

January Foundation Forum-Teacher Edition

Dear Friend,

We hope you enjoyed the holiday season and are ready for a fresh start in 2012! We are excited to share our recent news and upcoming events and hope you'll think of us when making any charitable donations this year.

Please forward this [link](#) to anyone you feel would be interested in learning more about the Pinellas Education Foundation. [Read more here](#) or [donate now](#).

Thank you for your continued support! We wish you and yours a stellar start to the new year!



Retirement Planning Seminars

The Pinellas Education Foundation is pleased to continue offering its Retirement Planning Seminars.

Save the date for one of these two seminars:

- Thursday, March 15 @ 5:45 p.m.

Jacobson Culinary Arts Academy, Tarpon Springs High School
1411 Gulf Road, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689-2799
Cosponsored by Freedom Square & Lake Seminole Square
Registration will open February 2.

- Tuesday, April 24 @ 5:45 p.m.

Gus A. Stavros Institute, 12100 Starkey Road, Largo, FL 33773
Cosponsored by Arden Courts
Registration will open in late March

For further information [click here](#), or email jacquelyn.schuett@pinellaseducation.org.

PEF 101

Have lunch on us!

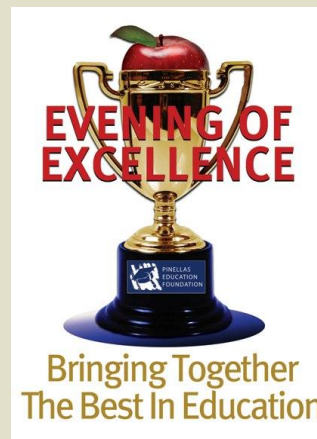
Interested in learning more about our Foundation? Bring members of your company or organization to learn more about the Pinellas Education Foundation in addition to holding your own offsite meeting. We'll provide lunch, talk about what we do and how you can get involved and give a tour of our acclaimed Enterprise Village and Finance Park in less than an hour.

Email [Tamra Eitel](mailto:Tamra.Eitel@pef.org) to schedule a PEF 101 meeting for your group that will be tailored to focus on your specific interests and present relevant opportunities to get involved.

If you would like to attend a current meeting, our next one will be on [February 16th](#).

Youth Connect

Come celebrate the best in education!



Please join the Pinellas Education Foundation and Pinellas County Schools in celebrating the **Best in Education** at the **2012 Evening of Excellence**.

Award show tickets are available for \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at [Pinellas Education Foundation](#) or at [Ruth Eckerd Hall](#). VIP tickets are \$125. Ticket prices include Dessert Reception. Purchase your tickets NOW as time is running out.

To vote for your favorite Outstanding Educator of the Year, [click here](#).

When: Monday, February 27, 2012
VIP Dinner 5:30 pm – Awards Show 7 pm
Followed by the Dessert Reception

Where: Ruth Eckerd Hall
1111 N. McMullen Booth Road
Clearwater, FL

For more information on this event, [click here](#).

Visit www.pinellaseducation.org to purchase your tickets. Please contact Robin McGowan for sponsorship opportunities. 727.588.4816 ext. 2113

Save the date!



Thomas Meyer, a student in pTEC St Petersburg's Auto Collision Repair and Refinishing program and a participant in the Youth Connect program, recently completed restoration of an antique Volkswagen Beetle. The car, a 1963 Wolfsburg, was completed for a local customer who plans to enter it into local car shows. Thomas has been in the pTEC program since October 2010, and will graduate in April 2012. He is already working in the field at Color Concepts in Clearwater, a job he enjoys and hopes to continue in once he graduates. Says Thomas: "I'd like to thank Youth Connect for helping me to get where I am today and helping me to be successful in life."

Scrapbook Crop!



Achieva Credit Union's 3rd annual "Scrapbook Crop" will be taking place on Saturday, February 11th, 2012 at the Gus Stavros Institute (12100 Starkey Rd.). The event will begin at 9 a.m. and end around 4 p.m. The cost will be \$30 per person and all proceeds will go to Pinellas County Schools. Space is limited, so register today!

Lunch, drinks and snacks will be included. There will be a limited tool station for everyone to use. Supplies will be available for purchase. Raffles will take place throughout the day. Also, Consultants and Vendors will be on site. Both members and non-members are welcome!



Visit <http://www.AchievaCU.com> and search "Scrapbook" to download a registration form today!

Your completed registration form and payment must be received by Wednesday, February 8, 2012.

Call (727) 431-7685 or email CommunityEvents@AchievaCU.com with Scrapbook Crop event questions.

Call for volunteers!

College Goal Sunday 2012, presented by FASFAA, is being held the weekend of February 11th and 12th, 2012. Volunteers are needed.

FASFAA is an organization of over 700 financial aid professionals who represent all sectors of the financial aid



The Foundation would like to cordially invite you to the Annual Auction for Education that will be taking place at the **Mahaffey Theater on Friday, March 2nd from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

VIP Tickets are \$50 and will include food and beverage.

General Admission Tickets are \$20 and will include food and a cash bar will be available.

Teacher/Senior Citizen Admission Tickets are \$10 and will include food and a cash bar will be available.

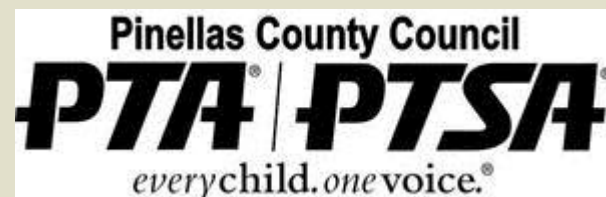
For more information, please email Susan Hancock at hancocks@pinellaseducation.org or call 727.588.4816 ext. 2109.

