



# Enchanted Elegance:

A SPARKLING  
PINK & GREEN  
SOIRÉE

Saturday, November 1, 2025



## Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.



Welcome to the 21st Annual Pearls with a Purpose Gala, "Enchanted Elegance: A Sparkling Pink and Green Soiree!"

It is my distinct honor to have the opportunity to thank you for your continued support to the Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc. (ICSFC) along with our collaborative partner, Sigma Tau Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated®. Your kindness has made it possible for us to continue to serve in Cary North Carolina and the surrounding western Wake community.

Because of your generosity this year, we were able to award \$24,000 in High School collegiate scholarships; \$3,000 in a continuing education scholarship; \$6,000 in community grants awarded to three community organizations for their initiatives fostering economic empowerment and self-sufficiency; and eight well deserving organizations received \$1,000 each for their outstanding community work in serving the community. We have been so fortunate to be able to support these organizations in the important community endeavors addressing domestic violence, mental health, education of the youth, and meeting the needs of basic necessities. It is our belief that giving and serving helps make the world a better place.

I am proud to have this opportunity to serve as the President of ICSFC this year. I have said before "you have to reflect and know the past, before you can determine your next steps in the path forward." We choose to continue forward not backwards and continue to increase our impact in our communities. With your continued support and with every dollar raised, we can and will continue the mission of ICSFC, which is "to enhance quality of life through program development and financial support in the areas of arts, economics, education, family and health."

In Best Regards,

*Robin D. Whitaker*

Robin D Whitaker, President  
Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.



Welcome to an Evening of Purpose.

It is with great pleasure that the members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Sigma Tau Omega Chapter welcome you to the Enchanted Elegance: A Sparkling Pink & Green Soirée, 21st Annual Pearls with a Purpose Charity Gala (PWAP), in partnership with the Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.

This year is especially meaningful as Sigma Tau Omega proudly celebrates 35 years of service and sisterhood in Cary and Western Wake County. Our partnership with ICSFC has allowed us to address the needs of our community and expand our reach through impactful programs, scholarships, and community grants/awards.

With your continued generosity, Sigma Tau Omega and ICSFC has been able to provide scholarships to aspiring students, support Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and implement programs that reflect Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's international theme, Soaring to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood. These initiatives include empowering families, building economic wealth, enhancing our environment, advocating for social justice, and uplifting our local community.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors, partners, and guests whose support ensures our success. Together, we celebrate not only an evening of elegance but also the legacy and future of service that continues to make a difference in our community.

Family and friends, thank you for joining us for another memorable night.

With Gratitude,

*Jessica Tamba*

Jessica Tamba, President  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®  
Sigma Tau Omega Chapter



Good evening!

It is a heartfelt privilege to welcome you to the 21st Annual Pearls With A Purpose Gala, where purpose and passion shine.

Marian Wright Edelman once said, “Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life, and not something you do in your spare time.” With that spirit in mind, I am elated to share that because of your generous heart and commitment to service through your support and donations, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® Sigma Tau Omega Chapter and The Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc. continue to uplift and empower the communities of Cary and Western Wake County.

As we Soar to Greater Heights of Service and Sisterhood, our commitment remains unwavering: to enrich lives, expand our global impact, and nurture leadership through our International program initiatives. These initiatives are dedicated to Building Our Economic Wealth, Enhancing Our Environment, Empowering Our Families, Advocating for Social Justice, and Uplifting Our Local Community.

Since our last gathering, we have remained deeply committed to our mission of serving all mankind. Our new partnership with Dorcas Ministries Thrift Store exemplifies this dedication, as we volunteer monthly to uplift our local community. The proceeds from the sale of donated items directly support vital services—providing food, financial aid, and job training to those in need throughout Cary.

We established a community garden at Pine Acres Community Center (Fuquay-Varina)—one of our valued partners since the COVID pandemic—to support residents in growing fresh produce. We are also grateful to the center for generously providing space each month to host our Youth Leadership Institute program. Our financial and tangible donations to organizations like the Day of Giving recipients at The Caring Place, House of Friendship, Seasons Village, SAGE, The Hope Center at Pullen and No Woman, No Girl Initiative continue to bring hope and resources to those who need it most. We continue to support our local HBCUs through our financial donations presented at our Annual Day of Giving.

