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Saturday March 8th, our chapter hosted our annual Walla Walla’s Best Dance Crew (WWBDC) event to raise money for C.A.S.A. Months of hard work and planning by dedicated Thetas resulted in both a very successful fundraiser and a fun event for campus! In total 238 tickets were sold, and $4,654.02 were raised for C.A.S.A! While six dance crews performed in the event, only three stepped away with prizes: The Performing Company won “Walla Walla’s Best Dance Crew,” Gumboot won “Judge’s Choice,” and 2 Step 2 won “People’s Choice.” The event was emceed by our own chapter member Brittany Torrence ‘14, as well as Kayvon Behroozian, who were both very energetic and kept the audience laughing.

The phenomenal Theta responsible for coordinating the entire event was Hanna Mosenthal ‘14, whose hard work and dedication can be seen in the high turnout we received as well as the large sum of money raised for C.A.S.A. Mosenthal comments that: “The event as a whole went really well. All the dances were great, and we raised a lot of money for a great cause. I was surprised by how much money was donated to each individual crew, which I think in part had to do with our new method of collecting donations from the crowd using packing tape, an idea that our fundraising chairs Kathryn Bogley ’15 and Caitlyn Yoshina ’15 came up with.”

Using this new method of packing tape to collect audience donations, our chapter raised $710.06, an increased amount from last year! We already look forward to next year’s WWBDC, in which we will hopefully raise even more money for C.A.S.A!
Elena Aragon ‘14

**Brittany Torrence**
Hometown- Marysville, WA  
Major- History  
Plans After Graduation- Law School at Seattle University  
Summer Plan- Work at a Law firm or start Law School early for a summer program.

**Hannah Palkowitz**
Hometown- San Diego, CA  
Major- ES-Sociology  
Plans After Graduation- Take a few years off before going to graduate school to pursue positions in co-operate sustainability.  
Summer Plan- Start the job search and test preparation.

**Taylor Aschenbrenner**
Hometown: Olympia, WA  
Major: Gender Studies  
Plans After Graduation: Pursue Nursing Degree  
Summer Plan: Work until school starts in the fall

**Jadelyn Martinez**
Hometown- Phoenix, AZ  
Major- Psychology  
Plans After Graduation- PhD Program at Columbia
Shannon Plunkett ‘17

Philanthropy this semester has continued to remain a central part of Theta. We hosted a Let-
ters of Gratitude event, where both Thetas and other students wrote over 30 letters to soldiers over-
seas. We have also joined with other groups to help out with the community like the fraternity Beta
Theta Pi, where we volunteered at an Easter Egg Hunt at Pioneer Park. Additionally, several Thetas
pitched in on Mentees to Campus Day to help set-up, run, and clean-up booths to ensure all Men-
tees had a great time.

With as many events as Theta organizes, many of our members do service on their own time. Sop-
omores Deborah DeHovitz ‘16 and Lucinda Sisk ‘16 led Whitman Spring Service trips and
several other members including Madeline Kemme ‘16 and Georgina Dadson ‘17 attended trips as
well. Many girls were involved in the Spring Service Day organized by the three universities in Walla
Walla, doing community service such as landscaping at the farmer’s market. We are looking forward
to working booths for the Special Olympics, and Gleaning with the Whitman Glean club.
Where in the World are our Alumnae?

**Julie Peterson ‘14**
While the Delta Delta chapter’s alumnae are greatly missed, their legacy remains with us and continues to inspire us to reach for greatness. They are the epitome of leading women as their influence stretches across the globe and embodies the noble ideals of sisterhood, service, intellectual curiosity, and leadership.

**Cara Lowry ‘12**
Cara is currently living in Portland, OR, where she works at the French American International School. Cara reports, “The school is a great working environment—I have a blast with the kids and my coworkers and working at an immersion school is a great way for me to keep up my French.” She will be attending the “Forum des jeunes ambassadeurs de la Francophonie” which is a conference in Winnipeg, Ontario, Canada about the French speaking world, specifically the Americas. She says “I plan to go to grad school in a few years, but not before going back to France for another six months to a year.”

