

# DKG NEWS

FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

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## Achievement Award Winner

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Dr. Gwen Simmons is the recipient of the 2018 International Achievement Award. She received the recognition for her service to the Society during the Impacting Education Worldwide Luncheon at the 2018 International Convention. Carolyn Pittman, 2016-2018 International President, presented the award.

Simmons has been international parliamentarian for two biennia. She is a North Carolina past state organization president and editor and has been recognized as a Woman of Distinction. At the international level she has presented numerous workshops, keynote addresses, and inspirational moments, and is an author for Society publications. She has been a member and/or chair of the Membership Committee, the Constitution Committee, Constitution Revision Committee, the Constitution Interpretation Committee, Focus 2000, the International Executive Board, and the Administrative Board.

Simmons, described as a risk taker, motivator, communicator, and visionary, conceived and organized the state organization editors and webmasters camp. She is preparing a similar seminar regarding effective meetings and parliamentary procedure to precede the



Gwen Simmons, winner of the 2018 International Achievement Award.

2019 SE International Conference.

Simmons is known for "stirring the pot," often taking the least popular view to press others to examine their own stance, creating conversation, reflection and broadening understanding. She is never too busy to acknowledge the leadership potential of others and to encourage

them to try new roles. Her leadership has built a DKG network of support, participation, and sustainability.

Pittman said, "She is a leader from whatever chair she occupies, and when she tells you something, you can believe it. She has stood before us and behind us and always with us. She has held our hands and pushed us. She walks with us and lifts us and is devoted to the individual and to the whole."

The Society annually gives the gold medallion and chain known as the International Achievement Award to a leader who has merited recognition for her distinguished record of service to the Society at the international level. The medallion is worn only by members who have been voted that honor and privilege by the International Executive Board.

Congratulations to the 2018 International Achievement Award recipient, Dr. Gwen Simmons.

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



# ...To be Continued...

**By Cathy P. Daugherty**

2018-2020 INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

*I am on the brink of the continued journey. We, as a convention, have heeded the minds, voices, and actions that will keep us forward moving ever... It's not my story... It's our story. YOU and WE are "Leading women educators, impacting education worldwide."*



Those words were never uttered at the 2018 international convention, but they were supposed to be your new international president's lines as part of a report jointly given by Dr. Lyn Babb Schmid, 2014-2016 IP, and Carolyn H. Pittman, 2016-2018 IP. Ultimately, convention business pre-empted this agenda item. Perhaps it was best that your 2018-2020 international president's DKG acting debut be relegated to these above written words and not a halting recital opposite two accomplished performers! By sharing it now you can visualize the words in the context they truly represent and the evolutionary continuum they represent going forward into this biennium.

Sometimes in our zeal to celebrate a new biennium, we emphasize elements such as a theme and visual motif to the exclusion of the real substance that allows a new biennium to build on previous biennia. We lose momentum generated at a convention and forget accomplishments of previous two-year spans in our desire to start with a clean slate as we would a new school year. The concerted effort and agreement between the last two presidents and your new president determined that now was the time to establish a more vibrant and clear continuum, an obvious linking of each, one to the other, to push DKG forward. That was the purpose of the presidents' performance that never aired at the convention. Moving from one set of elected international officers, board members, and appointed committee members should not result in a "throwing the baby out with the bathwater" mentality. We knew from experience that building on the past moves

us farther and faster along the path to destinations sought. Indeed, innovations and possibilities must be added as the journey progresses, but not at the expense of eliminating viable programs, projects, and purposes developed and nurtured in the past. To grow we must concentrate on turning into actions the ideas generated in possibilities discussed in previous biennia. That is your president's vision for 2018-2020. We are DKG members, "Leading women educators impacting education worldwide."

