

Title: The Divine Nine: African American Fraternities and Sororities

Grade Level: 9-12

Subject(s): Social Studies

Keywords: Community Service

Lesson Plan:	The Divine Nine: African American Fraternities and Sororities
Subject:	Social Studies
Grade:	9-12
Description/ Abstract of Lesson	Students will learn about the history and purpose of African American fraternities and sororities and their role in the community.
LAFS.1112.RH.1.1	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to an understanding of the text as a whole.
LAFS.1112.RH.1.2	Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
LAFS.1112.RH.3.7	Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, as well as in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem.
LAFS.1112.WHST.3.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
Objective(s):	Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● understand the history of African American fraternities and sororities● understand the purpose of African American fraternities and sororities and their role in the community.
Materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● National Pan-Hellenic Council● Laptops● Banner Paper● Visual Arts Materials● Possible Guest Speakers from Divine Nine Organizations
Duration:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 3-4 class periods● Block Scheduling (90 min.) 1 class period
Lesson Lead In/ Opening:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Students complete a warm-up in their journals by answering this question: What do you know about African American fraternities and sororities? If you don't know anything about them, what questions do you have? Write at least a five-sentence paragraph. Debrief as a class asking students to share responses.2. Tell students that in this lesson they will learn about the history and purpose of African American fraternities and sororities, otherwise known as <i>The Divine Nine</i>, and their role in the community. Point out that African American fraternities and sororities serve the community.3. Provide background on the National Pan-Hellenic Council.
Activity 1:	Break students in groups of 3-4 depending on class size. Assign each group one of The Divine Nine organizations to research; organization names and websites are listed in Web Resources at the end of the lesson plan. Each group creates a product for a Divine Nine Museum. Some options for group

	<p>products are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a video package on your assigned fraternity/sorority. 2. Create a slideshow on your assigned fraternity/sorority. 3. Create a banner mural on your assigned fraternity and sorority. <p>Group museum products must answer the seven higher order thinking questions listed below.</p>
Activity 2:	Each group chooses a spokesperson to staff their exhibit. Student groups do a quality check to ensure their products meet requirements, and the class sets up the The Divine Nine Museum. You may want students to order exhibits according to organization year founded or you may want to order them by fraternities according to year founded and then sororities according to year founded.
Activity 3:	Students do a Gallery Walk and may ask the group spokesperson questions at each exhibit. Students list at least three things they learn from each exhibit.
Activity 4:	The class debriefs on their learning. Note: If you have faculty or administrative staff who are active members of a Divine Nine organization, you may invite them to the Gallery Walk and all-class debriefing to answer student questions and discuss the value of membership.
Higher Order Thinking Questions:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When and where was the organization founded? 2. Who were the founders? 3. What is the purpose of the organization? 4. What is the criteria for membership? 5. How does the organization provide youth leadership development? 6. What are the organization's areas of focus for serving the community? 7. Based upon your learning, what are the benefits of organization membership?
Suggested Book:	<i>The Divine Nine: The History of African American Fraternities and Sororities.</i> (2019). Lawrence Ross. Kensington Publishing Corporation
Web Resources	<p>Divine Nine in order of Founding</p> <p>Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated</p> <p>Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated</p> <p>Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated</p> <p>Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated</p> <p>Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated</p> <p>Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated</p> <p>Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated</p> <p>Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated</p> <p>Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Incorporated</p>