



**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated
Loudoun County Alumnae Chapter**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Service Organization Brings Girls Closer to Catching the Dreams of Tomorrow

November 11, 2013--Loudoun County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is bringing middle school girls closer to ‘catching the dreams of tomorrow’ through their Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy program.

Ashburn, Va. -- The Loudoun County Alumnae Chapter (LCAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is bringing middle school girls in Loudoun County closer to catching the dreams of tomorrow. The organization plans to induct 19 middle school girls into their 2013-2014 Dr. Betty Shabazz Delta Academy program. The special ceremony using “Catching the Dreams of Tomorrow” as the theme, will take place on Saturday, November 16, 2013.

The students are from local area schools and were selected to participate in the yearlong program based on their academic achievements, community involvement and extra-curricular activities. Delta Academy is a National Program for middle school girls aimed at strengthening their self-esteem and building interests in science, math, technology and leadership. Participants attend monthly sessions involving field trips, professional speakers and tutorial assistance. A primary goal of the program is to prepare young girls for full participation as leaders in the 21st Century. The dreamcatcher, from Native American culture signifying catching the good dreams in life, is the program’s symbol. Included in the hour-long induction ceremony will be the presentation of a dreamcatcher to each participant.

“Delta Academy not only serves as a mentorship program for middle school aged girls, it also provides an opportunity for these young ladies to be exposed to activities that may otherwise have been overlooked or withheld. Hopefully their involvement in these activities will continue to fuel their interest and desire to pursue careers in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math”, stated Madeleine Gillis, Communications Chair of LCAC.

Previous Delta Academy activities have included a book club, pen pals with young girls in Liberia, Africa, volunteer events, participation in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and a visit with Federal Aviation Administration flight specialists. This year includes participation in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Walk, a tour of the Federal Aviation Authority, and a community service project, among other activities.

LCAC's Delta Academy is celebrating its fourth year in Loudoun County. If you would like to get your child involved in Delta Academy, contact their middle school counselor, or send your request to deltaacademy@lcacdst.org.

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Loudoun County Alumnae Chapter (LCAC) is among 980 chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a private, non-profit organization with over 250,000 members worldwide. LCAC has about 115 college-educated, predominantly black women who are registered voters and actively engaged in Loudoun County using the national organization's five-point thrust – Educational Development, Economic Development, International Awareness and Involvement, Physical and Mental Health and Political Awareness and Involvement. Sheryl Tolbert-Johnson is the Chapter President.