As educators we know that meaningful repetition creates progress in the classroom. It may have the same impact on Society members. During the lengthy convention discussion on changing the name of our organization, a member spoke out against the proposed amendment. She cited that we were seeking only to affix a bandage to the real issue. She argued that it wasn't our name, but our lack of ability in explaining who we are to others that lay at the root of the issue. Continued, purposeful use of our Vision Statement with others will alleviate the hesitation we sometimes experience when sharing the DKG story. So, for the first time in my Society experience the 2018-2020 international theme remains the same as the previous biennium – DKG's Vision Statement. Radical? Not at all, but different from tradition and expectation. Could we eliminate our identity issues at all levels by embracing this mantra as our definitive theme throughout all levels of the Society? Could this theme used by every member, every day become the phrase that best markets who we are and what we are about? Could a philosophy of continued effort built on past endeavors lead DKG members to capitalize on our present momentum to evolve farther and faster. You know the answers. We are the answer. YOU and WE are DKG members, "Leading women educators impacting education worldwide." And so, it continues.

## 2018-2020 ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

### INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Cathy P. Daugherty, RP  
Virginia

### FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Becky Sadowski  
Tennessee

### SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Lace Marie Brogden  
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### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nita R. Scott, CAE  
Texas

### REGIONAL DIRECTORS

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Ingibjörg Jónasdóttir  
Iceland

#### NORTHEAST

Jane D. Tanner  
New York

#### NORTHWEST

Dr. Donna Niday  
Iowa

#### SOUTHEAST

Elaine Warwick  
Tennessee

#### SOUTHWEST

Marilyn Gregory  
Texas

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Carolyn H. Pittman  
Arkansas

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

#### 2016-2020

June M. Bowers  
Nebraska

#### 2018-2022

Connie Rensink  
Texas

### AREA REPRESENTATIVES

#### CANADA

Betty Rose  
Alberta

#### LATIN AMERICA

Aurora Vignau de Zambrano  
Nuevo León

### PARLIAMENTARIAN

Dr. Helen Popovich, PRP  
Florida

Find administrative board members' email addresses at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

## DKG NEWS EDITOR

Patricia Woodley, Texas  
[trishw@dkg.org](mailto:trishw@dkg.org)

## “Meet the Block”

“Are you staying at this convention hotel? If so, thank you! You helped us make our block.” This comment was heard every day at the international convention in July.

Convention goers staying at the JW Marriott Austin Hotel were eligible for daily “Meet the Block” prizes. The daily winners were:

- Sherri Wagemann, WA – 50 minute spa treatment from JW Marriott
- Barbara Canfield, MO - \$100 VISA card donated by The Standard
- Connie Bivens, IN – Jewelry bag with TX handcrafted jewelry donated by Alpha Chi, Texas
- Esther Eustice, ND – 20” sterling silver necklace with DKG lettering and garnet stone donated by Award Concepts
- Mary Zirkelback, IA – Free registration to Susan Leahy’s online Confident Woman Program
- Lisa Yates, TX – 20” sterling silver necklace with 10 mm garnet stone donated by Award Concepts
- Ginny Pasternak, NJ – *The Bridge to Brilliance* by Nadia Lopez and *The Art of Possibility* by Benjamin Zander
- Lois Brown, PA - \$100 VISA card donated by Iota Omega, Plano, Texas

- Candi Martin, AR – Double sized sample quilt with two pillow shams donated by Mu Epsilon, Texas
- Gayle Case, CA - Free registration to Susan Leahy’s online Confident Woman Program
- Bonnie Hill-Dowdy, AZ – Tiffany ballpoint pen valued at \$125.00 donated by Pam Burge of Gamma Omicron Chapter, Texas
- Amanda Matray, NM – Free registration to the 2020 International Convention in Philadelphia, PA.

The Regional Breakfast winners listed below each won a free registration to a 2019 International Conference:

- SE- Clara Hunton, LA
- SW- Kathy Daniel, TX
- NE- Rita Lachance-Stevens, ME
- NW- Loretta Tonak, WY
- EU- Laila Asak, Norway

When the Society signs a contract with a hotel, it guarantees that members will register for a certain number of room nights at the hotel. “Meeting the Block” means meeting a pre-agreed percentage of that guaranteed number of room nights. In return, we receive certain benefits such as meeting rooms, at no charge.

