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John Burton, Executive Director



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APPLAUSE!

Sharing Success

Marielys Rosario-Diaz: testimonial from her mom, Barbara Diaz

Marielys Rosario-Diaz was enrolled into Achievement Academy Charter School when she was only 18 months old in August of 2011. Prior to that, she received Early Intervention Services through Achievement Academy's "Birth to Three" program, which serves children who have developmental needs through home visitations.



Marielys is challenged with congenital muscle disease, which has limited her strength and range of motion. At the time of enrollment, she was unable to walk or talk. After enrollment at the Academy, and also surgery to both feet, Marielys has made a great deal of improvement. "She has received wonderful support from everyone at the school" her mother, Barbara Diaz, states. She is now an active girl and can walk, run and calls out 'mommy' to get her mother's attention. "Achievement Academy has been a true Blessing for our family" shares Marielys' mom, and "she has overcome many things through the help of the Academy. Marielys is strong minded & stubborn, and never gives up. If you give her 100% she will give you 110% back." And that makes her mom very proud!

Board Member Spotlight: Pete Frantzis

Pete Frantzis has been a board member of the Achievement Academy since 2012. He is a Senior Vice President Wealth Management Advisor at UBS, Kilgroe, Frantzis, Quinty & Associates and has been with the firm since 2002. Pete serves on several board sponsored committees and this year joined the Pigeon Pull committee of the Achievement Academy. He is also a board member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



Pete and his wife, Sheri, have been married for 27 wonderful years and have four children, Kaylea (26), Brandi (24), Ali (21), and Robby (19).

Having been blessed with four amazing children, Pete wanted to pay forward God's blessing and upon his visit to the Achievement Academy, fell in love with the children and the heart of the faculty. He knew this was where God wanted him to be. "It is a privilege and an honor to represent such an astounding organization. The Achievement Academy is changing the lives of so many wonderful children and their families."

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Interested in taking a tour of our campus? Please call 863-683-6504 to schedule an appointment.

Thank You

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Dates to Remember

Teachers Return to School
Monday, August 11, 2014

Student Orientation – All Campuses
Friday, August 15, 2014

First Day of School for Students
Monday, August 18, 2014

School Holiday (Labor Day)
Monday, September 1, 2014

First Early Release Day
Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Student Holiday
Monday, September 22, 2014

Executive Committee Meetings
Monday, August 11, 2014
Monday, September 8, 2014

Board Meetings
Tuesday, August 15, 2014
Tuesday, September 16, 2014

Did you know that the Achievement Academy has a Wish List?

Items on the list are hand-selected by our teachers and therapists to help students reach their developmental goals. For more information, please visit our website and click on the Wish List button.



Save the Date!

"Chip-In" For Children
15th Annual Golf Tournament
Thursday, October 9, 2014
Lone Palm Golf Club
For more information, contact
Eunice Hutto at 863-683-6504.



8th Annual Pigeon Pull & Evening Round Up

The Achievement Academy's 8th Annual Pigeon Pull and Evening Round Up was held on Saturday, April 12, 2014 at S bar S Ranch in Lakeland. Participants were treated to appetizers donated by new local restaurant, PDQ. Cocktails were served at 5:00 pm and dinner, served by Bubbaque's, started at 6:00 pm.

Achievement Academy would like to thank the presenting sponsors UBS Kilgroe, Frantzis, Quinty and Associates, and Southern Homes, as well as Marcobay Construction.

Once dinner was underway, auctioneer Scott Oglesby took over and led us through our live auction and introduced us to parent and Board Member, Courtney Wade, who gave testimony about her daughter and the process she went through in becoming a student.

Awards were given to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners, CliftonLarsonAllen, Polk State College, and Regal Automotive, respectively. The evening's entertainment was provided by the Sofa Kings and the event raised over \$26,000. All proceeds benefit the programs of the Achievement Academy.

TEAM CliftonLarsonAllen



Noah Jeffries

TEAM Polk State College



Carson Weeder, Taylor Watkins
and Karen Moore

TEAM Regal Automotive



Michael Greenhow, Rick Greenhow



Rise and Shine Walk for Kids

Achievement Academy's Rise and Shine Walk around Lake Hollingsworth was held this year on March 8. Festivities began at 8:00 am with music provided by Music Force Productions. We had over 200 participants and raised over \$14,000.

We would especially like to thank Smoothie King, GEICO, Chick-fil-A, Aaron's Rental, J Burns Pizza, and the Lakeland Fire Department for coming out to provide goodies and encouragement to our walkers. The biggest thank you of all goes to the families of the Achievement Academy for their fundraising efforts! Their enthusiasm for this walk made for a successful event!

Top fundraising teams were treated to LEGOLAND tickets and two of our classrooms received special parties for their efforts. Thanks to the community and our students' families for making this such a fun-filled and positive event!



~ Our Mission ~

Assist children with special needs to reach their maximum potential
by providing quality education, therapy and family support.

Spotlight: John Burton

Achievement Academy is proud to announce that John Burton was hired as the new Executive Director in January, 2014. Most recently, John served as President / CEO of the Florida Air Museum, and also served as the President / CEO of the Sun 'n Fun Fly-In in Lakeland. John has experience in the Non-Profit arena, Corporate Communications, and over 20 years of experience as a Senior Manager. John and his wife, Kristin, live in Lakeland and are proud parents to three adult daughters. He is active in the Lakeland community and has a passion for helping others through non-profit work and community initiatives. Achievement Academy is thrilled to have John on board!



To Susan Shipe and Jill Bartley
who were voted Teacher and
Support Person of the Year!



Susan Shipe on right



Jill Bartley on left



Thank You!

A huge thank you to Mr. Stanley & Mrs. Howard's 6th grade classes at South McKeel Academy for donating new toys. Toys were handed out the month of December as Christmas gifts for our *Birth to Three* families.

Donate Today and Make A Difference in the Life of a Child with Special Needs

Make A Donation

Donations may be made by check, credit card or billed. To donate by check please complete the form below and return to: **Achievement Academy, 716 E. Bella Vista St., Lakeland, FL 33805**. To donate by credit card, please go to our secure website at www.AchievementAcademy.com and click on the green **Make a Donation** button. Also, please consider Achievement Academy in your will.

For more information, please contact: Eunice M. Hutto, Director of Development; Eunice@AchievementAcademy.com; 863-683-6504.



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day-time Phone: _____ ☐ Check enclosed for \$ _____

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☐ I would like more information about the Achievement Academy. Please contact me.



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~ Our Vision ~

Special Beginnings Brighter Futures.