

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Inaugural Young Professionals Group Reception

James Gavrilos, President and CEO of the **Education Foundation of Palm Beach County** has announced the organization has started a **Young Professionals Group**. To kick off the launch, new members recently gathered for a reception at Song + Associates, hosted by **Jorge Fuentes**, Principal at Song + Associates and Board member for the Education Foundation; and **Nalani Gordon**, Attorney at Gunster and Chair of the Education Foundation's Young Professionals Group.

At the reception, guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres while Gavrilos updated the group on the progress of the Foundation's new innovation hub at 1515 Barton Road, Lake Worth, set to be completed in December 2024. The 32,000 sq. ft. facility will help ensure high-quality public education by providing equity and access to resources and innovative programming for students and teachers in Palm Beach County. The new building will also include a training facility, offering professional development for teachers and supporting over 100 programs, including the expansion of *Red Apple Supplies* - the Foundation's signature program that equips teachers with essential resources for their classrooms.

"The Education Foundation's Young Professionals Group is a diverse and creative volunteer group of passionate and philanthropic professionals under the age of 40, who are dedicated to supporting the mission and vision of the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County," said Gordon. "I am proud to chair this growing group of



STANDING: Travis Foels, Imani Williams, Kayla Ferland, Nalani Gordon, Jorge Fuentes and Gia Smith; **SEATED:** Carson Proctor, Sarah Testa and Guadalupe Quintanar Resendiz

like-minded professionals who have a passion for supporting high-quality public education throughout Palm Beach County."

The newly formed group has already made an impact in the community by volunteering at the Education Foundation's *Red Apple Supplies*, reading to classrooms across the county for *Read Across America Day*, and are now planning for a back-to-school initiative along with a variety of other impactful projects for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Education Foundation of Palm Beach County, currently celebrating its 40th anniversary, serves as a nexus between the county's public schools, the private sector and the community. The Foundation awards grants, supports innovative programs and scholarships, and provides necessary school supplies and resources from *Red Apple Supplies*.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Young Professionals Group contact **Teresa West** at teresa@educationfoundationpbc.org or **Rita Shearon** at rita@educationfoundationpbc.org. For more information on the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County or to make a donation visit educationfoundationpbc.org.