

# **STREET CO-NAMING**

## Ceremony

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND IMPACT OF FOUNDER AND QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER CHARTER MEMBER

# Ethel L. Cuff Black

### of

# DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.



#### FOR YOUR VISION AND DEDICATION TO HONOR

Ethel J. Cuff Black

Our Beloved Founder and Chapter Charter Member

> A LOVING THANK YOU TO

Foror Thaunna Marie Stevens

Member, National Heritage & Archives Committee Queens Alumnae Chapter Historian Chair, Heritage & Archives Committee

In Sisterhood and <u>Jo</u>ve. Karole Turner Campbell, Sena Feuchtbaum, Elnita Tones, Neahle Izé Tones, JaBrena Tones Martin, Jisa Tones Francis, Donna Edge Rachelle



"Soror/daughter, your vibrant representation of Delta ideals is matched only by your unwavering commitment and dedication to all things Delta Sigma Theta." - Soror Karole Turner Campbell







Greetings Sorors, Esteemed Guests and Community Members,

We welcome you to this historic event in honor of our beloved Founder, Ethel L. Cuff Black, a true Queen of Queens. 111 years ago, Soror Cuff Black as part of our 22 Founders blazed the trail in honor of sisterhood service, social action and scholarship. Today's street co-naming ceremony not only celebrates Soror Cuff Blacks' achievements that have impacted the world but also serves as a testament to her enduring legacy here in her home of Queens.

While no level of acknowledgment or celebration could truly do this esteemed figure in our sorority true justice, we hope and pray that our gathering today provides the recognition, awareness and grace to the indelible mark she has made on our community. The Queens Alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated is humbled and honored to affirm the legacy of Soror Cuff Black's and shine a light on not just the road she literally walked, but the road she has paved for all of us to continue to do the work of Delta today, tomorrow and for years to come.

We would like to thank all of the sorors, community leaders and elected officials who have poured into the making of this historic event. We are thrilled to gather together to acknowledge the greatness that is Soror Cuff Black.

Our hope is that you walk away feeling enlightened and recharged around the intentional focus that our founders created for all of us to advance the mission of our sorority.

Thank you, Soror Cuff Black for all you have done for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and for the Queens community.

Thank you to our Sorors and community members, for joining us in this wonderful fare.



Elnita Jones & Kenya Townsend *Co-chairs -* Street Co-Naming Committee Queens Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated





#### **Global Excellence Through Service and Fortitude**

The Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was chartered on June 4, 1951. The present chapter name is actually its third. The original name was Delta Theta Sigma Chapter. In 1957, we became the Long Island Alumnae Chapter. Finally in 1964, we were renamed to Queens Alumnae Chapter. Ethel Cuff Black, one of the 22 Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was one of the charter members of the chapter. Founder Black remained active until her retirement. At present, the chapter has over 200 members; all hold a minimum of a Bachelor's degree.

Approximately 75% of the membership hold postgraduate degrees. The chapter welcomes the opportunity to partner with other organizations and community leaders that share the same goals and ideals. The charge of the chapter continues to be that of offering programs and services for the betterment of humanity.





Myrtle Price Jarmon



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black



Willa E. Pardo Hall



# Queens Alumnae Charter Members



Mae Hubert Brooks

Virginia Ross Love



Helen H. Logue Aubry







**Emalena Jones Davis North** 



**Gertrude Thompson** 



Mary Washington Johnson



Vivian Williams



#### QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER PRESIDENT





I am Charelle Hassell-Gilbert, President of the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. In collaboration with Council Member Nantasha Williams and in partnership with Assembly Member Alicia L. Hyndman, Speaker Adrienne E. Adams, and Majority-Whip Selvena N. Brooks-Powers, we honor and celebrate the life and work of Founder and Queens Alumnae Chapter charter member, Ethel L. Cuff Black with the Street Co-Naming on Foch Boulevard near her previous home.

Founder and Queens Alumnae Chapter charter member, Ethel L. Cuff Black was one of twenty-two collegiate women who founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated on Howard University's campus on January 13, 1913. The Founders first act of public service was participating in the Suffrage March of 1913. Founder Black then served as the Vice President of the Alpha Chapter. Founder and Queens Alumnae Chapter charter member, Ethel L. Cuff Black was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware and graduated from Howard University in 1914 with a degree in Education. She served as an educator in Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, and ultimately in Richmond Hills, Queens, at P.S. 108 where she taught for more than twenty-seven years. She was the **first** African American teacher on staff at P.S. 108.

On June 4, 1951, Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black was one of eleven dynamic women who chartered the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. The Queens Alumnae Chapter has proudly served the community for almost seventy-three years. Since its inception, the Queens Alumnae Chapter has awarded over \$400,000 in scholarships to deserving young people in the community striving to further their education.

Let us continue to celebrate Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black through her legacy of service, scholarship, and social action that continues to inspire us all.

Warm Regards, **Charelle Hassell-Gilbert** 

Queens Alumnae Chapter President

### Queens Alumnae Chapter Past Presidents



Myrtle Price Jarmon\* 1951-1952



Ruby Lott Stroman\* 1952-1954



Juanita Kelsey\* 1954-1955



Fannye P. Browm\* 1955-1957



Lucy Hamilton\* 1961-1963



Willie Henry\* 1957-1959



Teresa Hughes Staggers\* 1963-1965



Sara-Alyce Wright\* 1959-1961



Beatrice "Bebee" Green 1965-1967



Aurelia Allen\* 1967-1969



Julia Showery\* 1969-1971



Joy Alice Washington 1971-1973



Willia Jones Turner\* 1973-1976



Ruby Stroman\* 1976-1980



Yvonnecris Smith Veal 1980-1984



Joan M. Guthrie\* 1984-1988



Carol Ann Heggie-Hall 1988-1992



Darcel P. Chapman 1992-1996



Gwendolyn Hughes-McCottry 1996-2000



Gail E. Mitchell 2000-2004



Merle Capello 2004-2008



Roslin V. Spigner 2008-2012



Moira Jack 2012-2016



Marie-Carmel Durandisse-Pressley 2016-2020







### 2023-2024 OFFICERS



CHARELLE HASSELL-GILBERT CHAPTER PRESIDENT



DR. MARIE-CARMEL DURANDISSE-PRESSLEY IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



DONNA ATMORE-DOLLY FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



CARLENE JEAN-ZEPHYRIN FINANCIAL SECRETARY



AYANNA WALTHALL MURPHY, ESQ. COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS



SHAUNNA MARIE STEVENS HISTORIAN



DR. SHARMAYNE JENKINS SECOND VICE PRESIDENT



TRA'LYNN HUSBANDS ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY



REV. DR. KEISHA J. AGARD-WILLIAMS CHAPLAIN



DENISE JOHNSON-WHITE, ESQ PARLIAMENTARIAN



KENYA SYKES TREASURER



LASHUN ROGERS CORRESPONDING SECRETARY



TYRA PADGETT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



TIMYIAKA NOEL Nominating



CHANTEL JOHNSON ASSISTANT TREASURER



DENISE NICOLE HENDERSON RECORDING SECRETARY



CARLENE BRYAN CUSTODIAN



STEPHANIE ALADANOYE INTERNAL AUDIT

# 2023-2024 QuAC Committees

Awards Taskforce, Oluwabukola Oyalabu African American History, Elizabeth Anderson and Darcel P. Chapman Arts & Letters, Natasha Jackson and Indira Goodwine-Josias Budget & Finance, Kenya Sykes Collegiate Transition Taskforce, Anieka Clayton and Chantel Johnson Communication and Public Relations, Ayanna Walthall Murphy, Esq. Delta Academy, Shantel Gamble Delta Gems, Antoinette Rose Economic Development, Nia Hall Education, Aneesha Jacko-Duhaney EMBODI, Sharlene Monroe Emergency Response Team, Dayna Lamb and Gayle Walthall Ethel L. Cuff Black Street Co-Naming, Elnita Jones and Kenya Townsend Fundraising, Tracey Cole-Brown, Constance Brown, and Naneka Brathwaite Heritage & Archives, Shaunna Marie Stevens Housing and Properties, Gail E. Mitchell International Awareness and Involvement, Vikkie Wilkinson and Vanessa Champagne Leadership Academy, Nyoka Waldron, Esq. and Dr. Marie-Carmel Durandisse-Pressley May Week, Darice Bynoe and Armenta Weekes Membership, Sharmayne Jenkins Newsletter, Ayanna Walthall Murphy, Esq. Nominating, Timyiaka Noel Panhellenic, Daphne Armstead Physical & Mental Health, Zakiya Martin and Nyja Greene Program Planning and Development, Moira Jack and Erika Dautruche Project Cherish, Tina Donadelle-Edwards Protocol and Traditions, Cynthis Gresham and Alicia Leonard Risk Management, Chrishelle Thorpe, Nicole Andrade, Esg. and Tariqua Morrison, Esg. Rituals and Ceremonies, Marlene Mitchell-Smith and Dorette Lesesne Rules of Order/Policies and Procedures, Denise Johnson-White Scholarship, Donna Atmore-Dolly Social Action, Roslin Spigner Step Team, Dr. Candace Barriteau-Phaire Technology, Joanne Madhere and Jennifer Britton TeenLift/College Tour, Jacqueline Battle-Jackson and Tanya Edwards





2023-24 Chapter Members

**Aalivah Kerr Akilah McLemore Alexandria Leon-Bernard** Alicia Hyndman **Alicia Leonard Alivah Bynoe Andrea Taylor Aneesha Jacko Angela Williams Anieka Clavton Anne-Marie Iolly Antoinette Rose Armenta Weekes Ashley Wilson Audrey Hall Audrey Wilson Ayanna Hall Ayanna Murphy Beatrice Green Beryl Serville Jeffers Brendez Wineglass Brianna Grant Bridget Ford-Harvey Camesha Grant Candace Dunbar Scott Candace** Phaire **Carlene Bryan Carlene Jean-Zephyrin Carol Rabsatt Chanel Smith Chantel Johnson Charelle Hassell-Gilbert Charlene Thornhill Chrishelle Thorpe Clarice Toole Cleopatra Riley-Phillip Constance Brown Crystal Clay Crystal Davis Cynthia Gresham Dale Coffin Astar Damita Atwell Dana Jenkins-Krind Danielle Iones Danielle Moore** 

**Danielle Satterfield-Williams Danielle Wiggins Daphne Armstead Darcel Chapman Darice Bynoe Dasia Hassell** Davna Gríles-Brown Dayna Lamb **Debby Garriques Debora Young Deborah Johnson Ingram Deirdre Faison-Reeves Denise Johnson-White Denise Rogers Denise-Nicole Henderson** Dia Allen Diana Cagle **Diane Webster Dolores Pendergrass Dominga George Donna Atmore-Dolly Donna Edge-Rachell Dorette Lesesne Doris Houston Doris King Dorothy Barnett Dyane Jones Edith Grav Elizabeth Anderson Elníta Jones Elnora Jackson Erica Mills-Beecham Erika Dautruche Farrah Isidore Felicia Olivas** Francine Ross-Roden **Gail Lawrence Gail Mitchell Gayle Walthall Genaye Channel-Oliver Georgette Jones Gerrí Bostick Gloría Johnson Gwendolyn McCottry Gwendolyn Nurse-Wright** 

**Heather Smith** Imani Grampus Imani Hassell **Ina Washington Indira Goodwine-Josias** Iva Wilson-English **Jacqueline Battle-Jackson Jacqueline Dudley Jacqueline Kellum-Foster Jahnara Glover Jamila Tavlor Janice Foss Ianice Pendarvis Janice Taylor** Janna Joassainte **Jastina Carter Jeanie Fougere Jennifer Britton Jennifer Norman** Ioan McDaniel **Ioan-Ann Bostic Joanne Madhere Joanne Nabors Iovona Bethel Joy Washington Joyelle Rance-Fisher Juanita Wing-Allen** Kalayat Adegbenro **Karen Richardson-Joseph Keisha Agard Kellie Cook Kemi Rose Kenya Sykes Kenva Townsend Keyanna Wilson Blakely Kisha Clinton Kishshana Palmer Krystal Roberts** Kveanna Bailev Labrena Martin La'Lisa Scudder **Lashun Rogers** Latoya Jeffers **Leatrice Smith** 



### 2023-24 Chapter Members

**Lenola Foy** Leticia Deans Linda Johnson Linnea Stuart Lisa Gadson Clark Lorna Atmore Lynelle Wright Makeda Bishop Marcia O'Brien Marcia Tippett **Marian Johnson Marie Price Marie-Carmel Durandisse Pressley** Maritza Parcells-Grant Mari-Yan Pringle **Marlene Smith Marsha Smith** Marvlieu Hall **Mary Franklin Mary Gaines MaryAnn Bussey** Mattie Oliver **McKenzee Cummings Megan Ford** Michele Soanes Michelle Alladin **Michelle Wilson** Moira Jack Myrna Phillips Gibson Naneka Brathwaite Nantasha Williams Natasha Gray-Joassainte Natasha Jackson **Neahle Jones** Nia Hall Nia Padgett Nia Seaton Niani Skinner Nicole Andrade **Nicole Bailey Nicolle Session** Nieoka Gayle-Brown Nubia Grant Nyja Greene Nvoka Waldron

Olivia Banks Oluwabukola Oyalabu **Otha Washington Pamela Davis** Pamela Evans-Sewer **Pascal Parker Phyllis Ball Phyllis Tinslev** Priscilla Coston-Bannerman **Raveen Seaton** Regina Cadesca **Regina Seabrooks Renee Bostic Renee Nicholls Renee Taylor Rosa Smith-Norman Roslin Spigner Rovina Whitfield** Sandra Pringle Sarah Thornhill Selvena Brooks **Shallah Stevens** Shalonda Profit **Shantel Gamble** Shari Brown Shari Heron **SHARINA BRYCE Sharlene Monroe Sharmayne Jenkins** Shaunna Stevens **Shimon Barlow** Shirle Childs **Shirley Cole** Simone Meeks **Sloane Magny** Sonia Banks Sonva Geder-Diggs **Sophia Desroches Stacey Womble Stacy Lyles Stephanie Aladenoye** Sylvia Simmons Tamra Walker **Tanisha Mallett** Tanisha Teal

Tanva Williams Tara Lamb **Tarawhona Bellevue** Tariqua Morrison **Tattiana Peters Tawana Rowser-Brown Tawanda Harris** Tazia Whitfield **Temica Francis Terrvi Brown Thyra Henry Tia Anderson** Tia Hazell **Tiana-Sade Smith Tiffani Davis Tiffany Garris Tiffany Martin** Timviaka Noel **Tina Donadelle-Edwards Tracey Chavis Tracey ColeBrown Tracey-Ann Barclay** Tra'Lvnn Husbands Trina Whitaker **Tvla Edwards** Tyra Padgett Valena Welch-Woodley Vanessa Caesar Vanessa Champagne Vanessa Duah Victoria Jones Vikkie Wilkinson Virginia Lowery Virginia Tomlinson Vivian Afuwah Wallsena Crittenden Whitney Mulzac Winnifred Brown-Nicolas **Yvonne Adams Yvonne Duncan Yvonne Somerville** Zakiya Martin

### National Executive Committee

CHERYL W. TURNER National First Vice President

#### SADE RIED

National Second Vice President

#### **ELSIE COOKE-HOLMES**

International President; Chair, Board of Directors

National Secretary

JOI L. MOORE, Ph.D.

