

Daphne City Hall

07
ANNUAL REPORT

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SUPPORTING EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT IN DAPHNE'S SCHOOLS



Our mission

To promote a lifelong love of learning among the children of Daphne by providing enrichment opportunities at school and in the community and by advocating for educational improvements and innovation.

Who we are

SEEDS is an independent, non-profit education foundation that brings together citizens of all ages who value learning and share a vision for education's role in Daphne's future. Our programs and initiatives currently serve students in the five Daphne public schools and at Christ the King School.

Our Progress in 2007-08: Four Priorities

The foundation has enjoyed much success since its beginnings in 2004. Our work continues to focus on four key areas:

PROVIDING ENRICHMENT

- SEEDS awarded \$28,500 in Classroom Enrichment Grants to 22 new initiatives in the Daphne schools bringing the total amount distributed since 2005 to \$47,500. A School Block Grant component was also introduced that earmarks \$3,000 annually for improvements on each campus.
- 2007-08 grant winners included:** Christ the King School - Sr. Maureen Nolan, Promethean Board; Cynthia May, Calculators in the Classroom; **W. J. Carroll Intermediate** - Dana Horst, That's One Smart School; Blair Heald, It's a Snap; Elizabeth Jennings, Geo Motion is the Notion; Kathy Smith, Technology for Special Education; **Daphne Elementary** - Jan Palmer, Swing into Action with the Promethean ActivBoard; Ginger Miller, Fun with Phonics; Katrina Renfro, Plug-In to Reading; Lisa Blackmon, Makes Sense to Me; **Daphne East Elementary** - Tommie Conaway, Technology in the Classroom; Valerie Stickney, Beam Me Up; Lee Ann McFeely, Cursive Writing Emphasis; Pam Yelding, Literacy Learners Plus; **Daphne Middle School** - James Oliphant, DTV Enhancement; Sherry Bittinger, 3D Experience; Carolyn Buckley & Sellers Kennington, Scholastic Math; Stephanie Ellis, Gold Club at a New Level; **Daphne High** - Don Blanchard, Data Collection with Computers and Calculators; Priscilla Dabney, Hands-on in Forensic Science; Nigia Bolton, Social Studies Prep Assistance; and Scott Smith, Fitness for Life.

- The foundation's three-year campaign to bring the **International Baccalaureate Programme** to Baldwin County culminated with the announcement of Daphne High's selection as an **IB World School**. Over 80 ninth and tenth grade

students began rigorous pre-IB classes and IB site team visitors noted SEEDS' support as a key factor in Daphne's successful bid.

- The Lyceum Summer Camps** - the foundation's newest enrichment initiative - opened in June 2008. More than 120 participants from Daphne and surrounding communities enrolled in humanities-related classes designed to spark new academic interests. Course offerings included: (grades K-3) Around the World in 5 Days; Reflections of Me; Beginning Spanish; (grades 4-6) What's the Word?; Beginning Research and Beginning Spanish; (grades 7-12) If It's Too Loud, You're Too Old - A Brief History of Rock and Roll; Global Art; and Multimedia Me.

The launch of the SEEDS Lyceum, the establishment of IB in Baldwin County and the continuing success of the Classroom Grant Program mark the achievement of the foundation's three original enrichment objectives.

ENCOURAGING IMPROVEMENTS

- Since 2004, SEEDS has facilitated discussion and action on Daphne's most important education issues. In June 2007, the foundation hosted a **Summer Visioning Retreat** for local leaders to discuss strategies for improving educational opportunities in our community.
- The first **SEEDS Community Survey** was conducted in January 2008. Respondents indicated they are generally satisfied with the quality of education in Daphne but noted improving math and science skills, preparing responsible workers and reducing the dropout rate are among their top concerns. Good teachers and principals, facility improvements and parental involvement were cited as strengths.
- SEEDS' Principal for a Day** project was another successful community awareness event held during the past year. Business and civic leaders were invited to shadow Daphne principals through a typical school day. Participants expressed renewed appreciation for the range of issues handled daily by campus administrators.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

- SEEDS continued to host the Daphne principals at bi-monthly **Networking Luncheons** to provide time for the regular exchange of news and ideas. These meetings frequently result in new opportunities for collaboration between schools.
- The TEAM Up for Academic Excellence Coalition**, sponsored by SEEDS, hosted a panel discussion on high-stakes testing and promoted strategies for success during spring exams.
- SEEDS presented a **Back-to-School Seminar for PTA/PTO Leaders** that included sessions on team building, volunteer recruitment, budgeting and accounting; strategic planning, grant writing, and publicity. A **Holiday Appreciation Coffee** was also held to thank these dedicated community leaders.

