



Dayton Alumnae Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

2026 Debutante Ball Handbook

*Unmasking Elegance:
A Presentation of Poise and Promise*



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Welcome to the 2026 Debutante Ball Season!

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Dayton Alumnae Chapter, welcomes our 2026 Debutantes and their families. We look forward to providing an enjoyable experience.

This document is the official **Debutante Handbook**. It provides guidelines for participation in the Debutante Ball. Each Debutante and her family must agree to follow the rules, timelines, deadlines, policies, and procedures of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Dayton Alumnae Chapter throughout the Debutante Ball Season.

This Debutante Handbook should be consulted whenever you have a question. If your question is not answered here, please do not hesitate to contact us at [**DACDebutanteBall@gmail.com**](mailto:DACDebutanteBall@gmail.com).

In the coming months, we will work with each Debutante and her family to make this experience memorable. We stand ready to assist you in any way possible. Please be prepared to enjoy your journey throughout the Debutante Season, culminating with the **75th Annual Debutante Ball on Saturday, March 21, 2026**.

Sheri E. Frazier

Debutante Ball General Chairperson

Gertrude C. Edwards

Debutante Ball Co-Chairperson

Janiece M. Perry

President, Dayton Alumnae Chapter

Eva Newby

First Vice President, Dayton Alumnae Chapter

About Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide aid and support through established programs in local communities worldwide. A sisterhood of more than 350,000 predominantly Black college-educated women, the Sorority currently has over 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States, Canada, Japan (Tokyo and Okinawa), Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, West Africa, Southern Africa, the United Arab Emirates, and the Republic of Korea. The major programs of the sorority are based upon the organization's Five Point Programmatic Thrust:

- Economic Development
- Educational Development
- International Awareness and Involvement
- Physical and Mental Health
- Political Awareness and Involvement

The Sorority was founded on January 13, 1913, by 22 collegiate women at Howard University to promote academic excellence and provide assistance to those in need. The founders of Delta Sigma Theta envisioned an organization committed to sisterhood, scholarship, service, and addressing the social issues of the time. As a sisterhood comprised primarily of Black, college-educated women, the Sorority seriously considers the issues impacting the Black community and boldly confronts the challenges of African Americans and, hence, all Americans. Over the years, a wide range of programs addressing education, health, international development, and the strengthening of African American families have evolved.

About the Dayton Alumnae Chapter

On September 1, 1936, the Dayton Alumnae Chapter was established. It is one of the most versatile and dynamic chapters in the Delta Sisterhood. Our agenda for service is consistent with and supportive of the sorority's national programs. In addition to the annual Debutante Ball, our significant community contributions have included the donation of books on African American life and history to Dayton Public School libraries, voter registration, political awareness, and physical and mental health workshops. We also support young women through our youth groups, Delta Gems and the Betty Shabazz Academy.

About the Debutante Ball

The Dayton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. hosts an Annual Debutante Ball to recognize outstanding young ladies for their scholastic achievements and community involvement. This formal event serves as a “Cinderella rite of passage” and provides a platform for showcasing young ladies while enabling the sorority to raise funds to provide scholarships to young people who desire to further their education beyond high school. The Dayton Alumnae Chapter is interested in presenting morally fit, intelligent, wholesome young ladies as Debutantes. The ball provides an avenue for families to show society how poised and confident their graduating senior is as she prepares to move on to higher educational pursuits. Throughout the Debutante Season, the young women will be exposed to career development information and have fun as they prepare for the ball.

Debutante Eligibility Reminder

Debutantes must maintain the following criteria throughout the season:

1. Be a female graduating high school senior
2. Have earned a cumulative 3-year high school G.P.A. of 2.50 or better on a 4.0 scale
3. Submit an official high school transcript
4. Have community involvement
5. Submit written letters of recommendation from 2 of the following sources
 - a. Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Dayton Alumnae Chapter
 - b. School counselor or teacher
 - c. Minister
 - d. Mentor or another adult
6. Have evidence of good moral character which includes:
 - a. Not being currently pregnant or a parent
 - b. No negative court involvement/records
 - c. No record of poor discipline at school or in the community
7. Must be interested in education beyond high school
8. Must not work, nor have been employed, in places of adult entertainment, i.e., bars, nightclubs, etc.

