

The Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter of  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
2009 Jabberwock Participant Handbook



*Serving the community since 1927*

**Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter of  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

**Jabberwock Participant Handbook**

**Table of Contents**

Introduction

- Welcome Letter
- History of Jabberwock

Eligibility Requirements

Schedule of Activities

Financial Information

- Criteria For Winning
- Souvenir Book
- Fundraising
- Collection of Funds

Attire Guidelines

Appendix

- Jabberwock Agreement of Participation
- Liability Release
- Participant Registration Form
- Commitment Fee Submittal Form
- Escort Form
- Tentative Collection Schedule
- Contact Information

**Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

December 14, 2008

Dear Participant,

On behalf of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter, we thank you for your interest in the 2009 Jabberwock Pageant. We welcome you to the information reception, the initial step toward creating memories of a lifetime.

Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter is excited about the 2009 Jabberwock Pageant.

We have put together this handbook to provide you with an overview of the participation requirements and activities. Additional information will be provided over the course of the program to keep you engaged and well informed.

The culminating event will be held on November 14, 2009. The committee has already begun working diligently to provide you with cultural and educational experiences that we hope you will find enriching.

We look forward to working with you in the coming months.

And again, WELCOME!

Sincerely,

Victoria A. Mosley Rivers  
President, Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Brenda Norman  
Jabberwock Co-Chairperson

Natasha Taylor-Smith  
Jabberwock Co-Chairperson

## **History of The Jabberwock**

The Jabberwock is a traditional program of Delta Sigma Theta. Members of Iota Chapter presented the first Jabberwock in 1925 in Boston, Massachusetts, in an effort to find some new method of raising money for the chapter's scholarship fund. Marion Hope Conover of Iota Chapter conceived the idea of a variety show with skits, dances, and songs in competition for prizes for varying amounts. She called this new kind of show a "Jabberwock." The Jabberwock is a mythical character in a Lewis Carroll's tale.

The first Jabberwock was an immediate success, and the idea caught on with many chapters of Delta Sigma Theta. Today, the Jabberwock is considered a Delta institution, and many local communities eagerly anticipate the event. Delta has been given exclusive use of the name by the U.S. Government.

Jabberwock funds are earmarked for scholarships to be given by the sponsoring chapter to young people of promise and ability, and for public service projects. Additionally, the Jabberwock offers encouragement and practical help with talent development for groups and individuals from preschool to adult age-level.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to be eligible to participate in the Jabberwock, all participants must meet the following requirements:

- Be a resident of the Tri-State area (PA, NJ, DE)
- Be a high school student (grades 9-11)
- Plan to attend a post-secondary institution
- Wear required conservative formal attire at the pageant as outlined in subsequent pages and appropriate attire to additional activities
- Escorts are required to wear conservative black tuxedo
- Attend a minimum of 75% of related functions and activities held between January 2009 and November 2009.
- Provide a 250 word essay responding to the question: "Since the 2008 election season, What do I see as my role in today's society?"
- Sign and submit the Jabberwock Agreement and Release of Liability forms (these forms should also include the signature of a parent or legal guardian).
- Submit a non-refundable commitment fee of \$100

The commitment fee will cover costs for:

- Participant entry requirements
- Two (2) guest tickets to the Jabberwock event
- Cultural Event for participant and escort
- Performance Rehearsals
- Communication/Etiquette Workshop for participant and escort
- Other Monthly Activities

All required paperwork must be mailed to the following address and must be delivered or postmarked by **February 7, 2009**:

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
c/o Jabberwock  
P.O. Box 2356  
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004-6356**

## **2009 JABBERWOCK TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

Jabberwock performance rehearsals will begin in March and continue weekly until the night of the event. Contestants and escorts must attend scheduled rehearsals. Participants should be on time for all activities and events associated with Jabberwock.

