



Nebraska State Chapter P.E.O. Newsletter

The Gift of P.E.O.: ★ Sisterhood ★ Education ★ Leadership "

October 2025 • Issue #4

Convention of International Chapter!



If you have never had the opportunity to attend Convention of International Chapter, you have really missed out on an amazing experience.

It is something that you have to be a part of to really understand. And just so you know, any P.E.O. sister can attend

as a guest! The Nebraska delegation this year had 55 in attendance. There were over 3000 in attendance. Below is our delegation all pretty in pink!



Please take the time to watch some of the videos from the Philanthropy Program. As always, these women are amazing. Remember they are there because of what we do in the local chapter to support women. Remember each chapter needs to present a report of CIC before the end of November!

Be sure to share the Gift of P.E.O. You CAN make a difference!

-Jean Matheny, NSC President

Upcoming Reciprocity Meetings

Reciprocity meetings are a great way to meet sisters from other chapters, get fundraising ideas, spectacular meeting topics, affirmation that "you got this"! It is a time to celebrate chapter anniversaries, Golden Girls, and hear news from state level committees.

It is definitely worth taking the time to attend. Click [here](#) the schedule for all reciprocity meetings across Nebraska. Carpool with your sisters and celebrate the successes of your reciprocity group. Mark your calendar and make a day of it!

See if you can set an attendance record with the number of sisters from each chapter!!!

P.E.O.—Where women motivate, educate and celebrate women.



Seeking Nebraska Sisters Building a Leadership Pipeline October 2025

Leadership Qualities

Supportive	Inspirational	Creative
Honest	Highly Committed	Critical Thinker
Passionate	Reflective/Decisive	Problem Solver
Learner	LOVE P.E.O.	Able-bodied
Team Player	Helpful/Caring	Energetic

As quick as the fall leaves are turning and falling;

The window of opportunity to express interest in becoming a part of the Nebraska State Executive Board is getting short. Perhaps some of you are already moving toward taking that jump into an incredible, fulfilling, and meaningful adventure impacting NE P.E.O. Chapter.

**Learn how you can become a leader in Nebraska! Find out how-NOW!
Jump into a new adventure and a big pile of leaves this fall! We need you,
stop thinking about how you can make an impact and ACT NOW!**

JUMP IN-IT'S TIME!

PROCESS FOR FALL 2025:

- ✓ Complete a "Willingness to Serve" form found in the 2025 Convention Delegate Packet or on the Nebraska P.E.O. website:
www.nebraskapeo.org
- ✓ Contact Kellie Stang ASAP indicating your interest in being a candidate for the executive board and she will send application materials to you and answer any questions!

Paperwork must be returned to Kellie:

- The completed "Prospective Nominee Information Form"
- A brief resume`
- Personal Statement as indicated on the "Information Form".
- A letter of support from the chapter

Submit all to Kellie Stang no later than **Saturday, November 1, 2025.**

- Interviews will take place, likely via Zoom, in mid-November, at a convenient time for you.
- Decision made and applicants notified by no later than February 28th, 2025.

I encourage you to call or email me! I will gladly explain the process and how meaningful serving on the state board is!! For more information and to request materials, please contact:

Kellie Stang, Chair of the State Nominating Committee
6430 Holdrege St., Lincoln, NE 68505

Cell: 402-729-7677 / EMAIL: kelliepeo@gmail.com

Tech Tidbits

The 2025 Convention of Nebraska State Chapter Convention Proceedings are now available on the state website.

Click [here](#) to access the resource! Hard copies will be available soon for those who ordered them, but in the meantime online resources are available now.

Update on the P.E.O. Hub: all member resources have been moved to the P.E.O. Hub and now can be found in Library under the same categories and names. Be sure to view the P.E.O. Hub Training to learn about any of the topics you are interested in or need to know about in order to fulfill your duties as an officer of your chapter. Embrace the change!

