

The Founders Fund Inc.

<u>For Immediate Release</u> Press Release Contact: Sue Huff 239-596-7790

The Founders Fund Hosted Annual Scholars Luncheon

(*Naples, FL – January 4, 2018*) The Founders Fund held their annual Scholars Luncheon on Friday December 29, 2017 at the Club Pelican Bay with nearly 75 guests in attendance. Scholarship recipients and benefactors of The Founders Fund gathered together at the annual event to celebrate the accomplishments and aspirations of the current scholarship students.

Out of the 96 Founders Fund students currently attending college, 33 were home for the holidays and attended the luncheon.

Rob McNaghten, 2017/2018 Founders Fund Chair, welcomed guests and emphasized the importance of changing lives through higher education. He thanked donors, board members and sponsors who were in attendance, and encouraged each student to reach for their goals.

After lunch was served, each student was invited to speak about their college studies, current college activities and future career goals. Their aspirations included careers in medicine, science, engineering, teaching, psychology, music composition, military, and more.

"Board members agree that student goals become more and more impressive each year," noted McNaghten. "We are trying to help a generation of students break the cycle of poverty by helping them acquire a good education. And, we truly appreciate our donors and sponsors for believing in our mission and our students."

In 2017, The Founders Fund awarded 37 Collier County students with \$10,000 scholarships for college and post high school education. Students will receive \$2,500 per year so long as they maintain a B average or better in their college studies. Currently the Founders Fund provides college scholarships for 96 Collier County high school graduates now attending college and/or technical institutes.

The Founders Fund, Inc., founded in 1991, is a non-profit/tax-exempt charitable organization and since its inception, over 650 students have been awarded more than \$3.6 million in scholarships.

For more information, please visit <u>www.thefoundersfundinc.org</u>.