

THANKS FOR GIVING LUNCHEON

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The Susan and Dom Telesco Center for Creative Education (CCE) Thanks for Giving Fall Luncheon became a \$2 million celebration of student success, as Palm Beach resident **Pauline Pitt** announced a \$1 million naming gift for the new playground at **The Foundations School (TFS)**, and Palm Beach Mayor **Danielle Moore** and **Lesly Smith** with the **Fortin Family Foundation** surprised guests with an additional \$1 million commitment to TFS. Hosted at CCE's West Palm Beach campus and Chaired by **Pauline Pitt** and **Susan Telesco**, the event welcomed more than 150 guests to see TFS's work as an independent K-5 lab school that is improving outcomes for students historically underserved in traditional systems.

Guests began the morning exploring the new playground designed with input from TFS students. The vibrant outdoor space now serves as a hub for imaginative play, physical activity and social-emotional growth. Following the reception, attendees had a chance to chat with students during recess about why having a space and support system like TFS is special to them. TFS blends high-leverage instructional practices with whole-child support, including small class sizes, personalized learning pathways, project-based experiential learning and family engagement.

The program culminated with a Q&A session between Palm Beach Mayor Danielle H. Moore and TFS students, moderated by arts leader **Rena Blades**. Students posed thoughtful questions about civic engagement and government, giving guests a firsthand look at how classroom lessons are shaping informed, engaged future leaders.

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FIRST ROW: Robert Hamon with Susan and Dom Telesco; Susan Telesco, Robert Hamon and Pauline Pitt; **SECOND ROW:** Lynne Wheat and Pauline Pitt; Mayor Danielle Moore, Robert Hamon and Lesly Smith; **THIRD ROW:** Laura Rehnert and Kenton Holden; James Borynack and Adolfo Zaralegui. PHOTOS: CAPEHART



To conclude the luncheon, Smith and Moore shocked the room with a \$1 million commitment to The Foundations School. Together with Pitt's leadership gift, the more than \$2 million in philanthropy raised during the event will help expand access to The Foundations School and sustain CCE's innovative model for students and families across Palm Beach County.

"It was an honor to co-chair this luncheon with my dear friend Pauline in support of CCE," said Telesco. "Today's program offered a unique chance to hear directly from students about what they're learning and how it connects to their lives. Their voices remind us why investing in education is so critical and why this work has the power to change futures here in Palm Beach County and beyond."

CCE advances academic success through programs that support students, families and communities. The Foundations School, one of four core pillars, is a K-5 independent school achieving transformative results for underserved students. Tuition is accessible thanks to critical philanthropic support and state scholarships. CCE's work produces results that inform and impact the field of education.

"While Florida's scholarship programs support a portion of each child's education, they do not come close to covering the full cost of delivering a high-support, arts-integrated model like The Foundations School," said President and CEO **Robert Hamon**. "Philanthropic partnership remains essential to ensuring students and families receive the level of education and care that defines CCE's mission."

For additional information on The Foundations School or CCE visit cceflorida.org. To make a donation toward a scholarship or to support *The Play Pitt* call **Vivianne Hall** at 561.805.9927, ext. 118.

FIRST ROW: Gopal and Alexandra Rajegowda; Jim and Michele Kukla; **SECOND ROW:** Margaret and Christopher Sinclair; Bob Gunia and Sharon Jaquet; **THIRD ROW:** Pam and Brad Miller; Rena Blades and Mayor Danielle Moore with The Foundations School students. PHOTOS: CAPEHART

