



## Five Star Programming Ideas

Alumnae groups should focus their programming on meeting their membership needs in the areas of sisterhood, membership, community, Foundation and networking. Remember that one event can fall into multiple areas of the Five Star Programming model.

Alumnae groups should also keep in mind the Fraternity Standards for Alumnae Groups Standard #11:

Fulfilling all required programming expectations in a thoughtful and intentional way.

- Groups that are alumnae chapters hold at least 6 events per year. Groups that are alumnae associations hold at least 3 events per year.
- Group officers plan a variety events that are inclusive of all generations utilizing the Five Star Programming Model with events focused in each of the programming areas: sisterhood, membership, community, Foundation, and networking.
- Group officers shall make every reasonable attempt to attend the events hosted by the alumnae group.
- Group officers actively seek feedback from members on programming satisfaction.
- Group officers have added all alumnae group events to their group's Anchorbase calendar.

We encourage you to use the below programming ideas to inspire events that you feel would benefit your membership.

## SISTERHOOD

### Athletic Gatherings:

- Play 9 holes of golf or driving range night
- Ice skating
- Hiking
- 5k run/walk, marathon, warrior dash
- Attend a sporting event together
- Dance or exercise Class (Zumba, Pure Barre, Yoga, Pilates)
- River rafting or sailing
- Scavenger hunt
- Samba, Latin or line dance night (learn the dance and its origin)

### Casual Gatherings:

- Pumpkin painting party
- Apple orchard picking
- Bunco night
- Soup & salad supper, taco dinner (Build your own), pasta night,
- New Member Dinners (everyone brings a dish and leftovers go to new members)
- Holiday Tea, cookie or ornament exchange, White Elephant gift exchange (ensuring all member's respective holidays are represented)
- Wine tasting or wine & paint night
- Movie night
- Young alumnae happy hour
- Dinner with a Collegiate Development Consultant (CDC) if one is visiting a chapter in your area
- Haunted house tour
- Cooking class
- Small Plates & Big Taste (learn new appetizer recipes, wine pairings and entertaining ideas)
- Photography class (get photography tips and tricks from a professional photographer)
- Potluck progressive dinner
- DG Olympics (hold events like an anchor egg toss, hula hoop contest, or DG trivia)
- Kentucky Derby Day (go to race track with big hats and/or host a themed event)
- Karaoke or trivia night
- Getting Crafty (make a craft that all members can participate in like door wreath, shirts, or jewelry)
- Poker and pizza night
- Tailgate with another alumnae group at a football
- Crochet and Lemonade (teach crocheting and sipping lemonade outside)
- Summer social in the city (host at a restaurant with outside seating)
- Fall color walk and coffee
- Star-gazing soiree (bring star maps and binoculars and some blankets)

**Collumnae Gatherings: (All events must be without alcohol)**

- Song night (teach chapter members official Delta Gamma songs and chants)
- Homecoming parade and collegiate open house
- Pizza night
- Ice cream social
- Dinner with a Collegiate Development Consultant (CDC) at the chapter facility or with chapter members
- Host or attend a PRO Speaker with a collegiate chapter (resources available in the document library on the DG website)
- Jeopardy facts about DG and the college/university
- Fireside (alumnae and collegians share DG experiences)
- Desserts with DG night
- Getting Crafty (make a craft that all members can participate in like door wreath, shirts, or jewelry)

- Holiday cookie decorating with collegiate chapter (ensuring all member's respective holidays are represented)
- Bingo night
- Trick-or-Treating with children or grandchildren at the chapter house
- Career day/speed dating career night with resume review and mock interviews
- Host a guest speaker to discuss money management
- Host a DG author & a book signing
- Rally for Recruitment (work with alumnae on completing Sponsor Forms, learning about legacies)
- Cupcake Making (graduating seniors and alumnae travel to bakery for a cupcake baking/decorating class)
- Sew tactile quilts
- Senior farewell dinner
- Holiday decorating at the house
- Tailgate at a sporting event with snacks and non-alcoholic beverages provided by alumnae