**Lea Gariando ‘12**
Lea is currently living in Seattle where she works on an Operations team in the finance realm, primarily studying and working towards the CFA. She says one of the perks of being in Seattle is seeing “Thetas all the time!” Even though she balances a busy schedule Lea still finds lots of time to travel, hike, climb, and go out with friends. She also says “I have gone on some sweet trips post college and will go to Thailand next fall!”

**Katie Tackman ‘12**
Katie is in her second year teaching English in Japan with the English Network 21, and is really loving it. She says “I decided not to re-contract for a third year, and instead am opting for a 4 month traveling adventure before starting a job search after Christmas! Should be a fun adventure, although I am looking forward to enjoying my last few months in Japan!”
**Genevieve Venable ’12**

Geni is currently working at Seattle University Center for Service and Community Engagement doing communications and outreach. She is pursuing a Master of Public Administration at Seattle University as well. Sisters for a lifetime, she is rooming with Jessie Matresse ’12 in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Seattle. Geni adds, “I catch up with other Thetas in the Seattle area from time to time and love getting visits from Thetas in Walla Walla or wherever. I suppose I’ve come a long way from being an awkward freshman sporting some serious pink eye at my first Theta formal.”

**Emma Oschrin ’13**

After graduating from Whitman last year, Emma moved to a small town in Eastern California to begin working for an environmental non-profit, the Mono Lake Committee. There, Emma explains, “we help to protect and restore the unique lake ecosystem of Mono Lake.” She will be at the Mono Lake Committee until August when she begins a Biology PhD program at Indiana University Bloomington. “I’m obviously looking forward to getting back into school but I’m also excited to be there because they have a very active Theta chapter and I hope to get involved in some way.”

**Erika Horwege ‘13**

Erika is currently teaching at a high school in Japan through the JET program. She gives her students “stickers and stamps (and sometimes candy!) if they volunteer in class”, and also leads an English Club. Erika says “Life in Japan is a constant adventure” She gets to explore a lot around where she lives as well as travels internationally. She says that since “arriving, I’ve travelled to several new prefectures in Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Cambodia, Austria, and Prague (to see Lydia ’15 and Molly ’15!). Erika says one of the funniest things that happened to her was when “a Japanese teacher informed me that the American term ‘helicopter parent’ means rich parents who fly their kids to school in helicopters.” She adds that “It’s been a big eye-opener, both in regards to how I see other cultures and to how other cultures view America.”
Shannon Plunkett ‘17

Sisterhood events this semester have been varied and extremely fun. We kicked off this semester with a Frozen viewing in the chapter room. Most of the chapter turned out to watch the movie and eat ice cream and to resist the urge to sing along. For the more adventurous, we had the rock climbing gym reserved where girls were able to challenge themselves while being supported by their sisters. Other events included ThetaFit, a Zumba-style workout led by sophomore Sam Grainger-Shuba ‘16, relaxing oatmeal masks, open kayak, and a weekly Game of Thrones viewing following Chorale Contest rehearsal.

We had many sisterhood bonding activities revolving around Choral Contest which we won for the third year in a row thanks to the hard work and dedication of Mykhanh Pham ‘14 and Frannie Nunn ‘14 who wrote and arranged the pieces for Choral contest.

Many of our sisters will be looking forward to sisterhood events at the end of the semester as a way to enjoy each others company before summer vacation. Thanks to Emy Jones ‘15, we are eagerly looking forward to a Theta-exclusive OP trip, where we will be hiking and bird watching as a relaxing break before finals.
Greekend 2014

Julie Peterson ‘15

Thetas had a great time participating in this year’s annual Greekend event. Many Thetas are currently serving on the Panhellenic council which plans and executes numerous events like a dance competition, volleyball tournament, and an all-Greek barbecue in order to celebrate the Greek community on Whitman’s campus and bring all the different groups together for a weekend of festivity.

