

The Grady Gazette

A publication of Grady Elementary PTA
Volume 2, Issue 6, May, 2014



Go Grady Tigers!

The Grady Gazette is a publication of the Grady Elementary PTA. It is designed to keep our entire school community informed about all of the activities of the Grady Elementary PTA. It is published six times a year in September, October, November/Dec., January, Feb./March and April/May.

The deadline for submission of articles is the tenth of the month prior to the publication date. Please email submissions to:

GradyPTACommunications@gmail.com

Our Mission: The Mission of the Grady Elementary PTA is to provide programs and activities to support our students, teachers and parents in order to enhance the educational experience at Grady Elementary School.

Principal: Kristine Dosal
PTA President: Damaris Allen
Editor: Ellen Lyons



everychild.onevoice.[®]

Grady Elementary PTA
Grady Elementary School
3910 W. Morrison Ave.
Tampa, FL 33629
Tel: (813) 872-5325

Newly Designed Website:

www.gradytigers.org

Follow us on Twitter!

@gradytigers

From PTA President, Damaris Allen



Dear Members of the Grady Elementary Community,

I hope you and your family have enjoyed this year at Grady Elementary. I hope that your children have advanced academically, gained further understanding of other points of view and enhanced their relationships with their family, teachers and friends this year. I hope that the fifth graders who will be leaving Grady at the end of this year will carry the goodwill and empathy that is the trademark of our school out into the world.

This has been a busy and successful year full of blessings. We have fundraised for ambitious projects. We've raised in excess of \$30,000 this year and have spent or pledged to spend all of it on academic materials, academic tutoring and the perimeter fence. The first phase of the perimeter fence is being bid upon and a vendor will soon be selected. We are hopeful that we will soon be able to commence building the first phase of the project.

It is your generosity that makes such ambitious goals possible. We are grateful to you for your hard work and donations. This year, volunteers spent 1,500 more hours at Grady than during the same period last year – an increase of 37%. Sponsorship funds are also up substantially and the Spring walk-a-thon fundraiser made \$8,500 more than last year. Perhaps it is because we've had clear, attainable goals, or perhaps we have a wonderful and special group of members, volunteers and donors. Either way, I recognize exactly how blessed and lucky we are to have such fantastic parent, grandparent and teacher involvement in our events.

We have several more large-scale events before the year is over. Teacher Appreciation Week, May 5-9, is our opportunity to recognize and appreciate the hard work of Grady's teachers, staff, administration, custodians and cafeteria teams. There is more information about Teacher Appreciation Week in this newsletter. I hope you will take part in our big thank you to the people who help prepare our children to lead wholesome and worthwhile lives.

Grady Elementary Spring Musical, Broadway Beat, will take place on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the Pavilion. In addition to compelling musical performances offered by our students, Grady PTA will offer a raffle and silent auction of amazing prizes. The prizes include tickets to Disney, SeaWorld, Aquatica, the Tampa Bay Rays, Lowry Park Zoo, Dinosaur World and other attractions; Starbucks,

Home Depot and Lush Cosmetics baskets; gift cards to Mitchell's, Carrabba's, Olive Garden, Beef O'Brady's and other restaurants; and so many more items. You can find a complete list of all prizes on our website at <http://grady.mysdhc.org/2014-spring-musical-sponsors>.

The Spring Musical will also feature 3 food trucks with grilled cheese, hot dogs and ice pop selections. The food trucks will be parked near the Pavilion and will make it easier for families to eat dinner or a snack at the event. The food trucks will be sharing 7.5% of the proceeds over \$500 in sales/truck with Grady PTA.

In June, the fifth grade has a series of events. The faculty will play volleyball against the fifth grade on June 2. On June 3, the Fifth Grade Award Ceremony will take place in the Cafeteria. On June 5, the Fifth Grade Banquet will take place in Cafeteria. And, on June 6, the last day of school, the fifth grade will clap out as the students leave the school. This year, the Fifth Grade Committee has chosen an Oscars Red Carpet theme for the banquet. Students are going to get creative "access passes" for the event and there will be some amazing surprise swag and some tender moments as we commemorate the fifth grade students' time at Grady.

