

## THE FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND AWARDED 28 COLLIER COUNTY STUDENTS WITH COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS TOTALING \$672,000



College scholarships were awarded to 28 Collier County students by The Founders Scholarship Fund (FSF) during a celebration reception on April 28 at Club Pelican Bay. Soon-to-be high school grads, along with many parents and family members, and Founders Fund Board members, gathered to get acquainted during the event.

Everyone in attendance was excited for the confirming news that scholarships were raised from \$3,000 per year for four years to \$6,000 per year. A total of \$672,000 in scholarships were awarded at the reception.

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## Message from PAT CHADWICK

Founders Fund, Inc. Chairperson



Greetings Friends, Patrons and Sponsors of the Founders Fund,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and healthy as we all focus on Hurricane Ian recovery. The devastation in Lee County was unprecedented but here in Collier County the challenges are pretty daunting as well. The water surge was harsh, and the damage

unimaginable. Our beloved Pelican Bay has much work ahead and the restoration of our beautiful amenities along the shoreline will take some time. Thankfully the human spirit is enduring. I am confident that we will continue to support one another through these challenging times.

On a positive note, the Ed Brennan Banquet and Golf Tournament this past April was a huge success. It had been four years since our last event due to Covid restrictions. Thanks to your extraordinary generosity and support, we hosted the biggest event in our history! What a grand way to commemorate our 30th anniversary. We are forever grateful to each and every one of you for making this such a success.

Our work continues. We are proud to have doubled each scholarship and believe this increase will really make a difference for each Scholar. In addition, we have begun a Mentor Program and many Club members are participating by working one on one with our scholarship recipients to offer guidance and support. Let us know if you would like to join this program.

Lastly, we will be hosting a Donor Appreciation cocktail party on Wednesday, January 18. We are so grateful for your generosity and hope to toast each of you in person as a small gesture to say THANK YOU!

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Stacy Lee-Williams\* – *FSF Director*

*\* Not a board member but is acting Secretary of the Board*

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## Thank You for Serving

The Founders Fund would like to recognize and thank our departing board members who have generously served on the Board for the past several years: Immediate Past Board Chair - Adam Crescenzi, Sue Luconi, John Lord and Elba Rodburg.

And, we want to welcome our NEW Board Members: Michael Balgord, Bill Eason and Nick Spina.

The Founders Scholarship Fund  
foundersscholarshipfund.org | 239-593-0124 | FoundersFund1@gmail.com





## THE FOUNDERS FUND RAISES OVER \$1 MILLION FOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

More Collier County high school graduates will be able to receive college scholarships this coming year thanks to the generosity of Club Pelican Bay members, donors and corporate sponsors who supported The Founders Scholarship Fund 2022 Ed Brennan Memorial Golf Tournament and Banquet.

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 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 event raised over one-million dollars in total because of the overwhelming generosity of the members of Club Pelican Bay. As a result, 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: Diamond Sponsor - Preferred Travel of Naples, Platinum Sponsors - Brennan Family, Club Pelican Bay, FineMark National Bank & Trust, Tauck Tours, Gold Sponsors - BMO Private Bank, E. Sue Huff & Associates, Inc, Mercedes-Benz of Naples, Naples Botanical Gardens, NetJets, Northern Trust, The Calleja Group/Morgan Stanley, Silver Sponsor - John R. Wood, and Bronze Sponsors - Home Tech, and LDR Capital Management

Special thanks go to our committee members, Club Pelican Bay staff, volunteers and to everyone who helped make this year's event a huge success! Because of you, our scholars succeed!





# TWO GREAT DAYS: ONE AMAZING EVENT! 2022 ED BRENNAN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



## GOLF TOURNAMENT: APRIL 5, 2022

- 1) Ron and Clara Marks with Geoff and Josie Gibson
- 2) Eileen Hopkins, Frank Hopkins, Lea Smith, Patricia O'Brien
- 3) Vito Pucci, Michele Pucci, Elisa Spina, Nick Spina
- 4) Ron Culgin, Coley Hoffman, Mike Reardon, Bob Labbanz
- 5) Mary Lear, Tom Lear, John Levy, Gail Rothenberg
- 6) Jim O'Brien, Ellen O'Brien and George Phillips
- 7) Douglas and Susan Brown
- 8) Steve and Joan Evans with Peg and Greg Strakosch
- 9) Seth Fogleman, Mary Osborn, Karen Pulte and Daniel Smith
- 10) Kim and Cindy Schappert
- 11) Jorge Calleja, Jeff Cullman, Adam Bool, Dick Censits
- 12) Michele Pucci, Kim Glavin, Elise Spina
- 13) Lou Ann Ransom and Jim Crane
- 14) Kathy and Bob Cubbin





