

St. John's University, Queens C247 Kappa Eta Chapter
Submitted by Sharon Kim, Secretary

History and Heritage

What accomplishment is your chapter most proud of?

The Kappa Eta Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi at St. John's University is most proud of being an ACE award recipient for two consecutive years. The ACE award showcases our hard work, commitment to excellence, service to the community and the hunger to learn every year. The ACE award demonstrates our high standards we hold for our chapter. We always strive to provide the tools and resources that our members and local communities need. The ACE award distinguishes our efforts amongst others and encourages us to strive for more.

Since your chapter was started, how has it made an impact on the education department at your college/university?

The Kappa Eta Chapter is continuously making an impact on the Education department on the Queens campus at St. John's University. Kappa Delta Pi is a well-acknowledged and active organization in The School of Education, both on the undergraduate and graduate levels. Kappa Eta's events and workshops allow students to connect with their peers and professors from many educational backgrounds. An integral part of The School of Education, Kappa Eta has become the main outlet for student engagement, giving our students many opportunities to get involved.

Leadership and Membership

What sorts of things does your chapter do to develop members professionally?

- We installed KDP Assemblies as part of a professional development series. Undergraduate and graduate professors presented topics in their area of expertise. The assemblies this year highlighted Technology in the Classroom, School Counseling, and the Middle School Experience.
- The Kappa Eta Chapter hosted a Northeast Regional Conference on the Queens Campus. The conference provided key workshops to aid participants in becoming effective leaders inside and outside the classroom. The workshops consisted of training in Interviewing, Cyber-bullying, Methodologies of Science, Counseling & Life Choices, and Smart-board & Technology Use in the Classroom.
- Kappa Eta partnered with the Career Center throughout the academic year to host professional development events for members. Students participated in events such as: Interviewing for Educators, Resume Building, Careers Outside the Classroom, Autism and Law and many more.
- Kappa Eta hosted Rachel's Challenge.

Who has been integral in the success of your chapter?

There are many factors that make a chapter successful. For the Kappa Eta chapter, it is the collaborative work of the counselors, the executive board and the general members. Dean Charisse Willis is the counselor of the Kappa Eta Chapter on the Queens campus of St. John's University. She is a role model for all and guides all the e board members and members. She is the support system and the one that helps the chapter on campus stay together. The other part that makes our chapter so successful is the hard work and dedication of the e board. The e board comes together and works as a team to complete tasks, run events, educate others about Kappa Delta Pi and provide the best resources for members.

Lastly, the students and/or members contribute to the success of our chapter by staying active within the chapter, participating and learning from our events and providing us feedback to improve in our ways for years to come.

Programming

How has your chapter contributed to the community?

The Kappa Eta chapter has done many things to serve the community. We have had many service opportunities in the community and around the University. We gained valuable experience working with students in schools. We have worked with students at Jamaica High School by giving them tours of the campus and providing them the college experience through our "One Day University" program. The Kappa Eta chapter had also worked with Jumpstart (a non-profit organization that promotes early literacy in low-income preschools) at various volunteer events such as Read for the Record, Jumpstart's Friendship day and a Dr. Seuss's Birthday Event. We have also joined in support of Breast Cancer and Autism through annual walks and fundraising. Service is an integral part of the Kappa Eta Mission as well as the St. John's University Vincentian Mission.

Does your chapter facilitate any unique or signature events?

- Students vs. Faculty Basketball Charity Game: This game promoted school spirit and united the students, faculty, administration, and alumni. We promoted our chapter and its programming throughout the game. We fundraised for Rachel's Challenge and Bread and Life.
- Northeast Kappa Eta Regional - Kappa Eta along with other Northeast chapters celebrated Founder's Day. We played KDP Jeopardy about the history and founders of KDP. We ate lunch together, socialized, and sang Happy Birthday to KDP (don't forget the cake!). This was a great opportunity to network and meet other members and other chapters in Kappa Delta Pi.
- Light It Up Blue: This three-day event was in support of Autism. St. John's University and The School of Education/KDP collaborated to provide numerous events that promoted Autism and included pieces to the puzzle. Eating blue items for breakfast to playing soccer with children with Autism were some of the many events that we held.