<b>February</b>	<b>Ad Book Workshop</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>Sponsor/Contestant/Parent Workshop</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>Economic Development Conference</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Etiquette Workshop</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Communications Workshop</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Public Service Project</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>Summer Get Together</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Cultural Event/Rehearsals Begin</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>College Tour</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Culminating Event</b>

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Criteria for Winning

1. Winners are determined by the highest monies raised, minimum \$1000, in ads and donations and ticket sales\*.
2. There will be three (3) winners: First Place, First Runner Up and Second Runner Up, receiving 25%, 20%, and 15% of their monies raised, respectively.
3. All other participants who raise a minimum of \$1000 in ads and donations (combined) will receive 10% of their monies raised.
4. All participants who complete the Jabberwock activities (including the culminating event) will receive a \$100 savings bond regardless of the amount of funds raised.

### Souvenir Journal

The souvenir program books will be developed from ads provided by each participant, event information and formal portraits that the committee will arrange. The ads may come from family, friends, churches, businesses, civic organizations, etc., all giving congratulatory expressions to the participants. Your Delta sponsors will assist you with the details.

### 2009 Ad prices are as follows:

	<u>Without Photo</u>	<u>With Photo</u>
• Full Page	\$125.00	\$150.00
• Half (1/2) Page	75.00	\$100.00
• Fourth (1/4) Page	50.00	N/A
• Eighth (1/8) Page	25.00	N/A
• Patrons	10.00	N/A
<b>Gold Page</b>	\$250.00	
<b>* Inside Front/Back Cover</b>	\$350.00	N/A

\*Note: Available on a first come, first served basis; only one available

### Fundraising

Fundraising ideas may come from many sources. Some suggestions are:

- Merchandise Parties (Jewelry, prints, etc.)
- Bake Sales
- Raffles
- Candy Sales
- Entertainment Books
- Shopping Trips
- Skating Parties
- Bowling Parties
- Selling Merchandise at Events

---

\* Only tickets sold before the final collection deadline will count toward participants totals.

The possibilities for raising funds are endless. If you have any questions, please consult the committee. We want you to be successful in accomplishing these goals.

### **Use Of Sorority Name**

Participants should only use the name “DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY or DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, PHILADELPHIA ALUMNAE CHAPTER”, in the following manner: “I’m participating in the Jabberwock pageant sponsored by Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.”). Participants may not use the Delta Sigma Theta symbols for any other purpose. Please consult the Jabberwock Committee or your Delta sponsors for any further clarification.

### **General Information**

Receipts will be issued to you for all monies received. Participants should maintain copies of all receipts. A final review of ads will be held with representatives from the Jabberwock Finance Committee, the participant and the parent/legal guardian to verify all monies, prior to the culminating event.

COMMITMENT FEE monies ONLY may be mailed to the Chapter. Other funds raised must be turned in at designated collection times.

Please use the following address:

**Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
Attn: Jabberwock Committee  
P.O. Box 2356  
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004-6356**

### **Funds Raised**

Designated times and locations will be provided to collect all monies. These dates will allow you to avoid holding checks and large sums of money.

All required ad forms should be filled out completely and accurately. Participant’s name must appear on the memo line of all checks to ensure proper processing and credit. All checks should be made payable to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Participants are responsible for ALL fees associated with any checks they submit if they are returned. The amount of the dishonored check and associated fees will be deducted from the participant’s total should the issue not be resolved.

## **Event Tickets**

The ticket price for the event is \$20 per person. This price will include entry to the event. Tickets will be available in September. The participant will be given two (2) tickets, which are included in the commitment fee. All other guests will need to purchase tickets. Tickets sold by participants prior to the final funds collection deadline will be included in her totals. Tickets sold thereafter will not.

## JABBERWOCK ATTIRE GUIDELINES

### Dress:

- Formal, floor length, pure white
- Full or A-Line skirt
- No revealing necklines
- No cleavage
- No strapless dresses without an appropriate wrap
- No trains of any kind
- No low-cut backs
- No extravagant accessories (such as feathers, rope, fringes, etc.)
- All dresses will be reviewed by the committee prior to the event

### Accessories:

- No watches
- No bracelets
- No rings
- (For hair) No flowers, bows or tiaras, but small decorative combs and small white pearl hairpins are acceptable

### Shoes:

- Basic white with heel between 1.0 to 2.5 inches
- Plain white sheer pantyhose

### Suggested:

- Conservative, age appropriate make-up

### ESCORTS

- Black Tuxedo with black formal accessories to include vest and bow tie
- White winged-tip shirt
- Black dress shoes and socks
- No boots or sneakers

### General Attire

There will be an activity each month. **Unless otherwise announced, participants are expected to wear business casual attire**, which includes dress pants, slacks or conservative length skirts and dresses. Some activities may be more relaxed, therefore jeans and other casual attire will be acceptable. When uncertain, please contact a committee member.

**Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

**JABBERWOCK PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT**

I \_\_\_\_\_, agree to participate in the 2009 Jabberwock and all other required functions in conjunction with the 2009 Jabberwock, sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter.

I also agree to adhere to the following guidelines of the contest:

1. Be a resident of the Tri-State areas (PA, NJ, DE)
2. Be a high school student (grades 9-11)
3. Plan to attend a post-secondary institution
4. Wear required conservative formal attire at the pageant as outlined in subsequent pages and appropriate attire to additional activities
5. Escort required to wear conservative black tuxedo
6. Attend a minimum of 75% of related functions and activities held between February 2009 and November 2009.
7. Provide a 250 word essay responding to the question: "Since the 2008 election season, what is my role in today's society?"
8. Sign and submit the Jabberwock Agreement and Release of Liability forms (these forms should also include the signature of the parents or legal guardian).
9. Wear required conservative long, white dress with appropriate white shoes and accessories as outlined by the guidelines regarding formal attire for the Jabberwock event.
10. Attend all required rehearsals along with my escort
11. Pay a non-refundable commitment fee of \$100. The Commitment fee will cover costs for:
  - Two (2) guest tickets to the Jabberwock event
  - Cultural Event for participant and escort
  - Performance Rehearsals
  - Communication/Etiquette Workshop for participant and escort
  - Other Monthly Activities

12. I understand that there will be three winners, Miss Jabberwock, First Runner Up and Second Runner Up. The Participant who has attended a minimum of 75% of all activities and events and raised the most money in advertisements, donations and ticket sales\* will be Miss Jabberwock, with a minimum of \$1000. First, Second, and Third place will receive 25%, 20% and 15% respectively of the monies she raised. All other participants who raise a minimum of \$1000 in advertisements and donations (combined) will receive 10% of their monies raised. All participants will receive a \$100 savings bond. (The \$100 entry fee is NOT included in the \$1000 minimum).
  
13. Not use the name “DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY or DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. PHILADELPHIA ALUMNAE CHPATER” during the solicitation of funds. If used incorrectly, Participant may be disqualified from the Jabberwock Pageant and all monies forfeited.

General Statement of Conduct: Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter has the right to disqualify any participant if the above criteria are not met and/or for inappropriate actions as determined by Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter.

Signatures:

Jabberwock Participant	Date	Legal Guardian of Participant	Date
------------------------	------	-------------------------------	------

---

\* Only tickets sold before the fund collection deadline will count toward participants totals.

**Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.**

**JABBERWOCK RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

I \_\_\_\_\_, give my permission for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Participant) to participate in the 2009 Jabberwock and all other required functions in  
conjunction with the 2009 Jabberwock, sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.,  
Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter. I understand that during these activities and events in which  
Participant, myself or any other member of my family participates, I will agree to release the  
Sorority and/or Chapter from any and all liability. I also agree to allow photographs of  
Participant to be used in promotional materials for the program.

In the event of emergency please contact me at:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Participant \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

An alternate emergency contact:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Participant \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/ Legal Guardian of Participant Date

**Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
2009 Jabberwock**

**PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION FORM**

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Activities, Organizations, Honors: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Career Ambition \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

---

**FOR JABBERWOCK COMMITTEE USE ONLY:**

Date Received (Initials)

Commitment Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Agreement \_\_\_\_\_

Release of Liability Form \_\_\_\_\_

Transcript \_\_\_\_\_

**Philadelphia Alumnae Chapter  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
2009 Jabberwock**

**ESCORT REGISTRATION FORM**

Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Escort Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Activities, Organizations, Honors: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Career Ambition \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_