# TWO GREAT DAYS: ONE AMAZING EVENT! 2022 ED BRENNAN MEMORIAL BANQUET/AUCTION



## BANQUET & AUCTION: APRIL 6, 2022

- 1) Martin and Kim Glavin, and Jim Ancey
- 2) Hunter McDaniel and Karen Pulte
- 3) Marilu and Jim Brennan
- 4) Pat Chadwick and Norman Cantin
- 5) Rich and Luisa Gale
- 6) Kristina and Kody Gear
- 7) Frank and Karla Albanese
- 8) Fred and Sue Luconi
- 9) Patricia Scoville
- 10) Adam Crescenzi, Gisselle and Jorge Calleja, with Sue and Rob McNaghten
- 11) Founders Scholarship Fund (FSF) Alumni, Nalie Louissaint from 2009 and Maritza Davila from 2011, volunteered their time to help greet guests at the fundraising event along with current FSF scholarship student, Israel Estrada
- 12) Linda and Adam Crescenzi
- 13) John and Wendy Lord
- 14) Chef Joe





## SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE ED BRENNAN FAMILY!



Left to right: Patti Brennan, Diane O'Donnell, Karen Byrne, Barbara MacLavery, Kelly Collins, Susan O'Donnell, Nancy O'Donnell, EJ Brennan, Marilu Brennan and Jim Brennan

The first Golf Tournament and Banquet fundraiser was held in 1994 with Ed Brennan suggesting the event and serving as Chairman. That same year, Ed succeeded Rocky Caldwell as The Founders Fund Board Chairman.

In 2000, the event was dedicated to Ed Brennan who passed in 1999 as the Brennan family made a substantial gift to The Founders Fund in his honor. The Founders Fund is most grateful to Ed Brennan and his entire family.



## THE FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND STUDENTS & FAMILIES 2022 VIDEO

### VLADY ARAMAYO AND SON ARE INTERVIEWED IN THE MOST RECENT FSF VIDEO

If you have not watched our newest 2022 student video, you can find it on the home page of the Founders Scholarship Fund's website. Please feel free to share the link with your families, friends and colleagues.

Our scholars and their families depend on the Founders Fund and this video validates everything we do to help. The students are amazing; their dreams and stories touch our hearts, and their determination motivates us to work even harder to fulfill our mission.



Student video may be viewed on the Founders Scholarship Fund home page: [www.TheFoundersScholarshipFund.org](http://www.TheFoundersScholarshipFund.org)



# THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS

EVENT DIAMOND AND PLATINUM SPONSORS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FSF NEWSLETTER AS PART OF THEIR SPONSOR BENEFIT PACKET.



Since opening its doors in 1984, Preferred Travel of Naples (PTN) has become one of the leading and most award-winning travel agencies in the region. The agency has grown from three local employees to over sixty travel specialists around the world. Locally owned and family run, the executive team is comprised of Olga Placeres - President, Kristina Gear - Managing Director, and Kody Gear – Managing Partner.

In 2020, Preferred Travel relocated their Naples office within Pelican Bay and opened a second location in Bonita Springs to better serve clients’ needs. The well-traveled team is extremely knowledgeable and is committed to exceptional customer service. PTN’s experienced advisors help clients navigate the logistics of traveling while helping to create a seamless and enjoyable experience.

Preferred Travel specializes in leisure travel including cruises, multi-generational travel, escorted land tours, customized independent travel, drive vacations, and have a dedicated air department. For peace of mind, they offer clients a 24/7 emergency service number.

As a member of the Signature Travel Network, an exclusive network of more than 6,000 travel professionals, Preferred Travel shares one objective: to serve the unique needs of discerning travelers and deliver differentiated travel experiences. PTN clients enjoy exclusive privileges and complimentary benefits, to make your travel more rewarding.

Whether a special once in a lifetime adventure or a family vacation, Preferred Travel of Naples has the team of experts to help - domestic or international!

(Offices:) NAPLES: 5811 Pelican Bay Blvd. #201 and BONITA SPRINGS: 3960 Via Del Rey, Bonita Springs (239) 261-1177 or (800) 523-3716 or visit us online: [www.PreferredNaples.com](http://www.PreferredNaples.com).



FineMark National Bank & Trust is a full-service, national bank and trust company comprised of highly experienced financial professionals dedicated to providing unprecedented service levels.

From personally greeting you on the telephone, to designing a unique portfolio, FineMark provides incomparable service, delivered with enthusiasm, skill, and respect.

The Naples team, led by Adria D. Starkey, is honored to serve the residents of this great community. FineMark has a beautiful office in Pelican Bay, on the corner of US 41 and Laurel Oak Drive.

For more information, visit the Naples office: Monday through Friday - 8:30 am to 4:00 pm  
800 Laurel Oak Drive, Suite 101, Naples, FL 34108 • (239) 963-0700 or [www.finemarkbank.com](http://www.finemarkbank.com)



Special thanks go to Club Pelican Bay and the dedicated staff for their continued support of the Founders Fund mission.



Many thanks go to our friends at Tauck Tours for joining our sponsor line up.



