



Fun Time Early Childhood Academy

[Fun Time Early Childhood Academy](http://www.funtimeacademy.org)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A LOVELY GARDEN-THEMED EVENING RAISES MUCH-NEEDED FUNDS FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

(Naples, FL) What do a strawberry, a potted plant, a bag of fertilizer and a woman adorned in a Carolina Herrera evening gown have in common? They all helped *Fun Time Kids Bloom* at the Fun Time Early Childhood Academy (Fun Time) annual gala fundraiser held Friday, February 9, at The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club!

Fun Time was especially honored to welcome the Casseus family, special guests whose three youngest children have attended Fun Time. The school has helped them transition into elementary school, ready to read and ready to learn, with the foundations and skills attained at Fun Time.

Auctioneer and Mayor Bill Barnett led lively bidding for an impressive lineup of lots included a seven-night Tahiti & Society Island cruise, an authentic Persian feast for ten and the big-ticket auction item--a week-long luxury cruise for two aboard The World, the only private residential community-at-sea. Silent auction items provided more temptations . . . especially the fine wine selections!

Emceed by Stacey Deffenbaugh of NBC-2 News and featuring honorary chairs Skip and Nancy Zink, the event raised funds for this community-supported nonprofit to continue to provide quality, affordable education to low-income families, to prepare the children for kindergarten.

Fun Time thanks all businesses and individuals for their sponsorships and generous donations of auction items, as well as all who volunteered their time to make the evening a success.

To learn more about Fun Time Early Childhood Academy, all are invited to come in and take a [tour!](#) Please visit [Fun Time Academy online](#), email [Barbara Tyrrell](#) or call Fun Time 239-261-8284 for additional information.

ABOUT FUN TIME EARLY CHILDHOOD ACADEMY

The mission of Fun Time Early Childhood Academy is to provide safe, quality, affordable education and care for children and parents from low-income working families and to prepare the children for kindergarten, ready to read and ready to learn!

*PHOTOS ATTACHED (L-R):

001 - Barbara Tyrrell (Fun Time Executive Director), Casseus family

002 - Diane and Garrett Richter

003 - Maureen O'Gorman (Board Emeriti) and Rusty Troth (Fun Time Board Chair)

004 - Nancy and Skip Zink, 2018 Gala Honorary Chairs

005 - Shirley Hulse (Presenting Supporter) and guests