



PEARLS for Teen Girls, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **AWARD FOR WOMEN LEADER PRESENTED BY PEARLS FOR TEEN GIRLS**

MILWAUKEE – FEBRUARY 3 – PEARLS for Teen Girls is recognizing PEARLS alumnae striving to promote the values of the organization in their lives and careers through the second annual Alumna Chrysalis Award. Applications are currently open through March 21, and the award will be presented at PEARLS’ Inspired to Lead Gala on April 17, 2025.

PEARLS is a nonprofit with the mission of improving quality of life and strengthening our community one girl at a time by empowering young women and gender-expansive youth with self-development tools, guidance and support to strive for better, brighter futures by living out the PEARLS values: Personal Responsibility, Empathy, Awareness, Respect, Leadership and Support. They have provided unique mentorship and sisterhood to young girls in the Greater Milwaukee community for over 30 years.

The Alumna Chrysalis Award is \$1,500 and aims to help past PEARLS participants further their post-secondary goals in business pursuits or ongoing education.

“We’re thrilled to be providing a way to keep supporting the women who were once PEARLS girls,” said Jasmine Deacon, Director of Program Services. “Like we always say, ‘Once a PEARLS girl, always a PEARLS girl.’ This award is extra special because it’s named as a nod to Late Executive Director, Gerry Howze, who often referenced the process of a caterpillar becoming a butterfly as part of her own story and that of our girls, which is parallel to how a grain of sand develops into a pearl. This award perfectly encapsulates the theme of our gala and what we’re doing in the community – the “*Butterfly Effect*” of PEARLS.”

Inspired to Lead honors the founding PEARLS sisters, supporters and partners who contributed to making PEARLS what it is today. It also celebrates the continuation of this legacy and is a night of inspiration and opportunity to support the future leaders of Milwaukee. The 2025 event will be on Thursday, April 17, hosted at the Baird Center from 5:30-8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased here: <https://www.pearlsforteengirls.com/itl>.

For more information on requirements and to apply for the Alumna Chrysalis Award, visit: [www.pearlsforteengirls.com/alum](http://www.pearlsforteengirls.com/alum)



**PEARLS Alumna**  
**Chrysalis Award**

This is the inaugural award to recognize PEARLS Alumna in our community who are striving to promote Personal Responsibility, Empathy, Awareness, Respect, Leadership and Support!

**APPLY NOW**  
Deadline: March 21st

A photograph of five young women of diverse backgrounds, smiling and holding bouquets of flowers and awards. They are positioned in front of a large, stylized orange butterfly graphic. The word "PEARLS" is overlaid in white on the bottom center of the image.

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**About PEARLS:** PEARLS for Teen Girls is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering young women in grades 5-12 through mentorship, leadership development, and life-skills programming. By fostering confidence, resilience, and ambition, PEARLS helps young women realize their full potential and become impactful leaders in their communities. For more information, visit [www.pearlsforteengirls.com](http://www.pearlsforteengirls.com)