Every young lady selected to be a Debutante must maintain all the above eligibility criteria throughout the Debutante Season

Debutante Ball Expenditures

The Debutante Season

The Debutante Fee required for presentation is **\$600**. This fee helps to cover the cost of event venue rentals, (4) Single invitations to the Ball – two for the Debutante and two for the Escort, gloves, pearls, tiaras, flowers, entertainment, and miscellaneous costs throughout the season. At least **\$300** of this fee is due at the Acceptance Tea on Sunday, October 5, 2025, and the remaining \$300 is due **NO LATER THAN** Sunday, November 9, 2025. Be certain you have a desire to be a Debutante and that you will continue to meet all the eligibility requirements because **NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN**.

Debutante Fee checks must be made payable to the **Dayton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.** or **DAC DST**.

Souvenir Book Advertisements

- Each Debutante is **REQUIRED** to collect a **minimum** of **\$1000** in patrons/advertisement that will be placed in the season's electronic souvenir book (distributed the night of the Ball). The electronic souvenir book includes each Debutantes' formal picture and biography.
- Each Debutante (parents/guardians) will have the opportunity to purchase full-page or half-page advertisements/tributes to the Debutante. Pricing for advertisements/tributes are **\$400 for a full-page** and **\$200 for a half-page**. Each Debutante can also solicit patrons (levels are listed later in this section) that will be listed on the Debutante's congratulatory page.
- In addition, there are four premium levels that will be available for purchase. Any Debutante whose \$600 fee is paid in full is eligible to purchase one of the four premium levels (only one page per Debutante) on a first-come, first-served basis. The first day the \$600 fee will be accepted is at the **Acceptance Tea on Sunday, October 5, 2025**.
- **Premium Pages (Sold on a first-come, first-served basis):**
 - **Ruby - \$2000**
 - Inside front cover advertisement in the souvenir book (**1 available**)
 - Prominently place, full-page advertisement in the souvenir book
 - Four Tickets to the Debutante Ball
 - **Pearl - \$1500**
 - Page following Ball program, full-page advertisement in the souvenir Book (**2 Available**)
 - Two tickets to the Debutante Ball
 - **Violet - \$1000**
 - Last page, full-page advertisement in the souvenir book (**1 Available**)
 - One ticket to the Debutante Ball

- **Premium Page Instructions**

1. Premium level pages may be purchased starting the first rehearsal.
2. Ruby, Pearl, and Violet level checks should be written to **DEL-SIG FOUNDATION**.
3. Each advertisement **MUST** be "camera ready" to print.
4. **NO HANDWRITTEN ADS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Ads must be typed with legible text and/or clearly defined logos.
5. Your advertisement must be camera-ready and submitted electronically in PDF or JPEG format. ***Payments will not be accepted unless accompanied by the ad or patron list.***
6. Photographs are acceptable on full-page advertisements. **All photos must be limited to shots of the Debutante or a deceased loved one.** If you want to use the official Debutante photograph in your advertisements, **you** must provide these photos. Please contact the photographer regarding the cost.

EACH advertisement that is to include a photo **MUST** have the identified photograph attached, as doing so reduces the possibility of a photo not being included in the intended advertisement.
7. A copy of the camera-ready ad must be submitted at the time of purchase and emailed to DACDebutanteBall@gmail.com

Patron Pages

Each Debutante will have a Patron Page(s).

Patrons may be family members, friends, churches, businesses, schools, and organizations. Patron lists include the patron names and the level of donation given in honor of your Debutante. Only one name may be listed per patron entry.

Patron levels are:

- Gold \$151 – \$350
- Silver \$51 – \$150
- Bronze \$10 – \$50

The patron list must be submitted on the appropriate form. Please use proper titles (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss, Dr., etc.).

ALL patrons and advertisements must be designed and TYPED in the size that will appear in the souvenir book and submitted and paid for **NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026**. Please submit patron

names in alphabetical order by last name and check that they are spelled correctly. Payment is due when the advertisement/patron list is submitted. Payments will be accepted at each rehearsal from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Debutantes are strongly encouraged to submit their patron lists, full-page ads, and premium-level pages and payments as soon as they are received to avoid long payment sessions on the final advertisement collection day.

