

**Welcome**  
**to the**  
**Delta Omicron Chapter**  
**(Lake Worth Campus)**  
**of**  
**Phi Theta Kappa**  
**Spring 2012 Orientation**



*We are glad you came!*

**Mission Statement**

"The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among two year college students. To achieve this purpose, Phi Theta Kappa shall provide an opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and, for lively fellowship, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence."

## **What is Phi Theta Kappa?**

Established in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa is the International Honor Society. Since this time, this prestigious honors society has greatly expanded its horizons to include over two million members in more than 1,200 chapters throughout the United States and abroad.

The words "Phi Theta Kappa" are derived from the Greek Words: phronimon, thumos, and katharotes. These words stand for wisdom, aspiration, and purity. Along with the values that Phi Theta Kappa's name represents, the purpose of the society is the promotion of Scholarship, and the development of Leadership, the cultivation of Fellowship while striving for excellence in the community through Service among students of two-year community colleges throughout the world.

Each college (or college campus) represents a different chapter within Phi Theta Kappa. In turn each representative chapter is given a different Greek name. There are 78 chapters and 8 alumni chapters in Florida. The Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth Campus Chapter is called Delta Omicron, and it is the oldest chapter in Florida, founded in 1943. Our Chapter has consistently been recognized internationally as an extremely active chapter. Delta Omicron has attained a Five Star Rank since the inception of the Five Star Chapter Program. **Please note that Delta Omicron is the chapter at the Lake Worth campus. There are other Phi Theta Kappa chapters at all of our other PBSC locations.**

Phi Theta Kappa offers many opportunities for academic enrichment through programs such as our Honor Study Topic. In addition, members have the opportunity to travel to many exciting locations where they meet other interesting and diverse Phi Theta Kappans. The friendships made while in Phi Theta Kappa can last a lifetime. Your membership offers you the opportunity to attend the International Conference, Florida Regional Conference, Leadership Conference, Honors Institute, and many other activities.

## **Who is Eligible?**

To join the Delta Omicron chapter of Phi Theta Kappa you must have earned at least 12 college credit hours at Palm Beach State College, have a 3.5 GPA, and be currently enrolled at PBSC. "Provisional Memberships" are offered to students wishing to join before meeting these requirements. Provisional members would be able to participate in all activities, including traveling to conferences. Provisional members are not eligible to run for an office or vote in an election. The "provisional" member fee is \$48, which covers the local chapter cost. Presidential scholars from area high schools are invited to join as provisional members as well. Membership into Phi Theta Kappa affords you the opportunity to grow and learn more about your abilities as an individual.

## **What are the Benefits of Membership?**

*Members may log in using your community college name and your member number to access the benefits associated with Phi Theta Kappa membership. Below is a sampling of the benefits available exclusively to Phi Theta Kappa members.*

- **Transfer Scholarships** - Members may apply for more than \$37 million in transfer scholarships, provided exclusively to Society members by more than 700 senior institutions.
- **Five Star Competitive Edge** - Sharpen your competitive edge for transfer, scholarships and job interviews by participating in Five Star Competitive Edge. This professional development plan designed exclusively for Phi Theta Kappa members helps strengthen highly sought-after skills such as communication, critical thinking, teambuilding and goal setting through hands-on leadership activities and online video courseware. Members will build an online portfolio that will showcase their accomplishments in one convenient location that can be easily shared with scholarship providers, admissions officials and potential employers.

- **CollegeFish.org free enrollment** - Members have free access to Phi Theta Kappa's online transfer tool. Research colleges, learn about transfer scholarships, manage important transfer dates and deadlines and communicate with four-year college representatives to ensure a smooth transfer to a four-year college.
- **Membership Credentials** - The Golden Key Membership Pin, Membership Certificate and Membership ID Card are mailed to the member's home address.
- **Press Release Announcing Membership** - At the member's request, a press release is sent electronically to a newspaper of the member's choosing.
- **Phi Theta Kappa Graduation Regalia** - The Society's Honors Stole, Tassel and additional graduation regalia may be purchased and worn at college commencement exercises, contingent on college policy.
- **Gold Diploma Seal** - The Diploma Seal may be affixed to the member's community college diploma to denote Society membership.
- **Transcript Notation** - Society membership may be noted on the member's community college transcripts, contingent on college policy.
- **Letters of Recommendation** - Request letters of recommendation from Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society to a college admissions counselor, scholarship official or potential employer.
- **Alumni Membership** - Fifty alumni chapters at four-year institutions provide a support network for transfer; and 21 regional alumni associations provide lifetime networking opportunities. Opportunities for participation through international alumni programs are available for alumni living in areas without associations.
- **Career Resource Center** - The Career Resource Center provides members with career trends, research, tips and tools for navigating the job market.
- **Civil Service Jobs Benefit** - Members applying for GS5 federal jobs and who completed a baccalaureate degree with superior academic achievement, as defined by the Federal Office of Personnel Management, would be upgraded to a GS7 classification, meaning an increase in starting salary over the GS5 grade. GS5 federal jobs are entry level jobs requiring completion of a baccalaureate degree or four years of study beyond high school.
- **Special Offers** - See the sidebar for details, or visit our Corporate Partners page for special offers from Phi Theta Kappa partners.

### **What Activities are Available?**

Delta Omicron is an exceptionally active chapter. Listed here are just a few opportunities for students to become involved and serve our community.

- General Meetings, usually every other Sunday at 7:00pm in AH101
- Orientation and Induction
- Club Rush and Panther Fest
- Convention Trips
- Recycle Program
- Adopt-a-Highway and Adopt-a-Family
- Blood Drives and Hospital Visits
- Fundraising
- Tutoring Program and Project Graduation
- Relay for Life, Making Strides, Race for the Cure
- Paint Your Heart Out and Clothing Drives for Shelters
- End of the Year Awards Banquet
- **International Honor Study Topic** (The 2010-2012 topic is "The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril and Promise").