I hope that you have a safe and happy summer. I hope that the families of returning students will join the PTA next year. We've had a wonderful year, with everyone helping out – whether that help was clipping box tops, volunteering, donating or attending our events – and we appreciate all that you have done to help enhance the educational experience for students at Grady Elementary.

Sincerely,
Damaris Allen, President (email: GradyElementaryPTA@gmail.com)

"Neither fire, nor moisture, nor wind can destroy the blessing of a good deed, and it will reform the whole world." – Buddha

Membership, By Debbie Bresnahan



Dear Members of the Grady Elementary Community,

I am happy to report that 284 people joined the Grady Elementary PTA this year. We have worked hard to increase our membership and to communicate with our members so that they know as much as we do about what's happening at our children's school. We hope that you will join again next year.

Thanks so much for joining the PTA and investing in our Grady community.

Debbie Bresnahan, VP of Membership
(GradyPTAMembership@gmail.com)



Link Your Target Red Card to Grady Elementary to Support Our School

If you have a Target Red Card, you may choose to designate Grady Elementary as the school to receive the money that Target donates annually to schools.

If you already have your Red Card but have not designated Grady Elementary to receive charitable donations, the number to call is 1-888-729-7331. Follow the prompts and choose the "other" option. Then, you will be asked to choose a school by city and school name.

The PTA Board needs YOU!!

The 2014-15 PTA board will be voted upon at the Spring Musical. We are still in need of a Secretary. If you have ever thought you would like to be more involved with the PTA, please consider volunteering for this role. The Secretary takes the official minutes at the monthly PTA board meetings. The board meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, during the school year, from 12-1 pm at Grady. Occasionally the meetings last longer than an hour. Being able to attend the meetings is the most important aspect of this position. Also, the Secretary coordinates Teacher Appreciation Week, which occurs in May.

Fifth Grade Report

The Fifth Grade T-shirt, like the cover of the Grady Yearbook, features individual drawings of a tiger by each fifth grader. Here is a picture of the t-shirt design:



There are many events that will take place in the next month that involve the fifth grade. The events are:

Date	Time	Event	Location
May 9		Trip to Coleman	Coleman Middle School
May 12	6 pm to 7 pm	5 th Grade Parent Meeting	Kahwa on Henderson
May 16		5 th Grade Patrol Field Trip	Meddard Park
May 23	8 am to 6 pm	5 th Grade Field Trip	Busch Gardens
May 27-30	All week	Spirit Week	Grady – all students participate
June 2	12 noon to 1 pm	Faculty/5 th Grade Volley Ball Game	Pavilion
June 3	8:15 am 9:15 am	5 th Grade Awards Ceremony	Grady Cafeteria
June 5	9:00 am to 11:15 am	Volunteers set-up Banquet	Grady Cafeteria
June 5	11:30-2:00	5 th Grade Banquet	Grady Cafeteria
June 6	11:30 am	5 th Grade "Clap Out"	Main Grady Corridor

Finally, we anticipate an amazing presentation at the fifth grade banquet, and we need your help to pull it off. The event organizers are going to do a **slideshow of baby pictures followed by current pictures of fifth grade Grady students. To ensure that your child's baby photo and current photo are included in the slideshow presentation, please email a baby picture and a current picture of your child to Janneth Romero at gradytiger_yb@yahoo.com with the name of the student in the subject line.**

Volunteer Spotlight: Amy Jarman, Box Tops Coordinator

Grady Elementary has many wonderful volunteers. In this year, we have had a substantial increase of volunteer hours – 1,500 more than during the same period last year. One of our many reliable volunteers is Amy Jarman. For two years now, Amy has been tirelessly validating, counting and mailing Box Tops for Grady. Additionally, during her first year as a Grady parent, Amy served as Yearbook Coordinator, a role she fulfilled with very little assistance. Thank you Amy, for all your dedication and service.