### DEADLINES

#### Sept 1

- Lucile Cornetet Award for Professional Development Application

#### Sept 3

- Labor Day - Headquarters closed

#### Sept 5

- Arts & Humanities Gallery submissions due

#### Oct 1

- *Bulletin: Journal* submissions

#### Oct 8

- Columbus Day - Headquarters closed

#### Nov 1

- International Speakers Request due from State Organization Presidents

#### Nov 15

- IRS Form 990 to be filed by US Chapters

## Leaders Elected at Convention

State organization presidents voted on behalf of their members to elect the 2018-2020 Administrative Board and members of the Nominations and Finance committees.

### Administrative Board new members:

Cathy P. Daugherty, RP, President  
 Becky Sadowski, First Vice-President  
 Dr. Lace Marie Brogden, Second Vice-President  
 Ingibjörg Jónasdóttir, Europe Regional Director  
 Jane D. Tanner, NE Regional Director  
 Dr. Donna Niday, NW Regional Director  
 Elaine Warwick, SE Regional Director  
 Marilyn Gregory, SW Regional Director  
 Connie Rensink, Member-at-Large (2018-2022)  
 Betty Rose, Area Representative – Canada  
 Aurora Vignau De Zambrano, Area Representative – Latin America

Dr. Helen Popovich, PRP, Parliamentarian (appointed)

### Additional members continuing on the Administrative Board:

June M. Bowers, Member-at-Large (2016-2020)  
 Carolyn Pittman, Immediate Past President  
 Nita R. Scott, CAE, Executive Director

Merry Lewis and Beth Schieber were elected by the Executive Board members to serve as 2018-2024 Trustees of the Educational Foundation Board.



Carolyn Pittman passed the gavel to new International President Cathy P. Daugherty.



2018-2020 Administrative Board members took the stage at the Celebration Banquet.

## Benjamin Zander

Conductor/Musical Director

Benjamin Zander, co-author with Rosamunde Zander of *The Art of Possibility*, spoke to the 2018 International Convention on Wednesday. Zander is conductor for the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra and the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. He is also a guest conductor around the world. His musical recordings have been nominated for three Grammys. He is known worldwide as both a music teacher of thousands and as a celebrated speaker on leadership. Zander combined the possibilities found in leadership, optimism, and the arts as he spoke to the members.

One of the most sought after speakers in the world, Zander offered insight into ourselves and our organization while inspiring the audience. He brought a global perspective to music which he described as the international language. *The Art of Possibility* has been translated into fifteen languages. It, along with R. Zander's sequel titled *Pathways to Possibility: Transforming Our Relationship with Ourselves, Each Other, and the World* were available for sale and autographs in the Marketplace following his speech.

His engagement was partially funded by the Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund.



A Texas member received birthday wishes from Benjamin Zander as part of his keynote address.

## Nadia Lopez

Principal/Educational Leader/Author

You may have seen Brooklyn native Nadia Lopez in an NPR interview, photographed in the White House with her student and President Barack Obama, or on Entertainment Television when she was honored with the Black Girls Rock Change Agent Award, or as a member of The Education Revolution panel. You may have read her book *The Bridge to Brilliance: How one Principal in a Tough Community Is Inspiring the World*.

Lopez was the keynote speaker at the 2018 International Convention on Thursday. She is founder and principal of Mott Hall 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.

Lopez inspired and motivated her audience as she described how she changed the lives of her students, all of whom live below the poverty level, by helping them connect to the world outside their neighborhood. Mott Hall Bridges Academy broke the school-to-prison pipeline with a stunning 98% graduation rate among its first three graduating classes.

Lopez's book was available in the Marketplace for purchase, and autographs were available after her speech.



