



# CFK Academy Newsletter



## Prospective Student Night

By: Keirra Austin

The College of the Florida Keys Academy invites middle and high school students and their family members to the CFK Academy Prospective Student Night on Wednesday, February 5 at 5:30 p.m. Attendees will be able to meet the CFK Academy administration, teachers, staff, and current students. They will also get information about clubs, transportation, and counseling.

## Sweetheart or Not

## Dance Party!

By: Kiley Rosado and Lillie Marlowe

We will be having a Sweetheart or Not Dance party on Thursday, February 13. It will start at 6 p.m. and last until 9 p.m. Dress to impress! There will be Valentine-themed beverages, a mac 'n cheese buffet, and a D.J. The Dance will be held at the Marker Resort: 200 William Street. The tickets will be 30 dollars. Students can bring friends\* that attend a MCSD school in grades 9-12, you can buy the tickets at [keystix.com](http://keystix.com).

\*Be sure your guests have the proper permission form filled out by 2/10!!



### Upcoming Dates:

**January 27 - 31 Celebrate Literacy Week**

**February 8 Friends of The Library (Volunteers needed)**



**February 13: Sweetheart or Not Dance Party** 

**February 14: NO SCHOOL - Professional Day**

**February 17: NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day**

**February 23: CFK Golf Tournament (Volunteers needed)**



**March 7: Picture Day & NHS Induction Ceremony**

**March 13: End of Q3**

# Celebrate Literacy Week

By: Macey Carey

This week CFKA, along with schools in Florida, celebrated Literacy Week. Students and staff participated in various ELA reading activities. During the week, students played ELA games and participated in Mad Libs, crossword puzzles, word searches, Scrabble, and Wordle to expand their vocabulary horizons. Tuesday was Dr. Seuss day, where students could dress up as their favorite Dr. Seuss character, speak in rhymes, and read their favorite Seuss stories. Wednesday, they highlighted their favorite childhood books by creating a Google slide or doc. On Thursday, students created poems and wrote their most loved quotes about reading and literacy. On Friday, students built creative structures from books, and answered trivia questions about ELA pulled from easy and “hard” hats.



THE CFK ACADEMY  
STUDENT  
NEWSLETTER

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## Academy Awards

By: Aydin Alexander and Hadden Miller

On Jan 17, CFK Academy students had their quarterly awards program in the library at 1 P.M. The students were awarded certificates, ‘tuga’ charms and keychains for grades, personal achievements, and clubs. Dr. Gueverra and Dr. Veldheer gave speeches thanking the students for their hard work and dedication. Congratulations to the award-winning students!



Tuga charms



Freshmen students awarded for straight-A Principal List



Students gather in the library for the ceremony.

# Club News & Updates

By: Keirra Austin and Kyra Shephard



NHS is planning its induction ceremony on March 7. They are working on buying graduation regalia, and students are reminded to create accounts on the NHS website.

## Interact

Interact will volunteer at the Golf tournament on Sunday, February 23rd. It will take place at 6450 College Road. Please see the poster at the end of the newsletter.

## Student Council

Student Council is planning and funding the Sweetheart or Not Dance Party.

## Academic Challenge

Academic Challenge participated in another tournament in Marathon on January 15, and they placed 3rd.



Academic Challenge Students (left to right): Summer B., Amber M., Dominik G., Dominika W., Caylee M., Emily N., and administrator Amber Acevedo.

# Team Building

By: Keirra Austin

On January 10, students participated in a "Pat on the Back" activity where students wrote kind things about each other on a piece of paper that was taped onto their backs. Afterwards, Students read the kind messages. On January 24, students participated in a teamwork activity called "Air Band", where they would come to the front of the class and lip sing to songs of their choice. A few groups went out of their way to make fake instruments.



Students: Keirra A., Sophi W., Michael G., Wen W., Roger M., Carson C., Jonathan O., and Aiden B. showing off their "Pat on the Back" papers.



Students Claire M., Kyra S., and Keirra A., showing off their pretend instruments.



