

Terri Rice
President

Verner Cartledge
Vice President- Membership

Q. DeShawne Boyd
Recording Secretary

Donna Douglas
Corresponding Secretary

Nelsonna Barnes
Treasurer

Shanna Bell Ahmad
Financial Secretary

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Rachelle Breckenridge
Parliamentarian

Kenya Cox
Chaplain

Angela Scott
Chapter Programs

Prisca Barnes
Archivist/Historian

Crystal Turner
Technology

APPOINTED CHAIRS

Sharon Cranford
The Arts

Joy Barnes
International Trends and
Services

Teketa Harding
National Trends and
Services

Joi Lee
Health and Human Services

Carla Breckenridge
Services to Youth

Delia Shropshire
Beautillion Scholars, Chair

Jennifer Jones
Ethics and Standards

Cokie Diggs
Organizational Effectiveness

Chapter Meeting
Saturday, April 27 – 10:00am - noon
Terradyne Country Club

Special Dress: Red, Green and/or Black Attire to celebrate Sankofa Beautillion 44

AGENDA

Call to Order – Link Terri Rice, President (2 min)

Linkspiration & Prayer – Link Delia Shropshire (3 mins)

Links Pledge & Song (3 mins)

Roll Call & Approval of Agenda – Link Shawne Boyd, Recording Secretary (5 mins)

Correspondence – Link Donna Douglas, Corresponding Secretary (5 mins)

President's Report – Link Terri Rice, President (7 mins)

Vice-President's – Membership Report – Link Verner, Vice President (5 mins)

Financial Report – Link Nelsonna Barnes, Treasurer (10 mins total)

Amenities - Link Joi Lee, Chair (5 mins)

Organizational Effectiveness - Link Cokie Diggs, Chair (15 mins)
Team Effectiveness

Health & Human Services - Link Joi Lee, Chair (13 mins) **(11:00am)**
Organ Donor Awareness in the Black Community

Chapter Programming – (15 mins total)

Link Sharon Cranford, Chair Arts

Link Joy Barnes, Chair ITS

Link Teketa Harding, Chair NTS

Link Carla Breckenridge, Chair STY

Beautillion Scholars – Link Delia Shropshire, Chair (25 mins)
Celebrate Good Times...Come On!!!

Announcements (5 mins)

Friendship Activity – Link Tiffinie (2 mins) -- *April Showers"*

Closing – Meeting Adjourned

Links Recipe for Friendship

Blend lively conversation, head back laughter, work and fun together.

Slowly add trust and acceptance and mix well.

Stirring gently, soften with teardrops, tender heartedness.

Sweeten with empathy and understanding.

Sprinkle generously with your favorite memories, prayers and well wishes.

*Decorate with hugs, high 5s, fist bumps and smiles and **ENJOY!***



April Reports

President (Link Terri)

- Reminder to check The Links, Inc., National website for updates from Link Kim re: complaints filed against The Links, Inc. and certain individual Link members.
- National Programming team working on updated programs for next year. The goal is to have them ready for local chapter 2019/2020 facet planning. Possible retreat activity.
- Links History book coming by November 2019 – all members will receive a copy,
- If you're attending Area Conf – please let me know. Attendee list to be kept. Volunteers needed. Ad for commemorative book due June 3. Community service project – 500 packets of compilation of hygiene bags to be distributed to young women in Nashville. Items requested info to be shared in separate document.
- New fiscal year begins May 1!
- Final chapter meeting of the 2018/2019 year – June 1. Final year-end reports due. *FFL winner to be announced!*
- Reminder to stay in the know with Monday's Minutes and Chapter GroupMe. I, along with Link Crystal and Link Donna Douglas welcome any news, updates, happenings, etc. to share with the chapter.

