

Full List of 2025 New Orleans Conference Breakouts

(Official program with room numbers will be available at a later time.)

↓KEY↓

Time

Focus: Human Connections/Social Networking, #SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond, Fostering Connections, Purposeful Leading, Passion

Presentation Title

Room Name/# | Breakout / Passion Project session

Presentation Description

Committee (if applicable); Presenter Name, State info

Friday, August 01, 2025

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

Creating Meaningful CONNECTIONS Through Membership

Breakout 1

Discover strategies to create an inclusive and inviting environment within your chapter. Learn how to make new members feel at home while re-engaging past members. This session will also introduce the latest tools for building and sustaining a strong membership base.

Membership and Expansion Committee: Patti Belknap, TX

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Surviving to Thriving: Survival Kit Workshops for Early Career Educators

Breakout 1

Are you searching for ideas to support Early Career Educators at the state level? Discover how the Tennessee State Projects Committee developed and implemented three day-long Survival Kit Workshops geared toward educators with less than six years of experience. Workshop information will include planning, funding, presentation, chapter support, and feedback.

Marsha Brewer, TN; Dr. Dianne Anderson, TN

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Initiatives and Impact: Collaboration at the Heart of Educational Excellence

Breakout 1

In this interactive session, participants will explore how collaboration drives DKG initiatives and fosters educational excellence. Through hands-on activities, attendees will learn how to submit impactful projects and programs, discover strategies for collaborating with other committees, and gain insights into the core values that define DKG Educational Excellence.

Educational Excellence Committee; Daphne Cagle, CA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#)

Dialogical Drawing: Changing the World, One Child at a Time

Breakout 1

Dialogical drawing fosters children's self-esteem through active listening and genuine appreciation of their artwork.

Through my teaching experience, this approach cultivates confidence, creativity, and communication skills. This leads to a positive impact on overall childhood development and future contributions to the world. I believe dialogical drawing is an important part of educational excellence for all ages.

Momoko Doi, JP; Kumi Itakura, JP

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Leading Forward: A Year In & What's Ahead

Breakout 1

Join our Executive Director as she reflects on her first year with DKG and shares exciting updates, strategic goals, and key initiatives shaping our future. Get inspired about what's possible—and how we'll get there together.

Lucinda Hart, CAE, MBA, TX

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: Human Connections/Social Networking

New Teacher Induction Support Through A Community Partnership

Breakout 1

Our presentation highlights a partnership between our local DKG organization and university to support induction teachers and teacher candidates through relationship-driven professional development. We'll share planning, recruitment, and outcomes since Fall 2022. We will offer participants strategies to create similar partnerships to retain new educators beyond traditional school environments.

Dr. Michele McKie, GA; Rachel Abbott, GA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: Human Connections/Social Networking, #SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond, Fostering Connections

Bringing back the joy without losing our Traditions

Breakout 1

One of the challenges of our society is recruiting new members. In this workshop, we will give practical ideas on how to reach out to new potential members. We will share ways to be more welcoming and friendly to our new and returning members. These are tried and true methods that have worked in active chapters.

Jana Smith, LA; Aimee Perrodin, LA

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: Human Connections/Social Networking, Fostering Connections, Passion

Creative Clicks: Facebook Frames & Web Design

Passion Project 1

Learn how to use our custom Facebook frames to show your support and boost visibility online! Plus, meet our Web Design staff member—the creative mind behind our digital look—and get tips, tricks, and support for anything web-related.

DKG Headquarters Staff: Ashley Beran, TX

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: Passion

Take time for YOU!

Passion Project 1

During this time of Passion, the participants will engage in ice-breaker activities to get to know one another and to use at chapter meetings.

Nancy Davis, TN

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: Passion

DKG Jeopardy

Passion Project 1

Are you looking for a fun way to inform members about #SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond initiatives and projects? Come play Pathways Jeopardy and learn about DKG's many opportunities to engage your members. No money will be awarded, but you will learn new things AND have fun doing it!

