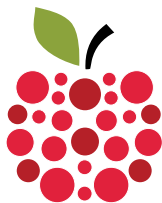


2023 GoTeach! Classroom Grant Awards

Celebrating Innovation in the Classroom

October 19, 2023
Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center



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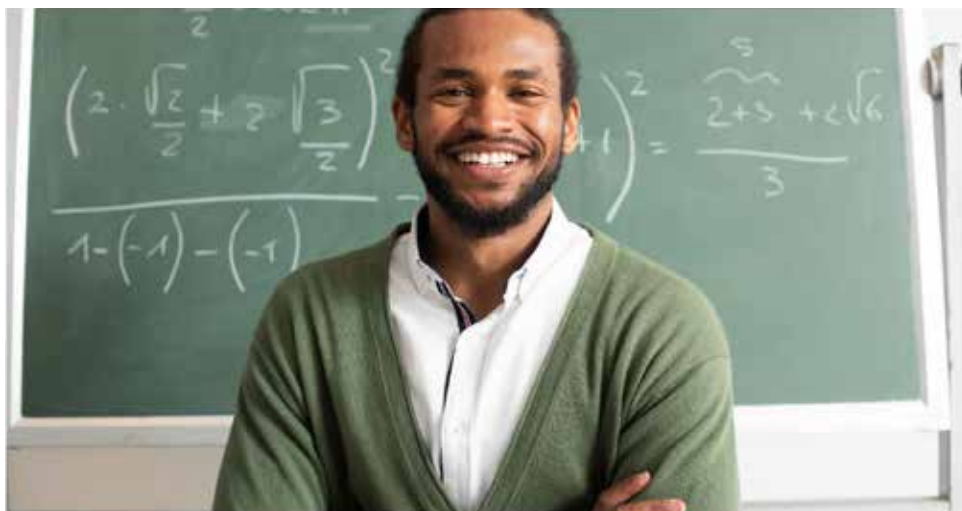
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Congratulations

TO ALL THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2023
GOTEACH! CLASSROOM GRANTS!

The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation
honors all teachers in Palm Beach
County schools. We recognize your
hard work and dedication and
appreciate the impact that you
make in the lives of your students
each and every day.



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Dear Teachers,



GoTeach! It's a command...an imperative. Go teach! Go inspire the next generation to explore math, science, art, literature, financial literacy, history, civics, drama, theater, music, social studies, geography, and every other facet of human life.

But here in Palm Beach County, GoTeach means something else...something equally important. GoTeach is the annual awarding of grants to our most innovative teachers. This year, 80 teachers are being awarded a GoTeach Grant...totaling over \$185,000!

- To our teachers...let me say on behalf of us all...you represent the best in public education. Your dedication to your craft and your students is self-evident. Our team of grant evaluators saw the vision and creativity in your grant proposal and deemed you and your program worthy of community support. We know you will make us proud...as you do every day you walk into the classroom.
- To our grant reviewers...let me say that your willingness to read and digest pages of proposals, budgets, impact reports, and timelines speaks to your own personal commitment to public education. Tonight's celebration is as much about this community support as it is about the teachers whom we honor.
- To our generous supporters...let me conclude with an enormous "thank you". The generous support of the Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation makes the GoReach Grants a reality. The same generosity by The Stiles Nicholson Foundation has made the GoTeach STEM and GoTeach Financial Literacy Innovation Awards a reality.

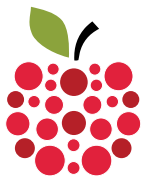
And so...tonight...another GoTeach Grant Celebration. We honor the best in Palm Beach County. With your grants firmly in your hand, you can leave tonight and do what you do best: GoTeach! Go inspire the next generation to explore math, science, art, literature, financial literacy, history, civics, drama, theater, music, social studies, geography, and every other facet of human life. Whatever else you may do tomorrow...GoTeach!

With respect,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "James S. Gavrilos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'J' and 'G'.

James S. Gavrilos

James S. Gavrilos, CFRE
President / CEO, Education Foundation of Palm Beach County



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Mission

We are the nexus of Palm Beach County's public school system, the private sector, and the community. The Education Foundation facilitates student achievement by supporting high quality public education through partnerships, grants, events and public awareness.

History and Purpose

Established in 1984 by Palm Beach County business leaders, the Education Foundation serves as the philanthropic support organization for K-12 public education and partners closely with the School District of Palm Beach County and the greater business and charitable community to fund programs that close achievement gaps in learning and that create positive, measurable change for students. This is accomplished by using the funding to provide innovative classroom grants as well as providing quality professional development to foster excellence in teaching.

Through a unique matching grant program, the Education Foundation works with corporate and private investors to fund innovative projects and curriculum that improve literacy and grade level performance, increase graduation rates, support STEM and career academies, and target support to under-performing students and schools.

We all know that children succeed in school when they have all the tools, resources, and support they need in order to achieve. That is why the Red Apple Supplies (RAS) program was created as a free school supply store that serves the highest-needs Title 1 schools throughout Palm Beach County. RAS is the signature program of the Education Foundation. Since opening the doors in 2016, over 5 million dollars in free school supplies have been provided to teachers and students in 95 schools throughout Palm Beach County.

www.educationfoundationpbc.org



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We create statewide partnerships, innovate learning and impact Florida students coast to coast through our alliance of local education foundations in nearly every county-wide school district.

We believe strong local education foundations are essential for communities to close opportunity gaps and ensure educational success for all students.



Education Foundation of Palm Beach County
and the State of Florida's School District Education Foundation
Matching Grant Programs 2023-2024

Classroom Resources and Supplies

Red Apple Supplies

A FREE resource store providing essential school supplies and classroom resources to 95 high-needs schools throughout the district this school year, ensuring teachers and students have the supplies they need to succeed.

Funded in partnership with Ventus Charitable Foundation, Aerojet Rocketdyne Foundation, Asofsky Family Foundation, Boca West Children's Foundation, Carrier, LexisNexis Risk Solutions, RELX, The Classic in the Palm Beaches, The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, The Ruth and Hal Launders Charitable Trust, Verizon, and the State of Florida's School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations, along with the generosity of individual donors and various companies and philanthropic organizations throughout the community. For a complete list of Red Apple Supplies funders, including the program's Backpack Initiative and School Supply Drive Sponsors, please visit our website.



Teacher Quality/Professional Development & Training

GoTeach! Classroom Grants

A competitive grant program for individual or team-teaching projects. Grants promote an original, creative, and innovative teaching approach that addresses student needs in multiple subject areas, grade levels, and schools throughout the district.

See page 13 for a complete list of GoTeach! Program funders

Career Education Programs

Atlantic Eagles Finance Academy: Soaring to Success

Designed to provide high school students an opportunity to learn and prepare for college and secure entry-level positions in the business and finance industries, emphasis is placed on a college preparatory curriculum linked to the financial world and meeting industry standards. Students will have the opportunity to earn up to two industry certifications (Entrepreneurship and Small Business and QuickBooks) throughout the course of the 4-year program and will receive hands-on experience through mentorships, career shadowing, and internship programs connecting the resources of business, economics, and finance.

Funded in partnership with Bank of America and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.

SDPBC Behavioral Health Technician Career Pipeline

This project created the state of Florida's first approved secondary education Behavioral Health curriculum and expands the School District of Palm Beach County's Medical Sciences Career Academy course and career pathway offerings to include Behavioral Health as an option for students. Students will meet the required clinical experiences necessary to become licensed and/or industry-certified healthcare providers in a pandemic/post-pandemic world.

Funded in partnership with Quantum Foundation and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.



Literacy & Early Childhood Programs

Building Oral Language and Vocabulary in VPK

This interactive literacy project serves to increase kindergarten readiness by supporting students in increasing their Oral Language and Vocabulary scores on the VPK Assessment, as well as demonstrating an increase in Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) assessment system behavioral markers. Through this project, children will develop oral language and vocabulary, print knowledge, and fine motor skills—and develop their identity as a writer and author. Teachers will engage in professional development that builds an understanding of the principles behind using writing to increase oral language and vocabulary development, and the value behind creating electronic books.

Funded in partnership with PNC Foundation and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.

Educate, Affirm, Inspire, with S.P.I.R.E.: A Reading Intervention Program

The Educate, Affirm, Inspire with S.P.I.R.E program will support approximately 300 under-performing students in 13 elementary schools in Boca Raton, Florida by providing targeted, researched-based instructional support and supplemental computerized remediation to help improve students' reading skills in the five construct areas of reading. Using S.P.I.R.E., an Orton-Gillingham-based, multisensory, explicit, systematic reading intervention program for students who have been identified to need intensive phonics/phonological awareness/text processing instruction, this spiraling phonics program is proven to close the achievement gap for struggling readers.

Funded in partnership with the Golden Bell Education Foundation and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.

S.T.E.M.

Rocket Powered Robotics

The Rocket Powered Robotics program supports teams competing in the FIRST Lego League, First Tech Challenge, and First Robotics Challenge Robotics Programs in Palm Beach County. This program produces champion design teams rooted in the disciplines of STEM education. It provides targeted support to five teams with participating students from 12 district schools, including one middle and high school in the Glades region, where access to robotics clubs can drastically improve STEM participation and interest in STEM-related careers.