The signature event of the year was our 10th Annual HBCU College Fair in partnership with Cary Academy. Despite an unexpected power outage, students remained undeterred, connecting with HBCU recruiters from universities as far south as Florida A&M and as far west as Jackson State in the Mississippi Delta. These meaningful interactions opened doors to opportunities students might not have otherwise encountered. Lastly, this year, we added a Business Expo to our lineup of programs, featuring more than 50 local minority-owned businesses and nonprofits serving our local community.”

On behalf of our partners, scholarship recipients, community, and the Sensational Sigma Tau Omega Chapter, thank you for joining us tonight. Your generous support makes our work possible. Let’s continue forward in purpose and unity. Wishing you an evening of fun memories, peace, and joy!

Sincerely,  
Davetta Dunlap, Vice President  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.® Sigma Tau Omega Chapter, Cary, NC  
Board Member, Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.

# Chairmen & Committees:

Kenya Lloyd, Fundraising Chairman  
Saundra McCullough-Cobey & Kiara Ruth, Co-Chairs

## Committee Members:

### Seating

Vanya Allen-Lead  
Heather Williams

### Silent Auction

Prenessa Mickens Lowery—Lead  
Stephanie Davenport—Lead  
Ava Closs \*  
Soror Prestina Mickens

### Decorations

Andrea Owens-Byrd—Lead  
Allison Newton  
Lauren Jones  
Nicole McNeil  
Rita Jerman

### Programs/Journal

Tiffany Bennett-Cornelous—Lead  
Janice Walker—Marketing Materials &  
Journal Design

### Hostesses

Tammie Pulley—Lead  
Anita Hudson Fraley \*

Ava Closs \*

Benita McLean \*

Bernadette Pauling \*

Buffie Raynor \*

Chelsea Tucker \*

Deborah Jackson \*

Gwendolyn Avery \*

Melva Reed \*

Monica Click \*

Phoebe Smith-Hinton \*

### Sponsorships

Kenya Lloyd—Lead  
Kiara Ruth  
Saundra McCullough-Cobey

### Registration

Brandi Delany—Lead  
Barbara Simon  
Felice Alston  
Heather Williams  
Javanese Ling \*  
Melva Brown \*  
Natalie Oliver \*

# Event Sponsors:

Pink & Green, Pearl, Tea Rose, Ivy, Golden Circle of Friends

## **Pink & Green Sponsors**

Jacquelyn Wilson

Lolita A. Wynn, Certified Public Accountant

Merck

## **Pearl Sponsors**

Signature Smiles

Blue Water Spa (Tasha Rowland)

3 Sisters Embroidery

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Jessica Tamba

Andrea Owens-Byrd

## **Golden Circle of Friends Sponsors**

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Judith Holland

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Gayla Smith

Johnson Lexus

Kimberly Potts Forde

Akilah Green

Lauretta Holloway

Stephanie Harrison Hubbard

Brandi Delany

# Thank You

## 2024 Fundraising Level Achievers

### **Diamond Level**

Latisha Hamilton-Williams

### **Pearl Level**

Jacquelyn Wilson

Sherry Hunter

Janelle Armstrong Brown

Priscilla Tyree Williams

Maxine Ragland

Tammy Chapman

Sherry Johnson

Vanya Allen

Lolita Wynn

### **Tea Rose Level**

Melva Peed

Deborah Jackson

Thevesa McNeill

Buffie Raynor

Phaedra Grove

Phoebe Smith-Hinton

Terrica Nelson

Anita Hudson-Fraley

Kimberly Alexander

Peggy Credle

Felice Streeter

Tiffany Hand

Nikita Spears

Joy Gayles

Elvira Howell

Candace Byrdsong-Williams

Jessica Tamba

Robin Whitaker

### **Ivy Level**

Bernadette Pauling

Candace Cooper

Audra Foree

Ava Closs

Alexis Barnes-Scott

Andrea Owens-Byrd

Tiffany Bennett Cornelous

Carena Lemons

Shena Thornton

Trinija Martin

Tammie Pulley

Jeronica Goodwin

Shawana Hodge

Stephanie Davenport

Denise Martin

Alesia Perry

Marva Motley

Cintasha Redmond

Kim Deck

Nicole Brown

Prestina Mickens

Lisa Jordan

Linda Knight

Tomica Adams

Rhonda Raney

Emily Dickens

Ronda Brown

Krystal Wiley

Tracee Dorcelien

Willa Jerman

Davetta Dunlap

Prenessa Lowery

Barbara Miller

Celestene Bryant

Lori Bowles

Aronda Walker

# Menu

## **Salad**

Arcadian Greens, Carrots, Cucumbers, Tomatoes;  
Served with Balsamic Vinaigrette and Ranch Dressings