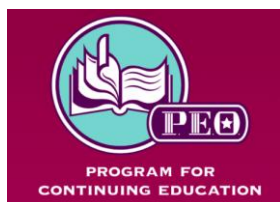
*Leann Drullinger, PSP, AK
Technology for NSC*

CIC Corner

If you haven't heard, Nebraska is hosting International Convention in 2031!!! Looking forward to the convention store, we are looking to showcase all the wonderful talent in Nebraska. If you are an artist or crafter, we are looking for you! Please contact us at OmahaCIC2031@gmail.com and let us know what you may like to bring to the store to sell to your P.E.O. sisters across the nation!! Pictures would be fabulous!!! Can't wait to see all the amazing talent coming from Nebraska P.E.O. sisters!

*Convention Chairs
Nicole Berner & Renee Piper*

Program for Continuing Education



Did you know. . . Your chapter can sponsor the same woman for a PCE grant AND an ELF loan at the same time? As long as she meets the requirements for each individually, there is nothing preventing her from applying for and receiving both for the same schooling term.

The new international P.E.O. HUB website has all of the information you need for sponsoring a PCE candidate. To find it, look on the left side under **Projects/Foundation** and then **PCE (Program for Continuing Education)**.

As a reminder the eligibility requirements for a PCE Grant are:

- *Is recommended by a local chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood*
- *Is a citizen or legal permanent resident of the US or Canada*
- *Is enrolled in a certification or degree program from an accredited institution; has not already earned a master's degree or above*
- *Is living and studying in the US or Canada for the entire course of study*
- *Has had at least 24 consecutive months as a non-student sometime in her adult life*
- *Is within 18 consecutive months of completing her educational program*
- *Is enrolled in an education program which, one concluded, will lead to employment or job advancement*

NOTE:

- *A PCE grant is not to be used for living expenses or to repay educational loans or personal debt.*
- *The grant cannot be used in prerequisite courses needed to secure admission into another program of study.*
- *A student who is choosing immediate continuation of her education beyond the current program for which the grant is requested is not eligible.*
- *A student who has already earned a master's degree or above is not eligible.*
- *A student who is enrolled in a post-master's certificate or doctoral program is not eligible.*

If your chapter has questions or needs help sponsoring a woman, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Heather Adams Chair, heatherapeo@gmail.com

STAR Scholarship



I hope most of you are sitting back knowing that your STAR nominations are in and your nominees are busy or done with their part. Good feeling, isn't it? If you have not nominated anyone, I have two candidates ready for you. Please e-mail me or call me for their names and information. Both nominees have received strong endorsements, and your support would be a source of pride.

Be sure to keep in contact with your nominee. Words of encouragement demonstrate our support for their potential as future scholars and leaders.

If you have questions, please call me at 402-968-4606 or e-mail at chmeyer@cox.net.

*Charlene Meyer, STAR
Chairman*

International Peace Scholarship



The International Peace Scholarship fund was established by the P.E.O. Sisterhood because it believed education is fundamental to global peace and understanding. Women from around the world can complete advanced degrees in the United States and then return to their homelands and make them better places for their citizens.

Now is the time for a student's eligibility to be established—September 15, 2025–December 15, 2025 for the 2026–2027 academic school year. Complete eligibility requirements can be found on the website www.peointernational.org.

February 1, 2026 is the last day to submit application forms from students already enrolled in a graduate school program, and March 1, 2026 is the deadline for students not yet enrolled in graduate studies. That is also the final date for applicants who will be attending Cottey College. Notification of scholarship awards of up to \$12,500.00 happens in May and June 1, 2026 is the last day for students to accept the scholarships.

One of Nebraska's recipients told me she found out about our I.P.S. through the Fulbright Foundation Scholarship Program. The administrators of it spoke highly of our I.P.S. scholarship and P.E.O. Maybe you could share information about the I.P.S. with a college or university within your area of Nebraska and more international students could become I.P.S. awardees?

Carol Sorensen, Chair IPS



Educational Loan Fund

Autumn is here, bringing crisp air and the cozy flavors of the season. As we gather with loved ones during the holidays, it's the perfect time to think about women in our lives who may be pursuing education and

could use some financial support.

When you sit down for Thanksgiving dinner, consider this—could one of the women around your table be the next candidate for the P.E.O. Educational Loan Fund?

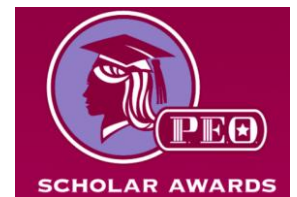
ELF supports women in many stages of their education—whether working toward undergraduate, technical, or vocational degrees, or even advanced degrees such as master's or doctorates. Eligibility requires that applicants be currently enrolled and within 6–24

months of graduation. For women in shorter programs, such as technical or vocational training, that 6–24 month period may cover their entire course of study.

