

**"Prevention Starts with Knowledge & Change  
Starts with You"**

## THE RDK TIMES ~ MAY 2025



### **Kinney Art Contest**

Over **800 students** from **77 schools** and **4 states** entered RDK's Annual Kinney Art Contest.



### **High School Winner:**

**1st: Joshua Merard**  
(Abundant Life Christian School - Margate, FL)



### **2025 RDK Luncheon & Fashion Show**

Over **500 attendees** participated in the Annual RDK Luncheon & Fashion Show held at The Breakers on Thursday, March 13, 2025.

This year's designer featured **Carolina Herrera's** Spring and Fall 2025 Collection from New York Fashion Week. The clothing was accessorized by jewelry from **YVEL**.

**Gratitude is extended to:**



### **Little League SunSMART Communities**

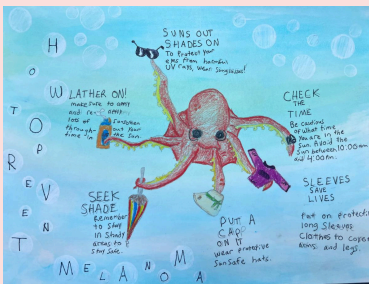
**Wallace**, a Little League player from Media, PA shows off his RDK UPF baseball sleeves



Hall of Famer, **Mike Schmidt**, leads Media, PA Little League in the Little League Pledge at Opening Day (April 5, 2025)



**Middle School Winner:**  
**1st: Sofia Felix**  
 (St. Joseph - Tampa, FL)



**Elementary Winner:**  
**1st: Lilibee More Nisbett**  
 (The Weiss School - Palm Beach Gardens, FL)



**Aleksandar** - Hollywood Academy of the Arts & Science

~ Our generous sponsors and supporters.  
 ~ **Tampa General Hospital** CEO, John Couris and **Isdin's** CEO, Juan Naya for their supportive words during the program.  
 ~ **Committee members** for their collaboration and commitment.  
 ~ **Call to the Heart contributors** for generously donating to our SunSMART Sports Program.

## SAVE THE DATE:

2026 RDK Luncheon & Fashion Show

**March 12, 2026**  
**The Breakers Palm Beach**



Congratulations to **June Cohen**, winner of the raffle - a beautifully designed brooch by YVEL.



**Somers, CT** Little League player protects himself from the sun with RDK UPF baseball sleeves.



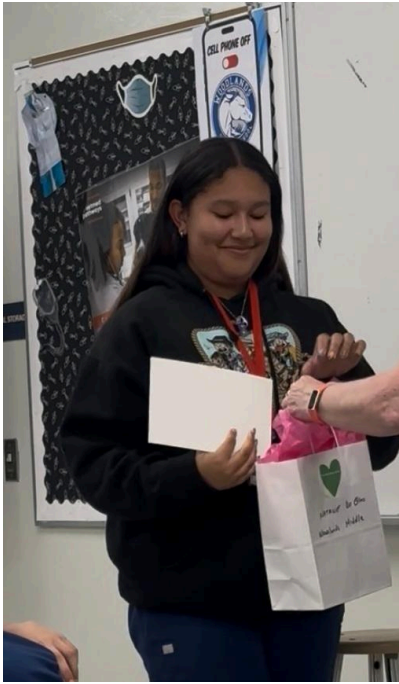
Little League player uses sunscreen donated by RDK. Sunscreen dispensers are located in each of our SunSMART LL partners' dugouts.



**Opening Day** in Media, PA

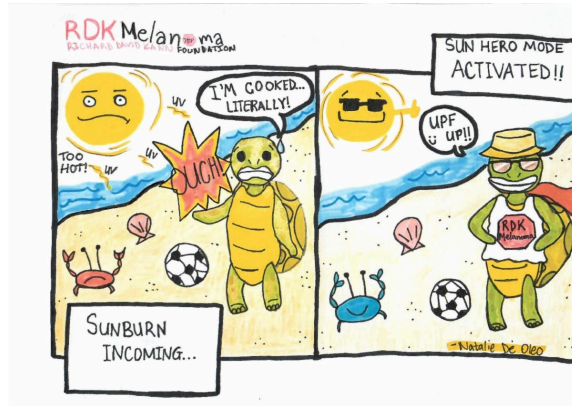
# Woodlands Middle School (Lake Worth Corridor)





## Woodlands Middle School

**Natalie De Oleo** earned an honorable mention for her art submission. Natalie drew a Sun Hero at the beach with all of the essentials needed for sun safety - sunglasses, UPF clothing, sunscreen, and a wide-brim hat.