Thank You!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

LEADER OF THE PACK

Ruiz Family & New York Life

Silly Dilly's

Kuhn Honda-Volkswagen

House of Huckleberry

BENGAL

The Lyons Family

Chris and Sarah Boyd and
Butler & Boyd, P.A.

Gerry and Linda Gilbert

The Pham Family (for the 5th
Grade Class)

TIGER

Hoffman Realty – South Tampa
Property Management

Lucy Espana and Family

Jack and Denise Hamilton

Mike and Van Tuong Vu Phan

Esther and Jeremy Muench

CUB

Pam LaCrosse (In recognition
of Kay Hance)

Carine Lachat

Erin McCormick

Thank You!

Grady PTA 2013-2014 Calendar of Events

PTA Email: gradvelementarypta@gmail.com

May

- 5/5-5/9 **Teacher Appreciation Week**
5/9 Fifth Grade trip to Coleman Middle School
5/12 Fifth Grade Parent Meeting
5/14 **Spring Musical/PTA General Meeting**
5/16 Fifth Grade Patrol Field Trip
5/19 Spring Book Fair Preview Day
5/20-27 Spring Book Fair, Kathryn Hance Media Center
5/23 Fifth Grade Field Trip to Busch Gardens
5/27-30 **Spirit Week**
5/30 Family Night, d'Lites Emporium, 1906 S. Dale Mabry Hwy

June

- 6/2 Faculty/5th Grade Volleyball Game
6/3 Fifth Grade Awards Ceremony in the Cafeteria
6/5 Fifth Grade Banquet in Cafeteria
6/6 Last day of school! 11:30 am, Fifth Grade Clap Out



2013 - 2014 PTA Board Contact Information

President: Damaris Allen (GradyElementaryPTA@gmail.com)
VP of Membership: Debbie Bresnahan (GradyPTAMembership@gmail.com)
VP of Communications: Ellen Lyons (GradyPTACommunications@gmail.com)
VP of Sponsorships: Kris House (GradyPTASponsorships@gmail.com)
VP of Fundraising: Jessica Schentrup (GradyPTAFundraising@gmail.com)
VP of Events: Jennifer Narvaes (GradyPTAEvents@gmail.com)
Secretary: Melissa Azevedo (mazevedo@tbo.com)
Treasurer: Julie Cuevas (jbc2011j@gmail.com)

Teacher Appreciation Week “Grady Teachers and Staff are Stars”

May 5, 2014 – May 9, 2014



We would like to show our appreciation for our teachers and staff by taking them to “Hollywood.” We have several events planned to honor our teachers and staff and we would like you and your child’s help to make it unforgettable. Also, please don’t forget the front office, custodial and cafeteria teams.

Monday: I Am a "Fan" Day - We will send "fan mail" to our teachers and staff. We would like to have your child express their gratitude with “Thank You” notes that begin with “I am your #1 fan because...” **Give them directly to the teachers and staff on Monday, May 5, 2014.**