Because timing is so important, it's worth reminding the women you know that ELF is an affordable, low-interest option designed to ease the burden of educational costs. It may be just the support they need to reach the finish line.

Wishing you a joyful, healthy, and blessed Thanksgiving season. And perhaps, this year, the next ELF candidate will be discovered right at your own holiday table.

Francie Prier,
Chapter HP, Omaha,
ELF Chair



P.E.O. Scholar Awards

I'd like to begin this month's update a little differently.

One question we're often asked is: "How do you find women who could benefit from

the Scholar Award?" Let me share a recent experience that answers that very question.

In September, my daughter had basketball tryouts. Like many parents, I was rushing around after school to get her registered and into the gym. Once she was settled, I joined a group of parents waiting in the common area. I greeted a few familiar faces and soon found myself chatting with a fellow P.E.O. sister from my chapter. We were discussing our upcoming fundraiser — a community Ladies' Night featuring a silent auction — when another mom, who had been listening, joined the conversation. She was a fellow mother of a second grader, and we invited her to attend the event.

Curious, she asked, "What is the fundraiser for?" We began explaining the various projects and scholarships supported by P.E.O. That's when she said, "I wish you had a scholarship for women pursuing a doctorate. I'm currently working on mine and could really use the support."

My sister and I immediately responded — almost in unison — "We do!" We spent the rest of the evening talking with her, and we are now hoping to sponsor this incredible woman as she works toward her Doctorate in Education.

I share this story as a reminder: **keep talking**. That's how we spread the word. That's how we discover women who need our help. Every casual conversation can lead to a meaningful connection. So keep sharing what P.E.O. does — you never know who might be listening.

The P.E.O. Scholar Awards are one-time, competitive, merit-based awards; priority is given to women who are well-established in their programs, study or research. Award amounts vary. Eligible women are within two years of completing their doctoral level degrees.

Applications are due November 20th!

As the leaves begin to fall, I hope the possibilities for women to sponsor rises.

Cristy Fryzek, Chapter IV, Hickman, State Scholar Chair

Don't Forget...



PEO International

45m · 🌐

...

By the time you have interviewed your P.E.O. project recipients, you know enough about them to know they would make excellent sisters! This new chapter program about the Program for Continuing Education gives chapters ideas for bringing your PCE recipients into your chapter as new members.



ChanGe

I love the fall season: the colors, the

smells, all the pumpkin treats!

Fall reminds me that change can be good and beautiful.

At the recent International Convention in Phoenix, one of the speakers talked about change - how making changes in your chapter can bring a new vitality while simultaneously keeping P.E.O. traditions. I will be sharing her points in the newsletter. The next several months. ChanGe must be intentional not by chanCe.



P.E.O. is a gift! Celebrate your sisters and your chapter! Enjoy!

A Few Words from the Treasurer

Project donations are due to Jean Danley by December 15th. If you have not already, NOW is the time to discuss the amount you will be giving to each project. The donations from the local chapters are the heart of P.E.O. makes it possible for P.E.O. to provide the

scholarships, grants and loans to those women who want to further their education

This is the first time I attended Convention of International Chapter.

WOW! It is an awesome event and would highly recommend anyone that can attend in 2027 to please do so. It gives a much larger picture of what P.E.O. really does to promote the education of women. It was interesting to listen to all the discussion and voting on the proposed amendments and shows how we work together to make changes for the benefit and future of P.E.O.!!

Capri McGuire, NSC Treasurer

Now is the time to submit your form to Adopt-A-Cottery Student or Suite!

The Adopt-A-Cottery-Student or Suite is in full swing. Jennifer Kriha worked diligently to find matches for all requests last year and has agreed to fill this spot again for us this year. There is some frustration in this process due to the timing of when Cottery can finalize their student lists for release and when excited and eager Local Chapters want to start communicating with a student or suite. Cottery time and Chapter time don't always fall in line together. Mid-September/October are not ideal dates for chapter planning, but it is for the academic world, so we learn some patience. Now is the time to fill out your forms and send them to Jennifer. Thank you for participating. The students love when they receive anything.

