



## **The Founders Fund Inc.**

### **For Immediate Release**

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## **The Founders Scholarship Fund raises over \$1 MILLION at 2022 Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament and Banquet**

*(April 11, 2022 – Naples, FL)* The Founders Scholarship Fund had a successful two-day event and raised over \$1 million at the *2022 Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament and Banquet*.

Thanks to the generosity of Club Pelican Bay members, donors and corporate sponsors who supported the fundraiser, more Collier County high school graduates will be able to receive college scholarships this coming year.

The two-day event was held at Club Pelican Bay with the banquet and auction held on April 4 and the golf tournament on April 5. Over 250 guests were in attendance for the banquet and nearly 200 participated in the golf tournament. The total amount raised from the two-day event was record breaking and totaled \$1,075,245.

The Founders Fund, Inc. (*Founders Scholarship Fund*) was founded in 1991 by Club Pelican Bay golf members and is a non-profit charitable organization with the sole mission to provide financial assistance to students from Collier County in their pursuit of a higher education. With the success of the recent fundraising event, more Collier County students will be receiving scholarships this coming year.

The biennial fundraising event is held every other year and includes a banquet with silent and live auctions and a golf tournament. Auctioneer Scott Robertson worked his magic during the 'Ask' which raised a total of \$505,000 to support the scholarship fund.

"The biennial event raised over one-million dollars in total because of the overwhelming generosity of the members of Club Pelican Bay," says Adam Crescenzi, Board Chair of The Founders Scholarship Fund. "It's unbelievable when you consider we're coming out of a two-year pandemic that turned the world upside down. I'm stunned by the results and so happy for the children and families whom we can help over the next decade. Along with our *Karen Pulte Endowment Fund*, the outcome of this event will provide a solid foundation for us to maintain our four-year scholarships."

Each spring, approximately 25 to 35 graduating students from Collier County High Schools receive scholarships based on their GPA and financial need. Scholarships are being raised this year from \$12,000 per student to \$24,000. The renewable scholarships are based on the student maintaining a B average. Currently, the Fund has 120 students receiving annual scholarships. Since its inception, over \$5 million dollars in scholarships have been awarded to over 750 Collier County students.

The four-year college scholarships make a huge difference in the lives of so many Collier County students and their families as the funds are non-restricted and may be used for books, lab fees, housing, food and other college related expenses.

The Founders Scholarship Fund is supported by golf and social members of Club Pelican Bay, as well as many prominent local businesses that are very generous in their support. Sponsors helping to make this year's event a success were: Preferred Travel of Naples, The Brennan Family Foundation, Club Pelican Bay, FineMark National Bank & Trust, Tauck Tours, BMO Private Bank, E. Sue Huff & Associates, Inc., Mercedes-Benz of Naples, Naples Botanical Gardens, NetJets, Northern Trust, The Calleja Group/Morgan Stanley, John R. Wood, Home Tech and LDR Capital Management.

For more information about scholarships, sponsorships or becoming a part of the organization, call 239-593-0124 or visit [www.TheFoundersFundInc.org](http://www.TheFoundersFundInc.org).

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