

XI TAU CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

1980 **JOY** **POWER** **SISTERHOOD** **LEGACY** **US** **2025**

45 YEARS OF RAISING THE BAR



April 4-6, 2025 | Cambridge, MA

Welcome



Dear Sorors,

It is with immense joy and gratitude that I welcome you to our 45th Reunion! This gathering is not just a celebration—it is a testament to our individual power as Black Women, the healing power of our sisterhood, and the transformative power of our collective magic.

Our journey here has been deeply personal for me. I was a senior helping plan our 35th reunion - never imagining that a decade later, I would once again be part of bringing us together.

This weekend, we honor the theme of Power—the power of our history, the power of our impact, and the power of our future. Each day is intentionally designed to celebrate who we are:

The Power of Joy – Taking in the laughter, the memories, and the pure delight of being together again.

The Power of Legacy – Honoring the shoulders we stand on and venerating those who remain with us only in spirit.

The Power of Sisterhood – Reconnecting, uplifting, and celebrating the bonds that remain unbreakable.

The Power of Us – Looking ahead, standing in our strength, and reaffirming our commitment to each other and our mission.

As we embrace this weekend, let's soak in every moment—the hugs, the stories, the laughter that echoes through the years.

Welcome home, Sorors.

With love and power,

Dafina Bobo

Dafina Bobo, SP14

Chair, Xi Tau 45th Reunion

Xi Tau Lineage

Charter Line Spring 1980

Satin Noire Fall 1980

Glow of Nuance Fall 1981

Genteel Radiance Spring 1983

Amaal Spring 1984

Synchronicity Spring 1985

Novena Spring 1986

Asilia Spring 1987

Johari Spring 1988

Mamoja Spring 1989

Utani Spring 1990

Shindana Fall 1991

Imara Spring 1993

Timilia Spring 1994

Dafina Spring 1995

Subiani Spring 1996

Jamii Spring 1998

Kifani Spring 1999

Makinzani Spring 2001

Dhamiria Spring 2002

Maksusi Spring 2005

Uhodari Spring 2007

Kiada Spring 2008

Msimu Spring 2010

Viasi Spring 2011

Nouvelles Spring 2012

Solicitude Spring 2013

Nasara Spring 2014

Marejesho Spring 2017

Almasi Fall 2018

Ujasiri Fall 2019

Mwanzo Spring 2022

Nafasi Fall 2023

The Venue

Boston Marriott Cambridge | 50 Broadway Cambridge, MA 02142



Food Options Nearby

Tatte Bakery & Cafe - *Coffee House*

318 Third St, Cambridge, MA 02142

Walking: 7 minutes, Driving: 2 minutes

Shy Bird - *American*

390 Third St, Floor 1, Cambridge, MA 02142

Walking: 3 minutes, Driving: 5 minutes

Cafe Luna - *American*

612 Main St, Cambridge, MA 02142

Walking: 10 minutes, Driving: 4 minutes

CLINK. - *American*

215 Charles St, Floor 1, Boston, MA 02114

Red Line: 6 minutes, Driving: 4 minutes

Friday April 4th

Registration & Welcome Reception

Time: 7-10pm

Attire: Delta Casual

Location: Black Students' Union Lounge

Walker Memorial, MIT

142 Memorial Dr, Cambridge, MA 02139

Enjoy drinks, light meal, and connective activities
with Sorors from across the chapter's history
Xi Tau Trivia with Briana Stephenson, SP05

There will be an opportunity to
connect with your Secret Soror!

separate sign up required in advance



Saturday April 5th

Red Shoe Walk

Time: 7-8:30am

Location: departing from Marriott Hotel Lobby

Attire: Athleisure with any Para (Bonus with Red Sneakers)

Led by Erica Brown Nunnally, SP95

Breakfast On Your Own

Please enjoy a heavy breakfast and pack a snack. Lunch will be served by 1:45pm.