## **Entree**

Oven Roasted Chicken with Fresh Herbs and Garlic

Crispy Seared Salmon with Orange Honey Glaze

Quinoa Bowl (Spiced Fried Chickpeas, Sauteed Vegetables,  
Citrus Vinaigrette)

Roasted Red Whipped Potatoes  
Julienne Seasonal Vegetables  
Fresh Baked Rolls with Butter



## **Dessert**

NY Cheesecake with Raspberry Coulis  
Whipped Cream & Fresh Mint Leaf Garnish



## **Beverages**

Ice Water, Iced Tea, and Coffee Service with Dessert

# ~Program~

## **Mistress of Ceremonies**

Davetta Dunlap, Vice President Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®  
Sigma Tau Omega Chapter

## **Welcome & Greeting**

Robin Whitaker, President of Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.  
Jessica Tamba, President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®  
Sigma Tau Omega Chapter

## **Occasion, Recognition of Sponsors, & Top Fundraisers**

Saundra McCullough-Cobey and Kiara Ruth

## **♦ Video Presentation ♦**

## **Call To Action**

Kenya Lloyd, Fundraising Committee Chairman

## **Grace**

Tiffany Bennett-Comelous, Chaplain of Sigma Tau Omega Chapter

## **Dinner, Raffle, & Auction**

Music provided by the United Strings of Color

## **Party with a Purpose**

Music provided by DJ Problem

Thank you for supporting Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.  
and the annual Pearls With A Purpose gala.

*Congratulations*

TO OUR DAUGHTER

JESSICA TAMBA



STO PRESIDENT

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!  
FROM YOUR PARENTS,  
THE HONORABLE  
JAMES M. HOLLAND  
&  
JUDITH HOLLAND





## CONGRATULATIONS

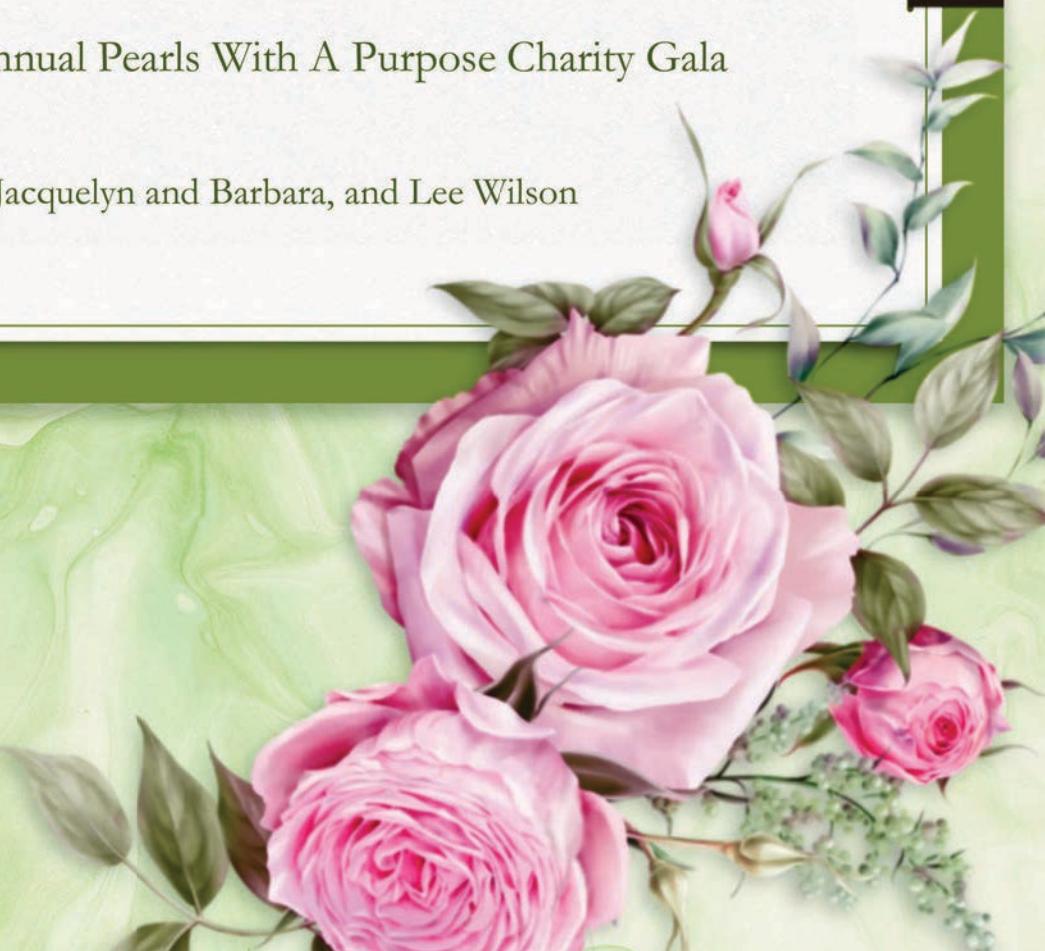
Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.

