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# SUNSHINE STATE

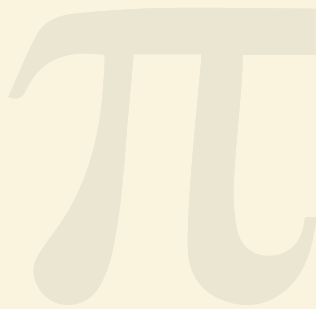
  **SCHOLARS**   $\pi$

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RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS.

JUNE 13-14, 2019  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA







# SUNSHINE STATE SCHOLARS $\pi$

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

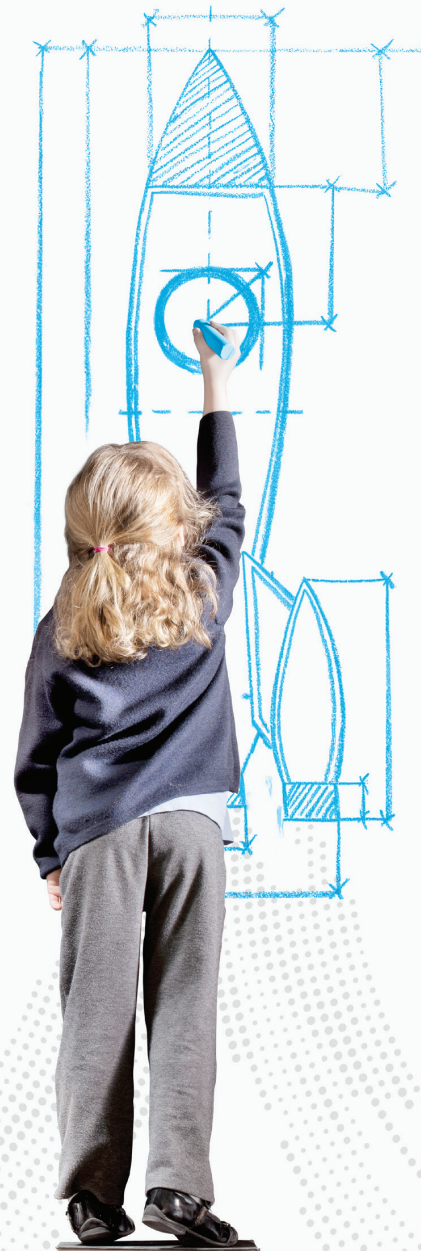




Without the next generation there's no next generation of innovation.

At Lockheed Martin, when we envision the future, we see a world of never-ending possibility. But that future will never be realized unless we prepare today's students for tomorrow's challenges. That's why it is vitally important for young people to study science, technology, engineering and math. It is our hope and our mission to inspire the next generation of innovators to dream big. And make big things happen.

Learn more at [lockheedmartin.com/community](http://lockheedmartin.com/community)



Lockheed Martin. Your Mission is Ours.®

MP059-11075





## COMMISSIONER RICHARD CORCORAN

### Honored Guests:

On behalf of the Florida Department of Education and the Florida Education Foundation, it is my pleasure to congratulate you on being selected to represent your school district as a 2019 Sunshine State Scholar. Each year, we take this opportunity to recognize students whose hard work and dedication make them stand out among their peers. You should take great pride in being among this elite group.