Registration

Time: 9:30-10am

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 3

Welcome and Opening Program

Time: 10-11am

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 3

Attire: Smart Casual in Black/Red/White

Breakout Sessions

Time: 11am-12pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 1, 3, or 5

Breakout Sessions

Branding Yourself and Career Transitions

Time: 11am-12pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 5

Your next career move isn't just about experience—it's about how you position yourself, who's in your corner, and how you take control of your narrative. Climbing to an executive seat requires more than just skills; it's about visibility, strategic relationships, and knowing when to make your move. This session will challenge you to own your value, leverage your network, and step into leadership or lay the groundwork for a transition with confidence.



Moderator: Dafina Bobo, SP14



Denielle Pemberton Heard
SP84



Andrea Nelson Meigs
SP88



Rhonda Edwards Powell
SP88

Note: Speaker bios can be found [here](#).

Breakout Sessions

Entrepreneurship and Investing

Time: 11am-12pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 1

Building wealth isn't just about making money—it's about creating opportunities, making strategic moves, and securing a legacy. Whether you're just starting your financial journey or looking to expand your portfolio, this session will explore the state of Black wealth, pathways into investing and angel funding, and what it takes to start and sustain a business. Walk away with actionable insights to build wealth for yourself and the next generation.



Moderator: Onika L. Williams, SP05



Jill Johnson
SP88



Sharon Joseph
FA91

Note: Speaker bios can be found [here](#).

Breakout Sessions

Holistic Wellness Across the Lifespan

Time: 11am-12pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 3

Prioritizing your well-being is not a luxury—it's a necessity. From managing stress to nurturing your mental, physical, and spiritual health, this session will focus on what it takes to care for yourself at every stage of life. Through the lens of Black women's unique experiences, we'll explore strategies to sustain balance, protect your peace, and show up fully in every aspect of your life.



Moderator: Taylor Stewart Seegars, SP13



Sharon Denise Malone
Charter



Kelly Brown
SP86



M. Allyson Brown
SP86

Note: Speaker bios can be found [here](#).

Saturday April 5th

Casual Chapter Photo

Time: 12-12:30pm

Location: Marriott Hotel Lobby

Note: Please wear your chapter pin, distributed during registration.

Social Action Convening

Time: 12:30-1:45pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 3

Civic engagement is a critical part of making the community all that we hope for it to be. In this convening, learn about the various ways Sorors are addressing the needs of their communities through elected positions and nonprofit leadership. We will be joined by Cambridge City Councillor, Ayesha M. Wilson who has a special honor to bestow upon the chapter for its continued engagement in political awareness and involvement.



Moderator: Robin Talmadge Jackson, SP84



Karen Freeman-Wilson
Charter



Danté Anderson
SP94



Liz Miranda
SP01



Shayla Adams-Stafford
SP07

Note: Speaker bios can be found [here](#).

Saturday April 5th

Lunch

Time: 1:45-2pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, directly outside of Salon 3 Ballroom

Note: Please do not eat in the event room.

Formal Chapter Photo

Time: 6-6:15pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, TBA

Attire: Red Formal Attire

Red Power Dinner

Time: 6:15-9pm

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 3

Attire: Red Formal Attire

The dinner program will celebrate our Charter Sorors and honor our Departed Sorors, it will include:

- Conversations with Charter Sorors, led by Bernice Harleston, SP84
- Remembrance Service with prayer led by Rev. Sharon Styles Anderson, FA80
- Performances from the Xi Tau Ensemble
- Poetry reading by AudreyRose Wooden, FA19

Sunday April 6th

Farewell Sisters Brunch

Time: 9-11:30am

Location: Marriott Hotel, Salon 3

Attire: Cozy in Crimson and Cream

Join us in a closing moment of connection, reflection, and joy. As we wind down from a powerful weekend—and a moving tribute to our dearly Departed Sorors—this gathering offers space to exhale, share final hugs, and soak in the presence of sisterhood one more time.

Enjoy our Soror Showcase, highlighting the businesses, talents, and creativity of Sorors in our chapter. A celebration of who we are, what we carry, and what we continue to build together.

