



# What's New at Chi Chi's

January 2020



Top: Co-Hosts Bob & Debbie Basham and Tom & Mary James with Academy students Nathan and Sah' Drina; Middle Left: Board Chairman Tom James speaks to guests about the Foundation's 40 year legacy; Middle Right: Event Co-Chair Phil Powell Emcee's the Dinner Program; Bottom: Committee Members Tom & Maureen Harrington and Scott Brown with Nathan and Sah' Drina; Right: Fred & Carol Whaley, Bill & Mikki Wickett and Elliott & Karin Ross

## Event Spotlight: Music 'n Mistletoe Holiday Fundraiser

On December 18th, the Foundation celebrated the Holiday season with our 4th Music 'n Mistletoe event at the Amalie Arena. Board Members, sponsors and their guests enjoyed a buffet dinner, Live Auction and Program including speeches from Board Chairman Tom James and Emcee Phil Powell. Following the program in the Firestick Grill guests headed to their VIP seats in the arena for Cirque Musica's Holiday Wishes, a show where cirque meets music. Co-Chairs Phil & Melanie Powell and Bill & Mikki Wickett proudly announce the event netted approximately \$78,000. Funds raised support the yearly education budget serving our mission in preparing students for success in the most important game of all, life!

Thank you Tom & Mary James and Bob & Debbie Basham for co-hosting this amazing event and to our sponsors who continue to support our students' education!



### Upcoming Events

Chi Chi Pro Am  
Thursday, March 12th  
Feather Sound Country Club

Chi Chi Charity Classic  
November 8th - 9th  
Chi Chi Golf Club



*Mission: to educate students in a public-private partnership and improve their academic performance, self-esteem and character using the golf course as a living classroom.*

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Sam Rockwell  
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**First Tee Program Director Karen Wise  
receives Award from the PGA West Central Chapter!**

This month, Coach Karen was honored with the PGA West Central Chapter's Youth Player Development Award! This annual award recognizes a PGA Professional who is a leader in junior golf and reflects the ideals of those who work with youth. Karen will be one of three chapter nominees presented to the North Florida PGA section Committee for a Section Award. In April, all PGA Chapter Awards will be honored during a lunch at Palma Ceia Country Club. Congrats Coach Karen!



Coach Karen with Summer Camp participants

**Students enjoy their Holiday Party at Celebration Station**



Top: Academy Executive Committee Member Scott Tobe provided all the students with Little Bites and Takis thanks to his company Bimbo Bakeries USA; Bottom Left: 6th grader Mariana, Academy Executive Committee Member Linda Damsky and Title I Reading Teacher Angelina Jones enjoy the roller coaster; Bottom Right: Mentor Scott Johnson drives a go-kart with 5th grader Josh, with 8th graders Daniel and David right behind

Students, teachers, volunteers and Foundation staff all enjoyed an afternoon of fun on the last day of school before the Holiday break! The party consists of unlimited go-karts, bumper boats, laser tag, teacups, mini golf and so much more. The annual event is a great opportunity for everyone to spend time together outside of the classroom making memories and just having fun!

Special thanks to the Hurter Family who annually funds this event. A big thank you to Bimbo Bakeries USA, Chi Chi Rodriguez Ladies' Golf Association, Women's Golf Association at East Lake Woodlands Country Club and the Club Members, as well as all of our wonderful volunteers who give time and donations. With the help of all the above, each student goes home with a gift and goodies to enjoy!

**Did You Know...?**

The Chi Chi Rodriguez Golf Club 18 tee markers include Did You Know Facts that share the story of the Foundation and its educational programs to over 45,000 golfers each year. Each hole is sponsored by a supporter, like Hole #15 below:



The First Tee of Clearwater programs are available at the Chi Chi Golf Club and Driving Range