**Support: (Collegians benefit but are not active participants)**

- Collegiate care packages during finals or recruitment
- Back to school night (dress in colors of your alma mater and write good luck notes to attach to a treat)
- Sending cards to graduating seniors, for holidays, finals, graduation etc.
- Send a bouquet of flowers for Founders Day
- Collegiate Spirit Week (each night different alumnae members drop off baked goodies)
- "Aunt Hannah" pen pals (match chapter members up with an alumna who can stay in contact despite distance)
- Present an award from the alumnae group that is given to a collegian at Founders Day

**Cultural Gatherings:**

- Art walk
- Attend an opera/symphony performance
- Attend a theatrical performance
- Attend a community festival
- Go to the nearest history museum
- Film festival
- Host an awards show party where members can make their picks out of the nominees
- Host a DG author & a book signing
- Showing of a foreign film
- Star-gazing soiree (bring star maps and binoculars and some blankets)

**Family Friendly:**

- Picnic, crawfish boil or barbecue

- Bowling
- Chili Cook-off- bring favorite chili or cornbread recipes to compete against the other entries to raise money for the Delta Gamma Foundation
- Thanksgiving dinner and care package assembly for collegians
- Wild About DG (a trip to the zoo)
- Mother, Daughter or Sister spa day, movie night, or brunch
- Pumpkin patch and corn maze outing
- Holiday dinner or event
- Bark in the Park (alumnae, family and furry friends meet in park)
- Pool party
- Halloween Trolley Crawl (members and guests dress-up and cruise around town)

### **Special Interest Groups:**

- Giggles & Wiggles, Sweet Peas, or Mommy & Me
- Book club
- On-The-Town dinner club
- Running club
- Coffee shop meet up
- Brunch bunch
- DG road trippers/DGs who love to travel
- Silver Sneakers - Senior member athletes
- Fabulous 50s (50 year + members)
- Snack and yak
- Bridge club

## **MEMBERSHIP**

- Founders Day
- Golden anchor brunch or tea
- Read mail or books for DGs in retirement homes
- Assist sight impaired or home bound DGs with errands
- Candle pass (announce engagements, births, becoming a new grandparent)
- Membership Telethon (members gather for a potluck and call members)
- Contact Captains (members call/email members to get updated contact information and invite them to upcoming events)
- Recognize members who have reached membership milestones of 25, 50, 60, 70, 75 years

## **COMMUNITY**

### **Athletic:**

- Create a Delta Gamma Relay for Life team
- Create a Delta Gamma team for any 5k Walk/Run in your community

### **Charities:**

- Dress for Success (donate business attire)
- Susan G Komen (supports cancer research)

- Cake4Kids- (decorate cakes for kids whose families cannot purchase or make a birthday cake)
- Soup kitchen volunteering
- Volunteer day or collect needed essentials for a local women's shelter
- Volunteer at local animal shelter
- Gather canned good for a local food bank
- Toys for Tots (gather new toys during the holidays for children)

**Fun:**

- "Are You Wearing the Right Bra" (Bra Fitting at local store, receive 15% off)
- Have a personal stylist attend a Q&A with the alumnae group
- Wardrobe weed out (bring gently worn clothes you would exchange with a sister)

**Fundraiser:**

- Garages sale that you can advertise in your local paper
- A Perfect Pair (women, wine and a new shoe auction)
- Chili's Give Back Night (with each flyer presented on Delta Gamma Night, Chili's will donate 10% of the sales you bring in to the Delta Gamma Foundation. Verify details with your local Chili's restaurant)

**Guest Speakers:**

- Consider hosting a PRO speaker (resources available in the document library on the DG website)
- Child Development Specialist
- Health related
- Host a DG author & a book signing
- Host the collegiate chapter officers to share chapter updates and updates on the university
- Self defense
- Home buying
- Arbonne, Mary Kay consultant makeovers
- How to write a will
- Dermatologist
- Mixology (learn to make craft cocktails)
- Couponing

