

VOLUME THIRTEEN

## Delta Foundation Presents Fundraiser at Historic Lincoln Theatre

The Delta Research and Educational Foundation sponsored a fundraising event featuring the musical stage play, *Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies* at the historic Lincoln Theatre. The acclaimed performance was an Arena Stage production which starred Broadway legend Maurice Hines, who also created the show's choreography. The fundraiser gave friends and supporters of The Delta Foundation a double benefit—the pleasure of enjoying a spectacular performance and the satisfaction of knowing that a portion of their ticket contribution supports the Foundation's charitable work.

"Sophisticated Ladies" chronicles the amazing life and storied career of Washington, D.C. native Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington, who was a noted jazz master, big band leader, composer, and arranger. Interestingly, the Foundation's "Sophisticated Ladies" fundraiser was held on April 29, which is also the birthday of "The Duke." At the post-performance reception, the Foundation recognized the anniversary of the late musician's birthday with a tribute led by actress Suzanne Douglas, honorary co-chair of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's National Commission on Arts and Letters (CAL).

## Prince George's County Alumnae Presents Largest Gift Ever

At its June closing chapter meeting of the 2009-10 fiscal year, Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter (PGCAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. awarded its annual donation to the Delta Research and Educational Foundation (The Delta Foundation). This year's donation from the Chapter treasury increased from \$1,000 to \$3,500 making it the largest amount ever to be donated from the PGCAC treasury to The Delta Foundation, and the PGCAC donation is also the largest gift that a Delta chapter has made to the Foundation. The Chapter donation of



Madeliene H. Dobbins accepts donation from Diane Venable (right) (PHOTO BY ANGELA HOLMES).

\$3,500 combined with contributions from individual chapter members of \$1,300 resulted in \$4,800 being donated to The Delta Foundation at the June meeting.

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## Actress Suzanne Douglas Proudly Supports The Delta Foundation

Over the past three years, actress Suzanne Douglas, an honorary member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., has consistently supported the Delta Research and Educational Foundation (The Delta Foundation) by contributing her speaking engagement honoraria to the Foundation. When speaking for Delta Sorority events, whether at Founders Day or some other special event, Douglas declines the honorarium, asking that it be forwarded to The Delta Foundation on her behalf.

Douglas said: "I make it my business to support The Delta Foundation, where, ultimately, resources can empower women and their families throughout the nation."

The honorary co-chair of the Sorority's National Commission on Arts and Letters is co-starring in the upcoming independent film, "Changing the Game," based on the screenplay by award-winning director Rel Dowdell. Her other current projects include co-starring in the stage play, "The Old



Suzanne Douglas, actress and Foundation supporter, with Foundation President Alison J. Hammon, at Duke Ellington's *Sophisticated Ladies* reception. (PHOTO BY MARVIN JONES).

Settler" at a regional theater in New Jersey; and she is creating a documentary about a slave narrative from her husband's great-great grandfather.

Suzanne, a native of Chicago is well known for her role as matriarch Jerri Peterson in the television Sitcom, "Parenthood," and she has had starring roles in several motion pictures as well, among them: "Tap," "Inkwell," "Jason's Lyric," and "How Stella Got Her Groove Back."

# Greetings from the President

Dear Supporters of The Delta Foundation:

Thank you for the victory! The 40th Anniversary Annual Giving Campaign successfully ended on June 30, 2010 with our goal being surpassed. Your donations over the past few years were integral in exceeding our goal of \$400,000; approximately \$614,815 was raised.

It's great to be at convention. The Delta Foundation has proudly contributed \$80,000 to the Sorority for the 50th National Convention: \$30,000 sponsorship for the EMBODI Conference



Back to School Night with Baltimore County Alumnae; program supported by Youth Risk Reduction Grant, Office of Community Conservation, managed by The Delta Foundation.

and \$50,000 general sponsorship. We have many exciting ideas and program activities to share in New Orleans. You will hear current news and information about the Foundation when our update is presented during a plenary session, where we will introduce our distinguished Sister Scholars Advisory Council. The Foundation will also present two workshops—one on fundraising and another on The Center for Research on African American Women: "Where Sisters Know Best." The workshop on The Center will highlight recent developments with the National Reading Circle.

Be sure to stop by our information booth in the Exhibit Trade Show. We have interesting information and treats to share with you. We hope that our gift to you—luggage handle gripper is helpful in identifying your luggage when traveling.

As we enter the 2010-11 program year, the Foundation is committed to strengthening our current partnerships with Delta chapters and creating new collaborations. We salute all of our partners for their dedication to public service. Looking forward to working with you this biennium.

