

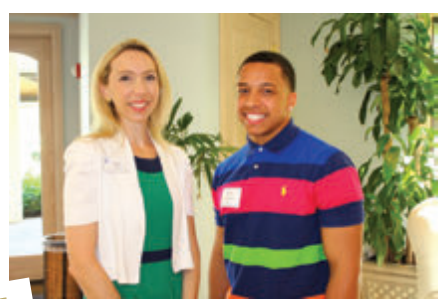
# Annual Scholars Luncheon

Scholarship recipients and benefactors of The Founders Fund gathered for their Annual Scholars Luncheon on December 30 at The Club. The luncheon is held each year to celebrate the accomplishments of the scholarship students. Out of the 100 Founders Fund students currently attending college, there were 28 students home for the holidays who attended the luncheon.

Joan Thomas, Founders Fund Chair, welcomed guests and emphasized the importance of changing lives through higher education. After lunch was served,

the students were invited to speak about their college studies and career goals. Their aspirations included careers in medicine, engineering, teaching and physics, and everyone agreed that student goals are more and more impressive each year.

Scholarship Recipients,  
Sponsors and Benefactors



Coral Vargas, Karla Albanese



Pam Fultz, Brian Davenport



Schuyler Peck, Edwin Herard,  
Lynecce Romelus, Lesly Chavez,  
Fatima Soto, Norma Vega, Rick Ermler



Jim Henderson,  
Cecilia Silva



Students in attendance for luncheon



Frank Albanese, Kenny Igarza, Lea Smith



The Founders Fund, Inc.  
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Naples, FL 34108

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# NEWS & Views

March 2016

## GOLF EVENT IS QUICKLY APPROACHING



The 2016 Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament/Banquet is just around the corner and we hope you've made plans to attend the April 4th fundraising event. As you may remember, the 2014 Event raised nearly \$500,000 for student scholarships. The Founders Fund Trustees hope you will help them break that record this year and raise even more funds to support the mission.

It will be an exciting day of golf, cocktails, dinner and auctions. You'll have the opportunity to bid on an array of travel trips and adventures during the event.

Look for an email from the Club with a full list of auction items up for bid! There will be more details about the items.



## HOLE SPONSORSHIPS



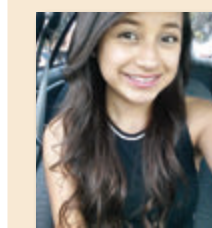
Show your support for the  
2016 Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament by becoming  
a HOLE SPONSOR.

For only \$500 you will be listed as a Copper Sponsor, receive recognition in our newsletter, website and in our program. Plus, you will have your name or the name of your company on a hole sign.

For information contact Founders Fund Board member,  
Karen Pulte at [karenpulte@gmail.com](mailto:karenpulte@gmail.com)



Special Guest to Attend



2016  
GOLF  
BANQUET

Fatima Soto, who graduated from Immokalee High school in 2013, is now getting ready to graduate from Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) in May 2016. We're excited to have Fatima as our special guest at the golf banquet this year.

We're excited...



...to have another wonderful trip provided by Preferred Travel of Naples.

Preferred Travel of Naples has been a loyal supporter of the Founders Fund and has donated numerous trips to support our mission. This year, the lucky winning couple of the Mediterranean Mosaic cruise will set sail aboard Holland America's new 2016 cruise ship, the Konigsdam. The 12-day voyage will begin on October 12.

The Live Auction will feature seven fabulous trips and adventures including:

- Autumn in New York
- Wine and Dine in Northern California
- The Canadian Rockies
- Bermuda Getaway
- The Golf Adventure for Four at Bay Hill
- Chef Joe's Wine Cellar Dinner for 10

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

Joan Thomas



Throughout the 25-year life of the Founders Fund, its trustees have considered the possibility of creating an endowment that would ensure the Fund's long-term viability. With the success of the 2014 Event and the continuing desire to provide sustainability, the idea has blossomed.