Funded in partnership with Aerojet Rocketdyne Foundation and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.

Stepping Up STEM in Pahokee

This program creates a pipeline of Computer Programming and Robotics Course offerings to increase skill development and opportunities for students in 6th through 11th grade. These opportunities engage historically underrepresented students in rigorous instruction leading to achievement in computer programming, robotics, and STEM courses throughout middle and high school in preparation for post-secondary success in college and future STEM-related careers.

Funded in partnership with Ventus Charitable Foundation and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.





Digital Equity and Access

Connecting Kids in the Community: Through Digital Inclusion

This program supports digital inclusion and serves to reduce the digital divide. Estimated to impact 25,000 high-needs students and families throughout the School District of Palm Beach County, this program is working to ensure students have access to reliable internet through the use of either WiFi extenders to connect to Palm Beach County's mesh WiFi network which is in the process of being built or the Affordable Connectivity Program, and provides free in-home digital literacy coaching and wrap-around services, placing students in a more equitable path along their academic journey.

Funded in partnership with the Aerojet Rocketdyne Foundation, Asofsky Family Foundation, Chiefs for Change in partnership with Players Coalition, City of Boynton Beach, City of Delray Beach, Florida Crystals, Florida Education Foundation, Florida Power & Light Company, iTHINK Community Foundation, LexisNexis Risk Solutions, Lost Tree Foundation, Mary and Robert Pew Public Education Fund, the Miami Dolphins Foundation Social Impact Committee, Palm Beach County, PNC Bank, The School District of Palm Beach County's Educational Technology Department, The Stiles Nicholson Foundation, The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation, Walton Family Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.

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2023-2024 GoTeach!

Classroom Grant Awards

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Thank you to our Champions of Education for their commitment to high-quality public education and helping prepare the next generation of leaders in Palm Beach County!

Superintendent Stars



**School District Education
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**Hilary Hosford York, Oh! What a F.E.E.L.ing:
Fostering an Environment of Enthusiastic Learning**
Benoist Farms Elementary School

Overcoming student apathy can be a challenging task for educators, as disinterest in learning can severely impact academic progress and limit 5th-graders potential for growth. In fact, the State Science Assessment revealed that 78% of 5th-grade students failed to meet the minimum standards. To address this issue, a series of monthly hands-on STEM activities will be implemented with the goal of increasing motivation and engagement among students and ultimately improving science scores on the state assessment. Each month, a different STEM area will be targeted, and students will have the opportunity to participate in problem-solving activities such as how to clean up an oil spill (science/engineering), how to construct a jellybean bridge (engineering/math), how to create magnetic slime (science), or how to code a LEGO maze (technology).

Jovon Edwards, YOURstory (History)
Boyton Beach Community High School

Boyton Beach Community High School is a Title 1 school serving a large immigrant community with diverse cultural and national backgrounds. These students are often disinterested in history and civics, and generally do not have a good sense of their place in society. This grants will create a dedicated space within the classroom for students to pursue independent studies. Having the resources and materials for students to explore their own interests will improve their reading, writing, research, and critical thinking skills, while also promoting self confidence and a proactive approach to learning. The overall goal is to make learning enjoyable and to encourage students to take ownership of their education.



Todd LaVogue, Project Based Learning: A Year of Inquiry
The Conservatory School

The ultimate goal of this project is to inspire lifelong learning and global citizenship among students by providing middle school students with an integrated, project-based learning experience tying together multiple subjects such as math, science, biology, social studies, language, and visual arts. Designed to foster a deeper level of understanding, curiosity, and problem-solving skills among students, preparing them for the challenges of the 21st-century world, this grant will fund two interconnected projects, "Let's Meet Our Neighbors: The Bahamas" and "Bridging Time Through Witness Trees," which together aim to provide a project-based learning experience. The first project involves studying Witness Trees, which serve as living testimonies to historical events and changes, while the second explores the geography, ecology, history, culture, and socio-economic aspects of the Bahamas. Combined, these projects aim to promote comprehensive learning and culminate in a public exhibition, where students can showcase what they have learned, creating a sense of accomplishment and ownership over their work.

Sydney White, Fashionably Brilliant
Diamond View Elementary School

Fashionably Brilliant is an innovative program that will combine art education with language arts, social studies, and resiliency standards, using fashion design as a Career and Technical Education (CTE) course, allowing students to demonstrate their understanding of content through wearable designs. The program will provide an afterschool club, where students will work to design and create clothing based on informational text. Students will participate in the Fashionably Brilliant Club for 18 weeks, during which time they will select a topic on which they will become an expert.

The culminating project will be to showcase the content information being shared by creating a wearable design that will be exhibited to the school using an exhibition model. CTE will provide numerous benefits to learners, including technical skills, academic skills, and employability skills. The program aims to improve students' reading scores and mastery of design principles, while also providing insight into careers in the arts, audio-visual technology, and the communications field. Its goal is to empower students to navigate informational text and develop skills for the modern job market.



Diana Tobin, Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader!

Discovery Key Elementary School

This project aims to improve literacy rates among 3rd-grade students and ensure their academic success and overall well-being by implementing a research-based reading and writing program that focuses on encouraging and motivating students while meeting their social and emotional needs. It will prioritize the five key elements of reading success and incorporate instructional materials and peer mentoring to support students' diverse learning needs. The ultimate goal is to foster a love for reading and provide students with the necessary skills and motivation to become lifelong readers.

Jennifer Tobin, R.E.A.C.H. for Success

(Resilient. Empathetic. Ambitious. Courageous. Hardworking)

Elbridge Gale Elementary School

The acronym R.E.A.C.H stands for Resilient, Empathetic, Ambitious, Courageous, and Hardworking—skills from which students can benefit, and that will be supported through this whole child mentoring program. R.E.A.C.H for Success will focus on building these key skills to positively impact students' lives. The program aims to address the challenges often faced by economically disadvantaged students, such as low academic achievement and poor attendance. It will offer structured mentoring, academic and social support, and innovative activities to develop students' self-esteem, behavior, attendance, and academic performance. Additionally, the program will promote fun and success through partnerships with high school students and engaging activities. Overall, R.E.A.C.H for Success aims to improve students' academic and social well-being, prepare them for future career choices, and develop their life skills.

Cynthia Potter, Eagle Robotics Building and Coding

Glade View Elementary School

Through this project, students will engage in a fun and valuable hands-on learning experience, with opportunities to integrate science, mathematics, and technology (STEM) in designing, engineering, programming, and building robots that serve specific functions. By participating in this project, students will not only gain knowledge about robotics, but will also develop essential skills such as working collaboratively with peers, problem-solving, and using logical thinking. They will have meaningful and practical opportunities to apply STEM concepts to real-world situations through robotics, providing them with an engaging learning experience.



Kristin Holden, Multisensory: Taking Learning to a New Level
Gove Elementary School

This project will use a multi-sensory approach to help students with special needs. Multisensory learning can greatly enhance the learning environment in the classroom. Since all children learn differently and are differently abled, it is important to create lessons as well-rounded as possible. The use of a multisensory approach in education aims to cater to the needs of all students, particularly those with special needs. By engaging different senses, such as touch, sound, and sight, the learning experience will become more comprehensive and effective. This approach will be particularly beneficial for students with learning disabilities and cognitive limitations who may struggle with specific areas of education. Multisensory activities, such as dance and art, will enhance tactile knowledge and allow students to use the sensory information they have acquired. This approach will also help students retain information, make connections, and develop problem-solving skills. Ultimately, this multisensory approach will aim to create a more inclusive learning environment that helps each individual succeed while fostering a love of learning.

Glaribel Piñero-Amaro, The World in 3D
Greenacres Elementary School

This project was inspired by a workshop at the University of Florida that highlighted how scientists are utilizing scanner technology to recreate models of living things, enabling them to gain a deeper understanding of their structures. With just one sample to create a replica, structures can then be studied with minimal impact on them for an indefinite period. The project aims to give kindergarten students a similar scientific experience by encouraging them to explore and investigate their environment like real-life scientists. Through the creation of models of living things using a scanner to replicate them with a 3D printer, students will have the opportunity to nurture their curiosity and spark their passion for science.

Erica Mardis, Media Center Metamorphosis
Grove Park Elementary School



During Hispanic Heritage Month, K-5 students learned about the monarch butterfly migration and its cultural significance in Mexican culture. They were engaged in various activities, including a virtual field trip and a Symbolic Butterfly Migration event. As a result, many students expressed interest in building a butterfly sanctuary at the school. This project aims to recognize and empower student agency, promote environmental advocacy, and nurture students' love for reading. It is unique because it was initiated by the students themselves. The sanctuary will include native plants, a rain barrel, paving stones, and books for learning. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to write or draw facts about native ecosystems and life cycles and write poems inspired by the garden which they will read at a family poetry night. This project will showcase student-driven environmental advocacy, creativity, and a passion for learning.

