

## 2003 "Best of Florida Schools" Winners

### **PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES**

#### **FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY**

Best School Cheer (p. 13) – Hissing snake noise

#### **FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

Best New Group (p. 45) – New marching band  
Best New Major (web) – Only university to have its own music label  
Best Medical Technology (web) – Home medical monitoring system  
Best Student Government (p. 35) – Runner-Up

#### **FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY**

Best Campus Safety (web) – Precautions taken to insure student safety  
Best Campus Housing (p. 13) – Apartment-style, lakefront dorms  
Best Laundry Service (p. 14) – Calls student when machine is available

#### **FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Best 9/11 Tribute (p. 24) – Short performances of healing on one-year anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks  
Best SG Promotion (web) – SG shows students what services it provides  
Best Student Government (p. 35) – Winner – University Park

#### **FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Best Movies (p. 43) – Motion Picture, Television, and Performing Arts School  
Best Job Training (p. 19) – China trip in conjunction with CFCC

#### **UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA**

Best Freshman Activity (p. 29) – Introduces new students to athletic programs  
Best Greek Academics (web) – Mentoring for fraternity and sorority members  
Best Campus Donors (web) – Founded "get carded" organization  
Best On-line Orientation (web) – Students get oriented from their homes  
Best College Newspaper (p. 17) – Hon. Mention – *The Future*

#### **UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**

Best Honors Residence Hall (web) – Hume Hall designed for honor students  
Best Vets (p. 29) – Aquatic Animal Health Services provides vets for fish  
Best Nurses (web) – New Nurse Midwifery master's program  
Best College Newspaper (p. 17) – Winner – *The Independent Florida Alligator*

#### **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA**

Best Golf Course (p. 21) – New state-of-the-art golf course  
Best Hope (web) – Journalism students write stories about needy families

#### **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

Best Outreach (p. 45) – Community music program open house  
Best College Newspaper (p. 17) – Runner-Up – *The Oracle*

#### **UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA**

Best Honor Council (web) – Service group for the honors council  
Best Orientation (p. 18) – Four schools go all out for their students  
Best College Cooking (p. 37) – RA performs cooking demonstrations  
Best National Service (web) – SG president called to active duty  
Best Student Government (p.35) – Hon. Mention

### **PRIVATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES**

#### **ART INSTITUTE OF FT. LAUDERDALE**

Best Student Center (web) – New state-of-the-art entertainment center  
Best Artists (p. 21) – Pro bono design work for non-profit organizations

#### **BARRY UNIVERSITY**

Best History Lesson (p. 29) – Annual Founder's Day bash

#### **BEACON COLLEGE**

Best Student Services (web) – Staff prepares breakfast for students  
Best Charity (p. 37) – Food and toy drive by students, faculty, and staff

#### **BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE**

Best Marching Band (p. 32) – Appeared in motion picture *Drumline*

Best ROTC (p. 27) – Daytona-area ROTCs take top honors

#### **ECKERD COLLEGE**

Best Student Group (p. 24) – Eckerd College Search and Rescue Program

Best Seniors (web) – "Senior College" provides college experience to retirees

Best Orientation (p. 18) – Four schools go all out for their students

#### **EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY**

Best Ranking (web) – #1 three years running by *U.S. News & World Report* for master's program

Best ROTC (p. 27) – Daytona-area ROTCs take top honors

Best Town Hall Meeting (web) – Students grill panel of eighty administrators

Best College Newspaper (p. 31) – Winner – *Avion*

Best Student Government (p. 23) – Runner-Up

#### **FLAGLER COLLEGE**

Best College Newspaper (p. 31) – Hon. Mention – *The Gargoyle*

#### **FLORIDA COLLEGE**

Best Student Involvement (p. 18) – Twenty-five percent participate in blood drive and drama events

#### **FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE**

Best Student Aid (p. 19) – Donated food and toiletries can be taken as needed

#### **FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Best Research (p. 29) – Wind and storm research called WHIRL  
Best Campus Clean-up (web) – Campus-wide cleaning day

