

DKG NEWS

FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

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Convention attendees to hear nationally known speakers

A *Art of Possibility* author Zander will inspire Visionary, teacher, conductor, and author Benjamin Zander will be a 2018 International Convention speaker. He is known as a teacher of thousands of musicians and a celebrated speaker on leadership. He combines possibilities, leadership, optimism, and the arts.

Zander will offer insight into ourselves and our organization and inspire us as we explore our future. He and his partner, Rosamund Zander, co-authored *The Art of Possibility* that has been translated into 15 languages.

Zander has been on the faculty of the New England Conservatory. He conducts the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra and Youth Orchestra and is a guest conductor around the world. His recordings have been nominated for three Grammys.

See **ZANDER**, 4



Benjamin Zander



Nadia Lopez

Educator Lopez will motivate
You may have seen Brooklyn native Nadia Lopez in a National Public Radio interview or on Entertainment Television when honored with the Black Girls Rock Change Agent Award or as a member of The Education Revolution panel.

You may have heard of or read her book *The Bridge to Brilliance: How One Principal in a Tough Community Is Inspiring the World*.

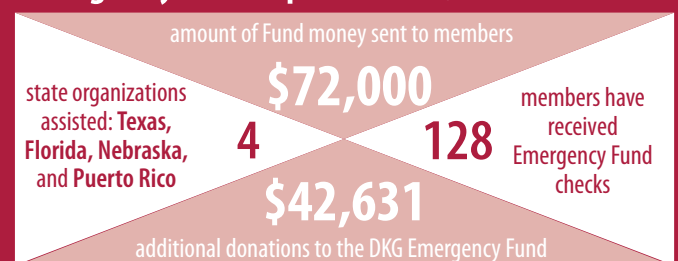
Lopez will be a keynote speaker at the 2018 International Convention. She is founder and principal of Mott Hall

See **LOPEZ**, 4

Delta Kappa Gamma promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.



Emergency Fund Update from August 29-September 29, 2017



Visit our website at www.dkg.org for the latest news and information.

Ideas...thrive on critical examination

By Carolyn Pittman

2016-2018 INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

International committees and boards, groups of members, and individual members have submitted approximately 100 proposals for amendments to the DKG *Constitution* and *International Standing Rules* (ISR). (The submission deadline was October 1.) Committees have written proposals and sought endorsement from other committees. Committee chairs have “met” via GoToMeeting to discuss ways to SIMPLIFY our governing documents and the work assignments of committees. The discussions have raised voices regarding WHY the Society does WHAT it does and HOW.

Members are taking ownership of their membership. Discussions, questions, fact-checkings, writings and rewrites, and the ultimate proposals are crucial to the future of this Society. The elected and appointed Society leaders are taking seriously the trust of our members to be proactive about DKG.

Their work – and it is work – has value only if all members engage in understanding the proposed possibilities and speak out. UNDERSTANDING the proposals and reasons for them is YOUR duty. Making a pro or con decision is honorable and proper so long as YOU know WHAT and WHY you make that decision. An emotional, knee-jerk reaction is not honorable or proper. Exploring the reasons for proposals before votes are taken is YOUR charge. Be sure you understand the reasons for and implications of proposed amendments. If you do not understand a proposed amendment, ask someone about it. Ask your regional representative on the committee, an Administrative Board member, or Headquarters staff for clarification. You can attend a Q & A session at the convention before the voting.



If YOU agree with a proposal, say so, support it, explain its import, and engage in its consequence. If YOU do NOT agree with a proposal, say so, support it, explain its import, and engage in its consequence. Either approach to proposed amendments is correct! The important point is

that ANYone could propose amendments, and ALL have a voice to express opinions about them. YOU are a DKG stakeholder. Take charge of your membership.

The official (and current) DKG Constitution and ISR document is available online at ww.dkg.org under the Resources tab. The printed and Kindle versions have had a few updates that may differ from the digital version on our website. EVERY member has access to a free Constitution and ISR.

YOUR input, your thinking, your insights are WANTED. Disinterest, passivity, Monday-morning quarterbacking will not serve well the people we hold in high regard — our members, potential members, ourselves. Mathematician George Polya said this well: “The best of ideas is hurt by uncritical acceptance and thrives on critical examination.” DKG governance is our shared duty and requires our shared attention.

The amendment process is specified in Article XVI. While amending the *Constitution* differs in some ways from amending the ISR, there are similarities:

- Proposed amendments are submitted to the constitution committee who study the proposals and invite collaboration among proposers of similar proposals.
- The constitution committee submits the proposed amendments to the Administrative Board.
- All amendments to be voted upon shall be presented to the membership no later than the March/April issue of *The DKG NEWS*. *Exception: ISR amendments may be proposed at the convention.