&

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Sigma Tau Omega Cary Chapter

Twenty-first Annual Pearls With A Purpose Charity Gala

Sorors Jacquelyn and Barbara, and Lee Wilson





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Congratulations  
to our  
Sigma Tau Omega  
Chapter  
on another sensational  
Pearls with a Purpose!  
We bring you greetings  
and continued sisterly support!  
Fayetteville State University  
Alumnae  
(Delta Alpha Chapter)  
Golden Soror Gail McMillan,  
Silver Sorors Ronda Brown,  
Buffie Raynor & Benita McClain





JESSICA TAMBA



DELORES FOGG



SHEBA SMITH



KRYSTAL WILEY



TIFFANY HAND



ELVIRA HOWELL



ZEELY TAYLOR



BONNIE WHITNEY

DELORES FOGG

# NCCU

## Alumni

NCCU ALUMNI MEMBERS OF THE  
SENSATIONAL SIGMA TAU OMEGA CHAPTER  
OF THE ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA  
SORORITY, INCORPORATED®

SALUTE THE IVY COMMUNITY SERVICE  
FOUNDATION FOR ITS UNWAVERING  
DEDICATION TO UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY  
THROUGH VISIONARY PROGRAMS AND  
GENEROUS SUPPORT. WITH PRIDE IN OUR  
EAGLE ROOTS AND THE BONDS OF  
SISTERHOOD, WE CELEBRATE ICSF'S INSPIRING  
LEGACY AND CONTINUED IMPACT.



MARGIE GIBSON



CHARIESSE SUTTON



TANESHIA HARRIS



BETTY YANCEY



PHYLLIS ALGOOD

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IN DECEMBER 2018, 33 WOMEN JOINED HANDS IN A SACRED BOND OF SISTERHOOD, UNITED IN A PROMISE TO UPLIFT, INSPIRE, AND SERVE.

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*Congratulations Sorors of the  
Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary  
& Sigma Tau Omega Sorority of  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.  
on the 21st Annual  
“Pearls With A Purpose Charity Gala”*



*Legacy  
Soror Myasia Ragland*



*Life Member & Silver Star  
Soror Maxine Ragland*



*Legacy  
Soror Ariah Mayotte*



# CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE

## *Sigma Tau Omega* Chapter

**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY INC.®**

YOUR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE, SISTERHOOD, AND EXCELLENCE IS  
AN INSPIRATION TO US ALL.

WE ARE HONORED TO STAND BESIDE YOU AS YOU CELEBRATE 21  
YEARS OF ELEGANCE, SERVICE, AND PURPOSE, MAY THIS YEAR'S  
GALA NOT ONLY CELEBRATE YOUR LEGACY BUT ALSO PAVE THE WAY  
FOR EVEN GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE YEARS TO COME.

