

“Committed to Scholarships and Services: Our Legacy Continues”

The 2015 Sixth Annual Pink Hat Tea Huge Success!

Thanks to the incredible support of members of the Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, Inc. and Xi Omega Chapter, this year’s tea was an afternoon of fun, food, and fashion as funds were raised to support the scholarship program sponsored by the Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation in collaboration with Xi Omega Chapter. On Sunday, May 31, 2015, we enjoyed a very elegant and entertaining afternoon fellowship with 540 guests at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, DC. The attendance numbers exceeded last year, and as last year, the Wardman provided a beautiful setting to host this year’s Tea.



Mr. Christopher Lawrence, anchor from NBC4 Washington, served as the celebrity host for the afternoon. Pink Hat Tea guests were also entertained by a fabulous hat and neckwear fashion show with hats provided by Andrea’s Fine Hats of Silver Spring, MD. Neckwear was provided by J Logan Neckwear in Baltimore, MD as well as the sensational music of Sean Geason and his ensemble.

The attendees browsed the wonderful array of artifacts and unique items donated by our sponsors and Xi Omega members at the Silent Auction. The Auction has continued to serve as an awesome means of funding raising in addition to the Tea ticket sales and patron ads.

Keeping with Xi Omega Chapter’s mission of “*service to all mankind*,” vignettes of our scholarship recipients were presented in a video to illustrate the commitment to serving the youth of the District of Columbia. In addition, while unaudited, we have raised over \$28,000 for Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation scholarships, exceeding last year!

~ 2015 Pink Hat Tea Leadership Team ~
Daphne King, Ayisha Dabre, and Sonya Sims

Giving back to DC students - \$50,990 in Scholarships Awarded!

This year, the Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, Inc. awarded over \$50,990 in scholarships to DC Public High School, DC Public Charter High School, as well as past recipients who are currently enrolled in college.

On Wednesday May 27, 2015, the annual Scholarship Awards Reception was held at the Alpha Kappa Alpha, Xi Omega Chapter Center. Approximately 75 were in attendance for this year's reception. Attendees included eight of the nine recipients and their families and friends, Members of the Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, and several community guests including Ms. Dolly Turner, Deputy Chief of Staff for Ward 4 Councilman Brandon Todd. The event was led by Stacie Mills and Monica Parham.

Dr. James Lyons, Interim President, University of the District of Columbia was the keynote speaker and in his speech, he challenged the students, who he recognized as the "best and brightest in the city" to: 1) Make sure that they are prepared for the rapidly changing technology; 2) Be a moral compass for their generation; and 3) Make good decisions. Ms. Desne Wharton, a scholarship recipient and senior at Duke Ellington School of the Arts, delighted the crowd with a stirring vocal performance.

The high schools represented by this year's recipients were Benjamin Banneker Academic High School, McKinley Technology High School, Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Eastern Senior High School, Wilson High School, School, and Anacostia

Dr. Lavdena Orr, Pearl and Ivy Foundation and Xi Chapter, and Dr. Lyons with these bright and students and awardees: Asfasha (Benjamin Davonya Flythe Samone Grant Raven Hawkins Tia Strickland (Wilson), Wharton (McKinley),



President, Educational Omega are pictured talented Betel Banneker), (Eastern), Banneker), (Dunbar), Deme Desne

Wharton (Ellington), Mikayla Wright (Banneker), and Mauthrine Zama-Sity (Anacostia).

In addition to the nine high school recipients, the Pearl and Ivy Education Foundation awarded renewal scholarships to eleven students who are currently pursuing their undergraduate degrees. These students have demonstrated academic excellence and perseverance as they continue to pursue their educational goals. They are: Nkechinyerem Agbaeruneke (West Virginia University), Chineye Amdai (Syracuse University), Tensaye Dagnechew (Penn State University), Maxine Dave (American University), Vondae Donaldson (North Carolina A&T State University), Cierra Nichols (Frostburg State University), Rose Quispe (Bucknell University), Harper Randolph (New York University), Chanel Smith (Old Dominion University), Maya-Michelle Woldehawariat (Temple University), and Jessica Wynn (University of Southern California).

All of the recipients, selected through competitive processes including a review of academic performance and accomplishments as well as community service and leadership, represent the best and brightest in the District of Columbia. The Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation is honored to recognize these students – among them future engineers and teachers, social workers and musicians, computer scientists and marine biologists, lawyers and business owners - their families and mentors as they pursue their educations and their professional dreams.

