



Foundation Forum

December 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.



Evening of Excellence Promises to be a Spectacular Event Celebrating Best Educators and Business Partners in Pinellas County

Be there on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater for the Evening of Excellence honoring those who are preparing our society's next generation of leaders. The Pinellas Education Foundation will host this exciting first-of-a-kind event which will include the awarding of the 2009-2010 Outstanding Educator; Unsung Hero; Business Partner of the Year; and Gus A. Stavros Institute Hall of Honor Inductee. A limited space private reception begins at 6:00 pm and the Awards Program gets underway at 7:00 pm. Tickets may be purchased online [here](http://www.PinellasEducation.org) for the reception and program or program only. Visit www.PinellasEducation.org for more information about this exciting event.

Ticket Prices:

- ❖ **Seniors and Educators:** Reception and Program: \$25; Program: \$10
- ❖ **General Public:** Reception and Program \$125; Program: \$25

Never before has there been a single moment in the year dedicated to celebrating the Best in Pinellas County Education, and you won't want to miss it! : Our seating capacity is limited, so please buy your tickets early! Purchase online at www.PinellasEducation.org today!

HSN Donates Flip Cameras to Teachers Across Pinellas County

HSN has made teachers across Pinellas County very excited through a recent generous donation. The gift was earmarked toward the purchase of twenty flip camcorders to be used for educational projects across the school district. Two hundred and sixty five teachers applied for the cameras, completing grant applications detailing how the devices would be used in their classrooms to benefit students. On December 2, 20 lucky teachers representing elementary, middle and high schools across the County, were awarded flip cameras. The Pinellas Education Foundation is grateful to HSN and Sarah Miller for its generosity. HSN has a long partnership with the Foundation and Pinellas County Schools. As a storefront sponsor in Enterprise Village, thousands of fifth graders have "bought" and "sold" merchandise, and even had the chance to broadcast "live" during their day at the Village! Since 2003, HSN has served as a corporate partner to Thurgood Marshall Middle School through Mayor Rick Baker's corporate partnership program. HSN has provided mentors and administrative personnel who have donated thousands of hours to the school.



Bank of America. Nominate High School Juniors and Seniors for Bank of America's Student Leaders® Program

Bank of America invites nominations for high school juniors and seniors for its Student Leader program. Do you know a student with a passion for improving their community, who wants to serve the greater good, inspire others, and make the world a better place? If so, this exciting program can open up a world of opportunity for him or her. Participants come from all walks of life and have served their communities in a variety of unique ways. The program is an integral part of Bank of America's Neighborhood Excellence Initiative®, and it offers community-minded high school juniors and seniors an invaluable opportunity to help change the world through the following benefits:

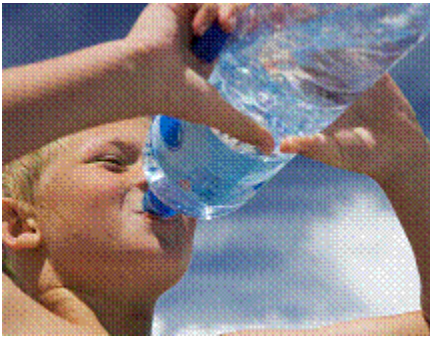
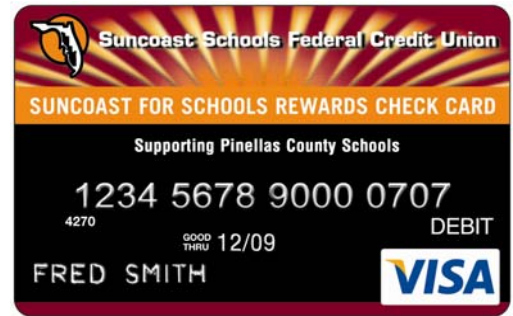
- An 8-week paid summer internship at a local non-profit
- A Student Leadership Summit in Washington, D.C.
- Learn how nonprofits, government, and business can partner to create a positive place,

Applications must be received by February 17, 2010 at bankofamerica.com/neistudentleaders, and students are also welcome to submit self nominations.