**ROSALYN L. GLENN** 

National Treasurer



### Eastern Regional Leadership



#### **ROSIE ALLEN-HERRING**

**Regional Director** 



JERRA HOLDIP

Eastern Regional Representative





# Queens Alumnae Members Elected & Appointed Officials

Alicia Hyndman NYS Assemblywoman Assembly District 29

82548

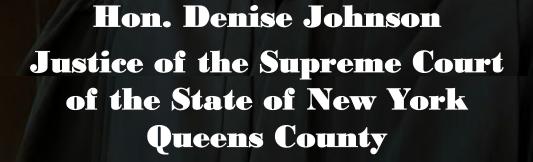
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers NYC Council Member and Majority Whip 31st Council District

Nantasha Williams NYC Council Member 27th Council District



Hon. Janice A. Taylor Associate Justice Appellate Division of the State of New York Second Department

### Hon. Anne-Marie Jolly Administrative Judge of the Family Court of the City of New York







Hon. Tamra Walker Judge of the New York City Family Court

#### **CEREMONY**

DJ: DJ Tam Jams

Co-Hosts: Charelle Hassell-Gilbert and Reverend Dr. Keisha Agard-Williams

> Chair, Heritage & Archives Committee: Shaunna Marie Stevens

Ethel Cuff Black Street Co-Naming Co-Chairs: Elnita Jones and Kenya Townsend

Programming & Logistics Subcommittee Leads: Donna Edge-Rachell, Indira Goodwine-Josias, Joanne Nabors

#### **PROGRAM**

#### THE SERVANT

New York City Council Member Nantasha Williams

Reverend Eli Wilson III, St. Albans Congregational Church

"Lift Every Voice" Darria Credle

#### THE FOUNDER

Elsie Cooke-Holmes International President and Chair of Board of Directors, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

#### THE QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER CHARTER MEMBER

**Charelle Hassell-Gilbert,** President, Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

> "We Must Praise" Lashun Rogers and Andrea Taylor

#### THE COMMUNITY LEADER

New York City Council Member Nantasha Williams, New York City Council Member Majority Whip Selvena N. Brooks-Powers New York State Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman

> "This Little Light of Mine" Mari Yan Pringle and Patrice P. Eaton accompanied by Anne-Marie Hudley Simmons

#### THE EDUCATOR

**Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn E. Boyd,** 22nd National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

#### THE QUEENS RESIDENT

**Ebony Young**, Queens Deputy Borough President

"His Eye Is On The Sparrow" The Edge School of the Arts (ESOTA)

#### THE ACTIVIST

#### THE HBCU/HOWARD UNIVERSITY ALUM

**Rosie Allen-Herring,** Eastern Regional Director, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

> Elnita Jones and Kenya Townsend, Ethel Cuff Black Street Co-Naming Co-Chairs

> > The Elite Marching Band

#### FINALE & MARCH TO MERRICK

OFFICIAL UNVEILING OF ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK WAY

#### SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON

DJ: Whitney Harris

Host: Indira Goodwine-Josias

Chair, Heritage & Archives Committee: Shaunna Marie Stevens

Ethel Cuff Black Street Co-Naming Co-Chairs: Elnita Jones and Kenya Townsend

Programming & Logistics Subcommittee Leads: Donna Edge-Rachell, Indira Goodwine-Josias, Joanne Nabors

#### **GREETINGS FROM**

#### Dr. Marie-Carmel Durandisse Pressley

Regional Member, National Scholarship and Standards Committee Immediate Past President, Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

#### **Randi Gray**

New York Metropolitan State Coordinator

#### **Avacia Rogers**

President, Pi Tau Chapter and Vice Chair, New York Metropolitan Coordinating Council

#### **Shaunna Marie Stevens**

Member, National Heritage and Archives Committee Historian, Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Chair, Heritage & Archives Committee, Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Note: Program Subject To Last Minute Changes

# ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK STREET CO-NAMING COMMITTEE

**The Queens Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated** Charelle Hassell-Gilbert, President Elnita Jones & Kenya Townsend, Co-Chairs

### **SUBCOMMITTEES**

#### Program & Logistics

Donna Edge-Rachell, Lead Indira Goodwine-Josias, Co-Lead Joanne Nabors, Co-Lead Angela Williams Carlene Jean-Zephyrin Chantel Johnson Denise Johnson White Iva English LaBrena J. Martin Shaunna M. Stevens Tariqua Morrison Vikkie L. Wilkinson

#### Volunteer Management

Bridget D. Ford-Harvey, Lead Angela Williams, Co-Lead Gayle Walthall LaBrena J. Martin Vanessa Duah

#### **ELECTED OFFICIALS & STAFF LIAISONS**

Alicia Hyndman New York State Assemblywoman Assembly District 29 Selvena N. Brooks-Powers New York City Council Member And Majority Whip 31st Council District Nantasha Williams New York City Council Member 27th Council District

Renee Taylor Chief of Staff Office of Council Member and Majority Whip Selvena N. Brooks-Powers Whitney Mulzac Director of Operations and Land Use Office of Council Member Nantasha Williams



#### <u>Digital Journal</u>

Tiffani Davis, Lead Joanne Nabors LaBrena J. Martin Shaunna M. Stevens

# ETHEL L CUFF BLACK STREET CO-NAMING COMMITTEE

### **COMMITTEE COLLABORATIONS**

#### African American <u>History</u> Elizabeth Anderson, Co-Chair Darcel P. Chapman , Co-Chair

Heritage & Archives Shaunna Marie Stevens, Chair

#### <u>Step Team</u>

Dr. Candance Barriteau Phaire, Chair Tra'Lynn Husbands

#### Social Action

Roslin V. Spigner, Chair

#### **COMMITTEE LIAISONS**

#### **Budget & Finance**

Kenya Sykes, Treasurer Carlene Jean-Zephyrin, Financial Secretary Chantel Johnson, Assistant Treasurer

#### Emergency Response Team

Dayna Lamb, Co-Chair Gayle Walthall, Co-Chair

#### Communications/PR

Ayanna Walthall-Murphy, Chair

#### Protocol & Traditions

Alicia Leonard, Co-Chair Cynthia Gresham, Co-Chair

### Technology

Joanne Madhere, Co-Chair Jennifer Britton, Co-Chair



# ETHEL L CUFF BLACK STREET CO-NAMING COMMITTEE

#### VOLUNTEERS

Aaliyah Kerr Aliyah Bynoe Andrea Taylor Aneesha Jacko Aneesha Jacko-Duhaney Angela Williams Ashley Wilson Ayanna Murphy **Brendez Wineglass** Brianna Grant Bridget Ford-Harvey Candace Barriteau-Phaire Candace Dunbar Carlene Jean-Zephyrn Chanel Smith Chantel Johnson Charelle Hassel-Gilbert Clarice Toole Cdance Dunbar-Scott Crystal Clay **Danielle Moore** Daphne Armstead Darcel P. Chapman Dasia Hassell Dayna Lamb **Debby Garriques** Debora Young Deborah Johnson Ingram Denise Johnson-White

**D'Nicole Henderson** Donna Edge-Rachell Elizabeth Anderson Elnita Jones Gail E. Mitchell Gayle Walthall Walthall **Gerri Bostick** Gwendolyn Hughes McCottry Imani Grampus Imani Hassell Indira Goodwine-Josias Iva English Janna Joassainte Joanne Nabors Karen Richardson-Joseph Keisha Agard-Williams Kemi Rose Kenya Townsend Keyanna Wilson Blakely **Krystal Roberts** Kyeanna Bailey La'Lisa Scudder LaBrena Jones Martin LaLisa Scudder-Durden Lisa Gadson Clark Lynelle Wright Marcia O'Brien Marcia Tippet **McKenzee Cummings** Michelle Alladin

Nantasha Williams Natasha Joassainte Nia Seaton Nicole Bailey Pamela Davis **Renee Taylor** Rosa Smith Norman Selvena Brooks-Powers Shallah Stevens Shari Heron Sharina Bryce Sharmayne Jenkins Shaunna Stevens Simone Marie Meeks Sophia Desroches Tamra Walker Tara lamb Tarigua Morrison-Mensah Tattiana Peters Tazia Whitfield Tiffani Davis Tra'Lynn Husbands Trina Whitaker Tyla Edwards Vanessa Caesar Vanessa Duah Vikkie L. Wilkinson Whitnye Mulzac



#### <u>CRIMSON DONORS</u>

Aneesha Jacko **Carlene Jean-Zephyrin Chantel Johnson** Cheryl Gill **Chrishelle Thorpe** Dana Jenkins-Krind **Danielle Williams** Dayna Lamb **Dedria Lacy Dia Allen Donna Edge-Rachell** Dr Charise Breeden-Balaam **Elnita Jones** Erika Dautruche **Gail Mitchell Gerri Bostick Jacqueline Dudley** Jere Eaton **Joanne Nabors Joycelyn James Braaf** Karole Turner Campbell Kellie Cook McLaurin **Kisha Clinton** Labrena Jones Martin Lashun Rogers

Leticia Deans **Margaret Bing-Wade Mary Marquis Merle Capello Michelle Alladin** Naneka Brathwaite **Natalia S Young Phyllis Tinsley Renee Taylor** Sahlia Joseph-Pauline Selvena Brooks-Powers Shallah Stevens **Sharlene Monroe** Shaunna Marie Stevens **Stacy Lyles T. Elzora Cleveland Tariqua Morrison Tiffani Davis Tiffany Hamilton Tina Edwards Tracey Chavis Tracey ColeBrown** Valena Welch Woodley Vanessa Duah Vikkie Wilkinson

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**Debby Garriques Debora Young Deborah Cochrane Dolores Pendergrass Dominga George Donna Atmore-Dolly Donna Robin Murray Doris Houston Dr. Laurie Midgette** Erica Beecham Erika L Ewing **Evelyn Owhor Florence Graydon Gayle Walthall** Gilda Gillim Heidi Cox Imani Grampus Indira Goodwine Jahnara Glover **Jaiana Singleton** Jamya Thomas Janna Joassainte Jeanie Fougere **Jimyce Johnston** Joanne Madhere **Joylin Primus Armstrong Kakita Smith Karen Richardson-Joseph** 

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Nicole Duncan-Smith Nicole nicoleoben@yahoo.com **Nicolle Session** Nyja Greene Pamela Davis **Pascale Bernard Patrice Eaton Peggy Noel Phyllis Tinsley Randi Gray Regina Cadesca Regina Seabrooks Rocio Siri Garcia Rosa Smith-Norman** Shareema Gadson-Shaw Shari Brown Shari Heron Sharina Bryce **Sharmayne Jenkins Sharon Marshall-Taylor Shaun Scott** Shawna Myles Simone-Marie Meeks Sonia Banks Sophia Desroches **Stephanie Bell** 

#### **CREAM DONORS**

**Stephanie Desroches** Syreeta Owens Tamra Walker Tara Lamb **Tarawhona Bellevue** Taryn Lamb **Tawanda Harris Tohma Gadson-Shaw Tralynn Husbands Trina Whitaker** Tyra Padgett Vanessa Champagne Victoria Juste **Whitney Mulzac** Zakiya Harris Zakiya Martin



# 2024-2025 Scholarship Applications

Completed applications and required documents Due No Later Than July 1, 2024

# Scholarships Available:



QUEENS ALUMNAE SCHOLARSHIPS



QUEENS ALUMNAE SCHOLARSHIP FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

EMAIL TO: Scholarship@dstquac.org

MAIL TO: Scholarship Committee Chair Queens Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. P.O. Box 340132 Rochdale Village Station Jamaica, NY 11434-0132

\*Must be postmarked by due date



LA TRISHA A. WILSON SCHOLARSHIP

FOR LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS

dstquac.org/scholarships For more info email: Scholarship@dstquac.org

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Queens Alumnae Chapter WELCOMES SPRING 2024 M.A.G.N.I.T.U A.E. 48







# CITATIONS



# PROBLAMATIONS

### Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition

Be it hereby known to all that Congressman Gregory W. Meeks offers his most sincere congratulations to

## Ethel Letitia Cuff Black

Founder, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

In recognition of your outstanding achievement and service to the community Congressman Meeks extends best wishes on this memorable occasion and directs this resolution to be presented on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.



ugous LAtter

Gregory W. Meeks Member of Congress NY 05

#### THE STATE OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

itation

*Micreas,* This, the Empire State, is made truly great through the efforts of exemplary individuals whose commitment to public service enriches us all and strengthens New York as a whole; and

*Whereads,* Ethel Cuff Black, Founder of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Queens Alumnae Chapter, was born on October 17, 1890 in Wilmington, Delaware; and

Micreas, Mrs. Black attended Howard University. While there, she joined

twenty-one other women in the founding of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. She graduated cum laude in 1915. The Queens Alumnae Chapter was successfully chartered by Mrs. Black along with ten other women on June 4, 1951; and

Miereas, Throughout her career, Mrs. Black taught in numerous

academic institutions. Most significantly, she taught at P.S. 108 in South Ozone Park, where she was the first African-American teacher. She retired in 1957 after twenty-seven years of teaching; and

*Mereas,* On September 22, 1977, after decades of dedicated public service, Ethel Cuff Black sadly passed away, at the age of 87; and

*Micreas,* In recognition of her extraordinary achievements and

innumerable contributions to the Queens community and the people of New York state, the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. have created a lasting memorial through today's Street Co-Naming Ceremony; Therefore, now be it

Resolved, That on this, the Fifth Day of May, in the year Two Thousand

and Twenty-Four, the Office of the New York State Attorney General does hereby deem it right and fitting that Ethel Cuff Black's many accomplishments and contributions to the Queens community be officially recognized by the renaming of the corner of Foch and Merrick Boulevards in Jamaica, New York in her honor.



