



PEARLS AT WORK FOUNDATION

a 501(c)3
non-profit organization

Thank You

FOR BEING PART OF OUR MISSION

As we close out the year, we are proud to share a snapshot of the impact you made possible and what lies ahead for Pearls at Work, Inc. This issue highlights the generosity, leadership, and success stories that defined the year.

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ANNOUNCING THE 2026-2028 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The leaders who will help guide the Pearls at Work mission and growth.

END OF YEAR GIVING CAMPAIGN

Please share the End-of-Year Giving Campaign with your networks to help expand our reach and impact.

STAYING CONNECTED

Please follow, like and share our social media content.

NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2025



www.pearlsatwork.org



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VISION

Working towards a world where communities reach their full potential for learning, development, economic sustainability, and overall wellness.

MISSION

The mission of the Pearls at Work, Inc. is to support service that builds and uplifts communities, focused on the areas of education, socioeconomics, and international outreach.

INITIATIVES

EDUCATION

The children are our future! Pearls at Work, Inc. supports a number of educational endeavors to better position our students for success. Some of our focus areas are mentoring, scholarships and grants, encouraging the love of reading and celebrating our educators.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our programs are designed to meet the unique needs of each individual or family we serve. With your partnership, the Foundation will continue making a positive impact in their lives by empowering families of all ages with food and clothing insecurities and other basic living needs.



ECONOMIC & SOCIAL AWARENESS

At Pearls at Work, Inc., we strive to encourage financial wellness, share estate planning resources and support local businesses in order to provide brighter lives for future generations.

HEALTH

Our health initiative spans a number of key areas that plague our neighborhoods. Mental Health, Women's Health, Breast Cancer Awareness, Physical Fitness impacting Heart Health are all focuses of Pearls at Work.





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Teresa L. Carter, Foundation President

A Message from the Outgoing President

As my term as President ends, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to each of you. Serving this organization has been both an honor and a privilege.

2025 truly marked the first year that Pearls at Work, Incorporated was fully in operation. None of our efforts would have been possible without the dedication, patience, and commitment of our members, volunteers, partners, and leadership team. To each of you I extend my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude.

I am especially grateful to the board and committees who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. Your collaboration, resilience, and willingness to work together helped move our mission forward.

As I pass the "gavel" to our incoming President, I do so with confidence and optimism. This organization is in capable hands, and I look forward to supporting its continued success in new ways.

Thank you for the trust you placed in me and for the opportunity to serve. I am proud of what we have accomplished together and excited for what lies ahead.

With appreciation and best wishes,

Teresa L. Carter

Teresa Carter
Outgoing President, 2025





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Pearls PINSTripES

Pearls & Pinstripes was held on September 21, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. as a fundraising event designed to grow into a signature, annual community experience. The inaugural gathering welcomed 281 guests and successfully blended purpose, elegance, and celebration.

Beyond fundraising, Pearls & Pinstripes sought to increase visibility for the Foundation and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® Alpha Beta Omega Omega Chapter, while celebrating Black excellence and uplifting Black-owned businesses. Guests enjoyed an elevated atmosphere featuring speakeasy-style artists, live musicians, a full band, and a DJ, all contributing to a vibrant and engaging experience.

The event was thoughtfully designed with three distinct themed environments: the Patio Party, Club Pearl Noire, and the Ivy Lounge (VIP). Each space offered a unique ambiance while showcasing a diverse array of merchandise vendors, tasting vendors, entertainers, and sponsors. This intentional mix fostered meaningful connections and laid a strong foundation for ongoing partnerships with returning guests, sponsors, and donors.

Special thanks to Yung Joc who was scheduled just for an appearance but gave a full-fledged concert. He said he's ready to come again next year. Fun was had by all!

Pearls & Pinstripes marked a promising beginning for what is envisioned as an enduring annual event, strengthening community ties while celebrating culture, creativity, and collective impact.