Dr. Debbie LeBlanc, IL; Candi Martin, AR

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: Passion

Passion and Connection: A Friendship Bracelet Exchange

Passion Project 1

In this interactive session, participants will swap pre-made friendship bracelets while sharing their passions. This engaging activity fosters connections among attendees, encourages meaningful conversations, and celebrates individual interests, creating a sense of community and support. Join us to explore the power of connection through creativity and shared experiences!

Dr. Tia Neal, LA; Mitzi Quinn, LA

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: [Passion](#)

Bridge the Gap: Passion & Practice

Passion Project 1

Connect with others and sharpen your speaking skills in English or Spanish. This fun, supportive space is all about building bridges through language, sharing your passions, and meeting like-minded members. Whether you are just starting out or looking to level up, come connect and practice your Spanish or English – together.

Michelle Steen, TN

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Unleashing Creativity with Canva: Design Made Easy

Passion Project 2

Discover the magic of Canva in this lively, interactive session! Learn how to create stunning visuals with ease, from social media posts to presentations. With a live demo, design challenge, and pro tips, this session will empower you to design like a pro—no experience needed. Unleash your creativity!

Abby Deming, CA

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Passion](#)

Chat, Call, Connect: Your Membership & Book Award Ally

Passion Project 2

Come meet our Membership Assistant—your go-to for processing applications, answering online chats, handling member calls, and serving as our Book Award Committee liaison. Have questions or need support? This is your chance to connect and see how she can make your membership experience seamless!

DKG Headquarters Staff: Nicole Marrero, TX

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

A Dose of Drama: Prescription for Success

Passion Project 2

This modern melodrama is a (satirical) dramatic work in which Delta K. Gamma is seriously ill and visits Dr. Shewczyk at Specific Hospital for a cure of what ails her. This skit is a lighthearted way to encourage chapters to take the issue of declining membership and retention seriously. The good doctor provides an appropriate prescription and time for a serious interactive “medical” consultation and discussion.

Chris Shewczyk, WI; Roberta Gail, WI; Kathy Clouthier, WI; Sharon Storms, WI; Carrie Smolinski, WI; Heather Thomas Flores, WI

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

UN Resources for Educators

Passion Project 2

This presentation will explore the origins of the United Nations and its founding mission to "end the scourge of war," as so powerfully articulated by Eleanor Roosevelt. We will then examine how DKG became affiliated as a non-governmental organization (NGO) with the UN, the significance of this connection, and the ongoing efforts our organization makes to uphold and contribute to this status.

Eileen Venezia, NY

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

Planning a Legislative Action Day for Your State

Breakout 2

A panel of DKG State Legislative chairs will present strategies for sponsoring effective Legislative Action Days to empower members to advocate and to demonstrate to prospective members that DKG is a voice for them with legislators.

Appropriate for novice and experienced advocates.

Pat Bennett-Forman, WA; Dr. April Coleman, AZ; Sharon Welch, DC; Peggy Monroe, TN; Tara Haikila, OR

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#)

Revive, Thrive, Rise: Rebuilding DKG Together

Breakout 2

After four challenging years of pandemic recovery, West Virginia State Organization is leading a dynamic renaissance.

Through empowering chapter presidents, hosting inspiring state conferences, and innovative promotion, we're building a stronger DKG. Come discover game-changing strategies to energize your chapter and transform your state organization.

Connie Boggs, WV; Vickie Skavanski, WV

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Using Graphic Novels in the Secondary Classroom for Interdisciplinary Units

Breakout 2

We know young students enjoy picture books. Graphic novels are a great addition to the secondary classroom to encourage reading and help them understand the historical time period. The benefits of using graphic novels in English/Social Studies curriculum will be discussed.

Dr. Anna Marie Bonafide, NY

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [Fostering Connections](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

How to Talk to Anyone About Almost Anything

Breakout 2

There is a difference between speaking up and speaking up well. Join certified Crucial Conversations trainer, Amanda Beyer, and Lisa Cox from Mu, Iowa, to navigate difficult discussions, understand diverse perspectives, and handle conflict with confidence. Walk away with tools and skills for engaging in meaningful dialogue that foster collaboration and growth.