# Dual Enrollment Spotlight

By: Jarrett Miller

**Student:** Micheal Salata

**Reason:** I have always wanted to work on boats and be a marine technician.

**Signing Up:** I talked to the principal and the counselor about signing up.

**Effect on High School:** It was a struggle to keep up with work but I used my time wisely to stay on track.

**Advice:** Pay attention and make sure you do your best and stay on pace with your work.

**Class:** Safety Class, Introduction to 2 and 4 Stroke Outboards, and Specialty Marine Engineering.



# Senior Spotlight

By: Nina Ward



**Name:** Wesley Kulaga: CFK Academy's class of 2025 Valedictorian!

**Future Plans:** Attend college and get a bachelors in economics. Then, become a stock broker.

**Hobbies:** Reading, running, cruising on boats, day trading, and coding.

**Favorite Quote:** "Most do not truly understand the concepts of death and time, those that do, live life to its fullest potential."

**How Long Have You Been in the Keys?:** "One year."



## Counselor's Corner

By: Brenda Huebscher

This week, we're celebrating the joy of reading during Literacy Week! Reading is more than just a school subject - it's a key that unlocks a world of knowledge, imagination, and personal growth. Did you know that:

- Reading boosts your brainpower: Studies show that reading significantly enhances cognitive progress and gains. It strengthens your memory, improves your focus, and expands your vocabulary.
- Reading makes you a better student: Reading is a foundation for academic success. It improves your reading comprehension, writing skills, and critical thinking abilities, all essential for excelling in school.
- Reading prepares you for the future: Strong reading skills are crucial for success in college, your career, and everyday life

P.S. Remember, reading is essential for meeting graduation requirements, such as the FAST ELA Progress Monitoring Assessment. We encourage you to make reading a daily habit. Happy Reading!

# Calling All Young **SINGERS!**

Come join us at Old Stone Methodist at 4pm on February 5th, 2025 for our Spring Season! No musical background required. Simply join the Google Classroom through the QR code with your not-school email! This is choir is for high schoolers (9th-12th grade) and college students up to 21 years old.

**DATE**  
February 5th



**STARTS AT**  
4:00 p.m.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

**OLD STONE METHODIST**

600 Eaton St, Key West FL 33040

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

## HOW TO REGISTER

To register, please visit  
[keyschoralartsjr@gmail.com](mailto:keyschoralartsjr@gmail.com)  
use the QR Code





# CFK ACADEMY

TUITION-FREE PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL AT THE COLLEGE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS



## apply now!

Now accepting applications for grades 9-12 for the 2025-2026 school year!  
Applications due Feb. 25. Lottery will be held Feb. 27.

## CFK Academy Prospective Student event

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 5:30 PM, CFK Key West Campus



Meet the principal, teachers, and students. Tour the school, preview curriculum, and learn about academic acceleration opportunities.

[cfkacademy@cfk.edu](mailto:cfkacademy@cfk.edu) | 305.292.2400 | [cfk.edu/cfkacademy](http://cfk.edu/cfkacademy)

