

## Charter School Champions of the Year Win State Awards

**Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS) Presents Ninth Year of Statewide Awards Program**

**Photos below include winners from Tampa Bay, Treasure Coast, Southwest Florida and South Florida.**



**CAPTIONS FOR PHOTOS** – Winners of Charter School Champions of the Year Awards receive their trophies at ceremonies around the state.

*In the photo at top left, Donyale McGhee is recognized as a Charter School Champion of the Year – School Leader.*

*Donyale McGhee is principal at Somerset Preparatory Academy, North Lauderdale.*

*In the photo at top center, Susan Latvala receives her award trophy from Cindy Dick.*

*Latvala is recognized as a Charter School Champion of the Year – Board Member.*

*She is a Board Member of Academie da Vinci Charter School in Dunedin, where Cindy Dick is Principal.*

*In the photo at top right, Michael Naffziger is photographed with his award trophy. Naffziger is a teacher at Indian River Charter High School in Vero Beach.*

*In the photo at bottom left, John DeMasi is photographed with his award trophy. Demasi is principal of Mason Classical Academy in Naples and is recognized as a Charter School Champion of the Year – School Leader.*

*In the photo at bottom right, Champion of the Year Melissa Scott (center, in white sneakers) is surrounded by her team.*

*Melissa Scott is Principal at Marco Island Academy on Marco Island.*

**FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – June 21, 2022** – Twenty-five winners of the Charter School Champions of the Year Awards were announced today by the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS). The award period covers the full 2021/2022 school year.

For the ninth year, FCPCS received nominations in several categories, including charter school teachers, charter school leaders, charter school governing board members, charter school innovators, charter school pioneers and charter school preferred partners.

Listed by category, winners of this year’s Charter School Champions of the Year Awards are:

--Charter School Champions of the Year – Teachers

Kristine Wells, The Charter Schools of Excellence, Fort Lauderdale  
Janet Pence, Hope Charter School, Ocoee  
Michael Naffziger, Indian River Charter High School, Vero Beach  
Bobbi Burson, Treasure Village Montessori, Islamorada  
Shirley Campbell, Suncoast School for Innovative Studies, Sarasota

--Charter School Champions of the Year – School Leaders

Ileana Melian, Mater Academy of International Studies K-5 and Mater International Preparatory 6-9, Miami  
Sheila Caleo, Mater Grove Academy, Miami  
Matthew Bieule, SLAM! Boca Raton, Boca Raton  
Donyale McGhee, Somerset Prep North Lauderdale, North Lauderdale  
John DeMasi, Mason Classical Academy, Naples  
Kim Mixson, Seaside Neighborhood School, Santa Rosa Beach  
Melissa Scott, Marco Island Academy, Marco Island  
Kate Harris, Magnolia Montessori Academy, Lakeland

--Charter School Champions of the Year – Board Members

Scott Craver, Pinellas Preparatory Academy, Largo  
Susan Latvala, Academie da Vinci Charter School, Dunedin

--Charter School Champions of the Year -- Innovators

Fernando Zulueta, Academica, Miami  
Julio Robaina, Academica, Miami

--Charter School Champions of the Year – Pioneers

Dee Wolfe-Sullivan, Byrneville Elementary School, Century  
Debbie Tisdale, Imagine Schools, Sunrise  
Michael Satterfield, Oakland Avenue Charter School, Oakland, Florida

Barb Flemming, Pikeville, Tennessee  
Frank Mandley, Pompano Beach

--Charter School Champions of the Year – Preferred Partners  
First Impressions Printing, Fort Lauderdale  
Educational Impact, Lansdale, Pennsylvania  
San Jose School Support, Jacksonville

“The Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools is proud to honor so many of our outstanding charter school teachers, leaders, pioneers, innovators, preferred partners and governing board members,” said Robert Haag, FCPCS President. “They represent the very best individuals who are working as part of the Florida charter school movement.”

**About the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools**

The Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS) is the leading charter school membership association in the state, with a membership of nearly 75 percent of all operating charter schools. Since its inception in 1999, FCPCS has been dedicated to creating a national model of high quality, accredited public charter schools that are student-centered and performance-driven. FCPCS provides a wide array of technical support, mentoring, training, networking, and purchasing services to its membership, as well as serving as an advocate for all Florida public charter schools.

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