## St. Joseph Catholic School (Tampa)



Sofia Felix 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
1st place

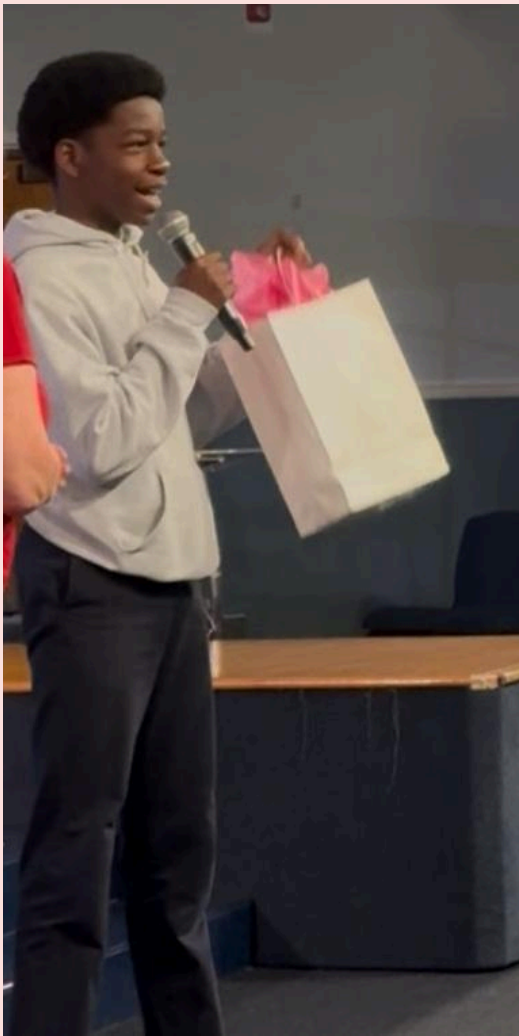
1st Place Middle School Winner, **Sofia Felix**, drew a picture that showed the contrasting effects of wearing sunscreen and not wearing sunscreen while at the beach.



Allison Garcia 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Honorable mention

**Allison Garcia** earned an honorable mention for her submission. Her picture creatively depicts all you need to stay sun safe, as well as what you need to be a melanoma survivor.

## Abundant Life Christian Academy (Margate)



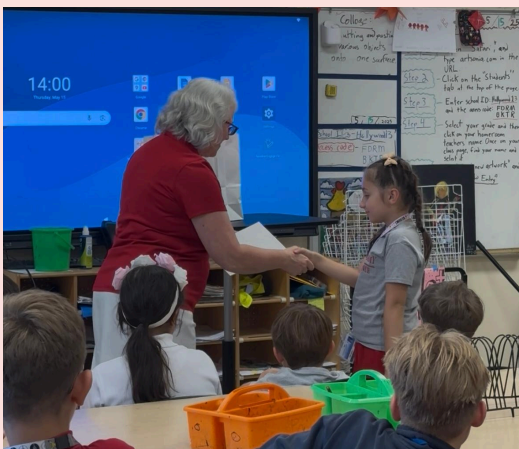
**Joshua Merard** (Abundant Life) placed first for the high school division with a photograph depicting the effects of the sun on young and old people.



RDK Executive Director of Education & Operations, Sue Diverio, presents **Stacy McMorris** - Abundant Life - (Yearbook Photography Teacher) with a gift bag.



## Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science (Hollywood)



**Warren Sylne**, Elementary Art teacher, accepts a gift bag. Teachers of winning



**Sofia Lebedeva** won 2nd place with her picture of friends at the beach getting sun showered with sunscreen.

students were awarded a gift card and UPF shirt.



## The Weiss School (Palm Beach Gardens)



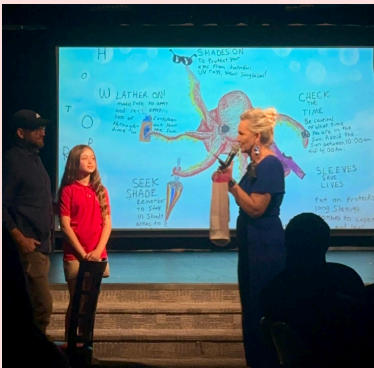
RDK Board Vice President, **Brian Guralnick**, presents **Lilibee More Nisbett** (1st place elementary winner) won a certificate, gift card, and UPF shirt.

Lilibee's art submission was a picture of an octopus with each arm carrying something needed for sun safety at the beach.

RDK Founder, **Debbie Schwarzberg** gave a presentation on sun safety.

She began the presentation with a video showcasing the collaboration between RDK Melanoma Foudnation and ISDIN.

Secondly, she previewed RDK's latest micro unit on sports sun safety.



