - b. 1 f. 6 1967
 - b. 1 f. 7-8 1973-1994
 - Committees/Business
 - b. 1 f. 9 1960-1969
 - b. 1 f. 10 1975-1984
 - b. 1 f. 11 1981-1991
 - Programs
 - New York Alumnae Chapter
 - b. 1 f. 12-13 1967-1989
 - b. 1 f. 14-15 1990-1994
 - b. 1 f. 16 New York Metropolitan Chapters 1973-1995
 - b. 1 f. 17 Other Chapters 19967-1992
 - b. 1 f. 18 Eastern Regional Conferences and Conventions 1984-1993
 - National - Conventions
 - b. 1 f. 19 1981-1985
 - b. 1 f. 20 1988-1991
 - National - Conventions and Other Sponsored Events
 - b. 1 f. 21 1989-1990
 - b. 1 f. 22 1992-1994
 - b. 1 f. 23 75th Birthday and Other Events 1988-1992
 - b. 1 f. 24 Grand Chapter 1966-1992
 - b. 1 f. 25 New York State Black Women's Political Action Forum 1988-1990
 - Invitations
 - b. 1 f. 26 1961-1989
 - b. 1 f. 27 1990-1994
 - Flyers
 - b. 1 f. 28 1967-1989
 - b. 1 f. 29 1990-1994
 - b. 1 f. 30 Press Releases 1984-1990
 - b. 2 f. 1 News Clippings 1966-1992
 - b. 2 f. 2 Miscellaneous
- Queens Alumni Chapter
 - b. 2 f. 3 Report circa 1997
Title: "Deltas in Work Force 2000 and Beyond"

Queens Alumni Chapter (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 4 Election Pamphlets 1999-2000
- b. 2 f. 5 Financial Awards 1998
- b. 2 f. 6 Flyers 1985-1999
- b. 2 f. 7 Letters 1994-1997, undated
- b. 2 f. 8 Memoranda 1998
- b. 2 f. 9 Merchandise Catalogs undated
- b. 2 f. 10 News Clippings 1985-1996, undated
- b. 2 f. 11 Newsletters 1984-2000
- b. 2 f. 12 Presentation Evaluation Forms 1997
- b. 2 f. 13 Program Planning and Development 1998, undated
- Programs
- b. 2 f. 14 1985-2000
- b. 2 f. 15 1997
- b. 2 f. 16 Projects 1996-1998
- b. 2 f. 17 Report of National Treasurer July 2000
- b. 2 f. 18 Souvenir Journal 1997
- b. 2 f. 19 Teen Lift Committee 1997