



COLLEGE RELATIONS
AND MARKETING

4200 Congress Avenue
Lake Worth, FL 33461-4796

561-868-3122
561-868-3123

www.PalmBeachState.edu
crmarket@palmbeachstate.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palm Beach State Foundation STEAM launch to feature Steve “The Woz” Wozniak

(LAKE WORTH, Fla. – Oct. 10, 2012) – Apple Inc. co-founder Steve Wozniak is headlining the Palm Beach State College Foundation’s upcoming event launching a five-year initiative to increase the number of skilled professionals in science, technology, engineering and math, the so-called STEM fields.

An hour-long “Conversation with Steve Wozniak” will highlight the Jan. 31 fundraising luncheon at the Cohen Pavilion at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets will be available for \$125 per person or \$1,000 for a table for 10.

Sponsorships opportunities are available at www.palmbeachstate.edu/foundation/steam.

.A Silicon Valley icon, Wozniak co-founded Apple Computer Inc. with Steve Jobs in 1976 and was the designer of Apple’s first line of products, the Apple I and II. He currently serves as chief scientist for Fusion-io, a global data storage and delivery firm. Known as “The Woz,” he is internationally recognized as an inventor, scientist, innovator and philanthropist strongly committed to the arts.



photo by Michael Bulbenko

The College Foundation plans include the arts, which so dramatically contribute to technology’s design, resulting in the initiative’s name STEAM. Organizers say the January launch event will underscore the importance of College-wide efforts and the expected outcomes of the STEAM initiative for the community.

“We are thrilled to present Steve Wozniak,” said Yvonne S. Boice, event chair. “He has shaped the computer world for future generations and continues to advocate for the advancement of technological infrastructure needed to support U.S. world competitiveness. He also is recognized for his dedication to education and annually underwrites technology usage for his hometown K-12 school district.”

“The STEAM goals are to provide 1,000 new scholarship awards, create 50 academic program enhancements and generate 100 new business-college partnerships with 50 new internship opportunities,” said Suellen Mann, executive director of the Palm Beach State College

Foundation. "By accomplishing these goals the college will play a vital role in the building of America's future, and no one is a better amalgamation of science, technology and arts than Steve Wozniak."

"At the local, state and national level, STEM-related industries have been identified as key growth engines to expand and diversify our economic base. These industries look to higher education to provide the skilled professionals who can fill high-demand, high-tech roles," said Dr. Dennis P. Gallon, president of Palm Beach State College. "With this initiative, we are focused on meeting that challenge and providing the best career prospects and growth opportunities for local residents."

Palm Beach State offers numerous STEM-related degree and certificate programs, including such fields as biotechnology, alternative energy and information technology. It houses the statewide, nationally recognized Employ Florida Banner Center for Life Sciences, along with extensive art and design, performing arts, media and communications programs.

Serving 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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Note to Editors: Photo of Steve Wozniak attached.

Contact:

Suellen Mann
Executive Director, Foundation
561-868-3450

Media Contact:

Dr. Grace Truman
Director, College Relations and Marketing
561-868-3122