



**For Immediate Release**

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## **The Founders Fund Awards Scholarships to 27 Collier County Students**

*(May 8, 2015 – Naples, FL)* Scholarships were awarded to 27 Collier County students on April 23th by The Founders Fund at the Club Pelican Bay. The non-profit organization awarded a total of \$216,000 in renewable scholarships to local students this year.

The Founders Fund hosts an annual ice cream social to honor scholarship recipients and their families each year. Each student is presented with a four-year renewal scholarship in the amount of \$8,000. The scholarships are given to help students with college and post-high-school education expenses.

The Founders Fund, Inc. awards scholarships to Collier County students seeking financial assistance in order to pursue a higher education. Students will receive renewable scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each year with the agreement they maintain a B average or better in their college studies.

This year's additional 27 recipients, plus the 83 students already in the Founders Fund program, brings the total to 110 students who will receive scholarships this fall. The annual budget needed to distribute scholarships is over \$220,000 each year. Money needed to fund the scholarships is raised through a fundraising golf event held every other year, donations from Club members, and the generous support of local businesses.

The Founders Fund, Inc., a non-profit/tax-exempt charitable organization founded in 1991 by Club Pelican Bay members, has awarded over \$3 million in scholarships to more than 600 local students since its founding.

**2015 Scholarship Recipients:**

**Barron Collier High School:** Isis Gomez, Brianna Holmes, Sydney Luciana, Sean Nash

**Everglades High:** Mark Brown Jr., Savannah Ogelsby

**Golden Gate High School:** Melissa Alamo

**Gulf Coast High School:** Elizabeth Roux

**Immokalee High School:** Lesly Alvarado, Edwin Herard, Leslie Mancilla, Lynecee Romelus, Norma Vega

**Lely High School:** Anatalie Dantes, Kenny Igarza, Kevin Lopez

**Lorenzo Walker:** Jennifer Castaneda

**Naples High School:** Eavan Donovan, Michael Luthringer, Hunter McDaniel, Jilian Sansone

**Palmetto Ridge High School:** Coralie Antoine, Nedgie Paul, Cecilia Silvia

**St. John Neumann:** Brian Davenport, Jake Duran

**Club Pelican Bay:** Justin Martin

The scholarship fund, originally set up to help the children of the Club Pelican Bay employees, has expanded over the years to include Collier County high schools. Employees of the Club Pelican Bay and their families are also eligible for scholarships. This year, one employee and two children of employees were chosen to receive scholarships.

For more information about scholarships or The Founders Fund, Inc., call 239-593-0124 or visit [www.thefoundersfundinc.org](http://www.thefoundersfundinc.org).

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