Setutia James

LETITIA JAMES Attorney General May 5, 2024



#### POSTHUMOUSLY HONORING ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK FOR HER EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY AND STATE

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to recognize the achievements of those individuals who substantially contribute to the vitality of their communities and the entire Empire State; and

WHEREAS, It is the privilege of this Legislative Body to posthumously honor Ethel L. Cuff Black for her exemplary service to her community and State; and

WHEREAS, Ethel was born on October 17, 1890 in Wilmington, Delaware to Richard Cuff and Lititia Wilson Cuff, who was a respected suffragist, activist, and business owner in Wilmington; she attended public schools in Wilmington, then graduated from Howard Academy in Washington, D.C. in 1910; and

WHEREAS, Ethel had the honor of attending the renowned Historically Black Colleges and Universities member, Howard University, where she was Chair of the collegiate chapter of the YWCA, a member of the Howard University Choir, and a member of the German Club; on January 13, 1913, she and twenty-one of her fellow Howard University scholars founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and she was immediately installed as Vice President of the Alpha Chapter; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Howard University in 1915, Ethel immediately began teaching; she taught Domestic Science in Missouri from 1915 to 1917, English in Oklahoma City from 1917 to 1918, in Pennsylvania from October to December 1918, in New Jersey from January to June 1919, at Morgan College from September 1919 to March 1920, and at the Delaware College for Colored Students, now known as Delaware State University, from 1921 to 1930; and

WHEREAS, In 1930, Ethel moved to New York and became the first Black teacher at PS 108 in Richmond Hills, Queens, and in the 1940s, she taught at Junior High School 40 in Jamaica, Queens; she was an active member of the Merrick Community Board, the Jamaica Branch of the Urban League, the Advisory Committee to the special districts of the Queensboro Tuberculosis and Health Association, St. Paul's Methodist Church, and the St. Albans Congregational Church, where she served on the Women's Fellowship Committee; and

WHEREAS, On June 4, 1951, Ethel became one of the eleven charter members of the Delta Theta Sigma Chapter, now known as the Queens Alumnae Chapter, of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; her legacy as a charter member includes hosting Chapter meetings and gatherings in her home, which became a hub for planning and organizing the Chapter's community activities, mentoring many of the Chapter's leaders, babysitting the Chapter's legacies, and more; and

WHEREAS, Because of Ethel, the Queens Alumnae Chapter has awarded at least \$400,000 in scholarships to local students in the community since 1952, registered thousands of voters over the years, established a tutorial program to help children in areas that are struggling academically, and provided dedicated service to the Queens community for over seventy years; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority began with twenty-two members and one chapter, and is now an international organization with over 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters across four continents, with over 250,000 collegeeducated Black women dedicated to public service; and

WHEREAS, It is the belief of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, it is appropriate to publicly proclaim and commend those individuals; now, therefore, be it

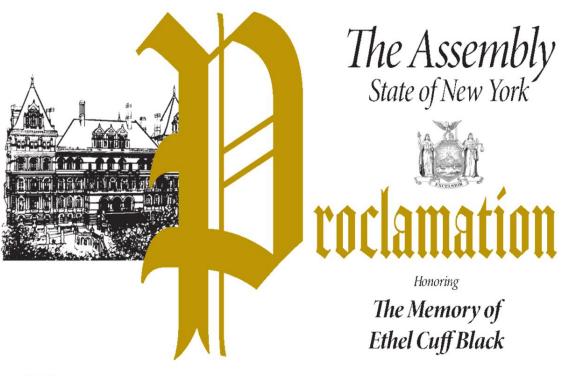
PROCLAIMED, That we, New York State Senators Leroy Comrie and James Sanders Jr., are proud to posthumously honor Ethel L. Cuff Black for her exemplary service to her community and State; and be it further

PROCLAIMED, That a copy of this proclamation be transmitted to the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

DATED: MAY 5, 2024 IN WITNESS WHEREOR I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND SIGNATURE

LEROY COMRIE New York State Senator 14<sup>TH</sup> Senate District DATED: MAY 5, 2024 IN WITNESS WHEREOF. I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND SIGNATURE

JAMES SANDERS JR. New York State Senator 10<sup>TH</sup> Senate District



W	hereas.
ana se h	nereus,

in celebrating the street co-naming celebration (f the l fe (f a founding member (f Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated, it is my intent to recognize the work (f those in our community who, with a singular vision, (ffect enduring and positive change; and

Whereas, Ethel Ci.ff Black, a distinguished member (f Delta Sigma Theta Sororiiy, Incorporated, whose l fe was a testament to service, leadership and dedication, exempl fied the principles (f sisterhood, scholarship and service that are the cornerstone (f Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, leaving an indelible mark on the organization and those it serves; and

Whereas, Ethel Cuff Black's unwavering advocacy for social justice, educational equity and community empowerment has left a lasting impact on countless lives, inspiring others to follow in her footsteps and continue her noble work; and

Whereas, it is evident that Ethel Cs ff Black dedicated her l fe to the service cf her community and is deserving cf honor and recognition as we celebrate the Street Co-Naming Celebration cf her l fe and the impact she had as the founding member cf Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; now, therefore, be it

**Proclaimed,** I, Alicia L. Hyndman, member of the New York State Assembly and member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., do herely deem it an honor and remember Ethel Cu ff Black for her exemplary leadership, unwavering commitment to service and profound impact on the lives of others, be it further

**Proclaimed**, that a ccfy of this proclamation, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Delta Sigma Theta Archives in memory of Ethel Caff Black.

Dated: May 5, 2024 In Witness Wherecf, I Have Hereunto Set My Hand and Signature

Hon. Alicia L, Hyndman New York State Assembly 29th Assembly District



## New York State Assembly **Citation**

Whereas, our State is only as great as the individuals who work to serve and uplift our communities with full devotion and fearless commitment to the people of the State of New York; and

Whereas, Ethel L. Cuff Black was born on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1890 to Mr. Richard Cuff and Lititia Wilson Cuff; and

Whereas, Ethel graduated as an active student from Howard Academy in Washington, DC in 1910, and continued on at The Howard University where she Chaired the collegiate chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association, was a member of the Howard University choir, and was an esteemed member of the German club; and

Whereas, On January 13th, 1913, Ethel along with 21 fellow Howard University scholars, founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority where she proudly led as Vice President of the Alpha Chapter; and

Whereas, On March 3rd, 1913, the 22 Founders marched with thousands of women along Pennsylvania Avenue in the Woman's suffrage procession held in Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, on June 4th, 1951, Ethel Cuff Black became one of the 11 charter members of the Delta Theta Sigma Chapter (now known as The Queens Alumnae Chapter) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, I, Assembly woman Stacey Pheffer Amato, as a duly elected Member of the State Assembly of New York, I recognize *Ethel L. Cuff Black* was an outstanding citizen and remarkable activist who is worthy of esteem of both the community and the Great State of New York.

May 5th, 2024



Stacey thefer amats

Stacey Pheffer Amato Assemblywoman, 23<sup>rd</sup> District



May 5th, 2024

# New York State Assembly **Citation**

Whereas, a Great State is only as great as those persons who give exemplary service to their community, whether through participation in voluntary programs, through unique personal achievement in their professional or other endeavors or simply through a lifetime of good citizenry; and

Whereas, such service, which is truly the lifeblood of the community and the state, so often goes unrecognized and unrewarded; now therefore be it

Resolved, that as a duly elected Member of the State Assembly of New York, I recognize that in

## **Ethel Cuff Black**

we have an outstanding citizen, one who is worthy of the esteem of both the Community and the great State of New York.

Clyde Vanel Member of Assembly

**Whereas,** a State is only as great as its citizens, such as Ethel Cuff Black, who we posthumously award a New York State Assembly Citation of Merit on the occasion of her street co-naming ceremony; and

**Whereas,** it is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those individuals of true purpose and high achievement whose exemplary dedication and accomplishments clearly demonstrated the pursuit of excellence in service to the community; and

Whereas, Ethel Cuff Black was a founding member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc at Howard University. She was a Charter Member of the Queens Alumnae Chapter in 1951 and a devoted educator in the New York City public school system at P.S. 108Q in Richmond Hill, where she has the distinction of being the school's first black teacher.

**Resolved**, that as a duly elected Member of the State Assembly of New York, I recognize that in

## Ethel Cuff Black

we had an outstanding citizen, one who is worthy of the esteem of both the great State of New York and the United States of America.

May 5, 2024

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and Signature

SB

Edward C. Braunstein Member of Assembly

Office of the President Borough of Queens City of New York

# Proclamation

### Greeting:

Dhereas: born on October 17, 1890, Ethel Cuff Black, along with 21 other young women, made history by founding Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Anc. on the campus of Noward University in Washington, D.C. in January 1913; and

Whereas: in March of 1913, Ethel Cuff Black and her sister founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority performed their first public act when they participated in the Women's Suffrage March in Washington, D.C.; and

- Whereas: Belta Signa Theta Sorority has gone onto flourish, with over 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located throughout the world and with more than 300,000 women having joined the organization since its founding; and
- **Whereas:** after college, Ethel Luff Black became a distinguished educator in the New York Lity public school system, having the distinction of being the first Black teacher at PS 108Q in Richmond Vill, Queens; and
- Whereas: Ethel Luff Black also became a charter member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Queens Alumnae Chapter, which was established in 1951 and currently has more than 200 members who are extremely active in the civic life of the borough; and
- Whereas: the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has also awarded more than a half million dollars in scholarships since 1952; and
- Whereas: on behalf of the 2.4 million residents of Queens, "The World's Borough," we posthumously salute and thank Ethel Euff Black for her many contributions to the Queens community and to the nation and world as a whole.

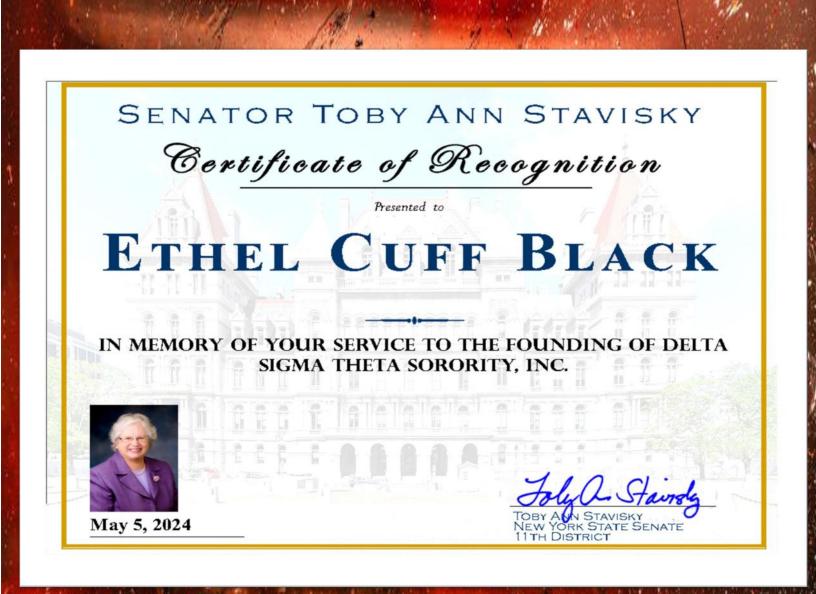
Now, therefore I, Bonovan Richards Jr., President of the Borough of Queens in the City of New York, do hereby posthumously present this proclamation in recognition of

## Ethel Suff Black

on the occasion of the street co-naming being held in her honor.

Done at Queens Borough Kall, Bew Gardens, in the City of New York, on this fifth day of May in the year two thousand and twenty-four.