Lisa Cox, IA; Amanda Beyer, IA

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Empowering Through Scholarships: The Art of Giving and Receiving

Breakout 2

This presentation will explore the transformative impact of scholarships on both recipients and donors, emphasizing how education access fosters empowerment. Through real-life stories, we will illustrate the mutual benefits of scholarships, demonstrating how giving creates opportunities for growth, while receiving fuels a cycle of global change and community development.

Scholarship Committee: Karen Evans, MO

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Stronger as One: Elevating Through Teamwork

Breakout 2

Discover how playful improv techniques can unlock deeper trust, sharper communication, and breakthrough ideas in your group. In this dynamic session, you'll tackle teamwork games, co-create rapid prototypes, and practice feedback loops that fuel growth. Leave ready to elevate every meeting, event, and project by harnessing your collective "one."

DKG Headquarters Staff: Sy Franco Stern, TX

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

#secondcenturydkg and Beyond: Bring(ing) Avenue M to Life

Breakout 2

It is time to shift focus from simply acknowledging the issues of teacher burnout and retention to developing sustainable solutions that actively support and uplift educators. You will leave with practical ideas to cheerlead and champion educators in your chapters and state organizations.

#secondcenturyDKG&Beyond Committee: Dr. Debbie LeBlanc, IL

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Blank Page to Bylaws

Breakout 2

This session aims to inform and at the same time collect relevant information for the creation of the bylaws that will guide DKG's path to its second century of existence, starting from a blank sheet of paper that we will rewrite together with all the members of the organization.

Bylaws Revision Task Force: Dr. Alejandrina Mata, CR

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Fostering Inquiry, Historical Empathy, and Civic Action with Multidimensional Teaching

Breakout 2

Multidimensional teaching refers to an educational approach that provides students with an in-person experience, so that they can learn about a topic through an immersive experience. This approach combines place-based and experiential learning in order to encourage inquiry, historical empathy, and civic action with students engaged in this learning process..

Mindy Walker, AL

Time 3:00pm – 3:30pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Do You Know....your parliamentary IQ? What is myth and what is real?

Passion Project 3

Share your knowledge and learn from others.

Lynna Gene Cook, NE

Time 3:00pm – 3:30pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Passion](#)

From Forms to Functions: Your Coordinator

Passion Project 3

Say hello to our Event Coordinator—your partner for flawless events, form processing, and Constitution Committee support. Have questions about event details, document requirements, or committee procedures? Don't miss this chance to connect and simplify your workload!

DKG Headquarters Staff: Lish Flores, TX

Time 3:00pm – 3:30pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

A Potpourri of Founders' Day Programs

Passion Project 3

At least 6 original FD programs written by the presenter will be shared with participants. If time allows, one will be presented relying on audience participation as the Founders. Handouts of programs will be available.

Susanne Myers, LA; Becky Meranta, LA

Time 3:00pm – 3:30pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Empowering Girls, One Patch at a Time

Passion Project 3

Discover a meaningful and impactful opportunity by exploring the Girl Scout DKG Patch curriculum, which beautifully aligns with the DKG purposes. Learn how your chapter can engage in this unique and rewarding partnership, creating a lasting impact in young girls' lives.

Dee Dee Rivers, TN

Time 3:00pm – 3:30pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Fireside Chat with Educators Book Award Recipient

Passion Project 3

This presentation will showcase the author and book selected as the 2025 DKG Educators Book Award. As International Committee members, we plan to share the selection process, summary of the winning book and ideas on incorporating it into DKG meetings and activities.!

Educators Book Award Committee: Maureen Watt, MT

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [Purposeful Leading](#)

Chapter Leadership Training - Taking Our Show on the Road

Breakout 3

In an effort to increase participation in our Chapter Leadership Training we realized we needed to "Take Our Show On the Road" so our many rural chapters would attend. We purchased the technology needed for each location and planned an agenda that would be fun and engaging. It was a TOTAL success!

Marie Boatright, GA; Georgette Cooper, GA; Dr. Lynn Skinner, GA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

DKG Visionary Network: Building Connections for Our Second Century

Breakout 3

The DKG Visionary Network committee will host a panel discussion with facilitators and participants of the DKG Visionary Network. Hear how engagement in a DKG Visionary Network group enhanced their professional development and/or enriched their personal growth. But most important, discover how you too can get involved!

