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April 2022



Karen Gollhardt

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ALPHA UPSILON NEWS Area XIII



DKG Mission Statement:

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

Presidents' Message

Dear Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

"Your mind is a garden; your thoughts are your seeds. You can grow flowers, or you can grow weeds."

Hello Spring!! Let's all grow flowers!!! Now that most mask mandates have been lifted, hopefully we will see more smiling faces!!

Thanks to all who attended our Zoom last month. A special thanks to **Judi Healy** for knowing so many interesting people including our native plant expert, Parker Davis. Don't forget to go to the website he mentioned, Calscape.org where you are able to enter your zip code and get a list of native plants for your area. Click on the Advanced Search button to be get more specific results.

Thanks to everyone who has gone to our SignUpGenius site and added their names to committees and volunteered to bring refreshments to meetings! Please do this by the end of this month

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0948a5af2fa1f58-committee

Look on page 7 of this newsletter for details about the upcoming DKG California Convention. We encourage members to attend April 29th – May 1st (the chapter will reimburse you for your registration) and please attend the Saturday evening banquet where **Judy Kearns** will be honored with the DKG California Distinguished Service Award for 2022.

Our annual Friendship Tea is taking place IN PERSON on Thursday, April 14 at Pat Kalish's home! The theme is Mad Hatter. Join in on the fun and wear any kind of hat! AL-SO, remember to bring your committee's RED FOLDER with helpful directions for that particular committee. These will be we can distributed at the May meeting to the new committee members.

Willy Crouse and Karen Gollhardt, Co-Presidents

A Few Articles in This Issue:

Mad Hatter Tea Party!!	2
RED FOLDERS	3
Membership News	4
Ways to Bring Joy Into Your Life	5
Convention 1937 & 2022	6 & 7
International Convention NOLA	8
Teacher Resources	10
Mini Grant Recipients Shares	12-15

DKG Vision: Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.



DKG California 2021-2023 Theme: Invitation to a New Beginning

DKG California Educational, Professional, Making an Impact

Is Your Hat Ready to go to Tea??!!

Program:	Annual Friendship Tea with Karen Hurley, Millner
Place:	Pat Kalish's Home 4420 Shepherds Lane, La Cañada
Time:	4:00 p.m.
Next Meeting:	Thursday, April 14, 2022



April 14 Speaker Wears Many Hats!!

Many of us have had two (or more) careers, but Karen Hurley, our April speaker, has had two careers that are truly left brain/right brain. Karen, a Canadian fluent in Spanish and French, is currently Director of Programs and Services for La Canada Unified. But in a previous life, she was successful as a clothing designer, and she still likes to create so much that she recently took a one week course in France to learn how to make hats!

As our speaker for our Annual Friendship Tea, we've asked her to give a bit of history on women and hats and then...best part...talk about that week class in France and maybe even bring a hat or two. Mon Dieu!

Judi Healey, Program Chair

Don Your Fedora for the Mad Hatter's Tea Party!!



"WERE ALL MAD HERE", said the CHESHIRE CAT!!

We will be having a little MADNESS of our own, at our DKG FRIENDSHIP TEA.

It has been two years since our last Tea, but it is finally here!

Join in the fun and wear your "FAVORITE HAT." Wear your mask if you like. Weather permitting, there will be outdoor seating. Either way, patio seating will be available.

Please come and enjoy this time together!

Pat Kalish Hostess with the Mostest!!



ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

Happy Birthday to....



April

1—Patty Compeau 3—Karen Gollhardt 8—Shirley Sauvageau 13—Pat Kalish 18—Dianah Greenlees 23—Kim Frank 28—Marty Unger

Support LIFE With Buck a Book



Buck a Buck returns! Please bring your book donations to the April tea. You will enjoy taking home something new to read for just a

"buck" and help our chapter reach its annual donation goal.

Buck a Buck returns to the convention as well. The books you donate in April will be taken over to Burbank adding to the book collection at the convention.