Donovan Richards Jr. President of the Borough of Queens



The New York City Council is proud to join guests of the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in posthumously honoring Ethel L. Cujf Black for her outstanding leadership and enduring contributions to the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority community and beyond; and

WHEREAS: Ethel Cujf Black was born on October 17, 1890, in Wilmington, Delaware. Her father, Richard, was a banker in an African American-owned business. Her maternal granafather was a Civil War veteran; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Cujf Black was educated in the public schools in Wilmington and earned her college degree at Howard University in Washington, D.C., where she majored in education. While at Howard University, she was the chair of the collegiate chapter of the YWCA. She was also the vice-president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. In 1913, Ms. Cujf Black voted to reorganize the sorority, cafounding Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. with 21 other women. Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. is the oldest Greek-letter organization established by African American college-educated women. At that time, Ms. Cujf Black and the other cafounders were among the fewer than 1,000 Blacks enrolled in higher education institutions and the 25 women who earned their bachelor of arts degrees from Howard University. The sorority continues to be dedicated to sisterhood, scholarship, and service, empowering women and communities across the globe; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Cujf Black worked on the 1920 Census from 1920 to 1921 and returned to Delaware. In 1924, she published an essay, "Race Pride," for The Messenger magazine, in which she argued for the importance of teaching Black history to Black students so that they individually and collectively understand and are proud of their heritage. From 1921 to 1930, she taught at the Delaware College for Colored Students (now Delaware State University). In 1930, she moved to New York and became the first Black teacher at P.S. 108 in Richmond Hills, Queens, where she taught for more than 27 years. In the 1940s, she taught at Junior High School 40 in Jamaica, Queens. No matter where she taught, she excelled as a teacher; and

WHEREAS: In 1951, Ms. Cujf Black became one of the eleven charter members of the Delta Iheta Sigma Chapter (now the Queens Alumnae Chapter) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She was instrumental in the chartering of the chapter and remained an active member. Ms. Cujf Black was adamant that the chapter offer programs for the community's youth, including scholarships for academic excellence. Over the years, she attended numerous local and national sorority events, including Founders Day, scholarship luncheons, and chapter initiations. When unable to attend events, she would send a loving message to the attendees; and

WHEREAS: In 1939, Ms. Cujf Black married David Horton Black, a real estate agent. At the age of 86, she died on September 17, 1977, at the Franklin Nursing Home in Flushing, Queens, leaving a legacy of service to the community; now, therefore

**EVENCE IT KNOWN:** That the New York City Council is proud to honor the life and enduring memory *cf* this distinguished New Yorker and proclaims that Foch Boulevard between Merrick Boulevard and 170th Street is hereby designated as

### Ethel L. Cuff Black Way

for her outstanding leadership and enduring contributions to the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority community and beyond.

Signed this 5th day of May in the year Twenty Twenty-Four.

ADAMS IENNE F

Speaker For the Entire Council

NANTASHA M. WILLIAMS

BROOKS-POWERS SELVENA

Council Member, 27th District Queens LIVENA WBROOKS-POWERS NYC Council Majority Whip 31st District, Queens **1967 Photo of Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black Seated in Front of Her 170-46 Foch Blvd Home** 



# Ethel L. Cuff Black's Biography

#### Biography of Ethel L. Cuff Black by Soror Shaunna Marie Stevens, Queens Alumnae Chapter Historian and Chair of the Heritage and Archives Committee.

Ethel L. Cuff Black was born on Oct 17, 1890 in Wilmington, Delaware to Mr. Richard Cuff who believed that excelling academically was the best way to advance the race, and Mrs. Lititia Wilson Cuff who was a respected suffragist, activist and business owner in Wilmington, She was the second of the Cuff's children; an older brother, Harlan, was born two years earlier. Founder Black and her brother Harlan were a great blend of their parents - excelling academically in every school attended while always having a concern for the betterment of the black community.

She attended public schools in Wilmington, Delaware and eventually boarded at Bordentown in New Jersey (known as the Tuskegee of the North). She graduated from Howard Academy in Washington, DC in 1910, and continued on at The Howard University, Founder Black was an active student on Howard University's campus:

- Chair of the collegiate chapter of the YWCA.
- Member of the Howard University choir.

 Member of the German club (focused on German language and thought). She received rave reviews for her performance in the German club's production of Freidrich Schiller's Jung Frau Von Orleon. The March 22, 1912 issue of the Howard University Journal states: "Miss Ethel Cuff is entitled to considerable commendation for the faithful impersonation of the character of the brave and modest Maiden of Orleon,"

She was most certainly a scholar as she was consistently on the Honor Roll.

1913, her junior year, would be a momentous and life altering year: On January 13th, she along with 21 of her fellow Howard University scholars, Founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She was immediately installed in the leadership position of Vice President of the Alpha Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta historian Paula Giddings noted, "academic excellence was emphasized and expected. It became a cornerstone value" for the 22 Founders of Delta Sigma Theta sorority. She supported its commitment to personal intellectual growth, community involvement and the cultivation of women's leadership skills. On March 3rd, the 22 Founders marched as a group with thousands of women along Pennsylvania Avenue as a group in the Woman's suffrage procession held in Washington, D.C. These 2 events would not only shape the course of history but would also impact the 22 individually and collectively forevermore.

After graduating from Howard University in 1915 (graduated with a 1 year delay due to illness) with a Teachers Diploma in Education, Cum Laude, she immediately began teaching. Between 1915-1920 she taught in:

- Missouri: 1915-1917 (taught Domestic Science).
- Oklahoma City: 1917-1918 (taught English).
- Pennsylvania: October 1918-December 1918.
- New Jersey: January- June 1919.
- Morgan College: September 1919-March 1920.

She worked on the 1920 Census from 1920-1921 and returned to Delaware. From 1921-1930 she taught at the Delaware College for Colored Students now known as Delaware State University.

In December 1924, an essay she wrote was published in 'The Messenger' Magazine, a political and literary magazine for African American people. Her prolific essay titled 'Race Pride'' was about the importance of teaching black history to black students so that they individually and collectively understood they are descendants of greatness. She felt black students had been so "segregated, jim-crowed, lynched, and otherwise intimidated," that they were "ashamed of [their] African blood." She believed students should learn "history from the viewpoint of the Negro, not the viewpoint of some other race," and would realize that "they have everything to be proud of because of their African blood."

In 1930, she moved to New York and became the first black teacher at PS 108 in Richmond Hills, Queens. Sometime in the 1940's she taught at Junior High School 40 in Jamaica, Queens. No matter where she taught, she was a well respected and admired educator and dedicated to sowing into her students.

On September 28, 1940, in Elkton, Maryland, she married Mr. David Horton Black, a Georgia-born sales manager at the real estate firm of Hugo R. Heydorn. Their hospitality was often noted in newspaper reports. They were married and lived at 172-14 111th Avenue for 11 years before his untimely death in January of 1951. She then relocated to 170-46 Foch Boulevard. With the exception of 4 years (1961-1965) when she rented the house out and lived with the Spigner family in the Bronx, Founder Black's home was a reflection of her Jamaica, Queens activism. She was an active member of the Merrick Community Board; Jamaica Branch of the Urban League; Advisory committee to the special districts of the Queensboro Tuberculosis and Health Association; St. Paul's Methodist Church, and the St. Albans Congregational Church where she served on the Women's Fellowship committee. One of her favorite hobbies was writing short stories. It is recorded that she was very proud when a few of her short stories were published in Reader's Digest.

On June 4th, 1951 Ethel Cuff Black became one of the 11 charter members of the Delta Theta Sigma Chapter (now known as The Queens Alumnae Chapter) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority with a service area of Queens and Long Island. She was actively part of the planning of the chapter being chartered and was just as active once the chapter was chartered. She was adamant about the chapter having programs for the community's youth, and scholarships rewarding academic excellence. Over the years she was known to attend local and national sorority events from chapter meetings, Founders Day, Scholarship luncheons and even chapter initiations. When she could not attend events she would send a loving message to those in attendance.

A personal highlight for Founder Black was meeting Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's 15th National President, Lillian P. Benbow in 1973 who she felt was strengthening "the ideals of the Founders." In the November 1972 issue of the Delta Journal, Founder Black wrote "I admire President Benbow immensely and hope that I will have the pleasure someday of telling her just how much I admire the organization under her leadership." The historic meeting of Founder Black and Past National President Benbow was proudly arranged and managed by then Queens Alumnae Chapter President Joy Washington. Needless to say, National President Lillian Benbow was equally excited to meet Founder Black and to be received so kindly in the Foch Boulevard home. Founder Black's legacy as a charter member of the Queens Alumnae Chapter includes but is not limited to hosting chapter meetings in her home which became a hub for planning and organizing the chapter's community activities; Mentoring many of the chapter's leaders; Babysitting the chapter's legacies; Hosting gatherings in her home celebrating the accomplishments of chapter members such as chapter member Pearl Warner who received a fellowship to The Sorbonne in 1959. Because of Founder Black, since 1952 the Queens Alumnae chapter has awarded at least \$400,000 in scholarships to local students in the community! Because of her, we have registered thousands of voters over the years which now includes a "Get out and vote" caravan beginning and ending at Roy Wilkins Park across from where she once lived. Because of her, one of the chapter's longest running programs, the tutorial program was established to help children in areas where they were struggling academically. Because of her, the Queens Alumnae chapter has had almost 73 years of dedicated service to the Queens Community.

Her legacy as a Founder of Delta Theta Sigma Theta Sorority includes but is not limited to a beginning with 22 members, and 1 chapter to now being an international organization with over 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters across 4 continents, and counting over 250,000 college educated black women dedicated to public service.. EVERYTHING we do is an extension of her vision beginning in 1913 on the campus of Howard University, and continuing in 1951 in the borough of Queens.

Because of Ethel L Cuff Black - we are Public Service! We are Social Action!

Queens Alumnae chapter member Laverne Corbett stated in a tribute to Founder Black: "All of our Founders are special to those of us who chose the path of Delta Sigma Theta, but Founder Ethel Cuff Black is particularly dear to the members of Queens Alumnae. As an active member of the chapter, she contributed her time, energy, and ideas to the development and implementation of chapter programs. Founder Black inspired us all. Though she left us in 1977, her spirit remains and her legacy is still with us."

## Letters of Support To Community Board 12



#### DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED

A Service Sorority Founded in 1913

1707 New Hampshire Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20009 | (202) 986-2400 | Telefax (202) 986-2513

September 18, 2023

Dear New York City Community Board 12,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. As International President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the petition by the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, to have a secondary street named in honor of the distinguished Founder and Queens Alumnae Charter member, Ethel L. Cuff Black. This endeavor is both timely and deserving, and it will add immeasurable value to the community while preserving the legacy of a remarkable individual.

Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black's contributions to the world are outstanding and deserve commemoration. Her life story is one of perseverance, resilience, and a deep commitment to her community. Ethel L. Cuff Black was a trailblazing figure, particularly when African-American women faced numerous challenges and obstacles. Ethel L. Cuff Black's historical significance is underscored by her 27-year career as a dedicated teacher at Public School 108 in Richmond Hills, Queens, New York. She was also the first African-American educator in Rochester, New York, where she taught.

Furthermore, Ethel L. Cuff Black's involvement with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated was exemplary. As a Founder of our 110-year-old international sisterhood and Charter Member of the Queens Alumnae Chapter, she was pivotal in advancing the organization's core tenets of sisterhood, scholarship, public service, and social action. Her work inspired countless others to become active citizens and advocates for positive change.

It is worth noting that Ethel L. Cuff Black's residence on Foch Boulevard for nearly 40 years further solidifies her connection to the Queens community. Naming a secondary street in her honor would pay tribute to her remarkable life and serve as a source of inspiration for current and future generations, reminding them of the extraordinary accomplishments that can be achieved through dedication and unwavering commitment.

I kindly request the support of Community Board 12 in Queens, New York, for this critical initiative. Ethel L. Cuff Black's legacy deserves to be celebrated and remembered, and the proposed street naming is a fitting tribute to her enduring impact on our community and the world at large.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to hearing about the positive outcome of the petition.

Sincerely,

Cooke-Holmes

Elsie Cooke-Holmes International President Chair, Board of Directors

Elsie Cooke-Holmes International President and Chair, Board of Directors Cheryl W. Turner National First Vice President

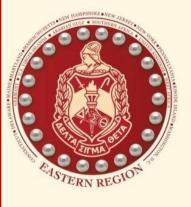
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Sadé Ried National Second Vice President

Joi L. Moore, Ph.D. t National Secretary

Rosalyn L. Glenn National Treasurer

n Dorcas E. Washington Executive Director



Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. **Eastern Region** P.O. Box 4335 Capitol Heights, MD 20790 www.easternregiondst.org

> **Rosie Allen Herring** Eastern Regional Director

Jerra Holdip Eastern Regional Representative

Elevating our Legacy, our Impact, our Sisterhood, and our Leadership





Chairperson Carlene Thorbs **Oueens Community Board 12** 90-28 161st Street Jamaica, NY 11432

#### Dear Chair Thorbs,

It is with an immense sense of pride that we send this letter on behalf of the members of the Eastern Region of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated in support of a secondary street naming in honor of our Founder, Ethel L. Cuff Black. Founder Black, along with 21 other distinguished women, started our illustrious sisterhood on the campus of Howard University on January 13, 1913. Since that time, our organization has focused on the mission of Sisterhood, Scholarship, Service and Social Action, and we now boast a membership of more than 350,000 educated women around the globe.

Founder Black was an active citizen of Queens, N.Y. She moved to 170-46 Foch Boulevard in 1951, following the passing of her beloved husband and immediately began making a difference in the community. Founder Black was a charter member of the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and she often held meetings and events in her home on Foch Boulevard. Among those events was a memorable Bon Voyage party for a member of the Queens Alumnae Chapter who received a Fulbright scholarship to study at the Sorbonne in 1959.

