



## Foundation Forum

May 2009

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.

### There is Still Time to Get Your Tickets to Watch the Stars Come Out



Tickets are going fast for the annual Walker's Rising Stars Awards Show on May 21 at 7 p.m. at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater. Funded by noted neurosurgeon, Dr. Jeffrey Walker, this competition will recognize and provide scholarships up to \$10,000 to our most outstanding public high school junior and senior solo performers in the fields of instrumental music, vocal music, theater, dance and visual arts. Tickets to the show can be purchased for \$10 at the Ruth Eckerd Hall box office.

For more information visit our website at [www.PinellasEducation.org](http://www.PinellasEducation.org)

### Rays Broadcast Auction Raises \$\$ for Education



The Pinellas and Hillsborough Education Foundations were the big winners at Sunday's game at Tropicana Field as more than \$42,000 was raised during the Tampa Bay Rays Broadcast auction to benefit education. Volunteers, like Bobbie Bernstein pictured here, from both education foundations joined Rays staff members as they took calls from baseball fans bidding on one-of-a-kind baseball experiences with the Tampa Bay Rays.



Thank you to our volunteers and the Tampa Bay Rays for making Sunday's win against the Cleveland Indians a big win for education!

### Congratulations on a Life of Service

The Pinellas Education Foundation congratulates 416 Pinellas County School retirees who were recognized for their years of faithful and dedicated service. The Pinellas County Schools' Risk Management/Retirement Team honored the retirees during a dinner celebration on May 14. William James once said, "The deepest craving of human nature is the need to be appreciated." Please know you are all greatly appreciated and enjoy the next chapter in your lives.

### TradeWinds Island Resorts Recognizes Teacher Appreciation Month

Step out of the classroom and into your own island paradise. TradeWinds Island Grand and Sandpiper Suites are giving back to teachers by offering rates as low



as

\$69 & \$89 for hotel rooms and suites. Save up to \$198 per room per night! Available dates are May 25 – 28, June 4, 7-11, 14, 17-19 and June 28 – July1. Visit [www.JustLetGo.com/TEACHER](http://www.JustLetGo.com/TEACHER) for all details!

## Thanks Raytheon for Your Support



Mitch Lee, Division Vice President of Raytheon Company and Past Chairman of the Pinellas Education Foundation is joined by Raytheon's Jack Radgowski as they present a \$20,000 Raytheon contribution to Terry Boehm, President of the Pinellas Education Foundation. The contribution will help support a variety of Foundation programs including Teach for Excellence Classroom Grants and Raytheon's Math Moves U Project.

Thank you Raytheon for all you do!

## Caregivers Support Network Awards Scholarship



President of the Caregivers Support Network, Robin Katchuk, introduced the recipient of the scholarship that the organization offers. The Richard Besser Memorial Caregiving Youth Scholarship was presented to Megan Leslie, a graduating senior from Palm Harbor University High School, who has plans to attend the University of Central Florida in the fall. Megan read for the guests her winning essay, sharing how she cared for her mother before dying on Megan's 13 birthday. Megan has grown up to be a very responsible young woman, graduating from high school with a 4.00 grade point average.

She is an amazing young woman and we wish her all the best!

## Wearing Jeans at Work Pays Off

Nielsen employees raised \$2680 for the Pinellas Education Foundation from their "Nielsen Working Together" button sales. For one week in April Nielsen employees could purchase a button allowing them the comfort of wearing jeans at work for a week. Nielsen is pleased to support the **Teach for Excellence Grant Program**. These grants range from \$500 to \$3,000 and allow teachers to develop exciting and creative classroom projects. Please visit our website at [www.pinellaseducation.org](http://www.pinellaseducation.org) to learn about our application process and to view how teachers in Pinellas are encouraging students to reach for a higher level of learning thru relevancy and rigor.



## Stavros Staff Funds Doorways Scholarship

Valerie White, Director of Stavros Institute presented a \$2,500 check to Terry Boehm, the President of the Pinellas Education Foundation, to fund their first Doorways Scholarship. "As a staff we were filled with pride to be able to raise the money for such a worthy cause. We designed volunteer survivor tee shirts for Enterprise Village and Finance Park and we sell them daily to the parents and other adults who volunteer at the Stavros Institute daily for \$10.00 each," said White. All the profits are donated to the Pinellas Education Foundation for the purpose of funding scholarship opportunities for Doorways students. They plan to continue their tee shirt sales to raise \$5000 during the 2009-2010 school year.



## Your Membership Can Make a Difference

By joining the Pinellas Education Foundation as a member, you enable the Foundation to provide enhanced educational opportunities for the students and educators in Pinellas County Schools, including teacher grants and student scholarships. You will be joining a powerful network of individuals and businesses committed to ensuring Pinellas County Schools offer a quality environment and resources students and teachers need to be successful. To ask about membership, contact Amy Bodow at 727-588-4816 ext. 2115.

## Come See How the Pinellas Education Foundation Changes Lives

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](mailto: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 April 2009. If you would like to contribute to the work of the Pinellas Education Foundation, [please click here](#).**

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