Each Debutante will receive two souvenir books. Additional souvenir books **may** be available for purchase. **A QR code for the electronic souvenir book will be provided at each table.**

Mistakes may occur despite our efforts to avoid them. Any questions regarding refunds for advertisements **MUST** be submitted in writing by **March 30, 2026** to DACDebutanteBall@gmail.com.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Dayton Alumnae Chapter reserves the right to make any changes to advertisements submitted for the souvenir book.

Debutante Ball Tickets

Each Debutante will receive two (2) Individual tickets to the Ball and Two (2) tickets will also be given to each Debutante's Escort. Additional tickets will be available for purchase for \$70 each at any Debutante Ball rehearsal. We do not sell tables. The number of seats and tables a Debutante will have at the Ball will be determined by the number of tickets purchased in her name.

Each Debutante is required to complete a guest list that includes the name of each person who has a ticket and will sit at her table. This Guest List Form is due **no later than Sunday, March 1, 2026.**

PERSONAL CHECKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS A FORM OF PAYMENT AFTER SATURDAY, February 21, 2026.

Additional tickets may be purchased with cash, cashier's checks, money orders, and/or PayPal until the end of rehearsal on **Sunday, March 1, 2026.**

All checks for tickets should be made payable to **Dayton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta or DAC DST**. No two-party, out-of-town, or counter checks will be accepted. There will be a \$30.00 charge for any returned checks.

PayPal is available for ticket purchases ONLY.

General Debutante Ball Information

The Debutante Ball will be held on **Saturday, March 21, 2026**, at the Dayton Convention Center. Doors will open for guests at 4:00 p.m. Please be sure to tell guests to be prompt, as dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. and **all guests must be in the room and seated in order to be served**. The doors will close at 6:00 p.m. to begin the official program and they will remain closed until every Debutante is presented. No person under **the age of 14 years old** will be admitted to the Debutante Ball.

TICKETS ARE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY WITH NO EXCEPTIONS. TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT DRESS REHEARSAL OR AT THE DOOR ON THE NIGHT OF THE DEBUTANTE BALL.

Debutante Biographies

Every Debutante is required to complete a Souvenir Book Biography Form. This information will be printed under the Debutante's official photo. The Souvenir Book Committee will provide the biography form for each Debutante to complete. All bios are due no later than Sunday, February 22, 2026, submitted via the Google form available on the Dayton Alumnae Chapter website Signature Events Page.

Presenters

Each Debutante must have a father or father figure to present her. Father figures must be male over the age of 25 unless they are an older brother of the Debutante.

Escorts

Each Debutante must have a male Escort between the ages of 16 and 21 years of age. He must be:

1. A high school junior,
2. A high school senior, or
3. A college student.
4. An Escort may not be a father, or expecting the birth of his child.
5. Escorts must present a letter on school letterhead from a school counselor, teacher, or professor stating they are a student in good standing.

Escorts who are over the age of 18 and not enrolled in high school must complete Risk Management training and a background check to participate in the Debutante Ball. The background check fee is approximately \$30.00, which is paid directly to the sorority's vendor when the application is submitted. A link for the background check will be provided once the participant has completed Risk Management training.

Escorts **MUST** attend all required rehearsals and Debutante social activities.

Escorts **MUST** be present for a Group Photograph on **Sunday, February 22, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** at Thurgood Marshall High School. **Please be on time!** Photographs will not be retaken due to tardiness or absence. All Escorts are to wear dress shirts, ties, and dress shoes for this photograph. Since rehearsal will take place after the photo shoot Escorts must also bring a pair of soft-soled shoes.

Scholarships

Scholarship opportunities are available for Debutantes and are awarded in various amounts. Debutantes are encouraged to apply for scholarships, which are awarded the night of the Debutante Ball. Scholarship applications will be available on the chapter's website (dstdaytonalumnae.org) on **Sunday, January 18, 2026**. Applicants will be given consideration based on:

- academic standing
- volunteerism in community service activities
- leadership potential as demonstrated through participation in school and/or community organizations
- an essay written in response to a prompt
- one letter of recommendation from a school staff member who has knowledge of the applicant's academic ability*
- one letter of recommendation from a minister, civic leader, or professional person who has knowledge of the applicant's character*
- a copy of college notification of acceptance from a 2-year or 4-year college/university

**** Please note that letters of recommendation must be specific for the scholarship; letters written for college or Debutante Ball acceptance are not acceptable.***

The top scholarship awarded is the DeRusse Bragg Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is named in honor of our late Delta Sister DeRusse Bragg who gave unselfishly of her time, energy, and talents for the youth of our community. This scholarship totals \$6,000 and is awarded over a period of four years in the amount of \$1,500 each year the Debutante recipient remains in good standing at the college or university of her choice.