What a wonderful way to support literacy. So, please clear off your shelves and make a donation.

Mary Lou Langedyke, LIFE Liaison

Prepare to Vote!

The Chapter Nominations Committee has been hard at work and have submitted the following slate of officers for the 2022-2024 biennium:

Co Presidents

Willy Crouse Karen Gollhardt

First Vice President (Programs) Judi Healey

Second Vice President (Membership) Marty Unger

Recording Secretary Debbie Bump

Corresponding Secretary

Karen Wilcoxen

Nominations Committee

Mary Linda Vandevelde, Chair Nancy Gunther Joyce Hamdan

The following positions are appointed and will be announced after the new officers are installed: Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Historian, Auditor.

These nominees will be voted on at the April meeting. At that time nominees from the floor may be presented.

Betsy Bazdarich, Chair Jean Chubb, Connie Hanson





NOMINATE

If you are an officer or a committee chairman, **BRING YOUR RED FOLDER** to the

April meeting. Think of what a person needs to know to take over a job. Include those things that would have helped you when you took over the job. Even if you will be continuing in a job, bring those procedures in case someone has to take over for you at some point. Write those procedures from the point of view of helping another person to do the job and do it successfully!! You should also send an electronic version to Karen Gollhardt.

Membership News



As we welcome new members and strive to retain existing ones, it is important for members to embrace the opportunity to serve as a mentor to others. By doing so, DKG will continue to maintain a strong, sustainable Society. Each of us is responsible for the new members we introduce for two years, but what about after that? Do we just stop supporting that person? What if the original mentor is unable to perform that function? We must step up our mentoring.

Rest assured, a mentor does not need to have all the answers. One must remember that a mentor only needs to be a supportive person who can build a relationship with a mentee by offering her guidance, support and encouragement as the mentee learns more about the Society and/or her new DKG leadership role. Although being a mentor does take some time, plan-

ning and commitment, it doesn't have to be all business and no fun! With so many of us being retired, we need to search out those who are still teaching and see what we can do to help them.

But, NOW WHAT?

You might consider getting to know one another both personally and professionally. Start creating a trusting relationship by building a good rapport with one another. Plan a time to meet, either in-person or via ZOOM. Perhaps the first time you get together, maybe over coffee, just have a good conversation - share about family, interests and experiences, motivations and/ or goals. Getting to know one another will help you as a mentor decide what kind of information will be helpful to your mentee.

It's important that the mentee voice what she wants to learn from you. She may have many questions to ask. The best thing to do is to decide on one specific topic and/or goal to work on each time you meet to narrow the focus. It will help both of you to stay on point.

During this age of COVID, many of our working DKG educators have been overwhelmed with the increasing list of duties and challenges. They often become frustrated because it's hard to devote the attention or energy to their students. Serving as a positive mentor may just be the ticket for helping to make a difference to those members who seek a listening ear.

As we commit to new committees for the next two years, we need to make sure we each are comfortable with new and/or old duties. People who have already served on a particular team are a resource for new members.

Thank you all again for your badge responses. I have only heard from sixteen people, eight yes, eight no. What about the rest of you? I have not yet placed the order so there is still time to request a badge.

Marty Unger Second Vice President, Membership



Ways to Bring More Joy into Your Life

Many people are looking for ways to bring more joy into their lives. Feeling blah or joyless is often a sign that something needs to change in your life. However, when the reason is due to circumstances out of your control, you may feel like there's no way to change how you move forward. You can replace negative thoughts and feelings with a positive mindset and actionable plans that make you feel happy and allow you to move forward with joy.



It's essential to consider your needs and find ways to fulfill them. When evaluating your circumstances, consider what is vital to you and might be missing from your life. Feeling joyless can result from lacking things that are important for you. Keep in mind that everyone has a unique set of needs. So, make sure you acknowledge your needs and not someone else's.

