



Foundation Forum

April 2010

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.

Take Me Out to the Ball Park - Doorways Celebration Night at the Rays – April 30

Save the date for the evening of Friday, April 30 when the Tampa Bay Rays host the Kansas City Royals at 7:15 pm and the community will come together to celebrate the students, educators and sponsors of the Doorways Scholarship Program for a special evening of recognition. One lucky Doorways student whose essay is selected will throw out the first pitch at the game.

- The first 10,000 game attendees will receive Rays T-shirts
- This will be the first game night to feature post-game Fireworks!



You can make a difference by sponsoring the cost of ticket for a Doorways Student or by purchasing a corporate sponsorship on behalf of your company. And, we hope you'll attend the game to show your support! Discounted tickets are \$8 for upper deck seats and \$14 for lower deck seats. Proceeds will support the Doorways Scholarship Fund, which allows thousands of hard working students in Pinellas County, who otherwise could not afford it, to continue their education after high school. Visit www.PinellasEducation.org for more information.



Nearly 200 Community Leaders Support Career Education at Annual Breakfast held at pTEC

Industry and community leaders gathered in record numbers for the 2010 Career Education Breakfast on Wednesday, March 24 at pTEC's St. Petersburg Campus. The Foundation is grateful to Presenting Sponsor Crown Automotive for making this event possible and to emcee Jim Myers (pictured, left), COO of Crown Automotive for his leadership. Guests enjoyed the breakfast spread sponsored by Sweetbay Supermarkets and prepared by pTEC's own culinary students, led by instructor Dale Schmalzbauer.

The Annual Career Education Breakfast serves as the community's largest showcase event promoting career education. This year's event raised more than \$28,000 in support of Career Education Programs, including the Frances Stavros Career Education Scholarship Fund, which allows deserving students to enroll at pTEC. Attendees were inspired by pTEC students Carrie Annand and Ailisha Godfrey, who shared their experiences of finding their way to a pTEC education. Visionary speaker Hope Peterson, a pTEC Automotive Mechanics alumna and owner of New Hope Auto and Truck riveted attendees with her path to success, encouraging attendees who share her passion for their careers to "share your knowledge and experience to help these programs and their students to be successful. We'll know that together we helped these students – and we helped improve our community by preparing students for high skill, high pay, and high demand jobs."

Click here to read the article "[A Salute to Technical Education Graduates](#)" featured in the St. Petersburg Times by columnist and event attendee Ernest Hooper.



Dick Crippen, Dennis Jauch



Frances Stavros receives a standing ovation. Joni Jonas, Sandra & Clide Cassity, Mark Ericksen



Hope Peterson



Purchase Your Tickets for Walker's Rising Stars – May 27

The stars of Pinellas County Schools will take the stage at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater on Thursday, May 27. Kane's Furniture is the presenting sponsor for this exciting evening program that begins at 7 p.m. Advance priced tickets are on sale for **only \$7 through April 27**, at the Ruth Eckerd Hall Ticket Office (1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater). Ticket Office hours are noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. This ticket price ends soon, so act now! Call 727-791-7400 or visit www.rutheckerdhall.com. (Service fees may apply.)

Walker's Rising Stars was created and funded by noted Bay Area neurosurgeon Dr. Jeffrey Walker, to recognize Pinellas County Schools' most outstanding public high school junior and senior solo performers in the fields of instrumental music, vocal music, theater,

dance and visual arts. More than 200 students enter the annual competition. Scholarships valued at \$65,000 will be awarded in categories of: dance, drama, vocal music, instrumental music and visual arts. Plus a team of students will be awarded the first-ever digital video scholarship.

Complete details are available at the [Events](#) link of the Pinellas Education Foundation website or www.pinellaseducation.org.



April is National Volunteer Month – The Perfect Time to Make a Life Changing Investment in a Child

The Pinellas Education Foundation is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide enhanced educational opportunities for students and educators in Pinellas County public schools.

Now, more than ever, we are all aware of the critical importance of offering opportunity and hope to the children and families impacted by these challenging economic times. Please let us share the story of The Pinellas Education Foundation with you. Join us for a free luncheon programs to learn about:

- Scholarships that transform the lives of children in poverty
- Classroom grants that empower inspired educators
- Programs that prepare the children of our community for the high demand, high skill, high wage jobs of the future
- Opportunities to volunteer as an individual, corporate team or community group

The one-hour luncheon, sponsored by Sweetbay Supermarket, includes a tour of The Stavros Institute's Showcase Enterprise Village and Finance Park programs at 12090 Starkey Road in Largo. Please RSVP for one of the two upcoming dates:

Thursday, April 15 – 11:30 am to 12:30 pm
Tuesday, April 27 – 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

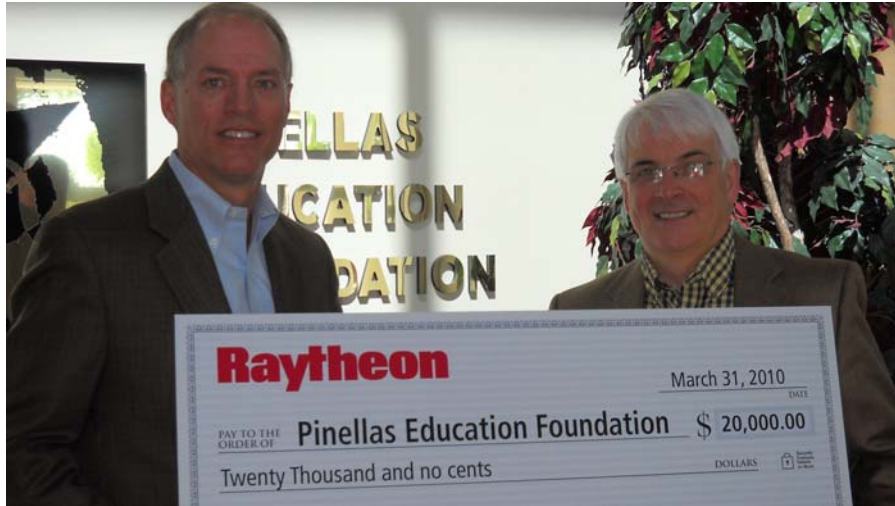


If you are interested in education, children, and the future of our community, please leave your checkbook at the office and join us to learn more about how you can become involved. Please contact JoAnne Ratliff at (727) 588-4816 or ratliffj@pinellaseducation.org to reserve your seat today.