“Strengthening Our Foundation”



TEAMS, TOWERS, AND BRANDING DOMINATE 2015 ANNUAL PIEF RETREAT

By Dorothy R. Jackson

The Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, Inc.’s Annual Retreat was held on Friday, July 31, 2015 at the Xi Omega Center. The theme of Retreat was “Strengthening Our Foundation.”

Foundation President, Lavdena Orr, had two main goals in mind. She wanted members to gain a better understanding of the relationship between Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Xi Omega Chapter and the Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, Inc. (PIEF). She also wanted to present ideas for expanding the brand of the foundation.

Team Building. To further President Orr’s first goal, we needed to unify Sorors and PIEF Members to make the goal a reality. I discovered a team building exercise based on a philosophy called Process Education, which focuses on the development of broad, transferable learning skills. Pacific Crest, Inc. presented the exercise at the 2015 Process Education Conference at Virginia State University. I streamlined the exercise and set the time limits to fit our needs.

PIEF members were divided into teams to participate in the competitive team building exercise called, “The Tower.” Each team selected a name for their team and designated team members to play specific roles. The team names: Top Notch Tower, Ivy Fantastic, Radio PIEF, Winners, The Originals, Winners and Resourceful, Team #1, and Team Extraordinaire. **The winning team was Team #1.**

At the end of the competition, members were asked to reflect on their performance as members of a team as well as on the performance of the team as a cooperative entity.

The “Tower” exercise demonstrated that teamwork is the joint action by a group of people in which individual interests become secondary to the achievement of group goals, unity, and efficiency. Although Xi Omega Chapter and PIEF are two distinct entities separated organizationally and legally, we must work together in one accord for the long-term success of both.

Branding Our Foundation. Solidifying President Orr’s second goal for the retreat, Attorney Laura Wilkinson, Chairman, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. International Strategic Partners Committee was invited to speak to PIEF members about expanding the “brand” of our Foundation and ways to increase our collaborative work with corporate and community partners. She provided some great ideas on how the Pearl and Ivy Educational Foundation, Inc. can identify, develop and maintain strategic partnerships.

The retreat was planned, organized, and executed by the 2015 PIEF Retreat Planning Team which included PIEF members Frances Bush, Janis Dorsey Butler, LaTonya Clark, Cora Dixon, Sharon Holt, April Gaines Jernigan, Amy Jones, Lavdena Orr, Cheryl Parker, Carmelia Rush, Samantha Smith, Vivian Smith, Lauren Underwood, LaVora Valentine Washington and me, as Executive Director.

The Retreat ended with the distribution of door prizes, presentation of certificates of appreciation to the speaker and the planning team and a generous donation of food to the Central Union Mission.

Closing Event for 2015

Mark your calendar to **Save the Date**
for our last event of this calendar year!

A poster for the 'Race for Education 5K' event. The background features horizontal stripes in pink, light green, and dark green. At the top, the text 'NORMA E. BOYD RACE for EDUCATION' is displayed in a serif font. Below this, the number '5K' is written in large, bold, green letters. A silhouette of a graduation cap is positioned above the 'K'. In the center, a group of runners is shown in silhouette, running across a path. Below the runners, the text 'ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC. XI OMEGA CHAPTER' is written in a serif font, followed by 'IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PEARL AND IVY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION'. At the bottom, the date '09:27:15' is written in large, bold, black numbers. Below the date, the text 'SAVE THE DATE' is written in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by 'Rock Creek Park, 16th & Kennedy St, NW'. At the very bottom, there is a registration information section with a website link and a list of event organizers.

To register or for more information visit:
www.active.com

Registration \$30 by June 30
Registration \$35 by July 31
Registration \$40 by Sept. 25

Lavdona Orr, President April Gaines-Jemigan, Vice-President Cornelia Sanford, Fund Raising Chair
Event Co-Chairmen: LaTanya Butler Vivian English-Washington Erica McClaskey

Corporate & Community Partners

Your continued patronage and partnerships
Are invaluable and greatly appreciated!



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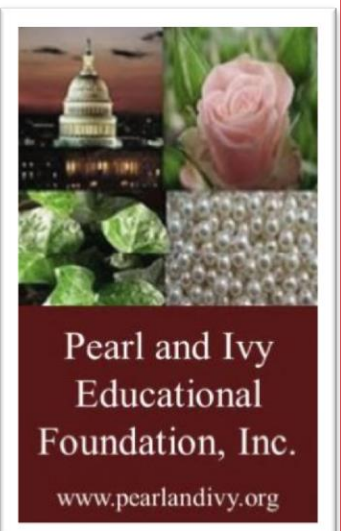
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