Our Sorority holds the memory of our Founders in high regard and esteem and we recognize their significant place in history, not just nationally, but at the local level as well. It is with this in mind that we fully support and encourage placement of a secondary street sign on the corner nearest to where Founder Black lived -- at the intersection of Foch and Merrick Boulevards.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you require any additional information in support of the petition, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Truly,

Rosie Allen-Herring

Rosie Allen-Herring

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Eastern Regional Director

Gerra Holdip

Jerra Holdip Eastern Regional Representative Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



P.O. BOX 340132 \* ROCHDALE VILLAGE STATION JAMAICA, NEW YORK \* 11434

October 9, 2023

Chairperson Carlene O. Thorbs Queens Community Board 12 90-28 161st Street Jamaica, NY 11432

Dear Chairperson Thorbs,

I write this letter with enthusiasm and excitement on behalf of the 200 members of Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in support of a secondary street naming in honor of our Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black. Over the years, I have had the pleasure of observing the rich history and legacy that Founder Black bestowed upon the Queens, NY community. As a Jamaica, NY resident, I am immensely proud of her fortitude and dedication to our community and organization. Founder Black along with 21 distinguished college women founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. on the campus of Howard University on January 13, 1913.

Founder Black moved to 170-46 Foch Boulevard in 1951 and had a vision to expand her dedication to Sisterhood, Scholarship, Service and Social Action by chartering the Queens Alumnae Chapter on June 4, 1951. Her home reflected her communal and social activities as she hosted monthly Queens Alumnae chapter meetings for the members to conduct the business of the organization and fellowship. As a former educator, I admired how Founder Black excelled and flourished as the first African American teacher at P.S. 108 in Richmond Hill, Queens for 27 years. Her dedication, commitment, and tenacity justifies our support for the Queens Community Board 12 to consider this high honor.

The Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. instituted a scholarship in 1983 to award deserving high school students, and to date more than \$40,000 has been granted over the past 40 years. I wholeheartedly support and encourage the secondary street renaming on the corner of Foch and Merrick Boulevards to "Ethel L. Cuff Black Way." As the current President of the Queens Alumnae Chapter, this would be a profound impact on me, a young woman who embodies the vision and impression Founder Black bestowed upon the Queens community and beyond.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of this petition. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments and/or concerns at president@dstquae.org or (347)623-8746.

#### Warmest Regards, Charelle Hassell-Gilbert

Charelle Hassell-Gilbert President, Queens Alumnae Chapter Chair, New York Metropolitan Coordinating Council Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Global Excellence Through Service and Fortitude

www.DSTQuAC.org Facebook – Instagram – Twitter @DSTQuAC DISTRICT OFFICE 172-12 LINDEN BOULEVARD ST. ALBANS, NY 11434 TEL: (718) 776-3700 FAX: (718) 487-3580

CTTY HALL OFFICE 250 BROADWAY, SUITE 1734 NEW YORK, NY 10007 TEL: (213) 788-7084 FAX: (212) 788-7093 DISTRUCT276/COLNCL\_NYC.GOV THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK NANTASHA WILLIAMS

COUNCIL MEMBER • 27<sup>76</sup> DISTRICT • QUEENS

CHAIR COMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

COMMITTEES FINANCE GENERAL WELFARE MENTAL HEALTH, DISABILITIES, AND ADDICTIONS OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

July 7th, 2023 Chairperson Carlene Thorbs Queens Community Board 12 90-28 161st Street Jamaica, NY 11432

Dear Reverend Thorbs,

It is my pleasure to inform you of my support for a street co-renaming of Foch Blvd and Merrick Blvd in favor of Ethel L. Cuff Black. Soror Ethel L. Cuff Black (October 17, 1890 – September 17, 1977) was one of the founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated at Howard University, and served as its First Vice President. The Delta founders, including Soror Black, marched in the massive national woman suffrage procession held in Washington, D.C. on the eve of Woodrow Wilson's first inauguration. They were champions for women's right since the inception of the sorority. She was also the first African-American teacher in Rochester, New York and was an early advocate for teaching Black history to Black youth.

As you may know, I am a proud Soror of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and think this conaming is a wonderful opportunity to commemorate a historic trailblazer. Soror Black continues to be a role model to thousands of people across this country every day. I believe that her impact is timeless and carving her name into the canvas of Southeast Queens is a fitting honor worthy of her legacy.

Please feel free to reach out to Amir Abbady and Nader Ahmed, my Chief of Staff and Legislative and Budget Coordinator, at 718-776-3700 or email them at <u>aabbady@council.nyc.gov</u> and <u>nahmed@council.nyc.gov</u> if there are any questions. I am passionate about this opportunity to commemorate such a figure. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Sincerely,

+W-

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Nantasha Williams 27<sup>th</sup> Council District

Shaunna Marie Stevens

218-05 Francis Lewis Blvd. Cambria Heights, NY 11411

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September 7, 2023

Rev. Carlene O. Thorbs Chairperson Queens Community Board 12 90-28 161st Street Jamaica, NY 11432

Dear Chairperson Thorbs,

I am writing this letter in support of Ethel L. Cuff Black being honored with a secondary street sign on the corner of Merrick, and Foch boulevards. Why? Influenced by political, cultural, economic and social contingencies, and determined to positively impact the black community regularly facing segregation, poverty, subjugation, sexism, and violence, Ethel L. Cuff, and 21 of her fellow Howard University students founded Delta Sigma Theta Sorority on January 13, 1913. The purpose then, and still now, is to shape society, not just live in, and/or react to it. What began with a membership of 22 young women in Washington, DC, has grown into a public service organization of over 300,000 members globally. On June 4, 1951, Founder Black expanded her 1913 vision of service, by becoming one of the eleven charter members of the Delta Theta Sigma Chapter, now known as the Queens Alumnae Chapter. The chapter has grown from less than 20 to over 200 members dedicated to serving various areas of the borough of Queens. One of the reasons why Queens Alumnae has had various programs for youth since the 1950s is in part due to Founder Black's insistence that the chapter always have programs dedicated to enriching our community's young people. She was such an advocate for youth, that in 1983, Queens Alumnae chapter members unanimously supported the creation of the Ethel Cuff Black scholarship, to annually reward, and help continue the academic excellence of a scholar residing in Queens.

Founder Black lived at 170-46 Foch Boulevard from 1951 until sometime in 1974. Her home was a reflection of her civic, and social activities as she hosted the monthly Queens Alumnae chapter meetings (when the chapter was small enough to do so), the Women's Fellowship Committee of St. Albans Congregational Church, and the Pedagogues, of which she was President. She was an active member of the Tuberculosis Society Advisory Board, the Merrick Community Board, the Jamaica branch of the Urban League, and at one time, St. Paul's Methodist Church. She received numerous awards, certificates and citations honoring her dedication to service.

In 1930, Founder Black became the first African American teacher on staff at P.S. 108 in Richmond Hill, Queens. She was a very respected, and much beloved teacher whose former students kept in touch and checked in on over the years, even after she retired in 1957. Queens Alumnae's Heritage and Archives Committee members are currently working on a commemorative plaque in her honor to be placed in the

foyer of P.S. 108 along with an addition to the school's website explaining her generational significance to the school, community, and sorority.

I believe the aforementioned along with the other letters sent to you, and signed petition sheets (attached) shows that Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black was a resident of New York who was important to a significant part of the population, and whose contributions to society have had a lasting positive impact.

It would be an honor to walk and/or drive by the corner of Merrick and Foch boulevards, and see Ethel L. Cuff Black Way on a street sign where she once lived and was a contributing member of the community. At the time of her death in 1977, she had no heirs, so this would be another beautiful way to continue honoring her legacy as a Founder, charter member, mentor, activist, beloved educator, and community member.

Should you have any questions and/or need additional information, I can be contacted via email: <a href="mailto:shaunnamstevens@gmail.com">shaunnamstevens@gmail.com</a> as well as via mobile: 917-930-9348.

Thank you in advance for your time, and consideration.

Kindest regards,

Shaunna Marie Stevens

Shaunna Marie Stevens

Member, National Heritage and Archives Committee, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Historian, Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Chair, Heritage and Archives Committee, Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Member, Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Personal Reflections

"This is outstanding! I'm so taken back to 1951, here in the city's largest borough, Queens, NY and eleven of us planted our tree, a little oak tree that has grown up to be this lovely Delta Sigma Theta Sorority tree with many limbs of disciplines...Mercy Me!"

I am the grandnephew of this wonderful woman, Ethel L. Cuff Black, one of your Founders of this distinguished organization of 111 years of exceptional global services.

My opening would most definitely be her response to the question of her opinion of having her former street named, Ethel L. Cuff Black Way. I can hear her tell me how her sorority sisters, Theresa Merritt Hines, and Rhoda Green would be tickled pink with the news that, "My name is in the breeze."

Aunt Ethel will be so honored to know that her Sorors and community members have blessed her name so other young folks can be inspired, seek out who she is, and follow her WAY.

#### ~RANDY SPIGNER, GREAT NEPHEW OF FOUNDER ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK

Founder Black would be so very proud to see a street in her name honoring her dedication to service in the community where she lived. She would be honored to know that Sorors put forth such effort to make this possible.

~SOROR BEATRICE "BEBEE" GREEN QuAC CHAPTER PRESIDENT 1965-1967 I was installed as President of the chapter by Founder Black, in her Foch Boulevard home. Founder Black was my mentor and guided me in managing the chapter as well as managing my classroom. One of the reasons I won 'Teacher of the Year' was because of Founder Black's mentorship. She would be so honored to know that a street is being dedicated in her name but at the same time she would ask what is all the fuss about, because she was so humble and quiet.

~SOROR JOY WASHINGTON QuAC CHAPTER PRESIDENT, 1971-1973

As one of the Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Ethel L. Cuff Black dedicated her life to creating a powerful sisterhood that would uplift and empower people of color. I can only imagine the pride she would feel knowing that her legacy lives on and that her sorority continues to thrive and make a difference in the world. And now, to have a street named in her honor, I believe she would be humbled and grateful, but also modest and humble, saying, "What's all this fuss about? I was just being a Delta, doing what I knew was right." Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black's dedication and passion for her community will forever be remembered and honored through this street name, a symbol of her unwavering commitment to sisterhood and service.

#### ~SOROR KAROLE TURNER-CAMPBELL

uff other F. REMURN OF A BIRMH. CITY OF WILMINGTON, DEL. 1. Full name of the Child OThel X. 2. Sex Here 3. Color..... 4. Date of birth ..... Cet 17 Kentt 5. Flace of Birth-Street. 201 Inell 6. Father's Name Tichard 7. Father's Age Jean 8. Occupation of Father dunner 9. Father's Birthplace { State or Country - Centerrile manflund 10. Mother's Name prior to marriage. Alla 11. Mother's Age 30 Jeurs 12. Mother's Birthplace { State or Country Milington 13. Child's number in Family 2nd State if Still Born 14. Number by this Mother. 15. Date of this Certificate Get 29 16. Date of Registration 17. I hereby certify that the above is a true report of the birth at the time and place above stated. las e Informant. N. B .- At No. I give the full name of the child, and BE PAR-TICULAR TO GET MIDDLE NAMES IN FULL. At No. 3, state whether the child is white, black or mulatto. At No. 5 give the street, number and ward. If the child was still born, or has died since birth, state the facts at No 13, WITH ANY OTHER FACTS OF INTEREST. In the case of twins or triplets, a separate blank is to be filled for each child.

**1890 - Birth Certificate** 

From The City of Wilmington, Delaware

*19 of the 22* Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in 1913



### Howard University Journal Feb 7, 1913

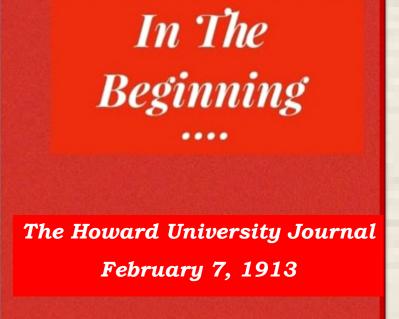
#### A Sorority Organized

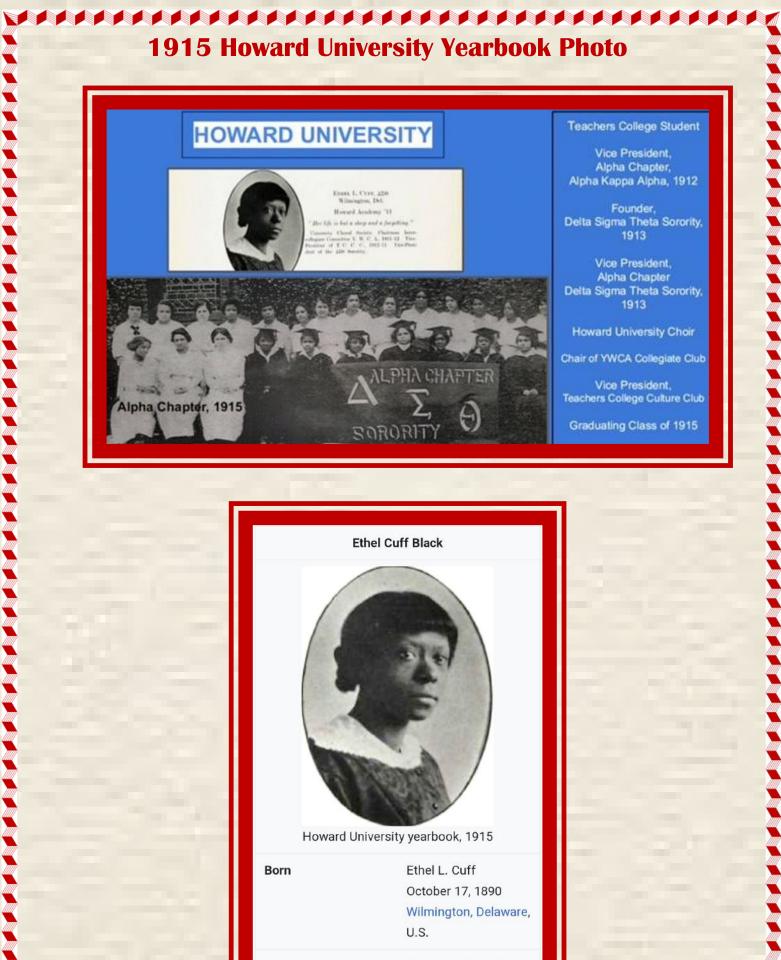
Realizing that there was no true sorority in Howard University, and desiring to form one which would measure favourably with any secret organization anywhere, the active members of an existing club by unanimous consent reorganized into a chartered organization to be known as the Alpha Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority of Howard University.