Nadia Lopez addressed DKG members during the International Convention in Austin, Texas.

## FUNdraising with DKGEF

Members and friends attending the DKG Educational Foundation event on Wednesday night during the 2018 DKG International Convention in Austin raised funds for the DKGEF and had fun celebrating Texas style.

Throughout the two and a half hour event 496 participants enjoyed a western buffet and a variety of music. The Mariachi Amor band welcomed the guests as they entered the ballroom. A folklorico dance group from Ballet East Dance Company followed and received a standing ovation from the crowd for its energetic and beautiful performance. The event continued with an amazing performance from Macy Dot, a local high school student, who is a nominee for the 2018 Texas Country

Music Young Rising Star award. Macy and other Lake Travis High School students ended the evening of entertainment with line-dancing instruction.

The DKG Educational Foundation-sponsored event netted over \$20,000 that will go directly toward funding awards given annually by the Foundation.

Member donations and bequests make the Foundation awards possible. Full information covering DKGEF funding and awards can be found in the forthcoming 2016-2018 Biennial Report to be posted online at [www.dkgef.org](http://www.dkgef.org) in September, or directly through the link found on the Society's home page at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org).



Ballet East Dance Company's folklorico dancers performed in authentic dress.



Macy Dot, local high school student, dazzled the crowd with her performance.



Members took to the dance floor for line-dancing lessons.



A highlight video of the DKGEF event in Austin, TX made by Dorothy Sample



Mariachi Amor set the tone for the event.

## Leaders...Here, There, and Everywhere They Said "Yes!" to LMS

On July 1, 2018, thirty outstanding women educators embarked on a journey that will enhance their personal and professional leadership skills as they impact education worldwide. The members of the 2018 Leadership Management Seminar held at the McCombs School of Business on the University of Texas at Austin campus became the "Sisters of Synergy" by creating a whole greater than the sum of its parts.

Dr. Richard Grant, a psychologist and lecturer at the University of Texas McCombs School of Business, analyzed the group's Myers-Briggs Type Indicator results. Dr. Melissa Murphy, presented a session on "pitching" one's ideas or organization to others. Dr. Murphy stressed the value of clarity and brevity to inform, to persuade, or to encourage. Participants supported and learned from each other during video-taping, an exercise in spontaneous thinking and honing presentation skills.

Members designed their graduation ceremony held on Friday, July 13. The "Sisters of Synergy" were introduced individually and entered the room grouped by their Society regions.

Joanne Gregory, Golden Gift Fund Committee chair, and committee member Susan Perkins challenged the class to reflect on what they had learned during their two weeks in Austin, to re-energize upon returning to their homes, and to respect their leadership roles and those they lead. The "Sisters of Synergy" embraced a mission to share their leadership skills within DKG, their educational settings, and the community. They reflected on accepting leadership roles as opportunities arise, and to work collaboratively with other leaders. Watch for these leaders to continue to impact education worldwide!

## Souders Made a Difference

Until two biennia ago, *DKG NEWS* was compiled and edited by a headquarters staff member whose responsibility was Society communications. Changes in staff and technology led to outsourcing *DKG NEWS* at which time Dr. Jensi Souders, past international president and former state organization newsletter editor, was employed to edit *DKG NEWS*. As editor, Souders reminded members and committees to submit their articles by the appropriate deadline, edited the submitted articles and reviewed them with the writer, recommended layout to the Society graphic designer, and sent the articles electronically to the graphic designer to create the pages and to send to the printer.

Souders' excellent editing for the Society filled a necessary need very well.

The 2016-2018 Administrative Board voted to move to online only publishing of *DKG NEWS*, a decision that was not made lightly. Again, the Headquarters staff and technology have changed, and so have our membership numbers (downward) and publishing and postal costs (upward).

*DKG NEWS* is now edited by headquarters professional staff and published online only. Members who require a print copy may request that a copy be printed (on a computer printer, not professionally) and mailed to them. Another option is for chapter members to provide a print copy for members without online access.