# THE FOUNDERS FUND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*continued from page 1*

## 28 COLLIER COUNTY STUDENTS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

Until this year, each student received \$3,000 per year. However, with the recent increase, each student will receive \$6,000 per year amounting to a \$24,000 scholarship. Since the organization was founded in 1991 by golf members of Club Pelican Bay, FSF has awarded over \$5 million in scholarships to more than 775 Collier County students. Scholarships are non-restrictive and are given to help students with college and post high-school educational expenses.

At the celebration, incoming Board Chair Pat Chadwick welcomed the students and their families and then introduced Bob Tyre, Scholarship Committee Chair, who presented each student with their scholarship packet. Each student then spoke briefly about their college choice and area of study which covered a wide gamut from bioengineering to entrepreneurship.

### THE 2022 FOUNDERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND RECIPIENTS:

#### BARRON COLLIER HIGH SCHOOL

Jenny Belandres Mendoza, Jack McElrath, Camila Rojas  
Club Pelican Bay (Employees/Family) - Maryanne Medina, Dan Zhao

#### COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Gabriel Katz

#### EVERGLADES CITY SCHOOL

Taylor Dahlke

#### GOLDEN GATE HIGH SCHOOL

Stephanie Anez, Stephanie Cazares

#### GULF COAST HIGH SCHOOL

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#### IMMOKALEE HIGH SCHOOL

Stanley Bazelais, Luz Maria Cantero-Huapilla, Kamili Henry

#### LELY HIGH SCHOOL

Jennifer Bachmann, Krista Boodram, Mia Pellegriti, Uriel Trejo

#### LORENZO WALKER TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Isaiah Barajas, Aidan Hubbell, Asael Jean

#### PALMETTO RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Nathalie Ospina-Ledesma, Rigoberto Tovar

#### ST. JOHN NEUMANN HIGH SCHOOL

Jesse Herrera, Christopher Rosato

For more information about scholarships or sponsorships, contact Stacy Lee-Williams, FSF Director at (239) 593-0124 or visit [www.TheFoundersScholarshipFund.org](http://www.TheFoundersScholarshipFund.org)





# FSF SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION



## SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION: APRIL 28, 2022

- 1) Michelle Gorrostieta, Stanley Bazelaiz, Eilo Gorrostieta Jr.
- 2) Lenny Simanjuntak and Samuel Siahaan
- 3) Danny and Mayli Costello, Dan Zhao, and Harvey Jau
- 4) Isaiah G. Barajas and Rafael Barajas
- 5) Annie and Gabriel Katz
- 6) Anne, Asael and Alek Jean
- 7) Alex and Anick Buchard, Jennifer Bachmann, Jimmy Bouchard and Ivy Scott
- 8) Jenny Mendoza, Jenny Belandres and Gerarvo Belandres
- 9) Rigoberto, Rigoberto Sr. and Odette Tovar





# THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 BENEFACTORS

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Patricia Scoville

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# THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 BENEFACTORS

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## FOUNDERS FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Year	\$ Awarded	Scholarships	Year	\$ Awarded	Scholarships	Year	\$ Awarded	Scholarships
1992	\$7,500	3	2003	\$156,000	27	2014	\$224,000	28
1993	\$13,500	11	2004	\$161,000	30	2015	\$216,000	27
1994	\$25,368	17	2005	\$157,000	27	2016	\$216,000	27
1995	\$35,488	16	2006	\$232,000	29	2017	\$370,000	37
1996	\$70,477	32	2007	\$200,000	26	2018	\$350,000	35
1997	\$89,250	25	2008	\$200,000	26	2019	\$280,000	28
1998	\$113,875	30	2009	\$216,000	27	2020	\$240,000	24
1999	\$122,290	26	2010	\$208,000	26	2021	\$384,000	32
2000	\$108,250	22	2011	\$208,000	26	2022	\$672,000	28
2001	\$133,750	26	2012	\$232,000	29			
2002	\$136,000	28	2013	\$232,000	29			



The Founders Scholarship Fund has awarded over \$6 million dollars in scholarships since its founding in 1991 to over 800 students from Collier County, Florida.

Each year, The Founders Scholarship Fund averages 100 to 110 students receiving scholarship funds.

THANK YOU to our members, supporters, sponsors and benefactors for this outstanding accomplishment!

The Founders Scholarship Fund  
707 Gulf Park Drive  
Naples, FL 34108



The Founders Scholarship Fund of Club Pelican Bay  
has stayed true to its mission since 1991.



Our donors make it possible for college scholarships to be awarded each and every year; it is that generosity that keeps the Founders Scholarship Fund thriving.

To show our gratitude, the Founders Fund Board will hold a:  
DONOR APPRECIATION COCKTAIL RECEPTION  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023  
5:30 - 7:00 PM

More details and an invitation will be sent in December.  
Please SAVE THE DATE!