Escorts will be provided an opportunity to apply for a scholarship which will also be awarded the night of the Debutante Ball.

Miss Deb Contest

Any Debutante may participate in the **Miss Deb Contest**. The Debutante who secures the largest amount in ads/patrons (above the required \$1000 minimum) and ticket sales by the given deadline will be crowned "Miss Deb 2026". This honor includes a coronation ceremony on the night of the Ball.

Miss Deb 2026 will be awarded based on the following rules:

1. All advertisements/patrons and payments **MUST** be received by **Sunday, February 22, 2026**. No advertisements will be accepted after this FINAL AD COLLECTION DAY.
2. ONLY guest tickets purchased by the deadline of **Sunday, March 1, 2026**, will be credited towards the Miss Deb Contest.
3. There is no transfer of credit to Miss Deb contestants by other Debutantes.

The top three (3) Debutantes will be awarded a cash prize. The cash prize will be ten percent (10%) of the advertisement monies that exceed the required \$1000 and the total guest tickets she sold by the deadline of **Sunday, March 1, 2026**.

All Debs are strongly encouraged to bring advertisements and payments as soon as they are received. Making payments regularly will eliminate long payment sessions on the final advertisement collection day. Payments may be made on any Rehearsal Day beginning at 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.



Debutante Ball Attire

Debutantes

Debutante Ball gowns **must be approved by the committee prior to purchase** and follow these guidelines:

- Uninterrupted white ball gown, floor length, semi-full or full skirt
- At least a cap sleeve/ bolero jacket (no strapless, spaghetti strap, or halter)
- No bare backs
- No cleavage
- No front or back V-line dresses
- The gown must cover the body and above the cleavage and **MUST** continue consistently around the back
- Crinoline underskirt shall be worn for **FULLNESS** under the gown. **NO HOOP SKIRTS.**
- The gown must touch the **TOP** of the Debutante's shoes.
- Plain white pumps with medium heels (1 ½ to 2 inches **NO** ballerina shoes or slippers)
- Jewelry provided by the sorority is as follows:
 - Pearl button earrings.
 - A single strand of neckline pearls
 - Above-elbow gloves
 - Tiara

Debutantes cannot have **visible tattoos**. All tattoos shall be covered with clothing or make-up. Debutante dress guidelines are set forth by the Dayton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and shall be strictly followed by each Debutante.

Please **DO NOT** purchase, rent, or borrow a dress for the Debutante Ball until you have read and fully understand these guidelines. All gowns and slips must be approved by the Debutante Ball dress committee. Once a gown has been approved no substitute gown may be worn on the night of the ball.

All Debutantes are required to attend the **Dress Rehearsal** on **Friday, March 20, 2026**. Debutantes should arrive **NO LATER THAN 5:30 p.m.** Debutantes are to bring their under slip (not their dresses) and the shoes they will wear for the Debutante Ball.

On Saturday, March 21, 2026, the night of the Debutante Ball, all Debutantes MUST report to the Convention Center by 3:30 p.m. Debutantes should **NOT** wear their dresses. One (1) parent or friend per Debutante is allowed in the dressing area to assist the Debutante. The area will not accommodate more. This person must have a ticket to the ball. Members of the sorority will be available to assist any Debutante needing extra attention.

Debutantes ARE NOT ALLOWED on the dance floor after they are dressed or before they are formally presented.