Once you've determined what you need in life to feel happy, consider ways to make obtaining them a priority. For example, if you are a people person, consider ways to connect with others in a way that feels safe to you. For instance, joining a group or getting more involved in a current group can be a great way to find others who have similar interests as you. Or, if it's not connecting with people, maybe it's challenging yourself with a new hobby, learning a new skill, or participating in an activity that you will enjoy.

Establishing personal goals can help you move forward with adding the things in your life that you've determined that you need to feel happy. For example, if you decide to learn a new skill, setting milestone steps can make your goal more attainable. In addition, sharing your goals with someone you trust can help you stay motivated.

It's also important to acknowledge any fears and excuses that may have prevented you from changing your situation. While some circumstances, such as the pandemic, may be out of your control, it's essential to recognize you still have the power to make choices that can help you feel happier and empowered. Sometimes the way to fill your life with more joy is by stepping out of your comfort zone, by moving forward in a way that may feel like a risk. To help you determine if a risk is worth taking, you should take the time to evaluate and calculate the risks. Discussing your thoughts with someone you trust can also be helpful.

It's also crucial not to be overly critical of yourself. Instead, accept mistakes and try to appreciate the wisdom they may have provided. Treat yourself with love and respect by practicing self-care and positive self-talk, and always having self-compassion. Self-compassion can help you remember that you're doing your best to move forward and that you will have joy.

Laura Castagnari, Liliana Castillo, Carol Leining Leadership/Personal Growth Committee

Adapted from Danielle Matthew, LMFT, info@empowerment.space.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE FIRST ANNUAL DELTA KAPPA GAMMA STATE CONVENTION

THE HUNTINGTON HOTEL

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

NOVEMBER 27-28, 1937

SATURDAY

1:00 P. M. Registration.

Conference of Chapter Treasurers with State Treasurer and Approved Auditor, Mr. E. J. Aye. 2:00 P.M.

3:00 P. M. Initiation, Crystal Room.

6:00 P. M. Reception, Hotel Lobby. 7:00 P. M. Banquet, Ball Room.

SUNDAY

8:00 A. M. Breakfast.

9:00 A. M. Business Session, Crystal Room. Dr. M. Madilene Veverka, State President, presiding.

12:00 NOON. Luncheon.

1:30 P. M. Business Session, continued.

PLACE: The Huntington Hotel. American Plan, \$7.00. If you stay at the hotel this includes room with bath (two persons in room), banquet, breakfast, and luncheon. If not staying at the hotel, Banquet \$1.50; Breakfast \$1.00; Luncheon \$1.25 (plus tax).

REGISTRATION: Fee, 75 cents. This will cover all TIPS at the hotel and some convention expenses. Everyone pays this fee. Dr. Adele L. Grant, Alpha, in charge. Gamma Chapter of Ventura provides badges.

CONFERENCE OF CHAPTER TREASURERS: Will the treasurers bring their books and any questions which they may have.

INITIATION: Lambda Chapter of Pasadena will be initiated. Any other chapters may bring initiates if they desire. Please notify Miss Post of number. Bring all certificates and cards signed by your President. Beta Chapter of Whittier will be in charge.

RECEPTION: Eta Chapter of Long Beach in charge. A chance to meet State Officers, State Founders and all other members in attendance.

BANQUET: The crowning event of our convention, Epsilon Chapter of Westwood and U. C. L. A. will be in charge. Convention badge required for admittance.

BUSINESS SESSIONS: Chapter Presidents have been instructed as to delegates, hoping that each chapter has its full quota. You sit together by chapters at business session, but scatter about at the banquet.

TEAR THIS OFF AND RETURN

Check and return with name and address to:

MISS GRACE POST

707 NORTH MARENGO AVENUE, PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

Registration Fee, 75 Cents.

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Delegate 🗆 Non-Delegate

1. Reservations at The Huntington Hotel, including Banquet, Breakfast and Luncheon. American Plan. Yes D 7.00. No D

2. Check separate reservations: Banquet, \$1.50. Breakfast, \$1.00. Luncheon, \$1.25. (Plus sales tax.)

NAME_____CHAPTER_____ ADDRESS CITY.