Julie Highsmith, Social Literacy & Love
H.L. Johnson Elementary School

This project addresses an increase in behavior issues among students who have not previously attended school and therefore lack the social-emotional skills necessary to work independently in small group settings. The program aims to create an engaging and supportive environment for kindergarten students by combining literacy immersion, skills for learning and life, and a love of learning. Specialized materials and an interactive augmented reality rug will be used to enhance engagement and reduce problem behaviors. The project will utilize various resources, including storybooks and lessons, to improve vocabulary and social-emotional skills; behavior intervention strategies to help students manage emotions; and an augmented reality rug for social, science, and literacy activities. The effectiveness of the project will be measured through classroom logs and surveys. Overall, the project aims to develop students' social-emotional skills and create a student-centered classroom environment.

Jordyn Declemente, John I. Leonard Musical Theatre Program
John I. Leonard High School

The Musical Theatre Department aims to provide a transformative and enriching educational experience for students by celebrating artistic expression and creativity. The department offers opportunities for students to explore and develop their talents in acting, singing, dancing, and production work. Engaging in musical theatre also helps develop important life skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and critical thinking—skills applicable to both academic pursuits and future careers. It builds self-confidence, promotes inclusivity and diversity, and fosters community and connection among students. This program aims to engage with the local community by hosting public performances, workshops, and outreach events, producing a high-quality musical theatre production, and engaging students in local and regional theatre competitions.

Chelsey Carr, Inclusive Brews: Empowering Special Needs Students Through a School-Based Coffee Enterprise

Lake Worth Middle School

The Inclusive Brews project aims to create a school-based coffee enterprise that empowers special needs students and promotes inclusivity. It seeks to provide opportunities for skill development while boosting confidence and enhancing social interaction for these students. This enterprise will provide hands-on experience in barista training, customer service, money handling, and teamwork—skills which are transferable to further employment opportunities. The project aims to have at least five special needs students actively participating in the business with the goal of achieving a high customer satisfaction rating. The project plans to start the enterprise within the first quarter of the school year and have a sustainable business model within two years. The coffee enterprise will not only benefit special needs students but will also raise awareness and appreciation for diverse abilities, fostering a culture of empathy and understanding within the school community.

Sandra Noakes, Robots and Art!

Meadow Park Elementary School

This project will expose students to coding by providing them with the necessary tools and resources. The project aims to reach as many students as possible and will introduce the Root Pro robot by iRobot, which allows children from kindergarten to 5th grade to code, although this project will be used with 3rd graders. The Root Pro robot is unique, as it features a digital vision with creativity and provides multiple learning opportunities for students. Coding in real time is an interactive experience. Children will be thinking analytically, examining the information, collecting facts, and checking for logical cause and effects. The robot will offer a unique and interactive experience, encouraging analytical thinking, creativity, and blending art with science and technology; it will offer simple and complex coding options. The ultimate goal is to expand students' knowledge of technology and provide a learning experience that they will benefit from in the long term.

Natalie Lichtenhal, Science of Teaching Morikami Kindergarten

Morikami Park Elementary School

Through extensive research, the field of reading has identified optimal approaches to every facet of literacy, from phonological and phonemic awareness to phonics, fluency, and comprehension. Though it is not a prescribed curriculum, the Science of Reading will provide educators with best practices that can inform the development of their own lesson plans, all aimed at fostering mastery of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. The goal of this project is to increase the literacy skills of kindergarten students by having them read increasingly complex texts at or above their grade level—not just in English class, but across disciplines.

"The teacher is the heart of
the educational system."

–Sidney Hook



$2+2=4$



CONGRATULATIONS,
TEACHERS!



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Diana Fernandez, Fashion Design as an Art Career
Palm Beach Lakes Community High School

It is important for students pursuing higher education in the arts to be aware of all possible career options available to them. While some may overlook fashion and textile design as viable career paths, there are exciting opportunities for those passionate about styling, fashion, garment production, entrepreneurship, costume design, and more. The aim of this project is to prepare students for a possible career in fashion by delving into its history, experimenting with different concepts and ideas, developing skills in fashion illustration, becoming familiar with color combinations and current trends, and learning the entire fashion design process from start to finish. This project supports using a real-world hands-on approach where students will apply math and precise measurements to create patterns, hone their sewing abilities by hand and machine, and collaborate with peers in a culminating runway fashion show.

**Martha-Paula McAliley, Social Skills Foundations
for Special Education Students**
Poinciana Elementary School

Poinciana STEM is a magnet program that aims to prepare K-5 students for careers in STEM. The program is open to all students, including those with special education needs and twice exceptional (2e) students (students who have specific talents but also face challenges due to disabilities). While these students are fully immersed in the general curriculum, they often struggle with social and emotional challenges. This program aims to address these challenges by providing direct instruction in social skills. This grant will support the creation of an environment that fosters learning for special

education/2e students and that provides individualized instruction in social skills. The program will use various resources and activities to promote social communication, pragmatic language, and self-regulation. By focusing on these foundational skills, the program aims to help students achieve optimal learning and career readiness, develop positive social interactions, and increase their self-esteem. The program is inclusive and aims to empower students with the skills they need to succeed in the future.

Kendra Williams, Literacy and Social-Emotional Health Through Nature
S.D. Spady Elementary School

By incorporating hands-on, investigative, observational, and analytical activities that encourage cooperation, this project will offer youth an authentic connection to nature and the opportunity to develop a stronger social-emotional being. Emphasizing the wonder of the natural world and the sense of place, reflection, and peace it provides, the project seeks to improve academic performance by increasing reading and science proficiency for all students. Additionally, the program serves to promote positive relationships, effective decision-making, and constructive conflict resolution, ultimately resulting in a decrease in behavior referrals.

Chrissy Leffelman and Christina Morrow, Starting Over
Seminole Trails Elementary School

A meaningful musical theater experience can support academic growth in reading, language, math, and technology. This project aims to revive and expand the elementary school's theater program through the staging of a production of Disney's Moana, Jr. The full theater experience—including costumes, props, and a backdrop—will teach students about the creative process and teamwork while building confidence and broadening students' perspectives. With the support of the GoTeach! grant, students will create a solid foundation for fostering a love for the arts and nurturing future careers in the field.

Meghan Hess Shamdasani, Pollinator Paradise
South Tech Academy

The Pollinator Paradise project is a multi-disciplinary, problem-based inquiry learning initiative for students enrolled in Honors Bioscience that will integrate agriscience, ecology, and biotechnology. Its aim is to cultivate a native plant pollinator garden bed on campus and collect observational data on the number and diversity of pollinator species in the area. Furthermore, students will investigate local honey samples for arthropod DNA to assess the health and diversity of local bee populations. Through their active involvement in the design, installation, and evaluation of the garden bed, students will gain an authentic and innovative learning experience. It is expected that 85% of students will earn an industry certification in Agricultural Biotechnology by May 2024. Furthermore, 90% of the participants will design an experiment that expands on the class project.

Alexandra Lehner, Reef Design Lab
Spanish River Community High School

This project aims to build on the 3D design project previously completed by AICE Marine Science students. The objective is to develop larger models for use as artificial reef designs that can be utilized by students to experiment and implement their own ideas for the reconstruction of coral reefs. Through researching existing coral reef design projects in Florida, students will gain insight into the objectives and impact of these projects before designing their own unique artificial reef system. By maximizing exposure to the marine ecosystem through design and implementation, AICE Marine Science students can further their understanding of marine environments beyond theoretical concepts.

Courteney Zboyan, Enhancing Mathematical and Statistical Understanding via Technology
Suncoast Community High School

Being able to perform calculations and analyze data are essential life skills that students must learn. In many cases, the amount of data is beyond what mental math, or a simple phone calculator can handle. As a result, students need to be knowledgeable in using more advanced tools such as graphing calculators. However, these calculators can be expensive, putting some students at a disadvantage, particularly for students taking accelerated courses. This project will supply graphing calculators using grant funding to help students prepare for exams, providing a valuable resource for those who cannot afford their own calculators. The project aims to teach students how to use technology, develop relevant skills, improve STEM performance, and foster a team environment through group projects. Providing graphing calculators will help all students succeed academically and promote interest in STEM fields.

Nigel Johnson, Project Smile
Wellington Elementary School

In light of the challenging three years of the Covid-19 pandemic, the primary objective for this project is to enhance the social-emotional learning of students, ensuring they possess the crucial social skills necessary to flourish as effective and well-rounded citizens in society. Many pupils are graduating without these fundamental abilities, posing a significant challenge to their future academic success and overall well-being. This project aims to improve students' social-emotional learning skills, augment their capacity to learn vital life skills, and foster resilience by providing them with love, care, and support, imbuing hope and confidence in their future. Moreover, valuable resources, guidance, and support will be provided to teachers, parents, students, and staff, ultimately creating a positive and long-lasting impact in their lives and in the world.