DKG Visionary Network Committee

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Unlocking the Power of the International Speakers Fund

Breakout 3

What exactly is the Speakers Fund and how do I tap into this valuable resource? How do I apply to be a speaker or my state receive a speaker? These questions and many others will be answered in this workshop as we unlock the power of the International Speakers Fund.

International Speakers Fund Committee: Nancy Davis, TN

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#)

Mentoring for All: Strategies, Activities and Success.

Breakout 3

Discover how mentoring can transform education! This session offers insights into Mentoring's purpose, impact, and its role in educator retention. Learn to analyze data, problem solving and build meaningful networks while sharpening mentoring skills. Join us to grow professionally while advancing DKG's initiative to support educators and expand membership.

Kihara Dorsey-Gopinathan, MD

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

Creating Leadership Frameworks to Retain and Grow Members

Room Name: Bayside B | Breakout 3

Many newer members come to us well-equipped with leadership skills, which can help at chapter, state, and international levels. This interactive session is for new and experienced members who will collaboratively develop frameworks of creative leadership to grow and retain our members' talents and energies. Come be part of this innovative approach to membership.

Pat Graff, NM

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Write! Publish! Grow!

Breakout 3

Grow personally and professionally through writing and publishing within the supportive environment of DKG! Editorial Board members--all published authors--will provide information and inspiration about the path to publication in the Bulletin: Journal and Magazine ... and beyond! Bring your ideas to share for feedback!

Dr. Judy Merz, NV; Dr. Heathre Palige, CO; Dr. Michele McKie, GA

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [Fostering Connections](#)

Peace Message of A-bomb survivor and a Japanese Calligrapher

Breakout 3

Having been an active calligrapher for many years, I would like to visually convey the message of peace through dramatic calligraphy to world educators. At the same time, Miyako Shinohara will tell her story sharing her experience as an A-bomb in utero radiation survivor. Finally participants will have the opportunity to be artistic and write a message of peace using a calligraphy brush.

Taeko Ogawa, JP; Miyako Shinohara, JP

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [Purposeful Leading](#)

Empowered Women, Empowered Leaders: Confidence in Action

Room Name: Bayside C | Breakout 3

"Grounded confidence is the heart of daring leadership." – Brené Brown. Have you ever hesitated because of self-doubt? This session will explore actionable strategies to amplify your strengths, navigate challenges, and use the confidence within to lead with assurance. Join us to connect, grow, and step into your leadership potential.

Leadership Development & GG Committee

Time 3:45pm – 4:45pm

Focus: [Fostering Connections](#)

Global Conversations: The Impact of World Fellowship Recipients

Breakout 3

Connecting with present and past World Fellowship recipients and sharing their stories of how DKG can impact recipients, and how recipients can have impact in their home countries. Did you know? 1,055 women in 122 countries have received awards totaling \$3,739,250 since 1960 as of March 2023.

Connie Savell, NC; Susan Halliday, AZ

Saturday, August 02, 2025

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Purposeful Leading](#)

The Alchemy of Adversity: Turning Challenges into Gold

Breakout 4

This presentation explores the transformative power of adversity. Discover how to cultivate resilience, develop a growth mindset, overcome obstacles, find your authentic leadership voice, and leverage challenges to create meaningful impact. Learn strategies to build resilience, maintain a positive outlook, and turn setbacks into catalysts for success.

Heather Askea, VA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

Embrace Your Inner Maverick: Sustaining DKG Chapters Through Leadership, Connections, and Philanthropy

Breakout 4

Unlock your inner maverick to elevate leadership skills and inspire meaningful change for sustaining DKG chapters. Dive into bridging generational divides, strengthening relationships, and fostering a culture of philanthropy. Gain innovative strategies for purposeful leadership, building lasting connections, and enhancing member engagement to guide DKG soaring into its Second Century.

