



Desert of Florida Daughters
HPIC Bertha L. Baker (96)
Imperial Deputy for the Desert of Florida
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2025 Desert Committees

Executive Committee

Desert Divan
All Deputies for the Oasis
Illustrious Commandresses
All Past Imperial Deputies for the Desert
Dt. Charlie P. Albury, PIC

**The Executive Board meeting will be held on
Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 6:30 pm
Location forthcoming**

Albury-McGill Scholarship

Dt. Mayme Clark #25 – Chair
Dt. Y. Denise Jackson, PC #25 – Co- Chair
Dt. Akisha Wims #71
HPIC Mary Caldwell-Williams #99
Dt. Takema Thomas #134
Dt. Chelia Smith #249
Dt. LaShawn Floyd Bell #246
Dt. Brenda Parks #117
Dt. Shantell Culmer-Thomas #70
HPIC Collette Hart Wallace #117
Dt. Mildred Washington Norton #134

Audit Committee

Elected Auditors

Dt. Erika Banks, PC #25 – Chair (3 Year)
Dt. Paulette Palmer, HPC #96 – (2 Year)
Dt. Twilla Burns, #25 – (1 Year)

Awards

Dt. Paula Roberts #134

Budget & Finance

Dt. Marva Adell Murray, PC #70 – Chair

Dt. Laureatte Scott , PC #134

Dt. Lila Gaston, PC #117

Dt. Charlene Hall (96)

Dt. Brenda Richards (70)

Dt. Monica Rochelle (96)

Dt. Takema Thomas (134)

***Creation Team* (new committee)**

HPIC Me’Chelle Martin (117)

Dt. Angela Chandler, PC (117)

Dt. Sharonda Johnson (172)

HPIC Lenora Porter (99)

(This committee will create guidelines for a Creation at Desert Conference/Gala Day 2025)

Desert By-Laws

Dt. Paula Roberts #134

Desert Divan

Deputies for the Oasis

Illustrious Commandresses

Desert Education Committee (with Lead Facilitator approval)

Robin Davis, PC #117 – Chief Facilitator

Dt. Erika Banks, #25 -Deputy Chief Facilitator

HPIC Greta Powell #96

Dt. Jacqueline Smith #25

Denise Carty #117

Nancy Paul, #134

Dt. Iris Warren, PC #96

Dt. Verlesia McKenzie #99

This committee will provide training and assistance to Courts when needed

Entertainment

Dt. Tara Y. Davis #134 – Chair

Dt. Paula Roberts, PC #134

Golden Years Mentoring

Dt. Yvonne McKesson, PC #25 - Chair

Dt. Alicia Lancaster, HPC #117 –Co- Chair
Dt. Charlene Hall #96
Dt. Tanya Harper, PC #25
Dt. Shantell Culmer #70
Dt. Tawanda Peoples, PC #96
Dt. Weslyne Lewis Francois #117
Dt. Sandra Lamar #134
Dt. Vernestine Palmer #71
Dt. Yetta Saunders #70

(This committee needs to solicit sponsorships. See Attached Criteria)

Health Initiatives/NCHI

Dt. Dottie Keene, PC #99 - Advisor
HPIC Valerie Neloms #70 – Chair
Dt. Vanessa Wade #134 -Co- Chair
Dt. Nancy Paul #134
Dt. Lida Brown #25
Dt. Brenda Parks #117
Dt. MJ Ricketts #249
Dt. Katie Simmons #25

History and Archives

Dt. Erika Dotson, PC #165 – Chair
Dt. Asia McMillian #71
Dt. Monica Rochelle HPC #96

Court History Representatives

(Each Court should send the name of their History Chair to Dt. Dotson. A Court History from January 2024 – December 2024 should be submitted to Dt. Dotson by May 1, 2025 using the link on the website)

****HBCU** (new committee)**

Dt. Theresa Williams #96 – Directress
Dt. Akisha Wims #70

Dt. Olivia Patton # 242
Dt. Yelena Revere #117
Dt. Angel Hayes #175
Dt. Patti Wright Lane #172
Dt. Tandra Hodges #175
Dt. LaMika Garland #134
Dt. Twilla Burns #25
Dt. Dyronea Bradwell #134
Dt. Shauna Robinson #134
Dt. Erika Dotson #165
Dt. Rhonda Blackwell #216
Dt. Shantell Culmer #70
Dt. Earlean Taylor Ealey #165
Dt. Petrice Hall #96

