

***DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED
PHILADELPHIA ALUMNAE CHAPTER
DELTA HERITAGE CELEBRATION
MARCH 2015***

***EMBRACING OUR PAST, TO IGNITE THE PRESENT, TO SOLIDIFY OUR
FUTURE***

**FOUNDER
PAULINE RICHARDSON OBERDORFER MINOR
1885 – 1963**



EDUCATOR

MEZZO – SOPRANO

COMPOSER

AUTHOR



MAXINE C. HARVEY – PRESIDENT

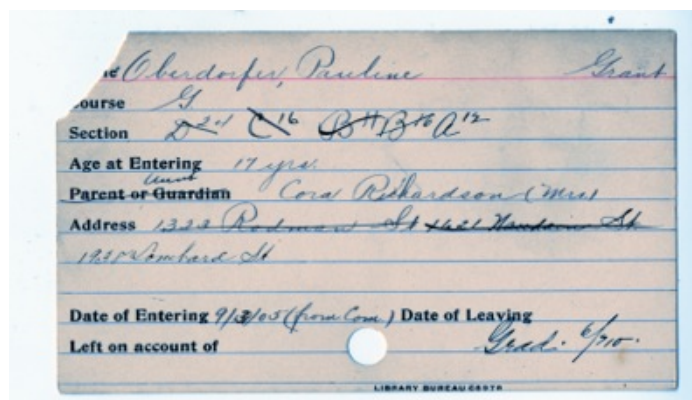
EMBRACING OUR PAST, TO IGNITE THE PRESENT, TO SOLIDIFY OUR FUTURE

WHAT BEGAN AS A SMALL REQUEST TURNED INTO A PHENOMENAL JOURNEY. . .

Where could a marker be placed to honor Founder Pauline Oberdorfer Minor?

Would having access to the “Blue Card” filed at The Philadelphia High School for Girls where Pauline was a member of the Class of 1910 give us answers as to where she lived in the Philadelphia area?

On November 6, 2013, an e-mail was sent to the retired principal of Philadelphia High School for Girls, Geraldine Myles, a member of Delta Sigma Theta, and through her affiliation with their archivist, she received a copy of the “Blue Card” and the 1910 Record Book photo of Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer.



Philadelphia High School for Girls Student Record Card (Blue Card) 1905-1910



Philadelphia High School for Girls Record Book 1910

“And like the winds of summer her voice was low and sweet”

These two items from more than one-hundred years ago intrigued Dr. Geraldine Myles and lit a fire in her heart and soul that is yet to be quenched.

WE FOUND HER....

Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor died January 23, 1963. The location of her grave site was unknown. On Tuesday, November 25, 2013 Soror Myles found Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor buried in a **pauper's grave** at Historic Eden Cemetery.



Sorors visiting Eden Cemetery for the first time on December 12, 2013



Temporary grave marker for Pauline Oberdorfer Minor

Eden Cemetery is a **historic African - American Cemetery** located in Collingdale, PA near Philadelphia. The oldest African-American –owned cemetery in the United States, it was established June 20, 1902. The cemetery is still in operation. Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor was buried in a “pauper’s grave” with three others.

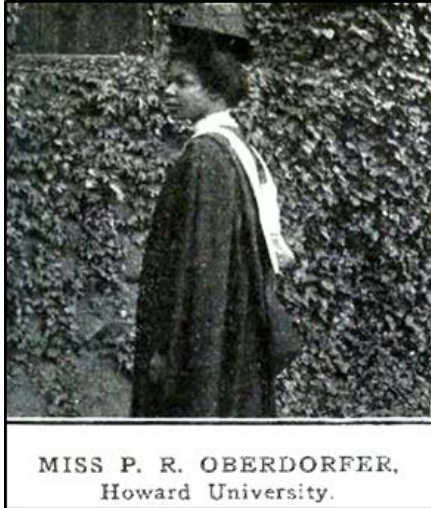


Sorors search for the modestly marked burial site in the brush



Clean Up Day at Eden Cemetery

OUR BELOVED FOUNDER



The earliest primary source of information regarding Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor (Pauline Curenton) currently known, is the Twelfth United States Federal Census of June 1900, where her birth was reported as occurring in April 1885 in Virginia. At the time of the census, Pauline was described as a single black female, age 15 years, whose home was west Main Street, Charlottesville Ward 1, Charlottesville City, Virginia. Residing with her was her mother, black female head of household, Margaret A. Richardson (Josephine A. Curenton) born May 1861 in Virginia, occupation washerwomen; and Pauline's Uncle Eliha (Elijah) Richardson, single black male, age 22 years born May 1878 in Virginia, a wagon man, and brother of Margaret.