2016-2018 ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

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Find administrative board members' email addresses at www.dkg.org

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SAVE THE DATE

March 18-21, 2018

2018 National Legislative Seminar

Join other Key Women Educators who are interested in advocating for women, children and education. Spend four days participating in a seminar that features knowledgeable speakers, a day on the Hill meeting with your individual representatives, and tours in the Washington, D.C. area.

For more details or to register, visit:
www.usforumdkg.org

DEADLINES

Dec 1

- International Leadership Management Seminar

Dec 15

- *Bulletin: Collegial Exchange*

Jan 1

- Gallery of Fine Arts spring exhibit

Jan 2

- Convention hotel block opens for reservations

Jan 3

- Educational Foundation project

Jan 15

- Convention breakout/ takeaway proposals

Feb 1

- Scholarship
- Cornet Professional Development Awards

DKGNext seeks a revitalized future

Sharing resources about futuristic thinking, organizational change, leadership, generational studies and social trends affecting membership kick-started discussions about the Society's present reality and future possibilities when the 2017 DKGNext Think Tank convened in late September.

During an intense examination of DKG to determine what is working and what requires attention, group members developed a plan to replicate the Think Tank experience with their own and neighbor state organizations.

State organization presidents have received a letter from 2017 DKGNext offering to present sessions to interested members. In addition, a proposed amendment regarding elections, a plan to present a convention breakout session, and a realization of the breadth of DKG emerged from the conversations.

The Think Tank recommends the following goals:

- Expand options for growing membership;
- Simplify the *Constitution* and *International Standing Rules* for conciseness and clarity;
- Support and inspire women educators to become their best selves;
- Explore the creation of hybrid and virtual chapters;
- Address what works and doesn't work with communication;
- Acknowledge/alleviate gaps in knowledge about DKG, both internally and externally;
- Continue the Think Tank;
- Emphasize the need to be multicultural, multigenerational, and more inclusive;
- Talk about DKG across chapter, state organization, and country borders; and
- Provide, develop and advance such things as online professional development, a Q & A page for common questions, event sponsors, Tedx-like talks about DKG



DKGNext committee members are (standing) Pam Phillips (TX), Tracy Collier (TN), Janet Drews (MI), Jane Davis (AL) Brenda Bramblia (Baja CA), Sandra Zugner (WA), Dianne Letsch (AR), Patti Jenks (HI), Marcia Erickson (PA). President Carolyn Pittman and Jan Nerem (MT) are seated.

and education, a strategy for teacher exchanges with DKG members worldwide, and service project impact.

The Think Tank concluded with each member making a specific commitment: write a literature review, an article about the DKGNext experience, an article about the meaning of "genuine spiritual fellowship," a blog about thriving and surviving change; create breakout sessions about trends and need for change; create a video in Spanish about DKG for Latin American members; and study the implications of Design Thinking.

The 2017 DKGNext is comprised of members representing diverse demographics of the Society. Some have been members fewer than five years, some more than 20, and one more than 60 years. Some are young; others are veteran. Large and small state organizations are represented. Some have taught less than a decade; some are retired. They teach from pre-k through graduate school students. Some are firmly committed to DKG while others question their membership. 2017 DKGNext participants were selected from 140 interested members who applied to be a part of the Think Tank.

DKGNext is a continuing initiative begun by Past International President Dr. Lyn Schmid.

ZANDER From page 1

He gave the opening and closing keynote addresses at the World Economic Forum in Davos and has been recognized for “outstanding contributions in the Arts and international relations.” He received the Caring Citizen of the Humanities Award from the United Nations.

Bringing a global perspective, the international language of music, and the universal need for nurturing personal growth, Zander will inspire.

The Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund will partially fund Zander’s engagement.

Come early, stay late, enjoy Texas

July 16-20, 2018 . . . Austin is the place to be! The birthplace of DKG is alive with music and theater, lakes and parks, shopping and dining, history and entertainment of all sorts.

Texas members are eager for you to arrive. If you would like to spend some extra time before or after the convention, below is a list of things to do within a few hours’ drive from the city. Make your plans to be at the J.W. Marriott July 16-20, 2018, and perhaps extend your stay in the state that Texans are excited to share.