Kimberly Beckerdite, VA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#)

Write Like a Pro: How to Create Dynamic Content for Publications

Breakout 4

Discover your voice as a DKG member with the Communications and Marketing Committee! Dive into various ways to tell your unique story while effectively utilizing the DKG brand. Gain insights on targeting your audience and mastering storytelling techniques through engaging podcasts, impactful press releases, social media strategies, and learn about the many ways you can stay connected to International. See you there!

Communications and Marketing Committee: Toni Cook, CA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

#SecondCenturyDKG: Empowering the Future through AI for Sustainable Education

Breakout 4

We will explore how integrating artificial intelligence can enhance the goals of fostering sustainability and increasing societal relevance as we advance the objectives of #SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond. Participants will learn to leverage AI to enhance educational practices, promote collaboration, and address challenges, ensuring our contributions remain impactful for future generations.

Dr. Tia Neal, LA; Mitzi Quinn, LA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Fostering Connections](#)

The story of an A-Bomb victim

Breakout 4

The 2024 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Nihon Hidankyo. I have been listening to experiences from "hibakusha" and would like to share the story of Mr. K, who was exposed to the A-bomb as a young junior high school in Hiroshima. I believe it is important to continue sharing their stories for peace.

Sachiko Okiyoshi, JP

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#)

Perks and Non-Dues Revenue

Breakout 4

The International NDR Committee will present the discounts, perks, etc, offered by DKG International and partnerships. Hear about Collette Tours and the Spring trip in 2026. Finally, a discussion will be led about non-dues revenue and the state organizations.

Non-dues Revenue Committee: Linda Perl, AZ

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#)

Differentiation Methods for Diverse Learners

Room Name: Bayside B | Breakout 4

The presentation emphasizes differentiation strategies to support diverse learners, including non-native learners, students with disabilities, and those with 504 plans. It highlights tailored approaches to content, processes, and outcomes, integrating technology and flexible method. Practical examples empower educators to create inclusive environments, ensuring equitable learning opportunities for all students.

Jana Smith, LA; Aimee Perrodin, LA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#)

KNOW.YOUR.WORTH

Room Name: Bayside C | Breakout 4

In this powerful session, a Georgia community shares how they united after several teen suicides, raising awareness with the "KNOW.YOUR.WORTH" message. A mother bravely recounts her heartbreaking loss and explains the significance of this campaign in her journey to help others find hope and healing.

April Thomason, GA; Marnie Smith, GA

Time 9:45am – 10:45am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#)

Intercultural Relationality and Teachings from the Earth

Breakout 4

This presentation workshop will bring insights about our experiences working in post-secondary education and developing education content in higher education that reflects our identity and cultural perspectives. We are all members of DKG Manitoba Gamma Chapter.

Dr. Yvonne Vizina, MB; Dr. Myrle Ballard, MB; Dr. Eunhee Buettner, MB

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [Fostering Connections](#), [Purposeful Leading](#), [Passion](#)

Fueled by Fiction

Passion Project 4

Remember those brave heroines who shaped your childhood adventures? Join Connie Boggs and Lisa Cox on an exciting journey to rediscover these literary friends and explore how they've molded our strength and spirit. Let's unveil the values that unite our DKG sisterhood as we connect, protect, and respect each other!

Connie Boggs, WV; Lisa Cox, IA

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: [Passion](#)

DKGIEF B.I.N.G.O.

Passion Project 4

Join us and play DKGIEF B.I.N.G.O. to learn about the Benefits of our funds, the Impact the Foundation makes, the Names and purposes of the nine funds, ways to Give to DKGIEF, and the Opportunities the Foundation provides. Let's have fun as we learn about the DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF)!

DKG International Educators Foundation: Carol Bostian, NC

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Passion](#)

Back-End Brilliance: 990N Know-How & Office Manager

Passion Project 4

Get to know the heart of our operations! Meet our amazing Office Manager—the one who keeps things running smoothly behind the scenes & assists with IRS 990N filings. This is a great chance to say hello, learn how they support the team, and ask any questions you may have!