Attire Disclaimer: The Debutante Ball Chair and the Deb Attire Committee requests that you adhere to the attire guidelines. Any deviation from the approved dress on the night of the ball will require you to wear a bolero jacket over your gown. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Debutante Attire Examples



Presenters

For uniformity, the father/presenter must rent their tuxedo. The rental fee is the responsibility of the presenter and will be at prevailing rates. The approved vendor will be provided at a later date. Please be sure to tell the salesperson you are renting for Delta's Debutante Ball. The attire will include:

1. Black formal tuxedo tails
2. White formal shirt and White bow tie
3. Black shoes
4. Black socks
5. Black cummerbund
6. White gloves (provided by the sorority)
7. Boutonnieres (provided by the sorority)



All fathers or father figures must be present for the entire **Dress Rehearsal** on **Friday, March 20, 2026**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Dayton Convention Center. **DO NOT WEAR YOUR TUXEDO TO THE DRESS REHEARSAL.**

The night of the **Debutante Ball, Saturday, March 21, 2026**, all fathers or father figures **MUST** report to the Convention Center by **4:00 p.m.** Presenters should be dressed in their formal attire upon arrival and will then receive their boutonnieres and white gloves.

Escorts

For uniformity, each Escort must rent their tuxedo from the approved vendor which will be provided at a later date. The rental fee is the responsibility of the Escort and will be at prevailing rates. Please be sure to tell the salesperson you are renting for Delta's Debutante Ball. The attire will include:

1. White formal tails
2. White formal shirt and red bow tie
3. White shoes
4. White socks
5. Red cummerbund
6. White gloves (provided by the sorority)
7. Boutonnieres (provided by the sorority)

All Escorts must be present for the entire **Dress Rehearsal** on **Friday, March 20, 2026**, at **6:00 p.m.** at the Dayton Convention Center. **DO NOT WEAR YOUR TUXEDO TO THE DRESS REHEARSAL.**

On the night of the **Debutante Ball on Saturday, March 21, 2026**, all Escorts **MUST** report to the Convention Center by **4:00 p.m.** Escorts should be dressed in their formal attire upon arrival and will then receive their boutonnieres and white gloves.



Escort Attire Example

Mothers and/or Mother Figure's Attire

Mothers and/or female mother figures should be present for each Debutante. The mother's attire shall consist of a **floor-length formal dress or pants suit**. This is a strictly formal affair and everyone present **MUST** be dressed accordingly.

Mother/Mother Figure Attire Example



Guest Attire

It is the Debutante and her family's responsibility to remind guests that the Debutante Ball is a strictly formal affair (floor-length and cocktail dresses, tuxedos, suits and ties). The dress code will be strictly enforced at the door, and guests will be turned away on the night of the Ball for inappropriate attire. Please provide your guests with examples of what is considered formal attire to ensure that they are properly prepared for the occasion.

Debutante Ball Night Guidelines

Debutante Ball Seating

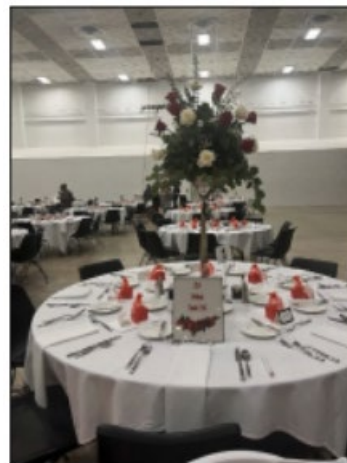
The Debutante Ball Seating will be assigned at the Dress Rehearsal. The seating of all guests will be as follows:

1. Each Debutante will receive seating according to the number of paid tickets and guests listed on their Guest List Form.
2. Chairs will only be available to accommodate guests with tickets.
3. Tables will be assigned at the **Friday, March 20, 2026** Dress Rehearsal. **BOTH PARENTS/GUARDIANS SHOULD BE PRESENT.**
4. **Please be sure to bring your receipts to ensure that you have the correct number of seats.**

Debutantes **MUST** submit their **Guest List Form with meal selection to the Seating Chair by Sunday, March 1, 2026.** All lists should be typed or neatly printed.

Debutante Ball Table Decorations

Each Debutante will have one (1) head table. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Dayton Alumnae Chapter will supply one centerpiece for the head table, name markers, and tablecloths for each Debutante's table. Parents/guardians **ARE NOT PERMITTED** to bring centerpieces. Parents/guardians may bring souvenirs, however, for guests. **The delivery of table souvenirs is only allowed on the date of the ball.** The Dayton Alumnae Chapter will **NOT** be responsible for deliveries made during your absence.



