

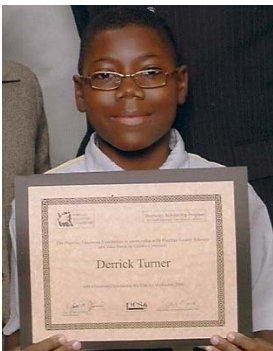


Foundation Forum

November 2008

This is a monthly newsletter to keep you updated on projects and initiatives of the Pinellas Education Foundation. Please forward this to anyone you feel would be interested in learning more about the Pinellas Education Foundation.

Meet Doorways Scholar Derrick Turner



October 2008 was a busy month for Derrick Turner, sixth grader at Southside Fundamental Middle School. Not only did he become a Doorways Scholar, but he was also inducted into the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Program. Derrick already engages his teachers so that he will continue to maintain Doorways standards. "Derrick now meets with his teachers after school to review material to ensure he understands it. The Doorways Program has inspired him to communicate with his teachers to keep his grades up," says his mother.

In his spare time, Derrick plays the clarinet for Southside's Band. This multi-talented student has also danced in *The Chocolate Nutcracker* and loves to play most sports. Leadership and community service are not foreign to Derrick, who has been involved with the Student Council.

This future Gator has his sights set on becoming a businessman, lawyer or professional baseball player for the Tampa Bay Rays. As one of Mayor Baker's Mayors Mentors and More students, we are sure this is music to Mayor Baker's ears. The Pinellas Education Foundation is proud of Derrick's transition from elementary to middle school and we look forward to seeing many more milestones from this young man.

Teachers Granted More Than \$75,000 For Innovative Classroom Projects

More than \$75,000 was awarded to nearly 50 Pinellas County public school teachers to fund classroom projects designed to promote student achievement through the Pinellas Education Foundation's Teach for Excellence Classroom Grant Program during the School Board meeting on October 27th. The annual grant program encourages teachers to develop creative classroom projects that engage and excite children and have a direct impact on student achievement. Pinellas County Public School classroom teachers were eligible to apply for individual grants of up to \$1,000 and group grants of up to \$3,000. The applications were reviewed and scored by a committee composed of business leaders, educators and community representatives.

Sponsors for this year's grant program include Bank of America, Progress Energy, Bright House Networks, Southwest Florida Water Management District, the St. Petersburg Times, Washington Mutual, Citigroup Foundation, the Junior League of St. Petersburg, Crown Acura, along with a host of other businesses, community groups and individuals.

Teachers may apply online now for the second round of classroom grants by visiting www.pinellaseducation.org.

Meet a Couple of Outstanding Doorways Scholars from the Class of 2009



"Can you believe I'm a senior this year? And for the past eight years, you have supported me and have had a huge impact on my educational choices. You have kept me on track, even when times got rough. Knowing that someone believed in me affected the choices I made Friday nights when I was loaded down with homework."

~Zerina Arapovic, Senior at Dunedin High

"Growing up as a young man has taught me to try my best at all times and to focus on the important things in life such as an education. Thanks to Doorways I have been given the opportunity to achieve my highest dream. Thank You!"

~Vincent Green, Senior at Gibbs High



Washington Mutual Invests in Kids



Washington Mutual knows that making education real makes education exciting. That's why they created the School Savings Program. Through School Savings, students learn financial discipline by putting a little aside each week, and Washington Mutual starts them out with the first 25 cents in their

School Savings accounts and awards prizes to students who make regular deposits. Students will receive a Washington Mutual "goody bag" and teachers receive lesson plans to help students along the road to financial responsibility. To learn more about Washington Mutual School Savings, contact Andy Gibbs at 727-562-5837.

Scholarships for Pinellas High School Seniors

Attention Seniors! Each year, the Pinellas Education Foundation distributes college and technical school scholarships to graduating high school seniors through more than 150 different scholarship funds. **To apply for a Pinellas Education Foundation scholarship, seniors may visit www.PinellasEducation.org and select scholarships to complete the simple, online application. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m., December 12, 2008.** Applicants who are awarded Pinellas Education Foundation scholarships will be notified by the Foundation prior to graduation.

To apply for a Pinellas Education Foundation Scholarship visit www.PinellasEducation.org ,

"Fifty / Fifty for Fall" at the TradeWinds

Are you ready to enjoy a tropical getaway that's not so far away? The TradeWinds Island Resorts is giving you fabulous beach vacation savings while helping the Pinellas Education Foundation. **Stay between now and December 26, 2008 and you save 50% off room rates and the TradeWinds will donate \$50 to the Pinellas Education Foundation!**

It's a great time of year to get pampered with personal service, sand-in-your-toes beach bars, or just stroll a white sandy beach and enjoy a glorious sunset. Whether it's an active and family-friendly stay with tons of fun in the sun and kids activities galore, or the more relaxed escape with the tranquil setting for adults, you choose and TradeWinds will deliver!



Just visit www.PinellasEducation.org and follow the TradeWinds link. Book now while availability lasts!

Visit Us and Learn How You Can Change a Life

The Pinellas Education Foundation changes lives through learning by supporting the following programs:

- Enterprise Village & Finance Park promoting free enterprise and financial education for 5th and 8th graders
- Doorways scholarships & mentoring opportunities for financially deserving students
- Frances Stavros Career Education Fund opportunities & the Jacobson Culinary Arts Academy
- College-bound scholarships for graduating high school seniors

- Pinellas County Outstanding Educator of the Year honoring the profession of teaching
- Teacher classroom grants that inspire innovative projects
- Walker's Rising Stars competition featuring talented high school students in the Arts
- Seniors & Scholars breakfast series and events benefiting our 55+ population

We offer one-hour informational sessions to help educate members of the community about the Pinellas Education Foundation and how our programs impact the teachers and students in Pinellas County public schools. These one hour educational sessions include a tour of our world-renowned program Enterprise Village. Won't you join us?

For information on session dates and times, or to schedule a session, contact Marilyn Browne at 727-522-4816 ext. 2112 or brownem@pinellaseducation.org.

The Pinellas Education Foundation is a member of the [Consortium of Florida Education Foundations](#) and the [National School Foundation Association](#).

The Pinellas Education Foundation would like to acknowledge the donors listed below for their pledges and contributions during the month of October 2008. If you would like to contribute to the work of the Pinellas Education Foundation, [please click here](#).

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