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## **Tie-tying ceremony honors young men**

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On Monday, 26 young boys at Edison Park Elementary School in Liberty City became young minority men of tomorrow, as they celebrated at the Second Annual Tie Tying Ceremony sponsored by the 5000 Role Models of Excellence.

The program included breakfast and speeches by pilot Barrington Irving, who made national news last year when he flew solo around the world; Donovan Campbell, sportscaster at WSVN-Fox 7; state Sen. Fredrica Wilson, founder of the Role Models of Excellence; and Charles Hurley, interim chief of police with Miami-Dade Public Schools, followed by the tie-tying ceremony.

The program is a big thing to the youngsters, said 5000 Role Models Site Director Webber J. Charles. "It says to them, 'You are important to us . . . we value you and you are a priority to us.' "

Charles said, "Often times our children aren't given the same urgency and dedication that some other children in other ethnic groups are given. We want to instill in them the need for a good education and we want to help build them to be strong citizens.

"Our children need to know they are our top priority. We are investing in them and we have to let them know that we are proud of them and that we love them so they will feel valuable. That's what this program is all about," he said.

The 26 inductees in the program include 17 fifth-graders and nine fourth-graders.

The fifth-graders include twins Kwonn and Devonte Moss, Carl Jean Marie, Ronny Francois, Marlvn Braynen, Edward Dervil, Robinson Wagnac, Vilinor Mezinord, Pierre Bauzile, Aurion Watts, Frantz Pierre, Peterson Beneche, Edgar Pena, Victor Perry, Isaiah Westbrook, Kenneth Taylor and Xavier Soloman. The fourth-grade inductees are Tyquan Robinson, Leon Ursery, Isaac Wagnac, Andre Ducasse, Kameron Clark, Soloman Cadet, Humberto Amores, Travis Alexander and David Dalpe.

A special Neighbors salute to all the young inductees to the 5000 Role Models of Excellence.

### **FAIR TRADE BAZAAR**

The Fair Trade Bazaar and Fashion Show will be presented by Arts at St. Johns and St. Johns United Methodist Church, Friday through Sunday at the church, 4760 Pine Tree Dr. in Miami Beach.

The fashion show portion of the program will be from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, moderated by Barbara Pergament and will feature celebrity models, George Neary of the Greater Miami Visitors and Convention Bureau and former Peace Corps volunteer; Wendy Unger, membership services manager, Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce; DeAnne Graham, director of sales and marketing, Welcome and Bienvenidos magazines; Mindy Matter Diamond, fashion coach and director, ProsperousOutlook.com and coordinator of the new Surfside Green Market; Rebekah Lengel of the Miami Light Project and the Emerging Leaders Council of Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs; Mary Margaret Thomas, The Painted Finish Studio Inc. and her daughter Mary Grace; and Nora Kreger, Miami Beach Garden Club and Miami Women's Club.

Tickets to the fashion show are \$10 each and include a free reception.

The trade bazaar will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, will feature a variety of items for sale, including clothing for all ages, coffee, chocolates, nuts and other foods; journals and baskets, jewelry, scarves, shawls and bags of cotton and silk.

This is a great time to purchase Christmas gifts and in doing so, you will be assured that the artisan of the object was paid a living wage.  
For more information call 305-613-2325 or 305-757-3197.

### **PRAYING FOR HOPE**

The Dade-Broward communities are invited to an Evening Prayer of Hope, at 4 p.m. on Nov. 30, the eve of World AIDS Day, at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. 1701 E. Oakland Park Blvd. in Oakland Park. Prayers will be offered for those who are sick or who have died; those who serve as caregivers and those engaged in the research for a cure for AIDS.

According to a press release from the Archdiocese of Miami, the Rev. Michael Lynch, pastor of Blessed Sacrament, said, "It is important to come together and pray not only for those who have lost their battle with this disease, but for those working hard to find a cure."  
For more information, call the parish office at 954-564-1010.

### **ARTIST LEADS TOUR**

Artist Sigmund R. Balka will lead a walking tour at the Jewish Museum of Florida of his exhibition The Eyes of the Collector, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Dec. 4.  
According to a museum press release, Balka recognized that the 20th century was a threshold for Jewish artists.

Although torn from their traditional European communities, the Jewish artists recorded their visual thoughts much in the same manner of those who kept diaries or wrote novels and plays. The works bridge two continents, embracing the modernity and freedom of American values, while still tethered to Jewish tradition. In this collection, the artists are linked by their heritage and memories and a substantial number are women, which demonstrates Balka's early history of championing women artists. Much of the collection is in the form of works on paper; ink drawings, etchings, water colors, woodcuts, linocuts, lithographs and collage and photography.

From generation to generation the works of the artists have followed the thread of Jewish history, each layer becoming the foundation for the next, according to the release.

After the program lunch will be for sale in Bessie's Bistro.

To make reservations for the walking tour, call by Dec. 1 to 305-672-5044, ext. 3175.

Send all items at least a week in advance to Religion Notes, c/o Neighbors, 2010 NW 150th Ave.,

Pembroke Pines, FL 33028, fax it to 1-954-538-7018 or e-mail [bhines@MiamiHerald.com](mailto:bhines@MiamiHerald.com). Pictures are accepted but cannot be returned.

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