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Fins Frenzy Fuels Dolphins Pride in '09



10:00 Mon 12-14-09

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The annual Fins Frenzy contest, designed to generate community spirit as the Miami Dolphins launch each football season, was a tremendous success. For the 2009 season, the team invited the students, faculty and staff of Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Monroe, and Martin County Schools to join in the frenzy by submitting creative art pieces that showcased their schools' Dolphins pride.

To be eligible, submissions were postmarked or delivered in person by Friday, October 30. Schools were asked to provide creative and collaborative art pieces excluding CDs and DVDs that were displayed at Land Shark Stadium. All received entries were subsequently voted on by Dolphins staffers after they were posted on the club level at the stadium. Entries were ranked based on a composite score made up of the following categories: Participation, or the portion of the school's population the voter felt participated in the project; Originality, or the level of creativity exhibited by the school in creating the project; and Presentation, or the entry's neatness and the school's use of materials. A plethora of creative pieces were submitted for this year's contest, including banners, posters, pennants, paper mache items, photos, and painted and drawn pieces, among others.

Registered schools from among Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Charlotte and Martin counties submitted entries in the contest, and the top 30 finalists were chosen after the extensive voting process. Each of the finalists was awarded a \$500 grant to be used for their school. "Flags for Fins," an art piece featuring Dolphins pennants and submitted by Nova Blanche Forman Elementary School, was announced as the Grand Prize winner. In addition to winning the \$500 grant, Nova Blanche Forman will also be eligible to receive a Miami Dolphins Jr. Training Camp, Fins Friday, Alumnus or Cheerleader Appearance at a later date. The other 29 finalists were: Coral Reef Elementary; Parkside Elementary; Pinewood Elementary; Pinecrest Academy Charter School North Campus; Sunny Isles Beach Community School; Country Isles Elementary; Silver Palms Elementary; Palm Cove Elementary; Brownsville Middle School; Citrus Grove Elementary; Davie Elementary; Coral Park Elementary; Wingate Oaks Center; Avocado Elementary; Skyway Elementary; A.C. Perry Elementary; Pinecrest Academy South Campus; Sheridan Hills Elementary; Palmview Elementary; East Elementary; Comstock Elementary; South Hialeah Elementary; Westwood Heights Elementary; Lauderhill Paul Turner Elementary; Ludlam Elementary; Earlington Heights Elementary; Greynolds Park Elementary; Sunland Park Elementary; and Pembroke Lakes Elementary. While the annual spirit contest has come to a close for now, area schools will certainly continue to feed the frenzy and show their support for the Dolphins during the remainder of the school year.

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