Soror Showcase

Diane Clarke Boykin, MD, SP88

Author

*The Game Plan, A Woman's Guide to Becoming
a Doctor and Living a Life in Medicine*

Kirra Jarratt, SP88

Entrepreneur

Handmade crafts specializing in DST bling

M Allyson Brown, MD, SP86

Entrepreneur

Handmade Jewelry

Jill Johnson, SP88

Co-founder and CEO

Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership

Sharon Malone, MD, Charter

Author

*Grown Woman Talk, Your Guide to Getting and
Staying Healthy*

Kishshana Palmer, SP99

Author, Entrepreneur

Busy is a Four-Letter Word

Rhonda Edwards Powell, SP88

Entrepreneur

Rolling Pin Confections

Service Project

The Program Committee has organized a beauty supply drive to benefit the women living in shelter at the YWCA Cambridge. YWCA Cambridge is the city's largest affordable housing provider for single women through its 103-unit Tanner Residence and a 10-unit emergency family shelter.

During the reunion, Sorors are welcome to drop their supplies off at the membership table on Saturday and Sunday.

Requested Supplies

Lotions

Makeup

Perfume

Shampoo & Conditioner (especially to nourish kinks and coils)

Shea butter

Hair scrunchies

Sponsors

Gold

Loretta Lynch, Charter
Diane Boykin, SP88
Aaliyah Shafiq Ely, SP98

Cream

Sharon Malone, Charter
Carole Brown, SP84
Nina Simmons, SP90
Patience Singleton, FA91
Charity Curtis, SP05

Crimson

Dana Scott Saulsberry, Charter
Shaba Keys, SP88

Donation Levels

Crimson: up to \$249

Cream: \$250-\$499

Silver: \$500-\$999

Gold: \$1,000-\$2,499

Platinum: \$2,500-\$4,999

Pearl: \$5,000+

Thank you to those Sorors who have donated generously to support the 45th Reunion Program.
Donations can be made to our nonprofit Thirteen Eighty Club, Inc. at [this link](#).

Xi Tau Ensemble

Nicola Chin, SP87

Rhonda Edwards Powell, SP88

Dwinette Johnson Feemster, SP88

Heather Simms, FA91

Charity Daramola, FA19

Stay Connected!

<https://xिताudst1980.wixsite.com/home>

<https://www.thirteeneightyclub.com/>

Throughout the weekend, we will communicate through
the [Xi Tau 45th Reunion WhatsApp group](#).

Reunion Committee

Dafina Bobo, SP14 | Chair

Program Committee

Sydney Stewart, SP17 | Chair

Bernice Harleston, SP84

Adrienne Hinds, SP85

Diane Boykin, SP88

Victoria Aboagye-Adinkra, SP17

Membership Committee

Shawntel Hines, SP05 | Chair

Lovita Tandy, FA91

Patience Singleton, FA91

Aaliyah Shafiq Ely, SP98

Ashani Collins O'Mard, SP98

Finance Committee

Elissa Perez, FA19 | Co-Chair

Angela Unubun, FA19 | Co-Chair

Onika L. Williams, SP05

Jada Allison, SP21

Zora Levette, SP22

Mercy Oladipo, SP22

Notable Mention

Nadine Gaujean, SP89

Althea Hunte Massenburg, SP89

Erica Lynn Brown Nunnally, SP95

Elizabeth Miranda, SP01

Briana Stephenson, SP05

Joy Alison Cooper, SP05

Rachel Gholston, SP10

Daisy Fernandes, SP14

AudreyRose Wooden, FA19

Chinaze Aham-Neze FA23

Thank you to all Xi Tau Sorors and those beyond the chapter who made this weekend's program possible.

Speaker Bios

Branding Yourself and Career Transitions



Moderator: Dafina Bobo, SP14 | Wellesley College

Dafina Bobo is the Founder and Spiritual Consultant of Strange Crown and a Senior Search Associate with GoodCitizen.

With a career spanning early education, workforce development, and executive search for nonprofit and social impact organizations, she brings a unique blend of professional expertise and spiritual guidance to her work. Passionate about helping others navigate personal and professional transitions, Dafina integrates her background in mentorship and career development with her business, Strange Crown, where she supports individuals in the early stages of their spiritual journey through tarot readings, spiritual coaching, and digital products. She is currently focused on deepening her expertise in executive search while expanding Strange Crown through events and workshops that foster community and spiritual growth.



