

Fall 2016 Community Newsletter

Ivy and Pearls Foundation & Rho Delta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated

Welcome to Fall! We have exciting news to share with you about all we have been doing to serve the community this year! We sincerely thank you for your continued support.



Ivy and Pearls Foundation selected as "Heroes for Health" community award honoree

The Ivy and Pearls Foundation was selected as one of the Mills-Peninsula Health Services African American Community Health Advisory Committee's 2016, Heroes for Health awardees. The African American Community Health Advisory Committee (AACHAC) annually recognizes individuals who have helped the AACHAC advance its mission. Because the Ivy and Pearls

Foundation has been a devoted partner to the AACHAC for over 10 years both in terms of volunteer time and monetary donation across a myriad of AACHAC outreach events and initiatives, we received this prestigious public recognition. As stated by Gloria Brown, Director of Community Outreach, Rho Delta Omega Chapter and its Ivy and Pearls Foundation are a "true role model for other organizations to follow." The award was received in May at a private luncheon.

Foundation Scholarship awardees

Congratulations to our 2016 Ivy & Pearls Scholarship recipients! Four exceptional students were selected based on their academic performance, educational aspirations, teacher/mentor recommendations, and community service involvement, which included 750+ hours among them. Each student will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to support their educational pursuits. We wish them well as they head out to the universities of their choice, and we look forward to learning of the positive impact these students will have on their campuses. Stay tuned for updates!

To read more about each of our scholarship awardees, please visit:
<http://www.ivyandpearls.org/scholarships>

Supporting Our Work

The Ivy and Pearls Foundation has been the recipient of several competitive grants to support our work in the community. For the third consecutive year, the YWCA of the Mid-Peninsula Donor Advised Fund (Women's Foundation of California) awarded the Foundation a grant for general operating support. These grants totaled \$25,000, and supported our work in educational enrichment, health promotion, environmental ownership, and leadership development.

We also received two grants to support our signature event, the Black College Awareness Fair. The Western Association for College Admission Counseling (WACAC) awarded \$650 and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Far Western Region HBCU Grant Committee awarded \$2,000. We appreciate the financial investment these organizations are making in the Ivy and Pearls Foundation that will enable us to continue making a positive impact in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you funders!

Another HUGE success at the 26th Black College Awareness Fair!

The 26th Annual Black College Awareness Fair (BCA) was held on Saturday, March 5 at Stanford University. Attended by 250+ Bay Area middle- and high school students, parents, educators and community members, this free event offered something for everyone. The Bret Harte Middle School Step Team (Hayward) kicked off the program with a high energy performance that set the tone for the day. College readiness and financial aid workshops, an HBCU Alumni panel, and a "Know Your Rights" presentation led up to the highlight of the day - the College Fair! Twenty-two HBCUs were represented and students enthusiastically engaged with the representatives, asking questions about available majors, campus life and how to prepare themselves for admission. Students were encouraged to utilize the Common Black College Application (<http://commonblackcollegeapp.com/>), which enables them to apply to 46 member institutions for one \$35 fee! Special thanks to Hobees Restaurant, Starbucks and California Pizza Kitchen for sponsoring breakfast and lunch! The next Black College Awareness Fair will be held in Spring 2017.

To read about more of our community events and services, please visit our website - News Section
<http://www.rdoaka.com/rdo-info-center/rdo-news/>

ADVOCACY CORNER

Through our Connection Committee's "Be The Voice" Campaign, we are encouraging members and community to participate in voter education sessions, and we have hosted voter registration tables at a number of events this year. With the election schedule to take place in less than 30 days, the Connection Committee is now entering into an all-out sprint to:



- **engage** our community to get registered by the California deadline of October 24, 2016, especially targeting our young voters in High School and College;
[Click here to register to vote TODAY](#)
- **voter education** - who and what is on the ballot (candidates and initiatives) through the weekly Connection Election Email Campaign and debate watch parties.
- **organizing** and participating in providing transportation to the polls on Election Day - Tuesday, November 8, 2016 through Connection Carpool effort.

- We encourage you to become a Poll Worker in your county! Contact [June Allen](#) for more information.
- Can't make it to the polls? Remember: there are options to **VOTE by mail or Vote Early!** **Contact your local county Elections office.**

**2017 Wine, Music, and Croquet
Charity Fundraiser - Save the Date**

Our annual major fundraiser - Wine, Music, and Croquet fundraiser - will be taking a break this year but will return next year on Saturday, September 16, 2017. More details coming in 2017!

Upcoming Events



- October 19 (6pm)** - Presidential Debate Watch Party, Stanford University, Palo Alto
- October 22 (9am-12pm)** - Tree Planting with Canopy, East Palo Alto
- November 8** - Election Tuesday
- November 29** - Giving Tuesday Fundraiser

December 3 - AACCHAC Women's Health Conference, Burlingame, CA

Visit our websites: www.rdoaka.com and www.ivyandpearls.org



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