“Lighten up with Laughter” at the Seniors & Scholars Breakfast – April 14th

The Foundation’s Seniors & Scholars program presents the final breakfast event for the season on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Boston Market will co-sponsor this fun-filled morning in the Achieva Conference Center of the Gus A. Stavros Institute, 12100 Starkey Road, in Largo. The featured speaker is Joye Swisher who will present “Lighten Up with Laughter” – a fascinating program highlighting the medical and emotional benefits of humor. Ms. Swisher is a volunteer coordinator for the Suncoast Hospice where she leads the Smile Team and offers training in clowning and laughter therapy. The breakfast seminar is free, but please call 727-588-4816 extension 2109 to reserve your seat.

seniors & scholars



Raytheon Company Presents \$20,000 Gift to Pinellas Education Foundation

Mitch Lee, Division Vice President at Raytheon Company, and Board Member of the Pinellas Education Foundation, presented Terry Boehm with a check representing the company’s commitment to several Foundation programs, including sponsorship of 2010 Walker’s Rising Stars Gala, 2010 Evening of Excellence Awards, 2009-2010 Annual Report, a Doorways Technical Scholarship, STEM Grant, and the Math Moves U Program.

Raytheon has been a supporter of the programs of the Pinellas Education Foundation for more than 22 years.

Business Partner Spotlight: Rx Stat

For eight consecutive years, Stat has partnered with Safety Harbor Elementary School, adopting up to six classrooms per year and donating more than \$5,000 to the school, which is led by Principal Robert Kalach. The company has offered support for the schools’ Exceptional Education students, providing supplies, creating incentive programs and sponsoring field trips, all of which has resulting in higher academic success for an at-risk population. A medical supply business, Rx Stat has also offered diabetic training and awareness and donated diabetic supplies and oxygen for students in need. Rx Stat’s contributions have been led by the family of Sam and LeAnn Jarczynski.



Jacobson Culinary Academy Students Win First Place in State High School Culinary Championship

Congratulations to students from the Jacobson Culinary Academy Center of Excellence for their first place win at the Orlando High School State Culinary Championship, sponsored by the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association. In addition to the overall First place, Tarpon students also won first place in Gourmet and Management categories. The team next heads to Overland Park, Kansas to compete in the national competition. Students from Northeast and Osceola High’s culinary programs also competed at the event.



AT&T Foundation Supports Gibbs High School with \$20,000 Intelligent Classroom Grant



AT&T’s Andrew Hall presented Kevin Gordon, principal of Gibbs High School with a check for \$20,000 in support of Intelligent Classrooms. The funds will enable Gibbs to enhance technology in multiple classrooms, including the addition of Smart board technology.

Pictured right to left are Kevin Gordon, three Gibbs students, Andrew Hall, a fourth Gibbs student and Terry Boehm. According to Gordon, The funds will be used to upgrade technology in classrooms. We want to provide 21st century tools that will engage our students.”

Pinellas Education Foundation Holds Second Annual Sunset & Mojitos Charity Auction to Benefit Public Education Programs

Guests were treated to a memorable evening of gourmet delights, fabulous auction items and merriment at the 2nd Annual Sunset & Mojitos Charity Auction, at Island Way Grill on March 19th. Board member Frank Chivas and Island Way Grill surpassed everyone's expectations with superb cuisine, impeccable service and a beautiful backdrop. The event co-chaired by Bob McIntyre and Dr. Jeffrey Walker had guests bidding on a Rays package, a trip to Las Vegas and other luxury items all to benefit the Foundation's programs.



142 Students Join Doorways Scholarship Program Thanks to Generous Community Support

On March 25, one hundred and forty-two students from across Pinellas County signed contracts valued at \$1,446,400, at Pinellas Park High School to officially become part of the Doorways Scholarship Program. The ceremony included motivational remarks by Anthony Castro (pictured, left), a Doorways Scholarship recipient and valedictorian for Pinellas Park High's Class of 2010. There are numerous individuals, organizations, corporations the foundations whose support makes this program possible. Representatives from the following sponsoring organizations attended the event:

Aon Consulting
Amscot
Ceridian Benefits Services

Hardy Huntley Foundation
Kiwanis Club of Safety Harbor
Rotary Club of Belleair

Pictured at right is Candy Duff-Bardill of Ceridian Benefits Services and Dick Klima of Aon Consulting and Board Member of the Pinellas Education Foundation.



Have you Moved Recently?

Please remember to update the Pinellas Education Foundation with your new mail and / or email address if you have recently moved or changed positions. We want to keep you informed of our programs, events and opportunities. Keeping our records updated also helps us to save on postage costs! Thank you for helping us to save money and keep you informed! Send updates to: info@pinellaseducation.org or call 727-588-4816.

Follow us on Facebook! 



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 March 2010. If you would like to contribute to the work of the Pinellas Education Foundation, [please click here](#).

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