Austin area attractions:

North

- ♦ Georgetown: Inner Space Cavern, “Most Beautiful Town Square in Texas”
- ♦ Waco: Magnolia Market, Mammoth National Monument, Browning Library at Baylor
- ♦ Dallas: Dealey Plaza, George W. Bush Presidential Library at SMU, Cowboy Stadium

South

- ♦ San Marcos: outlet malls
- ♦ New Braunfels: Natural Bridge Caverns
- ♦ Gruene/Wimberly: antique shops
- ♦ San Antonio: Riverwalk, Alamo, Institute of Texas Culture

East

- ♦ College Station: George H. W. Bush Presidential Library at Texas A&M
- ♦ Schulenburg area: painted churches

West

- ♦ Lake Buchanan: Vanishing Texas River Cruise
- ♦ Scenic Texas Hill Country
- ♦ Stonewall: LBJ Ranch
- ♦ Fredericksburg: Wildseed Farms, area shopping/wineries, World War II Museum

LOPEZ From page 1

Bridges Academy in Brownsville, Brooklyn, a school she founded in 2010 to address the downward trend in a neighborhood that had given up on its students. The academy broke the school-to-prison pipeline with a stunning 98% graduation rate among its first three graduating classes.

Lopez will inspire and motivate as she tells how lives have changed and how she helps her students, all of whom live below the poverty level, connect to the world.

Convention facts you need to know NOW

1. J.W. Marriott Austin is the convention hotel. Begin making reservations January 2nd.
2. Convention registration begins in February.
3. Dates are July 16-20, Monday-Friday.
4. Proposal forms for breakouts and takeaways will be available December 1.
5. April is the deadline for members, chapters and state organizations to reserve a place in the marketplace. Applications are online at www.dkg.org under Events.
6. Proposed amendments to *Constitution* and *International Standing Rules* will be the major business of the convention.
7. Tours of Headquarters will be offered.
8. 2018-2020 international elected positions, Educational Foundation trustees, and finance and nomination committee members will be voted on.
9. Texas ambassadors will be available for first timers.
10. The weather will be HOT and hospitality, courtesy of Texas State Organization, will be abundant!

I have tried to use the member directory online to locate a member I met at the regional this past summer, but I get a message that no results are found. How come?



The online member directory is a service that can connect members with addresses, phone numbers and email addresses, but many members do not know about this valuable benefit of membership, which depends on members' allowing their contact information to be included in the directory.

All one needs to do to be in the directory is to go to dkg.org, MyDKG, and login with your username (member ID#) and password (ask your chapter president for the generic password if you are logging in for the first time). Once you have completed this process, the system will remember your username and password if you choose. Click on My Participation and check the box giving permission to be included in the members-access-only online directory, a perfectly safe resource since only members can access it.

The more members give permission for their contact information to be in the members-only directory, the easier it will be for you to locate someone in any of our 17 member countries!

Artists celebrate the butterfly effect

Eighty-three works by members present their own interpretation of The Butterfly Effect concept in the current Gallery of Fine Arts exhibit.

Works are grouped to enable quick access to specific pieces and for viewing, reading, or listening to a few per sitting. That means gallery visitors can look at a different group of works each time or at favorites.

Click on the red DKG Fine Arts Gallery square on the dkg.org site, select your viewing preference (visual art, writing, music, video, or archives), and scroll down through the postage stamp photos to select particular works you wish to see enlarged or scroll below them to see videos, hear recordings, and read poems or stories.

This is the first exhibit that addresses The Butterfly Effect theme. There will be one more exhibit



Cheryl L. Goff's photograph, *Soaking up the Sun*, is one of current exhibit items in the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts.

focusing on the theme in the spring exhibit. The submission period for that exhibit is January 1-February 1, 2018.

Strategies 'amp up' communications

Do you feel communication is sometimes like a dripping faucet, one drop at a time? News can be sporadic and hard to find.

Your international communications and publicity committee has a new strategy to have important information reach you in multiple forms. The goal is to maximize communication so it is more like a garden hose, spraying everywhere, by communicating the same information three or more ways using the *Get Connected* newsletter, the C&P blog, social media, and videos.

No matter what your learning preference, you will easily find information you need. Look for the current *Get Connected* issue (Best of the Blog) on the DKG home page and articles in the *Collegial Exchange*.

Expect to see more committee blogs that will bring ideas to strengthen your technology

understanding, as well as ways to strengthen communication in your chapter and as an individual.

The committee will use GoToWebinar to create instructional videos to inform audio-visual learners, such as webinars to help explain proposed changes to the *DKG Constitution*. All members will benefit from watching these videos so they can make informed voting decisions at the 2018 International Convention.

Members can help select the topics for the newsletter, blog, and other communication efforts by taking interest surveys and by sharing preferences for information on the DKG website and DKG app.

Communicating in multiple ways to inform and enrich your participation as leading women educators is a means to reach all members, regardless of learning style.

