

e-Cast



Connecting a statewide community of leaders actively engaged in understanding and serving Florida.

Volume I, No. 2, Fall 2015

LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION CLASS I OPENING SESSION



Leadership in Education Class I after their first session in Howey-in-the-Hills

"The first meeting of Leadership Florida's Leadership in Education class brought together individuals from all aspects of Florida's education system, including superintendents, district and state school members and administrators, teachers, principals, and valued education partners from numerous foundations and businesses. Every level of education administration was represented, allowing for a range of diverse ideas and valuable insights. While many participants' job descriptions varied considerably, each of us shared a common goal: to give every student in Florida an education that will help them reach their full potential. During the three days together, we dreamed for, learned about, and worked on improving Florida's already excellent education system. As we look to the next meeting, our anticipation builds at the thought of learning from the esteemed guest speakers and from each other." - Christie Bassett, Teacher at All Saints Academy, 2015 Florida Teacher of the Year



L to R: Class members Marva Johnson, Chair, Florida State Board of Education and Maureen Wilt, Education Program Manager at Florida Power & Light Co. Neil Phillips, Founder/Executive Director at Visible Men Academy, Scott Sowell, Teacher at Darnell-Cookman School of the Medical Arts, Susan Barton, STEM Academic Coach at Hardee Senior High School, and Christie Bassett, Teacher at All Saints Academy

"This has been an incredible experience! I have learned volumes that I will share with my district. Thank you so much for this opportunity, and I look forward to our next meeting!" - Susan Barton, STEM Academic Coach at Hardee Senior High School

"The opportunity to have a dialogue with these colleagues has already been an amazing learning experience. Every minute was worthwhile and provided "food for thought" that I will take back to my communities and begin conversations to further expand our educational commitment." - Maria Pouncey, Administrator of Instructional Services for PAEC

Leadership in Education Program Sponsors
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CONNECT INSTITUTE CLASS VI OPENING SESSION

REGIONAL SPOTLIGHT: GOLD COAST

A yearlong feature that will cover the State.

Leadership Florida's Gold Coast region may only encompass one Florida county, but this region has continually been a key player in Leadership Florida's long history. In recent years, Broward County has been host to the 2014 Florida Gubernatorial debate at Broward College, and Florida's 2010 and 2012 Gubernatorial and U.S. Senate debates, held at Nova Southeastern University. While the Regional Council has been planning exciting activities for this year, the region is greatly looking forward to hosting Leadership Florida's newest class program, Leadership in Education, in May 2016.



Members: 92
New Members: 14
Counties: 1

Regional members serving in key leadership positions in our organization are:

Greg Haile, Gold Coast Regional Chair
General Counsel, Vice President, Public & Gov't Affairs, Broward College

Geori Berman, Gold Coast Regional Council
Florida Youth SHINE Coordinator, Florida's Children First

Karen Boutros, Gold Coast Regional Council
Executive Director, Broward Workshop, Inc.

Gale Butler, Gold Coast Regional Council
Executive Director, Birch State Park

Bacardi Jackson, Board of Directors and Audit Committee Chair
Counsel, Tucker Law Group LLC

Ray Monteleone, Gold Coast Regional Council
Founding President & Partner, Paladin Global Partners

Audrey Ring, LF Communications Chair
Vice President, Administration, Kaufman Lynn Construction

Randall Vitale, Board of Directors and Governance Committee Chair
SVP - Fort Lauderdale Market Executive, Gibraltar Private Bank & Trust

BUT FOR...

Members reflecting on their "but for Leadership Florida" experiences

"My first Leadership Florida program was in 1999, as a college student at the University of Florida. In 2005, I was a member of Class XXIII, the Mad Hatters. Speaking to a class of Leadership Florida resulted in my moving to New Orleans for 7 years to start a KIPP charter school after Hurricane Katrina, and my association with Leadership Florida is one of the levers that brought me home." - Brian Dassler, Deputy Chancellor, Florida Department of Education and Leadership in Education Program Chair



THOUGHTS ON LEADERSHIP

Members sharing their Thoughts on Leadership to include philosophy, recommended reading, a meaningful quote, a must-see video, etc.



Connect Institute Class VI with Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry

From a special welcome by Mayor Lenny Curry at Florida Blue's beautiful campus to a private tour of the USS Iwo Jima at the Naval Station Mayport... Connect VI's opening session in Jacksonville was filled with "But For" Leadership Florida opportunities.

The 44 new members were led on a walking tour of downtown Jacksonville and explored the nightlife in Jacksonville's historic neighborhoods, gaining a deeper appreciation of the city. They bonded over leadership team building activities led by Phillip Green (LF Class XXIII) and were wowed by an informational session on All Aboard Florida by Husein Cumber (LF Class XXX), among many other sessions.

Thanks to Vance Aloupis (Connect Class IV), Keith Fletcher (Connect Class V), and Rachel Massey for all of their hard work in organizing the Jacksonville session. It will be hard to top the bonding that occurred so quickly with this group (#lastclass)!



