



What's New at Chi Chi's?

July 2021

Chi Chi Academy Celebrates 8th Grade Graduates and Awards Higher Learning Scholarships

In June, the Academy was able to go back to tradition and host an 8th grade graduation for the students and their families. During the festivities, each of the graduates spoke about their experiences at Chi Chi's and thanked the teachers, staff and family members who impacted their journey most.

With some really great applications during this tough year, Academy Executive Committee Members Scott Brown and Linda Damsky decided to award 4 Higher Learning Scholarships! Congrats to Sah'Drina and Germiya, who earned full scholarships, receiving up to \$4,000 for any higher learning post high school graduation. Also, congrats to Lara and Makih who received half scholarships.

Congratulations to our 8th grade class of 2021! We are so proud of how far you have come and are excited to see what you accomplish in your futures!

Thank you to Claire Cousins, Ele Fox and the Upper Tampa Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce for providing decorations for the evening!

**"I'd like to thank my school, aka my second family, for taking me during my 5th grade year. Chi Chi's has helped me grow overall as a whole. Every teacher I've had here has shown and pushed me to my full potential."
~8th grader Alana's graduation speech**

"You may become a Dunedin Falcon, a Seminole Warhawk, a Clearwater Tornado or an East Lake Eagle, but you will always be a Chi Chi Kid and we will always be here to support you." ~Academy Director Josh Meurer



Top Left: Lara and Sah'Drina pose after the celebration;
Top Right: Yahir walking in; Middle: 8th grade class;
Bottom Left: Makih accepts a Higher Learning Scholarship from Academy Executive Committee Members Scott Brown and Linda Damsky;
Bottom Right: Germiya speaks to the crowd

Upcoming Events

Chi Chi Charity Classic
November 14th - 15th
Chi Chi Golf Club



Mission: to educate students in a public-private partnership and improve their academic performance, self-esteem and character using the golf course as a living classroom.

3030 N. McMullen Booth Rd.
Clearwater, FL 33761
(727) 726-8829 x 246
mallory@chichi.org

www.chichi.org

2017 Chi Chi Academy 8th graders Graduate High School!

We are proud to announce 81% of our 2017 8th grade graduates have received a high school diploma! Two of these students (Shannon and Ta'miya) graduated high school one year early!

Huge congratulations to all of our graduates, we are so proud of your high school accomplishments and know you have bright futures ahead!

Academy Alumni graduation rate is 78%

* This includes 8 classes of 8th graders completing Chi Chi's and attending Pinellas County High Schools. All of these students were deemed at-risk for dropping out.



Top: Kevin, Nic and Jon at their Chi Chi Academy 8th grade graduation; Left: Kevin receiving his high school diploma from Clearwater Central Catholic; Right: Nic and Jon with Academy Director Josh Meurer the morning of their graduation from East Lake High School

Thank You Outback Bowl!

The Outback Bowl provides an amazing experience every New Year's Day in Tampa Bay...what you may not know is their charitable giving initiative has donated over \$2.5 million to non-profits in our community since 2016! Despite having COVID-19 change their plans for the game this year, the Outback Bowl Board of Directors and team wanted to keep this initiative going and still donated to charities throughout Tampa Bay. Thank you to the Outback Bowl Board of Directors and team! Special shout out to Kyle Burd for being such a wonderful advocate for the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation!



Foundation supporter and Outback Bowl Board Member Kyle Burd presents a check to Chief Executive Officer James Poulter and Chief Financial & Development Officer Mallory Hubbard

Board of Directors

Thomas A. James, Board Chairman
Raymond James

Frank Chivas, Vice Chairman
Island Way Grill, Seaweed, Rumba,
Salt Rock Grill, and Marina Cantina

Jonathon Alexander
Raymond James Financial

Robert D. Basham
Outback Steakhouse and
PDQ Restaurants

Griffith S. Braddock
Braddock Metallurgical, Inc.

Ron Ciganek
Retired, Valley Bank

Scott Curtis
Raymond James Financial

Robert Enck
Equinox Fund Management

Glenn W. Jones, Jr.
New Fintech, Inc.

Bill Josey
William S. Josey, LLC

W. Andrew Krusen, Jr.
Dominion Financial Group

Ben Lee
Schifino Lee Advertising
& Branding

Claude J. Macari
Retired, KPMG

Jessica M. Majeski
Northwestern Mutual

Julie Mastry
Early Learning Coalition
of Pinellas

Conrad A. Plimpton
Inolux Group

Philip J. Powell, Jr.
C3 Management, Inc. and
Powell Holding & Development

Elliott M. Ross
The Ross Realty Group, Inc.

Eric E. Stewart
First Citizens Bank

Fred E. Whaley
Raymond James & Associates

Bill Wickett
Nashville Predators

Kendall M. Wilson
Holland & Knight

Academy Executive Committee

Elliott Ross - Chair
Scott Brown
Sophia Brown
Linda Damsky
Chris Donegan

Brett Dulaney
Dan Etlinger
Mark Fleagle
Gary Greer

Carlos Guerrero
Stacy Gundry
Diana Homan
Bill Hurter

Andrew Ingersoll
John Kobasic
Monica Kobasic
Brian Krostue
Jessica Majeski

Brittany Maxwell
Chuck McGee
Pete Morell
Andy Mulroy

Bob Passwaters
Leighton Peavler
Ian Peterson
Jeremy Robinson
Sam Rockwell

Craig Taylor
Scott Tobe
Sean Tobe
Ben Wagner
Richard Wegman

Did You Know...? Hole #3 Sponsored by:

RAYMOND JAMES

raymondjames.com/community

The Chi Chi Academy's dropout prevention model
is a 9:1 student to teacher ratio.