Trustee Schuyler Peck has had remarkable success in attracting larger donations to the Founders Fund, and beginning last spring, discussions were held with a major benefactor about our long term needs. Thanks to the vision and commitment of that benefactor, the Founders Fund is now in a position to announce the establishment of an endowment. Our benefactor generously made an initial contribution of \$250,000 to the new endowment and will contribute up to an additional \$250,000 as a challenge grant by matching dollar-for-dollar the contributions of other donors. It is hoped that within a short period of time we will have \$750,000 to invest in the long-term growth of the Founders Fund and provide even more deserving students of Collier County the opportunity to continue their education at the college level. A profoundly grateful Board accepts both the gift and challenge.

The Board has considered the options available to shepherd the endowment and has focused on three factors for the longer term; attractiveness for future donors, preservation and growth of capital, and professional investment management. The board has chosen to open an Agency Endowment Fund with the Community Foundation of Collier County (CFCC). The endowment's funds will be managed by Northern Trust, a highly rated investment advisory firm, with oversight by the CFCC investment committee. A separate investment committee comprised of members of the Founders Fund Board is charged with the responsibility to monitor the results of the investment at CFCC, to create an investment philosophy, and to recommend an annual distribution plan. This solution, combining a well-established Collier County charitable giving structure with a professional investment service, is designed to sustain the Founders Fund for at least another 25 years of success.



**Mission:** The Founders Fund, Inc. of the Pelican Bay has stayed true to its mission, for the past 24 years, to provide financial assistance to young men and women from Collier County in their pursuit of post high school education and training.

Over three million dollars have been awarded to more than 600 local students from Collier County high schools who have demonstrated both the need and the outstanding merit required to receive the scholarship award from The Founders Fund.

The Founders Fund was created in 1991 by the Golf Members of The Club Pelican Bay, a private golf club, and is classified by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization.

The Founders Fund, Inc. is supported by Golf and Social Members of The Club, as well as many corporate sponsors which include prominent local and national businesses. Fundraising activities support annual scholarship grants of approximately \$200,000 per year.

**2015/2016 Board of Trustees**

- Joan Thomas, Chairman  
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**The Founders Fund**

239-593-0124 or  
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**STANDING**

- Denise Szedelyi - St John Neumann  
 Susan Brown - Founders Fund Board Member  
 Laura Roszkowski - St John Neumann  
 Amanda Holderfield - Naples High School  
 Karen Pulte - Founders Fund Board Member

**SEATED**

- Aisa Gonzalez - Immokalee High School  
 Laura Cox - Lely High School  
 Terry Kalten - Barron Collier High School  
 Connie Pollina - Golden Gate High School  
 Maureen Marvin - Gulf Coast High School

**The Founders Fund holds 2016 High School Counselors Breakfast**

The Founders Fund held its annual High School Counselors Breakfast on January 22. There were 11 Collier County high schools represented at the annual informational breakfast along with several Founders Fund board members.

Collier County high schools participating in the Founders Fund scholarship program are: Barron Collier, Community School, Everglades, Golden Gate, Gulf Coast, Immokalee, Lely, Lorenzo Walker Institute, Naples High, Palmetto Ridge, and St. John Neumann.



**Attending Colleges**

**Our 108 Founders Fund Students are attending these various Colleges:**

- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Alderson Broaddus University       | North Carolina State University   |
| Bucknell University                | Ringling College of Art & Design  |
| Columbia University                | Saint Mary's College              |
| Elon University                    | St. Vincent College               |
| Emory University                   | Stetson University                |
| FGCU                               | The Culinary Institute of America |
| Flagler College                    | Tufts University                  |
| Florida Atlantic University        | University of Central Florida     |
| Florida International University   | University of Florida             |
| Florida Southern College           | University of Miami               |
| Florida Southwestern State College | University of North Florida       |
| Florida State University           | University of Richmond            |
| Georgia Institute of Technology    | University of South Florida       |
| Harvard College                    | Yale University                   |