CONGRATULATIONS  
FROM

*3 Sisters*  
EMBROIDERY, LLC

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ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC.

PHI LAMBDA CHAPTER



# CENTENNIAL GALA



**SAVE THE DATE:  
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# Sigma Tau Omega Sorors

## Alpha Phi Chapter



NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL  
AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY



Gwendolyn Avery  
Nicole Brown  
Monica Click  
Courtney Crews  
Ve-Lecia Council  
Kim Deck

Angelyn Eldridge  
Audra Foree  
Latisha Hamilton-Williams  
Rebecca Judge  
Connie Kennedy  
Cynthia Knight

Tammie Pulley  
Karen Ragin  
Pamela Thomas  
Robin Whitaker  
Catherine Wills  
Katina Williams  
Rebecca Womble

**AGGIE PRIDE** A graphic consisting of the words 'AGGIE PRIDE' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, followed by a blue heart and a yellow heart.

Congratulations  
Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc. on your  
21st Annual Pearls with A Purpose Gala.  
The Golden Sisters are proud of your achievements.



Alma Williams  
Angelyn Eldridge  
Annie Collins  
Barbara Miller  
Bobbie Williams  
Bonnie Whitney  
Catherine Davis  
Earline Middleton  
Elvira Howell  
Gail McMillian  
Gaynelle Shorter  
Gwen Spencer  
Ophelia Francis  
Patricia Warren  
Rosemary King  
Saundra McCullough-Cobey  
Willette Leach

Golden  
Sisters

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Honoring the Legacy of  
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Zeta Chapter 1946  
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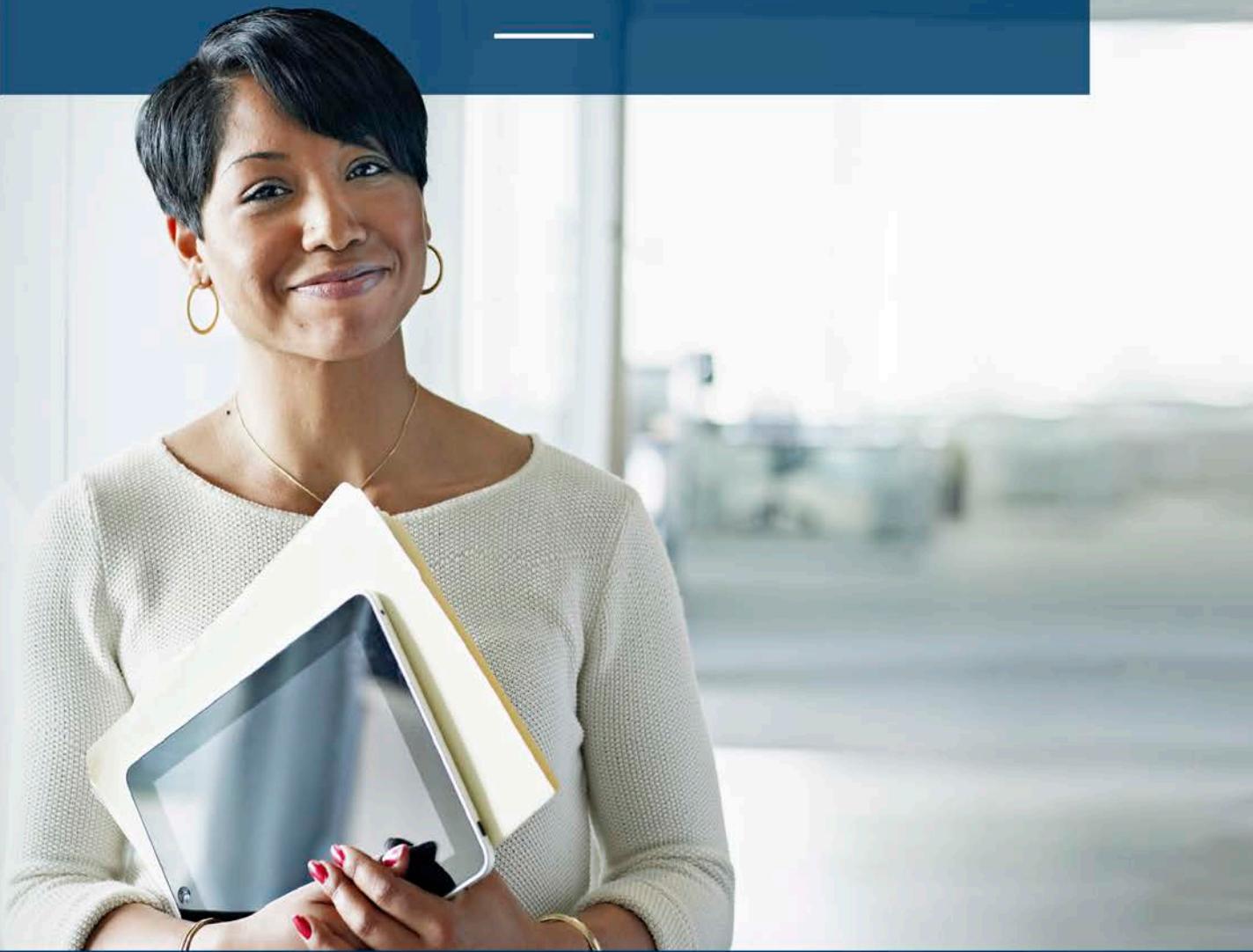
Missing you always