(This committee will develop ways that the Desert can support the Imperial HBCU initiative. Constituent Courts will submit their HBCU activities to the Committee Chair)

Increased Membership

Dt. Dosica Johnson, PC #172 – Chair
Dt. Tawanda Peoples, PC #96
Dt. Sylvia Jones-Carr #117
Dt. Jacqueline R. Fuller-Rhaheed #242
Dt. Rhonda Blackwell #216
Dt. Jacqueline Smith #25
Dt. Shauna Robinson, PC #134

(This committee is tasked with developing a presentation/blueprint for increasing membership, reclaiming, and retaining members. Constituent Courts will submit their increased membership via the link on the website)

Line Dance Competition

Dt. Michelle Arnold #25 - Chair
Dt. Cheryl Reed #242
Dt. Deborah Pace #134
Dt. Latisha Jackson #216
Dt. Carli Rae Aldridge #134
Dt. Lakeisha Williams #70
Dt. Donte Thomas Woods #25

(See attached Guidelines)

Marshals (with Desert Marshal approval)

Dt. Robin Davis, PC #117 – Desert Marshal
Dt. Vanessa Q. Wade #134 – Deputy Chief
Dt. Vickie Young #96

Dt. Denise Jackson, Pc #25
Dt. Cheryl Copeland, PC #175

(Marshals would be responsible for identifying a committee member for any VIPs who attend Leadership and Desert Conference)

Military

Dt. Twilla Burns #25 – Chair
Dt. SaRita Lathan #96
Dt. Ebony Hodge Francis #117
Dt. Erika Dotson, PC #165
Dt. Taza Rogers #134
Dt. Johnnie Stockton, PC #70

(This committee should identify/plan a way to recognize our military members)

Necrology

HPIC Mechelle Martin #117-Chair
HPIC Alice West #70 – Co-Chair
Dt. Yvonne McKesson, PC #25
Dt. Dyronea Bradwell #134
Dt. Crystal Pressey #172
Dt. Juan Cox, PC (134)
Dt. Dosica Johnson #172
Dt. Patti Wright-Lane, PC #172
Dt. Deborah Pace #134

Complete the JotForm of all Daughters who have taken Flight into the Sunset since the last Gala Day no later than May 1, 2024 via the link on the website.

Outstanding Commandress of the Year 2024

Dt. Denise Carty #117– Chair
Dt. Pilar Burrows #71
Dt. Tanya Travis, PC #175
Dt. Vickie Young #96

Dt. Lakeisha Williams #70
HPIC Lorraine James #134
Dt. Rhonda Leonard #70
Dt. Denise Jackson, PC #25
Dt. Theria Hammonds Green #117

Criteria:

1. **Electronic Scrapbook: 30 slides maximum (include resume, court programs, activities and community involvement) from May 2024-April 2025**
2. **Fundraiser: Contestant remitting \$100.00 or more will receive 10% of the amount submitted**
3. **Copies of Dispensations must be submitted with Court Activities**
4. **Digital Scrapbooks must be submitted by email**
5. **Letter of intent submitted using the link on the website**

ALL MONIES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 01, 2025, TO THE DESERT RECORDRESS, DT. LILA GASTON, HPC, 3507 NW 196th Lane, Miami Gardens, FL 33056. Make Check payable to: Desert of Florida

Outstanding Court of the Year 2024

Dt. Robin Davis, PC #117 - Chair
Dt. Katie Simmons #25
Dt. Alberta Tanner, PC #117
Dt. Antunett Brisbane #25
Dt. Melody Epps #134
Dt. Paulette Palmer #96
Dt. Shanice Charlemagne #70

Criteria: Digital Scrapbook of Court Programs from May 2024-April 2025. The maximum number of slides is 30. Copies of Dispensations must be attached to all Court projects. Include all Court projects, community outreach services and charitable efforts. Scrapbooks must be submitted via email by May 1, 2025.