#### **FLORIDA MEMORIAL COLLEGE**

Best Face Life (web) – Major renovation of campus  
Best Music Major (p. 37) – Only university to offer "steel pan" major

#### **FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE**

Best Commuter Group (web) – Commuters and non-traditional students stay connected  
Best Communicators (p. 13) – Weekly newsletters to students, boosters, alumni, and parents

#### **INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE**

Best Ambassadors (p. 14) – One-third of school ambassadors are parents

#### **JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY**

Best Students Feedback (web) – President and students interact at forum  
Best Holiday Cheer (web) – Music CD produced by campus musicians  
Best New Building (p. 27) – New buildings all across campus

#### **JOHNSON AND WALES UNIVERSITY**

Best Organization (web) – Minorities in Hospitality organization  
Best Homecoming Theme (p. 21) – A Fairytale Fantasy/A Night of Stars

#### **KEISER COLLEGE**

Best Student Appreciation (p. 43) – Students recognized at award ceremony

#### **LYNN UNIVERSITY**

Best Field Trip (p. 18) – Academic Adventure Cruise

#### **NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**

Best TV Spin-Off (p. 43) – *NSU Idol*, spoof of *American Idol* TV show  
Best Education Tour (web) – The Education Express II Bus Tour



## **PALM BEACH ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

Best Homecoming Event (p. 33) – Bug race as fundraiser for science club  
**ROLLINS COLLEGE**

Best Theater Training (web) – Students spent weekend in concrete basement prior to production of the play, *Diary of Anne Frank*  
Best Service Participation (web) – All 525 new students participated en masse  
Best Residence Hall (p. 24) – 116-year-old cottage reserved for students with strong public service record  
Best Student Government (p. 23) – Hon. Mention

## **ST. LEO UNIVERSITY**

Best Retreat (web) – Austin Powers-themed RA training weekend  
Best Fall Festival (web) – Annual cowboy/cowgirl festival  
Best Sports (p. 38) – Glow-in-the-dark golf

## **ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY**

Best Study Abroad (p. 14) – Graduate program overseas for 17 days

## **SOUTHEASTERN COLLEGE**

Best Orientation (p. 18) – Four schools go all out for their students  
Best Hands-On Environmentalism (p. 32) – Air potato round-up  
Best Student Life Events (web) – More than 50 events each semester

## **STETSON UNIVERSITY**

Best Teacher Training (p. 33) – Technology, teachers, and training program  
Best Computer Program (web) – Interactive multimedia logic course created by faculty  
Best College Newspaper (p. 31) – Runner-Up – *The Reporter*

## **UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI**

Best Advising (web) – College of Business provides freshman peer counselors  
Best Quiz Show (p. 45) – Game show tests knowledge of UM life  
Best 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Fight (web) – *Hurricane* editor stands up to his own fraternity  
Best Student Government (p. 23) – Winner

## **WARNER SOUTHERN COLLEGE**

Best Wildlife Campus (p. 37) – Helped re-establish whooping crane population  
Best Pep Rally (web) – Cheerleaders go to schools to cheer for FCAT

## **WEBBER INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Best School Party (p. 45) – Annual beach party before exams

## **COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

### **BREVARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Sports (p. 38) – Black-light volleyball  
Best Lecture Series (p. 33) – Entrepreneurs share their success stories

### **BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Orientation (p. 18) – Four schools go all out for their students  
Best E-mail (web) – Prize is decommissioned computer  
Best Woman's Program (p. 19) – Women's history project  
Best College Newspaper (p. 41) – Runner-Up – *The Observer*

### **CENTRAL FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Job Training (p. 19) – China trip in conjunction with FSU  
Best Company Awards (web) – Project to recognize and improve local businesses

### **CHIPOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE**

Best Cheerleaders (web) – All earn scholarships for place on squad  
Best Tuition Deal (web) – Alabama and Georgia students don't pay out-of-state student fees  
Best Fundraiser (p. 18) – Catapult for Science Club fundraiser

### **DAYTONA BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best ROTC (p. 27) – Daytona-area ROTCs take top honors  
Best College Newspaper (p. 41) – Hon. Mention – *In Motion*