The information on the Record Card (Blue Card) indicated on September 3, 1905, Pauline Richardson enrolled from the community of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the Philadelphia High School for Girls as Pauline Oberdorfer, age 17 years. She resided, with her aunt, Cora Richardson, in South Philadelphia between the years 1905 and 1910 at the following addresses: 1323 Rodman Street, 1621 Naudain Street, and 1938 Lombard Street.

During Pauline's five years at Philadelphia High School for Girls she matriculated in the General Course of Study and graduated on Tuesday, June 21, 1910 at the American Academy of Music, Broad and Locust Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Over four hundred girls, wearing long white dresses and carrying bouquets of long stemmed red roses, marched to Stahl's "Graduates."

In the fall of 1910, Pauline entered Howard University's Teachers College, where Dr. Lewis Baxter Moore was Dean, graduating in 1914 at the top of her class with twenty-one other prospective teachers. While at Howard University, she was one of twenty-two young women who founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. On February 18, 1913 the Certificate of Incorporation of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was issued in the District of Columbia, City of Washington, listing Pauline Oberdorfer, as Treasurer of Alpha Chapter and one of eight directors. On March 3, 1913, the Women's Suffrage Procession, organized by the National American Woman Suffrage Association was held on Pennsylvania Avenue in the nation's capital. Members of Delta Sigma Theta marched with the Howard University contingent.

Pauline appears in a photograph taken in 1915 of the first colored faculty at the Avery Normal Institute located in Charleston, South Carolina where she was employed as a teacher of English for one year. The American Missionary Association sponsored her position. On May 26, 1915, Pauline wrote this note to her student, Maude Henrietta Smith, a graduating senior: *"To meet- to like, to love, and then to part make up the changing scenes of many a heart Pauline R. Oberdorfer"*.

The next time we find Pauline is in 1928 living in West Chester Pennsylvania at 424 East Miner Street and teaching at the Gay Elementary School.

It was reported in the January 5, 1928 edition of the newspaper, Philadelphia Tribune, that Pauline performed at a Holiday gathering in Camden, New Jersey and sang two songs, “Deep River” and “Rose in the Bud”. On May 13, 1932, Pauline applied and received a copyright for two books: *Faith. I Wonder How When Bound In Sin etc.* and *Witness Within. Once I was a Sinner, etc.* Her address was 8 Ash Street Sharon Hill, PA. These books are no longer retained in the Library of Congress.

A search of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, City of Philadelphia, marriage records revealed a marriage license was issued on December 19, 1938, to Pauline Oberdorfer, 1031 South 17th Street, Philadelphia, and William (Miner) Minor, 524 Union Street, Philadelphia. Pauline reported her mother as Margaret Richardson, deceased. William Minor indicated that he was born in Washington, District of Columbia on July 15, 1882 and his parents were George and Harriett Miner (Minor). In addition, he noted that he was previously married. Reverend McKinley Williams performed the marriage ceremony on December 26, 1938.

In the Delta Journal of 1943, 30th issue Pauline wrote: *GREETINGS! To my Sorors: Each year we hold that birthday dear, the day of Delta's founding. May all its joyous meaning fill your heart with gladness, now and always. Yours in Delta, Pauline O. Minor.*

Founder Pauline Oberdorfer Minor was a special guest at the 1948 Founders Day celebration of Xi Sigma Chapter Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She gave warm greetings to the assembled Deltas. Soror Edith Jones, chapter journalist, fondly recalls the occasion.



On January 23, 1963, Pauline Oberdorfer (Minor) was reported ill by a friend, Emma Thompson and was transported from her home at 4068 Aspen Street to Presbyterian Hospital Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and died at 4:40 PM. The funeral director was Leonard Loper, 4930 Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Founder Oberdorfer's burial site is Eden Cemetery Springfield Road, Lehman Section, Collingdale, Pennsylvania 19023.