## **How Do I Apply?**

New Member Applications are available September/October and January/February of each year. Students may apply on-line or in person. Every student is required to complete two Five Star Member Enhancement forms. The student keeps one Five Star Member Enhancement form for his/her records and the other form should be given to an officer or advisor for Delta Omicron records.

### **On-Line:**

Students, who meet the requirements and wish to accept membership, can register online at "[www.ptk.org/acceptmembership/login.go](http://www.ptk.org/acceptmembership/login.go)". A seven letter passcode or "pin" is required for acceptance. This code is found above the student name on the address label from the envelope of the letter from the President of Palm Beach State College, Dr. Dennis Gallon, offering Phi Theta Kappa membership to all eligible students. Once online, students should follow the screen prompts completing all information. The \$105 membership fee is a onetime membership fee payable online by credit card.

### **In Person:**

Students, who meet the requirements and wish to accept membership, may apply tonight, or in person at a later date. Please complete the application and return it to an advisor along with the onetime membership fee of \$105 payable by cash or check, made out to "Phi Theta Kappa". **The application and membership fee must be turned in together.**

### **What is Induction?**

Induction is a ceremony honoring our students as they become official members of Phi Theta Kappa. The Induction Ceremony will be held at the Duncan Theatre on Thursday, April 5, 2012. New members are asked to dress in casual business attire, and arrive at 6:30pm. We encourage the attendance of family members and friends. The ceremony will begin at 7:00pm and will last approximately one hour followed by the reception.

## 2011-2012 Delta Omicron Officers and Advisors

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
President	Johanna Poblano	poblanojn@my.palmbeachstate.edu
VP Scholarship	Diane Ramos	ramosdm1@my.palmbeachstate.edu
VP Leadership	Kim Huston-Stingo	stingokm@my.palmbeachstate.edu
VP Service	Laura Stevens	stevensle1@my.palmbeachstate.edu
VP Communication	Tiffany Kelsey	kelseytr@my.palmbeachstate.edu
VP Finance	Cindy Llantoy	llantoycm@my.palmbeachstate.edu
Co-Advisor	Christine Bush	bushc@palmbeachstate.edu
Co-Advisor	Joe Millas	millasj@palmbeachstate.edu

## Keep Informed

Important information can be found on the following web pages. Delta Omicron utilizes the internet to inform our members with up-to-date information.

International Web Page	<a href="http://www.ptk.org">www.ptk.org</a>
Regional Web Page	<a href="http://www.flptk.org">www.flptk.org</a>
Delta Omicron	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/ptkdeltaomicronchapter">www.facebook.com/ptkdeltaomicronchapter</a> <a href="http://twitter.com/PTKDeltaOmicron">http://twitter.com/PTKDeltaOmicron</a> <a href="http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ptkdeltaomicron">www.groups.yahoo.com/group/ptkdeltaomicron</a> <a href="http://ptkdeltaomicron.wordpress.com/">http://ptkdeltaomicron.wordpress.com/</a> <a href="http://www.palmbeachstate.edu/x16672.xml">www.palmbeachstate.edu/x16672.xml</a>

The *Delta Omicronicle* is a monthly newsletter sent to all registered members of Delta Omicron who have provided the chapter with their email address.

## Phi Theta Kappa National Headquarters

The Center for Excellence  
 1625 Eastover Drive  
 Jackson, Mississippi 39211  
[www.ptk.org](http://www.ptk.org)  
 1-800-946-9997

## Key “Phi Theta Kappa” Terms

**Athenian:** an electronic newsletter compiled of submissions from chapters in the PTK Florida Region.

**Assistant Event Coordinator:** assisting the Event Officer in coordination of event, per the Officer’s discretion. Specific instructions will be given on a case by case basis.

**Chapter:** the smaller group of Phi Theta Kappans that belong to a specific community college or college campus. The PBSC Lake Worth Chapter is called Delta Omicron.

**Committee:** a group of members that have volunteered to participate in a specific project or event.

**Credit:** a completed activity used toward the Five Star Membership Program.

**Civic Engagement:** an activity dedicated to community service.

**Executive Board:** also known as the E-Board; the six officers dedicated to planning, organizing and attending Delta Omicron’s events. New officer elections occur at the end of the spring term.

**Fellowship:** the good times Phi Theta Kappans experience together.

**Five Star Membership:** a program that supports participation in which members complete assigned tasks to earn one “star” at a time. Tasks are not necessarily completed in chronological order.

**Fundraiser:** any activity that raises funds for Delta Omicron.

**General Meeting:** Delta Omicron’s official meeting in which members are updated with news and upcoming events. These usually occur every other Sunday.

**Honors Study Topic:** The topic is the general theme of Phi Theta Kappa in which chapters explore through study and by putting the topic into action. This year’s study topic is “*The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril and Promise*”.

**Hallmarks:** The competitive award program for Phi Theta Kappa recognizing the accomplishments of individuals, chapters, and regions.

**Induction:** a ceremony that occurs twice a year in which new members become official members of Phi Theta Kappa.

**International Convention:** a convention in which PTK members from around the world gather for education, information, fellowship, networking and campaign for International Office.

**Provisional Membership:** A member that has yet to acquire the required GPA and college credits for official membership but is still actively participating in chapter events.

**Region:** Phi Theta Kappa is divided into 29 “Regions”. The state of Florida is one Region.

**Service Project:** an activity dedicated to the International Service Project, “Operation Green: Improving Our Communities”.