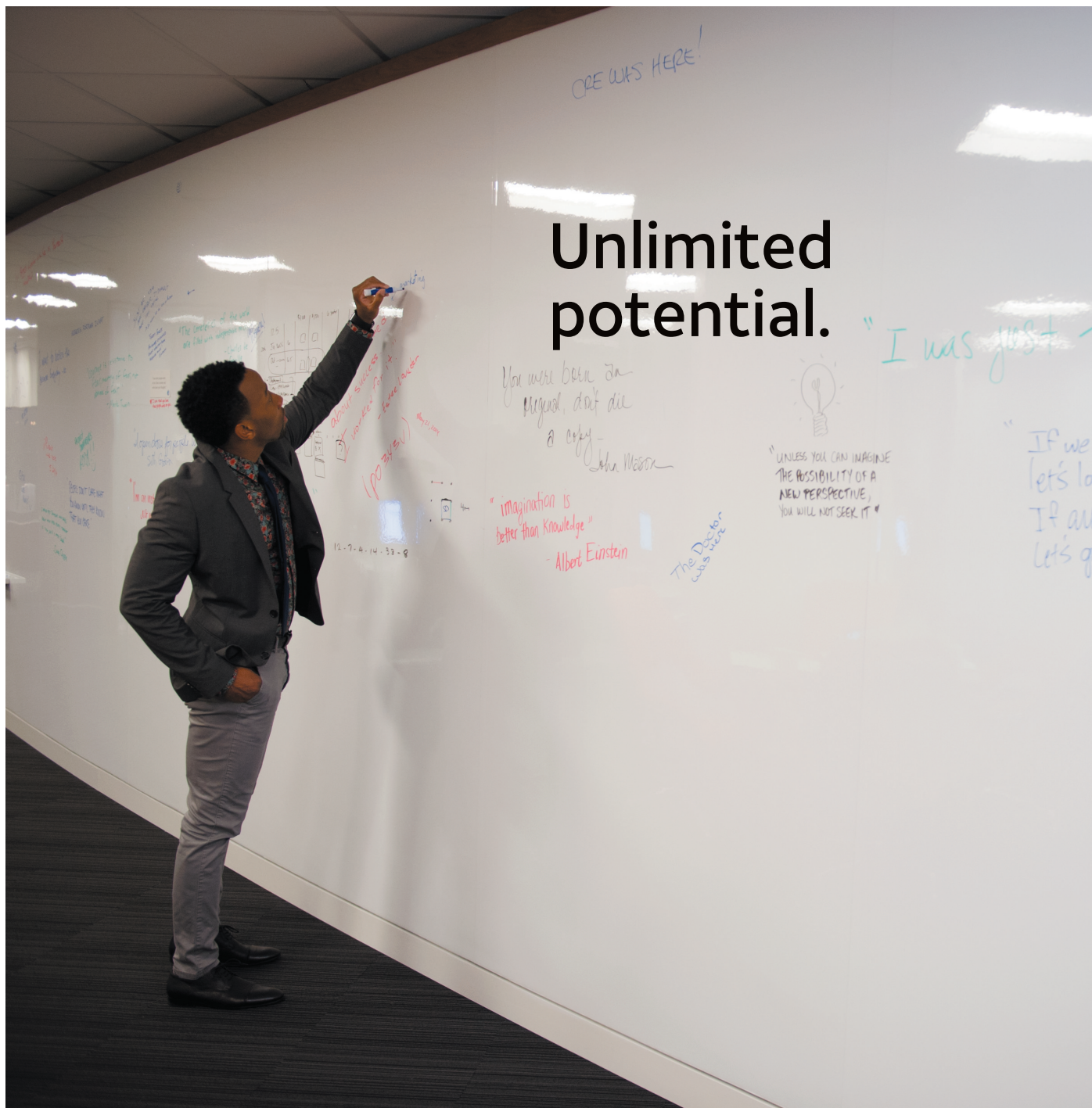
The 2019 Sunshine State Scholars are 103 of the top performing juniors representing each and every Florida school district. Your school district has identified you as a student that has excelled in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and that you are interested in pursuing a STEM career. Over the next twenty-four hours you are going to be a part of a statewide "Think-Tank" developing proposals to solve some of our state's most pressing problems.

Participation in this event will present opportunities for you to meet new friends and create peer groups that can be maintained throughout your future endeavors. I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities to network with your peers, event sponsors and staff, as well as other honored guests. These connections will be very important to you and to your success as you plan to enter the next phase of your life.

We are honored to host this event along with statewide leadership. Our goal is to ensure that you have an opportunity to learn and grow, not only with your friends, but professionally. I wish the best for you on your journey to a successful career. Thank you for your commitment to your education and to your home state.

Sincerely,

Richard Corcoran  
Commissioner of Education



Success begins with education. Inspired educators and advances in education technology are unlocking students' abilities to soar to new heights.



Congratulations to Florida's 2019 Sunshine State Scholars. Continue to soar!

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## A Brief History of Sunshine State Scholars

Organized in 1997, the Sunshine State Scholars program was designed to recognize students, teachers and schools that achieved excellence in mathematics and science. High school seniors participated in a statewide competition that used their basic knowledge of mathematics, statistics, physics, chemistry and biology to solve interdisciplinary problems requiring independent and creative thinking. Students competed and were recognized at district and regional levels. The ten Regional Scholars completed a challenging written exam and presented a research paper on a single topic, and from this group, a Statewide Scholar was named. The Regional Scholars and the Statewide Scholar were recognized at a ceremony where each Scholar formally paid tribute to his/her outstanding teacher.

Mathematics and science experts from education, business and government served on the all-volunteer steering committee, overseeing the development of the assessment tools and monitoring and executing the competitions. For many years, Dr. William H. Caldwell from the Florida Institute of Education at the University of North Florida was the driving

force and inspiration behind Sunshine State Scholars. Dr. Caldwell worked diligently to secure annual funding. When other sources were no longer available, Senator Stephen R. Wise, Education Commissioner Eric J. Smith, and the Florida Education Foundation championed the program, continuing its service and recognizing our best and brightest.