What's working

CHAPTER ■ SUCCESS STORIES

A young woman, seeking her first teaching job, was finding many of her school visits discouraging because of ill-equipped classrooms and discouraged teachers.

Just as she was about to abandon the field of education, she found DKG Has Your Back Elementary School. During a tour, the principal showed the young teacher a well-equipped creative arts room, explaining that Ms. Lois, a retired music teacher, and her friends helped change funding legislation so that a strong arts program was available to all students, teachers and families.

The young teacher was deeply energized by what Ms. Lois and her

A DKG Fable, By Dr. Sue Pettitt (CO), inspired by Max Lucado's *Out Live Your Life*.

friends had accomplished and hoped to meet Ms. Lois soon.

Then the principal showed her the teachers' resource/workroom, full of technology, teaching resources, and a coffee/tea bar. The principal said that Ms. Lois's group often brought treats and helped early-career educators plan units, raise student performance, and problem solve in classrooms. The young teacher was amazed and hoped that she could talk to Ms. Lois soon.

Finally, the principal pointed to teachers meeting with local YMCA program coordinators. They were planning a professional workshop on "How to Combat Stressors in Teaching." Now the young teacher

was beside herself with excitement about the school and blurted, "Is Ms. Lois in that meeting?"

The principal smiled, "Oh, those are her DKG chapter friends in the room. Ms. Lois passed away three years ago but her chapter will tell you that she is very much alive in this school and that schools are different when DKG members are present and engaged in them."

Your money business

UniBlog. Not familiar with that term?

When you go to www.dkg.org, scroll down to the picture labeled DKG Blog and click on the yellow BLOG button, you can access a wealth of information from Society committees and one from Annie Webb Blanton herself, as all Society blogs are now consolidated in one place.

You'll find blogs from many international committees such as communications and publicity, constitution, educational excellence, finance, membership, scholarship and World Fellowship.

Draw your cursor over any committee name, click and you will be directed to the blogs posted by that committee. For instance, the finance committee has posted blogs about teamwork, IRS filing dates and forms, dues collection ideas, treasurers' reports, and treasurers' training.

You can follow the blogs through your email by typing in your email address. It doesn't get much simpler.

There is even a place for you to leave a comment about the blog or ask a question. Encourage others to follow the blog and keep up to date with Society happenings.

Making members matter

Every member wants to be part of a vibrant, enthusiastic, and growing chapter! But what are the vital pieces that make up an energized chapter? Here are elements of a successful chapter:

- ♦ An energized chapter begins with a plan that includes goals and specific action items with follow up to foster encouragement and accountability.
- ♦ Multiple forms of communication help members stay informed about chapter programs, projects, and each other.
- ♦ Each member is invited to take an active role in chapter activities and duties. There are many ways to be involved and all are appreciated.
- ♦ Relationships are nurtured during social time, group travel to conventions, and a chapter buddy system.

- ♦ Everyone is responsible for growing membership and wants to recruit friends and colleagues to join the camaraderie.
- ♦ Chapter leaders are developed through training, mentoring, and committee work.
- ♦ The chapter celebrates members by sending cards, recognizing service, and observing membership anniversaries.
- ♦ Meetings have a wide variety of high-quality, interesting programs and speakers, including programs that highlight community initiatives and those that use members' talents and expertise.

Who wouldn't want to belong to this chapter?

While there are no "cookie cutter" rules, there are practices that are repeated again and again by successful chapters. The new **Strategies for a Positive Chapter Environment** resource offers these and many more tips collected from surveys, reports and informal research. It can be found under Resources on the chapter strengthening page at DKG.org.

Dear Annie ...

Have you ever heard the expression, "What would Annie Webb Blanton do?" I know my name gets thrown around. I have never been one to sit back and do nothing. So from time to time I will answer that very question. AWB

Dear Annie:

I am the new recording secretary for my chapter. We have 25-30 members at meetings. I need help.

I can't keep up with all the details during meetings. Sometimes members talk at the same time and when a motion is made I can't write it down fast enough. I don't know who made the motion or who seconded it. I am afraid my minutes will be inaccurate.

I dread all the criticisms and corrections that will come. I bring my laptop and try to get all the details down quickly but I am just not fast enough. Maybe I am not the right person for this role. Should I quit?

Frazzled

Members promote understanding of UN goals

September 2017 marked the second anniversary of the United Nations' adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2015, all 193 states of the UN approved these 17 Global Goals with 169 targets. The UN has initiated programs and activities to promote the effort to create The World We Want.

DKG/UN representatives presented a breakout session in four of the five regional conferences, explaining and promoting the SDGs. "16+1=7" was not a mathematical error but a way of introducing the 17 goals as they relate to DKG's Purpose #7.