Sincerely yours,  
Alison J. Harmon, Ed.D.  
President

## New Board Members Elected

The president and members of the Delta Research and Educational Foundation welcome four new members. At its annual spring meeting, the board elected the following persons to a four year term: Deborah Elam, a corporate executive who resides in Connecticut; Carolyn E. Lewis, a federal government manager who resides in Louisiana; Elizabeth Seja Min, consultant and executive coach who resides in California;

and Jerry Malone, an attorney who resides in Washington, DC.

Congratulations are also extended to the three Delta members who were re-elected to another term: Dr. Constance E. Clayton, a consultant and former superintendent of schools who resides in Pennsylvania; Teresa Harman, a certified public accountant who resides in New Jersey; and Michele Fantt Harris, a human resources executive who resides in Washington, D.C.

## PGCAC

(Continued from page 1)

The contribution check was presented by Diane Venable, chapter president, to Madeliene H. Dobbins, Esq., director and chief administrative officer of The Delta Foundation and PGCAC member.

For the past six years, the Prince Georges County Alumnae Chapter has made an annual donation to the Foundation at its closing meeting. The Chapter's commitment to giving an annual donation to the Foundation is now two-fold: contributions are collected from chapter members at the June meeting and an allocation is made from the Chapter's treasury.

The commitment to support The Delta Foundation began in 2004 when then PGCAC member Gloria Hardiman-Tobin, Esq., board member of the Foundation, asked the Chapter to allow The Delta Foundation executive to make a presentation and appeal for funds at its June clos-

ing activity. At that meeting in 2004, \$2,265 was collected from individual contributions from 63 sorors. Since that auspicious beginning, members of PGCAC have collectively given approximately \$2,000 annually coupled with at least a \$1,000 contribution from the Chapter.

Over the past few years, PGCAC has made its annual donation to The Delta Foundation a line item in its annual budget. Venable explained that this year's increased amount (\$1,000 to \$3,500) demonstrates PGCAC's profound willingness to uphold the vision of The Delta Foundation.

The Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter has operated its own non-profit foundation for over a decade and does not view it as being in conflict or competition with The Delta Foundation. Most recently, the Chapter donated more than \$5,400 to The Delta Foundation as a restricted gift for the Chapter's Water Well Project For Haiti.

The **FRONT PAGE** is published by the Delta Research and Educational Foundation several times a year to report news and information about its programs, activities, and fund raising efforts. The publication is distributed nationally to donors, partners, and supporters of the Foundation; circulation typically totals 2,500 per issue. The office is located at 1703 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009; 202-347-1337.

[www.deltafoundation.net](http://www.deltafoundation.net)

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**Delta Research and  
Educational Foundation:  
Creating Possibilities...  
Improving Lives**

**The Delta Foundation  
CFC Number is 11213**

**Thank You for Partnering With Us**

The Delta Research and Educational Foundation (The Delta Foundation) extends appreciation to the 163 chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority that utilize its charitable giving service. The services provided by the Foundation include accepting restricted funds for chapters, offering technical assistance (i.e. training in fund raising, grant writing, proposal submission, counsel on special event planning, advice on other development matters), and serving as co-grantee for proposal submissions.

The Foundation also manages the scholarship funds for local chapters and individuals. The Delta Foundation receives restricted donations from sponsors and stakeholders (individuals and companies) for local chapters. Welcome to the new chapters who have established a partnership with the Foundation during the 2009-10 fiscal year:

- 1) Kansas City, KS Alumnae
- 2) New Jersey Garden City Alumnae
- 3) North Arundel County (MD) Alumnae
- 4) Nu Upsilon (San Diego, CA)
- 5) Slidell (LA) Alumnae
- 6) Bergen County (NJ) Alumnae
- 7) Gwinnett County (GA) Alumnae
- 8) South Broward County (FL) Alumnae
- 9) Loudoun County (VA) Alumnae

**Delta Regions Partner with Foundation**

The **Southern Region** of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, led by Regional Officers Christine Nixon and Courtney Winn, has recently begun a region-wide fundraising campaign to benefit The Delta Foundation's Center for Research on African American Women. So far, chapters and individuals in the Southern Region have contributed \$9,450.

Other regional fundraising efforts include the recent establishment of a **South Atlantic Region**

Scholarship Fund. South Atlantic Regional Officers Linda R. Wilson and Amanda Wise presented the initial contribution of more than \$6,000 to Delta Foundation President Alison J. Harmon at the spring meeting of the Sorority's National Executive Board.

The **Farwest Region**, led by Regional Officers LaVerne G. Davis and Krystle A. Evans, established the Farwest Region Scholarship Fund in 2009. The scholarship will be awarded to a student attending a Historically Black College or University. Chapters in the Farwest Region have contributed more than \$3,500.

