

CHAMPIONS FOR LEARNING™

Golden Apple

CELEBRATION OF TEACHERS

Friday, April 17, 2026

6PM

HYATT REGENCY COCONUT POINT RESORT & SPA

5001 Coconut Road | Bonita Springs, FL 34134

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES





CHAMPIONS FOR LEARNING™

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CELEBRATION OF TEACHERS

Since 1990, the **Golden Apple Program** has shined a light on the excellence of Collier County educators. As Collier County's premier educator recognition program, Golden Apple unites the community in honoring, thanking, and celebrating a select cohort of teachers who inspire their students and exemplify the very best of the teaching profession.


The Golden Apple Program begins each year with the selection of Teachers of Distinction. At the request of our community, this year we reinstated our *Thank-A-Teacher* Nomination Cards, a beloved tradition that showcases the incredible partnerships between educators and those they serve. Nominations were sent in by students, parents, and colleagues. We received over 5,700 *Thank-A-Teacher* submissions for nearly 1,500 educators in just a few weeks. This community-wide outpouring demonstrates a deep appreciation for our educators and how they change lives inside and outside of classrooms.

From these nominations, each school will select a Teacher of Distinction to participate in the Golden Apple Selection Process. Each Teacher of Distinction will present a best practice, an engaging and innovative learning strategy to support student success, to Champions For Learning's volunteer selection committee. While these teachers exemplify ingenuity and creativity in their classrooms, the true purpose of the Golden Apple Program is not about methods or strategies, it is about recognizing and celebrating the people who make a difference in the lives of students. After careful consideration, the volunteer selection committee will identify and select six educators to honor as the Golden Apple recipients.

The process culminates in April with the Golden Apple Celebration of Teachers, a first-class community event that shines a spotlight on educators. **During an elegant, sit-down dinner, we will formally recognize the 2025-2026 Teachers of Distinction, Collier County Teachers of the Year, and Golden Apple recipients.** This evening is about gratitude, recognition, and pride in those whose dedication and excellence elevate the entire teaching profession.

Sponsors make this recognition possible. Your support ensures that our community can come together to celebrate outstanding teachers in a meaningful way, reminding every educator in Collier County that their work is valued and their excellence is honored.

2025 Golden Apple Recipients



Sydney Whittaker
Lake Park Elementary School

Erin Powell
Vineyards Elementary School

Gina Manville DeJager
Barron Collier High School

Amarillys Berrios
Oakridge Middle School

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

\$45,000 – Golden Apple Celebration Visionary Sponsor

SECURED



- Priority seating for up to sixteen guests
- Guests seated with a Golden Apple Teacher, Principal, and their guests (Up to six total)
- Speaking opportunity at the Golden Apple Celebration Dinner for 30 seconds
- Speaking opportunity during the Golden Apple TV Program for 30 seconds
- Invitation for two guests to the Golden Apple Prize Patrol (date to be announced)
- Lead logo placement as the Visionary Sponsor in all print materials, including event press releases and invitations
- Lead logo placement on the event website, social media recognition, and e-marketing materials
- Lead Logo placement during the Golden Apple TV program
- Lead placement of full-page ad in the printed program
- Lead recognition on audio/visual displays during the celebration

\$20,000 – Golden Apple Celebration Advocate Sponsor *(Limited Availability)*

- Priority seating for up to six guests
- Guests seated with a Golden Apple Teacher, Principal, and their guests (Up to six total)
- Speaking opportunity during the Golden Apple TV Program for 30 seconds
- Invitation for one to the Golden Apple Prize Patrol (date to be announced)
- Prominent logo placement as an Advocate Sponsor on invitations
- Prominent logo placement on the event website, social media recognition, and e-marketing materials
- Prominent logo placement in the Golden Apple TV Program Credits
- Prominent placement of full-page ad in the printed program
- Prominent recognition on audio/visual displays during the celebration

\$10,000 – Golden Apple Celebration Achievement Sponsor

- Reserved seating for up to six guests
- Guests seated with a Teacher of Distinction, Principal, and their guests (Up to four total)
- Listing as an Achievement Sponsor on the event website, social media recognition, and e-marketing materials
- Listing in the Golden Apple TV Program Credits
- Half-page ad in the printed program
- Recognition on audio/visual displays during the celebration

\$5,000 – Golden Apple Celebration Patron Sponsor

- Reserved seating for up to four guests
- Guests seated with a Teacher of Distinction, Principal, and their guests (Up to four total)
- Listing as a Patron Sponsor on the event website, social media recognition, and e-marketing materials
- Listing in the Golden Apple TV Program Credits
- Quarter-page ad in the printed program
- Recognition on audio/visual displays during the celebration

\$3,000 – Golden Apple Celebration Underwriter Sponsor

- Reserved seating for up to two guests
- Guests seated with a Teacher of Distinction, Principal, and their guests (Up to four total)
- Listing as an Underwriter Sponsor on the event website
- Listing in the Golden Apple TV Program Credits
- Listing in the printed program
- Recognition on audio/visual displays during the celebration





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About Champions For Learning

Founded in 1990, the Education Foundation of Collier County — Champions For Learning's mission is to serve as a catalyst for educational success by investing in Collier's students and educators. Our Student Programs are designed to equip and prepare students for their future learning and career goals, and our Educator Programs are designed to value, empower, and support our educators to experience professional success. Recognized as the education foundation serving Collier County by the Consortium of Florida Education Foundations, Champions For Learning serves as a unifying force within the community by driving collective action towards the common goal of student and educator success.

Champions For Learning is a volunteer driven organization. Nearly 450 individuals volunteered with us last year, dedicating over 6,700 hours to our organization. Champions For Learning's dedicated volunteers and a committed administrative team reflect our mission to serve as a catalyst for educational success.

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