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PINSTripES

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Fall/Winter 2025



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WINNER

During this second half of 2025 fundraising was the theme. Not only was Pearls at Work, Inc. collecting donations to give back to the community in a variety of ways... we also gave away wonderful prizes in our three raffles this fall.

Pearls and Pinstripes:

Two prize baskets were raffled off. Both baskets had a value of \$1000.

Basket #1: Personal Chef

How about a chef coming to you home to prepare and serve special dinner for four. Or if you'd rather he would drop off a meal for a dinner party of ten. This basket not only included wine, but also caviar! ... And the winner was Olivia Clemons The personal Chef, Chef Holly and she are in the process of planning the event.

Basket #2: Staycation

A wonderful two-night stay at a 5-star hotel, or how about gift card for a spa or massage, Enjoy your evening in a wonderful luxurious robe and towel set. Finally, aromatic candles to round out the stay.

...And the winner is Michael Parham



Special thanks to Creda PJ Parham the Chairman of the committee along with Brooke Terrell, a member of the Steering committee.



Concert Raffle

This lucky winner won tickets for two not to one concert, not to two concerts but to three concerts: John Legend, Erykah Badu, and Brandy and Monica! She and her guest were able to enjoy concerts through the end of the year. ...And the winner is Dr. Tracy Randerson!





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Inaugural Scholars 2025 Scholarship Recipients

This spring, Pearls at Work, Inc. gave out scholarships to three college-bound students. Now that they've been in school for one semester, we asked them how they were doing in their new environment. We also asked if they could give advice to high school juniors and seniors—something that can help them better prepare for their first-year college experience.

Erin Crawford

How are you making out in your first Semester at school

"I feel motivated & excited after my 1st semester of college! As my 1st semester comes to a close, I have learned the importance of time management and remaining connected with my family and friends at home."

Advice for High School Juniors and Seniors

"For current high school juniors and seniors I would say to keep your eyes on the prize, that being college and your career goals, and to actively seek out resources if needed to make sure you are on the right track whether that be older siblings, peers, school counselors, etc. Additionally, hold yourself accountable, keep your grades up, stay organized and utilize calendars and spreadsheets during the college application process, ask for recommendations at the end of your junior year, and strategically manage your time and learn to work and think independently, and most importantly do not forget who you are in the process since your identity can shape everything!"



Political Science & African
American Studies with a Data
Science minor on the Pre-law
track.

**Aspiring Education
Policy Attorney**

Boston University



Mia Finley

How are you making out in your first Semester at school

"After my first semester, I'm feeling good and settling in well to college life."

Advice for High School Juniors and Seniors

"My advice for high school juniors and seniors is to breathe, take your time with the application season, and keep applying for scholarships, especially those in your local community. They are happy to help!"

Biology on the Pre-Med
Track/ Art Minor

Aspiring OB-GYN

Spelman College

Fall/Winter 2025



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WE'RE ALMOST AT THE FINISH LINE!

**donate
TODAY!**



**EVERY \$10 GIFT HELPS US ENTER 2026 STRONGER
AND READY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY!**

**THE PEARLS AT WORK FOUNDATION, INC. IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT
CORPORATION FOCUSED ON EMPOWERING AND TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES!**





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Congratulations

To the Newly Elected Board of Directors of
Pearls At Work, Incorporated
2026-2028

President: Shelbia King
Vice President: Miranda Freeman
Recording Secretary: Janae Belcher
Corresponding Secretary: Tara Surratt
Financial Secretary: Shondria Covington
Treasurer: Lanita Tucker-Williams
Risk Manager: Ericka Thompson
Members-at-large: Peni Webster-Lewis and Nichelle Miller

Wishing you a successful and profitable two years!

To the Nominating Committee:
Thank you for all your hard work.
Shondria Covington: Chairman
Verlie Cowan
Tara Kelsey
Michelle Meadors-Arnold
Tangela Williams





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