**FOUNDATION:**

**Awareness:**

- Foundation handouts at community event-
- Provide sight preservation tips bookmarks at local school/library

**Service:**

- Partner/volunteer at existing events held by other organizations (e.g., Camp Abilities, Blind School fundraiser, blind bike ride)
- Handout eye care health pamphlets at a health fair, marathons, street fairs
- Collect pet supplies for persons with Guide Dogs or Guide Dog groups

- Sponsor a Guide Dog
- Raise and train a Guide Dog
- Sew tactile quilts
- Clipping Box Tops
- Attend or volunteer at a Beeping Easter Egg Hunt, etc.
- Volunteer at local school for the blind or visually impaired
- Learn how to vision screen or vision screen at a school or community location
- Create tactile items for a local school or library for the blind and visually impaired
- White Cane Walk (walk through downtown with sight impaired)

### **Fundraising:**

- Tables that Bloom- Local businesses decorate tables and then they are auctioned off at dinner event
- Shopping for Sight or Holiday Bazar – 10% of proceeds go to Service for Sight
- Bowling for Braille
- Offer gift wrapping (donation based, and money goes to a service for sight organization)
- Champagne & Chocolates Gala (silent auction, dinner, live auction with Guide Dogs and collegians as “Live Auction Models and Golden Ticket Girls”)
- Tapas and Tiaras (snack on appetizers while shopping for jewelry)
- Little Black or Red Dress Party (cocktail party hosted at an alumna’s home with silent auction with an entry fee and a guest speaker to talk about Foundation related topic)
- Rays of Light (a night of fun for sight impaired and their families)
- Pink Flamingo Flocking (members get orders from supporters to have someone “flamingoed”. Suggested price for “flocking” \$10- \$30 and anti-flocking insurance \$10. Flamingos placed in yard at night and left with note left saying friends paid in support of fundraiser)
- Eye Love Art (sell Braille school artwork at auction)

### **Networking**

- Swap till You Drop! (swap with sisters to have a DG networking event)
- LinkedIn Event (network with others who work at same organization. For example, send postcard to all DGs working at Disney giving them the names of others)
- New Member Happy Hour
- Welcome brunch post-graduation for seniors to welcome them to the alumnae group
- Board meetings on Zoom or free teleconferencing
- Girls Night Out/Doing Good Deeds
- Social media (Have a group on Facebook, use Twitter, etc.)
- Working DG lunch (hold a downtown professional development activity)
- Hold a weekly lunch meet up for sisters working in the city

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The key to any successful alumnae event starts with good communication and preparation. We have included some helpful tips and an event checklist to help inform your members, document attendance and have all necessary items for great time!

**Anchorbase Calendar:**

- Add events your group calendar
- Complete post event summaries

**News (Include ALL members):**

- Hard copy newsletter, postcard, calendar or invite
- e-newsletter
- Website or blog
- Facebook page

**Invitations:**

- Send 3+ weeks in advance to all members
- Email invites: e-vite, Punchbowl, Paperless Post
- Send Upcoming Events postcard or magnet
- Include an option to pay dues
- Offer to pick up a sister and carpool

**Follow-Up:**

- Send thank you email, handwritten note or call attendees
- Check in with sisters who have missed a few events and share info about an upcoming event

**Checklist:**

- Nametags
- Sign-in sheet and pen
- Delta Gamma Dues Box or means of collecting payments
- Gift for hostess
- Small gift for first-time attendees
- Door prizes
- Candy for recognition: those who wore badge, gave answers to quiz, etc.
- Food/serving tray
- Beverages/pitcher/ice
- Coffee/coffee maker/cream/sugar
- Paper products
- Flowers/centerpiece
- Badge