Times have changed for sure since 1937!! But one thing has NOT changed. The DKG State Convention is a chance for all members to come together and grow both personally and professionally. It is also an opportunity to —

- Meet members from throughout the state
- Participate in personal and professional growth workshops
- ◊ Honor women educators
- Enjoy the work of talented members in the Art Gallery
- ◊ Get your technology questions answered
- Attend the annual LIFE meeting and learn about the funded projects
- o Be motivated by outstanding speakers
- Shop with vendors and the DKG California Rose Boutique
- ♦ Learn about DKG beyond the chapter level
- ♦ And so much more!!

We are lucky to have this year's convention close to us in Burbank! The Burbank Airport Marriott is the site for the 2022 Convention! It is easy to <u>register</u>. Just complete the linked registration form. Alpha Upsilon will pay your registration fee (including meals). Just send Rose Gant a copy of your registration form and you will be reimbursed. Go to the <u>Convention Resources page</u> and read about the **workshop offerings** and check out the **Schedule at a Glance** to plan your time. A **technology clinic** is planned for Friday afternoon—drop in anytime between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m.

REGISTER TODAY!!

International Convention Coming to NOLA!!



The DKG 2022 International Convention in New Orleans —often called the "Big Easy" — is approaching quickly. <u>Register for the convention and secure</u> <u>your hotel reservation</u>. The convention agenda is packed with speakers and sessions, providing a variety of opportunities from which you can select. Electing new international officers and voting on proposed amendments to the governing documents are Society business matters that will take place at the con-

vention. Every DKG member has a voice, so make your vote count by attending the convention.

The **2022 International Convention** will run from **July 12 – 16.** Enjoy networking with women from across the globe while enjoying the sights and sounds of an exciting city! Attendees are encouraged to bring family and friends to experience the city as DKG members participate in the Society's first in-person convention since 2018. Many activities are available throughout New Orleans, such as the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, the National World War II Museum, and a steamboat ride on the Mississippi. A walk around Jackson Square is a must. Tours of Mardi Gras World can give visitors an up-close and personal experience of the floats and costumes; purchase a ticket to the DKGIEF event to be held there to enjoy it with other convention attendees.



A Baroness Amongst Us!!



Starting April 9, our own Jan Tappan will be portraying a Baroness who will be addressed as Lady Elizabeth Grey Audley at the Renaissance Fair in the Queen's Court on most weekends until May 21st. In essence, it's historically inspired improvisation. My daughter is playing Queen Elizabeth, so there is real royalty in the family! Jan's grandson is playing the Earl of Surrey. He's pretty high ranking too, Jan shared that a Baroness is the lowest rank of nobility, not quite royal. But she sure looks royal, don't you agree??

Minutes: March 22, 2022 (Zoom Meeting)

Co-President Willy Crouse welcomed everyone and called meeting to order at 4:28pm. There were 25 participants in attendance. Co- President Karen Gollhardt provided the inspiration.

Karen Gollhardt reminded us of our meeting focus: #1 Uniting ourselves and #6 Stimulating personal growth by learning about native plants.

Judi Healey introduced guest speaker Parker Davis who spoke about Native Plants

Treasurer's report - Rose Gant reported our ending balance of \$8,786.32. We spent \$55.08 on cards and flowers and earned \$1.87.

Correspondence - Karen Wilcoxen sent Ardis Bunn a condolence card.

Chapter Rules - Jean Chubb and Judy Kearns sent out the suggested changes for the chapter to review. It was moved and seconded to approve the revised Chapter Rules. MSP

Sue Fuelling has received 10 applications for recruitment grants. She is following up on an eleventh one. Interviews are coming up and there are several worthy candidates. Willy Crouse thanked Sue and her committee for taking on this major commitment.

Sue Fuelling and Debbie Bump encouraged all to participate in the Jared Bags. Collect items in a Ziploc bag and bring to the Friendship Tea in April. Let Sue and Debbie know if you are planning on participating so they have a total count of bags being contributed.

