

JUNE 2024 | VOL. 3 ISSUE 4

THE BUGLE

*Quarterly newsletter of the Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter of Phi
Theta Kappa Honor Society at Stark State*





PRESIDENTS VISION

Written by Benjamin Nash

I would like to share some of my excitement with you regarding our coming 2024 – 2025 academic year. I truly believe that if we can take advantage of some of the opportunities ahead of us, our chapter will have an immensely successful and rewarding year.

We are well connected. We have support within our school's administration and have an advisor who is also the Ohio Region coordinator and who was just recognized internationally as a distinguished chapter advisor. I am serving as an Ohio Region officer. We have a CEO of Phi Theta Kappa, Lynn Tinchner-Ladner, who is aware of us and what we can achieve. Also, I, as well as another of our advisors, personally will have the opportunity to make connections within an Ohio Senator's office this fall as we've been asked to serve on a committee assisting Senator Brown's Office with the annual Propel Ohio Leadership Conference.

We are talented and motivated. Phi Theta Kappans are always smart, it's part of what defines us, but this year's officer corps as well as other members who have expressed an interest in being active seem to be especially ready to step forward and make a difference.

Tammy Monroe has served several years as an officer including years as treasurer and chapter president. She is returning this year as chapter engagement officer, and I can't think of a better choice to get our members eager to make a difference.

Connor Kennedy's web design instructor recommended he investigate a role with us. Connor is taking over as our new chapter webmaster and I'm eager to see what he can do to aid our online presence.

Ndidi Eboh is an international student who will be serving as our chapter treasurer. Her eagerness to serve is inspiring.

I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting our new recording secretary/newsletter editor, Ashley Moore. Ashley stepped in when our elected recording secretary/newsletter editor was forced to step away due to heavy class requirements this coming year. Ashley will be graduating at the end of fall semester so we won't get the pleasure of her service for the entire year but she appears poised and ready to get our year off to a great start. Our previous recording secretary and newsletter editor, Abbie Crawford, has been one of the finest officers I've had the pleasure to work with. I'm sure she'll be successful as she moves on in her academic pursuits.

Salma Abueteen is stepping in to the role of our new chapter vice president. Even before her first year, Salma was no stranger to Stark State as her father teaches Engineering at our school. Salma has been an active member of Stark's theater guild and is primed to be an excellent officer for our chapter.

I have previously served as chapter vice president and chapter webmaster. I am currently the Ohio Region Eastern District Representative and the college chapter president of the High Technology Crime Investigation Association (HTCIA).

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PRESIDENTS VISION (CONTINUED)

Written by Benjamin Nash

I am dedicated to doing my best to be a servant leader of our chapter. I will work to help put every member of our chapter who is interested (and make more interested) in positions to be successful contributors to Phi Theta Kappa and our campus community. I will always be respectful of your concerns and fight for your right to have an input into what your chapter does and how we do it. I may be running the meetings for the next year but I will do so in a way that protects every member's voice to the best of my ability. No officer's role is more important than any other officer's and no member, regardless of position, deserves more say than any other active member.

I do have a vision for this coming year that I hope you will share. If not, we can discuss ways in which it can be expanded or scaled back. My vision begins with the chapter officer corps. I understand that, as community college students we are all busy people with outside obligations and commitments. Phi Theta Kappa truly makes no additional demands on its members once our one-time dues are paid except that we take care of our own academic endeavors and continue to achieve as students. As officers, we have chosen to make the additional commitment of fulfilling the descriptions of our officer roles and being active members of our chapter. It is understood that we will not be able to always do all things, but an effort should be made by all officers to be active and take part in chapter activities on a regular basis. We do not each need to do everything, but we do need to communicate, to do some things, and to do those things well.

If the officers can set this example and all work together to make the basics of our chapter function and grow, other members will join us. You will join our meetings to have a say in what we are doing and learn details. You will maintain your grades in part to maintain your membership. You will apply for scholarships to help pay for your schooling and have your academic, leadership, and service achievements be recognized. You will come to conventions to learn and find new growth opportunities. You will participate in our projects to hone your research, potentially be published, and serve your community. You will come to service events to enrich your lives and the lives of others. You will come to fellowship events to have fun with new friends and forge bonds that could last a lifetime as well as acquaintanceships with other motivated and intelligent students that could eventually lead to career opportunities. You will come not because of any commitment but because, if we're filling our positions right, you will see how much your membership has to offer you beyond the stole, the stamp on your degree, and the line on your résumé.