Marwa Jaber, Classroom Transformations
Westward Elementary School

Classroom Transformations involves infusing the learning experience with enjoyable elements. The objective of this project is to revamp the classroom into a captivating and stimulating setting, for instance, by incorporating a Disneyland theme. This can be achieved by adorning the space to align with the curriculum and subject matter. Such a project offers several advantages, including engaging learners, informal assessment, hands-on activity, real-life experience, collaborative work, team projects, and ultimately, facilitating enjoyable learning while reviewing the content to ensure a comprehensive understanding.

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GoTeach! Teacher Team Awards

Michael Matos and Amy Wolf, A.I.M.S.
(Advancement in Mentoring and Science)
Coral Sunset Elementary School



The A.I.M.S program intends to empower and equip young boys and girls from a Title 1 school, characterized by a high percentage of non-English speakers, with essential skills and education in social-emotional development, STEM, financial literacy, and career education. Due to its past success, the program will be expanded to include young ladies and will introduce new life skills training, 3D design and printing, art training, and on-campus leadership opportunities. The program has specific goals to improve social-emotional skills, foster academic growth, and broaden students' horizons. The program will provide targeted support through trained mentors, an engaging STEM curriculum, and partnerships with local organizations.

Tempie Craven and Thyme Salemme, MakerSpace FabLab
Dr. Joaquin Garcia High School

The MakerSpace FabLab program aims to provide a safe and inclusive space for students to engage in hands-on learning activities and challenges. The program offers resources and materials to support a diverse range of interests and allows students to gain experience in planning, design, and problem-solving. The school hopes that the program will empower students to see themselves as inventors, builders, and creators; foster a maker mindset; and cultivate collaboration and communication skills. The ultimate goal is to create an impactful learning community where students can engage in new experiences, develop their skills, and ignite ambition.

Susan Russo and Nan Dolores Smith,
A Touch of Science: A Hands-on Curriculum
Dwight D. Eisenhower K-8

A Touch of Science: A Hands-on Curriculum is a K-8 program teaching math, language arts, science, and social studies that aims to engage students and increase test scores. The funds will provide hands-on science supplies to engage students' curiosity in learning. The program will promote STEM education, foster curiosity and inquiry, increase student engagement, develop critical thinking skills, support collaboration, address real-world problems, promote inclusivity and diversity, provide teacher professional development, encourage students to pursue careers in science, utilize technology, involve the community, and improve assessment scores. The goal of the grant is to enhance the learning experience, increase engagement, and improve test scores. These goals aim to create a scientifically literate generation.

Ilyssa Rosken and Karina Constantine, Best Buddies Inclusion Project
Eagles Landing Middle School

The Best Buddies program aims to promote awareness and understanding among general education students about their peers with disabilities in order to reduce bullying and create a more inclusive environment. Research shows that students with disabilities are more vulnerable to bullying and may also exhibit aggressive behavior due to a lack of social skills. The program will educate both typically developing students and students with disabilities on how to function in the mainstream classroom and will provide opportunities for socialization and growth. The goal is to decrease bullying incidents between typically developing students and students with disabilities.

Cheryl Huey and Kristen Knowles, Mariner Mermaids
SeaPerch Underwater Robotics Club
Jupiter Middle School

Mariner Mermaids - SeaPerch Underwater Robotics Club is establishing an all-girls underwater robotics team. The program will provide training for the team leaders and the needed materials and resources, such as robot kits, soldering equipment, and a pool for training. The project aims to expose girls to STEM activities and build their confidence and interest in pursuing math, science, and engineering courses. It emphasizes the underrepresentation of women in STEM fields and the positive impact of science-focused programs on girls' skills and interests. The development of an all-girls STEM club can provide a safe and supportive environment for female students to build self-esteem and confidence. The goal is for the team to compete with other SeaPerch Robotics teams in local, regional, and potentially state and international events.

Britt Feingold and Brent Bludworth,
The Memory and Creative Explosion Project
Lake Worth Community High School

The goal of The Memory and Creative Explosion Project is to enhance student learning and creativity through art integration and provide real-world experiences and aims to integrate art, design, watercolor, and literacy into various art projects throughout the school year. Students will be introduced to The Memory Project, where they will create handmade portraits of sponsored children in orphanages. The Creative Explosion part of the program will introduce students to explosion books and new ceramic projects, as well as explore the pop art style. The art program will focus on experimentation with new techniques and materials, both in 2D and 3D art. Students will also be exposed to public art through local field trips. The goal is to enhance student learning and creativity through art integration and provide real-world experiences.

Valentina Garcia-Nunes and Jamie Bartlett, Night at the Museum
Palm Beach Maritime Academy

The Night at the Museum program aims to improve science education by implementing various measures, including a cross-curricular project involving art, math, and literacy skills. The project involves creating and operating a science museum where students will research and teach visitors about their topic. The project also aims to increase parent involvement and student engagement during lessons. The goal is to increase science proficiency in 4th and 5th graders by 20% and improve research, cooperation, planning skills, and the ability to analyze nonfiction texts.

Demarco Mott and Shameka Thomas, Education to Change the World
Riviera Beach Preparatory and Achievement Academy

The Education to Change the World project aims to increase literacy, ACT and SAT participation, and improve graduation rates by addressing financial barriers that prevent low-income students from taking these tests and will focus on improving students' emotional and mental health. The project will include school-wide reading and community literacy initiatives, using Trevor Noah's book, *Born a Crime*, to engage students in discussions about important topics. The ultimate goal is for students to learn, reflect, and have transformative conversations.

Alane White and Aimee Habegger, Sips, Scents, and Suds
Seminole Ridge Community High School

Sip, Sense, and Suds aims to provide work experience for students with cognitive/physical disabilities through school-based enterprises. These enterprises teach work ethic, personal responsibility, and decision-making skills, while also promoting the importance of academics. The students will be working with general education students in various classes such as biotechnology, pottery, and automotive. They will research, design, make, and sell soaps, candles, coffee, and muffins to staff and the community. The goal is to have all students participate according to their needs, gaining work experience and skills such as communication, problem-solving, punctuality, appropriate interaction with others, following directions, seeking assistance when needed, and budget balancing.





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Program Funders



Lauren Hepworth and James Fink, Math Mania *Barton Elementary School*

The Math Mania project aims to improve students' math fluency and social skills. This project involves older students creating math-focused games for younger students, which will help the older students review basic facts and develop problem-solving strategies as they create projects for the younger children. The project also promotes collaboration and social skills among students. The games will be used in class, during indoor recess, and can be taken home by students. The goal is to bring joy and fun to the learning process while improving problem-solving and math computation skills.

Erin Miller, Sensory Room for Students on the Autism Spectrum *Belvedere Elementary School*

This project aims to increase the number of students participating in mainstream classes by 10% by May 2024. Instruction for students within this program will not only focus on academic instruction, but also functional life skills such as social skills, communication, and self-regulatory skills. This includes a Sensory Room, where students use sensory materials to self-regulate. By being able to self-regulate, these students will be more likely to be able to participate in a mainstream classroom for a portion of their day. This project will include training teachers and paraprofessionals in new skills to support students' self-regulation in the Sensory Room along with materials students can utilize to de-escalate.

Lindsay Rollin, ESOL Vocabulary Building Activities
Clifford O. Taylor / Kirklane Elementary School

Vocabulary acquisition is crucial to reading, and English Language Learner (ELL) students who are beginning speakers in English need a great deal of support to build vocabulary. It typically takes five to seven years for an ELL student to become proficient in English, therefore, beginning English speakers must start listening, speaking, reading, and writing a variety of English vocabulary as early as possible. This project aims to help students increase their vocabulary of tier-I English words. Students will use the Oxford Picture Dictionary and workbook as an introduction to a category of vocabulary such as physical attributes or food. This will allow both direct and indirect vocabulary instruction that also involves collaboration. Students will work together to complete the workbook pages and begin to become familiar with the words. Then they can start to use this vocabulary in different social activities, such as making a menu and role-play ordering in a restaurant after learning the food and restaurant vocabulary. Students who learn physical attributes may use this vocabulary to collaboratively play the “Guess Who” board game. Then when appropriate, shared or guided reading books on this topic may also be utilized.

Sydney White, The Thinking Lab:
Targeting Fair Game Standards for Science K-5
Diamond View Elementary School

The Thinking Lab is a program designed to improve STEM instruction in elementary schools by targeting the Fair Game Science Standard. The Thinking Lab’s innovation lies in the use of strategies that rely on research on mind mapping, which is a technique for learning that uses a non-linear approach to learning, project-based learning, and effective STEM instructional models. These methods force students to think and explore concepts using visual and spatial relationships by examining central themes together. With hands-on strategies, Fair Game science standards, STEM curriculum, and after-school programming designed to meet the specific needs of students, this program will transform how STEM programming is viewed in elementary schools. The Thinking Lab will also support the needs of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder within each grade level. To maximize the program’s reach, a website will also be created to share the strategies and materials with teachers throughout the district. The program will be guided by high-yield science instructional approaches and will provide students with additional resources to support their learning. Overall, the Thinking Lab aims to enrich the delivery of STEM instruction in elementary schools, thus impacting student achievement in STEM.