**Alumni News**

**Lolisa Wallace Scholarship Recipient '07**



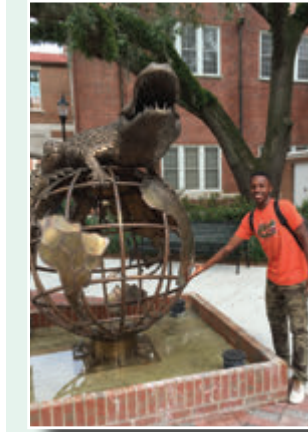
I just wanted to write to the Founders Fund and thank you for believing in me back when I was a senior in high school in 2007. Since then, I have obtained three degrees from the University of Miami; become an Algebra I teacher for students with special learning disabilities; and I'm currently holding the title of Ms. Miami Dade County and will be competing for Ms. Florida in May. Again, thank you so much for your organization's investment in my future. It has truly paid off.

With great appreciation,

*Lolisa Wallace*



**WE HAVE MAIL**



I am a first year Finance major. School has challenged me with rigorous coursework, and has provided me with a plethora of opportunities for professional development and personal growth. I'm enjoying learning about macroeconomics and I look forward to taking finance and accounting courses soon. The Founders Fund Scholarship of the Club at Pelican Bay immensely contributed to my education and has allowed me to focus on my studies without having to worry about the high tuition rate.

**Edwin Herard**  
 University of Florida

I am a freshman at FSU and began my college journey in the summer of 2015. I've had so many great experiences and memories while making wonderful friends along the way. I'm currently enrolled in four classes and loving my second term in college. I've learned how to manage my time and responsibilities more efficiently by using the resources available on campus. I had some setbacks during my fall semester but am using them as learning experiences to help me progress significantly in my classes. During the fall, I was more focused on my course load and settling into a new environment, and wasn't very involved on campus. Now, I am a member of MAPS - Minority Association of Pre-Med students. The organization encourages students who want to enter the health care profession. They provide mentoring, tutoring, and volunteer opportunities to help members become more successful candidates for professional fields. I've had an overall wonderful college experience so far and so excited to become more involved on campus and to see where my academic journey leads me.

**Nedgie Paul - Florida State University**



During the fall, my ongoing transition to Emory College was one of the biggest challenges in my life. The academic rigor expresses itself greatly. Since my grades are above average, I could not be more grateful to learn from professors who are internationally renowned for their work. Aside from the warm social climate and the beautiful city of Atlanta that surrounds Emory, my passion for learning and research is truly driving me to be the best that I can be. Since my first day here, I have done Parkinson's research and have aided a residency program to send neurosurgeons to less developed countries. Thank you Founders Fund for supporting my dreams!

**Kenny Igarza - Emory College Class of 2019**  
 Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology



For my spring semester I have enrolled in five courses. I'm so excited about my second semester in college. I now have a better understanding of how to manage my time in and out of school more wisely. My favorite class is my Anatomy/Physiology class. I love learning about the human body and how it works, it's just so intriguing. I wouldn't say that Anatomy is hard; however, I wouldn't say it's completely easy either. There is a lot of memorization, definitions and details to know about each part of the body. It seems like the more chapters we go into the more there is to memorize and study. I am part of the NABT Bio Club and absolutely love it. So far we've traveled to Rookery Bay to observe and do research on animals and plants, and we've grown organic vegetables in the garden on top of the roof above the science building at my school. I am having a wonderful semester and I look forward to the rest of my educational journey.

**Coralie Antoine - Florida Southwestern State College**

I cannot begin to express my gratitude enough to The Founders Fund for helping me focus more on my college experience rather than my financial situation. As a result, I have been able to concentrate on my academics as well as become involved on campus. I am currently in my second year studying Cell and Molecular Biology at the University of South Florida, and it is getting more difficult as I progress. The scholarship has given me more time to study and pursue extra-curricular activities. For example, I have been able to raise money for a philanthropy called The Ability Experience, as well as, volunteer at my school's student health clinic. I have also become certified as an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), which has helped me assert myself into the medical field so that I am familiarized with it before applying to medical school. These things may not have been possible without The Founders Fund. Thanks so much for everything!

**Ben Krinsky - University of South Florida**