Submitted by,

Dr. Geraldine H. Myles
Lead Researcher POM Project
March 2015

PHILADELPHIA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS DOCUMENT EXCHANGE

On December 12, 2013, Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter and Philadelphia High School for Girls hosted a program to commemorate the exchange of documents for Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor. Philadelphia High School for Girls presented several key artifacts related to Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor which included copies of a photo from the 1910 class book. The program included remarks from the Philadelphia High School for Girls Principal, Archivist, Service Club President, and Alumni Vice-President. The Philadelphia Alumnae president offered the chapter response and the program also included various sorors as speakers.



Left to Right: C. Gloria Akers, National Heritage and Activities Committee; Dr. Geraldine Myles, Retired Principal Girls High; Dr. Constance Clayton, Former Superintendent of School District of Philadelphia; Maxine Harvey, President Philadelphia Alumnae; Brenda Norman, Philadelphia Alumnae Heritage and Archive and Committee Co-Chair; Dorothy Kapenstein, Archivist Girls High; Dr. Parthenia Moore, Principal Girls High; Jamie Nguyen, President of Service Club Girls High; Antoinette Bailey, Vice- President Girls High Alumnae Association; Student President AA Girls High

December 12, 2013 Philadelphia High School for Girls Pink Marble Hall 10:00 am - 10:30 am In Memory and To Honor PAULINE RICHARDSON OBERDORFER MINOR One of Twenty-Two Founders Of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated		Please remain where you are for directions on the Grouping of Participants for Photos IN APPRECIATION It is with deep appreciation to the members of the Philadelphia High School for Girls who made this momentous occasion possible. Maxine C. Harvey, President and the members of Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter thank you wholeheartedly for advancing the research into the life of our Beloved Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor, Philadelphia High School for Girls Class of 1910.	
Welcome	Dr. Parthenia A. Moore, Principal Philadelphia High School for Girls	Philadelphia High School for Girls Dr. Parthenia A. Moore, Principal Terri King, Assistant Principal Dorothy G. Kapenstein, Archivist Joseph Marchetti, Art Department Chair Jamie Nguyen, Service Club President Merril Dyshel Hakim, Alumnae President Antoinette Bailey, Alumni Vice-President Cheryl Stanback, Head Secretary	
The Occasion	C. Gloria Akers, Member National Heritage and Archives Committee Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated	Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter	
Reflections	Dr. Constance E. Clayton, Superintendent School District of Philadelphia 1983-1993	Maxine C. Harvey, President Dr. Constance E. Clayton, Superintendent of Schools C. Gloria Akers, National Heritage and Archives Committee Brenda Norman, Heritage and Archives Committee Co-chair Aneica Suber Houston, Heritage and Archives Committee Co-chair Victoria A. Rivers, National Ritual and Ceremonies Committee Madeline Chatman, Ritual and Ceremonies Co-chair Patricia Sawyer, Ritual and Ceremonies Co-chair Dr. Geraldine H. Myles, Pauline Oberdorfer Minor Lead Researcher Christine Broome, Photographer Marguerite Elias Rice, Videographer	
Transfer of Archival Materials			
Presenters	Philadelphia High School for Girls Dr. Parthenia A. Moore, Principal Dorothy G. Kapenstein, Archivist Jamie Nguyen, Service Club President Antoinette Bailey, Alumni Vice-President		
Response	Maxine Harvey, President Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated		
In Appreciation	Dr. Geraldine H. Myles, Principal Philadelphia High School for Girls 1992-2007		


Program for Girls High Document Exchange

NOW IS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO HONOR HER...

On January 11, 2014, as an integral part of The 2014 Founders Day program, Sorors Myles and Akers presented their findings to the members of Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter. It was an emotionally charged presentation where the members learned new research information about Founder Pauline Oberdorfer Minor. The news of her burial in Historic Eden Cemetery in a pauper's grave with three other persons brought tears to their eyes.

Under the leadership of President Maxine C. Harvey, the members of Philadelphia Alumnae chapter unanimously resolved to give our Beloved Founder a proper Head Stone to honor her memory. Through Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter's 2014-2015 budgeting process the membership voted to allot \$10,000 for a proper Head Stone. The Pauline Oberdorfer Memorial Planning committee was established to research and create a fitting monument for our Beloved Founder.

There was no knowledge of where this journey would lead, and the outcome has not only exceeded the expectation of members of Philadelphia Alumnae, but has developed into a gift for the entire sisterhood of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In addition to unveiling a monument and conducting an Omega Omega ceremony to honor our esteemed Founder, a collection of never seen archival documents such as school records, pictures, census ledgers and notes were gathered as part of the process and will serve as a visual reminder and documentation of the life of **Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor**.