Today the program has evolved from its original format. Each school district throughout Florida selects its top 11th grade student(s) in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) based on established criteria. These Scholars, along with their parents convene to receive recognition for their achievements. They also have opportunities to meet with representatives from Florida's universities, learn about STEM-related programs of study and internships and experience why Florida is the best place to learn and pursue an exciting career.

The 2019 Sunshine State Scholars program is a collaboration among the Florida Education Foundation, the Florida Department of Education and the State University System of Florida.



# AGENDA

## THURSDAY, JUNE 13

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### **REGISTRATION**

Scholars check in and pick up event materials at the registration desk in hotel's convention center building.

2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

### **HIGHER ED RECRUITMENT FAIR**

Scholars and their parents meet with representatives from Florida higher education institutions to learn about programs of study, internships, and career opportunities throughout Florida.

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### **HOTEL CHECK IN**

Scholars and their parents check into the hotel and get ready for dinner and evening activities.

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

### **DINNER & KEYNOTE** *hosted by AT&T*

Scholars and their parents enjoy dinner and opening keynote speaker.  
*\*Parents are excused at the end of the presentation until pick up time.*

6:30 - 6:45 p.m.

### **SCHOLAR GROUP ASSIGNMENTS**

Scholars receive group assignments.

6:45 - 8:15 p.m.

### **EXPERT SESSIONS**

Scholars attend assorted Q&A sessions with industry and research experts.

8:15 - 8:30 p.m.

### **BREAK** *hosted by Kyra Solutions*

Refreshments provided for scholars.

8:30 - 9:45 p.m.

### **SCHOLAR GROUP TIME**

Scholars work in teams on assignment.

9:45 p.m.

### **END OF DAY 1**

Parents pick up students from the ballroom.





# AGENDA

## FRIDAY, JUNE 14

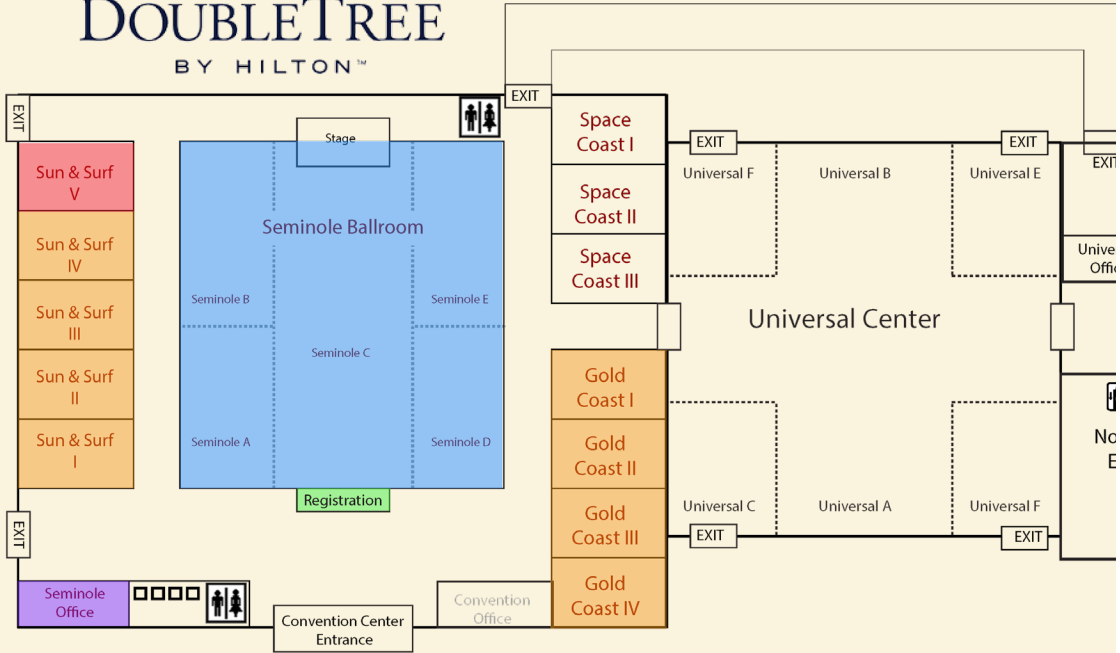
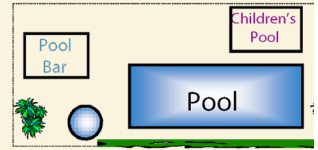
- 7:00 - 8:30 a.m.            **BREAKFAST and MORNING REMARKS** *hosted by Helios*
- 8:45 - 9:45 a.m.            **GENERAL SESSION for PARENTS** *hosted by the Florida Lottery*  
*\*Parents are excused at the end of the presentation until the luncheon.*
- 8:45 - 10:30 a.m.           **SCHOLAR GROUP TIME**  
Scholars work in teams on assignment.
- 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.         **SCHOLAR BREAK**  
Scholars dress for awards luncheon.
- 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.    **SCHOLAR GROUP TIME**  
Feedback from STEM team; final preparation for presentations.
- 12:15 p.m.                    **AWARDS LUNCHEON** *hosted by Lockheed Martin*  
Welcome  
Scholar Presentations  
Keynote  
Special Recognition  
Formal Recognition of Scholars and Awards Presentation  
Group Photo
- 3:00 p.m.                     **ADJOURN**



