

# *The Porch Swing*

*The first e-version*



Well the time's they are a changing, and these days everything is online. In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, Kappa Delta Sigma has decided to try converting the semi-annual newsletter into a paperless version. Hopefully it is an improvement on keeping in touch without adding the waste. Please feel free to give feedback or suggestions for next semester's newsletter.

## Home Sweet KDS

This past semester was an incredibly busy one at 53 Park Street! Between academics, philanthropy hours, social events and recruitment the sisters of Kappa Delta Sigma had a lot on their hands. The way our sisters balance all of these tasks never ceases to amaze me—they should all be very proud of themselves!

One thing I learned in my position this semester is the true meaning of “sisters helping sisters” and the importance of sticking together when times get rough. This fall we were faced with challenges and experiences we could never have predicted or imagined. The poise and gracefulness I witnessed in my sisters this fall has taught me how to be a better sister myself. I was amazed at how quickly everyone came together to support one another and to support our sisterhood. More than that,

though, I learned that the powers of sisterhood will always trump the difficulties that inevitably come our way every now and then. The girls of Kappa Delta Sigma are truly the most warm-hearted and loyal people I know.

As my time as president ends, I am both sad to see it go but also excited to pass down this opportunity. I have learned so much about myself, my sisters and 53 Park Street. This position taught me how to be a leader and that has opened many doors for my future. And while I undoubtedly gained immense knowledge from my time as president, I can only hope it was as beneficial for KDS as well and that I was able to play a small part in the history of Kappa Delta Sigma.

Molly Plunkett '14  
President

## KDS Strives to Support Local, National, and Global Philanthropies

It has been my honor to serve as Philanthropy Chair this semester! Having taken last semester off to volunteer in Kenya, I returned in the fall even more motivated to make a difference in the Canton community. As a house, we have been very active this semester, having at least one philanthropy event almost every week. Per usual, we assisted with the Rummage Sale at the First Presbyterian Church, as well as participated in Phantom in the Park, set up our house as a “Safe Trick-or-Treating” venue, and facilitated our annual Bike-a-Thon, during which we also assisted SAAC by selling “Power of Pink” T-shirts. KDS also had the pleasure of participating in Derby Days for the second year in a row. Derby Days is a national fundraiser hosted by Sigma Chi in which participating sororities compete to raise money for the Children’s Miracle Network. Sisters attended a multitude

of events, competed in competitions – earning first place for our singing and synchronized lady dancing in the talent portion! – and worked hard to fundraise for the organization. Once again, KDS was the only St. Lawrence sorority invited to participate.

Our new girls have also contributed significant service hours within the community. They represented KDS at Shawna’s Walk for Wishes, assisted at Bittersweet Farm, and continued their volunteerism at Maplewood, among many other things. This semester KDS sisters accumulated over 700 hours of community service, and our philanthropic efforts continue to be appreciated and recognized by St. Lawrence and the greater Canton community.

Caroline Fleischauer ‘15  
Philanthropy Chair



Many sisters sit in the park to paint the faces of the kids who come to Phantom in the Park.

## Alumnae Weekend Proves the Bonds of Sisterhood Remain Strong

KDS has such a fantastic history, even though it may not be as long as other sororities, it is definitely richer. Because of the importance of this history, having a weekend for the alumnae to come back home again is a wonderful experience for all sisters. I am very grateful to have been able to put together this fall's alumnae weekend and it was great to see everyone who came, those I was seeing again and those I was meeting for the first time. While not everyone was able to attend it was great to hear back in email from those who could not attend and their reasons why, proving that KDS sisters are busy for life!

Jamie Tempesta '14  
Alumnae Chair



Bailey Phelps '14 with the letters she created for bid day.



Top: Bailey Phelps '14 with the letters she created for bid day.

Middle: Jamie Tempesta '15, Christina Rukki '14, and Katherine Figueroa '14 on bid day.

Bottom: Seniors going crazy in front of the camera for bid day!!!

## We Thank the Alumnae for Our New Bathroom!

This is my first year living in the house and it has been wonderful this past semester. I can easily say that everyone has loved the new bathroom on the second floor. Thank you to all of the alumni that made the bathroom happen, there's always a race to use the brand new showers! We have taken great pride in showing off our bathroom to all our guests. The house also has a brand new TV which has made the living room another popular spot. There's nothing better than coming home to a couch full of sisters after a long day to relax and watch some movies. We can't wait until we get some warm weather to sit out on the porch swing, everyone's favorite spot, but we're going to have to wait for a

while. Until then we're snuggled up in our beautiful house avoiding the negative temperatures and huge snow banks outdoors.

Jessie Lewis '14  
House Manager



The new bathroom!