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Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union Special Offer Supports Pinellas County Schools

Have you heard? Open a checking account at Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union and you will be helping to fund education-related initiatives in Pinellas County Public Schools. Through the Suncoast for Schools Rewards Check Card program, each time a member uses their check card at the point-of-sale and signs for the purchase instead of using their PIN, a portion of the income earned through the transaction is donated to the Suncoast for Kids Foundation and earmarked to support public school programs. Members residing in Pinellas County that use their card are earning money specifically for Pinellas County education programs. With public school employees and public school students now eligible for membership at Suncoast, there is even greater opportunity for develop the partnership between Suncoast and Pinellas County Public Schools. For more information, to find a convenient branch location or download the account application, visit suncoastfcu.org or call (800) 999-5887.



Purchase Kelley Springs Natural Spring Water at Sweetbay Supermarkets and Benefit Students in Pinellas County Schools

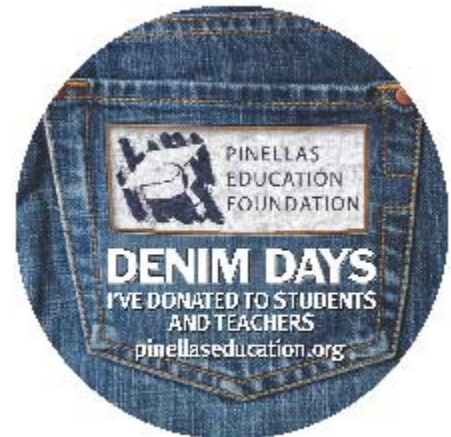
A new partnership between the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations and Kelley Springs natural spring water is making a difference for public schools in Pinellas and 16 other counties across the state. More than 100 Sweetbay Supermarket stores along the Gulf Coast from Naples to Gainesville will sell Kelley Springs water. A minimum donation of 5¢ per case will benefit Consortium member local education foundations where the water is sold, including Pinellas County. The water is priced at \$4.29 per case and is shrink-wrapped with the CFEF logo and "Helping Kids, Helping Schools" message.

Bring "Denim Days" to Your Office

Engage your colleagues to support education. Denim Days allows employees to wear jeans to work in support of a good cause, boosting employee morale and encouraging philanthropy and team-building.

The Pinellas Education Foundation has created a "Denim Days" kit, including stickers, posters and other promotional materials that can be used at companies throughout Pinellas County. You can determine the length of your corporate campaign and the amount of the individual contribution.

To learn more about how you can involve your corporation in supporting the programs of the Pinellas Education Foundation, contact Marilyn Browne at 727-588-4816 ext. 2112.



First Assignment: Just Let Go!

When the start of the year becomes too much, trade in lesson plans for toes in the sand! Incredible Savings for educators and PCS employees at TradeWinds Island Resorts:

\$69 hotel*	\$89 suite*
(\$226 value)	(\$287 value)

Up to 50% off other room types. Visit Tradewinds any time at www.JustLetGo.com/Teacher for educational professional discounts. For complete Education details, discounts and restrictions, visit www.JustLetGo.com/Teacher or call 800-249-2501. Must provide Education ID at check-in. Reservations must be made directly with the hotel at the above number or web address. *Rate is for standard accommodations and does not include required \$25 resort fee. Cannot be combined with any other discount, bonus or credit. Limited availability. Offer expires 12/25/09.

Tradewinds
ISLAND RESORTS ON ST. PETE BEACH



Walker's Rising Stars – Visual Arts Audition Deadline January 8

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. Juniors and seniors who wish to enter the 2010 competition must meet a Visual Arts deadline of Friday, January 8, 2010. Scholarships valued at \$65,000 will be awarded in categories of: dance, drama, vocal music, instrumental music and visual arts. "We're pleased to announce that a new category for a team to win a first-ever digital video award has been introduced this year," said Terry Boehm, President of the Pinellas Education Foundation.

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

Volunteer Opportunity: Event Coordinator

The Pinellas Education Foundation is seeking an Event Coordinator to support the Development and Marketing team. The responsibilities include formulating and coordinating event activities to include facility arrangements, hospitality planning, guest relations, and post-event documentation. Other activities may include tracking of event attendance, greeting, photography, trouble-shooting, and general administrative details. In addition to supporting the monthly program of events, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the success of the exciting Evening of Excellence and Walker's Rising Stars events. The environment is fast paced and flexibility is important. For details please send an email of inquiry to info@pinellaseducation.org.



Team Building at the Stavros Institute – Sign up Today

Building a team from the ground up isn't easy. That's why we have a program in place ready to help your team, refresh, refocus and reenergize. In six hours time, we can have your corporate team learning new communication skills, sharing creative ideas, and discovering they don't need a box to think outside – when you're relating to children, you're already there!

