



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated
North Atlantic Region 2018 AKA Day at the Capitol

In partnership with the Great Lakes Region – Western New York Chapter

Held during the 46th Annual Legislative Conference of the NYS Association of Black & Puerto Rican Legislators
Albany, New York
Saturday, February 17, 2018

December 1, 2017

Dear Sorors:

It is indeed my pleasure to greet each and every one and pray you had a great holiday with family and friends. On behalf of Madam Regional Director and our Cluster 3 Co-Coordinator, do accept my sincerest best wishes to you and yours during this season and during the Christmas holiday. We do have so much for which we should be thankful, don't we? Thank you for the faithful and untiring service you gave during the 2017 chapter year and for your commitment to the work ahead. While there are challenges before us, we must be reminded that working collaboratively, we can do so much as members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, to meet any challenges head on.

Sorors, we are grateful to our chapter Connection chairmen who have been planning with us during the year to ensure the success of our 2018 AKA Day at the Capitol, which will be held Saturday, February 17, 2018. Madam Regional Director established our presence in Albany many years ago, and to her, we are sincerely grateful. Our presence is expected in Albany and is needed more than ever. Last year, we celebrated a record number of 156 Sorors who were in attendance. We are looking forward to another wonderful AKA Day at the Capitol. We also express our thanks to Soror Deidra Albritton-Bundick, our Representative to the International Connection Committee, who has provided outstanding guidance and support!

The theme of the 2018 Caucus is "On this Journey, there is still #HOPE." The theme for our day at the capitol is "Take A.C.T.I.O.N.: Be the Voice 4 Your Family, Community, State and Nation." Sorors, this is our final call to ACTION (Advocate, Communicate, Train, Influence, Organize and Network) for this present administration. We will be continuing our plans "to educate, register, mobilize and participate in 'Get Out the Vote' strategies for all 2018 local and mid-term state and federal elections." We will also forward information regarding our letter-writing campaign. **Once again, we will sponsor a workshop, which will be opened to everyone. The theme is "The 3R's: Reach out, Rejuvenate, Repeat."** The objective is to equip Sorors and guests with actionable ways to strategically work on key social justice and advocacy issues without burning out. In order for us to be able to provide sustainable service, it is critical for us to stay on top of our personal health as well. More information will be sent through your Connection Chairmen. **The AKA Day at the Capitol will be held on February 17, 2018.** We have a dynamic team.

Additionally, we will continue our commitment to make a difference in the Albany community. We will, once again, donate gift cards to Safe House, a facility that provides a safe place for youth and young adults who are runaways, and who are at risk of sexual exploitation. We are grateful to each chapter for your generosity last year. It truly made a difference. Please review page two for more details of the day's events.

We wish also to thank the 2018 host chapters who have agreed to donate funds to ensure the success of our day. Chapter Basilei, we must remind you to bring your ASCEND students, as they will again be able to attend, free of charge, the Youth Summit. Special thanks to our Cluster III Co-coordinators, Soror Nettie and Soror Deborah, for their hard work and for the support they have and continue to give.

Finally, the online registration will be available on the North Atlantic Region's website from December 6, 2017 through February 2, 2018. The 2018 registration cost is \$30. NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO PAPER REGISTRATION AND THERE IS NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION.

Sisterly,
Soror Brenda L. G. Smith
New York State Connection Representative, NAR Connection Team



2018 AKA Day at the Capitol Albany, New York



February 17, 2018

Ms. Meredith L. Henderson, North Atlantic Regional Director

AKA Day at the Capitol is our day for advocacy, awareness, & action! - Our unique opportunity to continue the work of our great sorority and to foster and nurture relationships with our New York State legislators.

2018 Caucus Theme: "On this Journey, there is still #HOPE."

2018 AKA Theme: "Take A.C.T.I.O.N.: Be the Voice 4 Your Family, Community, State and Nation."

Check-in 8am

Report to the Cornerstone at the Plaza, located at the base of the Egg on the Empire State Plaza for opening program.
AM Coffee and tea provided. **Hot lunch.**

Youth Summit 10am-4pm

Free to all youth who are registered by the deadline. 10-4. Lunch provided
Register with Dr. Brenda Smith, NY Connection Representative at bsmith0825@aol.com

AKA Workshop

Following morning program, coffee and tea, please join us for our **AKA**-sponsored workshop where our focus will be

"The three R's: Reach out, Rejuvenate, Repeat." To equip Sorors and guests with actionable ways to strategically work on key social justice and advocacy issues without burning out.

Community Service and Outreach

Support our 2018 Recipient: [Safe Inc. of Schenectady](#)

Donate gift cards to Safe (Visa, Walmart or Target). Please collect from chapters and bring to Albany.

Letter Writing Campaign

More details will be provided on the 2017 initiatives and bills.

Registration

The **\$30** registration will be available on the North Atlantic Regional website until Friday, February 2, 2018 at 11:59PM.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO PAPER OR ON-SITE REGISTRATION.

<http://www.akanorthatlantic.org/OCR>. Sorors are asked to bring their own bags.

Contacts for more information:

General questions: Dr. Brenda Smith, NY Connection Representative at bsmith0825@aol.com
or Cluster III Co-Coordinators at nar3cluster@gmail.com