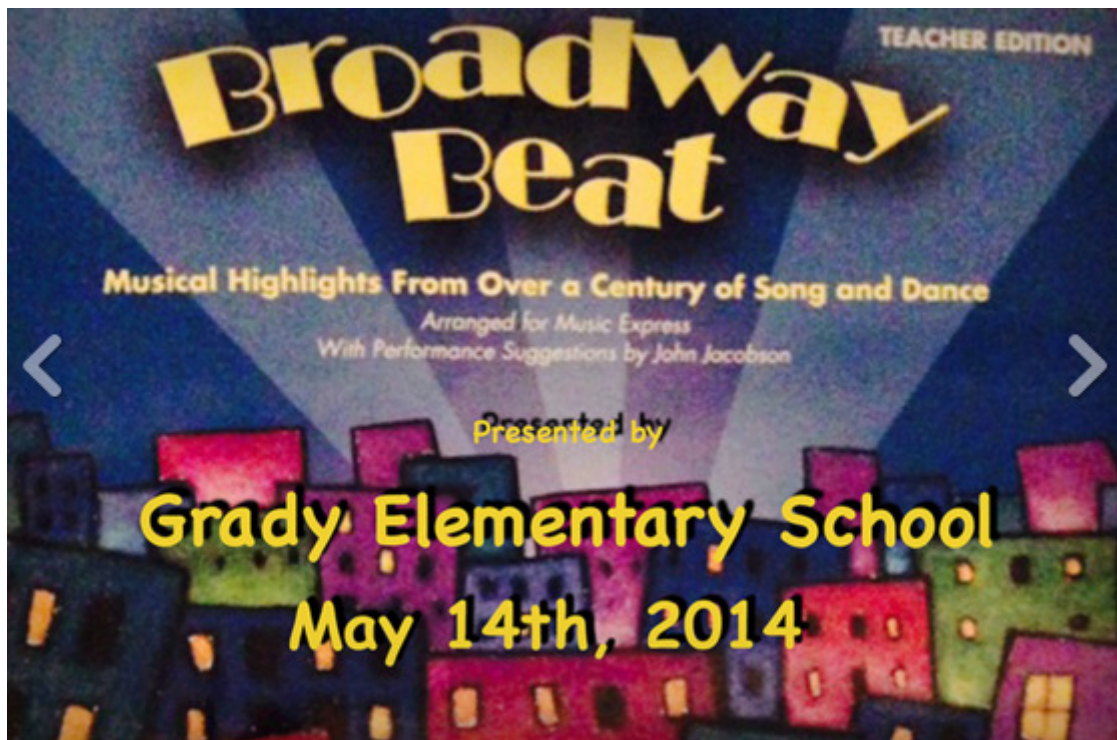
Tuesday: Walk the Red Carpet Day - We will shower our "stars" with flowers. Students can show their gratefulness with flowers that are made with paper, home grown or from the store. **Give them directly to the teachers and staff on Tuesday, May 8, 2014.**

Wednesday: Treat You Like a "STAR" Day - We will pamper our stars by having them walk the red carpet (down the main office hallway) where they will be treated with complimentary gift cards to the movies. On the morning show, we will be having a drawing for prizes of restaurant gift certificates, massages, and other donated prizes. Students can pamper their teachers and staff with donated prizes. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Melissa Azevedo at 813-230-2472 or melissausf@hotmail.com. **Please plan to drop your donation off at the front office before 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2014 with or without your name (your name will be announced as a donor as a gift).**

Thursday: VIP Luncheon - A special luncheon will be served in honor of our "stars" catered lunch from Spain Restaurant.

Friday: Dessert Day fit for a "Star" - We will sweeten our stars up with desserts fit for a "star." Students can bring in special treats that you have made or bought from the store to share with the teachers and staff. If possible, please individually wrap your goodies. **Please plan to drop off the goodies at the front office on Friday, May 9, 2014 before 8:00 a.m.**





Grady Elementary Spring Musical, Broadway Beat – Grady Pavilion 5:30 pm

Featuring:

Food Trucks offering grilled cheese, hot dogs and ice pops. The food trucks will be serving food starting at 4:30 pm. Grady PTA will receive 7.5% of sales after the first \$500 in sales per truck.

There will be a silent auction of 4 Park Hopper tickets to Disney World, 4 tickets to Sea World, and 4 tickets to Sea World Aquatica.

There will be a silent auction or raffle of prizes from at least 38 donors including: The Tampa Bay Rays, Lowry Park Zoo, Dinosaur World and other attractions; baskets of goodies from Starbucks, Home Depot and Lush Cosmetics and other retailers; and gift cards to Mitchell's, Carrabba's, Olive Garden, Beef O'Brady's and other restaurants; and so many more items.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 15 tickets for \$10. Raffle tickets go on sale at 5:15 pm.

You can find a complete list of all prizes on our website at <http://grady.mysdhc.org/2014-spring-musical-sponsors>.



Carol W. Kurdell – Chair
Susan L. Valdes – Vice Chair
Doretha W. Edgecomb
April Griffin
Candy Olson
Cindy Stuart
Stacy R. White, Pharm.D.

Thank you to the companies that sponsor our school:



House of Huckleberry

Thank you to our Spring Musical Sponsors:



Thank you to our Yearbook Page Sponsors:

