

# Hats Off to Our Founders



A program with a fresh look at the founders of Delta Kappa Gamma

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## Introduction for Hats off to Our Founders

Hats. We wear them to protect us from the elements and from injury. We have our lucky fishing hat or our favorite golf hat. We have our wide brimmed sun hat for the beach and the beanie to keep us warm in the winter.

Hats are symbols of authority- the helmet of the soldier, the campaign hats of the park ranger or the policeman.

Hats are also an art form. Remember Curious George and... the Man with the Yellow Hat? Or that adorable straw hat with the curled brim and the wide ribbon trim worn by... Madeline? And who doesn't remember the pillbox hat made famous by...Jacqueline Kennedy?

We are here to honor our founders. You know the story of the twelve women from Austin, Texas, who started Delta Kappa Gamma in 1929. You've seen the black and white formal portraits of all twelve of them in slide shows and PowerPoint presentations.

Today we are going to look at Annie Webb Blanton and her friends from a more personal side. What would their hats say about each of them?

I invite you to "hold onto your hats" as we go on this journey with our sisters.

## HATS OFF TO OUR FOUNDERS

(original writer unknown)

### Introduction

We need to pause a moment for a founders' tribute today.

These indeed are special leaders - their contributions too numerous to say.

Without these special ladies, we wouldn't be here today.

So sit back and learn about the founders we'd like to portray.

Hats off to Delta Kappa Gamma! Hats off to our founders, too!

Let's enjoy this chance to salute them and learn how our Society grew.

### First person with a mortar board

The noble **Anne Webb Blanton** envisioned and promoted her dream,  
A leader with warmth, love and wit, one you'd surely want on your team.

Her hat would be a mortarboard,  
a scholar and professor for many a productive year,  
excellence in education is what she held so dear.

### Next presenter with party hat with flowers

**Mamie Sue Bastian**, a gal with charm galore;  
She valued love, laughter and things of the heart.  
She was one we'd all adore.

Her hat would be a party hat, a chapeau with a broad brim of flowers.  
She influenced many legislators as she talked about education for hours.

### Next presenter with a sombrero

**Ruby Cole** hailed from "San Antone," a tireless worker indeed;  
A woman of courage and good will too, an educator destined to lead.

For her hat she would doff a sombrero to symbolize the culture for which she had pride.  
Her tireless work to beautify a city, she felt history should be our guide.

### Next presenter with country bonnet

On to **Mabel Grizzard**, from Waxahachie hailed she;  
A positive person so involved, she served our society faithfully.

A country bonnet is what she would wear, one with bluebonnets galore;  
She traveled all over the country, giving her all to each endeavor.

### Next presenter with a tiara

**Anna Hiss** is our next founder; a fascinating conversationalist in crowd.  
An enthusiastic leader with vision and one of whom we are proud.

A ballerina's tiara she'd wear in her hair, a symbol of her dancing ways.  
Grace and vivacity describe her well; people listened to what she would say.

### Next presenter with accountant's green shade

Another founder and teacher named **Ray King** was the first state and national treasurer. A symbol of quiet devotion to duty, she was not an idle character.

An accountant's green shade we would find upon her head,  
For her meticulous keeping of records kept us far out of the red.

### Next presenter with laurel wreath

Another **King** whose name was **Sue** influenced many a life that she touched.  
She was lost to the Society by an untimely death and was missed by her peers so much.

On her head we'd find a laurel wreath for her intellect and the Latin she taught,  
Respected by many for her leadership role - proud to share the knowledge she sought.

### Next presenter with a big straw hat

A notable educator was **Dr. Helen Koch**, known the world all around,  
A professor of psychology from Illinois, whose students considered her profound.

We'd find her wearing a big straw hat, one to protect her from the sun's rays;  
To archaeological digs she would go; that's where she spent many days.

### Next presenter with cowboy hat

**Ruby Terrill Lomax** was our guide for the formative years,  
A scholarly parliamentarian who kept records for the Society she held dear.

This multi-faceted scholar with a cowboy hat would be found,  
Joined by her husband, a folklorist named Walt,  
searching for Cowboy music they were often bound.

### Next presenter with a black bow in her hair

Charming and friendly was **Dr. Cora M. Martin**. She added color and fun wherever she'd go.  
She brought out the best in all of her kids, and she'd marvel as she watched each child grow.

Petite and Victorian in appearance was she. We might find a black bow in her hair.  
Talented author and musician, she served so well, she's worthy of applause and fanfare.