Members learned how the 16 goals evolved; then attendees developed ideas to promote the concepts in chapters, schools, communities and daily living.

To learn more about what you can do to help promote this

UN initiative, download the app: UNITED NATIONS VISITOR CENTRE in the App Store, Google Play, or Amazon or go to www.un.org and scroll down for a two-minute video on the goals and more.

Follow the DKG@UN newsletters to read what DKG/UN representatives say about briefings they attend regarding the SDGs and other important UN issues.

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 6, 2018, for the next Committee on Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) Conference at the UN in New York City. The theme Stepping Up to Protect the World's Children will focus on issues threatening children globally and discuss means to safeguard these most vulnerable citizens. Go to www.teachun.org for a conference statement, details regarding registration, hotel accommodations and continuing updates.

Dear Frazzled:

You can do this! Here are some tips to guide you. Ask your chapter president to give you the sample minutes found on page 61 of the Guidelines for Chapter Presidents. Ask her to work with you by sending the chapter meeting agenda to you ahead of time; then have it on your computer so that you only need to fill in the pertinent details during the meeting.

Have her help you (and everyone at the meeting) by directing the discussions so that one person is talking at a time. If you feel you missed something, ask the president to repeat the action taken. Ask the president to recognize members by name to help you note the name in the minutes.

Include the actual wording of motions. You do not need to add the name of the member who seconds a motion but do include the name of the motion maker. Minutes should contain actions taken. Do not include personal opinions or details of debate or discussion.

Do not include informal items like food served or thank yous to hostesses. It is most important that the minutes are accurate. They chronicle the history of your chapter. Some secretaries like to record the business meeting for later review. I bet you already feel better about your next chapter meeting.

AWB

Emergency Fund responds to natural disasters

DKG has many members who found themselves in the wrath of hurricanes and other natural disasters in August and September. At the same time our members are stepping up their donations and commitment to the fund. Requests for assistance continue to come in to Headquarters every day.

To donate to the Emergency Fund, credit card donations can be made online or you can complete Form 43 that is on the website and send it in with a check made out to DKG Emergency Fund.

Contributions to this fund are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law in the USA and in some other countries. (See page one for donations and allocations made in September.)

INTERNATIONAL • UPDATE

Latin America is 'on line'

We have an amazing group of young and enthusiastic state organization presidents in the Latin America area. Not just people who have lived a small number of years, but those who are ready for change, not sticking to old ways of carrying on tasks.

The area representative and state organization presidents are preparing for the Latin American Forum using GoToMeeting, to exchange comments and set forum objectives. Two meetings were held to prepare for the Latin American Conference in Antigua, Guatemala, in October. It was a great opportunity to share DKG goals and successes, difficulties and dreams in a two-day conference, working in our common language.

Dr. Lyn Schmid and headquarters administrators Phyllis Hickey and Nita Scott joined us.

Area members celebrated our successful forum at the Southwest Conference last summer. Members also had the great opportunity

to "attend" Mexico D.F.'s state convention using social media.

We are living in a new communication era, and Latin America DKG is taking advantage of the opportunities to work.

This column is submitted on a rotating basis by the Europe regional director, the area representatives for Canada and Latin America, and Japan.



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (USPS 715-830)

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Corporation board reviews Society funds, makes recommendations

The DKG Supporting Corporation – a strange name that does not actually reflect what this board does. It would be better understood if it were titled The DKG Funds Foundation.

When a member donates to one or more of the eight funds supervised by the corporation board – The Emergency Fund, The Golden Gift Fund, The Scholarship Fund, The World Fellowship Fund, The International Speakers Fund, The Eunah Temple Holden Fund, The Loretta Halek Memorial Fund, and The Educators Award Fund – the gift is tax deductible in the United States and in some other member countries. Members may make donations to these funds in memory or in honor of an individual.

The board is comprised of the immediate past international president, the international president, the executive director, the business services administrator, the Society's financial supervisor and the international finance committee chair. The board meets once a year with the Society's investment manager to review asset allocation of each fund.

At the board's recent meeting, board members agreed to submit a constitutional amendment to the 2018 convention that, if approved, will dissolve the Loretta Halek Memorial Fund, as it has received no recent contributions. Additionally, the board wishes to frame more fully the Society's marketing initiative, the Legacy of Leadership Initiative.

This may be accomplished through an online webinar to help members understand the initiative and the benefits they will receive upon donating.

Scholarships, grants and awards are provided by these funds, directly benefiting members and non-members. Members' voluntary contributions to the funds are necessary to further the Society's Purposes and our mission to promote the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

