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Nov. 18, 2016

College of Business Donors Recognized as 'Philanthropist of the Year'



From left: Philanthropists Kate Tiedemann and Ellen Cotton. Photo courtesy of Mark Haney.

Tampa Bay area philanthropists Kate Tiedemann and Ellen Cotton were jointly recognized as Philanthropist of the Year at the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Suncoast National Philanthropy Day 2016 luncheon this week. Together, they have given \$11 million to the [Kate Tiedemann College of Business](#).

"These two women are the quintessential philanthropists," said USFSP Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska, who nominated the pair with Morton Plant Mease Foundation, Lowry Park Zoo, and the Homeless Empowerment Program (HEP). "The depth and breadth of their giving has inspired a philanthropic culture at USFSP. They epitomize the term 'joyful givers,' and they are role models for others to follow."

[Learn more](#) about Kate Tiedemann and Ellen Cotton and their generosity to USF St. Petersburg.

Students, University Celebrate Sustainability, Unveil 'Bayboro Food Forest'

Students, faculty and staff celebrated the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new "Bayboro Food Forest" on Nov. 14. The garden, located behind Residence Hall One, is a collaborative effort of the Student Government Department of Sustainable Initiatives, the Student Environment Awareness Society, the Garden Club, and the USFSP Office of Sustainability.

The permaculture space includes an assortment of fruit trees and plants, a gazebo, a small pond

and a 1-kilowatt solar system to power the pond. A proposed greenhouse, co-funded in collaboration with the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI), may be added to the site in the future.

"It's amazing to see from the 'before' pictures to seeing how it looks now, and to know that the students were involved in every phase, every aspect of making this happen," said Dr. Patti Helton, regional vice chancellor of Student Affairs. "It gives me hope for the future. The environmental sustainability initiatives that the students are involved with here are pretty amazing."

[Learn more](#) about the food forest and to see more photos in the [Facebook photo gallery](#).



From left: Laraine Ruiz, acting president of Student Government; Brian Pullen, sustainability planner for the USFSP Office of Sustainability; Sebastian DeGeronimo, deputy of the Student Government Department of Sustainable Initiatives; Anamaria Quintero, garden leader; Karla Alvarado, treasurer of the Garden Club; and James Scott, acting president of the Student Government Senate.

USFSP, Dalí Museum Partnership Illustrates Artful Collaboration



Dr. Frank Biafora with one of Dalí's famous works

The partnership between [USFSP](#) and [The Dalí Museum](#) continues to serve as a unique learning opportunity for students. The two organizations have had strong connections for many years but in recent years have tightened their ties and increased collaboration.

"It's one of the strongest partners we have in the community—not only because of the physical proximity of the two institutions, but because of the similar approach to inspiring others," said [Dr. Frank Biafora](#), dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "The Dalí Museum uses the art of Dalí to inspire; USFSP, by its very nature as an institution of higher learning that transforms lives, is in the inspiration business."

[Read more](#) about this partnership.

Faculty Spotlight: AnnMarie Alberton Gunn



Meet [Dr. AnnMarie Alberton Gunn](#), assistant professor of Reading and Literacy Studies in the College of Education. Her areas of research and expertise include literacy and reading instruction, culturally-responsive literacy pedagogy, multicultural literacy, language and literacy development for diverse learners, and pre-service and in-service teacher education.

She discovered her passion for teaching as a volunteer mentor with the Girl Scouts as a pre-med student at Florida State University. The experience inspired her to apply to their College of Education, where she received a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. She went on to earn a master's degree in ESOL/Cultural Foundations from Florida Atlantic University and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction/Literacy Education from USF.

Gunn has received numerous awards from schools and professional organizations, the most notable of which include being named the 2013 recipient of the American Educational Research Association Dr. Carlos J. Vallejo Memorial Award for Emerging Scholarship. She also was recognized among the Top 25 Women Professors in Florida by Online Schools Florida in 2012.

Alumni Encouraged to Participate in Leadership Ethics Study Abroad

Alumni are invited to travel and explore England and the Mediterranean regions of Greece and Italy as part of the USFSP Leadership Ethics study abroad program in Summer 2017. To participate, an alumnus will need to re-enroll at USFSP as a non-degree seeking student. The application deadline for the trip is Jan. 15, 2017.

"This will be an extraordinary experience for our alumni," said Heidi Hamlin, Alumni Relations Officer at USFSP. "With the leadership of Dr. Stephen Ritch, this is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to tour these enchanted cities with the most in-depth knowledge and historical background."

[Learn more](#) about the Leadership Ethics Study Abroad Program.



Students in the Leadership Ethics course Dr. Stephen Ritch, center, in Rome in 2007.

Upcoming Events at USFSP

Check out a list of upcoming events. All events are free unless otherwise specified.

Media and Politics: How the Average Person Can Make a Difference

Friday, Nov. 18, 8:15 p.m.

Temple Beth-El, 400 Pasadena Ave. S., St. Petersburg

USF vs. SMU Watch Party

Saturday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m.

Caddy's on Central, 217 Central Ave., St. Petersburg

USF Thanksgiving Break (Offices will be closed)

Nov. 24-25

USF St. Petersburg Fall 2016 Commencement

Sunday, Dec. 11, 6 p.m.

Mahaffey Theater, 400 First St. S., St. Petersburg

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