The following names comprise the active membership of the Sorority:

Myra L. Davîs, President Ethel L. Cuff, Vice President Edith L. Motte, Rec. Secretary Jessie M. McGuire, Cor. Sec'y Pauline Oberdorfer, Treasurer Winnie Cargile, Custodian Frederica Chase, Serg't-at-Arms Zephyr J. Chisom, Reporter

Wertie C. Blackwell. Mary Edna Brown. Jimmie B. Bugg. Ethel Carr. Olive C. Jones. Florence Letcher. Osceola Marie McCarthy. Madree Penn. Bertha Adine Pitt. Mamie Anna Reddy. Naomi S. Sewell. Marguerite Young.

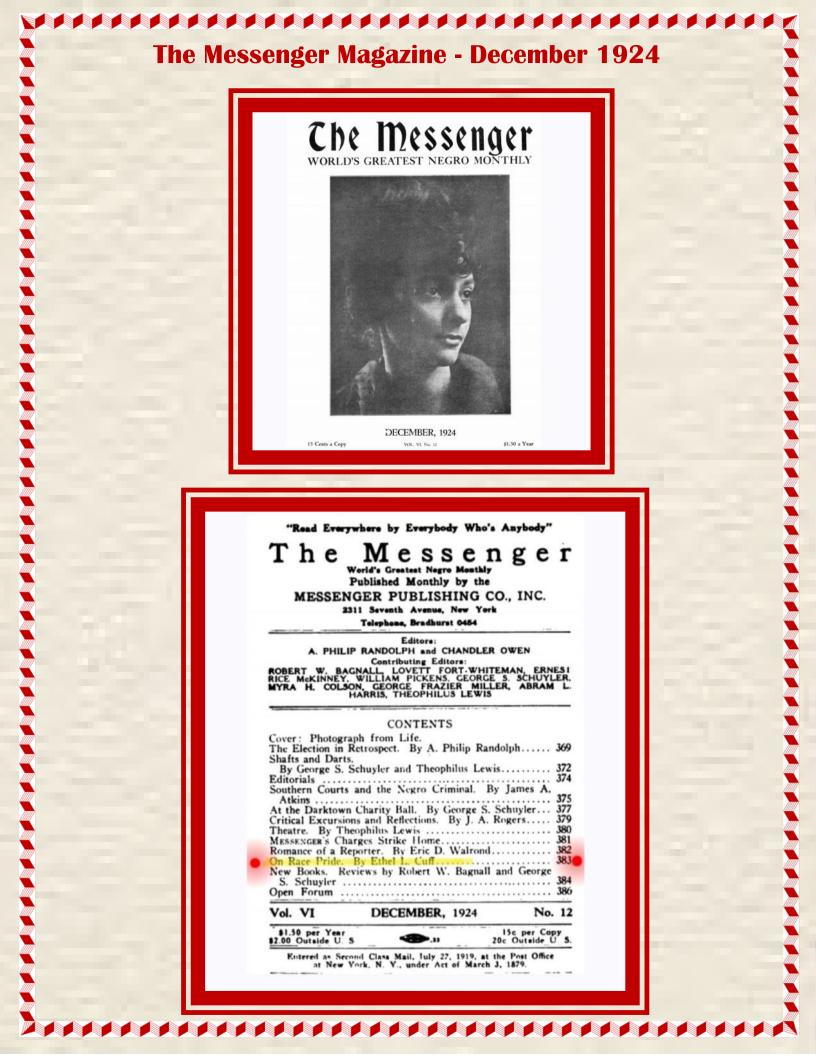






Howard University yearbook, 1915

Born Ethel L. Cuff October 17, 1890 Wilmington, Delaware, U.S. Died September 17, 1977



#### On Race Pride

#### By ETHEL L. CUFF State College, Dover, Del.

In the speculation for a solution to the Negro problem many ideas have been advanced. Leaders of the race have exhorted the people to action of various kinds, any one of which suggestions, if carried out, would be a valuable asset to the race. Some have advocated organization, feeling that the Negro should be bound together in some great constituted body which would speak for the race; others say enter the financial world and become potent factors in the country and every man will doff his hat and treat you as a man. As I have aforesaid, these are indeed good points and will have great force in making the problem less complex, but to my humble judgment there is but one solution. It lies at the bottom of any effective organization; it is the basis of financial standing that would demand respect; it is this: A complete realization on the part of the Negro himself that the blood which flows through his viens is the best blood of all peoples on the face of the earth, it is race pride.

Why is it that the Caucasian holds his head high, boasts of his superiority and is respected by all men? Is it because of organization? Observation will disclose there is no more divided people on the face of the earth. One finds the rich against the poor, the families with tradition and wealth against the newly rich, one political faction against the other, section against section, and those of the native land against the pilgrim. But all are proud of the blood which flows through their veins, and in this lies their unity. They have studied their history and delight to recall that they belong to a race that has done great things in the past. They boast of it to other races, write of it in their books that men may read and know that they are great. The child is taught that he belongs to the race of Thus, he himself, feeling this pride, makes all races. others recognize the same, and who dares hurt man's pride?

But what is true of the Negro? His sojourn in America has taught him to despise himself. He is told that he is inferior to every people, that his color is a badge which affirms the same and to impress the idea indelibly upon his mind, he has been segregated, jimcrowed, lynched and otherwise intimidated until he himself believes it true and is ashamed of his race. If this is not true why does he seek to prove that he has a mixture of Caucasian blood, or a trace of Indian blood in his veins, and the greater the mixture of either the more pride he takes in himself. Yes, the Negro is ashamed of his African blood, and why? Because he does not know his glorious history, because the peoples of the world have robbed him of his claim to civilization and made him believe they were never his and that it is impossible for him to attain a high degree of civilization, while the leaders, the preachers and the teachers of the race do not teach the children and youth that they have everything to be proud of because of their African blood.

Teach the Negro boy and girl history from the viewpoint of the Negro, not from the viewpoint of some other race. Point out in the ancient and mediæval history that all men have felt the weight of chains and slavery. Show them that it was only when men realized themselves that they were men were they able to rise, and that this love of freedom has been the battle cry of the ages. Have them realize that only in proportion that they were able to realize this desire were they capable of gaining the respect of the rest of mankind.

The lack of race pride and the feeling that anything which is distinctly Negroid is inferior is widely evident. 384

THE MESSENGER

The Negro melodies he (for the most part) would rather not sing, nor in song or prose would he preserve the language of his forefathers in America. Take the girl who goes to a mixed school. She is taught to feel proud because she goes to a white school, has white teachers and associates, and feels she knows more than the girl who goes to a colored school. She is taught at home that the colored teachers are not as competent as the white teachers, when they are both graduates of the same school, and more often the colored girl the better scholar. She is told by her white teachers and friends that she is an exception to the race and this child grows up feeling herself better than her people, despising and underestimating them and finally hating all that is African within her.

If the dominant race in America sees within the Negro race a developing race pride, that race will be more cautious of its actions. It will see the Negro fighting segregation with segregation. He will protest against the illegality of the law, but under it develop such race consciousness that the maker of the law will tremble and think of it not for the best advancement of his safety, seeing that it does not intimidate but rather encourages the race to united efforts.

I am reminded in this particular of the attack made upon Prof. Kelly Miller's article a year or so ago, in which he compared the number of graduates from high schools, colleges, and post graduate schools coming from cities having colored schools with those having mixed

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schools. The Negro population of these cities compared favorably, but the number of pupils graduating from High School and pursuing higher courses in the cities with colored schools was far above that of cities with mixed schools. I hold this due to pride instilled within the group and not within one individual who chanced to be exceptionally bright as is the case in mixed schools where the average pupil or underaverage falls victim to discouragement and elimination. This article was hased upon statistics, not fancy. It was not a plea for separate schools but an analysis of the statistics. When the leaders of the race learn to study conditions and facts and teach their pupils how to do the same there will be less propaganda hased upon sentiment.

Scan over the pages of history and you will find that there were more blacks among Egypt's Pharaohs than any other people. "Poetry of all ages has made the name of Prince Memnon, a black prince, synonymous with the word handsome. Was Clitus, the brother-in-law of Alexander the Great, less to be honored because he happened to be black? Was Terence less famous?" I would that every Negro girl and boy might know the wonderful heritage that is his and understand why the civilization in Africa was checked. True there were and are barbarians there; what sayest thou of the barbarians in civilized and cultured Europe and America? Know thyself and in so doing will develop that virtue which will redeem the Negro: race pride.

**1936 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Rho Chapter Annual Dinner -Photo includes Founder Naomi Sewell Richardson,** and Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black





Picture 2 is a close up of picture 1: Far Left: Soror Founder Naomi Sewell Richardson; 2nd from the left: Soror Founder Ethel Cuff Black.

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## **1940 Marriage Certificate of** Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black and Mr. David Horton Black

Lhis Certifies that 11 David Harton Black 1 new yark. n y Mintothel retitia buff Igamaica L. S. new york. were by me united in Holy Matrimony According to the ordinance of God and Sours of Maryland. at Eleton on the 2.8 th day of Leptemper in the year of our Lord 19 14 0 Catherine C. Balden Am. (are

# NY AMSTERDAM NEWS Nov. 17, 1951

Mrs. Ethel Cuff Black, a founder of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority will be the guest of the Pyramid Club of Delta, at a meeting in the Red Shield Club house, Sunday afternoon. June 17. at 3 p. m. Members of Rho Chapter also have been invited to attend. Members of the Pyramid Club include the Misses: Lorenza Tucker, Velma Cohn, Florence Jackson, Charlotte Baker. Yvette Weaver, Norma Price, Jackie Bagwell, Willa Hargrow and Beverly Groves.

Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black With Chapter Sorors After The Fall 1953 Initiation *(Chapter Was Known As Delta Theta Sigma)* 



In the September 4, 1954 Issue of The New York Age **Newspaper, Soror Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black Was Asked** Whether Or Not Womem Should Work Or Stay Home If **They Have Children Under A Certain Age** 

\*



Mrs. Ethel C. Black, teacher, 170-46 Fock blvd., Jamaica. If there is a need and there is a child care center as in my locality, I am in favor of the mother seeking employment. If, however, there is no supervised child care center, then I am not in favor of the mother leaving the children of pre-school age with unexperienced persons. The need for proper care of children of that age is most important.

Six of the Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in 1958, left to right, Florence Letcher Toms, Ethel L. Cuff Black, Jimmie Bugg Middleton, Dr. Eliza P. Shippen, Vashti Turley Murphy, and Edith Mott Young



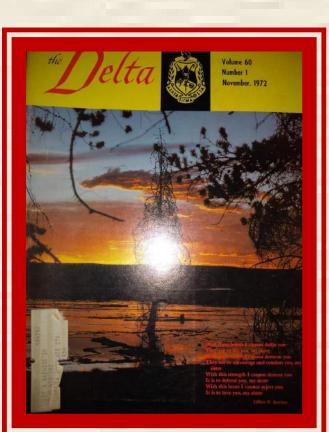
1965 Pic of Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black Celebrating her 75th Birthday In Her Foch Blvd Home

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Soror Founder Ethel Cuff Black is seated at center as special Founders Day guest at the 1966 joint celebration of the New York Chapters.

#### November 1972 Delta Journal



#### A Day To Remember Soror Founder Ethel Cuff Black's Birthday Party

Rhoda Joye Green, Chairman

A beautiful and exciting day was spent with Soror-Founder, Ethel Cuff Black on October 29th, 1972 at her home in Jamaica, New York. The occasion was the celebration of her 82nd birthday, sponsored by the chapters in metropolitan New York City and hostessed by the Queens Alumnae Chapter. This was indeed a Delta inspired "happening" chocked full of Delta spirit, cameraderie, love and devotion for a wonderful Delta Girl. Soror Black was exerchedmed with the many sorors who attended and

This was indeed a Delta inspired "happening" chocked full of Delta spirit, cameraderie, love and devotom for a wonderful Delta Girl. Soror Black was overwhelmed with the many sorors who attended and the generous cards and gifts she received from chapters in the Eastern Region who had been apprised of the planned celebration by Regional Director, Soror Brin Hawkins. During the celebration, Soror Black received a lovely basket of fruit from Soror Lillian Benbow, our charming Nat'l. President who also called her. Soror Black told Soror Benbow that she plans to attend the convention in Atlanta, is looking forward to it! As always, Soror Black was remembered by Sorors

As always, Soror Black was remembered by Sorors Lucy Hamilton and Audrey Robinson, former members of the Queens Alumnae Chapter who now reside in California. Audrey sent gifts from her many travels this past summer.

this past summer. "Youth", spirit, and zest were added to the party by the undergraduate Brooklyn chapter, Epsilon Pi who led the spirited singing, Soror Marita Green, Eastern Regional Representative is President of this of the

led the spirited singing. Soror Marita Green, Eastern Regional Representative is President of this chapter. Soror Catherine Alexander, a charter member of the Brooklyn Alumnae Chapter and long time friend of Soror Black's was present as was Mattie Parsons. Presi dent of the New York Alumnae chapter, serving as one of the "official" photographers. (We hope to share pictures with you in the next issue,)

Joy Washington, President, Queens Alumnae

To everyone, Soror Black says, "Thank You—Another Unforgettable Day For Me". The New York sorors also take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped celebrate the birthday of "our inspiration", Soror Black. It was truly a day to remember.