# MAP OF FACILITIES



**DOUBLETREE**  
BY HILTON™



CONVENTION CENTER



To Vineland Rd

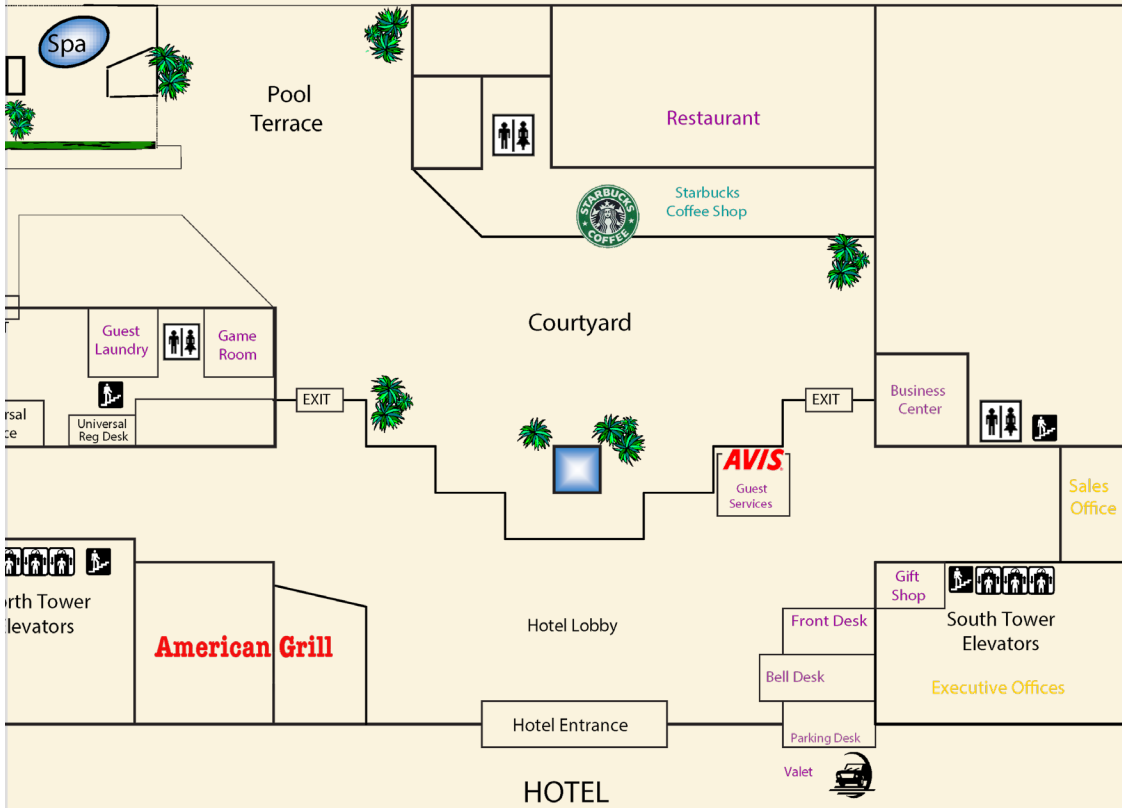


Convention Center Parking

To Kirkman Rd



# MAP OF FACILITIES



  
To Major Blvd

Hotel Parking

# SCHOLARS

## **Alachua**

**Alexander Dang**  
*Eastside High School*

## **Baker**

**Julia Archambault**  
*Baker County High School*

## **Bay**

**Joshua Grunden**  
*J.R. Arnold High School*

## **Bradford**

**Emily McCoy**  
*Bradford High School*

## **Brevard**

**Kishen Mitra**  
*West Shore Junior/Senior High School*

## **Brevard**

**Siddarth Ranganath**  
*Viera High School*

## **Broward**

**Rachel Levi**  
*College Academy at Broward College*

## **Broward**

**Aakansha Mehrotra**  
*Deerfield Beach High School*

## **Broward**

**Javier Pradesaba**  
*Everglades High School*

## **Calhoun**

**Sierra Helgerson**  
*Blountstown High School*

## **Charlotte**

**Katie Krohn**  
*Lemon Bay High School*

## **Citrus**

**Ethan Antonio**  
*Lecanto High School*

## **Clay**

**Michael Chen**  
*Ridgeview High School*

## **Collier**

**Victoria Alvarez**  
*Lely High School*

## **Collier**

**William Sobczak**  
*Barron Collier High School*

## **Columbia**

**Calvin Hencin**  
*Fort White High School*

## **Desoto**

**Caleb Fillingim**  
*DeSoto County High School*

## **Dixie**

**Jeremy Bright**  
*Dixie County High School*

## **Duval**

**Michaella Huertas**  
*Darnell-Cookman School of the Medical Arts*

## **Duval**

**Riyadh Mohamedain**  
*Darnell-Cookman School of the Medical Arts*

## **Duval**

**Siobhan Rivamonte**  
*Darnell-Cookman School of the Medical Arts*

## **Escambia**

**Samuel Duong**  
*Pensacola High School*

## **Escambia**

**Zander Preston**  
*West Florida High School of Advanced Technology*

## **FAMU Lab School**

**Leah Thomas**  
*FAMU Lab School*

## **FAU Lab School**

**Yasmine Zerrouki**  
*FAU High School*

## **Flagler**

**Serena Kravantka**  
*Matanzas High School*

## **Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind**

**Brieara Warren**  
*Florida School for the Deaf and Blind - Deaf High School*

## **Florida Virtual**

**Elicia Wang**  
*FLVS Full Time 9-12*

## **Franklin**

**Cade Juno**  
*Franklin County School*

## **FSU Lab School**

**Iyshwary Vigneswaran Warren**  
*Florida State University Schools*

## **Gadsden**

**Christian Germany-Burroughs**  
*Gadsden County High School*

## **Gilchrist**

**Presley Paulling**  
*Bell High School*

## **Glades**

**Joe Perry**  
*Moore Haven Middle-High School*

## **Gulf**

**Sean Farnsley**  
*Port St. Joe Jr.-Sr. High School*

## **Hamilton**

**Sage Mosteller**  
*Hamilton County High School*

## **Hardee**

**Hugh Pate**  
*Hardee Senior High School*

## **Hendry**

**Yulianices Fernandez**  
*LaBelle High School*

## **Hernando**

**Caleb Gibson**  
*Hernando High School*

## **Highlands**

**Rohin Patel**  
*Sebring High School*

## **Hillsborough**

**Jordan Chastain**  
*Bloomingtondale High School*