Vice-President / Membership (Link Verner)

- LOA letters – updates
- 2018/2019 chapter service hours results
- Friendship activities questionnaire

Corresponding Secretary (Link Donna D)

AAMEI Donation - \$500 Electrical Systems

AAMEI Donation - \$5000 Spirit Aerosystems

Three Action Items from March Meeting

1. Pink & White Jazz evening sponsored by Witnessing in the Heartland (May 18 – sponsor levels range from \$50 -\$800
2. Riverfest / Gospelfest (June 3 – sponsor levels range from \$200-\$7500 --- Link Teketa is on the Board)
3. Sigma Gamma Rho Scholarship Gala – Silent Auction basket

Financial Report and Treasurer Report to be uploaded to Chapter Website – Members Only Section (Link Shanna and Link Nelsonna)

Technology Report (Link Crystal)

- Reminders sent for Links, Beaux and Special Mentors for Rites of Passage
- Certificates for Rites of Passage printed
- Reminder sent for Expense Voucher Process including the current Voucher

To Do: Spring Refresh for website

The Arts (Link Sharon) (2018/2019 Year-end Report)

Members: Link Sharon Hill Cranford, Chairman, Links Prisca Barnes, Latricia Brown, Donna Douglas, Sheila Kinnard, Joymesia Lee, Donna wright, Jo Brown and Maggie Johnson, members

The Arts Facet was responsible for spearheading our chapter's 50th anniversary celebrations. We are grateful to have accomplished the following tasks:

LIBRARY COLLECTION AND PROGRAMMING:

Some of the major accomplishments:

- Collection of 50 years of Wichita Links' artifacts and memorabilia and assisting Wichita library staff in displaying them throughout the Wichita Public library, May – September 15, 2018.
- Develop and present the archival Opening and exhibit of Links artifacts, September 15, 2018.
- Develop and preside over the 50th anniversary Public Program and Brunch at the Wichita downtown Library, the first of its kind in the new advanced Learning Library of Wichita. The program featured the Director of Libraries, city and community leaders, September 15, 2018.

THE 50th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON AND PROGRAM

Some of the major accomplishments for the December 16, 2018 Luncheon/Program included:

- Preparations, including correspondence with program participants, Emcee, public officials for proclamations etc., as well as Links Area Director, July – December, 2018.
- On-going communications with Hyatt hotel and culinary staff, site of luncheon
- 3-4 Proclamations and Special recognitions
- Music, including Links a Chapter chant sung at luncheon
- Decorations
- Speaker's airfare, lodging, food etc.
- Videos/Photography
- Ticket Oversight
- Gifts for dignitaries
- Awards for 25+ year Links
- Publicity
- Involvement and oversight of 2018-19 Beau Scholar hosting duties
- Script development
- Prelude videos and uplighting
- Organization/oversight of program

Other Art Facet Responsibilities:

The Art facet was also responsible for creating and implementing the Beautillion Presentation and Awards Night, March 24, 2019:

The writing of the play, script development and curriculum creation began in September and was completed December, 2018, for the March 24, 2019 presentation, which showcased 14 of Wichita's best and brightest African American male high school seniors called Beau scholars and four young men in middle school, called Youth and Rising scholars.

Beginning January 6, 2019, with weekly workshops that encompassed three phases of music preparation: writing and adapting the theme song in the tune of "Stand By Me", teaching the song to the beau scholars and exposing them to a session singing and recording their newly learned music at a local recording studio.

Utilizing the theme, "Sankofa: Reclaiming Our Culture" the Arts Facet chairman wrote a one-act play, which was enacted by the beau scholars. Further, emphasizing the need to go back and learn our history and cultural gifts to achieve greatness, each beau scholar was charged with learning some aspect of Black history and/or civic responsibility and expound upon it through words and actions in the play. Following the play, all participants (14 beau scholars and 4 youth and rising scholars) were engaged in a talent exposition which included oratory, vocal music dance and drumming, all highlighting Black prowess in the Arts.

Each aspect of the study, rehearsal and presentation of the scholars thematic reclaiming of their culture was created, taught and crafter for the stage by the Arts facet, including costuming.