With our participation heightened, we will have the personnel to create excellent, award-winning chapter projects that turn research about the power of stories into a strong service initiative and turn discussions with our college administrators into truly thoughtful and beneficial action aiding our campus community. With increased participation we can save many lives by registering bone marrow and blood stem cell donors through NMDP. We can also revisit past life-saving fundraisers such as participating in Relay for Life or Making Strides as we have in the past. We can find new opportunities to raise money or participate in charitable events that are meaningful for us. We could partner with a battered woman's shelter or build houses with Habitat for Humanity. The more members we have contributing, the more opportunities there will be to make a real difference and to step into leadership roles that will help you grow and gain confidence in your ability to guide others and change the world.

You don't need Phi Theta Kappa to do research or participate in civic service or become a leader. But the whole purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to find us and help us do exactly these things. It gives us backing, structure, support, funding, and opportunity to grow, lead, and serve. If you are already serving through other organizations that's great too. Phi Theta Kappa encourages cooperation so let's talk and see how we can help each other. The ways in which we can make a difference are only limited by our own imaginations.

If you've become a Phi Theta Kappan and were unsure about if it was an opportunity for you to do something more worthwhile, the answer is yes. If you were wondering when the time to become more active was, the answer is now. In the words of Rabbi Hillel the Elder, "If not us, who? If not now, when?" Phi Theta Kappa can and will help you. Step forward, lend your voice and dare to be great.



CURRENT PTK PROJECTS

Written by Abbie Crawford

As a chapter we have been very busy the past few months wrapping up our College Project and Honors in Action projects. Now that both of those projects are completed, it is time to start thinking about our new College Project and Honos in Action projects.

The Honors in Action theme for this year is storytelling. Dr. Revlock, one of our advisors created a survey and sent it to our current PTK members so we could all vote on what specific part of storytelling we would like to focus on. At the time of writing this there is currently a tie, if there continues to be a tie we will have members re-vote between the options that are tied at our next meeting! Either way we have began working on our new HIA project and with that we would like to see more PTK members get involved. If you are interested in working on the HIA project or helping us develop our focus topic please reach out to an officer or advisor so we can make sure all members voices are heard. So far we have had a few ideas presented to us for potential focus topics that fall under one of the broad storytelling categories that we voted on as a chapter, please continue to bring us your ideas!

In terms of the College Project at this very moment we don't know exactly which way we want to take it. We know that we need to narrow down an idea very soon that way we can present it to admin to fill them in with what our plans are and what we need from them. We would, again, like to see more members get involved with this project and we are asking all chapter members to please present their ideas if they have any. This is a great way to make a change on campus, and if there is something that you have been wanting to change or create, this is a great opportunity to do just that.

Once we have a solid plan for both our Honors in Action project and College Project we will be meeting with the proper administration to present our ideas to them and make sure they are supportive of our projects and goals. With this being said, get those ideas out there, and if you would like to get more involved with PTK both of these projects are the perfect opportunity to do so.

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CHAPTER ENGAGEMENT

Written by Tammy Monroe

Greetings Fellow PTKs!

I am Tammy Monroe, and I am your Chapter Engagement Officer for 2024-2025. My role as the Chapter Engagement officer is to reach out to you, our PTK members, and answer any questions you may have about PTK. Keep you up-to-date on any PTK activities, regional conference and Catalyst conference. Maybe you didn't know this, but PTK is more than just a club on Stark State campus. PTK is about making the most of your college experience, celebrating your academic achievements, and building network with other PTK members like yourself. As your Chapter Engagement Officer, I will be looking for ways to keep our members involved in upcoming events.

PTK gives you an opportunity to get involved with college projects, build your leadership skills, scholarship opportunities, hands-on leadership development, career and personal skills building. Joining PTK can be life-changing for many students. If you'd like to learn more, please reach out to me, or check out ptk.org.

I've been a member of PTK since 2020. As a PTK member, I have held the position as Treasurer and President. As a PTK member you have the opportunity to attend regional conferences that are held at various colleges around Ohio, and PTK Catalyst.

