

Sri Lanka: Bridge2Peace

An opportunity for Phi Theta Kappans from Nevada/California and the children of Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka is a country ravaged by a 20-year civil war and a catastrophic tsunami. Together both have produced poverty below 50% below the UN global benchmark, \$1.5 billion in property damage, educational facilities substandard at best, and have left children vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Our hope is to bridge that violence with lasting solutions of hope and peace through education and self-sustainability, thereby bringing hope for a more peaceful tomorrow.

Teaming up with the non-profit, Non-Governmental Agency (NGO) Bridge2Peace, the Nevada-California Region of Phi Theta Kappa strives to empower the children of Lunugamvehera and their families by: raising awareness and especially money; donating educational materials; creating and donating original works of art and literature; and by teaching English as a second language and Environmental Conservation in Sri Lanka beginning in Summer 2007. Through these contributions, Nev-Cal Chapters of Phi Theta Kappa will help Bridge2Peace provide: preschool through high school Montessori-based Education; after school child care; Montessori Teacher Training and Certification; instruction in English as a second language and in Environmental Conservation; and training in conservation agriculture and cultural preservation.

Fortified by our region's contributions, Bridge2Peace will more effectively serve the initial 65-plus children and their families at Lunugamvehera by providing those children, free of charge, a tri-lingual Montessori education and after school care. Such Education and childcare services, combined with vocational training for teachers, will create further jobs in teaching and afford mothers the opportunity of seeking employment outside the home. Bridge2Peace and Phi Theta Kappa hope to end the cycle of violence and poverty that has plagued Sri Lanka, and to help its children become informed, resourceful, self-reliant leaders able to shape a peaceful world for themselves, and for those around them. 12 slots are reserved for students that wish to immerse themselves in the culture of Sri Lanka. For 6 weeks students will teach, tour, and learn about Sri Lanka. This is a once in lifetime, life changing experience.



Gold, Gods, & Glory—in San Mateo County. San Francisco's dam on the Tuolumne River floods the Hetch Hetchy valley in northwest Yosemite National Park. Water from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir flows across the state to Pulgas Water Temple, and to the residents of San Francisco and San Mateo counties.

Scholarship

In July 2006 two students were able to attend the Nevada/California Honors Institute at the University of Nevada, Reno. Students, advisors and speakers stayed in the dorms for the weekend and attended seminars while enjoying the sights of downtown Reno. The seminars allowed students to further explore the honors study topic "Gold, Gods, and Glory" more intimately. Speakers James Stediel, Dr. Roger Ekins, and Paul Roscelli spoke on the the role of Mexico in early California, the role of Mormans in the discovery of gold in California, and economics. Phi Theta Kappa members from throughout California and Nevada made friends during the lively discussions.



Our chapter is hosting the 2006 Honors Satellite Seminar series, Gold, Gods, and Glory: The Global Dynamics of Power. This series of four lectures, presented by renowned speakers will be broadcasted to college campuses across the nation. Our chapter collaborates with Skyline faculty to moderate the Seminars. The faculty are expert instructors and are knowledgeable about the subject matter. Go to skylinecollege.edu/boo for the seminar schedule and other events.

An Interview with Skyline Alumna Sarah Tsui

Emi Matsuura, VP of Operations, interviews former Chapter President Sarah Tsui. When Skyline's chapter, Beta Theta Omicron, received its charter from Phi Theta Kappa, Sarah was the chapter's first president, installed during the chartering ceremony. Sarah has graduated from U.C., Berkeley, Haas School of Business and is currently working in the financial industry.

Emi: Why did you participate in Beta Theta Omicron?

Sarah: I found out about an Honor Society starting up on campus through a friend and thought it would be a great idea to help develop a new organization. I also saw the experience as a way to develop my leadership skills, to make a difference in the community, and to meet others with similar scholastic interests.

Emi: Do you think the experience of $\Phi\Theta\K$ help you to get in your major?

Sarah: Definitely. The experience gained in $\Phi\Theta\K$ was instrumental

If it weren't for the experience in $\Phi\Theta\K$, I would not be where I am today.

in my acceptance into the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley. Universities seek ambitious students that make an impact and leave the places where they were better than when they started. I would highly recommend participating in $\Phi\Theta\K$ to everyone.

Emi: What did you gain through your experience as an officer of Beta Theta Omicron Chapter? And what is most valuable?

Sarah: Through my experience as the Charter President of $\Phi\Theta\K$, I developed my leadership skills in helping to drive the membership from 5 to 150 members in the first year as well as achieving the 5 star level. I developed time management skills juggling a full load of courses and $\Phi\Theta\K$. At the same time, traveling to meet and network with other chapters created a sense of community and allowed me to grow as an individual. Most importantly, through $\Phi\Theta\K$, I learned the power of vision. Working relentlessly can make your vision a reality. That has helped me a great deal on my entrepreneurial career path.

Emi: Did membership in $\Phi\Theta\K$ make any difference when you applied for jobs?

Sarah: Certainly. Employers look for hard working self starters, leadership and communication skills, and experience. Participating in $\Phi\Theta\K$ allows you an opportunity

The experience gained in $\Phi\Theta\K$ was instrumental in my acceptance into the Haas School of Business

to the develop necessary skills, meet many people, and demonstrate your determination.

Emi: What has Beta Theta Omicron meant to you?

Sarah: My experience in B $\Theta\O$ is invaluable and means a great deal. The challenge of building the organization from the ground up to its ideals and four hallmarks brings back fond memories. I truly appreciated the mentoring, networking, and community I found here. My experience in B $\Theta\O$ helped me to realize more of my potential, challenged me to be a part of something that's greater than myself, and made me a better person overall. I met some great people who are doing great things in life. If it weren't for the experience in $\Phi\Theta\K$, I would not be where I am today.



College Readership

Beta Theta Omicron and The Skyline President's Innovation Fund are providing *USA Today* free for Skyline students. The newsstand is in front of Bldg. 2 From *USA Today*:

1. Out-of-state tuition at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, is:
 - a. Less than in-state tuition at the University of California.
 - b. More than in-state tuition at Rutgers University (NJ).
 - c. More than in-state tuition at Arizona State University, Tempe.
 - d. Less than in-state tuition at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion
2. In-state college tuition is highest at:
 - a. UCLA.
 - b. Pennsylvania State University, University Park.
 - c. University of Florida, Gainesville.
 - d. University of California, Berkeley.
3. Slightly more than half the students receive financial aid (average \$12,021/year) at:
 - a. University of South Dakota, Vermillion.
 - b. Pennsylvania State University, University Park.
 - c. Arizona State University, Tempe.
 - d. University of California, Berkeley.

Answers below.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Participate in the Honors Seminars

Gender and Power in Relationships

Professor Lori Slicton

Oct. 17. 1-3 p.m. Room 1105

The Iraq War and Its Consequences in the Middle East

Professor Rosemary Bell

Nov. 9. 1-3 p.m. Room 1105

Money Talks: Lobbyists and the Power of Money in Washington

Professor Masao Suzuki

Nov. 15. 2-4 p.m. Room 1105

Lessons Learned from My Grandfather

Arun Gandhi

TBS

Watch for upcoming events at <http://skylinecollege.edu/boo>