### **FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT JACKSONVILLE**

Best Cafeteria (web) – Home of the Southern Culinary Arts Program  
Best Writers (p. 24) – Host of annual First Coast Writer's Festival

### **HILLSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Student Lounge (web) – New state-of-the-art student lounge  
Best Minority Focus (p. 45) – ENLACE (Engaging Latino Communities for Education)  
Best Student Government (p. 9) – Runner-Up – Plant City

### **INDIAN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Student Recruiting (web) – "Great Explorations," hands-on recruitment  
Best Star Search (web) – Jon Bell, the singing astronomer  
Longest Winning Streak (p. 14) – Swimming and diving has longest unbroken U.S. winning streak in any sport at any level  
Best Web Site (web) – Links area students to leading scientists

### **LAKE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Student Newsletter (p. 29) – SG update mailed to every student  
Best Homework (web) – Shopping for cheapest interview ensemble

### **LAKE-SUMTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Sports Degree (web) – First community college to offer sports degree  
Best Registration (web) – 70 percent of students participated  
Best Experiment (p. 27) – Field trip to Red Lobster to dissect lobster

### **MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best College Holiday (p. 32) – Celebrated Forth of July in Hispanic community  
Best Karaoke Event (web) – Students and faculty cut lose at campus event  
Best Community Reading Program (web) – Miami community all reads the same book  
Best College Newspaper (p. 41) – Winner – Wolfson's *Metropolis*  
Best Student Government (p. 10) – Hon. Mention – North

### **NORTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best College Cruise (p. 19) – Annual land cruise party before spring break  
Best Halloween Event (web) – Prizes for most "spiders" found in October  
Best Motivator (web) – President gave up personal parking spot for students

### **PENSACOLA JUNIOR COLLEGE**

Best Career Counseling (p. 43) – New career center attracts more students

### **SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best International Month (p. 13) – Month-long worldwide celebration  
Best Medical Program (web) – 100 percent pass rate in radiology program  
Best Stipend (web) – Advisors earn stipend on sliding scale  
Best Presidential Advisory (web) – President gets advisor from "old timers"  
Best Student Government (p. 9) – Winner

### **SEMINOLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Mentoring Program (web) – Mentors provided to new students  
Best Veterans Counselor (p. 32) – Counselor given nickname of G.I. Joe

### **SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Historic Preservation (web) – History of Florida roadways on display  
Best Lab (p. 21) – On-campus grove created new type of citrus fruit

### **ST. JOHNS RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Performing Arts School (p. 21) – Art school gives students real experience  
Best Presidential Philosophy (web) – "No wimps, hypochondriacs, or victims"

### **TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Best Long-Distance Relationship (web) – Distance learning program with sister school in Taiwan  
Best Diversity (p. 37) – Basketball program full of international members

## **MAJOR CATEGORIES**

### **BEST NEWSPAPERS**

Public (p. 17): Winner – UF (*The Alligator*), Runner-Up – USF (*The Oracle*), Honorable Mention – UCF (*The Future*)  
Private (p. 31): Winner – ERAU (*The Avion*), Runner-Up – Stetson (*The Reporter*), Honorable Mention – Flagler (*The Gargoyle*)  
Community (p. 41): Winner – MDCC—Wolfson (*The Metropolis*), Runner-Up – Broward (*The Observer*), Honorable Mention – DBCC (*In Motion*)

### **BEST STUDENT GOVERNMENT**

Public (p. 35): Winner – FIU—UP, Runner-Up – FAU, Honorable Mention – UWF  
Private (p. 23): Winner – UM, Runner-Up – ERAU, Honorable Mention – Rollins  
Community (p. 9): Winner – SFCC, Runner-Up – HCC—PC, Honorable Mention – MDCC—North

### **BEST COLLEGE TOWN** (p. 33): Tallahassee

### **BEST-LOOKING CAMPUS** (p. 38):

Public Colleges and Universities Winner – University of Florida  
Runner-Up – Florida International University  
Private Colleges and Universities winner – University of Tampa  
Runner-Up – Rollins College  
Community Colleges Winner – St. Johns River Community College,  
Runner-Up – Chipola Junior College