Debutante Ball Dinner

A plated dinner will be served to all guests. **No other food or beverages may be brought to the Convention Center.**

Photography

A professional photographer will be provided to photograph each Debutante. These photographs will be used for the souvenir book that will be distributed at the Debutante Ball. Debutantes may use these photographs in any full-page advertisement in the souvenir book at the photographer's specified cost. at other events during the Debutante Season, any photographs taken of a Debutante will be restricted to use only for chapter-related activities.

Photographs may appear on the Internet. If a photograph is used there will **not** be any identifying information of the Debutante included. We will not use a Debutante's name, school, church, or town of residence in any information posted on the Internet.

Debutantes and parents must acknowledge that Delta will own all rights to the photographs and they will release Delta from any liability. Debutantes and parents will waive any and all rights to compensation and rights to approve materials that may be created using the photograph.

Debutante Photographs

Individual Debutante photographs will be taken at Thurgood Marshall High School by a professional photographer on **Saturday, February 28, 2026. A parent/parent substitute must accompany the Debutante.** The Debutante must bring her Ball gown, gloves, pearl studs, and shoes to wear for this photograph. The Debutante Ball Committee will provide a pearl necklace and bouquet on picture day. A sign-up sheet for specific times for this photograph will be available at rehearsal on **Sunday, February 1, 2026.**

Information regarding photography packages for purchase will be available from the photographer. **All monies for photographs should be paid directly to the photographer.** Debutantes are NOT required to purchase any photography packages. Please be sure to contact the photographer regarding any cost for the Debutante photographs to be used in your advertisements for the souvenir book. **Remember, a separate photo is needed for each ad where you wish to have a photo included.**

On the night of the Debutante Ball, only our Official Photographer has the authority to CHARGE guests for photographs taken during or after the Debutante's presentation. Please do not hire a photographer or videographer to take photographs or video the Ball. **NO ONE IS ALLOWED ON THE RED CARPET TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS AT ANY TIME DURING THE FORMAL PROGRAM. PARENTS OR FRIENDS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED ON THE DANCE FLOOR TO TAKE PICTURES OF INDIVIDUAL DEBUTANTES DURING THE PRESENTATION OF THE DEBUTANTES.**

Escort Group Photo

A Group Photograph of the Escorts will be taken on **Sunday, February 22, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** at Thurgood Marshall High School. Please be on time! Photographs will not be retaken due to tardiness or absence. All Escorts are to wear dress shirts, ties, and dress shoes for this photograph. Since rehearsal will take place after the photo shoot Escorts must also bring a pair of soft-soled shoes.

Debutante and Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct

To respect and abide by the expectations, guidelines, procedures, and deadlines outlined in the Debutante Handbook, by the committee and as noted at Debutante orientation.

1. To have respect for other participants (Debutantes, family members, Escorts, presenters, and choreographers) in the program as well as members of the Debutante committee.
2. To respect all decisions and deliberations made by the Debutante committee.
3. To present myself publicly in a way that reflects the high moral ethical character of a young lady and Debutante by:
 - a. Obeying the law
 - b. Exercising good manners
 - c. Displaying concern for my appearance
 - d. Refraining from profanity, acts of violence, or criminal conduct
4. Exhibit respect for other Debutantes and students by avoiding demeaning, negative remarks, ridiculing, and gossip.
5. Demonstrate a high regard for myself as a young woman by avoiding derogatory, demeaning, and insulting remarks.
6. Be polite, kind, fair, and honest.
7. Communicate important information to parents/guardians regarding the Debutante process.
8. Maintain the integrity of financial matters as related to fundraising and financial procedures.
9. Remain current with all financial obligations.
10. If in a blended family, work respectfully with all members of all who are a part of the Debutante's life.
11. Agree to silence and store away cellular phones at least five (5) minutes before each practice begins and access them on authorized breaks and/or after dismissal.

Activities and Rehearsals

Sign-In / Sign-Out Policy

It is the policy of the Dayton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. that all participants (Debutante, Presenter, Escort, Delta Member, Volunteer, Parent, Visitor, etc.) must sign in and sign out when attending the Dayton Debutante Ball 2026 Program activities. The Dayton Debutante Ball 2026 Program shall maintain and use a daily sign-in and sign-out log that includes the following:

1. The name of the Debutante, Presenter, Escort, Delta Member, Parent, Volunteer, Visitor, etc.
2. A column for the person in "1" above to check their status as a Debutante, Presenter, Escort, Delta Member, Parent, Volunteer, Visitor, etc.
3. The date, the time in and the time out; and
4. Whether a member is assisting with the Program or is a visitor/observer.