National Initiatives:

Art Facet members were engaged in a number of artistic endeavors in 2018, including:

- Oct. 15 – Contributions to Women In the Arts
 - Participation in the Storytime Village presentation and songwriting debut concerning the Dockum Sit-in at the Wichita Public Library. This event, sponsored by Link Prisca Barnes was aired on KPTS and featured Links Cranford, Kinnard, Johnson Turner and Shropshire. It also highlighted the Wichita Links' work with the Holy Savior Academy.
- Nov. 18 – Black Arts on Parade
 - Support of the ARISE 30th Anniversary Workshop and Concert held Nov. 17 and 18, 2018 at Saint Mark UMC.

Health & Human Services (Link Joi)

- Partnering with Midwest Transplant Network (MTN) to support April's National Donate Life Month
- Currently involved with the churches in the black community to introduce organ donor awareness, by showing the video during the month of April while the announcements are being shown.
- To further educate and bring awareness, video will be shown at the April Chapter Meeting.

International Trends and Services (Link Joy B)

AFRICAN Market Place- Friday, May 3 at 7pm Home of Link Fannette Thornhill-Scott

- Links Friendship Activity: Waist Beading and “Sip and Shop”
- ITS Committee members will meet on Thursday, May 2 and Friday, May 3 help set up Marketplace, serve as hostesses, and display the Wichita Links contributions To Project Ghana (monetary and through in-kind donations). A visual display of photographs and videos from our local contributions will be on display during the weekend for the Community Marketplace as well.

Project Ghana Packing Party Donation Drive- (January-June 2019)- Friday, June 7 at 6:30pm-Until Home of Link Fannette Thornhill-Scott

- ITS will be lead facet and propose integrated facet project by asking other facets to donate towards hygiene kits to pack and send to village in Ghana. ITS will also secure local donations and ask other community organizations to partner. Contact NPHC for support/donations.
- **2019 Links Inter-facet Service Project (Goal: 200 care packages for Ghana, Africa)**
 - ITS: Feminine Hygiene Items
 - NTS: Deodorant
 - ARTS: Shampoo & Conditioner/Haircare
 - STY: Soap
 - HHS: Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Floss

BACK TO SCHOOL ENROLLMENT- at Dunbar Learning Center-JULY/AUGUST 2019 (July 29-August 2)

- SCHOOL UNIFORM DONATIONS: MENU OF SIZES AND ACCEPTABLE UNIFORM ATTIRE FOR REFUGEE STUDENTS IN NEED (Sizes for students’ grades K-8)
 - khakis/black/navy blue pants/skirts/shorts
 - White, Red, Navy Blue, Black polo tops; cardigans; sweatshirts (without hoods)
 - School Spirit Shirts
 - School supplies and backpacks will be donated from Link Fannette (Nananom Foundation LLC)

LINKS INTERNATIONAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS EMPOWERMENT FOR YOUTH (LIFE) PROGRAM

-Proposal: Work with West High School GEAR UP students/ AAMEI Scholars starting Spring 2020 (TBD)

-Proposal: Inter-Facet with NTS (Bullying/Human Trafficking) and STY (STEM)

- The LIFE program is designed to expose minority high school students, grades 9-10, to career possibilities in foreign affairs and international business (corporate and state department jobs, and Foreign Service appointments.) Chapters of The Links, Incorporated partner with local high school, college and university faculty and administrators to implement a two-week program curriculum which includes site visits, guest speakers, webcasts and case studies on business and foreign service.
- Weekly (or Bi-Weekly) activities group meetings with refreshments and group t-shirts.
- Lessons include but are limited to:

○ Foreign Languages (Greetings, Thank You, etc.)	○ What is the United Nations (UN)?
	○ Global Anti-Bullying/Human Trafficking

- Global STEM Innovations (from youth/young adults)
- Financial Literacy: Global Poverty
- Closing Ceremony

- **Rites of Passage Ceremony- Saturday, April 20 at 1:00-3:00pm, WSU: 266 PIKE Room**
 - Conduct Ritual (Provide materials needed for ritual) Serve as hostess-greeters, help as needed.