## **Hillsborough**

**William Li**  
*King High School*

## **Hillsborough**

**Katie Murphy**  
*Newsome High School*

## **Holmes**

**Nathan Hobbs**  
*Bethlehem High School*

## **Indian River**

**Griffin Wagner**  
*Vero Beach High School*

## **Jackson**

**Maegan Lucas**  
*Sneads High School*

## **Jefferson**

**Katelynn Jimenez**  
*Jefferson K-12: a Somerset School*

## **Lafayette**

**Adam Perry**  
*Lafayette High School*

## **Lake**

**Zachary Bell**  
*East Ridge High School*

## **Lake**

**Brettland Coolidge**  
*South Lake High School*

## **Lee**

**Fahnmosa Edwards**  
*Cape Coral High School*

## **Lee**

**Benjamin Lombardo**  
*Fort Myers High School*

## **Leon**

**Rayyan Darji**  
*Rickards High School*

## **Levy**

**Katlynn Karwan**  
*Williston Middle High School*

# SCHOLARS

## Liberty

**Maggi Harris**

*Liberty County High School*

## Madison

**Abigail Annett**

*Madison County High School*

## Manatee

**Isabella Sanchez**

*Manatee High School*

## Manatee

**Madigan Wilford**

*Braden River High School*

## Marion

**Tommaso Deiorio**

*Bellevue High School*

## Marion

**Nisha Upadya**

*Vanguard High School*

## Martin

**Vivian Powell**

*Jensen Beach High School*

## Miami-Dade

**Fernando Bravo**

*School for Advanced Studies - Wolfson*

## Miami-Dade

**Pedro Dal Bo**

*MAST Academy*

## Miami-Dade

**Nadeska Montalvan G. Holmes**

*Braddock Senior High*

## Monroe

**Taurean Perkins**

*Key West High School*

## Nassau

**Allison Wetmore**

*Yulee High School*

## Okaloosa

**Journey Washingtonhigh**

*Fort Walton Beach High School*

## Okeechobee

**Brandon Mitchell**

*Okeechobee High School*

## Orange

**Steven Friend**

*West Orange High School*

## Orange

**Feba Mathew**

*Cypress Creek High School*

## Orange

**Sean McCabe**

*Boone High School*

## Osceola

**Audrey Jones**

*Celebration High School*

## Osceola

**Jorge Trejo**

*Osceola County School for the Arts*

## Palm Beach

**Callie Alexiadis**

*Wellington High School*

## Palm Beach

**Helena He**

*Atlantic Community High School*

## Palm Beach

**Adam Johnson**

*Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts*

## Pasco

**Kathy Liu**

*Land O' Lakes High School*

## Pasco

**Kelvin Ng**

*Wiregrass Ranch High School*

## Pinellas

**Kayley Brkljajic**

*East Lake High School*

## Pinellas

**Ryan Faulkner**

*Countryside High School*

## Pinellas

**Kayla Oates**

*Lakewood High School*

## Polk

**Sophia Castrillon**

*Lake Gibson Senior High School*

## Polk

**Christina Cunningham**

*Harrison School of the Arts*

## Polk

**Isaiah Vega**

*Auburndale Senior High*

## Putnam

**Sierra Loder**

*Interlachen High School*

## Santa Rosa

**Bickston Laenger**

*Gulf Breeze High School*

## Sarasota

**Bella Brush**

*Sarasota High School*

## Sarasota

**Sadie Siegel**

*Riverview High School*

## Seminole

**Blaine Farrell**

*Lake Mary High School*

## Seminole

**Ronald Xu**

*Winter Springs High School*