# New Address?

Let Nat'l Headquarters

Know when you move

# 1973 Photos When Founder Black and 15th National President Lillian P Benbow met



Soror Joy Washington, Standing left Soror Yvonnecris Smith Veal, Standing right 15th National President, Lillian P Benbow Seated right



Soror Rhoda Green, Standing left Soror Yvonnecris Smith Veal, Standing right. 15th National President Lillian P. Benbow, seated right





October 6, 1977

THELMAT DALEY LYNNETTE TAYLOR Executive Director FRANCES M FLIPPEN Deputy Director

Mrs. Ruby Stroman President Queens Alumnae P.O. Box 132 Rochdale Station Jamaica, New York 11434

Dear Soror Stroman and the entire Queens Alumnae:

Each of you has given so nobly of your thoughts, your love, and your sisterliness for our beloved late Founder, Soror Ethel Cuff Black. You have displayed to the City of New York, the East Coast, and to the nation, just what it means to have a Delta family. Please know that all of us in Delta are so grateful for the care and love you gave to our Founder. Even your follow-through bespeaks your care.

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely, Thilmand Laly

Thelma T. Daley National President Letter from Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. **16th National President Thelma Daley To The Chapter** 

Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.

GREETINGS TO THE CONVENTION - I regret that I will not

be able to attend in person but I shall be with you in spirit and wish for you a most successful convention

And to the new members I know that it will mean much to you to have joined the Sorority - It has meant much to me

throughout the years and I am sure you will find much

This is your FOUNDER ETHEL CUFF BLACK sending best wishes

ENJOY YOURSELF BECAUSE IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK!

8-5-77

benefit from having become a member.

es a successful Convention!

that haff the

**1977 Letter From** Founder **Ethel L. Cuff Black** 





### News Clipping between 1970-1971

Delta Sigma Theta Scrority held its monthly meeting at the home of soror Ethel Cuff Black, a founder and retired N.Y.C. school teacher. Plans were finalized for their "Sweethearts Party" held in Hempstead, Long Island, on May 23rd, and their fund raising "Cocktail Party" scheduled for Sunday, June 13, at Baisley Manor, in Jamaica. The sorors will present their annual scholarship awards to some deserving students. The The president of the sorority is Julia Showery.

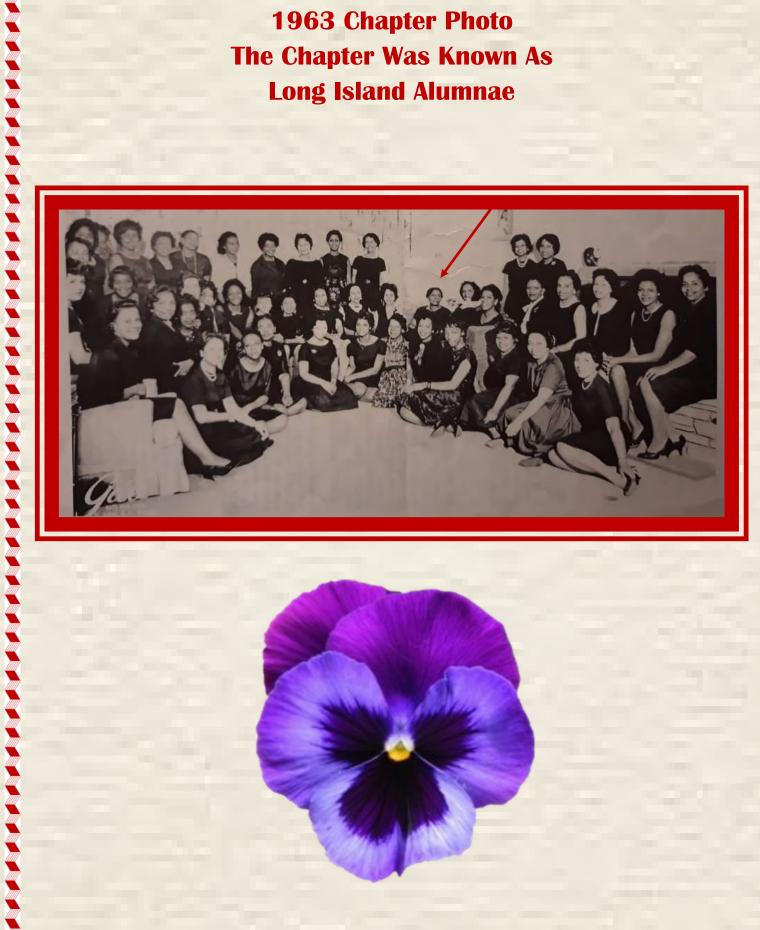
Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black With Chapter Members at the 23rd National Convention in New York in 1954. The Chapter Then Known as Delta Theta Sigma Were Co-hosts of The Convention.

\*

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**1963 Chapter Photo** The Chapter Was Known As Long Island Alumnae



5 of the Founders of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Left To Right... Naomi Sewell Richardson Edith Mott Young Osceola Macarthy Adams Jimmie Bugg Middleton Ethel L. Cuff Black



## **Founders**

Ethel L. Cuff Black, Wertie Blackwell Weaver, Madree Penn White Presented With Violets by Soror Allie Miller Holley

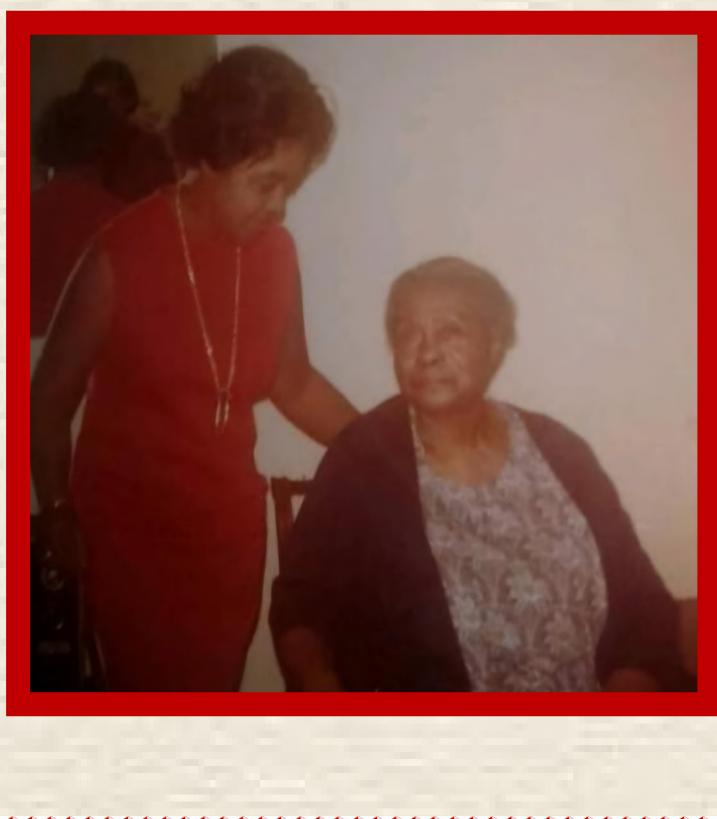


Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black with Honorary Member Theresa Merritt Hines (left), and Soror Willia J. Turner in 1976

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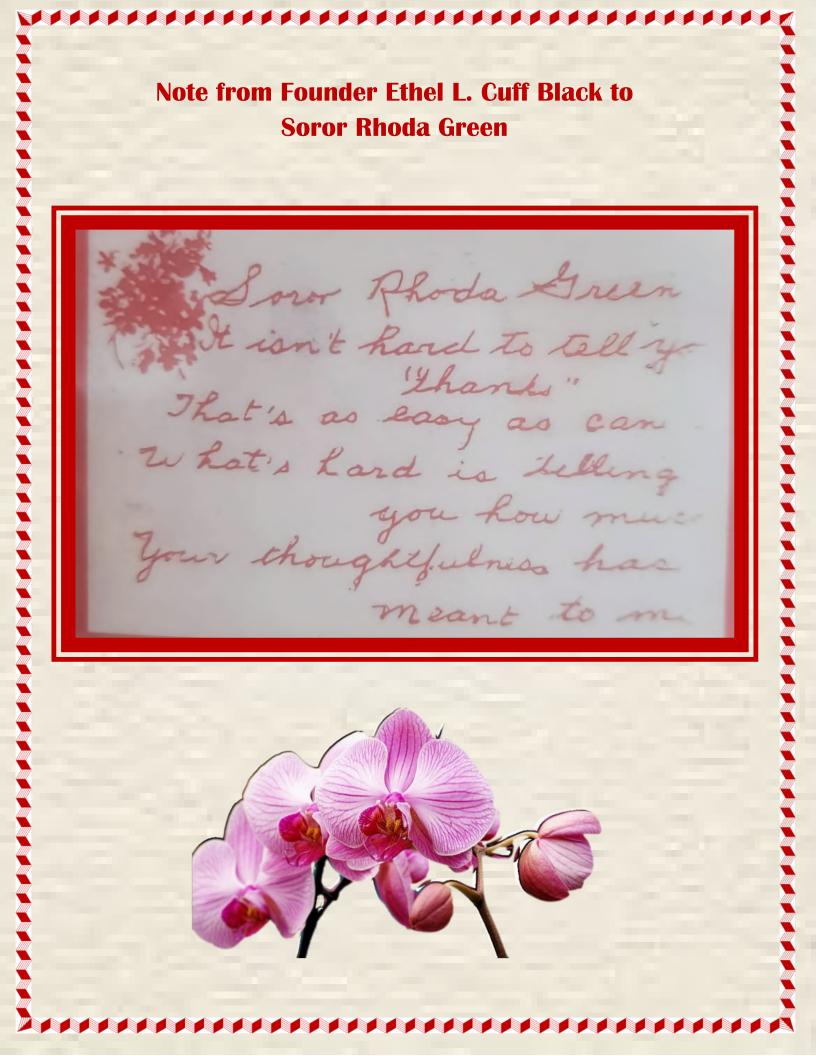


Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black and Soror Rhoda Green who was her dedicated caregiver.







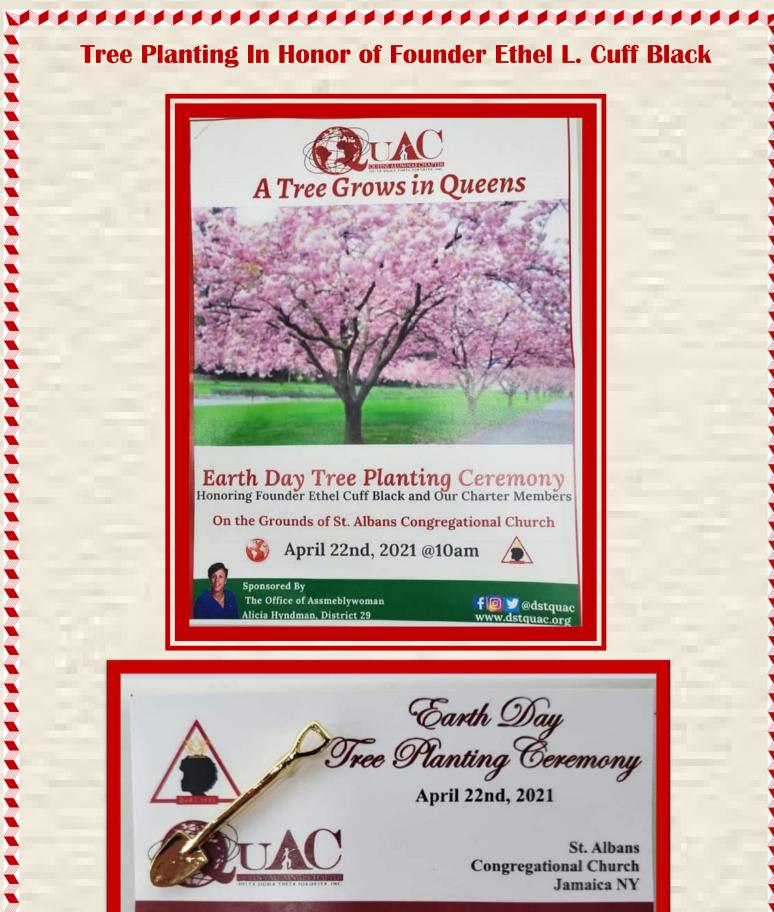




1976 - Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black With Unldentified Soror, Ruby L. Stroman, Willia J. Turner, & Mildred Miller (Left To Right..)







In Memory of Founder Ethel Cuff Black and Charter Members Lovingly produced by The International Awareness and Involvement Committee





Memorial Services Of The Late



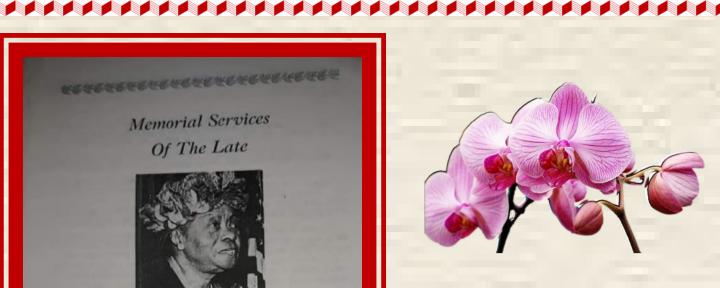
# Ethel Cuff Black

(Founder - Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.) October 17, 1890 - September 17, 1977

ST. ALBANS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 172-17 Linden Boulevard St. Albans, New York

The Reverend ROBERT ROSS JOHNSON, Pastor THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1977 12:00 NOON







#### In Loving Memory of

ETHEL C. BLACK September 17, 1977 **Funeral Service** St. Albans Congregational Church St. Albans, N. Y. Thursday, September 22 - 12 Noon Interment Cypress Hills Cemetery Brooklyn, N. Y.