Panelist: Denielle Pemberton Heard, SP84 | Tufts University

Denielle Pemberton serves as a Global Managing Director and Chief Legal Officer of DSG Global, where she directs commercial transactions and manages a portfolio of Board, Legal, and executive-level searches across multiple sectors for a Fortune ranked firm. She is a shareholder and a member of the Executive Committee, leading the firm's growth and operations. Denielle joined DSG Global following fifteen years as Group Counsel, Programming and Business Affairs at the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), the nation's largest non-commercial media enterprise where she led negotiations and directed content acquisition and transactional work across multimedia platforms on behalf of PBS and its 300 plus member stations. In addition to her day job, she has recently served as Producer of the documentaries Black + Iconic: Style Gods moderated by Billy Porter and Wynton Marsalis' All Rise recently featured on PBS.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Speaker Bios

Branding Yourself and Career Transitions



Panelist: Andrea Nelson Meigs, SP88 | Tufts University

Andrea Nelson Meigs, a Los Angeles native, most recently was a Partner at leading global entertainment company, United Talent Agency (UTA). For the past 20 years, she has built a client list that is most revered, consisting of highly accomplished actors, writers, musicians, producers and directors, closing deals for them in the areas of film, television, theater, branding and books.

Honored as one of the Hollywood Reporter's 100 Most Powerful Women in Entertainment and in the Variety's Women's Impact Report, Nelson Meigs is a member of the prestigious Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Science, is on the Board of Directors for Women in Film (WIF), a Board of Trustee for Marlborough School (where co-chairs the Audit Committee), and on the Industry Advisory Board for EICOP / HBCU IN L.A. She has been on the cover of both 'Black Enterprise' and 'Essence' Magazine, profiled in Billboard Magazine, Daughters of Men, Duke Magazine, UCLA Medical Website and recipient of the "P.T. Barnum Award for Excellence in Entertainment" from Tufts University.



Panelist: Rhonda Edwards Powell, SP88 | Harvard College

Rhonda Powell is Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary of Strada Education Foundation, joining the organization in 2023. Before joining Strada, she served as Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary of BuzzFeed Inc (NASDAQ:BZFD), where she led the company's legal, business affairs, compliance, and governance functions.

Ms. Powell is the 2022 recipient of the National Association of Women Lawyers' Arabella Babb Mansfield Award for her professional achievements and career-long advocacy and commitment to diversity, inclusion, and belonging in the legal profession. She serves on the board of PowerMyLearning and is a member of the Museum Advisory Board of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Speaker Bios

Entrepreneurship and Investing



Moderator: Onika L. Williams, SP05 | Tufts University

At her core, Onika is a problem solver with professional experiences across a range of industries including technology, entertainment, and social enterprise. Over the course of her career, Onika has explored ways that businesses in the private sector can partner with public and non-for-profit entities to support innovation in education, community revitalization, technology, and adopt strategies that enhance operational efficiencies across the organization.

Currently, Onika serves as Head of Meta Elevate, which is a program that focuses on optimizing the performance of Black and Brown small and medium businesses on Meta's suite of apps and products. Prior to this role, Onika served as a leader on Meta's Global Strategy and Operations team, and previously served as an executive in Accenture Strategy's Customer Insights & Growth Strategy practice. Her client and business enterprise experience has focused on large digital transformations, customer experience models, emerging channels and growth strategy.

Onika is a Native New Yorker and proud daughter of Caribbean immigrants. She earned her M.B.A from Columbia Business School.



Panelist: Jill Johnson, SP88 | Harvard College

Jill Johnson is the co-founder and CEO of the Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership (IFEL), based in Newark, NJ. Founded in 2002, IFEL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to eradicate the systemic barriers that prevent people from historically excluded populations from having access to the knowledge, networks, and capital required for entrepreneurial success and wealth creation.