Next presenter with a beret

A fearless woman was **Lalla M. Odom**. For married teachers she fought hard and long.  
Helping to improve our professional image, she was courageous and strong.

Because she was outspoken and non-conforming, we see her in a beret.  
She went to court for equal treatment and won respect that would always stay.

Next presenter with sequined dinner hat

**Lela Lee Williams** gave inspiration to turn dreams into reality,  
A tireless worker for improved status and pay, known for concern and congeniality.

We'd find her in a sequined dinner hat, for she loved beautiful things.  
But don't let her fool you for a moment; to our ideals and purposes she'd cling.

Everyone together OR narrator

As we say, "Hats off to our founders!"  
    And marvel at their variety,  
Let us say "Hats off to all of us!"  
    As we salute our Society.

Program Notes:

This can be performed using:

- a single narrator and one person modeling each hat
- a single narrator and 12 models for the founders,
- multiple narrators and 12 models.

It is important that the narrators speak **slowly** and **clearly**. A short pause at punctuation marks is necessary-there is a lot of information in the verses and we need to give the audience time to absorb the rhymes.

Have the model walk around the room, if the room allows for this.

The program could be introduced with the song Sentimental Hats, words by DeLaine Wallace. A karaoke background track can be ordered from iTunes.

End the program with the song "Hats" and/or The Delta Kappa Gamma Song HATS by Hank Beebe can be ordered from [JWPepper.com](http://JWPepper.com). There is not a background CD of this song available from the publisher.

SENTIMENTAL HATS  
(words by DeLaine Wallace, Iota Xi)

Gonna take a sentimental journey,  
Gonna see our friend Annie,  
Gonna take a sentimental journey  
To revisit DKG.

Glad to see you made your reservation,  
Brought your friends and cash galore.  
Enjoy your meal and all the conversation,  
Don't forget the Chi State Store.

Dreaming, that's how Annie did it — dreaming.  
Every hat we have has meaning  
`bout each and every founder of DKG  
Just look and see.

Now sit right back and have your cup of coffee  
While we share their great story,  
Gonna take that Sentimental Journey  
Our hats are off to DKG.  
Our hats are off to DKG.

## WOMEN LEADERS

All of the women in the left hand column are or were leaders in some way. Some are/were visible and well-known. Others lead/led by example or by inspiring others. Match the name with the description and write the number from the left on the corresponding blank on the right.

Editor's Note: This program was developed in 2011, but other more current names such as Michelle Obama could be easily incorporated.

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|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Susan B. Anthony   | _____ a. a member of the Dutch resistance during World War II and a good will ambassador for the UNICEF                |
| 2. Annie Webb Blanton | _____ b. founder of the contemporary environmental movement  |
| 3. Rachel Carson      | _____ c. a leader in aviation  |
| 4. Lynne Cheney       | _____ d. organizer and active participant in the Underground Railroad  |
| 5. Amelia Earhart     | _____ e. a great educator and the founder of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International                               |
| 6. Audrey Hepburn     | _____ f. an anthropologist who stressed the need to understand the perspective of women and children                   |
| 7. Dolores Huerta     | _____ g. the first Hispanic Associate Justice of the Supreme Court   |
| 8. Angelina Jolie     | _____ h. Goodwill Ambassador for the U.N.; High Commissioner for Refugees  |
| 9. May Ying Ling      | _____ i. one of those who provided a model for nonviolent Civil Rights actions; winner of the Congressional Gold Medal |
| 10. Margaret Mead     | _____ j. educator who overcame the challenges of teaching a blind and deaf child                                       |
| 11. Oprah Winfrey     | _____ k. secured the first laws in New York State  |

guaranteeing women rights over their children and control of property and wages

12. Sonia Sotomayor \_\_\_\_\_ l. chosen to design a Vietnam War Memorial from a design she did as a class project when she was only 21 years old
13. Elizabeth Cady Stanton \_\_\_\_\_ m. leader of the woman suffrage movement
14. Anne Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_ n. former chairwoman of the National Endowment for the Humanities and founder of a think tank devoted to reforming higher education in the U. S.
15. Harriet Tubman \_\_\_\_\_ o. considered the most influential woman in the world and certainly the “top alpha female in this country” – columnist Maureen Dowd
16. Rosa Parks \_\_\_\_\_ p. Cofounder of the National Farm Workers Association, arrested 22 times for participating in non-violent disobedience activities

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