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For Immediate Release

The Founders Fund, Inc. Honors Current Scholarship Recipients at Annual Luncheon

(Naples, FL – Jan. 5, 2010) The Founders Fund annual “Get Acquainted Luncheon” was held on Wednesday, December 30 at the Club Pelican Bay. Over 100 were in attendance including 39 scholarship recipients who were home for the holidays.

Each year the luncheon is held in order for students and members of The Founders Fund to interact and get better acquainted. As an annual tradition, Ray Crisci, President of The Founders Fund, delivered a short message about the importance of the annual renewable scholarships and invited all the students to share something about their college experiences thus far. Students attending were in varying stages of their college career, some graduating soon and others just finishing their first college semester. Prior to the students sharing their new experiences, a past scholarship recipient, Luke Benfield, spoke about his new career after graduating, his gratitude for the scholarship that afforded him his education, and his excitement for his brother who is presently a recipient of The Founders Fund scholarship.

Each student gave a short update of their college life and studies, and each student expressed their thanks to The Founders Fund members who helped them to reach their college dreams. A notable theme for all the students was a very high grade point average. As each student talked, it was clear to see why these students were chosen from all the applicants in past years. The students were articulate, had 3.5 to 4.0 grade point averages, and were involved in student government, sports, clubs, committees and volunteerism. Students receiving The Founders Fund scholarships are attending schools of higher learning located all over the United States. From FGCU to Princeton University, Founders Fund students are making their mark by seeking to improve themselves in all facets of life and to be involved in their respective schools.

One student, Lolisa Wallace, is interning at the Miami Herald and has three stories published thus far, another student is very involved in Habitat for Humanity in his spare time, and another is in pre-med and

holds a 4.0 GPA for the past 4 years. The amazing stories shared were very impressive and cannot be captured by words alone.

The Founders Fund, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization, was created in 1991 by the Founding Golf Members of The CLUB at Pelican Bay. The mission is to provide financial assistance to young men and women from Collier County in their pursuit of higher education. In 2009, renewable annual scholarships of \$2,000 each were awarded to 25 students from Collier County.

The Founders Fund is supported by Golf and Social Members of The CLUB, as well as many corporate sponsors which include prominent local and national businesses that are very generous in their support of the Founders Fund. Income from reserve assets and fundraising activities supports annual scholarship grants of approximately \$180,000 per year.

The 2010 Biennial Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament, responsible for raising the majority of the funds for this scholarship will be held on Monday, April 12, 2010. There are many ways to be a part of this golf tournament, from being a player or sponsor to donating items for the raffle and silent auction.

For more information about scholarship, sponsorships, or becoming a part of the golf tournament, contact Sue Davenport at 239-593-0124 or 597-2244 or visit www.thefoundersfundinc.org.

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