Pamela Rothman and Heather Trapani, Stem: Powering the Future
Everglades Elementary School

In light of a 5-point drop in 5th-grade science scores in the 2022-2023 school year, this program serves to improve student performance in science by focusing on the Fair Game Benchmarks through engaging in hands-on STEM activities in the school's new STEM lab. The Fair Game Benchmarks provide foundational concepts crucial for achieving 5th-grade science proficiency on the state end-of-year exam. By providing non-consumable supplies that can be utilized in future years, it is anticipated that this initiative will yield an increase in science proficiency beyond the current 58% and benefit future 5th-graders as well.

Jennifer Bakakos, Turtles Are Treasures
Frontier Elementary School

Turtles are Treasures is a project in an Environmental and Animals Science Academy that focuses on turtles and their impact on the community. The project aims to provide hands-on learning experiences for students and teach them about the 4 Cs (collaborating, critically thinking, creating, and communicating). The Loggerhead Marine Life Center will be involved in helping further the students' knowledge in STEM. The project will include activities such as assessing turtles, comparing life cycles, creating a turtle nest, brainstorming ways to help the ocean, creating means to protect turtle nests, and experiencing an oil spill. The overall goal is for students to learn about turtles and how they can help improve the environment. Intermediate goals include students acting as veterinarians for turtles, creating turtle nests, designing ways to protect turtle nests, sorting ocean animals, and cleaning up the ocean.

Paula Hoskins, "I Can"
Galaxy Elementary School

Galaxy Elementary has a diverse student body with many students who struggle with communication as well as emotional and cognitive skills. The school is implementing a project that aims to support students' emotional and learning challenges. The project will be divided into three parts: CPR for 4th- and 5th-graders, basic hygiene, and communication for all grades. Basic hygiene will include videos and newsletters for parents to help students with bathing, grooming, and oral care. The communication segment will focus on anti-bullying and a zone of regulation program. The project aims to improve students' dress code, reduce bullying incidents and disruptions in the classroom, increase family participation, and equip students with strategies to manage their emotions.



**Elizabeth Bare, Continuing On - Structured Literacy:
A Multisensory Approach to Literacy Instruction**
Greenacres Elementary School

Greenacres Elementary School serves a predominantly low-income, Hispanic population with a high percentage of English Language Learners. The school has been working to improve reading proficiency, particularly in phonological awareness and phonics, through the implementation of the Structured Literacy Project. This grant aims to provide materials for independent and collaborative learning with the ultimate goal of improving English Language Arts scores and reaching a proficiency level of 75% or higher in kindergarten through 2nd grade.

**Vanessa Gary, Stephanie Velez, and Monica Woodall,
Disney Musicals at Highland**
Highland Elementary School

The arts play a critical role in education by fostering creativity, critical thinking, self-expression, teamwork, and confidence. The production of a Disney musical will provide an inclusive platform for students to explore their artistic talents and showcase their skills. It also aims to improve literacy skills through memorizing lines, learning song lyrics, and delivering dialogues. Producing a Disney musical will promote community and collaboration among students, regardless of their abilities, and can strengthen the relationship between the school and the community. Overall, this project aims to address diverse student needs, enhance the arts program, improve literacy skills, foster community and collaboration, and strengthen relationships with families and neighbors with the ultimate goal of creating a sustainable musical theater program at Highland Elementary by 2026.

Olga Zraouli, Read with Me!
Hope Centennial Elementary School

The Read with Me! project aims to provide leveled books to kindergarten and 1st grade students in order to support their reading at home with the overall goal of providing an excellent educational foundation and instilling confidence and motivation for reading in students. Almost all students enter Hope Centennial Elementary with no prior organized schooling, and parents are often unsure how to support their children academically. The program will offer various opportunities for students to learn new stories, build vocabulary, and develop borrowing skills. An integral component of this program is having teachers provide parents with literacy strategies to work with their children at home. By practicing reading daily and discussing what they have read with their families, students will improve their comprehension strategies and become more successful in academics and future opportunities. The program aligns with Florida's English Language Arts standards and will provide tools for teachers to track and analyze students' progress.

Brandi Girtman, Beyond the Box: School-Wide Breakout EDU for Cultivating Social-Emotional Skills

Howell L. Watkins Middle School

Beyond the Box: Breakout EDU project will use a curriculum-aligned, innovative digital platform to improve social-emotional skills, collaboration, and inclusivity. The Breakout EDU platform promotes critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, teamwork, and creativity using games. The immersive experience will allow students to work together to solve puzzles and unlock locks. Through communication and the application of critical thinking, students will decipher codes, solve riddles, and unravel the mystery of a locked box. Challenges will range from deciphering symbols to solving math problems, interpreting patterns, debugging programs, or conducting experiments. The educational game will encourage creative thinking and diverse perspectives. Implementing Breakout EDU will foster communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. The goals of the program are to improve students' social-emotional regulation, foster resilience, and improve self-awareness, self-management, and social awareness. The long-term objectives involve increasing ratings for mental health and wellness, enhancing respect among students, decreasing disciplinary incidents, and bolstering the use of learner-centered instructional methods.

Karina Moran, Fluency for All Kits

Jerry Thomas Elementary School

Fluency in mathematics involves more than just quick calculations. It is important to provide equitable teaching that connects concepts to procedures and allows students to choose strategies tailored to their needs. At Jerry Thomas Elementary, the focus is on developing flexible, efficient, and accurate fluency through activities and games rather than timed drills. Procedural fluency requires conceptual understanding, a range of strategies, and an emphasis on number relationships and reasoning. Jerry Thomas Elementary has developed Fluency For All Kits geared to specific benchmarks for each grade level focusing on exploration, procedural reliability, and procedural fluency. Promoting procedural fluency will empower students to succeed in both the classroom and in life. Having students experience success at their own individual rate will also build an "I can do attitude" towards math. The Skills for Learning and Life objectives will remind students to have a growth mindset and to learn from mistakes. Parents will be able to be partners in the education of their children with the knowledge that the activities and games they are using will indeed make a difference! The goal of this program is to improve students' math fluency and empower partnership relationships among educators, students, and caregivers.





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Cheryl Collier, Karen York, Myriam Pierre, and Maz Salah,
Differentiating Our Way to Success!
Jupiter Middle School

The 6th grade math department team will utilize the IXL digital math program to improve students' math proficiency in order to increase proficiency by 5% on state testing, and by 10% on the state Progress Monitoring Assessments. The IXL program uses digital live data to drive remediation and accelerate proficiency in math. The model uses guided practice and then generates progressively more difficult math problems that meet students' needs and abilities allowing for differentiation in teaching and providing support for students through videos, guided notes, and translations. Teachers will be able to monitor students' progress and address misconceptions individually or in small groups. By using IXL, the math department will provide top-notch differentiated lessons and help decrease frustration while increasing proficiency and confidence in students learning math.

Kelly Jo Mills, Automaticity Equals Comprehension
Liberty Park Elementary School

Many students are experiencing a lack of foundational skills in decoding and spelling; this is affecting their reading fluency and comprehension abilities. The goal of this project is to increase grade-level proficiency scores on literacy assessments for students in kindergarten through third grade. The "Say It, Tap It, Spell It, Write It" is a fundamental process to improve phonological and phonemic learning and to store words in the brain's "letter box" so they become sight words. When reading words becomes automatic, the student's working memory is freed up for comprehension. The use of magnetic letter trays and Elkonin boxes, which focus on segmenting and blending the sounds in words, can help students understand graphemes and recognize patterns in words. This project will provide alphabet trays and other hands-on resources to help students improve their reading skills.

Laura Stemle, Multilingual Learners
Liberty Park Elementary School

Liberty Park Elementary has a significant population of English Language Learners (ELL), many of whom are recent immigrants. To help these students acquire English language skills, the school is implementing the Imagine Learning program, a computer program that allows them to record themselves speaking as they learn new phrases. This will make it possible for beginners to practice speaking and learn new phrases, vocabulary, and phonics, and to develop phonemic awareness. Through this program, students will improve their vocabulary acquisition and oral language development whilst building confidence to apply acquired skills in other subject areas as a result of improved visual support and technology resources critical for their success.

Crystal Merritt, Lunch Bunch: Improving Social Skills and Sensitivity Through Inclusive Lunchtime
Lighthouse Elementary School

Lighthouse Elementary School serves students in kindergarten through 2nd grade, many of whom have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This condition is characterized by deficits in social-emotional domains, difficulty participating in conversations, and challenges with language and communication. Unfortunately, these students often struggle to associate with their same-aged peers, leading to feelings of isolation and negative behaviors such as verbal outbursts or bullying. This project aims to address the issue by implementing a lunchtime social skills curriculum using peer-mediated instruction. Through this program, general education students will receive training to understand better the challenges of ASD and engage in social play with their peers with autism. The benefits of this initiative will be widespread, as students with ASD will gain increased confidence and communication skills, while their peers and teachers will become more aware, understanding, and sensitive to the needs of their classmates with autism.