## St. Johns

**Grace Littler**

*Ponte Vedra High School*

## St. Johns

**Rishabh Singh**

*Allen D. Nease High School*

## St. Lucie

**John Westling, Jr.**

*Fort Pierce Central High School*

## St. Lucie

**Callie Zheng**

*Lincoln Park Academy*

## Sumter

**Mathew Maggio**

*South Sumter High School*

## Suwannee

**Herman Gunter, V**

*Suwannee High School*

## Taylor

**Bradley LaValle**

*Taylor County High School*

## UF Lab School

**Julia Polefko**

*P. K. Yonge Developmental Research School*

## Union

**Ryan Hardin**

*Union County High School*

## Volusia

**Emily Cook**

*Atlantic High School*

## Volusia

**Amber Leigh**

*Zaragoza Spruce Creek High School*

## Wakulla

**Alexandra Harden**

*Wakulla High School*

## Walton

**Katelyn Gillert**

*Walton High School*

## Washington

**Jayla Kindelspire**

*Chipley High School*



**Helios Education Foundation** is dedicated to creating opportunities for individuals in Arizona and Florida to succeed in postsecondary education.

Congratulations to all students selected by their districts as top students in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM). Your journey is just beginning and education can take you anywhere you want to go.

# Special Appreciation to

## **The Florida Department of Education**

Commissioner Richard Corcoran  
Chancellor Eric Hall  
Chancellor Jacob Oliva  
Deputy Chancellor Paul Burns  
Melissa Ramsey  
Meghan Collins  
Cheryl Etters  
Brittany Clark  
Lisa Milton  
Megan Penik  
Audrey Walden  
Kaizsa Grant  
Pedro Hernandez  
Patricia Duncan  
Katrina Figgett  
Kathy Nobles  
Cassie Palelis  
Michael DiPierro  
Rebecca Mead  
Glenna Barber  
Courtney Starling  
Melissa Sykes  
Penny Taylor  
Nichole Wilder  
Cassandra Brown

## **State University System of Florida**

Chancellor Marshall M. Criser, III

## **Events for Learning, LLC**

Noëlle Bonard



## Message from Chancellor Oliva

Chancellor of the K-12 Division of Public Schools

*"Scholars, the road ahead is bright  
knowing you are the future of Florida.  
Keep leading, keep learning and  
keep making us proud."*

*Jacob Oliva*



## We Celebrate Your Achievements in Academics!

As one of Florida's leading IT and business solution providers, Kyra Solutions recognizes the significance of innovation and education. Two thumbs up to the hard-working students that have a passion for all things STEM. Congratulations to the young intellectuals of the 2019 Sunshine State Scholars.



[kyrasolutions.com](http://kyrasolutions.com)



# The Florida Education Foundation

## Officers

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Jennifer L. Grove, Vice Chair  
Charles Hokanson, Treasurer  
Raquel Egusquiza, Secretary

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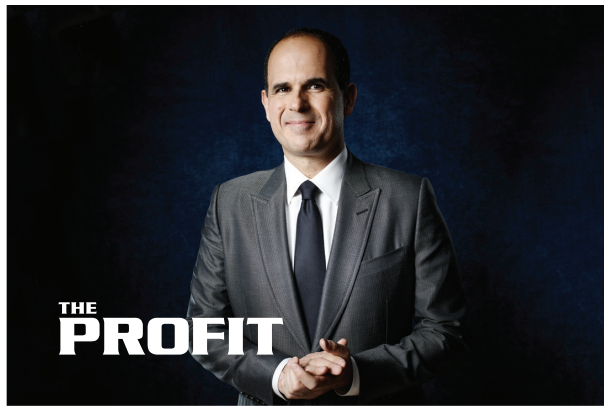
## Mission Statement

As a valued partner in education, the Florida Education Foundation invests in high achievement for every student to contribute to Florida's globally competitive workforce.

