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Editor Cindy Casey
386-681-2756

OUR COASTAL VOLUSIA TOWNS

SECTION C, PAGE 7
THURSDAY
DECEMBER 15, 2011

DAYTONA BEACH DAYTONA BEACH SHORES HOLLY HILL ORMOND BEACH ORMOND-BY-THE-SEA PONCE INLET PORT ORANGE SOUTH DAYTONA WILBUR-BY-THE-SEA



Photo provided by Food Brings Hope

Students from eight Volusia County schools have dinner at Daytona State College in Daytona Beach. The children were later treated to a holiday concert by the Daytona State College band, choir and dance theater at the News-Journal Center.

Group brings students to dinner, concert

DAYTONA BEACH - Food Brings Hope students from eight public schools in Volusia County were treated recently to a holiday party starting with dinner and followed by a holiday concert.

Celebrating the excitement of the holiday season, more than 200 Food Brings Hope students enjoyed a meal prepared and sponsored by Sodexo while interacting with their peers, teachers and Food Brings Hope Chairwoman Forough Hosseini and Rodney and Anita Cruise. Rodney Cruise is the district manager for Sodexo, Inc.

The students were then transported to the News-Journal Center to attend the Daytona State College Holiday Concert. The students had the opportunity to listen to the symphonic band and concert choir and were enthralled by

the vignettes from the "Nutcracker" performed by the Dance Theater.

Seated in the balcony, the students enjoyed the evening and heartily participated in the Holiday Sing-A-Long.

"We want these students to have as many opportunities to be involved in the community programs including cultural, educational or sports events as possible to introduce them to a side of life that they normally are not exposed to. Participating in these activities has a tremendous positive impact on these students," said Hosseini.

Food Brings Hope, a donor designated fund of the Community Foundation of Volusia and Flagler counties, was founded by Hosseini, senior vice president of information for ICI Homes. The group, working with Volusia County public schools

for the past five years, has made measurable progress in breaking the cycle of poverty for homeless and other economically disadvantaged students. Key components of the program include: providing nutritious meals, tutoring, rewards for improvement, and opportunities to participate in cultural and sporting events.

Students from Westside Elementary, Turie T Small Elementary, Osceola Elementary, Campbell Middle, New Smyrna Beach Middle, Spruce Creek High and New Smyrna Beach High schools attended the event.

For more information about Food Brings Hope, visit FoodBringsHope.org or contact Beth Butera at 386-882-1976 or Beth@FoodBringsHope.org.