

SCHOOL SCENE

COMMUNICATION AID



EDUCATIONAL TOOLS: Carrie Brazer, executive director of the Carrie Brazer Center for Autism and Alternative Approaches, Inc., and David Lawrence Jr., chairman of The Children's Trust, observe behaviorist Claudia Devia as she helps one of the students at the center work on a new Chat-PC he was recently given.

The Children's Trust recently provided mute autistic children at the Carrie Brazer Center for Autism and Alternative Approaches, Inc., with hand-held computers that enable them to communicate.

The Chat-PC is a device that allows autistic children to interact with people who do not know sign language.

The funds for the hand-held computers were made available by David Lawrence Jr., chairman of The Children's Trust, who later observed a class after the students received the Chat-PCs. Lawrence retired as publisher of The Miami Herald in 1999.

BROAD PRIZE FOR URBAN EDUCATION
Miami-Dade County Public Schools was recently

named runner-up for The Broad Prize for Urban Education and will receive \$125,000 in scholarships for graduating seniors.

The Broad Prize for Urban Education honors urban school districts that demonstrate performance and improvement in student achievement while reducing achievement gaps.

For more information, visit www.broadfoundation.org.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES ACADEMY

For the third consecutive year, the literary/art magazine at Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, *Literati*, was named a gold medalist by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for its 2006-07 publication, *Art*.

This award is based on

annual membership critique evaluations.

The magazine earned 950 points, out of a possible 1,000, and also received All-Columbian honors for its organization and design. The publication has now been entered into the next level of competition, the Crown selection.

Literati received its first Gold Crown Award for its 2004-05 publication, *Femforce*.

The 2006-07 literary/art magazine was produced by members of the Journalism II and III, honors class, under the direction of publications advisor Olga Martinez-Pagnussat and assistant advisor Olivia Zarraluqui.

The students are: design editor Alexa Lopez, and fellow seniors Lindsey Bomnin, Annie Sullivan and Amanda Gomez.

GETTING SCHOOL NEWS INTO THE MIAMI HERALD

The Education News section of Neighbors is open to anyone who wants to send items. A few rules need to be followed:

- E-mail items to School Scene at schoolnews@MiamiHerald.com.
- For honor rolls, we can only publish the Principal's Honor Roll. With all other news of awards, please clearly state what the award was for.
- Not all pictures can be published, so only one photo should be sent with each submission. Pictures and text must be sent together.
- All photos must be clear and sharp and should include no more than 15-20 people. Everyone in the photo must be identified with a first and last name.
- E-mailed photos should be in jpeg format.
- To fax information, the number is 305-671-4350. The address is School Scene, Miami Herald Neighbors, 7300 North Kendall Dr., Miami, FL 33156.
- All news of meetings and activities must be submitted 10 days to two weeks in advance.
- All items for School Scene should include a time, date and place. Submissions must be on school letterhead and be signed by a school official, PTA or booster club member.
- For any questions or problems, call Jose Cassola at 305-671-4356 or e-mail jcassola@MiamiHerald.com.

These 2007 graduates were also integral to production: editor-in-chief Brittney Bomnin, chief copy editor Janine Lopez, assistant copy editor Daniela Berisiartu, Julie Freedman, Vicky Cabrera, Natalie Perez, Adriana Lorenzo and Laura Rodriguez.

KEYS GATE CHARTER SCHOOL

Keys Gate Charter School has been adopted by BJ's Wholesale Club in Homestead. A banner hangs inside the store with student artwork displayed alongside it.

BJ's donated a \$500 gift certificate to the school for store purchases. There is also a special membership offer for families of the students.

In other news, the school held an Independence Day event earlier this month. The primary grade students were escorted to class by the middle school students holding flags

while patriotic music played. The school was decorated in red, white and blue.

CORAL REEF HIGH SCHOOL

Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden Challenge Manager David Whitman congratulated Principal Adrienne F. Leal and instructors Lorrie K. Scordilis, Nancy Adams and Jose Maldonado for their performance and dedication to the school.

Coral Reef is one of three schools in Miami-Dade County to receive the Fairchild Challenge Award for five consecutive years. Designated as a Fairchild Challenge School of Excellence, Coral Reef was honored at a luncheon in the Garden House and received a banner, which is on display at the school.

Athletic Director Donald Jackson welcomed Randall Hill, who delivered a moti-