In this much-anticipated event Theta had a very strong presence in all of the events. Samantha Grainger-Shuba ‘16 choreographed the Theta dance which featured several sound clips from Beyonce. Afterwards, Kyla Foreman ‘17 won the female hot-dog eating contest. The next day several Thetas had a good time playing in the volleyball tournament against other sororities. Overall, it was a thoroughly enjoyable weekend that brought together the Greek groups and the Whitman community.
Thetas in the Whitman Undergraduate Conference

Pascale Carpentier ‘17

Whitman’s Annual Undergrad Conference is an event that showcases students’ academic and creative achievements. The conference took place April 8th around the Whitman Campus. Like previous years, there was a strong Theta presence among presenters; ranging from members from the freshman class to seniors, there are eight amazing Thetas who had the opportunity to show Whitman their hard work. Senior Angie Fugere ‘14 presented a version of her thesis that looks at the relationship between how Portland climate change activists conceptualize the environment and how they frame climate solutions or strategies. Katie Zajicek ‘14, also a senior, presented her research conducted at Oregon State University which found that introducing ATP to chromatophore cells in the presence of paraquat or cyanide does induce pigment movement as she had previously hypothesized. Alyssa Goard ‘14, another senior, presented research done while she was studying in Washington D.C on the personal lives of journalists. Senior Jadelyn Martinez ‘14 presented her thesis about cross-cultural malleability of the self and improvement motivation as well as a presentation on martial art. Returning presenter and senior, Hannah Palkowitz ‘14 also participated at the conference. Junior Maria Ptucha ‘15 talked about episodes from Grey’s Anatomy, The Mindy Project, and Saturday Night Live where she found that they showed self-critical moments and discuss how they function to placate viewers and rebuff critics. CEO and sophomore Meredith Ruff ‘16 gave a presentation about the rhetoric surrounding AIDS/HIV, especially during the epidemic, and how that has contributed to the current ban on homosexual males donating blood, she adds that her sources come from popular culture as well as the academic and scientific communities. Marlene Anderson ‘17 was the youngest representing Theta at the conference, as a freshman, where she presented on war powers and drones. All of these ladies have worked extremely hard to showcase their work to the community.
This year, the second annual Power and Privilege Symposium took place on Thursday, February 20th. Many Thetas participated in the symposium in different ways: some of them lead the sessions, some involved in the panels, and almost everyone from our chapter attended at least one session. Ali Price ’16 led the session “Rape Culture.” Meredith Ruff ’16 led “B*tchfest.” Annie Boyenneh ’16 led “Understanding identity: intersectionality.” Ravneet Waraich ’16 led “Treat Yo’ Self (Self-Care).” Georgina Dadson ’17 led “Diversity Duty.” Ruth Hwang ’15 led “When Real Talk Gets Real Uncomfortable.” Kyla Foreman ’17, Miranda Huang ’17 and Jeanette Weber ’14 led the “Biracial panel.” Kendell Gilmore ’14 led “Body Image”. Satinder Haer ’14 led “Exotification” as well as “Identities in Greek Life panel”. After the symposium, the Delta Delta chapter hosted a race and ethnicity discussion follow-up in the chapter room to reinforce Thetas’ understanding of power and privilege related topics.
Emily Anderson ’14

It is easy to take our Theta experience for granted. We have the luxury of being Thetas not only when education for women is valued, but also at a point in time where Thetas are a nationally respected sorority group. For most of the year, we forget that our presence is in large part thanks to the strength and struggles of the women who came before us.

It was in the spirit of this remembrance that Thetas of many generations celebrated Founders Day on March 2nd in the Prentice Great Hall. As the candles commemorating our founders were lit, a story was told about the adversity and skepticism our founders faced while forming the first sorority—a concept unheard of at the time. Today, the circle of chapter girls and alumnae circled together at the ceremony not only symbolized times changed, but also the 60 years that Theta has thrived at Whitman.

As Founder’s Day is a time to appreciate Theta, chapter girls came to the ceremony with a donation for the Theta Friendship Fund. In total, we raised $300 for Thetas who find themselves in times of need. To close the ceremony we enjoyed each other’s company with tea and cookies. This year’s Founder’s Day was a tremendous success thanks to our Public Relations committee as well as Shauna Lilly Bogley, a Delta Delta alumnae. As Julie Peterson ’15, a Theta junior, reflected “Founders Day really encourages a fun and relaxed environment where alumnae can share their stories and experiences as they were in previous years. It is also a time where we can all share a common experience with one another through ritual and our rich history.”
Spring Recruitment

Kanupria Sanu ‘17

Spring Recruitment took place in February. The Delta Delta chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta had four spots open this year. The recruitment coordinator, Elise Tinseth ‘16, received many names suggested by members to participate in Spring Recruitment. As a result, she decided to hold an informal recruitment session in the chapter room. Interested members met three times over the week span to participate in activities to help the girls meet the current members in the chapter. There were six girls who ended up attending, and the women of Delta Delta found pleasure in meeting all of them.