Julius Edwards and Michael Marrero, Empowering Females in Esports Initiative
Palm Beach Lakes Community High School

The Palm Beach Lakes High School Esports program aims to increase female participation in Esports through activities like shout casting and vlogging (video blogging). The program will highlight the importance of having more female voices in the industry. Through mentorship, showcasing female talent, and fostering inclusivity within casting teams, the program aims to ignite the interest of girls and women in pursuing Esports careers and passions. Additionally, by incorporating skills for learning and life, the program aims to equip female participants with resilience, communication finesse, and empathy, thereby fostering an Esports community that is both respectful



and encouraging. The program has already seen success, with a 100-student increase in enrollment. Funding will provide the necessary resources for a better streaming experience. The goals of the program include achieving a diverse and inclusive Esports talent pool by increasing female representation and striving for gender parity in casting talent and production crew members.

Mary Doda, Executive Producers Create a Love of Reading

Pine Jog Elementary School

During the 2022-2023 academic year, a high percentage of 3rd- to 5th-grade students scored below grade level in English Language Arts and showed a lack of proficiency on the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) assessment. To address this issue, the Media Center plans to create a space where students can share and discuss books of interest using creative projects. Instead of writing a book report for fiction and nonfiction texts, they will be Executive Producers of movies, book trailers, and/or podcasts. The projects will then be shared as promotional media for students' favorite novels as well as research projects connected to classroom science units. The program aims to improve STEM skills, decrease the percentage of students scoring below grade level, increase overall proficiency on the NGSSS assessment, and increase student interest in reading.

Brent Fulmer and Danielle Jacobs, Green Greenhouse

Pine Jog Elementary

The Go Green Culture project at Pine Jog Elementary School involves the construction and maintenance of a greenhouse where students, teachers, and community members can participate in growing and selling produce. The project aims to strengthen bonds between stakeholders and benefit the student population, especially those who learn kinesthetically, are tactile learners, or are differently abled. The greenhouse will use recycled materials, water from a hydroponic garden, and solar power for ventilation. The project will address state standards in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and teach concepts such as measurement, plant biology, renewable energy, and technology. The program's goal is to provide teachers with additional resources for teaching standards and to promote a love and respect for the environment via strengthening students' cultural bonds, sense of community, and fostering a sense of ownership and collaboration.

Veneise Harrell, Beyond the Bell College Tour

Riviera Beach Preparatory & Achievement Academy

Riviera Beach Preparatory and Achievement Academy is an education program in Palm Beach County that helps high school students who are credit deficient or have not yet met state assessment requirements. The project aims to prepare these at-risk students for college and career readiness. It will use the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) strategies, providing students with AVID curriculum and funding for a tour of colleges and universities. The students will also undergo boot camp training to

improve their ACT or SAT scores. This project will have positive outcomes for the school, teachers, and community by increasing graduation rates and enhancing professional development. Overall, the program will provide unique opportunities for at-risk students to succeed in college and beyond.

Alan Geppert, All Aboard for the Five Regions of Florida
Rolling Green Elementary School

This project is a year-long program aimed at involving students from all grade levels in designing a magnetic levitating (Maglev) train table that represents the state of Florida. The project supports the school's intention to become a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics)-based choice school and incorporates the four C's (collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking). The project will be divided into three phases: researching and designing the regions of Florida, constructing the tables, and creating Maglev train tracks and a train. The project aims to educate students about the geography and history of Florida, as well as expose them to STEM concepts and future careers. Furthermore, this program will increase students' interest in the state in which they reside and promote critical thinking skills by applying educational concepts through hands-on activities, enhancing academic achievement, and demonstrating real-world applications of STEAM.

Bernadette Walker-Weems and Thomas Johnson,
Robotics and Literacy Invasion Project
Roosevelt Community Middle School

The Roosevelt Middle Magnet School's Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Program is undertaking a unique and inclusive approach to learning by integrating robotics. The goal is to foster creativity, problem-solving, and social interaction while catering to the diverse needs and abilities of all students, particularly those with disabilities and those with reading deficiencies. This curriculum-aligned program will promote critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, teamwork, literacy, and creativity. By integrating robotics into literacy lessons, students will experience an immersive and engaging experience that allows them to explore coding languages, navigate challenges, and develop confidence. This program will foster a collaborative and inclusive learning environment. Immediate goals of the program include the improvement of students' social-emotional skills, fostering resilience, and facilitating learner-centered instructional approaches among teachers. The long-term objectives involve increasing favorable ratings for mental health and wellness, enhancing respect among students, decreasing disciplinary incidents, and bolstering the use of learner-centered instructional methods.





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Jillian Campbell, Photographing the World to Help Others Visualize It *Royal Palm School*

Royal Palm School caters to special needs students with diverse levels of functioning and provides an inclusive environment. In their daily instruction, the teachers utilize a range of visuals, which are often sourced from online platforms or clipart programs. Teachers require access to a visual library that is both current and relevant to the curriculum. The objective of the project is to instill a deeper appreciation for photography in the students, while also enabling them to contribute to the creation of a visual library that will be used in their instruction. Throughout the project, students will be assigned items to photograph using a DSL camera with SD memory, a tripod, a camera/wheelchair adapter, light box, or an iPad to enable them to take pictures. Students will then review and determine which pictures to print and curate into the visual library engaging them in hands-on learning opportunities.

David Raffaelli, Bike Shop *Royal Palm School*

The bicycle shop vocational program will create an inclusive learning environment where special needs students develop vocational skills via immersive experiences in a bike shop which cultivates motor skills, problem-solving, and teamwork. Students participating in this program will explore physics, mechanics, and coding for bike technologies STEM integration into vocational training via real-world application. The program is designed to prepare special needs students for the workforce by nurturing their job skills, fostering social growth, and promoting independence through a program emphasis on customer service, bicycle repairs, and maintenance tasks that allow for individualized student learning, job development, and community engagement. The overall goal is to create a holistic learning experience that prepares students to lead fulfilling lives as engaged community members.

Ellen Martin, Making "Cents" of it All *Sandpiper Shores Elementary School*

This program aims to teach financial literacy and vocabulary to students in the autism program at Sandpiper Shores Elementary through tangible experiences. The program will integrate behavior incentives, called Shining Stars, with a store environment where students will use pretend money to buy goods. The students participating as merchants in the store are students with autism in 4th and 5th grade who are working on mathematics standards. The program will also focus on developing social skills and academic goals, including math skills and vocabulary related to financial situations. Additionally, the program will help students improve their language skills through role-playing and real-life situations.



Maura Sullivan and Mary Fish, Drones + Physics + Bio-Tech = Success! *Spanish River Community High School*

This program will incorporate drone technology into physics, calculus, and biotechnology classes to provide hands-on experiences and teach students about the real-life applications of drones, such as how they are used to help serve medical and health needs, particularly of those living in remote areas, and how they can be used in agriculture. Students will participate in aerial drone competitions, and curricular units will be designed to attract more students and extend their knowledge. The integration of drones will allow students to learn about concepts in physics, math, and biotechnology, as they develop valuable skills for future employment. The project's goals include exposing students to drone functionality, hosting regional competitions, and helping students pursue internships and certification in drone technology.

Shannon Solis, Pollinator Protectors *Village Academy*

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, honeybees are directly or indirectly responsible for one third of all the food we eat. More than \$24 billion, with honeybees alone contributing \$15 billion, is attributed to pollinators in the United States. The decline in pollinators could have devastating effects on agriculture, ecosystems, and economies, making this project crucial for preserving the environment. The project aims to engage students in honeybee conservation efforts through a systemic approach that includes hands-on activities: building houses/beehives and creating labs for flower dissection, honeybee dissection, and bee pollination providing interdisciplinary learning opportunities. By collaborating with local beekeepers and advocating for policies that protect honeybee habitats, the project seeks to increase awareness about the importance of honeybees and the dangers they face. Additionally, the project promotes critical thinking skills, real-world problem-solving, and environmental responsibility in students. Overall, it has the potential to make a significant impact on honeybee populations and the environment.

Danielle Fairclough, Take a Risk for the At-Risk! *Wellington High School*

The Take a Risk for the At-Risk project goal is to enhance the self-efficacy and academic potential of underperforming students by providing resources such as drop-in advising, career fairs, and employment workshops. This will be accomplished by creating a safe space for all students and providing quarterly symposiums to motivate and guide them towards academic success. The symposiums will focus on self-efficacy, academic performance, and motivation. The project will involve guest speakers, career exploration, ACT/ SAT preparation, and other activities.



★ **Michael Angnardo, Culinary Academy**
West Boca Raton Community High School

This program offers students an opportunity to train in all areas of food preparation and service. The curriculum is designed to train and prepare students for a career in the culinary arts and is unique in that it offers students the opportunity to work in actual food service situations. The kitchen and facilities are state-of-the-art. The curriculum is designed so that at the end of three or four years in the Academy, students will have a base knowledge of culinary arts and food service management. Students can become certified by national organizations such as The National Restaurant Association, with a "Pro Start" certificate, "ServSafe" certified, membership in the American Culinary Federation, and the National Technical Honor Society. As a result of this project, students will gain practical experience that will enhance their résumé and prepare them for entry into a career in the industry.