## Vision Statement

Every Florida student graduates from high school ready for post-secondary education and a career.

[www.floridaeducationfoundation.org](http://www.floridaeducationfoundation.org)



## TAKE LEARNING TO **NEW HEIGHTS**

Your students will experience unforgettable hands-on lessons throughout the amazing Universal Orlando Resort™ theme parks with engaging programs that uphold national education standards.

### **NEW! YOUR CLASSROOM IN MOTION: A STEAM APP SERIES**

#### **REAL-WORLD CRITICAL THINKING CHALLENGES**

Our parks' top attractions are transformed into creative learning environments to deepen students' understanding of STEAM concepts and introduce possible creative careers in the theme park industry.

### **BUSINESS LEARNING SERIES**

#### **PRESENTED BY CNBC'S THE PROFIT**

Our enhanced curriculum of engaging, expert-led modules (which can be taken alone or as a series) offer an introduction to leadership in the workplace, career exploration, and business development.

### **STORYTELLING**

#### **IT STARTS WITH A HERO**

Created in partnership with Full Sail University, explore the hero's journey and discover the visual and language arts behind storytelling.

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

#### **A TASTE OF CAREERS IN THE CULINARY ARTS**

Designed by our executive chef team, students explore future possibilities as they learn about food career paths using lessons correlating to the flow of food in the ServSafe curriculum.

### **UNIVERSAL UP CLOSE TOURS**

#### **GO BEHIND THE SCENES**

Your students will get VIP treatment in this rare opportunity to hear the stories behind our amazing rides and gain some insight into how we design some of our most popular attractions.

**Behind the Adventure** – Universal's Islands of Adventure™  
**Special FX Tour** – Universal Studios™

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**BLUE  
MAN  
GROUP**

UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT

# ENGAGE. ENTERTAIN. EDUCATE.

BEYOND ENTERTAINMENT, BLUE MAN GROUP ENGAGES AND EDUCATES YOUR STUDENTS WITH AN INCREDIBLE FUSION OF IMAGINATION, EDUCATION, AND FUN. THIS HIGH ENERGY SHOW OFFERS SOMETHING FOR A WIDE RANGE OF AGES, LANGUAGES, AND CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS.



## MATINEE DATES

Thursday, February 20, 2020  
Thursday, February 27, 2020  
Thursday, April 30, 2020

ALL PERFORMANCES 10:45AM - 12:30PM

## PERFORMANCES NIGHTLY

Visit [www.bluemanorlando.com](http://www.bluemanorlando.com) for show schedule.

### EDUCATIONAL COMPONENTS

Included with your ticket is a digital curriculum, developed in partnership with a local university, which highlights possible career options while utilizing a real-world application and themes relating to the show including audio, visual, lighting, stage production, and more! The program is aligned with national education standards and is comprised of pre- and post-show lesson plans, activities, discussions, and analysis to engage and challenge students.

### THEATRE TALKBACK

This enhancement allows your students to connect with our incredible performers after the show. Learn more about the Blue Man Group experience with members of our company, from the Blue Men themselves to the band, crew, or management teams. Sessions are an additional cost and specialize in your choice of technology, music, theatre, or a general overview of the show.

### DETAILS

OFFERED TO ALL SCHOOLS AND HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES WITH A GROUP OF 10 STUDENTS OR MORE

PERFORMANCE IS 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES WITH NO INTERMISSION

ENJOY LUNCH OR DINNER AS A CLASS AFTER THE SHOW WITH DINING CARDS AND GROUP DINING OPTIONS

NO DEPOSIT OR PROCESSING FEES REQUIRED FOR GROUP RESERVATION

Contact the **Blue Man Group Sales Team** to make your reservation today!  
Phone: **407-224-3313** or Email: [BlueManGroup@UniversalOrlando.com](mailto:BlueManGroup@UniversalOrlando.com)