The form is under the toolbox on the Nebraska website or follow this link <https://nebraskapeo.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Adopt-A-Student-2025-26-Form.pdf>

On behalf of the Cottery Committee: Renee Piper, PSP, Chapter HX, Chair



Join Us at Cottery!

Join us for P.E.O. Visit Day/Weekend!

Explore Cottery's campus, connect with students, and witness the difference your support makes.

Friday Night: Reception at the President's House and Theatre Performance

Saturday: Campus tour, lunch, All Things Cottery session, and more!

First 50 guests traveling 100+ miles who register for Friday receive free hotel accommodations (double occupancy).

Bring a Student! Rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors enjoy interactive activities, a waived application fee, and a \$1,500 renewable scholarship upon enrollment.

Register by October 24, 2025. Learn more and sign up at cottery.edu/peo/p-e-o-visit-day.





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Membership Moment!

These chapter welcomed transfers since
June 1.

K - Lincoln

ID - Wayne

Congratulations to our initiating chapters!
Chapters listed below have initiated new
sisters since June 1.

H-Holdrege (3)

CW-Sargent

K-Lincoln (2)

DG-Ponca

O-Geneva (2)

DS-Superior

V-Lincoln (2)

EH-Grand Island

X-McCook

EM-Bloomfield

AL-Madison

FD-Omaha

AU-Peru

FF-IA-Lincoln (2)

AX-Crawford

FH-Hastings

BE-Pierce

FM-Beatrice (2)

BM-Ainsworth

FR-Sidney (2)

BR-GV-Lincoln (2)

FT-Omaha

BU-Atkinson

FV-Nebraska City (2)

CA-Valentine (4)

GM-Omaha

CB-Ravenna

HA-Columbus

CF-Nebraska City

HR-Gibbon

CM-Crete (2)

IB-Cozad (2)

CQ-Neligh

IE-Omaha

CU-Norfolk

II-Grand Island (2)

IX-Kearney (2)



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Nebraska P.E.O. Home
The Home That Love Built

October 2025

**Nebraska P.E.O. Home, 413 North 5th
Street, Beatrice, NE 68310-2902**

**Phone: 402-228-4208 Email: nebraskapeohome@outlook.com
<https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>**

RESIDENT NEWS: Our sympathy to the family of Margie Johnson who passed away on September 9, 2025. Our sympathy to the family of Mary Weyers who passed away on September 12, 2025. We always express sympathy to the staff who have had the pleasure of working for the benefit of our residents as well.

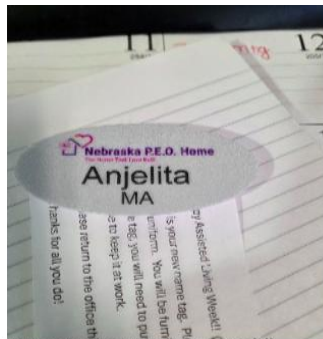
THE GOOD NEWS: Welcome to Evalyn Fitzwater, Chapter FM / Beatrice. Evalyn is a delightful woman who is a retired Registered Nurse. She is the mother of three children.

National Assisted-Living Week: This week of celebration began Sunday, September 7, 2025. A family picnic launched the special week on that Sunday. On Tuesday, our employees were recognized for their years of service to our Home. They also received a newly designed T-shirt. Residents will be receiving a fun T-shirt soon. A trip to the beautiful Cancer Garden in Humboldt was a day trip for residents. Many games and activities were done or played. One of the most fun was "Knock the (plastic) Cup off the Head". LOTS of laughter and fun. Residents also had a "Jungle Safari" day – they were served "mocktails" and the dining room was beautifully decorated as a tropical location.



The T-Shirts Say, "Making a Difference in the Lives We Touch"

Pictured here are staff members: Felicia and Jessalyn—and the Home Boxer, Kash.
Staff also received new "official" name tags.



Staff who worked the day shift on Friday, September 12, 2025.