Alexandra Solomon and Brian Doyle, 30 Days Lost in Space
West Boynton Middle School

Through an immersive and collaborative approach, this project aims to impart young students with relevant and rigorous technology skills that will create a long-lasting passion for technology fields. With the Robotics Adventure Kit: 30 Days Lost in Space, students will embark on an engaging narrative where they are stranded on an unknown planet and must repair their spaceship using coding, circuitry, and robotics skills. Unlike monotonous online courses, 30 Days Lost in Space presents daily unique challenges that incorporate Career and Technical Education (CTE) standards as well as crucial skills such as teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, ingenuity, and resilience. The project has three main objectives: (1) infuse excitement and adventure into the CTE curriculum, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of learning; (2) spark curiosity and passion for further cyber courses and careers; and (3) demonstrate to students that they possess the capability and creativity to solve problems. Moreover, this project seeks to use the kits again and again for years to come, making the program sustainable.

GoTeach FINLIT & STEM Innovation Awards!

\$5,000 awards intended for individual teacher applicants or teacher team projects in the subject areas of STEM and Financial Literacy. 80% of the proposed budget can cover the cost of the program and 20% will be awarded to the teacher or split between a team of teachers who partnered to create and implement the program.

These awards are made available due to the generous grant funding provided by The Stiles Nicholson Foundation in partnership with the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County as part of the State of Florida's School District Education Foundation matching grant program through the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations.

Program
Funders



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FOUNDATIONS



School District Education
Foundation Matching
Grant Program

GoTeach FIN LIT! Awards Descriptions

Christina Dixon, Hospitality and Tourism:
Exposing Students to Culinary Arts Around the World.
Congress Middle School

The goal of this program is to help students obtain industry certification, but moreover to inspire students to be innovative in learning about new opportunities in food safety and financial literacy while preparing for a career in the hospitality industry. Obtaining an industry certification in food safety is a valuable way to teach students about financial literacy in the food industry. This certification program emphasizes the importance of food safety protocols and delves into the financial aspects of maintaining a safe and compliant food operation. Students understand how financial decisions impact food safety measures and overall business success by providing relevant knowledge and practical skills related to foodborne illness, compliance costs, risk management and insurance, quality control and waste reduction, employee training, brand reputation and customer loyalty, and cost-benefit analysis.



Jessica Estel, Make Money Make Sense
Forest Park Elementary School

The Make Money Make Sense program aims to enhance students' proficiency in mathematics and financial literacy to be successful in modern society. This program seeks to provide real-world mathematical experience and application through essential financial skills by providing opportunities for students to understand and effectively use various financial skills to increase long-term success while building a relationship with money in everyday spending, budgeting, and future planning. With a program focused on teaching students different mathematical concepts such as whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and measurement units., The Make Money Make Sense program will provide students with foundational mathematical fluency and an early foundation on their pathway to becoming financially literate.

Timothy Shannon, Financially Correct!
Jeaga Middle School

The Financially Correct! project aims to promote financial literacy among students for when they enter college or the workforce, ensuring that they will be knowledgeable on how to navigate their personal financial journey. By encompassing an array of topics, such as planning, budgeting, opening a bank account, using credit, understanding loans and interest rates, and concepts like investing, bankruptcy, philanthropy, risk management, retirement, and estate planning, the program goal is to enhance the students' understanding of financial concepts, the importance of education in lifelong personal finances, the impact of technological changes and globalization on career opportunities, and the financial responsibilities of citizenship.

Patrick George, Hands on Financial Literacy Initiative
Riviera Beach Preparatory and Achievement Academy

The aim of this project is to provide students with hands-on experiences that enhance their reading and writing skills in financial literacy. Students are more engaged when given meaningful projects that incorporate literacy skills in a practical way. By integrating classroom instruction with real-world experiences that allow for impactful interactions in the real-world, the program objective is to develop and plan various enrichment activities for students, including the opportunity to engage with experts and simulate authentic financial literacy experiences outside of the classroom through workshops, project-based learning, and special programs such as financial workshops, "Shark Tank" business creation, Stock Market simulations, Non-Profit Business Evaluation Reports, and analyzing business types and their practices via field trips.

Congratulations

to all of the GoTeach!

**Classroom Grant
Award Recipients**

**We appreciate your
passion, hard work and
dedication to the students
in our community.**

You are making a difference!



**STILES
NICHOLSON
FOUNDATION**

www.stiles-nicholson.org

GoTeach STEM! Awards Descriptions



Jennifer Krill, FAUHS Experiential Research Program *Florida Atlantic University High School (FAUHS)*

The FAUHS Experiential Research Program aims to provide high school students with hands-on STEM research experiences via courses in neurophysiology, genetics and drosophila (behavior of fruit flies), and imaging and fluorescence. Students will learn scientific research skills, and independent projects will culminate in an oral poster presentation as well as a manuscript in the format of a scientific journal article. Students will also have the opportunity to publish their work as well as present their findings at conferences and symposia. The goal is to prepare students for careers in STEM fields and to drive future innovation. Mentoring by faculty, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows at Florida Atlantic University, Max Planck, the Stiles-Nicholson Brain Institute, and UF Scripps will provide touchpoints between high school students and researchers to promote future collaboration when research positions become available in laboratories.

Deanna Jones, STEM Master Spring Break Camp *Highland Elementary School*

Highland Elementary is a Title 1 school dedicated to serving underprivileged inner-city youth. The school has recognized the need to address the poverty cycle affecting 99% of its students, leading to the introduction of this program. By implementing the STEM Master Spring Break Camp, Highland Elementary aims to combat socioeconomic disparities and provide hands-on opportunities in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). The camp will provide a unique opportunity for students to develop their STEM skills, enhance learning, particularly in the fields of biology, astronomy, and geology, and engage with their community. Through hands-on activities, interactive workshops, and field trips, the program aims to inspire curiosity, critical thinking, and a lifelong love for science. By offering a diverse range of activities, the camp seeks to create a stimulating and immersive environment where participants can explore, discover, and apply scientific principles in real-world contexts. The camp will also offer a diverse range of activities such as building electric circuits, creating models, exploring robotics, and establishing gardens, and will foster community engagement by partnering with local science centers, museums, and nature reserves.



Jose Garcia-Gosling, TechGenius: Empowering Tomorrow's Innovators
John I. Leonard Community High School

This project aims to improve the technology resources and student skills in the Information Technology Fundamentals class within this Title 1 school as the current outdated computers limit hands-on experiences and practical application of the subject. The funding from this award will help upgrade computer hardware and software, creating a better learning environment for students. This enhanced technology will allow students to familiarize themselves with contemporary tools and applications, increasing their proficiency and confidence in IT tasks. It will also spark their interest in STEM subjects and potentially lead them to consider continued education and post-secondary careers in STEM fields. Additionally, the project aims to equip students with essential skills that are in high demand in the job market, making them more competitive in their future career endeavors.

Annalise Wellman, Warriors' Community Food Forest
Okeeheelee Middle School

The objective of this project is to create a food forest at Okeeheelee Middle School that will serve as a source of nourishment for the community and an educational tool for STEM classes. The project aims to provide an escape from the harsh realities of life while teaching students about the Earth and science. Students will use field guides and technology to determine which trees to add and create a layout for the forest. The project will involve students from all grade levels and SMART project goals have been established to ensure its completion aligns with the school's curriculum. The food forest will include various fruit-bearing and edible plants chosen through student research. Each grade level will have assignments to contribute to the development of the food forest. A school-wide event will be held for the grand opening, and awards will be given to participating students and staff. The creation of the food forest will provide real-world applications for STEM curriculum and help students better understand and retain the topics being taught.

David Sellepack and Demetrius Permenter
Career Education at Palm Beach Juvenile Corrections Facility
Palm Beach Youth Academy

Career training can significantly reduce recidivism rates among students served by Palm Beach Juvenile Corrections. The RAND Corporation suggests that this is due to the opportunity for inmates to gain skills and earn a good wage. This program will establish a hands-on robotics and agricultural engineering curricula tailored for students in the correctional facility. These curricula will include training in the programming of microcontrollers, circuit drawings, bread board design, and electrical resistance calculations, analyzing soil, weather, and plant health, managing crops, and treating plant diseases and malnourishment. The program will adapt the high school curriculum to meet the specific needs of a level 8 correctional facility with the goal of having students pass the career exams for robotics or engineering given by the Robotics Education and Competition Foundation (VEX Robotics).



Helping students in need become students who lead.

Since 2012, the Verizon Innovative Learning program has provided over \$535 million in market value towards STEM-related education in under-resourced communities. And in the days still to come, we remain committed to our goal of providing 10 million youth with digital skills training by 2030.