5000 Role Model Student



Jovanta Boyd (pictured above), one of the 5000 Role Model's alumni from Northeast High School, received his Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University on Saturday, December 10. He obtained this degree in just three and a half years! On Friday, January 6, in Dallas, Texas, Boyd played in the Cotton Bowl. Kansas State wound up losing the game, 29-16, to Arkansas. Boyd was back in his hometown of St. Petersburg earlier this month and was busy seeing his old friends and family.

Pinellas Education Foundation's 2011-2012 PTA/PTSA Grants



The Pinellas Education Foundation is proud to partner with the Pinellas County Council PTA/PTSA and provide a grant opportunity for local PTA/PTSA members. Applications are due by midnight February 1, 2012. Applications must be submitted electronically to education@pccpta.org.

Please visit <http://www.pinellaseducation.org/index.cfm/do/Employees.Grants/Grants.htm> for more information about the grant and how to apply.

community, including postsecondary institutions in Florida, lending institutions, state governmental agencies, loan servicing agencies and other organizations that support financial aid administration.

If you plan to volunteer and would like 2012-13 FAFSA completion training, register for the webinars that are available on the volunteer page. Please visit their website at www.fasfaa.org/cgs or contact any member of the CGS Florida Committee for additional information.

Disney Friends for Change Grants



Disney Friends for Change Grants offer young change-makers an opportunity to receive a \$1,000 grant to help make a lasting, positive change in the world. Whether you are passionate about protecting the planet, providing meals to those who need it or giving kids just like you the resources they need to star in their own play, be an athlete or an artist, you can be a Friend for Change! Whatever your interests, a Disney Friends for Change Grant can help you make a difference for people, communities and the planet. Youth ages 5-18 located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia are eligible to apply for a \$1,000 grant.

The deadline to apply is February 29!

Please visit www.YSA.org/grants/disney-friends-change-grants for more information and to begin the application process.

Thank you to our December donors.

Visit our [website](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and on [Facebook](#)!

What is your New Year's Resolution?



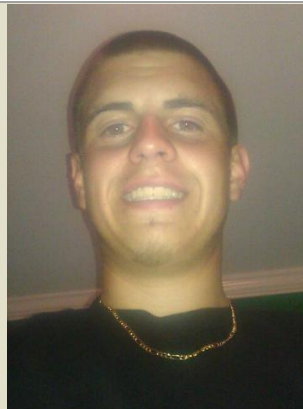
"My new years resolution is to be more optimistic and appreciate every little thing that I have."

Alicia Carrillo
Senior
Gibbs High School



"My new years resolution is to raise enough money to go to Peru in the summer and go to India in the fall."

Trey Johnson
Senior
Gibbs High School



"My new years resolution is to finish my senior year off strong."

Christian McKinney
Senior
Northeast High School



"My new years resolution is to keep playing basketball and make sure my grades are high enough for myself to keep playing."

David Secin
Freshman
Dixie Hollins High School

Verizon Thinkfinity Winners

Verizon Thinkfinity has selected the following teachers as recipients of the 2011-2012 Verizon Thinkfinity grants! Selected teachers will be receiving separate emails with instructions on how to implement their grants. Verizon would like to thank all who applied and please visit <http://www.thinkfinity.org/in-the-classroom> for exciting classroom ideas and lessons.

Kim Salmon	Osceola Fundamental HS	Comic Creator
Diane Dove	Safety Harbor MS	A Picture's Worth a Thousand Words: From Image to Detailed Narrative
Janet Canfield	Pinellas Park HS	Exploring Literature through Letter-Writing Groups
Dawn Sheehy	Palm Harbor MS	3-2-1 Vocabulary: Learning Filmmaking Vocabulary by Making Films
Lisa Pierzchalski	Bauder ES	Trading for Quarters
Donna Hanak	Seminole HS	1) Analyzing the Stylistic Choices of Political Cartoons 2) Comic Creator
Lorretta La More	Dixie M. Hollins HS	Low-Level Nuclear Waste: A Geographic Analysis
Brittany Fuller	M. K. Rawlings ES	Weather Watching from Illuminations
Jennifer Leggio	Highland Lakes ES	Financial Literacy- You Can Bank on This!
Jennifer Bolton	Mount Vernon ES	How Does My Garden Grow? Writing Science Field Journals

Planet Green Group selects recipients

Planet Green Group has selected the below as recipients of the Planet Green Group Grant award. Those selected will be receiving an additional email from Planet Green Group shortly. Planet Green Group would like to say thank you to all who participated.

Karen Bell	Dixie Hollins Ad.ED. Center	Transitioning Students
Martyne La Duke	Sawgrass Lake ES	Environmental Awareness
Carrie Zdrubecky	Belleair ES	Fine Motor Centers
Rachel Davis	Bardmoor ES	Great Green Earth
Phoebe Waller	Pasadena Fundamental ES	What's that you say? Reduce/Reuse/Recycle
Jane Burgos	Lake St. George ES	Listening Center
Brian G. Minkin	PTEC Clearwater	PTEC Clearwater Culinary Arts Garden
Jennifer Auletta Lumm	San Jose ES	Signing Time for Students with Autism
Jeannine Oldani	Pinellas Park ES	Embryology in the Classroom
Katharine Tremblay	Shore Acres ES	Lending Library

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