**Front Row:** Lynda Anderson, Marie Puryear, Susan Perkins (GGF Co-Chair), Joanne Gregory (GGF Chair), Evelyn Hall, Xye Sanders  
**Second Row:** Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow, Dr. LaVerne Buchanan, Cathy Toney, Audrey Collins, Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Genia Klein  
**Third Row:** Mary Hyland, Dr. Ann Gaffney, Tobey Worthington, Suzanne Bathe, Cay Sergeant, Bonita Moore, Gabriela Ramos-Tercero  
**Fourth Row:** Sherrie Collins, Tracy Collier, Cora Davis, Bonnie Barnes, Sarah Hoff, Suzanne Moun Nelson  
**Fifth Row:** Dr. Michelle Aldrich, Laurie Marple, Jóna Benediktsdóttir, Karen Shelton, Susan Swope, Judy Rongey

## 2019 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Start planning now to attend an international conference next summer and expand your DKG experience. With five exciting destinations and different themes, you could take a vacation while earning professional credits. Each conference promises to have exciting speakers and breakout sessions.

**NORTHEAST**  
Global Awareness  
Mashantucket, CT  
July 30-Aug 1

**SOUTHEAST**  
Arts & Humanities  
Asheville, NC  
June 27-29

**NORTHWEST**  
Leadership  
Des Moines, IA  
July 10-12

**SOUTHWEST**  
STEM  
Costa Mesa, CA  
July 17-20

**EUROPE**  
Professional Research  
Reykjavik, Iceland  
July 25-27

# Highlights from the 2018 International Convention

- ♦ Dr. Gwen Simmons, North Carolina, received the 2018 Achievement Award
- ♦ Cathy Daugherty, Virginia, was installed as the 2018-2020 International President
- ♦ More than 600 people toured the Society Headquarters with Texas volunteers serving as docents
- ♦ More than 122 proposed amendments to the *DKG Constitution* and *Standing Rules* were considered\*
  - » The Society name remains unchanged
  - » The method of election of Society leaders remains unchanged
  - » Proposals to allow flexibility with *international* conferences (changed from *regional* conferences) and training of state organization leaders were approved
  - » Collegiate membership was approved; *initiation* was changed to *inducted*; when membership commences was defined as when dues are paid
- ♦ Approximately 2000 attended
- ♦ DKG Next members presented at each general meeting an opening inspiration titled *Leading Women Educators* and a committee member presented a closing inspiration titled *Impacting Education Worldwide*
- ♦ Benjamin Zander taught us how to REALLY sing Happy Birthday AND he released his CD of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* the day before he spoke (Order it from Amazon Smile)
- ♦ Nadia Lopez taught us the importance of passion for education

# Making members matter

Is your chapter looking for new members? Of course they are! There are approximately 3.6 million female teachers around the globe and only 68,365 are DKG members. That means that DKG members make up 1.8% of the female educators and there are 98.2% still waiting to learn about our story!

While the possibilities of who and where to find these new members are limitless, here are some ideas for who you could look for:

- ♦ Classroom Teacher
- ♦ Administrators
- ♦ College or trade school instructors
- ♦ Adjunct Professors
- ♦ Instructional Aides
- ♦ Paraprofessionals
- ♦ Librarians
- ♦ Church school education department leaders

Here are a few ideas for where you could look:

- ♦ Schools - public and private
- ♦ Leisa Dodson Phillips, Arkansas, wrote the lyrics and music for *Unbroken to the End*, and directed the inaugural performance at the Celebration Banquet
- ♦ Carol McMillan, Texas, edited the digital convention newsletter distributed via the DKG app
- ♦ \$32,580 was collected for the Emergency Fund
- ♦ The Impacting Education Worldwide Luncheon decorated with globe lanterns immediately followed the Global Awareness Forum, a collaborative presentation by the four forums
- ♦ The fifth general meeting ran over more than two hours in order



- ♦ District, county, state, national, international schools
- ♦ Universities
- ♦ Community colleges
- ♦ Adult and community education courses
- ♦ Conferences and workshops
- ♦ Public libraries
- ♦ Museums and zoos

Remember an educator is an instructor, teacher, trainer and creator of materials for any age in any location. (SR3.11 ... "employed" ... is defined as currently hired by an employer and/or paid a salary or fee for specific educational services.) (SR3.12 ... definition of professional educator is interpreted to include one-to-one instruction as well as group instruction.)