**Dr. Tammy Ferguson**, Head of School for The Weiss School, speaks with elementary student, **Allie Schwarzberg** and her father, **Aaron Schwarzberg**. The Schwarzberg's committed to donating a sunscreen dispenser for the school.

## Art Contest Statistics

|                          | <u>2024</u> | <u>2025</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Number of Entries</b> | 339         | 826         |
| <b>Number of Schools</b> | 49          | 77          |

|                          |    |                     |
|--------------------------|----|---------------------|
| Number of Counties in FL | 12 | 18                  |
| Number of States         | 1  | 4<br>FL, AZ, PA, CT |

## SAM CLUB ACTIVITIES



### On Air with Oxbridge Academy

Students from Oxbridge Academy spent an afternoon interviewing and filming Mike Schmidt at Khanna House Studio in Wellington. He shared his journey with melanoma and provided many sun safety tips for skin cancer prevention.



### New SAM Club @ St. Laurentius (Fishtown, Philadelphia, PA)

**St. Laurentius** formed a SAM (Students Against Melanoma) Club in April 2025. Executive Director of Education and Operations (Sue Diverio) spent a day teaching students in grades 1-8 about sun safe practices.

At night, parents attended a presentation on sun safety followed by a Q & A with Mike Schmidt.



## Graduation Cords

Schools that will graduate SAM Club members include:

John I Leonard High School (FL)  
William T. Dwyer High School (FL)  
Lower Moreland High School (PA)  
St. Laurentius Catholic School of Arts & Science (PA)



## John I Leonard High School SAM Club Graduates



SAM Club President, Emma, and SAM Club Moderator Ms. Tania Martinez

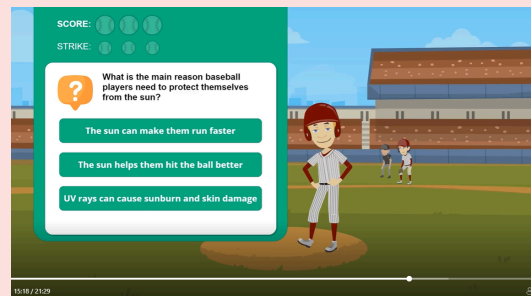


HOSA (Future Health Professionals) president, Nan with Ms. Martinez (Treasure Coast Regional Advisor).



Several of the John I Leonard SAM Club and HOSA members on graduation (May 14, 2025).

## SunSMART Baseball Online Learning



Each slide provides sun safety information. Players assess their learning

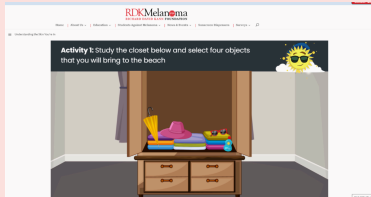
RDK launched its **SunSMART Baseball** online micro units in March 2025.

The units range in age-appropriate materials for players from T-Ball (age 3) through adults (coaches, umpires, and parents).

through interactive slides (see above).

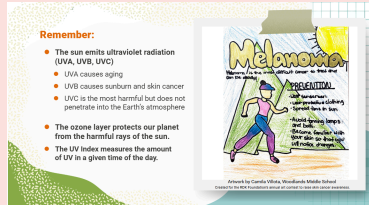
RDK is presently developing similar micro units for Tennis and Soccer.

## RDK Online Micro Units



### Elementary Lesson

The RDK Melanoma Foundation uses a school-based curriculum to teach students of all ages about sun safety and the risks of overexposure to the sun.



### Middle School Lesson

Through age-appropriate lessons and activities, students will increase their knowledge about sun safety, change perceptions about sun safety behaviors, learn about the life-threatening risks of sun exposure and how to advocate for a healthy lifestyle.



### High School Lesson

Six micro units (2 per grade level) can be found on the RDK website under the Education tab (Lessons & Activities).

## RDK CELEBRATES MAY ~ MELANOMA MONTH



### Oxbridge Academy Kicks Off Melanoma Month

**Deanna Schwarzberg** (Oxbridge Academy, West Palm Beach, FL) spearheaded the partnership between RDK and Oxbridge this year.





Deanna gave a presentation to the athletes at Oxbridge and spoke about the importance of being sun safe on and off the field.

**John I Leonard Baseball Team**  
(Greenacres, FL) received RDK baseball sleeves at the beginning of their season.



## **Melanoma Day ~ Phillies Stadium**

SAM (Students Against Melanoma) Club students from St. Laurentius (Philadelphia) handed out RDK Sun Safety Flyers at the Philadelphia Phillies game on Sunday, May 18.

Mike Schmidt met with students and shared a few words about skin cancer prevention and early detection with the students and hosted a post event for donors.

44,356 fans attended the game and viewed a 30 second video on sun safety.