DKG Headquarters Staff: Bill Staples, TX

Time 11:00am – 11:30am

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#), [Purposeful Leading](#), [Passion](#)

National Board-Certified Teachers: Linking DKG with 30+ Years of Teaching Excellence

Passion Project 4

The gold standard of teaching excellence in the US, National Board-Certified Teacher, has been available for 30 years and is still a powerful professional development process for classroom teachers. Learn about the program and how DKG chapters and state organizations can support exceptional women educators in the process.

Pat Graff, NM

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Beyond the Pages: Meet Your 2025 DKG Educators Book Award Winner

Passion Project 5

Join us for an intimate follow-up with this year's 2025 Book Award winner, Norina E. Bentzel. This is your chance to ask questions, connect personally, and get your copy of *Glorious Sadness* signed during this special 30-minute session.

Norina E. Bentzel, PA

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Just Relax!

Passion Project 5

These 20 minutes are for YOU to just relax and regroup! There will be several activities such as coloring, picture find, puzzles.etc. to do. There will also be quiet music playing if you want to just come and sit for awhile!

Nancy Davis, TN

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Trivia Time: Unleash Your Inner Genius

Passion Project 5

Learn how to host a trivia challenge. Trivia games can be an interactive and fun way to stimulate your brain while enjoying teamwork challenges. You will learn how to cater questions to your specific demographic- students, friends, groups, or individuals. You can even incorporate trivia into your DKG functions!

Jennifer Pace, LA; Lisa Benson, LA

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Lifetime Leadership Connections (Leadership Management Alumni)

Passion Project 5

Reconnect, reminisce, and reignite your leadership journey! Join fellow Golden Gift and Ignite alumni for networking and shared memories. Celebrate past experiences, exchange new ideas, and strengthen the DKG community of leaders shaping the future.

Leadership Development & Golden Gift Fund Committee

Time 1:15pm – 1:45pm

Focus: [Passion](#)

Show Your DKG Spirit with Friendship Bracelets!

Passion Project 5

Taylor Swift's Eras tour re-birthed the popularity and interest in friendship bracelets. Come have some fun and show your DKG spirit as you bask in your "DKG Era" making friendship bracelets that represent YOU and your journey.

Jennifer Wilson, FL

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

Stress Less: Practical Techniques for Wellness

Breakout 5

This session focuses on strategies to combat stress and enhance mental well-being. It offers practical tools to boost mental fitness and transform reactions to stress. Participants will learn to identify and manage the negative voices that generate stress and discover how to activate the source of positive emotions and clear-headed action. Through interactive activities and guided practice, attendees will develop a personalized action plan to unlock their full potential.

Dr. Mariné Avagyan, CA

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#)

Tech-Tastic Teaching

Room Name: Bayside B | Breakout 5

Ready to elevate your classroom technology from basic to breakthrough? Join Amanda Beyer in this exciting session to explore innovative digital tools you can use tomorrow! You'll walk away with a treasure trove of free and budget-friendly tools that will transform you into a teaching superstar! Plus, get Google tips and tricks to simplify your life!

Amanda Beyer, IA

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Want to Start a School? 5 Steps to Get Started

Breakout 5

Dreaming of Starting a School? Let's Make It Happen! Dr. Sandy Breece will outline the highs and lows of creating a school. Starting a school is exciting, but it comes with challenges. Whether you're just starting or need to know the next steps, Sandy will help you avoid pitfalls and move forward.

Sandy Breece, AZ

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Treasurer Tools and Topics Through 2025 and Beyond

Breakout 5

Treasurer Tools and Topics Through 2025 and Beyond is your time as a chapter or state treasurer to have the expertise of the International Finance Committee as a resource. Are you a new treasurer seeking assistance with tips to communicate and develop efficiencies? Are you a seasoned treasurer seeking tips on specific but infrequent tasks? This presentation promises to meet your needs.

International Finance Committee: Diana Haskell, OH

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Fostering Connections](#)

How Artificial Intelligence is Changing Education

Breakout 5

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has both positive and negative implications in education for students and teachers. This informational session will highlight both ends of the spectrum. The audience for this session would be (1) current educators or (2) former educators who are interested in how the profession is changing.

