

Membership is the Highest Priority

Plan and organize at least one event or program each year that is newsworthy or the “talk of the town.” The heart and soul of the local chapter's members and officers should be visible in the organizing and planning of this very special event. Leaders and members will be passionate about this event. Invite a locally renowned guest speaker who believes in community service or the importance of education.

In Japan, our local chapter is pursuing Dr. Donald Keene, a noted Japanologist, whose autobiography appears weekly in a national news paper. Dr. Keene is a scholar, teacher, writer, translator and author of over 25 books. He earned a Ph.D. in 1951 and has been awarded eight honorary doctorate degrees. Dr. Keene's accomplishments generate enthusiasm among our members. Recently, a center opened in New York City to honor his contributions to the advancement of understanding Japanese culture in the United States. PDK Tokyo is pursuing Professor Keene as a possible speaker who has "star power."

Organize an online meeting or gather together in a coffee with the most passionate leaders and members of your chapter to brainstorm a list of "talk of the town" event possibilities. Choose an event and outline the tasks required to achieve success. Organize committees to be responsible for 1) advertising, 2) program, 3) location, and 4) contacting the speaker. Share, celebrate and enjoy your success.

Every PDK chapter needs to inspire its community. Every PDK chapter needs to be a community's education advocate. Find an education-related need in your community that should be addressed. Perhaps your chapter will present an arts festival for children and families or a program that deeply inspires educators. Your "talk of the town" event should tug at the hearts of the citizens in your community. PDK can live in the spirit of the community.

Submitted by
Andre Elliott
Region A CML (Au)
Advisor, Chapter 1530