



Media Alert

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COALITION ANNOUNCES “ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A PRESCHOOLER?” ADULTS ONLY SPELLING BEE

Teams of four (4) spellers will compete during three (3) spelling rounds for prizes. Team and guest admission includes BBQ dinner and two (2) beverage tickets.

The **Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc.** will find out who is “Smarter than a Preschooler” by hosting its first **Adults Only Spelling Bee** in Spring Hill on **Thursday, August 1, 2013** at the **Suncoast Dance Party Center** (formerly SNPJ Suncoast Lodge), 13383 County Line Road, Spring Hill, FL 34609.

Teams of four (4) spellers will compete during three (3) rounds of increasingly difficult words. The winning team will receive the “Ultimate Speller Trophy.” **Master of Ceremonies Royce Decker** will award the most spirited team with the “Spirit Award” and one lucky team will go home with the Boo-BEE prize.

The cost to sponsor a team of four (4) spellers is **\$250** and includes four (4) team t-shirts, 4 BBQ dinners and 2 beverage tickets per teammate. To sponsor a team, contact Coalition Board Members Ann-Gayl Ellis at ann_gayl@yahoo.com or Bonnie Clark at clarkb@phcc.edu. General admission is \$25, which includes one (1) BBQ dinner and two (2) beverage tickets. Tickets can be purchased online at www.phelc.org/AdultsOnlySpellingBee.php.

All proceeds from this event benefit the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties’ mission to prepare children to enter and succeed in school by enrolling them in early learning programs. For each dollar raised locally, the State of Florida draws down \$18.35 from the federal government. That money is used to fund the School Readiness program, subsidized child care for income-eligible families who are working or are in school.

For more information about the event, visit www.phelc.org or call (727) 233-8291.

About the Coalition

The Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties, Inc. is one of 31 Early Learning Coalitions in Florida. It works to ensure that programs and services are available to assist families with young children during their formative years. Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program is for all children who are four-years old on or before September 1st. School Readiness provides subsidized child care for low-to-moderate income working families. Starting as separate organizations in 2000, Pasco and Hernando counties joined forces to form the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco and Hernando Counties in 2005. The non-profit serves over 9,000 children between infancy and eight years old, working with more than 300 providers in the counties.

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