*Your Legacy, Priscilla Tyree Williams*

Iota Upsilon 1981  
Great Lakes Region

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A life well planned can offer each of us – any of us –

# THE POWER TO GIVE.



The causes that inspire you are as unique as the life you lead. We all live and give differently, but the support of the right financial partner has the power to multiply generosity. It's our privilege to help people make an impact – and to make our own.

**O'Connor Wealth Group is proud to support the Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Incorporated**

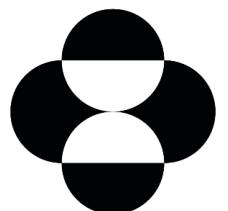
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**Merck salutes the Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc. for their mission to enhance the quality of life through program development and financial support in the areas of arts, economics, education, family, and health.**



**MERCK**

Congratulations to the Joy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Incorporated® and the phenomenal women of the Sigma Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®!

It is my honor to celebrate with you at the Pearls with a Purpose Charity Gala. Our mission to serve and enrich the lives of so many in our community through education, health, and economic programs is a testament to our unwavering dedication. I am honored to be a part of this special evening and to support our longstanding commitment to service and scholarship in the Cary and western Wake County communities.

Sherry L. Hunter, Silver Star and Life Member  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®  
Sigma Tau Omega Chapter





**BEST WISHES ON A SUCCESSFUL**  
*21<sup>st</sup> Annual Pearls with a Purpose Gala*  
**AN EVENING THAT IS SURE TO BE**  
*Enchanted Elegance*

**JESSICA TAMBA  
CHAPTER PRESIDENT**

ROBIN WHITAKER  
1990-1992

JEANNE HOLMES  
1993-1994

DENISE MARTIN  
1995

PHYLLIS ALGOOD  
1996

GAYNELLE SHORTER  
1997-1998

LORINZO JOYNER  
1999-2000

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2001-2002

KIM DECK  
2003-2006

VANYA ALLEN  
2007-2008

PHAEDRA J. GROVE  
2009-2012

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2013-2014

SHENÁ THORNTON  
2015-2018

STEPHANIE DAVENPORT  
2019-2020

ANDREA OWENS-BYRD  
2021-2024

*Sigma Tau Omega*  
**PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL**



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**Alpha Kappa Alpha  
Sorority, Incorporated ®  
Sigma Tau Omega  
Chapter's Spelman College  
alumnae congratulate the  
Ivy Community Service  
Foundation of Cary, Inc. on  
the Enchanted Elegance:  
A Sparkling Pink and Green  
Soiree!**

Pictured Clockwise from Top Left: JeNita Partridge-Peterkin, Mu Pi, Sp. '08; Kimberly Carter Byrd, Mu Pi, 'F '84; Tuere Bowles, Sigma Tau Omega, F '24; Prenessa Mickens Lowery, Mu Pi, Sp. 82; Ayana D. Hernandez, Theta Epsilon Omega, F '97; Kimberly Forde, Iota Nu Omega, Sp. '91.

*All Members of the Triangle NC Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College*





## *My STO Soror IS My Sister In Christ*

Sorors  
Phyllis Algood  
Charieese Sutton  
Bonnie Whitney  
Maxine Ragland  
Bernadette Pauling  
Myasia Ragland  
Katrina Hicks  
Anita Fraley



Sorors  
Gennine Gilchrist  
Harriet Gilchrist  
Connie Kennedy  
Gloria Taylor  
Taylor Hunt  
Patricia Warren  
Ashley Kelly  
Kimberly Limus  
Monika Johnson-  
Hostler

To the Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.:

Best Wishes!

*With grateful hearts, we are honored to contribute and celebrate the service-driven missions of the Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.*

*Fall 2024*

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated®,  
Sigma Tau Omega Chapter



Congratulations  
Sigma Tau Omega Chapter on  
35 Years of Service  
&  
21<sup>st</sup> Annual Pearls with a Purpose  
Charity Gala  
with the  
Ivy Community Service Foundation  
of Cary, Inc.

Soror Vanya Allen  
Silver Star, Life Member  
Gamma Theta, Spring 1985





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Consuela Chapman, LCSW LCAS  
Director of Clinical Engagement



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merry everything

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An advertisement for Deck & Adorn featuring various rolls of holiday-themed gift wrap and cards. The cards are pink with the text 'merry everything' repeated in a grid pattern. The gift wrap designs include a green tree pattern, a pink ballerina pattern, a green holly and berry pattern, and a pink striped pattern with a dragonfly. A small green tag with 'merry everything' is attached to one of the cards. The overall theme is pink and green.

# ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED ®

SIGMA TAU OMEGA CHAPTER

IVY COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION OF CARY, INCORPORATED



HONORING 27 YEARS OF SERVICE, SCHOLARSHIPS AND COMMUNITY IMPACT. THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

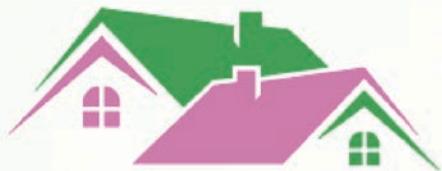
JUDGE SHAMIEKA RHINEHART  
JUDGE DOROTHY HAIRSTON MITCHELL  
JUDGE JOSEPHINE KERR DAVIS



Congratulations to the Sigma Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc on your 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Pearls with A Purpose.

We thank you for your continued support!

Visit us at [www.thelec.org](http://www.thelec.org)



## RMD PROPERTIES LLC

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CONGRATULATIONS ON THE  
21ST ANNUAL PEARLS  
WITH A PURPOSE  
CHARITY GALA



Kennedy Byrd  
Theta Pi  
Spring 2021

Andrea Owens-Byrd  
Kappa Kappa  
Spring 1990

*Congratulations*  
to the  
**Ivy Community Service Foundation of Cary, Inc.**  
and  
**Sigma Tau Omega Chapter**  
on another successful PWAP Gala!



**Jessica Tamba, President**  
**Sigma Tau Omega Chapter**

*The Alliance Group of NC, LLC  
Congratulates  
Sigma Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.  
We salute you and your efforts to provide service to all mankind.*

*Jacob Anderson  
Broker, Managing Member  
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A graphic illustration of two hands reaching towards each other over a warm, glowing orange and yellow background. The hands are positioned as if they are about to touch or are touching.

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# ~Thank You!~

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our  
**21st Annual Pearls With A Purpose Gala 2025:  
Enchanted Elegance: A Sparkling Pink & Green Soirée.**

Your presence, generosity, and commitment made the evening truly magical. Together, we continue to uplift, empower, and inspire our community, one pearl at a time.

Robin Whitaker, Jessica Tamba, Kenya Lloyd,  
Saundra McCullough-Cobey, and Kiara Ruth

# ~ Sponsors ~

**Pink & Green - \$2,500**

**Pearl - \$1,500**

**Tea Rose - \$800**

**Ivy - \$500**

**Golden Circle of Friends - \$100**



Thank you for your support and partnership.

**PWAP JOURNAL**



**PEARLFEET RAFFLE**



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