In the **Eastern Region**, Regional Officers Robin M. Jacobs and Denesia Parris contributed \$3,300 to the Foundation. The donation resulted from funds remaining from a regional meeting held during the



*In support of The Delta Foundation's spring fund raiser ("Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies"), noted artist Laurel Tucker Duplessis created an original painting of Duke Ellington as a fund raising opportunity; the original and limited edition prints are available for sale; proceeds benefit the Foundation. (PHOTO BY MARVIN T. JONES)*

2009-10 year. Jacobs stated: "What better charity than to start at home by supporting our very own Delta Research and Educational Foundation."

**Delta Foundation Program Grants Awarded for 2009-10**

CHAPTER/ORGANIZATION	AWARD AMOUNT	PROGRAM
St. Louis Metropolitan Alumnae	\$1,000	Delta Academy/Delta GEMS
Prince George's County Alumnae	\$ 750	Political Candidates' Forum
Quaker City Alumnae	\$1,000	Delta GEMS
North Jersey Alumnae	\$ 500	Delta Academy
Contra Costa Alumnae	\$1,000	Delta Academy
Inglewood Alumnae	\$1,000	EMBODI
Phoenix Metropolitan Alumnae	\$1,000	Foster Care/Life Skills
Seattle Academy	\$1,000	Delta Academy
Charlottesville Alumnae	\$ 750	Delta Academy, Delta GEMS, EMBODI
Knightdale-Wake Forest Alumnae	\$1,000	HIV AIDS Awareness
Orangeburg (SC) Alumnae	\$1,000	Childhood Obesity Project
Atlanta Suburban Alumnae	\$1,000	College and African American History Project
Marietta-Roswell Alumnae	\$1,000	Economic Empowerment Conference
Tallahassee Alumnae	\$ 500	Science and Everyday Experiences (SEE)
Forrest City (AR) Alumnae	\$1,000	Delta GEMS
Houston Alumnae	\$1,000	Delta Academy/Delta GEMS
Metropolitan Dallas Alumnae	\$1,000	Women's Health Conference
Epsilon Phi	\$1,000	Black Wall Street Project
My Sister's Keeper	\$1,000	Sisterhood for Peace Diaspora Conference
Alzheimer's Association of Maryland	\$1,000	African American Community Forum on Memory Loss
Esquire Leadership & Mentoring	\$ 500	Mentoring Program for Boys
Making it to the Finish Line	\$1,000	Job Readiness
Lawndale Christian Health Center	\$1,000	Summer Youth Project
Girls, Inc. of Atlanta, GA	\$1,000	Life Skills
North Dallas Suburban Foundation for Life Development & Community Involvement	\$ 750	Delta Academy/Delta GEMS
One Delta Plaza Educational Center	\$1,000	College Prep and Delta Institute
LACE: LaMarque Alumnae Charitable and Educational Foundation	\$1,000	Financial Literacy

*Delta GEMS: Growing and Empowering Myself Successfully is a mentoring program for at-risk girls age 14-18. EMBODI: Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence is a program that addresses issues affecting African American males.*

# Director's Memorandum

**TO:** Supporters of The Delta Foundation

**FROM:** Madeliene H. Dobbins, Esq.  
*Director and Chief  
Administrative Officer*

Happy New Year to the supporters of the Delta Research and Educational Foundation! We entered a new fiscal year on July 1, 2010 and we're taking off in full swing as we partic-



*Madeliene H. Dobbins, Esq.*

ipate in the 50th National Convention of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. on July 29-August 4, 2010 in New Orleans. What a great way to start the 2010-11 year—surrounded by the Foundation's supporters and friends.

We have a busy year ahead of us. This year, we aim to reach near and far—all throughout the nation and abroad to increase our donor base. We want to continue to augment The Delta Foundation by increasing the amount of charitable donations that we receive from our supporters. With more charitable donations, The Delta Foundation will be fortified to be a tremendous resource for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and like-minded community based organizations. More donors result in more contributions which lead to more funds for grantmaking to chapters and community groups, more sponsorships to Grand Chapter, and more research projects for The Center for Research on African American Women.

Presently, we have nearly 6,000 contributors. Don't you think we can raise that figure to at least 9,000 donors this fiscal year? I think we can make it happen. When I contact you or your chapter,

please respond favorably. There are many ways to contribute: 1) chapter contributions, 2) individual contributions, 3) matching gifts from employers, 4) Combined Federal Campaign, 5) bequests, 6) scholarship establishment, 7) giving circles, and numerous other opportunities. You will be hearing more about these opportunities to give throughout this fiscal year.

I hope you will partner with The Delta Foundation, where we are *Creating Possibilities. . . Improving Lives.*

## Volunteers Wanted

The Delta Foundation is seeking volunteers to assist with daily operations and special events. If you are interested, please call 202-347-1337 or email [dpcoleman@deltafoundation.net](mailto:dpcoleman@deltafoundation.net)

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### Delta Research and Educational Foundation

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