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Jaddy Brigitte Nielsen Nino, Narrated Folktales Bundled in Web Apps *South Grade Elementary School*

The purpose of the project is to increase overall proficiency rates for students in Dual language programs like Language Arts (English-Spanish) and computer science knowledge by introducing through the use Web Apps. The project uses authentic materials, such as folktales, and recreates them in both Spanish and English versions. The web app used in the project is accessible on any device and aims to enhance students' communicative competence and technological interests. The project also includes professional development for teachers and aims to demonstrate growth in comprehension among students. The project's goals include students demonstrating a year's growth in comprehension, training students and teachers to use the web app, and increasing the overall reading scores for 2nd and 3rd graders.

Ryan Jackola, Wetland Warriors *South Tech Academy*

The Wetland Warriors project is an opportunity for 250 students to participate in field research on wetland conservation, restoration, and climate change. The project involves collecting data on water quality and conducting research and service-based projects. The students will work with the National Wildlife Refuge Association to build and install floating wetlands on campus. The materials requested for the project will enable students to develop their own projects related to wildlife diversity, water and soil quality, and renewable energy sources. The project aims to have students complete a research or service-based project and demonstrate an improved understanding of the topics. Overall, the project highlights the importance of experiential learning, community partnerships, and protecting the environment.





WEST BOCA RATON
COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

*The Culinary Academy of
West Boca Raton High School
Congratulates the 2023
Recipients of the GoTeach!
Classroom Grant Awards*



Education Foundation of Palm Beach County

**GoTeach! Classroom
Grant Awards**



EDUCATION
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OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

WBRHS





You Are Invited

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

4:00pm

1515 Barton Road, Lake Worth Beach

Please RSVP by December 1, 2023

Text **EFPBCGround** to **41444** or scan the QR code



**EDUCATION
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OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**



As we prepare to enter our 40th year of operation, the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County celebrates the next chapter of our history, growth, and development.

Please join us as we break ground for the new 32,000 sq. ft. facility. Much more than housing our program offices, warehouse, and Red Apple Supplies Showroom, this new facility will become an innovation hub, helping to ensure high-quality public education for students and teachers throughout The School District of Palm Beach County.

www.EducationFoundationPBC.org



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Congratulations!

2023 Beginning and Mentor Teacher of the Year

School District of Palm Beach County

The Beginning Teacher of the Year Award was created by the School District of Palm Beach County's Department of Professional Growth to honor beginning teachers for their commitment to their craft, and for showing tremendous dedication to doing what is best for kids. One teacher at the elementary level and one teacher at the secondary level receive the award.

As part of the award process, finalists are asked to describe their biggest classroom victory, and how they've built relationships with students. This gives the finalists an opportunity to elaborate on the work they do in their classrooms.

The Mentor Teacher of the Year Award was created to recognize the valuable contributions of experienced professionals who support and guide new teachers through their first year in a classroom. One teacher at the elementary level and one teacher at the secondary level receive the award. Finalists for the award are asked to talk about why they became a mentor and the qualities that make them effective in their roles.

Congratulations to the four educators who received 2023 awards!

The Education Foundation of Palm Beach County is awarding the School District of Palm Beach County's Department of Professional Development Educator Support Program's Beginning Teachers of the Year, Mentor Teachers of the Year and Teacher of the Year Recipients a GoTeach! Classroom Grant Award to support their inspirational instructional efforts in the classroom. Congratulations to all recipients!

Elementary Beginning Teacher of the Year

Anna Breitbach

Equestrian Trails Elementary



Anna Breitbach is a second-year teacher, teaching first grade at Equestrian Trails Elementary School. Ms. Breitbach received her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education as well as her Masters of Education in Elementary Education from the University of Florida. Having earned multiple certifications such as a Reading Endorsement, English Speakers of Other Languages Endorsement, and certification in the University of Florida Literacy Initiative (UFLI) tutoring program, Ms. Breitbach has always wanted to work with children and watch them grow. Ms. Breitbach teaches First Grade Gifted/High Achieving students.

In order to supplement instruction, she will utilize grant funds to purchase various materials and activities for her students. "I am very thankful for this grant as I believe it will enhance my instruction as well as supplement my students' educational opportunities. With this funding, I am able to better my students' academic environment by focusing on areas they excel at. Being able to share my love of school and reading has been the highlight of my teaching thus far. As I have been recognized through this grant, I plan to continue providing my students with different enrichment opportunities and engage them in instruction."

Elementary Mentor Teacher of the Year

LaSheena Booth McKeever,

Pioneer Park Elementary



I'm LaSheena Booth McKeever from Belle Glade, FL. I graduated from Florida Agriculture & Mechanical University with my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. Later, I attended and graduated from The University of West Florida with my Master's in Educational Leadership. This is my 11th year working with the Palm Beach School District. I served 8 years as a 6th Grade Language Arts teacher at Lake Shore Middle School in Belle Glade, FL. I'm currently working as the SAI K-2nd teacher at Pioneer Park Elementary School in Belle Glade, FL. It is an honor to be able to give back to the students in my community

and to help build great readers. "Today a reader, tomorrow a leader."- Margaret Fuller. I plan on using the funds to purchase reading resources such as reading books and reading games. Also, I plan on purchasing students' resources such as stress balls and headphones. One of the main activities resulting from the use of the grant funds will be building students' reading comprehension skills through a variety of texts.

Secondary Beginning Teacher of the Year Alexis Fuce

Pahokee Middle -Senior High School



Hello, my name is Alexis Fuce (Coney) and this is my second year teaching math at Pahokee Middle Senior High School and I am currently the Head Varsity Cheerleading Coach. I have had the pleasure of fulfilling both of my dream jobs which were to become an officer and teach our youth. With this being said, prior to becoming a teacher, I was an officer for 5 years while obtaining my bachelor's degree. Being the beginning teacher of the year means a lot to me because while obtaining this prestigious award, I am a first time mom, a first time coach, and in school for my Masters degree. The

journey was not easy, but with much support, I have achieved so much. With these funds, I hope to bring more hands-on material that can benefit my class as well as the other math classes within the math department. The goal is to obtain several class sets of calculators, board markers, small dry erase boards, graphing boards, and other mathematical instruments that will be beneficial to the educational gain of our students. I want to extend my deepest gratitude for the funds that are being issued. Though they are being issued to me, I could not achieve this award on my own. This was a group effort and I would like to give a special thanks to everyone who works at Pahokee Middle Senior High School, together we have achieved and produced greatness!! Thank you.

Secondary Mentor Teacher of the Year Deborah Sunset

Suncoast Community High School



Deborah Sunset has been an educator for over twenty years. She has enjoyed teaching Advanced Placement Geography for most of those years. The course opens students' eyes to the why of where and gets students thinking spatially to analyze patterns and trends. She is currently serving on the Test Development Committee for the College Board and has been a reader, table leader, lead table leader, and question leader at the annual AP Reading. The GoTeach! Classroom Grant Award funding will be used to update textbooks and provide review books for the Advanced Placement Human Geography

Exam for students who cannot otherwise afford one resulting in students achieving higher test scores and earning more college credits in high school. Ms. Sunset expects that more students will earn college credit in high school which will help her students save time and money when they get to college.

Teacher of the Year

School District of Palm Beach County

Joselyn Leon

Belle Glade Elementary School



As a young girl, I had long possessed the dream of being a teacher. My passion and dedication stem from seeing my parents work hard as they assimilated into a country that presented freedom. Upon graduating from Florida Gulf Coast University, I began teaching at Belle Glade Elementary in Belle Glade, Florida. As an educator, what I treasure most is the relationships I have with my students. They are my “why”.

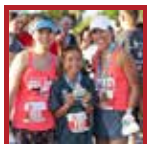
My goal is to use these funds in order for my students to publish their own books and build on their skills as readers and writers. As a result, 44 students will have the opportunity to publish books that they can share within our school, with their families, and our community. I hope it will inspire our students to explore their creativity and showcase their skills. I anticipate that my students will develop a sense of pride and ownership. I believe the excitement and responsibility of writing a book and publishing it will be life-changing for my students!



SUPPORTING TEACHERS, STUDENTS,
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SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE NATION



UPCOMING EVENTS



28

OCTOBER
7:30AM

9TH ANNUAL HEROES FOR EDUCATION 5K

5K, 1-MILE FUN RUN, 100-YARD DASH, MASCOT RACE

*John Prince Park
4756 S. Congress Ave., Lake Worth*



1

FEBRUARY
5PM-7:30PM

CELEBRATE THE GREAT

**CELEBRATING PRINCIPAL, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL,
TEACHER, AND SCHOOL-RELATED EMPLOYEE OF THE
YEAR**

*Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center
125 East Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach*



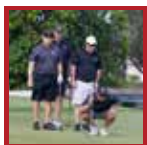
14

MARCH
5PM-7:30PM

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI & LEADERSHIP AWARDS

**HONORING A PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALUMNUS AND THE BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR**

*Palm Beach Gardens Marriott
4000 RCA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens*



19

APRIL
8:30AM

3rd Annual Bill Malone FORE Our Schools Golf Tournament

*PGA National Resort
400 Avenue of Champions, Palm Beach Gardens*



Learn more or Register for any of these events by
scanning the QR Code or visiting our website

EDUCATIONFOUNDATIONPBC.ORG/EVENTS

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