Debutante rehearsals are held **every Sunday beginning January 4, 2026**, according to the schedule below at **Thurgood Marshall High School Gymnasium, 4447 Hoover Ave, Dayton, Ohio 45417**. Debutantes are not allowed to submit ads or buy tickets between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Time is limited and each Debutante, Escort, and Presenter must be ON TIME per the following schedule:

Persons Required to Be in Attendance	Date	Time
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, January 4, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, January 11, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, January 18, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, January 25, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes, Escorts and Presenters	Sunday, February 1, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes, Escorts and Presenters	Sunday, February 8, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes, Escorts and Presenters	Sunday, February 15, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, February 22, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, March 1, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, March 8, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes and Escorts	Sunday, March 15, 2026	2 :00 - 4:00 p.m.
Debutantes, Escorts, Presenters, Mothers	Friday, March 20, 2026	6:00 p.m.

The Dress Rehearsal on Friday, March 20, 2026, is **MANDATORY** for all Debutantes, Escorts and Presenters. It will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. The Debutantes **MUST** bring their Ball shoes and evening (Crinoline underskirt) slip. Both parents should be present. Presenters and Escorts should **NOT** wear their tuxedos to the Dress Rehearsal.

Parent Symposiums

The Debutante Ball General Chairperson and Co-Chairpersons will hold monthly Parent Symposiums for the parents and guardians of Debutantes to be updated on key information about the Debutante Season. Following the Acceptance Tea, which serves as the first official Parent Symposium, the symposiums will be held via Zoom or during Sunday rehearsals at Thurgood Marshall High School from 2:00 pm – 3:30 p.m. Attendance is encouraged at EACH symposium.

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Sunday, December 14, 2025 (Zoom meeting)

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather or last-minute changes, Debutantes, Escorts and parents/guardians will be notified via email or text.

Important Dates

Event/Activity	Date
Debutante Application Packet	Sunday, September 14, 2025
First Deb Fee Payment & Acceptance Tea	Sunday, October 5, 2025
Parents Orientation Risk Management	Saturday, October 11, 2025
Deadline: Final Deb Fee Payment	Sunday, November 9, 2025
Volunteer Risk Management Training	Sunday, December 7, 2025
Debutante Activity	Saturday, December 13, 2025
1st Debutante Practice	Sunday, January 4, 2026
All Advertisement sales begin	
Parent Symposium	Sunday, January 11, 2026
Debutante Activity	Saturday, January 17, 2026
Parents Orientation Risk Management	Saturday, January 24, 2026
Picture Sign-Up	Sunday, February 1, 2026
Ticket sales begin	
Parent Symposium	Sunday, February 8, 2026
Debutante Activity	Saturday, February 21, 2026
Deadline: Debutante Bio	Sunday, February 22, 2026
Escorts Pictures	
Deadline: Final Advertisements	
Debutante Pictures	Saturday, February 28, 2026
Deadline: Scholarship Application	
Parents Verify Advertisements	
Parent Symposium	Sunday, March 1, 2026
Deadline: Final Ticket Sale	
Deadline: Guestlist	
Debutante Activity	Saturday, March 7, 2026
Final Sunday Rehearsal	Sunday, March 15, 2026
*Dress Rehearsal – Dayton Convention Center	Friday, March 20, 2026
2026 Debutante Ball	Saturday, March 21, 2026
Deadline: Any Refund Request (Written Only)	Monday, March 30, 2026

* All Debutantes are required to attend the **Dress Rehearsal** on **Friday, March 20, 2026**. Debutantes should arrive **NO LATER THAN 5:30 p.m.** Debutantes are to bring their under slip and the shoes they will wear for the Debutante Ball.

Debutante Ball Committee Contact Information

Sheri E. Frazier, General Chair

Cell: (937) 479-1272

Gertrude C. Edwards, Co-Chair

Cell: 937-304-1074

Email Address for All Submissions and/or Questions: DACDebutanteBall@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

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Dayton Alumnae Chapter
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Subcommittee Contacts

Souvenir Book

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Deb Attire Protocol/Code of Conduct

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