Outstanding Daughter of the Year 2024

Dt. Shauna Robinson, PC #134 - Chair
HPIC Mechelle Martin #117
Dt. Chrystalia Blyden, PC #99
Dt. Melody Epps #134
Dt. Tre'Arna McDole Phillips, PC #175

Dt. Brenda Shuler #172
Dt. SaRita Lathan #96
Dt. Latisha Jackson #216

Criteria: Digital scrapbook and resume required. Time period is May 2024-April 2025. Submit the name of Daughters who have and continue to render service to our organization, church, professional/fraternal/vocational/civic and social organizations throughout their respective communities. Commandresses are requested to submit the name of your Court representative on the Letter of intent via the form on the website. Maximum slides-30. Digital scrapbook due by May 1, 2025 to Chairperson.

Queen Contest

Dt. Nancy Paul #134 – Chair
HPIC Greta Powell – Co-Chair #96
Dt. Cheryl Graham, PC #99
Dt. Theria Hammonds Green (117)
Dt. SaRita Lathan #96
Dt. Phyllis Penick #70
Dt. Ebony Hodge Francis #117
Dt. Juan Cox, PC #134

Criteria: Attached

The contestant raising the highest amount over \$1,000.00 will be crowned winner and receive: Crown, Certificate and 10% of money raised.

2nd Place contestant will receive; certificate and 5% of money raised over \$600.00

3rd Place contestant will receive; certificate and 3% of money raised over \$400.00

ALL MONIES ARE TO BE REMITTED TO THE DESERT RECORDRESS, DT. LILA GASTON, HPC, 3507 NW 196TH LANE, MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33056. DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2025 – NO EXCEPTIONS. LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

SAM & D.I.M.E. (Youth Mentoring)

Dt. Danielle Allen, PC #25 – Chair
Dt. Dawna Philyaw #165
Dt. Yelena Revere #117
Dt. Terri Robinson #25
Dt. LaShawn Floyd Bell #242
All Court Representatives

Each Constituent Court is to submit the D.I.M.E. representative to Dt. Danielle Allen

Tools for Schools

Host Court

Trailblazer Award (See guidelines)

Host Court

Voices of the Desert

Dt. Jae Smith #25 – Chair
Dt. Takema Thomas #134
Dt. Greta Powell #96
Dt. Dawna Philyaw #165
HPIC Alice West #70
Dt. M. J. Ricketts #249
Dt. Sandra Lamarr #134

Dt. Vallery Thaw-Hardrick #242 Co-Chair
Dt. Frances Bass #117
Dt. Tanya Harper, PC #25
Dt. Paula Roberts, PC #134
Dt. Vanessa Wade #134
Dt. Louvanona Simpson #70

Each Court is asked to have two (2) representatives for the VOD. ALL interested Daughters must attend the rehearsal scheduled for Thursday night at the hotel. Time and Location will be announced at Thursday's meeting.

Youth

Dt. Vanessa Brooks, PC #175 – Directress
Dt. Roberta Nixon, PC #25
Dt. Yelena Revere #117
HPIC Lorraine James #134
Dt. Angela Chandler #117
Dt. Chardean Hill #96
All Court Youth Directresses

The deadline for medical forms is May 01, 2025, which is included in the Gala Day Packet. Mail your medical forms to: Dt. Vanessa Brooks, PC #175 at 922 East Belmont Street, Pensacola, FL 32501. Registrations and fees must be mailed to Desert Recorder, Noble Oliver Martin, PO Box 8844 Jacksonville, FL 32239 on or before May 1, 2025. Registration is \$15.00.

Special Committees

The following committees operate in concert with the Desert Divan throughout the year as needed: Social Media, Disaster Relief and Desert Education Committee.