THAT - Karen Wilcoxen urged members to keep helping teachers after turning in hours.

Karen Gollhardt is sending out the link for the Biennium Committee Sign ups. Select the committeeon which you would like to serve Click on choices then hit the sign up button at the end. Remember you are signing up for a **2 year commitment.** Do the same for the meeting for which you want to help with refreshments.

Who's Who introduced Jean Chubb.

Announcements:

1-Friendship Tea April 14 at Pat Kalish home; Mad Hatter theme wear hat or headband. A fun afternoon and delicious food planned.

**Bring books for book a buck, Jared Bags, and Red Folders

2-Memorial Service for Bob Bunn Tuesday 3/15 at 3 pm at La Canada Presbyterian Church

3- DKG Convention 4/29-5/1 Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel. Plan to attend since it is so close by. On Saturday there are workshops, shopping and Buck a Book opportunities.

Go to DKGca.org to register. Send a copy of your registration voucher to Rose Gant to be reimbursed.

Willy Crouse adjourned the meeting at 5:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Frank, Recording Secretary

Remember Your Jared Bags



Thanks to all who have signed up to create a Jared/Activity bag for Ronald McDonald House in Pasadena. We have about 22 promised and want to meet our goal of 30, so if you haven't signed up, we'd love your help. All bags should be

brought to the April meeting.

Thanks for your support!

Sue Fuelling, Chairman Debbie Bump Mandy Redfern

Recruitment Grant Update



The Recruitment Grant Committee successfully held interviews via Zoom on March 19th. We are pleased to announce all 10 candidates will receive money towards their education. More details will

be available at the April tea. We look forward to meeting as many of the recipients as can attend at the May meeting.

Sue Fuelling, Chairman

Mary Linda Vandevelde, Judy Bakly, Pat Kalish, and Betsy Bazdarich

Resources for Teachers



Educational crises often occur during times of rapid transformations. The broadest social functions of education are renewal and regeneration. It is here, that I

have observed and witnessed daily, the regeneration of instruction during this time of a global pandemic. I've seen a capacity for good and change among my colleagues and sisters, along with the work and effort demonstrated by the members of our EEC committees to share this information. As this global public health crisis cascaded into a Global Educational Crisis, it also deepens an already profound childhood and adolescent mental health crisis among the various demographics of where we find ourselves. CTAUN (Committee on Teaching About the United Nations), DKG's one of many branches with representation at the EEC, addresses Global Education through UN representation. It is here I encourage all our members to look and review for teacher use and interest, the many resources made available on CTAUN'S website: www.teachun.org, covering all topics and grade levels ranging from primary resources to the university level. Here, you will find not only the history of the United Nations, but topics that range from Peace, Security, Human Rights to our most important issue to the Secretary General "Climate Change" as this affects everything else we can speak of. In addition, you'll find lesson plans for all age groups and topics including at home help for parents. To help promote all of this, CTAUN has just completed, through its recently formed ad hoc committee, a newsletter with possible UN updates on webinars to come, information on educational programs as part of other entities of the UN, and informative briefings made available in the future. This will be shared with our EEC International and local EEC chairs to be filtered down to membership, along with those members who are on the Constant Contact List from CTAUN.

Eileen Venezia, International EEC Committee

	TA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INT DKG California State Organization Treasurer's Report	ERNATIONAL	
	Alpha Upsilon Chapter March 1, 2022		
BALANCE ON HAND: February 1, 2022	2	\$ 8,839.54	
RECEIPTS:			
Interest	\$ 1.87		
Total Receipts for February		+1.8	7
Total Available		\$ 8,841.41	
DISBURSEMENTS:			
Cards	\$ 10.99		
Flowers	44.09		
Total disbursements for Februa	ary	<u>- \$ 55.0</u>	8
BALANCE ON HAND: March 1, 2022		\$ 8,786.3	33
			<pre>X</pre>

Global Awareness



Global Awareness includes 3 dynamic and exciting areas (World Fellowship support, Schools for Africa and Save Our Earth). This month the focus will be Save Our Earth as we share the exciting work of Shauna Edberg. Shanna was a delightful student at La Canada High School for Patty and Jill (and probably others when they read her name). Currently Shanna Edberg is the Director of Conservation Programs for Hispanic Access Foundation. The title of her article is "Clean Water is Key to Conservation Equity".