Contact Information Nebraska P.E.O. Home Activities and Projects

**Nebraska P.E.O. Home
413 North 5th Street
Beatrice, NE 68310-
2902 Phone: 402-228-4208
www.nebraskapeohome.org**

To Request a Program:

Contact Lisa Helmick
402-669-4186
lisapeocoxnet@yahoo.com

To Participate in the Adopt Program:

Contact Nebraska P.E.O. Home
Cindy Zajicek, Activity Director
402-228-4208

peohomeactivities@gmail.com

Mail gifts and cards to the address
above and be sure to include the
Resident or Staff Member's name
in the address.

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P.E.O. Newsletter *continued...*

Willingness to Serve: (begins the process to apply to become a Board Director)

Log in to nebraskapeo.org to obtain the Form. Complete and return to:

Beth Anderson
10715 S Circle
Omaha NE 68127
402-212-3851
beth4peo@gmail.com

AND TO Jeanne Wicks
3724 S 83rd St Circle
Lincoln NE 68506
402-440-1525
jmwick2@gmail.com

Donation Forms: Needed with every donation to the P.E.O. Home (except for the Adopt gifts)

Available on the Home website under the "Get in Touch" tab
Purposeful Life donations have a separate form than other donations to the P.E.O. Home

2025-2026 P.E.O. Home Board (photo and names will be on the website soon!)



TOURS OF OUR HOME, please know these things: ALWAYS make arrangements through our Home Administrator: Shari Little – contact info below:

--Monday through Friday works

best – morning is rather busy, but afternoon or evening certainly works. Only one weekend, per month, could work as well, **ask Shari.**

Contact Shari Little, well in advance, please.

nebraskapeohome@outlook.com

IMPORTANT TOUR UPDATES: When planning for a tour, please be as accurate as possible on the number visiting. It is best to check back a week BEFORE your chapter tour to be sure all you requested has been

arranged. For example, be sure the time of the tour is set.

Please arrive on time – make a phone call if you are going to be late.

--If you plan to have a chapter meeting, that needs to be known when arrangements are made – it does take time for employees to set up the chapter room.

--**Extremely important** that anyone who is not feeling well – sore throat, runny nose, cough, unusual fatigue, temperature, etc. should refrain from visiting at this time – or you WILL be required to wear a mask for the entire visit. Please know, that for most of the public, the covid virus is no more than a cold. However, for those in long-term care it means quarantining, dressing in gowns, masks, and face shields. Please be aware of these regulations to protect our Residents and staff.

SEEKING NEW BOARD DIRECTOR TO BEGIN IN JUNE 2026:

The P.E.O. Home Board Nominating Committee is seeking applicants for a Board Director opening that needs to be filled at the Nebraska State Convention in June of 2026.

We do have focus areas for our nominating committee to consider in the way of skills, talents, and abilities of our Directors. For this position, we are hoping to find an NE Sister with **technology**,

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P.E.O. Newsletter *continued...*

marketing, financial, and human relations specialties. We do like representation from all over the state of Nebraska so that is a consideration as well.

If interested, please complete a **“Willingness to Serve Form”** – on the Nebraska website: Nebraskapeo.org **and send it to the state Vice President, Beth Anderson as directed, but please also send a copy to the Home nominating committee chair: Jeanne Wicks, 3724 South 83rd St Cir, Lincoln, NE 68506 – you can also email her at: jmwicks2@gmail.com**

These forms are due to Jeanne Wicks by December 1, 2024. You will receive application materials to complete and return to Jeanne Wicks. All candidates will be interviewed, and a decision will be made as to the selectee by the end of January 2026.

THANK YOU FOR

CONSIDERING: The Nebraska P.E.O. Home is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization. Your donation may be tax deductible. Check with your financial planner or tax preparer to see if your donation may be eligible to be deducted from your taxes.

NEW WEBSITE and P.E.O. HOME PROGRAMS LAUNCHED SEPTEMBER 1, 2025:

--An updated and NEW P.E.O. Home website was launched on September 1, 2025.

The address is the same: <https://www.nebraskapeohome.org/>

As per usual, you will find donation forms, information about current Resident birthdays, photos of events and the Home itself, the current monthly HOME Newsletter Article (which will continue to be archived for a year), Adopt and Purposeful Life Program information, contact information, career/job openings and an application, etc. Check it out!

Our sincere thank you to all of you who support our Home with donations of items and financial donations. You are continuing to sustain The Home that Love Built.