## A Very Successful Fall Recruitment Overall

With this being my last semester at SLU, it was great to be Recruitment Chair for KDS. This formal fall recruitment was one of the most successful recruitments St. Lawrence's greek system has had in years. It was a blast being a part of the process and planning the events. Our skits were the talk of the whole campus. It was a common phrase around campus that "KDS girls stole the show." Not only did KDS get some great additions to the house, but the Greek system as a whole benefited. I thoroughly enjoyed being Recruitment Chair. It was a

blast to plan and organize. What made it so great though are the current sisters of the house. Without them it would not have been as successful. That is what KDS girls are all about though, they care about this house and only want the best to uphold our ideals. It is clear to me as my time here is nearing an end, that this house is left in good hands, and will continue to be for many more years.

Katelyn Evans '14  
Recruitment Chair

## Scholarly Sorority Sisters (always)

In terms of scholarship, Kappa Delta Sigma has consistently performed well in the classroom. In Spring 2013, Kappa Delta Sigma not only had the highest grade point average amongst all the Greek organizations, but also we had the most members. This shows that it wasn't just a handful of sisters who received great marks, but instead it was a majority of our sisters that have been doing well here at St. Lawrence.

Also, our grade point average was actually higher than the average grade point average for Non-Greek women on campus. Although we do not receive this semester's grade point averages until next Spring, we are confident that our sisters will continue on this high standard of top

performance in the classroom. Part of this excellence is due to having the Back Date Room stocked with resources for seeking resources for academics if needed, but mostly this is due to the hardworking natures of our sisters. Kappa Delta Sigma also volunteers to help out at the Study-a-thon run by the Panhellenic Council, where students are encouraged to take a study break and get a snack before going back to the library to hit the books. The Study-a-thon is held on the day following the last day of classes, and in the past we've had a few sisters help to organize this event.

Jennifer Street '14  
Scholarship Chair

Left: The lovely KDS ladies in their finery for formal in Ottawa, Canada (and one of the dates who decided to sneak in).



## Traveling All Over the World

Studying abroad has truly marked an important part of my life in various ways, including my role in Kappa Delta Sigma. I knew it was going to be hard, but I didn't realize how disconnected I would feel from all my lovely sisters. The day I opened my abroad packages during my year off campus, was easily one of the greatest things I could have received. I was so happy, and I think I ate all of the candy in there the same night. Every letter made me smile and the amount of effort was clear. That was the first time I felt missed by KDS, and it was in that moment that really made me

want to reciprocate that feeling to any of my sisters who planned to study abroad in the future.

Studying in Spain is the best thing that has ever happened to me, and one of my best decisions after joining KDS. I would encourage everyone to try their best to go somewhere new, especially knowing that they have a home and amazing sisters and friends supporting them. KDS has been a great support for me while being abroad, and I am so happy that I was in charge of doing the same for my sisters and more!

Christina Rukki '14  
Abroad Chair

## The New Girls on the Block

New Member Educator is by far one of the most nerve-wracking positions in the house. The successful transition of 17 complete strangers to sisters in just a short 4-week period of time rests on your (and the ANME's) shoulders. However, in my time as NME I came to find it to be one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. I learned a lot, messed up a lot, cried a lot of tears right along with the girls, and laughed until it hurt. Seeing 17 amazing girls come to love Kappa Delta Sigma, and 53 Park as much as I did was a beautiful process. The Fall '13 pledge class is comprised of 17 of the most amazing young women I have ever met. They are smart (with a stellar GPA to prove it), kind, beautiful, and talented. They are involved in activities on campus

raging from athletics, admissions, Thelmo, and Teaching assistant positions. As is evident, they are an impressive group of young women. Nearing the end of the fall semester, Fall '13 evidenced their love for the by gifting the house two beautifully hand painted Adirondack chairs. One chair is decorated with our Greek letters, yellow roses and a teacup, while the other shows off the KDS crest, both painted with the house colors, yellow and green. The presentation of these chairs moved sisters to tears. These 17 wonderful girls not only uphold the ideals and values of KDS, they far exceed them.

Alexis Williams  
New Member Educator '15



The lovely new sisters on bid day (starting with the top row, left to right): Nicole Leinders '14, Paige Friedlander '14, Abby Haley '14, Lara Schnitzler '14, Jaryn Waugh '14, Alexandra Vining '14, Sarah DiBacco '14, Emma Warren '14, Morgan O'Hare '14, Emily Baldwin '14, Maddie Moore '15, Anna Dietderich '14, Kalin Long '14, Emily Battaglia '14, Marisa Taro '14, Carolyn Dellinger '14, McKenzie Goodwin '14, and Nicole Jewett '14.

In this first e-version issue of the newsletter we do not have an “alumnae report their news and notes” section, but we would love to hear what exciting things are happening with sisters everywhere. If you have something to share please visit the Kappa Delta Sigma Facebook page. Post the news or notes that you have and anyone who has “liked” the page will be able to read it.

Stay connected with KDS!

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**Email:** Send your current contact information to [kds.alumnae@gmail.com](mailto:kds.alumnae@gmail.com)

**Website:** Visit us online at <http://prckds.wix.com/kappadeltasigma#>

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