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter

requests the pleasure of your company at services honoring

Founder
PAULINE RICHARDSON OBERDORFER MINOR
1885 - 1963

Saturday, March 28, 2015

Dr. Thelma T. Daley, Presiding
16th National President
National Ritual and Ceremonies Co-Chair
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.


OMEGA OMEGA SERVICE - 10:00 am
First African Baptist Church
901 Clifton Avenue
Darby Township, PA 19079

MONUMENT UNVEILING - 11:30 am
Historic Eden Cemetery
1434 Springfield Road
Collingdale, PA 19023

RECEPTION/LUNCH - 12:30 PM
Oaks Ballroom
511 W. Oak Lane
Glenolden, PA 19036

Open to All
Omega Omega Service and
Monument Unveiling

Tickets \$35



Maxine C. Harvey, President

Courtesy of The Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor Memorial Committee



P.O.M Committee Chairs
Antoinette Nottingham
Marion Johnson



Pauline Oberdorfer Minor Memorial Committee

On March 28, 2015, Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter, with concurrence from the National Headquarters of Delta Sigma Theta hosted a day of events to honor the memory of Pauline Oberdorfer Minor and unveil the headstone. After 52 years of being buried in a “pauper’s grave” our beloved Founder would be memorialized and honored in a manner due her.

OMEGA OMEGA

Dr. Thelma T. Daley, 16th National President and National Ritual and Ceremonies Co-Chair of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was the presiding officer.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Omega Omega Service of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOUNDER PAULINE RICHARDSON OBERDORFER MINOR</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Educator, Mezzo-Soprano, Composer and Author</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>1885-1963</p> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Sorors participating in this Omega Omega Service:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT Dr. Thelma T. Daley, 16th National President</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICERS Theljewa Garrett, Eastern Regional Director Naya Frazier, Eastern Regional Representative</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OTHER SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS</p> <p>Dr. Constance E. Clayton, Past Eastern Regional Director Wendy J. Johnson, Past Eastern Regional Director Robin M. Jacobs, Past Eastern Regional Director Suzanne Douglas-Cobb, Honorary Co-Chair National Arts & Letters Commission C. Gloria Akers, Member, National Heritage and Archives Committee Cynthia R. Muse, Member, National Membership Committee Victoria A. Mosley Rivers, Member, National Ritual and Ceremonies Commission Maxine C. Harvey, President, Philadelphia Alumnae Vivian M. Drayton, Chaplain Dr. Geraldine H. Myles, Historian</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Past Philadelphia Alumnae Presidents</p> <p>Dorothy A. Brown Marian P. Brown Madeline Chatman Patricia M. Sawyer MarvaLisa F. Scott Rita L. Waters</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pauline O. Minor Memorial Planning Committee Co-Chairs</p> <p>Marion B. Johnson Antoinette Nottingham,</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Philadelphia Alumnae Choir</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Sheila Phillips Hawes, Esq., Director/Pianist</td> <td>Mozell Smith McCrea, Vocalist</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Jane Murray Gilmore, Vocalist/Organist</td> <td>Dawn Morgan-Moore, Vocalist</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Janet N. Gilmore, Vocalist</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Diane P. Anderson</td> <td>Mary F. Couzer</td> <td>Constance G. Keaton</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sandra Turner Becks</td> <td>Viola N. Curry</td> <td>Constance S. Major</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yvonne W. Browne</td> <td>Wanda Davis</td> <td>Joanne Nichols</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deborah E. Wilson Butler</td> <td>Vivian M. Drayton</td> <td>Denise Jenkins Pearson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gail Chandler-Myers</td> <td>Ernestine N. Estes</td> <td>Marcia Penn-Cummings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rhoda L. Chasten</td> <td>Cynthia Fullenwellen</td> <td>Rhonda S. Robertson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Madeline R. Chatman</td> <td>Annlouise Goodner-Brown</td> <td>Antoinette C. Styer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Valerie D. Christmas</td> <td>Carole A. Harvey</td> <td>Emilee J. Taylor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marveta Coleman</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Music Sung During This Service</p> <p>Good News Balm in Gilead Deep River It is Well With My Soul Sweet, Sweet Spirit Delta Prayer Free at Last</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Sergeant-at-Arms</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Custodians</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eulalia H. Darius Valerie D. Christmas</td> <td>Jocelyn P. Geter Gina M. Spencer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Angela Ramsey Telaria L. Hawthorne</td> <td>Valerie M. Tyson Sharon B. Varnes</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"She is not dead who lives in hearts she leaves behind. In those whom she has blessed she lives a life again, and shall live through the years eternal life, and grow each day more beautiful. As time declares her good, forgets the rest, and proves her immortality."</i></p>	Sheila Phillips Hawes, Esq., Director/Pianist	Mozell Smith McCrea, Vocalist	Dr. Jane Murray Gilmore, Vocalist/Organist	Dawn Morgan-Moore, Vocalist	Janet N. Gilmore, Vocalist		Diane P. Anderson	Mary F. Couzer	Constance G. Keaton	Sandra Turner Becks	Viola N. Curry	Constance S. Major	Yvonne W. Browne	Wanda Davis	Joanne Nichols	Deborah E. Wilson Butler	Vivian M. Drayton	Denise Jenkins Pearson	Gail Chandler-Myers	Ernestine N. Estes	Marcia Penn-Cummings	Rhoda L. Chasten	Cynthia Fullenwellen	Rhonda S. Robertson	Madeline R. Chatman	Annlouise Goodner-Brown	Antoinette C. Styer	Valerie D. Christmas	Carole A. Harvey	Emilee J. Taylor	Marveta Coleman			Sergeant-at-Arms	Custodians	Eulalia H. Darius Valerie D. Christmas	Jocelyn P. Geter Gina M. Spencer	Angela Ramsey Telaria L. Hawthorne	Valerie M. Tyson Sharon B. Varnes
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The Omega Omega ceremony was a moment of celebration and reflection. Guests were moved by the hymns of tribute and the beautiful execution of this long delayed rite of passage.