The first meeting included games of Apples-to-Apples and telephone Pictionary; these events were silly and fun. The second day was more relaxing. There were cookies to decorate and henna to apply, both of which were very popular. It turns out there are many artists in the Delta Delta chapter! On the final day, participants decorated mugs with sharpies and baked them in the oven. They are sweet and great mementoes of the time spent together. Most days, participants and members grabbed dinner in the dining halls together, which was a great way to continue getting to know everyone. As a whole, spring recruitment was very successful. We are very excited to welcome Jessica Beccari ‘17, Liezel Lenhart ‘16, Linnea Valdivia ‘17, and Anna Zheng ‘17 into our loving chapter.
Greetings from Abroad

Lauren Vorona ‘15

**Lydia Kautsky.** Junior Politics major studying in Prague, Czech Republic
Lydia says, “Prague is an amazing city filled with history, culture, and architecture. My program is Central European Studies through CIEE; I am learning a lot about the formation and mentality of the Czech Republic, while also studying the language. My favorite part so far is my host family. They are amazing, and take me to all these unique places around the city, invite me to interesting/non-touristy gatherings and exhibitions, and cook amazing food. I am taking ballroom and Latin dance lessons (in Czech) and am having an amazing time immersing myself in the culture!”

**Shannon Blair** Junior ES-Geo Major studying in Dunedin, New Zealand
“The coolest thing that I have done is go Bungee Jumping in Queenstown. My favorite part has been my Geology field camp that I was on for a week where we learned about the geology of the area and traveled around.”

**Tina Welsh** Junior Biology Major studying in Madagascar
“I am studying with SIT (school of international training) Madagascar’s Biodiversity and Resource Management program. Some cool things I’ve done are swim in the Indian Ocean, interview Malagasy fishermen, see lemurs, and hold chameleons. My favorite part so far is spending time with my host family and the other people on my program.”
Andi Horwege Junior Psychology major studying in Philadelphia
“My favorite part is my internship! I’m working at the Defender Association of Philadelphia (basically the public defenders office). I’ve been able to go to all of the local prisons and even got to see the inner-workings of capital punishment jury trial. One of my favorite things here is the food. Philly dominates Walla Walla in foodie culture. I have yet to form an opinion on who makes the best Philly Cheesesteak (its a controversial topic), but I have the etiquette down.”

Sayda Morales Junior Sociology major studying in Rabat, Morocco
“The coolest thing, which also happens to be my favorite part, that I have done so far has been a 5-day excursion to a rural village where I rode on a cart pulled by a horse into a souk (grand market) in the middle of a desert, had a dance party with the women of the village where I learned to belly dance, and then I also got to teach local elementary school children ‘Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes.’”

Molly Emmett Junior English major studying in Prague, Czech Republic
“One of the coolest things I’ve done so far is attended Mozart’s opera Don Giovanni at the State Opera house, the same place where the show premiered in 1787. It’s difficult to choose just one of my favorite parts of the semester, but I definitely enjoy learning the Czech language and also enjoy how accessible theater, film, music, art and even sports have been here for me. I’ve made so many great friends and even more great memories and I look forward to another several months here. Plus, I’m a BIG fan of Prague’s public transportation, though I don’t have much to which I can compare it.”
Thank you to everyone who contributed to the publication of this newsletter; especially the members of the Public Relations committee: Emily Anderson, Stephanie Viers, Elena Aragon, Lauren Vorona, Brenna Feeney, Vicky Su, Pascale Carpentier, Kanupria Sanu, and Shannon Plunkett.

If you would like to get in contact with the women of the Delta Delta chapter, feel free to email the Chief Marketing Officer, Julie Peterson at petersjc@whitman.edu. We would love to hear from our alumnae!

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