

2002 "Best of Florida Schools" Winners

PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY

Best Breakfast (p. 27) – Breakfast for the homeless

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Best Inaugural Sports Season (p. 13) – Fighting Owls, their new football team
Best Horror Curriculum (p. 24) – Women studies course looks at horror movies
Best 9/11 Responses (p. 38) – Benefit concert raised \$500 for Red Cross
Best Coin Toss (p. 14) – Coin toss with BCC to see who got new building's top floor

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Best Yearbook (p.27) – Revived yearbook, *Vision*, wins awards
Best Student Government (p. 35) – Winner

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Best Live Webcast (p.21) – Pulitzer Prize winning author teaches over the web
Best Break Fast (web) – Event exposes students to Islam culture
Best Faith and Unity (p.38) – Conference to help students deal feelings after 9/11
Best Athletic Supporter (web) – Web site is an information hub for athletes

NEW COLLEGE

Best Pupil Pact (p. 45) – Contracts help students stay academically on track
Best Do-Good Groups (p. 19) – Nice RAK (Random Acts of Kindness)
Best New Colleges (p. 33) – Split from USF does New College good

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Best Manners (p. 14) – Dinner teaches students about proper etiquette
Follow the "LEADers" (p. 13) – Program focuses on academic study of leadership
Best Student Government (p. 35) – Honorable Mention
Best College Newspaper (web) – Notable – *The Central Florida Future*

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Best Crocodile Hunter (web) – Researcher studies environmental effects on crocs
Best Residence Life (p. 43) – IHRA helps students adjust to dorm life
Best Bright Bike (p. 27) – Professor creates prototype for a glowing bike
Best College Newspaper (p. 17) – Runner-Up – *Gator Times*
Best College Newspaper (p.17) – Hon. Mention – *The Independent Florida Alligator*

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA

Best Import Vision (p. 33) – Import car show helps raise money for charity
Best 9/11 Responses (p. 38) – Officer assembled task force to relieve NYPD
Best Do-Good Groups (p. 19) – SG attack campus to publicize events
Best-Looking Campus – Winner (p. 29)
Best Student Government (p. 35) – Runner-Up
Best College Newspaper (web) – Notable – *The Spinnaker*

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Best 9/11 Responses (p. 38) – Robot helps with search effort.
Best Learning Communities (web) – Groups help freshmen feel part of the group
Best Leader Training (p. 32) – Leadership minor created due to student demand
Best College Newspaper (p.17) – Winner – *The Oracle*

UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

Best Safe Sex Event (p. 19) – Event offers fun and games along with education
Best New Tradition (p. 32) – Cannon brings luck to students who rub it.
Best Honors Program (web) – Program offers individual attention
Best Student Government (p. 35) – Honorable Mention

PRIVATE COLLEGES

ART INSTITUTE OF FT. LAUDERDALE

Best Mortal Chess Game (p. 43) – Human chess game played on the patio
Best Shopping Cart Use (p. 24) – Students show school pride with parade
Best New Student Government (p. 29) – New SG uses new ways to encourage members

BEACON COLLEGE

Best Commencements (p. 29) – President personally recognizes each grad in commencement speech
Best Mentoring (web) – Mentoring time is planned into each student's schedule

EDWARD WATERS COLLEGE

Best Night School (p. 24) – Program allows busy students to complete degree

EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

Best Anniversary Event (p. 37) – Air show over the Atlantic
Best Computer Competition (web) – High school students in computer competition
Best Student Government (p. 23) – Honorable Mention
Best Campus Newspaper (p. 31) – Winner – *The Avion*

FLAGLER COLLEGE

Best New Minor (web) – New stained glass minor offered to fine arts students
Best Disabled Web Site (web) – Student develops web page to help others
Best Free Enterprise Projects (p. 45) – Group teaches community about free enterprise
Best-Looking Campus – Runner-Up (p. 29)

FLORIDA COLLEGE

Best Service Participation (p. 19) – 85% of students involved in community service
Most Famous History (web) – Student union once a '20s nightclub
Best Greek Alternative (p. 32) – Societies offer students fun without going Greek
Best Community Builder (p. 18) – Required daily chapel leaves no one out
Best Film Festival (web) – Student-run festival of video films about student life

FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Best New Sports Center (web) – The new Clemente Center, home to the Panthers
Best Snake Show (p.14) – Research holds key to future of heat sensory imaging

FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

Best Claim to Fame (p. 38) – The most on-site Frank Lloyd Wright buildings
Best Seasonal Celebrity (p. 13) – Snowman plays dean during the holidays

JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY

Best College Turnaround (p. 14) – Enrollment and morale up with new president
Best Do-Good Groups (p. 19) – JUST US: Secret society
Best Nursing Assignment (p. 33) – On-line RN to BSN Program

LYNN UNIVERSITY

Best Welcome Program (web) – Adirondack trip helps students settle in
Best Game Show (p. 27) – "Culinary Decisions" pilot for a game show

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Best Octogenarian (p. 33) – 82-year-old PhD
Best Do-Good Groups (p. 19) – NOVA 9: Secret society

PALM BEACH ATLANTIC COLLEGE

Best Fish Story (p. 37) – Christian fish symbol around campus on buildings
Best Apprentices (web) – Apprentices work on campus for \$10,000 scholarships

ROLLINS COLLEGE

Best Dive-In Movie (web) – Welcome-back movie at the pool
Best Toilet Paper (p. 43) – SG newsletter, the *Toilet Paper*
Best Gender Awareness Program (web) – Clothesline Project for Sexual Assault Awareness Week
Best-Looking Campus (p. 29) – Winner
Best Student Government (p. 23) – Winner

SCHILLER INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Best Diversity (p. 27) – 8'x70' mural on library

ST. LEO UNIVERSITY

Best Show-Off Day (p. 43) – Classes cancelled to show good work of students



ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY

Best Spring Break (web) – Giant Trinidadian dinner
Best Athletic Action (p. 18) – STU athletes do community service

STETSON UNIVERSITY

Best Russian Studies (p. 45) – Students learn everything about Russia and can even go for a semester
Best Topless Car Wash (web) – Students wash the bottoms of cars for free, but need to get paid for the top
Best 9/11 Responses (p. 38) – Stetson hosted a rock concert, 5K Fun Run, and 1.5 mile walk
Best Children's Choir (p. 21) – Children's choir
Best College Newspaper (p. 31) – Runner-Up – *The Reporter*

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

Best Baby Lawyers (web) – Pre-law program gets UM students ready for law school
Best Inauguration (p. 21) – President's inauguration was a big street party
Best Student Government (p. 23) – Runner-Up

UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

Best Fundraiser (p. 43) – The Tampa Tarpon Tournament
Best College Newspaper (p. 31) – Honorable Mention – *The Minaret*

WEBBER INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Best Commencement Speeches (p. 29) – President introduces each student with a personal story
Best College Schedule (p. 38) – Students get Wednesday off
Best Business Book (web) – president uses children's book as "business text"

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Space Students (p. 45) – New aerospace technology program

BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Coin Toss (p. 14) – Coin toss with FIU to see who got new building's top floor
Best Watersports (web) – Tigertail Center – watersports complex

CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best College Newspaper (p. 41) – Honorable Mention – *The Patriot Press*

DAYTONA BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Turkey Surprise (p. 38) – Basket Brigade brings dinner to people at Thanksgiving
Women's Intramural Football (web) – New women's intramural football team

FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE

Best Island Getaway (web) – City-wide Caribbean Fest
Best Ambassadors (p. 13) – Dancers carry their message into the community

FLORIDA KEYS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Island Atmosphere (web) – Campus location in the keys
Best Soggy Students (p. 24) – Dive-training facility
Best Paint Job (p. 13) – Colorful campus paint job

GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Volunteer Swim (web) – Volunteers spend day at pool with handicapped children
Best Culinary Exchange Program (p. 13) – Students work online with Chef Gil Galasso in France

HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Student Government – Notable – Plant City Campus (web)

INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Tee Time (p. 18) – 6-hole PGA golf course for turf management studies
Best-Looking Campus (p. 29) – Winner
Best Student Government (p. 9) – Winner

LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Howl (p. 43) – LCCC online magazine
Best Dog on Campus (p. 33) – Guide dog program
Best "Home" Improvement (p. 21) – RV maintenance class
Best Meeting Idea (p. 24) – Outdoor meetings with the SG
Best-Looking Campus (p. 29) – Runner-Up

MANATEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Senior Safety Project (p. 37) – Students see what it's like to live with old age

MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Disease of the Month (web) – Disease awareness program with nurses
Best Hispanic Dish (p. 32) – Giant Paella pan filled for Hispanic Heritage Month

Best 9/11 Responses (p. 38) – Circle of Peace
Best Student Government (web) – Notable – Kendall Campus
Best Student Government (web) – Notable – Wolfson Campus

OKALOOSA-WALTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best New ROTC (p. 45) – Only full-time ROTC in FL community college
Best Close Encounter (web) – School's observatory
Best Coming Attractions (web) – Performing Arts Center
Best Student Government (p. 11) – Honorable Mention

PALM BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Martial Arts Class (web) – Okinawan karate class

PASCO-HERNANDO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Anti-Tobacco Campaign (p. 21) – 15-week smoking cessation clinic
Best Dream Catchers (web) – Free on-line GED program for Sudanese migrants

PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE

Best Gift-Bearing (p. 37) – Teddy bears for kids who aren't home for Xmas
Best Atmosphere (web) – Coffeehouse program designed for student entertainment
Best Student Government (p. 11) – Honorable Mention

SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best New Student Organization (web) – MANTAS (Mature And Non-Traditional Aged Students)
Best Halloween Event (p. 14) – Boo at the Zoo
Best On-line Voting (p. 19) – First on-line voting at a Florida school

SEMINOLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Floor Plan (web) – Building Construction program
Best Support Group (p. 29) – Artists Anonymous: to help aspiring artists become known
Best Student Government (p. 11) – Runner-Up
Best College Newspaper (p. 41) – Runner-Up – *The Scribe*

SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Smart Car (web) – Car that lets you fix it without replacing any parts
Best Electrical Program (p. 37) – Only electrical distribution program in Florida

ST. JOHNS RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Homeless Night (p. 19) – Students spent night in streets, then worked for Habitat for Humanity

ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE

Best New Colleges (p. 33) – First Florida community college to switch to 4-year program

VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Best Environmental Outreach (p. 33) – Club protected nearby Lake Pamela
Best Student Government (web) – Notable – East Campus
Best Student Government (web) – Notable – West Campus
Best College Newspaper (p. 41) – Winner – *The Source*

MAJOR CATEGORIES

BEST NEWSPAPERS

Public (p.17): Winner – USF (*The Oracle*), Runner-Up – UF (*Gator Times*), Honorable Mention – UF (*The Florida Independent Alligator*)
Private (p. 31): Winner – ERAU (*The Avion*), Runner-Up – Stetson (*The Reporter*), Honorable Mention – UT (*The Minaret*)
Community (p. 41): Winner – VCC (*The Valencia Source*), Runner-Up – SCC (*The Scribe*), Honorable Mention – CFCC (*The Patriot Press*)

BEST STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Public (p. 35): Winner – FIU, Runner-Up – UNF, Honorable Mention – UCF & UWF
Private (p. 23): Winner – Rollins, Runner-Up – UM, Honorable Mention – ERAU
Community (p. 9): Winner – IRCC, Runner-Up – SCC, Hon. Mention – PJC & OWCC

BEST COLLEGE TOWN (p. 18): Jacksonville wins for its variety of schools

BEST-LOOKING CAMPUS (p. 29): IRCC, our community college winner, is clean as can be, followed by runner-up LCCC. UNF wins for public universities for its natural environment. Private college winner Rollins enhances the town of Winter Park, with Flagler as runner-up.

OTHERS

Strangest Mascots (p.18) – Rollins College Tars, Stetson University Hatters, Palm Beach Atlantic College Sailfish, Jacksonville University Dolphins, Florida Atlantic University Owls.
Sept.11 Remedies (p.38) – FAU, Stetson, UNF, USF, M-DCC
Best Do-Good Groups (p. 19) – Nova, JU, UNF, New College