Dr. Thelma T. Daley enters carrying the white candle representing Founder Pauline Oberdorfer Minor

“She is joining the other Founders with rapture, dignity and grace.”

Dr. Thelma T. Daley



Sorors and guests fill the sanctuary of First African Baptist Church



Philadelphia Alumnae choir sings songs of tribute



Dr. Thelma T. Daley and Eastern Regional Director, Theljewa Garrett lead the recessional to Eden Cemetery carrying a vessel of violets



Participants in the Omega Omega ceremony release 22 red and white balloons in tribute to the Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

MONUMENT UNVEILING

Following the Omega Omega Service, guests traveled to Eden Cemetery for the unveiling of the monument.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. - Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter

Unveiling	
Dr. Thelma T. Daley, 16 th National President Theljewa I. Garrett, Eastern Regional Director Naya Frazier, Eastern Regional Representative Maxine C. Harvey, President, Philadelphia Alumnae	
Placing of the Floral Tribute	Dr. Thelma T. Daley
Placing of the Violets	Theljewa I. Garrett Naya Frazier
A Litany of Remembrance	All Assembled
Musical Selection	Dawn Morgan-Moore
Release of Doves	
Vivian M. Drayton Chaplain, Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter	
Father into Thy gracious keeping Leave we now our Soror sleeping. Amen	
A Litany of Remembrance	
Presiding Officer	Dr. Thelma T. Daley
We remember now, with joy and thanksgiving, the life of	
Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor	
In the rising of the sun and its going down,	
EVERYONE: WE REMEMBER HER	
In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,	
EVERYONE: WE REMEMBER HER	
In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring,	
EVERYONE: WE REMEMBER HER	
And the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer,	
EVERYONE: WE REMEMBER HER	
At the beginning of the year and when it ends	
EVERYONE: WE REMEMBER HER	
As long as we live, she too shall live, for she is a part of us.	
EVERYONE: WE REMEMBER HER	
Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter President	Maxine C. Harvey
In remembering Founder Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minor we are gathered into a common bond of hope, memory and love which strengthens our being woven into the fabric of God's creation and the great cloud of witnesses surrounding us.	
EVERYONE: WE GIVE YOU THANKS FOR PAULINE	
<i>Adapted from Gates of Prayer Reform Judaism Prayer Book</i>	



Dr. Thelma T. Daley, 16th National President and Eastern Regional Representative Naya Frazier



The monument is unveiled



Dr. Thelma T. Daley and Philadelphia Alumnae President, Maxine C. Harvey perform the unveiling

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

A luncheon to celebrate this monumental event was held at the Oaks Ballroom in Glenolden, PA. The luncheon was attended by over 400 people and included members of Delta Sigma Theta from across the country as well as members of the community.