Disaster Relief (closed)

Paula Roberts, #134 – Chair
Dt. Dwanda Palmore #96 – South (Harram, Masud, Kazah, Jalil, Saba)
Twillia Burns, #25 – Central Florida (Rabia, Osiris, Haken Ancient City,)
Shauna Robinson, #134 – North (Ahmed, Rabia, Haggai, Safia)

Photography/Social Media

Dt. Charlene Hall #96 – Co-Chair and Dt. Che'lia Smith #249
(Region 1: Harram, Malta, Ancient City, Haken)

Dt. Princess Mosley Peck #134 and Dt. Twilla Burns #25
(Region 2: Rabia, Ahmed, Haggai, Safia)

HPIC Mechelle Martin #117 Co-Chair and Y. Denise Jackson, PC #25
(Region 3: Kazah, Masud, Saba, Osiris)

**(This committee will capture Gala Day events and assist Courts when needed with Social Media issues.
Present correct guidelines for flyers and posting on Social Media)**

Voter Registration/NAACP

- Dt. LaShawn Floyd Bell, PC #242 - Chair
- Dt. Waynetta Johnson #25
- Dt. Sylvia Jones Carr #117
- Dt. Patti Wright Lane #172
- Dt. Arleace Carrion #117
- Dt. Anissa Rich #242
- Dt. Sonya McFadden #96
- Dt. Louvanona Simpson
- Dt. Terri Robinson #25

Each Court is requested to include a Voter Registration/NAACP Committee for the year in its Court program planning. These Committees are to be functional in your Oasis and network with other Committees in your community. Please adhere to this directive.

*****If your Court submits for Court of the Year, Daughter of the Year, Commandress of the Year and you are on the committee to judge the submission, you will not be able to judge the submission. If you are the Chair of one of these committees and your Court has a submission, you will not be able to judge the submission. As Chair, you will compile the scores and make the final report.*****

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING OBLIGATIONS PER COURT

1. QUEEN CONTESTANT \$200.00 IF NO CONTESTANT. Each Court is asked to have a representative to participate.
2. YOUTH DONATION: 5.00 PER DAUGHTER – COURT MEMBERSHIP
3. DAUGHTER’S SCHOLARSHIP: \$10.00 PER DAUGHTER COURT MEMBERSHIP
4. DESERT TAX: \$25.00 PER DAUGHTER – COURT MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE MAKE SEPARATE COURT CHECKS FOR EACH OF THE ABOVE ITEMS.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DESERT OF FLORIDA

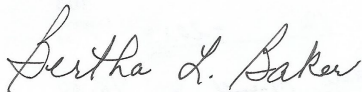
**MAIL TO:
DT. LILA GASTON, HPC DESERT RECORDRESS
3507 NW 196TH LANE, MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33056
DUE BY March 31, 2025**

NO EXCEPTIONS. A FINE OF \$50 WILL BE IMPOSED

ALL IMPERIAL AND DESERT ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT THE DESERT CONFERENCE/GALA DAY SOUVENIR JOURNAL BY PURCHASING A FULL-PAGE AD.

Thank you for your continued support of the Desert of Florida!

Yours in the Faith,



HPIC Bertha L. Baker, (96)
Imperial Deputy for the Desert of Florida

Dt. Lila Gaston, PC (117)
Desert Recordress

*****New***
Desert Committee Supervisors**

The Desert Committee Supervisors will monitor and assist the Desert committees they have been appointed, to ensure that committee members work together to achieve the Desert Committee goals.

The Desert Committee Supervisors will respond to questions the committee members may have. They will not run the committee, but will ensure that the committee adheres to deadlines, policies and procedures to ensure the committee is successful.

The Desert Committee Supervisor’s overall role is to communicate any organizational needs, oversee committee performance, provide guidance, support, supportive feedback, and identify development needs, The Desert Committee Supervisor should be included on committee calls when possible to provide guidance, support, and oversight to ensure effective performance and continuous improvement, and maintain routine communication with the committee chair and co-chair.