Our Enterprise Village and Finance Park teams are ready to challenge your team to a unique experience of teamwork, creativity, planning, leadership, trust and communication by working together on a variety of programs including hands-on business simulations and strategies.

If you enjoy working with students and can donate six hours of your time, we have an exciting opportunity for you. Volunteers are needed daily to work with students in Enterprise Village and Finance Park, both programs of the world-renowned Stavros Institute dedicated to educating students in the free enterprise system. We will provide your corporate volunteers with all the necessary training to have a fun and rewarding team building experience. There is no cost for this experience, and you'll learn a little something in the process. We guarantee it!

To have us help facilitate your next company retreat, please contact Marilyn Browne at 727-588-4816 ext 2112 for more information. We look forward to assisting you with this unique experience, which will have your colleagues talking about around the water cooler for years to come.

Alumni Giving Campaign Underway for Pinellas County School Graduates

If you graduated from one of Pinellas County's 16 public high schools, you may have recently received a communication as part of the Pinellas Education Foundation's first ever alumni appeal. By making a gift to the Pinellas Education Foundation in support of your alma mater, you can help us bring critically needed programs and opportunities to today's students who are most in need of our assistance. Indeed, today more than ever, our children are under incredible pressure, facing new societal and escalating economic pressures and sadly, dropping out of our schools in alarming numbers.



Your support can help bring an end to this pattern by enabling the Pinellas Education Foundation to provide all students with the opportunity to be successful. Our programs include Doorways Scholarships for economically challenged students, the Enterprise Village and Finance Park real-world learning experiences, Teach for Excellence Classroom Grants, and the Frances Stavros Career Education Scholarships. There are more than **45,000 deserving students** attending Pinellas County Schools, and they need your help.

Please join us in this important effort. You can [make a gift](#) toward a scholarship to support an aspiring student at your alma mater, in memory or in honor of a loved one, or organize a group donation effort. Sponsor the programs that make a difference and give hope to the children of Pinellas County. Or give the gift of your time as a mentor, or volunteer at Enterprise Village and Finance Park. All gifts are tax-deductible. Visit our [website](#) to read more about how our programs have already made a difference to students at your high school.

Seniors & Scholars Breakfast January 13

The next Seniors & Scholars Breakfast takes place on Wednesday, January 13 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in the Achieva Conference Center of the Gus A. Stavros Institute, 12100 Starkey Road, in Largo. The breakfast seminar is free, but you will need to call Jacquelyn at 727-588-4816 extension 2119 to reserve your seat.



Pinellas Education Foundation to Hold Financial Planning Seminar

The Planned Giving Office offers Financial Planning Seminars that are ideal for educators and other Pinellas County School Employees who are in the DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Program) or who may be entering DROP. The second in the series of seminars is scheduled for January 28 at Jacobson Culinary Arts Academy at Tarpon Springs High School, 1411 Gulf Road, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689.

This complimentary program will run from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. and a light dinner will be provided. An attorney, a Social Security expert, and financial advisors will give a comprehensive snapshot of retirement planning options, gift planning ideas and information to guide individuals in their pre-retirement considerations. Reservations are required and can be made by clicking [here](#) or calling Jacquelyn Schuett at 727-588-4816 ext. 2119.

Volunteers Needed!

Enterprise Village teaches fifth-graders about the free enterprise system, what it takes to run a business and a community, how to write checks and make wise consumer choices. During their visit, students actually “work” a designated job, get “paid” for their work and on their breaks, become the consumers.

Finance Park teaches eighth-graders about personal finance. Each student receives a simulated life situation, which they use to determine their net monthly income, prepare a budget and make financial decisions that we all face every day. Students must pay all of their bills and balance their checkbooks by the end of the day.

If you would like more information on volunteering or if you are able to help advertise our volunteer need, please contact Karen Brighton at 727-588-3746 or e-mail brightonk@pcsb.org. Read more at www.stavrosinstitute.org.



Come See How the Pinellas Education Foundation Changes Lives - Have Lunch on Us!

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 & 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 lunch courtesy of Sweetbay Supermarket and a tour of our world-renowned program Enterprise Village. Won't you join us?

Upcoming dates are: Tuesday, January 12; Thursday January 28.

To reserve your spot, contact Marilyn Browne at 727-522-4816 ext. 2112 or brownem@pinellaseducation.org.



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.

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

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Pinellas Education Foundation

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