With over 30 years of experience as a business strategist, Jill is a pioneering voice for inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystems and is especially focused on creating a new paradigm for the access to capital conversation. Most recently, Jill led the acquisition of Pipeline Angels, an angel investing network focused on increasing investor diversity and funding for women. The acquisition unites two trailblazing organizations committed to increasing capital access to foster a more inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Speaker Bios

Entrepreneurship and Investing



Panelist: Sharon Joseph, FA91 | Tufts University

Sharon Joseph serves as CEO and Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Harlem. She has over 15 years of experience in the financial services industry as a Private Wealth Advisor and Management Consultant. Prior to joining the Boys and Girls Club of Harlem she worked at Goldman Sachs. Sharon was instrumental in the development of Harlem Lanes, the country's first Black Woman owned and built bowling alley and family entertainment center. Sharon received her M.B.A. from Columbia Business School. Sharon has won numerous awards and recognition for her contributions in the Harlem Community including from President Bill Clinton, Mayor Bloomberg and Governor Patterson.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Holistic Wellness Across the Lifespan



Moderator: Taylor Stewart Seegars, SP13 | Wellesley College

Taylor Stewart Seegars is a PhD candidate in Counseling Psychology at Boston College. She received her Master of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School, concentrating in spiritual counseling and the intersections of religion and psychology. Taylor provides individual, group, and couples therapy. In her research and clinical practice, Taylor specializes in exploring issues related to race-based stress, racial trauma, religious and spiritual coping, and multicultural concerns. She has taught an undergraduate core curriculum psychology course Family, School, and Society as well as the clinical skills lab for Masters of Mental Health Counseling students at Boston College. Taylor also provides spiritual counseling to individuals and couples as requested. Taylor is currently completing her doctoral internship at Suffolk University Counseling Health and Wellness Center and will begin her postdoctoral fellowship at Boston Behavioral Medicine in the Fall.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Speaker Bios

Holistic Wellness Across the Lifespan



Panelist: Sharon Denise Malone, Charter | Harvard College

Dr. Sharon Malone is a DC-based OB/GYN and Certified Menopause Practitioner dedicated to empowering women to take charge of their health. As a nationally recognized expert in women's health, she is the Chief Medical Advisor at Alloy Women's Health and a New York Times Bestselling author. Dr. Malone is board-certified by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and certified by the North American Menopause Society. Her personal experiences, including her mother's untimely death from colon cancer, have driven her passion for addressing healthcare disparities and advocating for reproductive rights.



Panelist: Kelly Brown, SP86 | Wellesley College

Dr. Kelly Brown is currently the Director of Counseling, Health & Wellness Services at the University of Puget Sound. Dr. Brown has specialized training regarding multicultural counseling and diversity including sexual orientation and gender identity. Using an integrative strength based approach; she specializes in working with clients who are recovering from trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and anxiety.

Dr. Brown is a licensed psychologist who received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Boston College in 2005. She completed her clinical internship at the Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology at Boston Medical Center.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Speaker Bios

Holistic Wellness Across the Lifespan



Panelist: M. Allyson Brown, SP86 | Wellesley College

Soror M. Allyson Brown, MD, FACOG (Novena, Spring '86) received her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College and her medical degree from Emory University School of Medicine. She is board certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology and has a special interest in minimally invasive and robotic surgery and in Patient Safety and Quality Assurance. She has worked as an Ob/Gyn Hospitalist for TeamHealth since 2020 and is a physician volunteer at The Clinic in Phoenixville, PA, a clinic which provides healthcare for the uninsured.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Social Action Convening



Moderator: Robin Talmadge Jackson, SP84 | Wellesley College

Robin Talmadge Jackson is a native of Newark, NJ. She has been employed in various roles at the state's oldest law firm, McCarter & English, LLP, for over thirty (30) years. She is currently the Closing Coordinator/Paralegal in the Real Estate Group and serves firm clients, including investment banks, commercial banks, and insurance companies. In this role, she manages logistical matters for closings of commercial real estate financings, development investments, and acquisitions and dispositions of retail centers, office parks and residential developments.

Robin is an active member of the North Jersey Alumnae Chapter (NJAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She currently holds the positions of Social Action Committee Chair, member of the Elections Committee and member of the statewide Social Action Committee. She has served as Second Vice President and Chair of the Membership Services Committee of NJAC, led the team that chartered the collegiate chapter at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ and served as a member on several Eastern Regional Committees, including Rehabilitation, Charter, Expansion and Reactivation, and the Elections Committee for the 51st Eastern Regional Conference.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Speaker Bios

Social Action Convening



Panelist: Karen Freeman-Wilson, Charter | Harvard College

Karen Freeman-Wilson is the President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League in January 2020. Freeman-Wilson has vast experience in addressing issues that impact urban communities. She was Mayor of her hometown of Gary, Indiana, from 2012 through 2019. She was the first female to lead the city of Gary and the first Black female mayor in Indiana.