What is PTK Catalyst? PTK Catalyst is Phi Theta Kappa's premier annual event, bringing together members from all over the U.S., advisors, and their supporters for professional development and celebration of the accomplishments of our community. PTK Catalyst include immersive opportunities for personal and professional development, college transfer guidance from experts, speakers who inspire, election of leaders, and endless opportunities to network and learn from other members of the PTK community just like you.

See you soon!!!

Tammy Monroe
Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter
Chapter Engagement Officer

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PTK is about making the most of your college experience, celebrating your academic achievements, and building network with other PTK members like yourself.

NEW OFFICER INTRODUCTIONS



Written by Ndidi Eboh

Hello Stark State Phi Theta Kappans!

My name is Ndidi Eboh, and it is nice to be an officer of the Beta Gamma Epsilon executives. Last session, I had the privilege to serve the student community as the senator of the student government association. And it has been a wonderful experience and exposure. And I hoping to do even better in my new role as the treasurer for Beta Gamma Epsilon Officer. Thank you for this opportunity to serve!

I was recently admitted into the nursing school to study the Associate Degree Nursing program that will be commencing in Fall 2024. Moreso, I am hoping in the nearest future to transition to Akron University to continue with the accelerated bachelor nursing program. I am an international student from Nigeria where I have obtained a bachelor's degree in medical laboratory science. I have more than 8 years experience in marketing, sales, and procurement where I have developed leadership and management skills. I am looking at creating a niche for myself as an entrepreneur in the healthcare industry with the rise of Artificial intelligence.

I lived in Nigeria all my life but have travelled to Mauritius in East Africa and Ghana in West Africa. Since relocating to US, I live and will continue to live in Akron until I complete my BSN. I am hoping to make new memories and friends here in the US, and more so through this humble organization PTK, I can learn and adopt new cultures. I have heard so much about PTK from Tammy and I look forward to doing my very best while in service and working with the team.

While my name is not presented as such in most areas, it is Connor Kennedy. I am transmasculine. I hope to live up to everyone's expectations as the Chapter's Webmaster.

I started attending Stark State in hopes of becoming a Data Analyst, but have since rekindled my infatuation with general Computer Science. I enjoy working with websites and programs, though I'm very much still learning. I have a cat named Athena who likes to help me work, though mostly he likes to rest his head on my arm while I attempt to type. I've been interested in computers since I was young, but mainly focused on art, as it was easy and I was at a stage where I didn't want to do anything hard. At some point, something sparked and I somehow found myself starved for knowledge. I wanted enough of an understanding to some day make a computer from its very minerals.

This insatiable hunger was most definitely fueled by fear. As a space kid, learning about solar flares did not help. This fear of all the information in the world vanishing at the whims of some stranger's mal-intentions, or by the pure inescapability of the universe...it was suffocating. Graced with poor and ever worsening memory, I began to record and take notes on everything. If one day the world goes dark, I want to have everything at my hands to redisperse the light.

Written by Connor Kennedy

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This year, I have the privilege of serving as Chapter President. This chapter has some incredible advisors, a full officer team (which we haven't had for a while) that I'm energized to work with, a great member base that is just waiting to be activated, an incredible group of alumni that's eager to find ways to stay involved, and an extremely supportive college administration that has stepped up time after time to help us achieve our goals.

PRESIDENT INTRODUCTION

Written by Benjamin Nash

Hello, I'm Ben Nash and I am incredibly excited to be returning for my third year as an officer of Stark State's own Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. This year, I have the privilege of serving as Chapter President. This chapter has some incredible advisors, a full officer team (which we haven't had for a while) that I'm energized to work with, a great member base that is just waiting to be activated, an incredible group of alumni that's eager to find ways to stay involved, and an extremely supportive college administration that has stepped up time after time to help us achieve our goals.

For those who don't know me yet, I've been around this chapter for a while now. I was preceded as an active member of Phi Theta Kappa by my wife, Krystal. Besides Chapter President, I am also currently serving as the Eastern District Representative for the Ohio Region. I'm a non-traditional student (shorthand for older) who already has a bachelor's degree from Cleveland State University and who works full-time as a Parts Sales Manager at AutoZone in Canal Fulton. I just completed a certificate in training and development technology this spring and I will be continuing to work on my associate's degree in cyber security and digital forensics during the 2024-2025 academic year.

