

Look What We Have Been Doing?

Getting To Know You

Delta Academy 2004-2005 started off with a bang. The young girls participated in several "Getting to Know You" exercises which consisted of spontaneous skit development of role plays and Delta Academy Bingo. After several weeks of group dynamic exercises, the members engulfed themselves into the 2004 election process by studying the Presidential Election process and gathering an understanding of the views of each candidate and the effect that their views have on young girls. They developed political parties of their own and slated officers for Delta Academy 2004-2005. During the next 3 months the girls will continue to interact with each other prior to voting and selecting their officers.

Delta Academy News You Can Use

During the month of October & November the members began to journal about their dreams. Each week the young ladies write on various subjects and discuss them. Based upon various discussions and book reviews, the young ladies produced their first newsletter. The newsletter includes book reviews and a Delta Academy advise column geared to answer questions of interest to girls ages 11-14.

POW-WOW

In addition, the young ladies participated in Native American POW-WOW. This is an event held at the University of Illinois at Chicago that celebrates Native Americans. The young ladies met many Native Americans and got answers to questions about their culture and beliefs. Because Delta Academy's symbol is the dreamcatcher, the members were able to further understand the tradition of the meaning of the dreamcatcher.

WINTER WONDERLAND

In December, Delta Academy members conducted a workshop designed to teach their families how to have Kwaanza in their homes as they prepare to make commitments to set new goals in the New Year.

On January 16-17, 2005, the Delta Academy members traveled to Grand Geneva Spa & Resort - TimberRidge Lodge for 2 days of fun experiencing the outdoors. For many of the young ladies this was their first time ice skating and tobogganing, even in the frigid cold.

Despite the -14 degree wind chill that prevented them from skiing, the young ladies enjoyed hours of swimming. Winter Wonderland experience also included rap sessions, balloon launch, old fashion charades, a dancing workshop, and fashion show. It was a great experience.

Black History Month

On **Saturday, February 12, 2005**, Delta Academy members went on a scavenger hunt throughout the City of Chicago to see first hand the impact the African Americans have had on our everyday lives. Based upon the story of **"What If There Were No Black People?"**, Delta Academy members answered various riddles and clues about items invented by African Americans. After guessing the riddles a bus took them to different sites across Chicago to take pictures of those inventions. Some of the sites that we visited to were the Illinois Service Federal Bank, the Chicago Defender, Operation PUSH, Joyce Ford Car Dealership, Fanfares Catering, Washington, Pittman & McKeever, Johnson Publishing Company, Harold Washington Center. Due to limited time we did not get an opportunity to visit the following African American establishments, such as, Tailorite Cleaners, Griffin Cleaners, Wesley Shoe Coral. Thank you for your support.

On **Saturday, February 19, 2005**, the Delta Academy members will create a scrapbook of the inventions and the contributions that African Americans have made. The month will culminate with a Delta Academy Family Luncheon at 12:45 p.m.