

# PALM BEACH ZOO NEWS

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## **Palm Beach Zoo wins award for work with Forest Hill Community High School**

WEST PALM BEACH, FL., Dec. 8, 2008 - The Palm Beach Zoo is receiving the 2008 Business Partnership Community Education Award for its work with adult and regular students at Forest Hill Community High School.

Since 2004, the Palm Beach Zoo and Forest Hill Community High School have offered to adult students a Zoo Training Class for Volunteer Teaching Guides. Nearly 80 adult students have attended the classes at the Zoo and upon completion have qualified as docents at the zoo. This seven-week course focuses on zoology, wildlife conservation, the history of zoos, customer service, public speaking and presentation.

In addition to the adult class, the Zoo works with Forest Hill Community High School's Environmental Science Academy. Students at the Academy are offered zoo career classes which take place at the Palm Beach Zoo.

"This is extremely exciting," said Kristen Cytacki, director of education at Palm Beach Zoo. "Our partnership with Forest Hill Community High School demonstrates the importance of education as part of our Zoo's mission."

David Reilly, assistant principal at Forest Hill Community High School, said the success of the Zoo's program demonstrates the impact such a partnership can have on students young and old.

"It's a really neat program," said Reilly. "I'm excited about this award because I think it is going to open up more and more courses for the community."

**The award will be presented during a luncheon, Friday, Dec. 12, 2008,  
at the Palm Beach Airport Hilton.**