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Hall of Honor & Business Partner of the Year Awards Dinner

St. Petersburg, FL, October 13, 2008 – The Pinellas Education Foundation joins Bright House Networks in presenting the 2008 Hall of Honor & Business Partner of the Year Awards Dinner. During this evening we will be joined by Pinellas County schools to honor and celebrate outstanding Pinellas County school business partners as well as our two Hall of Honor inductees for 2008, Mr. Al Ellis and Mr. Don Williams.

Mr. Al Ellis was the founder of Ellis Bank Group, benefactor of the Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital and the EIMar Foundation (formerly the Ellis Family Foundation), sponsor of the Helen Ellis Memorial Scholarships, and the Jacobson Culinary Academy. His daughter, Ms. Carol Martin of the EIMar Foundation, will be in attendance to accept the honor on behalf of her late father.

Mr. Don Williams was the founder of The Williams Architects, a former Clearwater City Commissioner and vice mayor for the city. He was also the founding director of Ruth Eckerd Hall and benefactor of Ruth Eckerd Hall and Heritage Park. His daughter, Pinellas County Commissioner Karen Seel, will be in attendance to accept the honor on behalf of her late father.

The dinner takes place on Monday, October 13, 2008, beginning at 6:00 pm, at the Carillon Hilton Hotel located at 905 Lake Carillon Drive, St. Petersburg, FL. Deputy Superintendent of Pinellas County Schools, Dr. Harry Brown, will serve as Master of Ceremonies at the dinner which provides an opportunity for Pinellas County schools to recognize their Business Partners. 42 Pinellas County businesses were nominated this year. Of those, 15 businesses were chosen by a panel to be finalists. These finalists represent three categories: Elementary School, Middle/ High School and District. The finalists and winners of each category will be announced at the dinner. The winners of each category will go on to be recognized at the Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards in the Spring.

ABOUT Pinellas Education Foundation – The Pinellas Education Foundation is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide enhanced educational opportunities for students and teachers in Pinellas County Schools.

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