L to R: Jennifer McFarren and Ashley Coone. Kim Costello, Anne Marie Sorrell and David McDermott

"Awesome group, awesome experience. Within 24 hours of meeting each other, this group was cohesive, integrated and full of "but for" moments. The quality of the people is amazing and the content and activities were great." - Jorge Guttman, Shareholder at Gunster

"I thoroughly enjoyed this first session - outside of learning about Jax, it was amazing to learn about young professionals across the state. Thank you!" - Hong Tran, Operations Services Director at Baptist Health Care



"Leadership for me is working for the common good with others and encouraging those who you are working with to give their very best to help the group achieve their goal. Winners understand there is no I in the word TEAM."
- Rep. Larry Lee (Class X)

AWARDS



DON'T FORGET!

Nomination forms for Leadership Florida's 2016 Awards are now available! Please look over the three award categories and consider nominating an individual or organization to be recognized at the 2016 Annual Meeting, June 23-26. The deadline for submission is Tuesday, December 15th, and there is no limit on the number of nominees you may submit.

Distinguished Member Award
LeRoy Collins Lifetime Achievement Award
Florida Impact Award



Past chair, Bentina Terry (Class XXVII), presents the 2015 Florida Impact Award to Village Square at the Annual Meeting. L to R: Steve Seibert (Class XII), Lila Jaber (Class XXIII), Bentina Terry (Class XXVII), Brian Armstrong (Class XXXIII), and Mario Trueba (Class XIX and Past Chair)

RECRUITING

Applications for Leadership Florida and Connect Florida Classes for year 2016 - 2017 are now available!

[Class XXXV Application](#)
[Connect Institute Class VII Application](#)

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE

- **November 4:** WC Regional Reception at Birchwood
- **November 4 - 6:** Class XXXIV Session 2 in St. Petersburg
- **November 17:** Connect Florida Fall Festivus at Black Sheep
- **November 19 - 20:** Leadership in Education Class I Session 2 in Sarasota
- **December 2 - 4:** State Directors Meeting in St. Petersburg
- **December 4 - 6:** Connect VI Session 2 in Tampa
- **December 8:** NW Holiday Party at The Edison
- **December 15:** Award Nominations Due

CATCHING UP WITH... DOMINIC CALABRO & RAY MONTELEONE



Thirty years ago, Ray Monteleone and Dominic Calabro (pictured left with Governor Bob Martinez and LF Chair Dean Ridings at the recent annual TaxWatch meeting) met for the first time at the opening session for Class IV (1985-1986!) of Leadership Florida. Today, both serve on the Leadership Team as members of their regional councils, after a long history of staying involved with our organization. Dominic once served on the Board of Directors, and Ray has been the official timekeeper for the Leadership Florida

debates for many years.

Currently, Ray is the president of Paladin Global Partners in Fort Lauderdale, and partner with Dannelly, Monteleone & Associates. Ray is also an active member, alongside LF Chair Dean Ridings, of the Florida TaxWatch Board of Trustees. Having been with the non-profit for over 30 years, Dominic is the president and chief executive officer of Florida TaxWatch in Tallahassee. These friends took a moment to reflect on their time and future with Leadership Florida...

What are your thoughts on getting involved in Leadership Florida again as part of the Leadership Team?

Dominic: Firstly, Leadership Florida is an organization I have been honored to be a part of for a little more than three decades. Getting involved again has been a wonderful reminder that those who served previously are still a value to an organization that seeks to bring together something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue.

Ray: As a lifetime member, I wanted to get back involved with the group and begin to meet many of the younger folks from the many classes that followed Class IV, and I believe I still have a lot to contribute to building a better Florida. [Continue reading...](#)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, WENDY WALKER



According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median job tenure for a Millennial who is 25-34 years old is three years. Wow. I've been with Leadership Florida for twenty-six years, in small part because I'm the prototypical Baby-Boomer, and in large part, because every year is fresh with change and challenge, infinitely fascinating new members and new programming, so... **What's New This Year??**

Leadership in Education Program

Our most recent opportunity to fulfill our mission is a Leadership Florida program for a diverse group of Florida leaders who have committed their professional lives to educating Florida's children. To the best of our knowledge, this is the *first time in our country (!)* that teachers, principals, administrators, school board members, superintendents, and corporate education volunteers have been brought together to learn best practices from throughout the world and to build relationships of trust in order to work toward a more successful outcome for our children. The class includes a Florida Teacher of the Year, Superintendent [continue reading...](#)

FLORIDA K-12 EDUCATION FACTOIDS

- 3rd largest public school system in the country with more than **2,708,000** students
- More than **4,300** public schools
- 1,163 schools received a performance grade of "A"
- Student enrollment increases by an average of **20,900** students per year
- Operating budget more than **\$18.9 billion** (\$6,915 per student)

Facts provided by the [Florida School Board Association](#).



Leadership Florida members can now make their room reservations for the

2016 ANNUAL MEETING
JUNE 23-26, 2016

at

**Disney's
Grand Floridian**

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE](#)

Hurry! Space is limited with our group rate of \$209 (Standard room rates are \$622-\$764)
Group rate is only available to those who register for the conference.

Remember!

With every full conference registration, you will receive a one-day Disney Park Hopper to use any one-day, valid through June 23, 2018!

Conference registration will open in Spring 2016

**Don't forget to pay your dues by
October 31st!**

Remember to check the Calendar on the LF website for local region events.

We'd like to hear from you! Please send story ideas, suggestions, comments, etc. to communications@leadershipflorida.org.



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