



Relationship with Child Sponsor

Motivates Student to Overcome Obstacles

Chi Duc was born in Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam. When he was three years old, his father passed away. Life became hard and miserable as his mother had to take care of three children on a very low income. Chi Duc and his two elder sisters were welcomed into Friendship Orphanage in 2016. Friendship Orphanage is one of the seven orphanages supported by Pearl S. Buck International.

Chi Duc was five years old when he entered the orphanage and started a new life. In the beginning, finding himself in new and strange surroundings, Chi Duc was quiet, shy, and spoke very little. He gradually got accustomed with his new living environment and with his foster siblings and housemothers. He became active, sociable, eager to learn, and happy.

In 2017, Chi Duc was sponsored through Pearl S. Buck International. The support of his sponsor encourages him and makes him more optimistic and confident. Encouraging letters and monthly cash gifts have created an intimate bond between him and his sponsor even though they live far away from each other. They began as little more than strangers but are now close at heart. The love and caring of his sponsor and dedicated housemothers in the orphanage are a huge encouragement for Chi Duc to put much effort into his learning. He is smart, mature, active, and sociable. He



is a very emotional child and cares about the people around him. He always achieves excellent grades in school and is usually one of the top 5 best students in the class.

Apart from his outstanding academic achievements, Chi Duc also loves sports; he has won a number of competitions such as third prize in the school-level soccer team, third prize at district level shuttlecock, and second prize in district level basketball. At school, he always enthusiastically participates in all extracurricular activities and clubs. He is appreciative to have benefited from the Pearl S. Buck International Vietnam project providing students with school supplies.

This year, Chi Duc is in 7th grade at Thai Think Secondary School. He continues to study hard and spends his free time playing sports to keep fit and healthy. In the future, his goal is to pursue his passion and become a basketball coach.

Chi Duc has a good life today, thanks to the caring, encouragement, and support

of his sponsor through letters, photos, and small gifts. It is a huge motivation for him to overcome obstacles in life and make the greatest effort to pursue his aspirations, achieve his goals, and become a helpful citizen in the future. Thank you to Chi Duc's sponsor for inspiring all his current achievements and to all our sponsors for helping all the children in our sponsorship program succeed and have a chance at a bright future!



60th Anniversary Fashion Exhibit to Open at the Historic Pearl S. Buck Estate March 15

Hidden Gems: Fashioning A Legacy

In celebration of Pearl S. Buck International's 60th anniversary in 2024, a special two-month limited exhibit, **Hidden Gems: Fashioning A Legacy**, will open March 15 in the Conference Center on the grounds of the historic Pearl S. Buck Estate, 520 Dublin Road, Perkasie, PA 18944.

This exhibit will showcase the best representations of Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, humanitarian, and activist Pearl S. Buck's personal style through her intact collection of American and Asian fashion, jewelry, shoes, handbags, hand fans, gloves, and associated archival material.

A woman well ahead of her time, Ms. Buck had a distinctive style. She had the opportunity to live in two vastly distinct cultures and carefully chose clothing and accessories to represent the two halves of herself and her life. The fashions exhibited will also be used as the vehicle to tell the story of Pearl S. Buck International's work and impact since 1964.

Visitors will learn not just about Ms. Buck's unique personal style and that of American women in the early 20th century but will understand the impact the foundation has had over 60 years and how they can continue Ms. Buck's humanitarian, cross-cultural, and educational legacy.



See the dress worn by Pearl Buck at the White House Nobel Laureate Dinner



Pearl S. Buck was a writer, activist, and humanitarian. She was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in Literature for her novel, *The Good Earth*, and the Nobel Prize in Literature for her body of work. Ms. Buck used the spotlight on her to shine a light on the plight of marginalized people everywhere and to advocate for the civil rights movement in the U.S. She also founded Welcome House (the world's first international biracial adoption agency) and established The Pearl S. Buck Foundation (now Pearl S. Buck International) to provide international humanitarian aid.

Pearl Buck's personal make up, jewelry, receipts, awards, and other artifacts will be featured within the exhibit as they relate to events the outfits were worn for with a focus on Ms. Buck's and Pearl S. Buck International's humanitarian and activism work since 1964.

A special exhibit preview night for Pearl S. Buck International members will be March 14. Tickets for the exhibit will be available soon. For more information, go to <https://pearlsbuck.org/hidden-gems/>.

To become a Pearl S. Buck International member and take advantage of everything that offers, including invites to special members-only events such as the exhibit preview night, and free tours of the Pearl S. Buck House National Historic Landmark museum, go to <https://pearlsbuck.org/support-us/membership/>.

Your membership supports the humanitarian, cross-cultural, and educational work of Pearl S. Buck International both locally and abroad.