- ♦ to complete consideration of the proposed amendments
  - ♦ The blessings for the luncheon and for the banquet were written/composed by DKG members
  - ♦ The meals were d-e-l-i-c-i-o-u-s
  - ♦ The remote voting devices allowed us to know voting results in seconds
- \*Click on the homepage sliding feature at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

Other news items:

- ♦ 2018-2020 International Committee appointments may be found at [dkg.org/Resources/Committees](http://dkg.org/Resources/Committees)
- ♦ The 2018-2020 budget has been approved by the Executive Board who voted electronically

## 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 know that we recently approved Collegiate Membership, but we were wondering if International has some ideas on how to proceed?

Is it the goal to have chapters at the university/college level or invite the university/college students to join established chapters?

—*Curious Mentors*

Dear Curious Mentors,

The intent of this new membership category was to induct collegiate members into existing chapters because the other approved amendments included a statement that collegiate members could participate in chapter activities

but could not hold office – sort of like Reserve members now. The inspiration behind this change was DKG’s founding aim “to honor women who have given or who evidence potential for distinctive service in any field of education” (Purpose 2). I am excited to see the Society promoting the personal and professional growth of women educators and excellence in education at yet another level. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce pre-career educators to Delta Kappa Gamma and offers meaningful access to mentoring and support while they are acquiring their degrees and credentials.

— AWB



*Annie Webb Blanton*

## INTERNATIONAL ▪ UPDATE Canada News

Accolades and gratitude to the host Texas State Organization for an outstanding international convention in Austin, where Canada’s contingent of 48 members proudly congratulated Ontario’s Aggie Moynihan on her appointment to the Holden Fund Committee, and celebrated three particular installations, 2nd Vice-President Dr. Lace Marie Brogden, a Saskatchewan member now living in Ontario, our incoming Area Representative Canada, Alberta’s Betty Rose; Ontario’s Debbie Rodaway, Nominations Committee member.

At our Canadian Forum, members selected a “Canadian” 2018-2020 Canada project, ARTSCAN CIRCLE, to replace the Nepal Project of the past four years. We enjoyed fellowship, appreciating

the many who came to our “Canada Party.”

It was an honour to participate in the Global Awareness Forum, an inaugural event we hope will become a tradition with the four forum chairs collaborating to present a topic of global importance. This year’s topic, “Teaching Tolerance and Promoting Peace,” was well attended and enlightening.

This biennium, Canada diligently recruited new members in all provinces: Alberta 15, Manitoba 15, Quebec 13, BC 7+2 reinstated, New Brunswick 6, Saskatchewan 5, Ontario 5, totalling 68. Sadly, at the Celebration of Life, we remembered 19 members, mentors to many leaving huge footprints on our hearts, among them Alice Cheatley (MB), an International 2nd VP,

Anne Thompson (BC), who served on many international committees, Quebec founder Marianne Davis, who celebrated her 100th birthday honoured by DKG Quebec, Kingston Ontario’s Flora MacDonald-Waller, an honorary Kingston Ontario member who had served as MP in Canada’s Federal Parliament, and Doreen Cohen, who contributed generously to the Alberta Scholarship Fund.

We are proud of and congratulate two dynamic Quebec members, Sylvie Bastien-Doss, and Dianea Phillips, who thoroughly enjoyed their experiences as International Speakers, and remain on the ISF list for another year.