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Newsletter of Beta Theta Omicron
Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society

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Special issue, Volume 8

A special issue for Skyline College faculty & staff

Skyline's Chapter

The Beta Theta Omicron (BΘO) Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society is extraordinarily pleased to share some of our accomplishments with the Skyline community. In our 8 year history, we have become an internationally recognized chapter. There are more than 1600 Phi Theta Kappa chapters and we are pleased to be ranked in the top 100; receiving our fifth **Distinugished Chapter Award** in 2007. Additionally, in 2007 BΘO won the **Scholarship and Leadership** hallmark awards for the programs we implemented. BΘO won four out of the five Case Study Challenges sponsored annually by *USA Today*. Skyline is a member of the Nevada/California Region, which includes 80 chapters. Shahrzad Afghani, William Tiara, Marcia Soares, and Richard Chiang won awards at the regional level.

All-USA Academic Team

Please send your best students to Chris Case in September. Skyline students do win this scholarship! The All-California Academic Team and New Century Scholars are also chosen from the All-USA applications. We've had two All-USA team winners, 15 All-California winners and 1 New Century Winner. We've had two students on the All-California Academic Team every year!

What Skyline Alumni are saying:

"I wish I had joined when I first got the invitation!"

"The experience gained in Phi Theta Kappa was instrumental in my acceptance into the Haas School of Business"

"The best thing that happened to me in college"

"Because of ΦΘΚ, my transfer/major application to UC Berkeley became pretty robust."

"Employers are looking for potential employees who have leadership skills and have the ability to work very well with other people."

"It made my resume more unique"

Read more from Skyline Alumni at skylinecollege.edu/boo

Opportunities for Students

\$100 gift card from the Skyline Bookstore for members of Beta Theta Omicron.

***Calling all writers** for the Nevada/California Regional Literary awards. Skyline students have won these awards six times in the past 8 years. An essay (~1500 words) on the honors study topic is due October 30. Members are encouraged to publish your work in the Phi Theta Kappa literary magazine, *Nota Bene*.

***Photo Contest.** San Mateo history photo contest. Capture San Mateo County historical struggles for power in a photograph.

Calling all artists for the Nevada/California Regional Art awards entries. The next entries will be due in December 2008. Skyline students have won this award. The categories are

An original painting or sculpture in any medium

A musical composition

A still photograph (videos are not accepted)

***BΘO** is awarding **\$300** to the winning Skyline students. Contest information at skylinecollege.edu/boo

Scholarships for Phi Theta Kappa members. Scholarships totaling \$35 million in scholarships, at hundreds of four-year schools, are available for Phi Theta Kappa members.

Officers

Richard Chiang, President
Marcia Soares, VP Operations
Paige Fulmer, VP Scholarship
Denise Owen, VP Service
Cristina Urista, SOCC liaison
Joanne Jo, VP Communications
Ashley Good, VP Membership
Anna Dneprov, VP Community Relations



MEMBERSHIP IN PHI THETA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY® WILL OPEN NEW DOORS FOR STUDENTS' ACADEMIC JOURNEY!

ARE YOUR STUDENTS ACHIEVING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE? IF SO, THEY MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN PHI THETA KAPPA. INFORM THEM ABOUT THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES PHI THETA KAPPA OFFERS!

FACT!

Students are 12 times more likely to accept the invitation to membership if they hear about Phi Theta Kappa from their college professor.

WHAT IS PHI THETA KAPPA? The American Association of Community Colleges recognized Phi Theta Kappa as *the official honor society for two-year colleges* in 1929. Today Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2 million members and 1,200 chapters located in all 50 of the United States, U.S. territories, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Germany, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, United Arab Emirates, and Palau. Annually, approximately 100,000 students are inducted into Phi Theta Kappa.

The Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society's purpose is to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. The organization offers opportunities for scholarships, intellectual enrichment and personal development through programs based on Phi Theta Kappa's four Hallmarks of **Scholarship, Leadership, Service** and **Fellowship**. Many Phi Theta Kappa programs also promote civic engagement, by encouraging participants to think of chapter programming in terms of its impact on the campus and in the community.

EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS FOR PHI THETA KAPPA MEMBERS:

- ♦ Transfer Scholarships Exceeding \$36 Million
- ♦ FREE enrollment in The Transfer Database, used by hundreds of four-year colleges and universities to recruit Phi Theta Kappa transfer students.
- ♦ Opportunity to be published in *Nota Bene* - Phi Theta Kappa's literary journal. The best overall entry receives a \$1,000 scholarship; four runners-up each receive \$500 scholarships.
- ♦ Members may wear the Society's golden monogrammed Honors Stole and Tassel at college commencement, contingent on college policy.
- ♦ Opportunity to apply for Society-funded Guistwhite Scholarships for baccalaureate studies and Leaders of Promise Scholarships for associate degree studies.
- ♦ Members receive the prestigious Golden Key Membership Pin, Certificate of Membership and a wallet-size Identification Card.
- ♦ Members may affix the Society's Gold Diploma Seal, denoting Society membership, to their two-year college diploma and/or transcript, contingent on college policy.
- ♦ Automatic inclusion in the National Dean's List publication of college honor students.
- ♦ Special offers from Corporate Partners
- ♦ Letter of recommendation sent to a college admissions counselor, scholarship official or potential employer.
- ♦ Press release announcing membership acceptance

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR PHI THETA KAPPA MEMBERSHIP?

To be eligible for membership a student must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- ♦ Be enrolled in a regionally accredited institution offering an associate degree program
- ♦ Have completed at least 12 hours of coursework leading to an associate degree
- ♦ Have a grade point average of 3.5
- ♦ Enjoy full rights of citizenship in his or her country

International and part-time students are welcome.

Contact your local chapter at:

____case@smccd.edu____
or visit skylinecollege.edu/boo
or www.ptk.org!

SERVICE, HONORS, AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES: Phi Theta Kappa provides opportunities for members to serve their communities, grow intellectually and develop leadership skills through a variety of programs.

HONORS STUDY TOPIC: The Honors Study Topic forms the basis of chapters' honors programming. Chapters implement the topic through designing programs and by participating in the Honors Satellite Seminar series and the Honors Case Study Challenge. The Honors Study Topic for 2006-2008 is *Gold, Gods, and Glory: The Global Dynamics of Power*.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM: Phi Theta Kappa partners with a service organization to focus chapters' service programs on one goal. The 2006-2008 International Service Program is *Operation Green: Improving our Communities*, a partnership with Keep America Beautiful.

REGIONAL MEETINGS: Phi Theta Kappa chapters belong to regional organizations, which annually conduct leadership conferences, honors institutes and regional conventions.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION: The Convention features dynamic speakers, Educational Forums, International Officer campaigns and networking and fellowship opportunities.

HONORS INSTITUTE: Society members and advisors gather each summer for a weeklong examination of the Honors Study Topic. Speaker address the topic from interdisciplinary perspectives, and each presentation is followed by small group seminar discussions.