National Trends and Services Facet (*Link Teketa*)

NTS Facet members met via conference call on Monday, April 15, 2019.

Facet members were reminded about the upcoming Rites of Passage ceremony for the Beau Scholars. Debriefed on the “went wells” and “not so well” the night of Beautillion. The main takeaway from the call was the sense of urgency regarding the tuxes. It will be mandatory for ALL Mentors in the future to wear tuxes. If no tux, no escorting as a Mentor.

National Initiatives

- Trash Talking Bullying – Link Angela working on Anti-bullying proposal for partnership with USD259. The plan is to have partnership secured by the Links Retreat, so we will be able to implement during the upcoming chapter season.
- Facet to work on Human Trafficking partnership with Wichita State University. Link Annie working on securing partnership to implement in the fall.

FFL

- Facet sent special greeting cards to all sister links on the roster to let them know we love and admire them.

Services to Youth (*Link Carla*)

- STY will meet with Bossgirls 5th Grade Empowerment Group at Buckner Performing Arts & Elementary on at on Wednesday, May 15, 2019.
 - A. Bossgirls final lesson and celebration will conclude with a Becoming a Lady Manners and Etiquette Class with Mrs. Natalie Toney.
 - B. Bossgirls Empowerment group on Thursday, Wednesday, May 15th @ 12:30 – 1:30. Sister Links are welcome to attend.
 - C. Meetings are held twice monthly at Buckner during the lunch/recess period.
 - D. STY supports Bossgirls through our Services to Youth Facet program, Project L.E.A.D. Links Educate, Accommodate and Develop with High Expectations The program goals include:
 - *Promote health and wellness with youth, families and communities
 - *Involve and empower youth to become leaders in violence prevention
 - *Developing effective mentoring relationships between children and positive adult role models
 - *Prepare and promote college readiness
- Working on completing a grant application to fund future projects.
- Determining how we will partner with Wichita Public Schools with two programs Early College Academy and BAASE (Better Academics and Social Excellence) is a distinguished club for male middle school students and The Greater Wichita Junior Football League Summer Program.
- The next STY Facet Meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 @7:00 pm. Please use this conference call information for conference calls: Conference Call access: Dial: (605) 472-5400 Access code: 355800

Beautillion (*Link Delia*)

- Sankofa, Sankofa, Sankofa – wrap up celebration April 27, 2019 at the end of chapter meeting
 - a) Share successes and opportunities
 - b) Thank you to all Sister Links!
 - i) Dream Team II, Tickets, Presentation, Logistics/Doris Lee, Beau, Belle and Mentor Chairs and committees, Technology and Communications, Souvenir Journal
- APRIL 20 BEAUX SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION & RITES OF PASSAGE CEREMONY 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. -Beaux Scholars, Parents, Special Mentors in attendance (Beaux to Wear Kente Stoles; Distribution of Scholarships, Awards) at WSU – great job ITS! 13 beaux in attendance – 1 had a Forensics competition
- APRIL 4 Visit WSU hosted by the men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated and WSU – fabulous!
- March 23, 2019 Beautillion XLIV – It was wonderful – people are saying, “one of the best”!
- MARCH 22-DRESS REHEARSAL Century II Concert Hall- Beaux and Belles 5:00 p.m. -Rising and Youth Scholars 5:30 p.m-Parents & Mentors 6:00 p.m.
- March 21 Century II Concert Hall 4:00-5:30 pm Technical Rehearsal; all of presentation committee, Joseph and Charles -Chapter meeting 6 -7p Holy Savior Catholic Academy -Final Ad Turn in 7:15pm - 8:30pm
- March 17, 2019 Y&R ROP- cookies and punch served –Certificates and Sankofa Bracelets awarded
- March 17, 2019 Final Sunday Rehearsal
- March 16 Fun Day with the Links- What a Blast! One of the beaux cited this event as his best memory!