Krystal and I live in a house in Perry Township with our miniature poodle, Rory. We are sports fans who follow all Cleveland sports but are especially fond of the Guardians (baseball), and the Browns (football). We also enjoy reading (my favorite author right now is Brandon Sanderson), movies, theater, streaming, video games, playing or walking with Rory, Legos, and experimenting with my home computer lab. We enjoy spending time with family and friends, and I sincerely hope to count some of you amongst our friend group by the end of this year.

I am driven to do what I can this year to help our chapter excel because of a new sense of confidence Phi Theta Kappa has inspired in me and because of a desire to honor the memory of my younger sister who passed earlier this year in everything I take on. I would like to personally ask you all to do what you can to help. This is our chapter and we have a lot to achieve this coming year, but there are many of us and many hands working together can accomplish great things without putting too huge a burden on any individuals. If you're not familiar with all we do, get in touch with me or one of our advisors, Shari Brooks and David Sigmund. We'd be happy to share what's going on and help you find a way to contribute that interests you and fits the time demands of your life.

WEBPAGE UPDATES

Written by Benjamin Nash

It has been my pleasure to serve this last year as Beta Gamma Epsilon's webmaster. I am ready to move on to other duties, but I leave our website in excellent hands with our incoming webmaster, Connor Kennedy. As a last obligation in this role, I'd like to share some of the changes that have been made to our website.

First, the Landing Page has been changed from jumping right into facts about our chapter and Phi Theta Kappa to pictures of our campus locations and rotating Phi Theta Kappa splash ads. This will hopefully add some color, interest and willingness for visitors to dig deeper into the site.

The Calendar on the site has been updated to show all known events, their times, their dates, and their locations. All members should be able to rely on the website events calendar as a source of information regarding what is going on with our chapter and where and how they can participate.

A video was placed on the Why Become a Member page to encourage people to join and become active. More detailed Information was added to the How Do I Become a Member page.

A page has been added advising members on the best ways to get involved with the chapter. These suggestions run from checking Phi Theta Kappa Email to see what's going on to running for office, studying PTK Edge Program, or participating in our chapter projects.

A page has been added to highlight our current service projects. Right now, it focuses on the National Marrow Donorship Program (NMDP), but other organizations and initiatives can be added as we get involved serving our community.

This Bugle Newsletter has its own page on the website. This page lets visitors connect to and read the current Bugle Newsletter as well as looking at archived newsletters from the past. One task I never got to that I hope can be implemented soon is a search for hard and digital copies of older newsletters to flesh out our archives as much as possible.

Our Chapter Bylaws have been updated. The most current version is available on the website.

Our scholarships page has links to the best sources for Phi Theta Kappa oriented scholarships.

Our Officers page has the names and pictures of our 2023-2024 officers. I'll leave this for Connor to update when our new officer corps is sworn in. Ideally, I'd love to see short bios and emails added here as well.

Our FAQ page has been updated to provide accurate information about chapter membership requirements as well as regional leadership.

Finally, we have more recent posts added so people can see what we've been up to recently.

It's been fun being our chapter webmaster. I enjoyed improving our site and brushing up a bit on my html. I know Connor will step in and do an excellent job for us during the 2024-2025 academic year and I'm excited to see what Connor does to improve upon what I left.



Stark State Phi Theta Kappa

<https://www.starkstateptk.org>

Stark State Phi Theta Kappa: Welcome!

Welcome to the homepage of Stark State College's own ΦΘΚ (Phi Theta Kappa) chapter, BΓΕ (Beta Gamma Epsilon)!

[Ohio Phi Theta Kappa License Plate](#) · [About](#) · [Membership](#) · [Chapter Events](#)

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I am looking forward to seeing all the great things our chapter does after I leave, and I encourage you all to continue to get involved and take advantage of the opportunities in front of you.

GOODBYE PTK

Written by Abbie Crawford

As some of you may know, this is my last semester being a part of Phi Theta Kappa as I will be graduating high school and attending Ohio State University in the fall. With that being said, I feel like Phi Theta Kappa needs a special shout-out. As a CCP student at Stark State, I have never been fully involved with what is going on at campus, but Phi Theta Kappa went out of their way to welcome me to join them. Due to this, I have had the opportunity to work on things and with people that I would have never gotten to!

