

***Florida Leader* Names Winners in 13th Annual “Best of Florida Schools” Awards Issue**

Gainesville, Fla. (03-02) – From the best Student Governments and campus traditions to living in the best college town, colleges across Florida were honored in 107 categories in *Florida Leader* magazine’s 13th annual “Best of Florida Schools” awards.

In the “Best Student Government” categories, Florida International University won for public universities, with the University of North Florida as runner-up and the University of Central Florida and the University of West Florida both earning honorable mention. Rollins College was named best SG for private colleges, with the University of Miami as runner-up and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University taking an honorable mention. Indian River Community College’s Campus Coalition Government won overall in its division, while Seminole Community College was runner-up and Pensacola Junior College and Okaloosa-Walton Community College shared an honorable mention.

In the “Best College Newspaper” categories, the University of South Florida’s *Oracle* won top honors among public universities. The University of Florida took two spots, with the *Gator Times* earning runner-up and *The Independent Florida Alligator* earning an honorable mention. Embry-Riddle’s *Avion* earned the title for private universities, with Stetson University’s *Reporter* winning runner-up and the University of Tampa’s *Minaret* receiving an honorable mention. For community colleges, *The Source* at Valencia Community College took top honors, followed by *The Scribe* at Seminole Community College as runner-up and *The Patriot Press* at Central Florida Community College as honorable mention.

Indian River Community College, University of North Florida, and Rollins College students get their higher education at Florida’s “Best-Looking Campuses,” while Jacksonville residents enjoy life in the “Best College Town.”

St. John’s River Community College and Florida A&M University earned top spots for their work with the homeless, earning “Best Homeless Night” and “Most Important Meal of the Day,” respectively.

Florida Community College at Jacksonville’s “Campus of Choice Dancers” let people know about their college through dancing and the performing arts. Flagler College students can choose the “Best New Minor,” learning how to perfect the art of stained glass.

Pasco-Hernando Community College engaged in a 15-week smoking cessation program for students.

Florida Leader magazine surveys student organizations, clubs and college media for the popular “Best of Florida Schools” issue. The newsmagazine, now in its 19th year, is read at 86 Florida colleges and universities statewide. See all 107 unexcerpted “Best of Florida Schools” categories, plus others exclusively for the web site, at www.floridaleader.com.

About Oxendine Publishing, Inc.

In its 19th year, Oxendine Publishing produces three magazines, including *Florida Leader*, and sponsors the 13th annual “Best of Florida Schools” awards. Oxendine also publishes *Student Leader* and sponsors the 15th annual “Florida College Student of the Year Award” and the 5th annual “What Florida Students Think” survey. For more information and expanded coverage visit www.floridaleader.com.

