



*Executive Director*  
**Cynthia Lewis**

"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." - **Jackie Robinson**

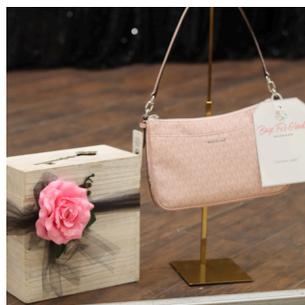
I'm beyond ecstatic about the incredible strides the Pearls of the Ivy Foundation, Incorporated® continues to make as we approach the final quarter of the year. The Foundation remains committed to finding innovative ways to increase sponsorship participation and elevate our impact.

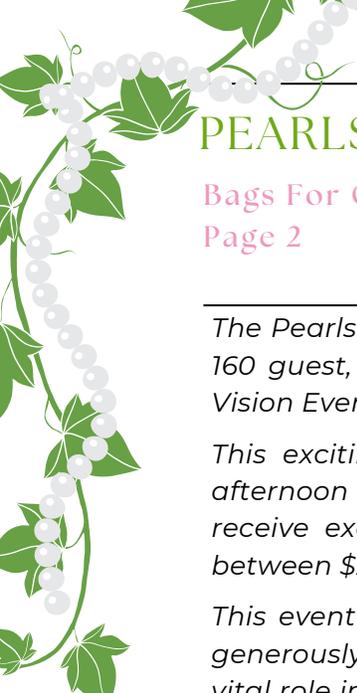
Our November General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 25th at 7:00 PM via Zoom. Additional details will be shared via email, and the Zoom link will be posted in GroupMe, so please stay tuned. As we enter the fourth quarter, planning will begin for our signature event, the 2026 Day at the Races. This year's event will include a newly imagined Total Package Contest, and we are actively seeking engaging entertainment to keep our guests energized and inspired throughout the afternoon. Stay tuned for opportunities to join a planning committee and get involved!

We had an absolutely FABULOUS time at the 2025 Bags for Grads fundraising event! A huge round of applause to our phenomenal leadership team: Chairman Marquita Thomas, and Co-Chairmen Michelle Carter-Pope and Penny Levy King. Your dedication and hard work did not go unnoticed. This year, I personally donated a pink Michael Kors handbag on behalf of the Foundation in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month—a small token to support a deeply meaningful cause.

I am thrilled to announce that our 2026 Day at the Races Chairman is Chiniqua Varner-Busby. We are confident her leadership will make this event a resounding success!

As we prepare for the upcoming holiday season, please remember to take care of yourselves and your loved ones. This time of year can be especially difficult for some of our members—please know that you are not alone, and we are here for you.





# PEARLS OF THE IVY FOUNDATION, INC.®

Bags For Grads

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The Pearls of the Ivy Foundation, Incorporated® proudly hosted its fall fundraising event for over 160 guest, Bags for Grads: Designer Handbag BINGO, on Sunday, October 12, 2025, at Unique Vision Event Center in Desoto, TX where our emcee Shanee Charles kept our guest engaged.

This exciting event was organized to raise funds for scholarships and featured a fun-filled afternoon of games, prizes, and giving. Guests had the opportunity to win designer handbags, receive exciting door prizes, and purchase a PINK Mystery Box filled with gift cards valued between \$20-\$200. And of course, there were plenty of chances to shout BINGO!

This event would not have been possible without the support of our dedicated sponsors, who generously contributed through in-kind gifts and monetary donations. Your partnership plays a vital role in the success of our mission. A special thank you and congratulations to the 2025 Bags for Grads planning committee and the fabulous volunteer models who donated their time and talent to make the event unforgettable.

Be sure to check out the event photos on our Facebook page and relive the excitement!



Thanks,

Marquita Thomas  
2025 PIF BFG Chairman



On Saturday, June 21, 2025, the Pearls of the Ivy Foundation, Incorporated® proudly hosted a Scholarship Reception to celebrate our 2025 Scholarship Recipients. This year, we have awarded over \$24,800.

The Scholarship Committee is working on an updated Scholarship Manual that will be released soon.



Thanks,

Afi George  
Scholarship Chairman  
pifscholars@gmail.com

## November Calendar Reminders

24 Nov.: PIF General Membership Meeting

- Topics:
  - 2026 Bags For Grads Final Report
  - 2026 Proposed budget (members will be voting)
  - New payment platform
  - Scholarship manual update

• BE THANKFUL.  
BE  
Grateful  
&  
BE BLESSED.