Desert Supervisor	Desert Committees
Dt. Paula Roberts, PC	Awards, Desert Relief, Entertainment
HPIC Alice West	Tools for Schools, Trailblazer Award, Golden Years Mentoring
HPIC Me’Chelle Martin	Necrology, Line Dance, Outstanding Daughter
Dt. Rosa Tucker	Voices of the Desert, Voter Registration, Commandress of the Year
Dt. Shauna Robinson, PC	HBCU, History and Archives, Increased Membership
Dt. Danielle Allen, PC	Albury-McGill Scholarship, Military, SAM & D.I.M.E.
Dt. Patty Wright Lane, PC	Outstanding Court of the Year, Voices of the Desert
Dt. Nancy Paul, PC	Queen Contest, Medical Team, Youth
HPC Lila Gaston / Dt. Laureatte Scott, PC	Desert Financial Obligations
Dt. Charlene Hall	Photography/Social Media
Dt. Robin Davis, PC	Desert Education / Creation
Dt. Erika Banks, PC	Audit Committee
Dt. Marva Murray, PC	Budget Committee

Creation Guidelines

The 2025 Desert Education Department will host Desert Creation at 2025 Desert Conference in the Oasis of Melbourne on Thursday night, May 29, 2025, at 7:30 PM. This will be the first Desert creation in several years; and it is our pleasure to create deserving petitioners under the Desert of Florida banner. If your court plans to have petitioners created, the following instructions must be adhered to.

1. Follow the regular Court paperwork, voting, and deadline process normally used to prepare candidates for the court's Creation.
2. Complete the attached Desert Creation Form. Make sure signatures from Illustrious Commandress and Recordress are included, and the court seal is affixed.
3. Submit a copy of the background check **approval letter** (petitioner's name must be listed) from the Imperial Recordress and a court check with \$25.00 per petitioner for the Desert Creation fee to the Desert Recordress, Dt. Lila Gaston, PC (117) by **May 1, 2025**.
4. Petitioners must be at the Hilton Rialto, 200 Rialto Pl, Melbourne, FL 32901 on Thursday, May 29th by 6:30 PM. Location will be provided later.
5. Petitioners must come dressed in business casual attire and must bring all white dress or skirt set, white undergarments, white stockings, and white shoes. (No pants allowed)
6. Identify one Daughter to be responsible for capping the newly created Daughter. (Daughters in meeting must keep on fezzes. It is recommended to use a Daughter's fez who **is not** in the Creation room).

Daughters Line Dancing Competition Rules and Judging Criteria Rules:

- A team must consist of not less than four (4) and not more than fifteen (15) Daughters.
- All members of the team must be from the same Court.
- Uniforms must be identical in style, color, and design.
- No regalia required.
- The Fez will not be worn during inspection or competition.
- Team captains/leaders must submit a roster containing the participant's name, Court name and number. The roster must be submitted to and received by no later than **April 15, 2025**.
- All members of the team **must be registered** participants at Desert Conference/Gala Day 2025.
- **ONLY registered teams** (members) entered in the contest will participate in the riding competition.
- No team can use props, nor assistance from the audience.
- No team member can communicate directly or indirectly with any of the judges, tabulators, or contest officials.

Judging:

- Inspection: Uniformity of uniforms in style, color, and design Cleanliness of uniforms Originality of style and design.
- Trophies will be presented to the 1st and 2nd Place Teams (both Nobles and Daughters).
- Each team will have 3-5 minutes to execute their routine. Originality of routine Synchronization of team members Compliance with guidelines.
- Points will be deducted from the overall score for any team late for check-in and inspection.

Restrictions:

The use of or display of any ritualistic signs or vulgarity will result in immediate disqualification. “**Hump Riding**” (one team member on another member’s back) is not permitted.

- Vulgar or obscene gestures and/or language are not permitted. Routine must not include or require members to crawl or lie on the floor.

Routine must be performed in the space designated. Competition uniform and inspection uniform must be the same.

GYM

Charlie P. Albury Golden Year Mentoring

The objective of the Golden Year Mentoring is to focus on our Senior Daughters ages 73 and up. They are vital to their communities and our organization. Our vision is to enlighten seniors on the various resources they can utilize to enhance their "Golden Years."

Each Constituent Court should identify at least two volunteers to work in your Court on this committee. They will be responsible for a small fundraiser targeted to help defray some of the expenses incurred in providing a luncheon for Senior Daughters during Desert Conference/Gala Day Session.

The Committee may also recommend a Desert project to make a donation to a selected nursing home in the Oasis where the Conference is held.