Patty Compeau, Global Awareness

Mini Grant Recipient Shares

Thanks to the Nuetzman Endowment Fund grant, students at Rancho Learning Center in Arcadia, CA are tapping into their innate creativity and thirst for purposeful real-world experiences in a project affectionately dubbed "Tic, Tac, Glow." Students have been charged with designing, laser cutting, and producing useful and decorative items fulfilling different criteria. All projects must be completed using the Glowforge laser cutter. Their goal: "sell" their items to create the largest profit.

After learning about both the mechanics and the business side of production, students selected 3 projects from our Tic, Tac, Glow board to design and put into production over a 10 week period. From desktop organizers, jewelry, and garden decorations, they got to work using the wide variety of materials supplied in our grant. Selecting from grant materials such as acrylic, draft board and wood, students employed critical thinking skills to make wise business decisions; ultimately hoping to increase their profit margins.

When asked what they liked about the project, student Chloe Htut remarked, "I learned how to express my innovative ideas, through bringing my most fantastical creative thoughts to life." Projects such as this one that are tied to multiple disciplines and involve student agency and choice are the experiences they will remember long into the future. Additionally, these activities expose children to disciplines they may not even know they enjoy. Because of their work on this project several 8th graders have expressed interest in exploring stagecraft, graphic design and computer programming as they enter high school.

While all might not succeed in their ultimate vision, the learning involved in designing, creating, failing and revising is worth more than the materials may have cost. Thank you for being our partner in innovative teaching practices.

Jessica Vannasdall Rancho Learning Center Arcadia USD







Tic Tac Glaw Select and create 3 projects in a row using the Glawbarge by ovaried or with a partner. Projects due: FIDAY. MAY 6 [Projects and Tri-Jole] Display set ury: WODMESDAY. MAY 11 - Open House				
	<u>Create</u> something someone could wear.	<u>Create</u> something purely decorative.	Create something that could be helpful in the classroom.	
	<u>Create</u> <u>something</u> <u>that</u> <u>incorporates</u> <u>light.</u>	<u>Create a</u> <u>game or</u> <u>activity that</u> <u>someone</u> <u>could play.</u>	<u>Create</u> <u>something</u> <u>useful.</u>	
	<u>Create an</u> <u>item for our</u> <u>garden.</u>	<u>Create</u> <u>something</u> <u>3</u> dimensional.	Design something that can be personalized.	

Dear Beebe Nuetzman Mini Grant Committee,

Thank you so much for the grant for us purchasing iChineseReader online reading platform. iChineseReader is a leveled, online Chinese reading platform tailored to the varied reading needs of K-12 Chinese programs. It can be accessed anywhere, anytime, and on any device. IChinese Reader offers more than 3,000 interactive E-books, placed at 20 different reading levels and covering all grade levels. The content covers required curriculum and learning results. It's a perfect integration of Chinese study with the teaching of curriculum content. It improves students' mastery and retention of both the language and the subject matter. It also boosts overall academic achievement.

Also, students in our MDLIP (Mandarin Dual Language Immersion Program) need to learn Social Studies through Mandarin. As MDLIP lacks Mandarin version history books, which iChineseReader platform could help to fill the gap as we need. iChineseReader platform is applied in our students' daily classroom reading and homework exercises. Students can do independent reading by utilizing the books on iChineseReader. Our teachers are using the leveled books to do the differentiated group instruction in class. The students and parents can also monitor their reading progress at home or wherever they have internet access.