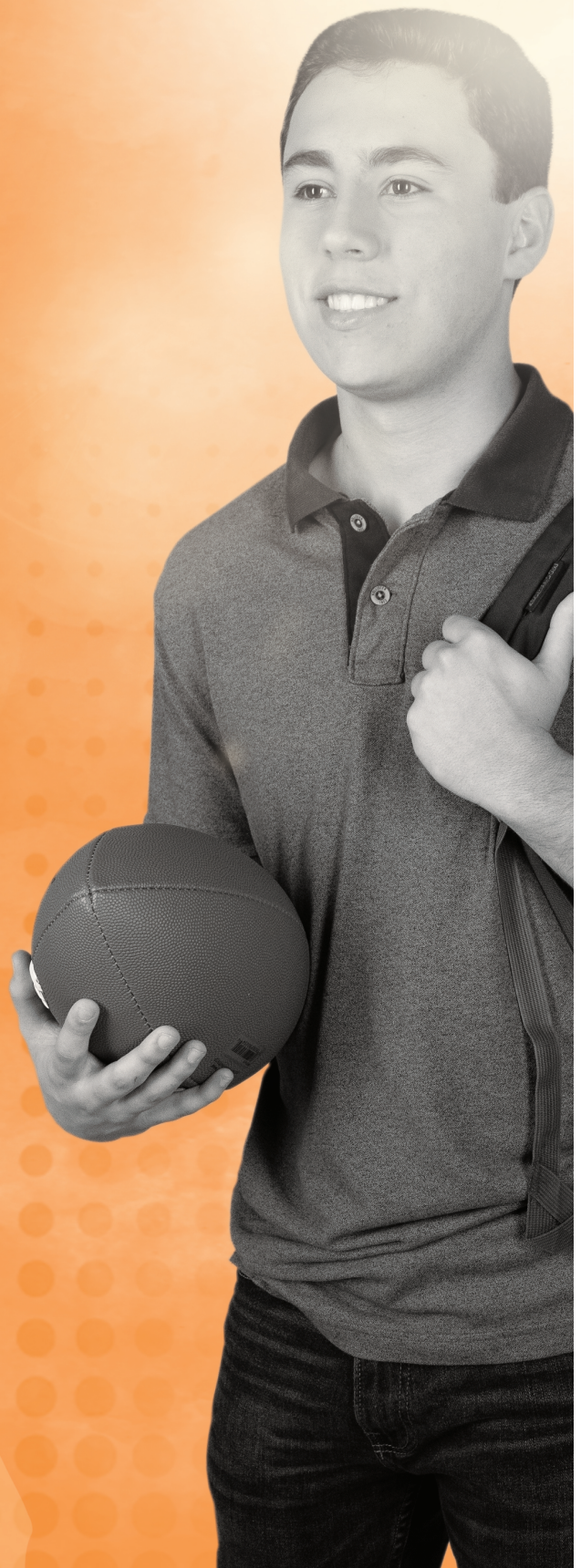
# THE FLORIDA LOTTERY HELPS STUDENTS LIKE ALEXANDER SHINE.

Alexander Ramos is a Bright Futures Scholarship recipient at the University of Florida, studying to become a broadcaster. Since 1988, the Florida Lottery has put education in the spotlight by contributing over \$35 billion to public education. We have sent more than 800,000 students like Alexander to college, and beyond, on Bright Futures Scholarships. Our commitment is to help students shine, so that they can have brighter tomorrows.

View more Bright Futures success stories at [flalottery.com/BrightFutures](http://flalottery.com/BrightFutures).



[flalottery.com](http://flalottery.com)  
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# NOTES



# FLORIDA EDUCATION FAST FACTS

Thanks to a steadfast commitment to rigor, high expectations and strong accountability, Florida has climbed the ranks and become a national leader in education.

**#5** FLORIDA'S RETURN ON INVESTMENT IS TOP 5 IN THE NATION COMPARING 2017 NAEP TO FUNDING

**86%**

HIGHEST GRADUATION RATE IN FLORIDA HISTORY

AP



RANKED **1<sup>ST</sup>** IN PARTICIPATION



RANKED **3<sup>RD</sup>** IN PERFORMANCE



Florida ranked **#1** in higher education  
*U.S. News and World Report*



Multiple Florida Colleges awarded **2019 Aspen Prize for College Excellence** for 5th year in a row



Florida students earned **121,240 industry certifications** in 2017-18 school year

**RANKED 4<sup>TH</sup>** nationwide in K-12 achievement  
*2018 Quality Counts*

## K-12 2017 NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS RANKINGS



Florida was the only state to show significant improvement in 3 of 4 assessments



FL grade 4 Hispanic students rank **#1** nationwide in reading and mathematics



FL Hispanic students, black students, students eligible for free/reduced lunch, and students with disabilities rank **#1** nationwide in grade 4 mathematics performance



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org



# NOTES





VISIT [SUNSTATESCHOLARS.COM](http://SUNSTATESCHOLARS.COM)