***Friends of the  
Key West  
Library***

**VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES**

**2/8, 3/1, 4/5, 5/3**

**8:30-9:30 A.M. + 1-2 P.M.**

**(SETUP + CLEANUP)**

***Sale is from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.***

***Books are \$1-\$2***

***See Dr. Drewel for questions***



# GOLF TOURNAMENT Get Volunteer Hours!

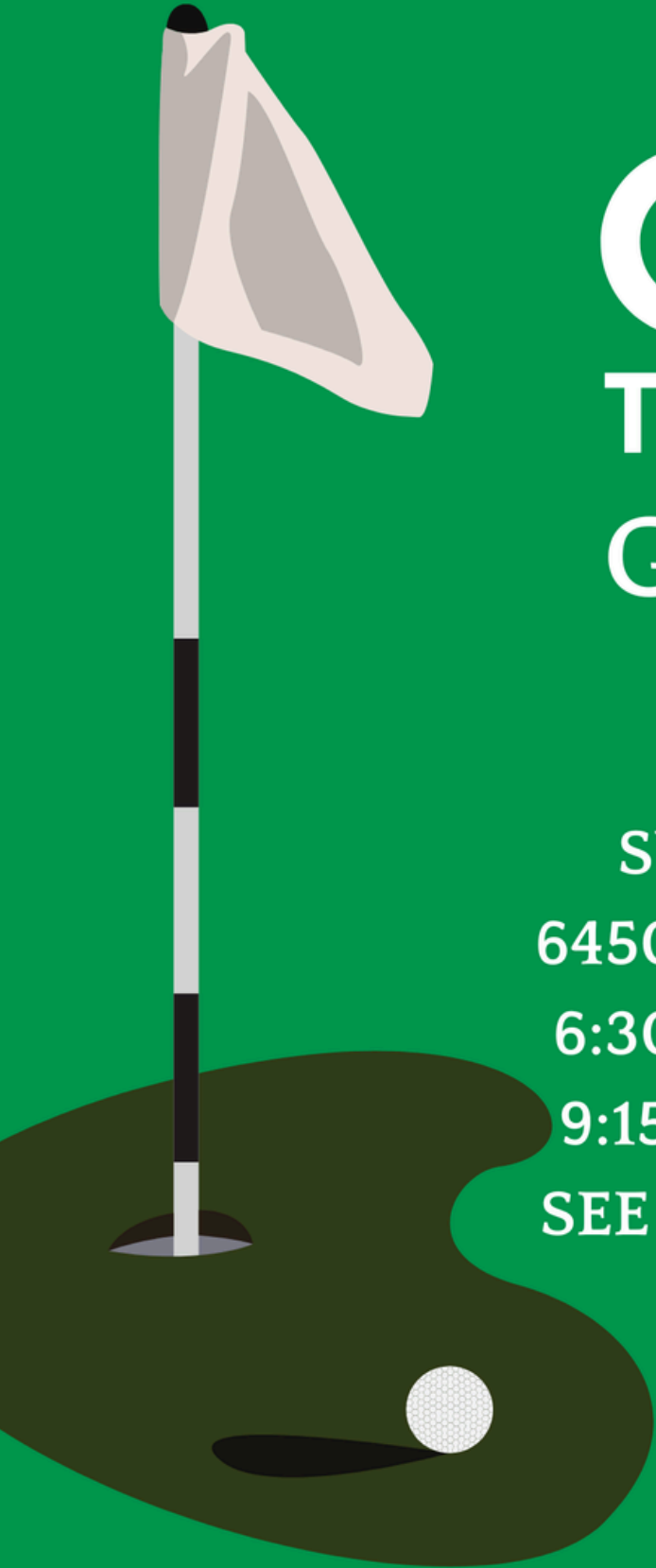
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6450 COLLEGE RD, KEY WEST

6:30 A.M.-9:30 A.M.- SET-UP

9:15 A.M.- 1 P.M. - CLEAN UP

SEE MS. BRENDA TO SIGN UP





# NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

## FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

February - March  
2025

### Understanding Financial Aid or Money for your Education

#### About Financial Aid

The first mistake many students and families make is assuming they can't afford a postsecondary education. Don't be discouraged by the sticker price for your education until you know how much financial aid may be available to you.

Financial aid can significantly reduce the cost of any education, but it can be tricky to estimate future student aid. Two factors generally determine who gets student aid and the amount, merit and need.

- "Merit-based" aid is given to students who do something exceptionally well (like music, athletics, or academics) or to students who plan to have a career in an area that will benefit the community or the country (like teaching, science, math, and engineering).
- "Need-based" aid is given to students who demonstrate a lack of financial resources to pay for college.



#### DID YOU KNOW?

You may also research these websites for scholarship opportunities:

- <http://www.finaid.org>
- <http://www.Fastweb.com>
- <http://www.gmsp.org>

#### Who Provides Financial Aid?

##### The U.S. Government

Learn about the [types of federal student assistance available](#), how the process works, eligibility rules, and more. The FAFSA is the application form for these programs. (FAFSA.GOV)

##### The State of Florida

Learn about the [financial aid programs available in your state](#). The FAFSA may be the only form you need; however, some programs require students to complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA). Also, be aware of state deadlines!

##### Your College, University, or Vocational School

Your [college or university financial aid office](#) will use the information from your FAFSA to determine your eligibility for some federal and state programs. Most schools have their own financial aid programs,

which may be based on your FAFSA results. Ask your financial aid office about the aid they offer and if you need to complete any forms in addition to the FAFSA.

##### Private Sources

Some independent scholarship programs accept the FAFSA, but most require other applications. Many of these scholarships are not based on financial need. This is the kind of financial aid that you usually need to seek. A free scholarship search engine, like [Fastweb](#), can help you find and submit applications to scholarship programs that may be right for you.

##### Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

See [Financial Aid Resources](#) for scholarship opportunities.

EARLY BIRD SALE

DEADLINE  
**02/28/25**



YBK COST  
**\$40**

# ORDER A YEARBOOK



CFK Academy

USE OUR ORDER NUMBER WHEN YOU LOG ON:

**26559**



YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM

