

SUNSHINE STATE SCHOLARS
a program of the Florida Education Foundation



**Today's
Scholars
are
Tomorrow's
Talent**

February 17-18, 2011



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2011 Sunshine State Scholars Awards Luncheon

February 18, 2011

*Recognizing Florida's Top 11th Grade Scholars in
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*

Hosted by

The Florida Education Foundation
The Florida Department of Education
Helios Education Foundation



Program

Welcome and Introductions

*Mary Lee Kiracofe, Executive Director
Florida Education Foundation*

Special Presentation

*Chancellor Frances Haithcock
Florida K-12 Public Schools*

Keynote Address

*Mr. Mark Woodbury
President, Universal Creative
Universal Parks & Resorts*

Presentation of Scholar Awards

*Commissioner Eric J. Smith
Florida Department of Education*

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 and when other sources were no longer available, Senator Stephen R. Wise, Commissioner Eric J. Smith, and the Florida Education Foundation championed the program continuing its service, recognizing our best and brightest.

Today the program has evolved from its original format and each school district throughout Florida selects their top 11th grade student in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) based on established criteria. These Scholars, along with their parents and teachers, convene to receive recognition for their achievements. They also have opportunities to meet with representatives from Florida's Colleges and 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 2011 Sunshine State Scholars program is a collaboration between the Florida Education Foundation, the Florida Department of Education, the Division of Florida Colleges, and the State University System of Florida.



MARK WOODBURY

President Universal Creative

Universal Parks & Resorts

Mark Woodbury is President of Universal Creative, the development arm of Universal Parks & Resorts. His multi-disciplinary team is responsible for all creative design and development of Universal Theme Parks and Resorts worldwide. During his twenty-two years with Universal, his visionary approach to developing unique and innovative entertainment concepts has been instrumental in shaping the Universal brand around the globe.

Mr. Woodbury joined Universal in 1988, during the design and development of Universal Studios Florida. In 1994 he took a leadership role in the global expansion of the theme park and resort business including five theme parks, five hotels, and three City Walks found on both coasts of the United States, Spain, Japan, and Singapore.

Today Mr. Woodbury and his team continue to set new industry standards through the fusion of creativity and technology. Their award-winning accomplishments include the highly acclaimed theme park Universal's Islands of Adventure, the industry's top-rated attraction, The Amazing Adventures of Spiderman, Shrek 4-D, the Revenge of the Mummy, the Royal Pacific Resort, Universal Studios Japan, Universal Studios Singapore and the most widely anticipated theme park entertainment experience ever created – The Wizarding World of Harry Potter.

Prior to his tenure at Universal, Mr. Woodbury was with CED a nationally recognized real estate development company, and private architectural practices in Illinois and Florida. He earned his Bachelor of Science from the University of New Mexico and Master of Architecture from the University of Wisconsin. He is a licensed Architect and member of both the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB).

2011 Scholars

Alachua

Jennifer Kizza
Eastside High

Baker

Mackenzie Rohde
Baker County High

Bay

Jensen Brahier
Bay High

Bradford

Ashley Spell
Bradford High

Brevard

John Barton
Bayside High

Broward

Pratheek Nagaraj
Marjory Stoneman
Douglas High

Calhoun

Caitlyn Stewart
Blountstown High

Charlotte

Clifford E Rice III
Charlotte High

Citrus

Devon Harvey
Lecanto High

Clay

Hunter Monaghan
Ridgeview High

Collier

Daniel DiGiorno
Naples High

Columbia

Jacob Simmons
Columbia High

Dade

Alexa Langen
Coral Gables
Senior High

DeSoto

Nathan Schwan
DeSoto County High

Dixie

Chelsy Cannon
Dixie County High

Duval

Thomas J. Smith
Stanton College
Preparatory

Escambia

Sami Alsheikh
Pensacola High

Florida Atlantic University

Luizetta Navrazhnykh
FAU High School

Flagler

Morgan Pearson
Matanzas High

Franklin

Jessica Dempsey
Franklin County High

Florida State University

Nicole Tuovila
Florida State
University School

Gadsden

Jeffrey Jackson II
East Gadsden High

Gilchrist

Lauren Ryan
Bell High

Glades

Warner Ward
Moore Haven High

Gulf

Taylor Jay Husband
Wewahitchka High

Hamilton

Chineeta Jackson
Hamilton County High

Hardee

Brittany Dunlap
Hardee Senior High

Hendry

Andrew McAvoy
LaBelle High

Hernando

Jenny Ho
Central High

Highlands

Thomas Smith
Sebring High

Hillsborough

Claire Bergman
Durant High

Holmes

Marissa English
Holmes County High

Indian River

Sami Hashmi
Vero Beach High

Jackson

Annemarie Nichols
Graceville High

Jefferson

Alexus Chambers
Jefferson County High

Lafayette

Brody Longley
Lafayette High

Lake

Megan Torman
Umatilla High

Lee

Shelly Hassett
North Fort Myers High

Leon

Breshawn Best
Lincoln High

Levy

Hailey Gerhardt
Chiefland High

Liberty

Molly Holmes
Liberty County High

Madison

Lindsey Pinkard
Madison County High

Manatee

Justin Suca
Southeast High

Marion

Michael Fang
Vanguard High

Martin

Tyler Spence
Martin County High

Monroe

Gabriel Roberts
Coral Shores High

Nassau

Bradley Bean
Fernandina Beach High

Okaloosa

Katherine Stone
Fort Walton Beach High

Okeechobee

Kayla Harrison
Okeechobee High

Orange

Andrew Popp
Dr Phillips High

Osceola

Ty William Lee
Celebration High

Palm Beach

Felicia Yan
Wellington
Community High

Pasco

Xianlu Wang
Land O' Lakes High

Pinellas

Eric Tong
St. Petersburg High

Polk

Bianca Mulaney
Bartow High IB

Putnam

Tyler Pickens
Palatka High

Santa Rosa

Colton Westover
Milton High

Sarasota

Alex Pinchin
Booker High

Seminole

Neel Patel
Oviedo High

St. Johns

Monica Resto
Creekside High

St. Lucie

Jacob Waddell
Fort Pierce Central High

Sumter

Alex Keeler
South Sumter High

Suwannee

Philip Roddenberry
Suwannee High

Taylor

Alexander Eli Grambling
Taylor County High

University of Florida

Hakeem Hasan
PK Yonge Dev Research

Union

Kelly Gray
Union County High

Volusia

Kaelyn Badura
Pine Ridge High

Wakulla

Kristie Hodges
Wakulla High

Walton

Alex Brack
Walton High

Washington

Michael Pritchard
Chipley High

Thank you to these Teachers for inspiring today's Scholars

Alachua

Amy Rubin

Baker

Leigh Ann Hays

Bay

Sarah Guillot

Bradford

Cindy Bagley

Brevard

Jennifer Sullivan

Broward

Teresita Chipi

Calhoun

Allyson Howell

Citrus

Darrick Buettner

Clay

Jane Greenawalt

Dixie

Chris Barber

Duval

Martin Doherty

Escambia

James Bobbitt

Florida Atlantic

University

David Kelly

Flagler

Tennille Wallace

Franklin

Dale Millender

Florida State

University

Patricia Casey

Gadsden

John Lubbers

Glades

Beth Barfield

Gulf

Lana Harrison

Hamilton

Jamillah Green

Hendry

Joy Bridwell

Highlands

Julie Giordano

Hillsborough

Daniel McFarland

Indian River

Brandi Hillard

Jackson

Paula Wright

Jefferson

Joseph Graves

Lafayette

Lisa Hancock

Lake

Marie Kroulik

Lee

Dana Isaac

Leon

Beverly Rogers

Liberty

Heather Peddie

Madison

Brigitte Gudz

Manatee

Steven Foster

Marion

Gary Stowers

Martin

Janet Fitzgerald

Monroe

Chuck Elsworth

Nassau

Marcia Cline

Okaloosa

Cyndi Stone

Orange

Deborah Wasylik

Osceola

Leslie Rivera

Palm Beach

Sal Mucino

Pasco

Linda Davies

Pinellas

Liane Marshman

Polk

Debbie Kenon

Putnam

Carla Aycock

Santa Rosa

Bruce Loshier

Sarasota

Joseph Calandra

Seminole

PJ Krehling

St. Johns

Alicia Pressel

St. Lucie

Kerryane Monahan

Sumter

Kelly Lawrence

Suwannee

Christie Sims

Taylor

Ruth Harvey

University of Florida

Thomas Anderson

Union

Emma Hudson

Volusia

Scott Warren

Wakulla

Angela Williams

Walton

Brianne Gregor

Washington

Shirley Thompson



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Valencia Community College
Warner University

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Florida Education Foundation

The Florida Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that promotes and supports academic excellence for pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students in Florida. The Foundation recognizes outstanding teachers and educational contributors, develops strategic alliances with business organizations and advances statewide educational initiatives.

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