For the Mandarin Language Arts class, the audio function of each book helps each student to practice their better pronunciation of verbal language, their listening is practiced as well at the same time. The writing guide of the books provides the students with tools of writing skills. The assignment function gives the teacher the flexible choices to assign the tasks according to the language levels of students.

Many Social Studies related books provide students with varieties of reading materials. MDLIP history studies needs a lot of support for Mandarin version reading based on students' reading abilities in target language. It is very helpful to use iChineseReader history books to fill the gap of needs for our students. For example, there are more than 15 books on Ancient Egypt that are closely related to the 6th grade social studies curriculum standard based content. There are also books about the American government and constitution that could be used according to the 8th grade American History curriculum.

Students' content knowledge and skills of social studies are developed through iChinesReader platform. Overall, iChinese Reader provides both teachers and students a very efficient way to improve their Mandarin reading and writing proficiency and their social studies' content knowledge. The students' creative and critical thinking skills are boosted from different perspectives of books. Their Mandarin language skills also developed in an engageable and effective way. Also, the students are motivated in reading more books to gain points to play fun games as the rewards on the iChineseReader system. We are very grateful to have this grant to facilitate our students' Mandarin and Social Studies learning. We hope our students could be granted again in the future years to keep their continuous learning in Mandarin.

Xiaoyuan Qu & Jun Yu Award Sierra Madre Middle School, Pasadena Unified School District







Dear Delta Kappa Gamma Society,

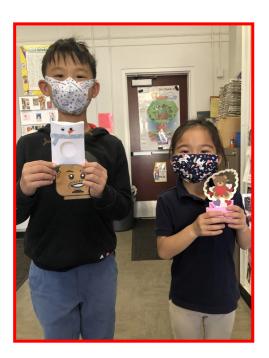
I once again want to say thank you so much for choosing us as a recipient of the Beebe Nuetzmann Fund. Thanks to your organization, about 100 children were able to participate in our Cricut Crafting Club. They made new friends, learned about art and crafting, developed patience, perseverance and practiced fine motor skills. They really needed this to help recover from the Covid isolation over the past couple of years. We are having a lot of fun! I used the money to buy specialty paper and glue for our projects. I've included photos of our latest creations. The children are so proud when they complete a project and when other kids see what they have made, they want to join the club as well. We will be continuing with the club next year as well because interest was so high this year. Thanks for making this possible!

Kristine Iwashita Morris

Hugo Reid School, Arcadia Unified School District









The Power of Books

Jennifer Tran Camino Grove School Counselor, Arcadia USD

As a school counselor, I get to visit classrooms on a weekly basis to teach *Second Step*. It is a research-based social-emotional learning program designed to improve children's social-emotional skills in the following four areas:

- 1. Growth Mindset and Goal Setting
- 2. Emotion Management
- 3. Empathy and Kindness

Problem Solving

The Second Step digital program provides engaging photos, scenarios, and videos to teach important social-emotional skills, but as educators we know that concepts need to be reviewed in multiple ways and over several times. How can this be done? The answer is simple: Books! Although the use of technology in education is essential in today's world, there is no comparison to the power of a simple book.

Stories help increase the understanding and reinforce the skills being taught through the *Second Step* program. Most recently, I've been able to incorporate the books purchased through the grant to support the empathy and kindness *Second Step* unit. This also fit perfectly with our annual Great Kindness Challenge, a week dedicated to promoting kindness in our home, school, and community. I read *Be Kind*, discussed ways to be kind, and then we went over all the kind acts on the Great Kindness Challenge.

Not only did I find the books useful in my classroom lessons, but I was also able to use them in my small groups. For example, in a social skills group we were learning about how to be flexible. The book *It's Okay to Make Mistakes* was perfect for teaching kids about how to embrace mistakes and turn them into something positive.

I am looking forward to the many ways that I am going to use the library of books this grant has gifted me. Thank you! I am so appreciative of the support the Alpha Upsilon Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International offers all educators and the positive impact it makes on our students.