Freeman-Wilson previously served as Indiana Attorney General, Director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, and presiding judge of the Gary City Court. She also served as Executive Director of the National Drug Court Institute and CEO of the All Rise (previously the National Association of Drug Court Professionals), where she is immediate past Board Chair.



Panelist: Danté Anderson, SP94 | Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Danté Anderson is an experienced senior business executive and a native of Charlotte, North Carolina. She has over 25 years of work experience in corporate America at Fortune 500 global companies managing billion-dollar budgets. Most recently, she was the Chief Business Officer of the Information Technology division of Cisco Systems.

Danté has been a member of several boards of directors and advisory boards including Blumenthal Arts, the Walton Arts Center, Susan G. Komen and Ren West Community Initiative. She holds an MBA from the Harvard Business School, an MFA from The Tisch School at New York University and a bachelor's of Science from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Danté has traveled to 53 countries and 45 United States.

Danté currently represents District 1 on Charlotte City Council and serves as Mayor Pro Tem.

[Back to Session Overview](#)

Speaker Bios

Social Action Convening



Panelist: Liz Miranda, SP01 | Wellesley College

Massachusetts State Senator Liz Miranda is beginning her second term serving the Second Suffolk District, representing nine neighborhoods in Boston. She also served as a Massachusetts State Representative representing the 5th Suffolk District from 2019-2022. Most recently, her Maternal Health Omnibus Bill and Liquor License Bill for the City of Boston were both signed into Law by Governor Maura Healey. Miranda was also named Bostonian of the Year by The Boston Globe in 2024 for her work providing 225 new wealth generative Liquor Licenses for Boston's neighborhoods.

As the Senate Chair of the Racial Equity, Civil Rights and Inclusion Committee, Vice Chair of the Children, Families & Persons with Disabilities Committee, and is also proud to serve on Committees related to Ways & Means, the Census, Juvenile & Emerging Adult Justice, Economic Development & Emerging Technologies & the Judiciary. Senator Miranda has focused on equity and justice in all of her legislative and budget priorities. Senator Miranda is a member of the National Caucus of Black State Legislators and the Eastern Regional Representative in NOBEL, the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women. Senator Miranda also served as Wellesley College's 143rd Commencement Speaker for the Class of 2021.



Panelist: Shayla Adams-Stafford, SP07 | Wellesley College

Shayla Adams-Stafford is the CEO and Founder of AdaptiveX, a professional development and software company dedicated to advancing culturally responsive teaching and learning through the lens of racial equity. AdaptiveX works with educators and school leaders in over 20 school districts nationwide, establishing itself as a leader in promoting assessment equity. Shayla's innovative approach empowers K-12 teachers with adaptive testing tools, helping them better meet the diverse needs of their students. Her groundbreaking work has earned recognition in national pitch and hackathon competitions and led to AdaptiveX being featured on Nasdaq Trade Talks after Shayla became a finalist in the International Penn Milken Business Plan Competition.

In 2020, Shayla ran for public office and won a seat on the Prince George's Board of Education- one of the largest school systems in America serving over 130,000 Students. During her time in office, Shayla led the initiative for Equity Learning Hubs, revitalized the Parent and Community Advisory Council, and passed the Bridge to Excellence Schools budget amendment, which allocated \$10M for under-performing schools within the district. Shayla helped to build 14 schools and allocate millions in mental health funding to schools during the pandemic. She won the Democratic primary for the Prince George's County Council District 5 seat on March 4, 2025, securing 46.71% of the vote in a 6-way race. District 5 has a population of approximately 43,146 residents and encompasses the cities of Bladensburg, Cheverly, Edmonston, Fairmount Heights, Glenarden, Landover, Colmar Manor, Cottage City & Springdale, MD.

[**Back to Session Overview**](#)