



## 3rd Grade Reading Success Matters

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

We're thrilled to share that the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR) received a variety of accolades, including the All-America City Award, a Pacesetter Honor, and three Communications Awards during Grade-Level Reading Week in Denver. The Campaign was recognized for exemplary work to unite the community and engage families in an effort to increase reading proficiency and combat the challenges that can undermine early literacy.

### SCGLR Wins Big During GLR Week



### Community Unity Over Silos



SCGLR All America City Award Clip 2017

Each year, the All-America City Award, America's oldest and most prestigious community recognition, is given to communities that exemplify outstanding civic accomplishments.

Last week, the Suncoast was honored as one of just 15 communities nationwide to receive the

award from the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading and the National Civic League, which created the program 67 years ago.





If you didn't know before, now it's official! Sarasota and Manatee counties, you're part of a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious network with SCGLR!

The Suncoast Campaign was one of only 48 communities to be honored as a Pacesetter by the national Campaign for Grade-Level Reading for leading by example to eliminate barriers faced by children from low-income families on the path to becoming proficient readers. Pacesetters are part of a nationwide network of more than 300 GLR Campaign communities, representing 42 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The national Campaign recognized the Suncoast Campaign for its excellence in five of six criteria for success, scale and sustainability: supporting parent success and addressing health determinants, driving with data, building cross-sector collaboration, prioritizing children and families in public housing, and utilizing technology for impact.

"We are humbled and energized by this recognition as we acknowledge that it is a beginning, not an end," said Bronwyn Beightol, chief operating officer of [United Way of Manatee County](#). "We must keep moving forward and continue to purposefully engage all sectors of our community in ensuring all of our children's grade-level reading success."

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Prior to receiving the award, Beth Duda, Director of Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (SCGLR), was confronted with a challenging hurdle. She was tasked to explain EVERYTHING SCGLR does and accomplishes in only THREE MINUTES!

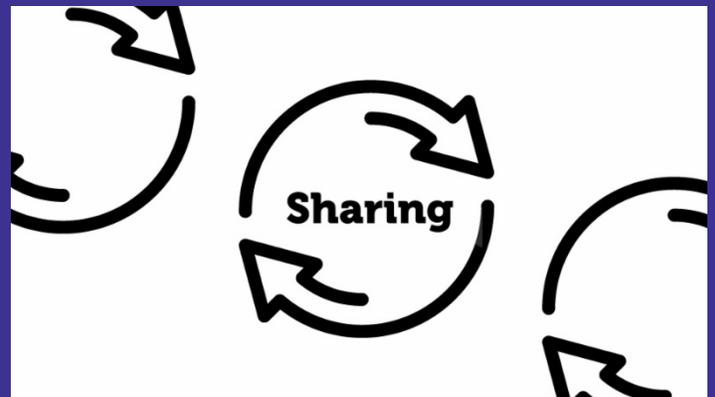
With her thinking face - hand on her chin, finger on her lip, furrowed eyebrow, and brain calculating - she thought and thought AND thought some more.

In the end, she did it. She visualized the children -- the more than 90,000 students in the bi-county area of Sarasota and Manatee, she thought about the ALL of the people, the organizations, programs, tools from SCGLR's work with [Aspirations to Actions](#), and so much more. And in three minutes, Beth Duda wooshed over that hurdle and shared the All-American City presentation on behalf of us all.

"All-America City Award winners are communities that address the National Civic League's key process criteria of civic engagement, cross-sector collaboration and inclusiveness," said [Debra Jacobs](#), president and CEO of [The Patterson Foundation](#). "With Suncoast Campaign Director Beth Duda's tireless work to engage families, educators, businesses, nonprofits and government, both Manatee and Sarasota counties are making an impact."

### [ALL-AMERICA CITY PRESENTATION](#)

### Newsletter Signup



### Communications



Do you have friends, family, colleagues or neighbors who you think would be interested in signing up for the monthly SCGLR Newsletter? If so, please share by using the sharing icons at the top of the newsletter.



The communications efforts of the Suncoast Campaign were recognized with three Excellence in Communications Awards including [Best Website](#), Best Media Story and Best Event.

The Best Media Story award recognized the communitywide coverage about the rollout of [Reach Out and Read](#), a school readiness program that incorporates books into pediatric care, in the Sarasota-Manatee region.

[Embracing Dr. Seuss' Differences Day](#), an event during which the Suncoast Campaign distributed more than 4,000 free books to students throughout Sarasota and Manatee counties, earned the Best Event honor.

"This recognition speaks volumes to the realization of our region's commitment to a vibrant community for all, our interconnectedness and our willingness to tackle community issues by everyone coming together," said Roxie Jerde, president and CEO of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County. "We should all be proud of this terrific achievement, and I thank all who are being the ones to make a difference. This is truly the effort of so many people stepping up, realizing that each one of us has the potential to impact another person, a cause, a community."

Research shows that proficiency in reading by the end of third grade enables students to shift from learning to read to reading to learn and to master the more complex subject matter they encounter in the fourth grade curriculum.

We look forward to sharing engaging news and updates with you. The Patterson Foundation respects your privacy and will not share or sell your contact information.

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**Bronwyn Beightol** @BronwynBeightol · 31m  
Great to RL it #Learn #Lead with **Ralph Smith** @readingby3rd and @DrDianaGreene @Manateeschools #GLRWeek @SuncoastCGLR  
pic.twitter.com/gHvq78kZ1

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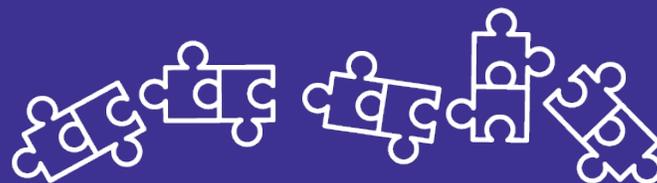
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Contact us at [info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net](mailto:info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net).



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