Simone Nance, IN; Elizabeth Wilkins, IN

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

Conducting a Seminar on Financial Well-being: One State's Experience

Breakout 5

Studies posit that women feel less confident than men regarding finances, are less likely to have financial plans, and experience more stress in money matters. NC DKG held a seminar on financial literacy that members found helpful. This session will share details to encourage other states to host such seminars.

Barbara Perry-Sheldon, NC; Judith Carlson, NC; Dr. Maxine McCall, NC

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Reflections from the Barn to the Boardroom: Embracing Life's Lessons

Breakout 5

Our life experiences shape us and empower us to make a difference in our work, communities, and homes – but only if we embrace them. Join retired executive and cowboy's wife, Nita Scott, to laugh, reflect, and share together as we embrace who we are as women and as an organization.

Nita R. Scott, CAE, TX

Time 1:45pm – 2:45pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Transitional Strategies that Build Bridges: Increasing Membership and Teacher Retention.

Breakout 5

A growth mindset conversation on how educators can use transitional strategies to increase membership and teacher retention regardless of educational experience. Discuss networking, mentoring, and how to build bridges across experience confines.

Dr. Cynthia Villalovos, TX

Time 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Focus: [#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond](#), [Purposeful Leading](#)

The New, The Fun, and The Must-Haves: Unleashing the Power of Canva

Breakout 6

Dive into the latest features, creative tools, and essential design hacks in Canva that every user needs to know! Whether you're a seasoned designer or a curious beginner, this session will explore the newest updates, showcase fun and interactive ways to elevate your visuals, and highlight must-have techniques for creating impactful designs. Get ready to transform your projects with fresh ideas and insider tips that will make Canva your go-to creative companion.

Abby Deming, CA

Time 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#), [Fostering Connections](#)

Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo, I Love Reading Too!

Room Name: Bayside B | Breakout 6

Discover how to foster literacy-rich environments that inspire children to engage with stories. Learn strategies to support diverse learning styles, align with your curriculum, and create routines—indoors or out—that promote reading. Participants will leave with a hands-on literacy tool to use in their own classrooms.

Gilen Meibaum-Norwood, LA

Time 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#)

Self-publishing 101: A Naive Gal's Experience Making Her Dream a Reality

Breakout 6

I recently self-published a book of short essays on memories, observations, reflections, personal happenings and travel adventures. Being naive, I made decisions and mistakes that prolonged its launch. By sharing these experiences, perhaps I could help others avoid such pitfalls and more easily reach their dream of becoming an author.

Susanne Myers, LA; Becky Meranta, LA

Time 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Focus: [Human Connections/Social Networking](#)

The Southern Belle Experience: Mastering Southern Etiquette for Professional Success

Breakout 6

This workshop will explore the etiquette of Southern belles, focusing on how these principles enhance professional interactions. Participants will learn about communication, hospitality, and grace in various contexts. The objective is to equip women educators with tools to navigate professional and social situations confidently, fostering stronger relationships within their networks.

Dr. Tia Neal, LA; Mitzi Quinn, LA

Time 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Focus: #SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond, Fostering Connections

#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond: Three State Organizations Describe Avenue M Actions

Breakout 6

Three state organizations—Illinois, Iowa, and Oklahoma—will explain how they are applying the Avenue M goals of attaining and retaining members at the state and chapter levels. Come see how you might replicate or modify these strategies to help your members feel enthused, welcomed, and valued.

#SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond: Dr. Donna Niday, IA

Time 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Focus: Purposeful Leading

Leadership Discovery Centre: Where Do You Fit?

Breakout 6

Join members of the Leadership Discovery Centre Committee as they share what the Centre currently has to offer members and build a wish list of what members hope it can provide.

Leadership Discovery Centre Committee: Dorrie Powell, TN

Time 3:00pm – 4:00pm

Focus: #SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond, Fostering Connections

Sustaining Tomorrow: Cultivating (or Fostering) Unity and Belonging in DKG

Breakout 6

Explore how diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility principles can drive sustainable growth and a sense of belonging in DKG present and future membership. This session will equip members with actionable strategies to build inclusive, equitable, and engaged DKG chapters and communities, fostering lasting connections and organizational vitality.

DKG Global Task Force on Unity and Belonging