Program booklet placed at each table setting

*"To meet, to like, to love,
and then to part----make
up the changing
scenes....Of many a heart."*
Pauline Oberdorfer Minor

Chapter President Maxine C. Harvey welcomes sorors and guests to the celebration luncheon



Dais Guests



Philadelphia Alumnae embraced the history of our founder during three service projects rooted in the five point thrust of Delta Sigma Theta. The service projects aligned with Pauline Richardson Oberdorfer Minors' life as – a scholarship recipient, member of the suffragette movement, educator and author.



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE: VOTING RIGHTS ACT: 50TH ANNIVERSARY THEN & NOW

Philadelphia's MLK Day of Service is the largest community service based celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the country. On **Monday, January 19, 2015** over 100,000 volunteers throughout the region participated in a variety of service projects. The host site for the event was the historic Girard College. Over 5,000 attendees visited more than 40 exhibitors and activities.

The Philadelphia Alumnae Social Action Committee's Martin Luther King Day of Service Project was *"Who's My Elected Official?"* The overarching goal of the project was to increase citizen's participation as members of the electorate.

Sorors spoke with attendees about their voter registration status and knowledge of elected officials. While many knew one to three or four names, very few knew the names of all of their key officials. Sorors situated at laptops at workstations would electronically research attendee's information, and write out a card that provided contact information for their elected officials.



Philadelphia Alumnae booth at MLK Day of Service

Approximately 30 sorors engaged more than 200 community members, with sorors situated at eight Prep stations completing 127 requests. Everyone who stopped by the booth received a Social Action Vote button and fliers with key information regarding voting and the upcoming Spring Primary election. Community members will be periodically contacted with information related to voting, upcoming elections and relevant activities sponsored by the Social Action Committee.



**Social Action Co-Chairs: Tara Smith,
Marvetta Coleman, Linda Miller**

READING FOR THE FUTURE

The Arts and Letters Committee of Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter partnered with the Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School for our “Reading for the Future” program. This project first began with the kindergarten and first grade students and expanded to second grade students in 2015. The goal is to expand the project to a higher grade each subsequent year. As our public schools continue to face financial challenges and limited resources, the Arts and Letters Committee recognized the importance of community partnership in helping to educate our children and expose them to the literary arts.



On **Wednesday, February 4, 2015** the Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta made presentation of 300 books and an LCD Projector and carrying case to the second grade students and their teachers. The school hosted an assembly to celebrate the donations. There were 420 students, school administrators, teachers, classroom assistants, parents and other staff members there to witness the joy and happy expressions of children

being excited about books and reading. The classroom libraries now consist of books donated by members of Philadelphia Alumnae.

Each class received a signed copy of “Victoria’s Glow Stick” written by Philadelphia African American author and school psychologist Shannon Ellis. Ms. Ellis also participated in the assembly



Author, Shannon Ellis reading to Bethune students

program and read from her first book. “Victoria’s Glow Stick” teaches early learners about the fun and importance of sharing. Copies of the book were also given to each



Philadelphia Alumnae chapter members, Assistant Principal Evangelista , and Shannon Ellis at Reading for the Future assembly

Head Start, Kindergarten, First and Second grade class. Heartwarming highlights of the assembly program were the thank-you presentations from two of the third grade classes including a class poem recitation with props and a thank you song accompanied with the music.

SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship Committee of Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is honoring Founder Pauline Oberdorfer Minor with a scholarship dedicated in her honor. Similar to the scholarship Pauline Oberdorfer Minor received to attend Howard University, one scholarship will go to a high school senior who will be graduating in 2015. Scholarship applicants submitted their applications by February 15, 2015.



Reviewing scholarship applications

Philadelphia Alumnae received 81 applications from 12th graders enrolled in Philadelphia area public, private, religious, and charter institutions as well as from home schooled individuals.



Philadelphia Alumnae Scholarship Committee



PAULINE RICHARDSON OBERDORFER MINOR
1885 - 1963

*ONE OF TWENTY-TWO FOUNDERS OF
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY*

Δ Σ Θ

*EDUCATOR, MEZZO-SOPRANO,
COMPOSER AND AUTHOR*

*"And like the winds in summer sighing,
Her voice is low and sweet"*
PHILADELPHIA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS 1910 RECORD BOOK