HE Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will swell in the house of the Lord for ever.

J. FOSTER PHILLIPS Funeral Home, Inc. 179-24 Linden Blvd., Jamaica, N. Y. 526-5656

# OBITUARY

#### ETHEL C. BLACK

Services for Ethel Cuff Black, 86. a retired city school teacher, will be held at noon tomorrow in St. Albans Congregational Church. Mrs. Black, who lived in Jamaica for 40 years, died Sunday in the Franklin Nursing Home in Flushing.

Born in Wilmington, Del., Mrs. Black had taught at Delaware State College; and 40 years ago, she became the first black person to teach at PS 108 in Richmond Hill.

In 1913, she was one of the founders of the first black woman's sororities in the nation, Delta Sigma Theta, at Howard University in Washington, D.C. The sorority now has 600 chapters and 95,000 members around the world. The widow of David H. Black, the moved to the Flushing nursing home about three years ago.

There are no survivors. Burial will be in Cypress Hills Cemetery.

New York Daily News Newspaper September 21, 1977

Cypress Hills Cemetery—Brooklyn, NY Gravesite Location: Beaumont 16 Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black is listed as the Cemetery's 54th Notable Person Buried

#### Ethel C. Black

(1880-1977) Beaumont - In 1913 while attending Howard University, Ethel became one of the twenty-two founding sisters of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Today, this is the largest African-American Greek lettered sorority in the world.















# Street Naming

Honoring

FOUNDER & CHARTER MEMBER

ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK

A Sisterhood Called to Serve

Nia Ujima Fall 1993

# The Hassell & Hassell-Gilbert Family

CELEBRATES FOUNDER AND CHARTER MEMBER

Ethel L. Cuff Black

### ON THIS DISTINCT STREET CO-NAMING HONOR Sunday, May 5, 2024



MADELAINE HASSELL QUAC SPR. 84 CHARELLE HASSELL-GILBERT EA SPR. 98 DASIA HASSELL QUAC SPR. 24 IMANI HASSELL QUAC SPR. 24



# Is Proud To Honor





# **Ethel L. Cuff Black**

At The QuAC Street Co-Naming Ceremony

WIN THE FUTURE

www.HollisPublicAffairs.com

# STATEN ISLAND ALUMNAE CHAPTER DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Robin McClendon Cannon, President

Congratulations to the Queens Alumnae Chapter on the unveiling of the new street sign at the corner of Foch and Merrick Boulevards, dedicated as "Ethel L. Cuff Black Way." This tribute honors our beloved Founder, Ethel Cuff Black, and her enduring legacy.



Chartered January 20, 1996

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

"The Little Chapter with the Big Heart"

# Congratulations to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Queens Alumnae Chapter on the Street Dedication Honoring Ethel Letitia Cuff Black

# The Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Nu Omicron Chapter "The House That Love Built"

# SAVE THE DATE

# 28th Annual Golf Classic

# August 2nd 10:00 AM

31. Foundation & Nu Onteron Chapter of Omega Psi Fill line.

BETHPACE RED GOLF COURSE Lome of the 2025 Byder Cup

#### ON THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION



We honor and pay tribute to Delta Sigma Theta Founder and Queens Alumnae Charter Member

#### ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK

We congratulate the facilitators of this historic event, our beloved QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER

We acknowledge our Line Sisters of Queens Alumnae's

#### 25 S.T.A.R.S. (Spring 88)

Staci Bostic-Clarke Margaret Bradley Thelma Caison\* Lillie Crowder Donna Edge-Rachell Pamela Evans-Sewer Denise Everette\* Robin Exum Mary Franklin Angela Gaton Donnita George Norma Hairston-Burrell\* Donna Henley Erma Hixon\* Thelma Holman\* Charisse Littlejohn Kathryn McDaniel Clare Merle Mildred James Mullet Rosa Smith Norman Janice Gadsden Pendarvis Theresa Perry\* Stephanie Raleigh Beryl S. Jeffers Diedre Smalls

#### LOVINGIY IN SISTERHOOD,

STACI BOSTIC-CLARKE DONNA EDGE-RACHELL FAM EVANS-SEWER MARY FRANKLIN BERYL S. JEFFERS ROSA SMITH NORMAN

#### We salute the life and legacy of Founder and Charter member Ethel L. Cuff Black!



Bluette J. Jones\*



Beatrice "Bebee" Green QuAC President, 1965-1967



Karole Turner-Campbell



Lucille J. Peterson Composer of The QuAC Hymn



Willia Bea Jones Turner\* QuAC President, 1973-1976

Gloria Johnson



Nancy Jones\* Designer of The Founders Quilt



Donna Edge-Rachell



Labrena J. Martin



Wallsena Crittenden-Feuchtbaum



Elnita Jones Co-Chair, Street Dedication Committee



Alison Green-Parsons



Shaunna Marie Stevens Chair, Heritage and Archives Committee Member, National Heritage and Archives Committee



Neahle Jones

From the Jones, Edge-Rachell, & Green Family Sorors affiliated with **Oueens Alumnae since the 1950s** 



Founder Black with Soror Beatrice "Bebee" Green in 1965



Founder Black with Soror Willia Bea Jones Turner in 1976





# **BROOKLYN ALUMNAE CHAPTER**

THE NEXUS LINE

# **SPR 1986**



ANNIE R. AUGUSTE HAZEL CUNNINGHAM, RECORDER KITRENA DUBOSE FOSTER ALISON STRONG CYNTHIA IVEY BARBARA RANDALL ADRIENNE ROGERS DOROTHY E. NELSON DOROTHY HOWELL MARGUERITE ANDUZE ANTOINETTE RUSSELL EDNA MCDOWELL RIBY WATKINS JERRI SENIOR DAYNA R. LAMB BERNICE CHEATHAM VERNELL PORTER JOANNE NABORS, LEADER ELAINE V. ROBERTS MAGUERITE BAZEMORE THELMA C. TAYLOR



# **BROOKLYN ALUMNAE CHAPTER**

Martine Martin

THE NEXUS LINE

# **SPR 1986**

Congratulates



QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER

on the street naming

# Ethel L. Cuff Black Way

### IN HONOR OF OUR

FOUNDER

**Ethel L. Cuff Black** 

# 27 ELEMENTS OF A D.R.E.A.M. CELEBRATES

THE LEGACY OF ONE OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS FOUNDERS OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED AND QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER CHARTER MEMBER,

Ethel Cuff Black

A TRUE PILLAR IN THE QUEENS COMMUNITY

Jamila Taylor Lashun Rogers Tariqua Morrison-Mensah Oluwabukola Oyalabu Jastina Carter Nicolle Session Juanita Wing-Allen Shantel Gamble Sharlene Monroe Makeda Bishop **Chantel Johnson** 

Vanessa Duah

Sharmayne Jenkins

Kenya Townsend

**Stephanie Aladenoye** 

Ayanna Murphy

**Regina Seabrooks** 

**Renee Taylor** 

Joanne Madhere

Tarawhona Bellevue

Indira Goodwine-

Josias

**Carlene Bryan** 

Michelle Alladin

**Tiffany Martin** 

**Carlene Jean-Zephyrin** 

**D.Nicole Marion-**

Henderson

WITH OUR DELTA LOVE, 27 ELEMENTS OF A D.R.E.A.M. SPRING 2017 QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER



# The First 40 - 48 In The Queens Alumnae Chapter



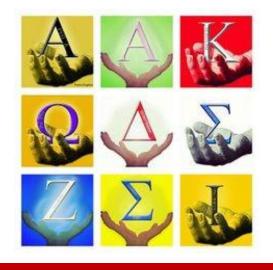
#### QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.



street naming.....

# ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK WAY

~ Service Is what life is all about



The Emergency Response Team of the Queens Alumnae On pter of Della Sigma Theta Sorori<sup>e</sup>y. Inc. Celebrates The Street Ca-Maming of Faunder and Charter Member Eihel L. Cuff Black

Co-Chair: Dayna Lamb Co-Chair: Gayle Walthall

<u>Cammillee Members:</u> Dia Allen, Carlene Bryan, Larna Amore, Danna Almore Dally Lelica Deans, Elrila Janes, Stacey Lytes, Regina Seabraaks, Ayanna Wallhall Marphy, Esq., Audrey Wilson, and Michelle Wilson

#### The Phenomenal 34 line (QuAC, Spring 1995) congratulates ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK

our beloved Founder, and Charter member, on being honored with a street dedication in Queens, where she sowed into the Chapter and Community!







Vanessa Adams, Michelle Bailey, Dorothy Barnett, Joyce Boben, Yolanda Brown Thomas, Denise D. Chapman\*, Kellie Cook McLaurin, Sheila Dancy-Wilkins, Thais R. Davis Hines, Leticia F. Deans, Denise DePass, Catherine Dozier\*, Wanda Epps, Warria Esmond, Lenore R. Gall, Gilleyan J. Hinds-Hargrove, Anne-Marie Hudley Simmons, Sharon D. James Jordan, Dyane Jones, Jeneane Kee, Katrina Lassiter Douglass, Lisa Miller Angelettie, Jacqueline Muse\*, Renee L. Nicholls, Vivian Rodgers-Hill, La'Lisa Scudder Durden, Rachael Robinson, Shaunna Marie Stevens, Chamaine Thomas, Virginia Tomlinson, Barbara Turner\*, Jacqueline Watt Ross, Valena W. Woodley, and Vikkie L. Wilkinson.



Congratulations Queens Alumnae as we celebrate the Legacy of our Founder Soror Ethel Cuff Black. Congratulations to the Co-Chairs Sorors Elnita Jones and Kenya Townsend on a job very well done.

~ Cynthia J. Gresham

#### WE SALUTE

#### DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER

on the street co-naming of our Beloved Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black

may we continue to inspire and serve in our communities together with sisterly love,

Natalia E-TAU Spring 1984

# The Young Sisters

Deborá QUAC Spring 2024



# Ethel Cuff Black

M.A.G.N.I.T.U.Δ.E. 48 SPRING 2024

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# THANK YOU QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

Inspired by your example, we are deeply committed to serving and uplitting our community. We are excited to continue the chapter's efforts in making a positive impact.



# M.A.G.N.I.T.U.Δ.E. 48 SPRING 2024



Congratulations to the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. for the Street Co-Naming of Founder Ethel Cuff L. Black on May 5, 2024.

Dr. Danielle N. Williams President, Queens Chapter Jack and Jill of America, Inc Member, Queens Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. CEO, STIGMA Consulting Group, LLC Welcome to our Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Sisterhood Goddaughter Soror Imani Grampus! #46QuAC24

Make our Founders Proud! AOML Godmother Soror Cheryl Gill Riley #8QuAC81









Thank you to Founder Ethel L. Cuff Black for paving the way to DELTA LAND! Congratulations, Sorors of Queens Alumnae Chapter on the successful street co-naming

Victoria Christopher Murray (QUAC 1978)

# THE NEW YORK CITY BLACK WOMEN'S POLITICAL CLUB

Congratulates the Queen's Alumnae Chapter of

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.,

FOR PRESERVING THE LEGACY OF ESTEEMED FOUNDER ACTIVIST EDUCATOR & QUEENS RESIDENT

# **Ethel Cuff Black**

DURING THIS HISTORIC EVENT MAY 5, 2024



NYC BLACK WOMEN'S POLITICAL CLUB

#### H&R Block

### H&R BLOCK OF SAINT ALBANS PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE QUEENS ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., ON THIS COMMEMORATIVE OCCASSION



A SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO M.A.G.N.I.T.U.Δ.E. 48 SPRING 2024

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HAPPY DELTAVERSARY SOROR PHYLLIS TINSLEY MAY 30: 40 YEARS GOD BLESS: SOROR SHALLAH STEVENS



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We are based right here in the community and on average our schools profit two times more than they have in the past using other fundraising companies. We are hassle free and do all the heavy lifting so that you don't

Victor Humphrey | vhumphrey@apexleadershipco.com | 914-559-2343 | Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556291349022

\*APEX has raised over \$5M for New York schools!

JOU HOLD



# THANK YOU! LISTH PRECINCT

Thank you to the officers of the 113th Precinct for your dedication to the Queens Community and service to the Queens Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.





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SHUP AN

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SOROR MARVLIEU JOLLA HALL

in

Nu Mu, Spring '77 - #5, Charter Member SOROR NIA HALL Mu Gamma, Spring #14 - #2 SOROR AYANNA HALL Mu Gamma, Spring #14 - #6



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#### Honoring the legacy of

# SOROR ETHEL L. CUFF BLACK

#### One of the 22 Founders of our

#### illustrious sorority

## Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

MJollaHallGroup.com MJollaHallGroup@gmail.com 917-324-0969 Celebrating the Life and Impact of our beloved Founder

# Ethel L. Cuff Black

Congratulations to the

#### Queens Alumnae Chapter

for achieving such a historic milestone. The entire Queens Community can share in the recognition of this courageous woman on whose shoulders we all stand.



\*Omega Omega Chapter



#### Friends for Gregory Meeks salute queens alumnae chapter of delta sigma theta sorority, inc. for lifting

#### - ETHEL CUFF BLACK-

QUEENS TRAILBLAZING EDUCATOR, SERVANT LEADER.WE MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER THOSE THAT LAID OUR PATH.

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED LEADERSHIP IN QUEENS COUNTY!

Paid for by Friends for Gregory Meeks

