



# LeaderReader

APRIL 2023 EDITION

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ricky Butler '15

It's been a busy few months as the Class of 2023 winds down and recruiting for the Class of 2024 is in full swing!

If you're reading this, I don't need to sell Leadership Pinellas to you. As alumni, you know that participating is one of the greatest decisions you'll ever make. However, we need your help ensuring that our signature program is on the radar of as many existing and emerging leaders in our community as possible. If you've spoken with anyone about the program in the last few months, please reach out to them and ensure that they are working on their applications – the deadline is May 1.

Speaking of upcoming dates, we're excited to announce that our annual meeting and graduation for the Class of 2023 is scheduled for Wednesday, May 24 at Ruth Eckerd Hall (1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater). Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the program will begin at 6:30. The cost for alumni is \$50 per person. Reach out to your classmates and see who can have the biggest "class reunion" as we celebrate our newest alumni!



## **APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE CLASS OF 2024**

The LP recruitment season is in full swing. We held three recruitment information sessions this spring all around the county to reach as many potential applicants as possible. Thank you to Lelia Peterson '21 for organizing all the recruitment events this year. We saw folks at The Hanger in St. Petersburg, met mid-county applicants at The Historic Largo Feed Store & Museum in Largo, and welcomed a crowd at House of Beer in Dunedin. Thank you to all the alumni that came out to support these efforts, and especially those that brought a candidate with them.

Applications are due May 1, so now is the time to follow up with anyone you may have talked to about applying for Leadership Pinellas Class of 2024. Applications are electronically submitted via our website or *use this link*.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President – Matthew Campbell '15

President Elect – Tim Lima '16

Treasurer – Andrew Winkler '21

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Director (2 Years) – Rebecca Watson '19

Director (1 Year) – David Oak '18

Director (1 Year) – Andrew Salzman '19

Director (1 Year) – Beth Tasis '20

New Alumni Director – David Burton '23

Past President – Ricky Butler '15

Executive Director – Jennifer McGrail '99

## THE CLASS OF 2023 TAKES ON TALLAHASSEE

The Class of 2023 spent three days in late March visiting our state capitol, watching legislative committees at work, and creating those class bonds that extend well beyond the program year.

The Class enjoyed tours of the Old Capitol, Florida Supreme Court, the Governor's Mansion as well as both the House and Senate floors. They tracked legislation of interest to them and had a full day of moving about the capitol attending committee meetings.

Guest speakers throughout the trip shared both personal and professional experiences about our state government, the process, and some behind the scenes stories. Kimberly Berfield '97 graciously gave the class some great insight on the process as a whole. And, Steve Bousquet, journalist with the Sun Sentinel, provided a history through the eyes of a reporter over many years. The class really engaged with thoughtful questions and came away with a better understanding overall. The Supreme Court and Governor's Mansion were also both a big hit with the class.

Thank you to Ricky Butler '15, Kim Berfield '97, Kristen Donaghy '22, and Margaret Martin '07 for putting together a great Tallahassee experience.





## GRADUATION/ANNUAL MEETING



**Date:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Ruth Eckerd Hall,  
Margaret Heye Great Room  
1111 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater

**Cost:** \$50

*[Click here to purchase tickets](#)*

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP PINELLAS

Jackson Settle, Homeschool

On April 5, the Youth Leadership Pinellas Class of 2023 had their Emergency Services Day, the last program day of the year. On our first stop, we visited Bayfront Health of St Petersburg, where we toured the Trauma Center, went to the roof to see the helipad, and took a class called "Stop the Bleed." The class, sponsored by Bayfront themselves, taught us how to properly call 911, dress a wound, and apply a tourniquet in an emergency. Participants earned a certificate for this training.

Our second stop was Sunstar Paramedics, where we toured a variety of emergency vehicles and spoke with paramedics who operate this equipment daily. They demonstrated tools and methods such as chest compressions and the use of Narcan.

The group moved on to the Pinellas County Sheriff's complex where we toured the 911 call center and learned how that system works. The operators take about 758,000 calls a year. Our final stop of the day was the firehouse for East Lake Fire Rescue where we got to have a little fun. Participants got to operate a fire hose, and some took the challenge to see how fast they could get into firefighting gear. We met firefighters who told us about what it's like to do their job. All in all, it was a valuable day full of life-saving information and meeting people whose job it is to save lives. Everyone was extremely friendly, and we appreciated the information on how to pursue careers in emergency services.



## YLP THANKS SP COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE LABS FOR CONTINUING SUPPORT

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Collaborative Labs at St. Petersburg College for providing Youth Leadership Pinellas with the use of the exceptional EpiCenter Collaborative Labs. This state-of-the-art facility has been instrumental in fostering creativity, collaboration, and innovation among our young leaders. Through access to these incredible resources, our participants have been able to engage in immersive learning experiences that will undoubtedly shape their futures as community leaders. To showcase the EpiCenter Collaborative Labs, they have created a video highlighting the lab. Youth Leadership Pinellas is truly grateful to Collaborative Labs St. Petersburg College for their unwavering support and commitment to empowering the next generation of leaders.

### Watch Our Video About Collaborative Labs

[Click Here](#)

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP PINELLAS RECEIVES DONATION

The Youth Leadership Pinellas team would like to thank the GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club for a generous donation to future scholarships for the YLP program for the second straight year. The YLP team is grateful for their continued support of the program. The GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club works locally to bring about positive change with an unwavering dedication to community improvement through volunteer service. They impact lives, through acts large and small. We look forward to putting their donation to good use and helping give access to the amazing program that Youth Leadership Pinellas delivers to high school students across Pinellas County.

If you are interested in donating to Youth Leadership Pinellas, please contact Jennifer McGrail, [contact@leadershippinellas.com](mailto:contact@leadershippinellas.com).



**Thank you to our Sponsors, Leadership Circle,  
and Alumni Boosters. We value your continued support!**

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**Silver Sponsors**



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