Since joining Phi Theta Kappa I have been able to help work on our College Project, Honors in Action Project, celebrate 20 years as a 5-star chapter, complete some PTK Edge, and get to help publish quarterly newsletters for the Bugle! By getting involved with our chapter I got to be a part of all of these projects, and that is why I want to encourage everyone eligible or already a member to get involved with Phi Theta Kappa. The opportunities are endless and we are constantly looking for more members to get involved. Whether you sign up for an officer position or help pack up books one afternoon for Better World Books, your help is greatly appreciated by everyone in Phi Theta Kappa.

Before I leave though I do have a few special shout-outs:

Shari- Thank you for being so welcoming and positive. Your constant encouragement and support for our chapter is evident, and I know that without you our chapter would struggle.

Tammy- Thank you for helping me step out of my comfort zone when it came to signing up for Phi Theta Kappa, and becoming an officer. Without your push for me to become an officer, I would have probably been a pretty uninvolved member.

Ben- Thank you for always being helpful and showing up with a smile on your face. Your help over the last few semesters, when it came to answering all Phi Theta Kappa-related questions, has been greatly appreciated.

I am looking forward to seeing all the great things our chapter does after I leave, and I encourage you all to continue to get involved and take advantage of the opportunities in front of you.

ADVISORS CORNER

Written by Dr. Therese Revlock, Shari Brooks, and Dave Sigmund

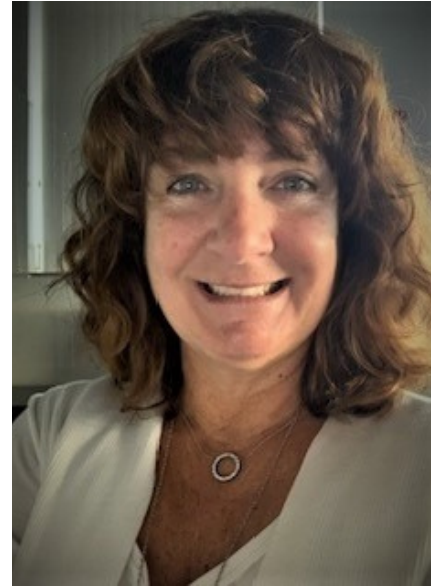
As a Phi Theta Kappa Chapter, we have so much to celebrate! For the 20th consecutive year, Stark State College's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society earned the Five Star Chapter Award, presented at the recent Ohio Region Awards Convention and PTK Catalyst in Columbus. Dave Sigmund, co-advisor of the Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, won the Dr. Mary Navarro Most Distinguished Advisor Award and the Advising Milestone Award. He also earned the Most Distinguished Advisor Award at the international level and received recognition at the PTK Catalyst Convention in Orlando, Florida.

In addition, two of our PTK Chapter member were among 56 students from Ohio's 23 community colleges honored for their excellence in academics, leadership and community service as part of the 2024 All-Ohio Academic Team. Jeannine Fritz and I'Kia Martin were named third team All-Ohio Academic Team. The program is a partnership between the Ohio Association of Community Colleges (OACC), Phi Theta Kappa national honor society and event sponsor Honda.

Other Stark State PTK honors included:

- Named Top Ten Chapter
- Order of Athena Chapter Officer Award: Benjamin Nash and Abigail Crawford
- Honors in Action Theme Award: Economics of Play
- First Runner up: Honors in Action Project
- Nominated and elected as the 2024-25 Eastern District Representative for the Ohio
- Region: Benjamin Nash

We have so much to celebrate because of your hard work. Let's keep working hard and celebrating together. Congratulations Beta Gamma Epsilon!



Help support Ohio Region Scholarships!



Vehicle Type: passenger vehicles, non-commercial trucks, recreational vehicles, house vehicles and non-commercial trailers

Fees: \$25.00 contribution, \$10.00 BMV

Eligibility: any Ohio motorist

Ohio Revised Code: **4503.505**

June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	Officer Training	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6						

July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	Fall Semester Begins	26	27	28	29	30
31						