

## Greek Corner

On January 15, 1908, Nine African-American women at Howard University, only one generation removed from slavery, founded the first sorority for African-American women seeking higher education. Fast forward 44 years and 2 months and magically fly from Washington D.C. to Fayetteville where the Delta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc has just been chartered as the first sorority on the campus of Fayetteville State University. 58 years later, the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc continue to embark upon the journey of service to all mankind by hosting various programs and events designed to build upon the concept of wholesome young women. Formally led by Reniki Cumbo and presently ran by Jacqueline Choice, The Voice sat down with the president of Delta Alpha to find out what the ladies are up to for Spring 2010.

**The Voice:** As the president of the Delta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc, what type of programs do you feel are important to a sorority agenda in addition to a university agenda and why?

**Jacqueline Choice:** Although all of our programs are important and go off of our national platforms, I feel as if it is important to incorporate programs that are appealing to our audience which is Fayetteville State University's student body. Any program where our fellow peers find themselves leaving with not only new information but also in good spirits is a success to Delta Alpha.

**[Voice]** With Hollywood and pop culture sensationalism taking over the minds of the new generation, the glamorous image of Greek life, paired with rivalry between Greek organizations, seems to be the only image offered to the public these days. What is sorority membership truly about to you?

**[J.C.]** Sorority membership goes a lot further than anyone can see standing on the outside looking in and it's sad that all the public chooses to pay attention to is the "rivalry". Sorority membership is a bond of true sisterhood that is formed in college and lasts a lifetime. Alpha Kappa Alpha is a lifelong commitment that is made not only to the organization but to the women who become true sisters during the experience. Membership into Alpha Kappa Alpha is far different from any club or organization. It's working closely with a group of women who share many of the same interests, ideas, and believes, to better the community, the world and Alpha Kappa Alpha as a whole.

**[Voice]** In the past, the mission of the "Divine Nine" organizations was primarily geared towards helping African-American men and women advance in the



(From Left) Yasmine Aljuwani, Jacqueline Choice, Melanie Boney, Tyeishia Alford, Akilah Peterson