RAISING FUNDS

- The 2007 Mamma Mia Cook-Off** celebrating Daphne's Italian Heritage was held on November 10 on the grounds of Hutchinson, Rauch and Moore Engineering. Twenty-two

cooking teams from local schools, churches, civic organizations and businesses vied for hometown bragging rights. Top prizes went to Spanish Fort Presbyterian Church, the Daphne High School faculty, the Feo family, Christ Presbyterian Church, Mary Ann's Deli and McAleer's Office Furniture. The Mamma Mia Award for best presentation went to the Daphne Middle School PTSA.

Event Sponsors for SEEDS' third annual fall fundraiser included: **Oro level** (\$1000) - ARK Builders; Compound Care Pharmacy; Daphne-Spanish Fort Rotary; State Rep. Randy Davis; Dr. Glenn H. Glass, Baldwin County Orthodontic Specialists; The Kiwanis Clubs of Daphne & Fairhope; Marriott's Grand Hotel; Miller's Grand Events; Robert Brothers Real Estate; **Argento Level** (\$500) - Craig Smith, Allstate Insurance; Baldwin County Medical Society; Buffalo-Rock Pepsi; Cornerstone Investment Management and Consulting; Eastern Shore Medical Specialists; Eastern Shore Sertoma Club; Will Hughes Catering and Market; Hutchinson, Moore and Rauch Engineering; Jade Consulting, LLC; McCullough Plastic Surgery Clinic; Riviera Utilities; St. Paul's Episcopal Church; Tameron Honda; Thomas Hospital; Uncorked Fine Wines; WHL Architects; **Bronzo Level** (\$250) - Asphalt Services; Blackmon Insurance; Budweiser-Busch Distributing Company; Christ the King Catholic Church; Joe Cleveland Architects, LLC; Lad Drago State Farm Insurance; The Frame Corner; Highland Animal Hospital; Moore & Wolfe Attorneys at Law; The Olive Garden; The Parlor; Region's Bank; Starbucks; Stone, Granade and Crosby; Technical Specialties; Wood Specialties

- SEEDS' 2008 Classic Rock 5K**, held on March 1, attracted 250 running enthusiasts from throughout the area, and more than 1300 Daphne students, parents, educators and friends of SEEDS took part in the third annual **Classic Rock Fun Run**. The 5K race was named a Corporate Cup event for the second year and awards for top runners were provided by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Major Event Sponsors for the 2008 Classic Rock 5K and Fun Run were RBC (First Gulf Bank); Merrill-Lynch, D'Oliveira-Frick Group; Performance Contractors; and Terry Thompson Chevrolet.

Post-race Family Day Sponsors included Point Clear Insurance Services; Buffalo-Rock Pepsi; ARK Builders; Daphne United Methodist Church; Bounds Family YMCA; the Bay Area Runners; City of Daphne's recre-



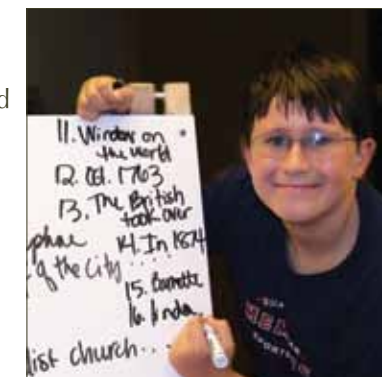
ation, public works, police and fire departments; Bay Sound; Daphne Massage Center; Dean Carr Personal Fitness Training and Will Hughes Catering and Market.

Other Fund Development

The **Friends of SEEDS** membership program was promoted for the third year through schools, civic organizations and the SEEDS web site. In addition, the **Malbis Memorial Foundation** provided support for development of the Lyceum Summer Camps.

Goals for 2008-09

- Establish a **Corporate Gifts Program** to improve the foundation's long-term sustainability.
- Focus the **Friends of SEEDS Annual Membership Campaign** to build community ownership and active participation.
- Provide stable funding for the **Classroom Enrichment Grant Program**.
- Support implementation of the **International Baccalaureate Programme**.
- Capitalize on relocation of the **Mamma Mia Cook-off** to Daphne's new City Hall.
- Host the first-ever **SEEDS Summit** on progress being made in the Daphne schools.
- Expand the **Lyceum Summer Camp Program**.





Upcoming Events

SEEDS' 4th Annual Mamma Mia Cook-off

A Celebration of Daphne's Italian Heritage

Saturday, November 8, 2008 \ 7-10 p.m.

Daphne City Hall

Team and sponsorship info at seedsindaphne.org

2008 SEEDS Summit

A State of Our Schools Conversation

Tuesday, November 18, 2008 \ 6:30 p.m.

Trojan Hall, Daphne High School

SEEDS' 2009 Classic Rock 5K & Fun Run

Saturday, March 7, 2009

5K start: 8 a.m. \ Daphne Public Library

Fun Run start: 9 a.m. \ Centennial Park

Register after January 1, 2009 at active.com

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