Join OJA's Edible School Yard Academy

June 11-12

Spaces are filling up quickly for the third annual Edible School Yard training at Orlando Junior Academy, reports Janice Banks, Volunteer Development Director. The event attracts participants from private, public, and charter schools with its emphasis on experiential education, integrating the principles of health and nutrition into teaching.

Florida Conference teachers are encouraged to sign up now while a few openings remain. You will enjoy two extraordinary days in OJA’s Nutrition Science Lab and Garden where you will participate in discussions and activities that will help you build your own garden and cooking curriculum customized to your resources, needs and ability. Professional enrichment funds may be used.
EVENT DETAILS
June 11 and 12, 2014 8:00am - 3:00pm
Cost: $300 (includes lunches)
Plus visit from Whole Foods Market Educator to your school.
Space is limited but may be reserved with a deposit of $50, by June 1.
Blog: thegardenatoja.wordpress.com
Download Application Form

Naples Adventist School Impacts Community

Students at Naples Adventist School are making a difference in their community! As part of this year’s Week of Prayer, a group of students from grades K-8 took flowers and scriptural love notes to local neighbors surrounding the school. The school has also been busy forming relationships with the Veterans Administration, David Lawrence Center, Sheriff’s Department, Collier Automotive Museum, and the Quest Center.

“We are always so well received it is humbling,” says Deborah Dahl, Principal. “With the positive response to the songs we sing and the prayers we give, we come away with more blessings than we seek to give. It is very inspiring to hear participants tell us how they enjoy our visits.”

The Naples Adventist School’s impact on the community is also proving to be a benefit to the students. This year, NACS students have been invited to intern with the AD Architectural Land Design over the summer. The Collier Auto Museum gave the school a special invitation to be guided through their museum by 12 docents. Upon leaving, the school was presented with a professionally matted and framed photograph of the students standing in front of the museum’s prized $24 million dollar gold car!

“All in all God has placed this school in this neighborhood for a reason,” says Ms. Dahl. “The children are both blessed and blessing.”
Forest Lake Education Center
Top in Robotics

Forest Lake Education Center is proud to announce that the FLEC Robotics Club team, Tech Cadets, took first place in the North American Division's First Lego League National Competition in Sacramento, California on May 18th 2014. Tech Geeks received three first-place awards in robot design, robot performance, and core values. The team also received a second place award in team project. This is FLEC Robotics Club's second year to compete in the NAD First Lego League. Read the full story in the upcoming issue of Florida Focus.
Come Visit Us In Our New Offices!

We’ve Moved!

FLORIDA CONFERENCE of SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
351 S. State Road 434
Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714-3824
(407) 644-5000

Book Picks for Teachers
Looking for some good reads over the summer to help you spruce up your teaching or strengthen your resolve? Here are some books that are recommended by Florida teachers.

Whole Novels for the Whole Class: A Student-Centered Approach, by Ariel Sacks, recommended by Sharon Coldren, Literacy Teacher, Walker Memorial Academy, Avon Park. This practical book is written by a classroom teacher who has worked in varied settings, including environments with both struggling and gifted readers. She provides a step-by-step guide to setting up a student-centered literature program in which students read whole novels and deepen their comprehension through passionate writing and discussion. Highly recommended by Sharon!

Start Something: You Can Make a Difference by Earl Woods and the Tiger Woods Foundation, from the library of Beryl Wisdom Adventist School. While this small book has been written to inspire students, its pages provide a great way for all of us to "dispel negative energy." Get inspired, then share the book with your students in the fall!
LEARNING TREE ACADEMY FIRST PRE-K BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

Apopka Seventh-day Adventist Church proudly held their first baccalaureate service for 34 Pre-K students and their families on Sabbath, May 24. Director Chandrani Sirigampola reports that the majority of her families are not members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and interacting with over 60 families each day has been a wonderful mission opportunity.

One memorable highlight was the tributes of two parents, Janet Gainer and Nicole Bignall, who spoke of the value and benefits of having their children in a high quality pre-school program. The tribute of Learning Tree Academy graduate (LTA), was given by 7- year- old Andrew Nazario who spoke eloquently of the influence of his teachers and of his days at LTA. “They taught me to love reading and now I can’t put books down,” he said.

Apopka Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes the potential for Learning Tree Academy as a mission of the church. The children go home every day singing songs about Jesus and learning of His love. “I love Jesus because he first loved me,” said one graduate. The director and staff at LTA work hard to not only deliver a first- rate program, but also to create a family atmosphere where the school is involved in the lives of the families.

The Florida Conference currently has 14 Early Childhood Education Centers serving the needs of working families for children ages birth –five years old.

Editor's Note

In an article on Stewart Bainum In our March issue, we inadvertently published that the family requested that all donations be made to Naples Adventist Christian School. In actuality, this
statement was intended for local purposes only and referred to the statement the Bainum family made to constituents of the Naples Adventist Christian School. We apologize for the incorrect information and again thank the Bainum family for their generosity and understanding.