



Orlando Science Center Receives State Association Corporate Award

For Immediate Release

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TALLAHASSEE, FL – December 1, 2024—The Florida Head Start Association (FHSA) has selected the Orlando Science Center as its 2024-2025 Corporate Award recipient for leveraging its resources and leadership to support Orange County Head Start, which reaches over 2,900 children and their families and fosters positive community outcomes.

For nine years, the Orange County Head Start program and Orlando Science Center have been in a steadfast partnership, working on several related STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) programs. This collaboration, born out of the need to implement curricula to increase children's science and math outcomes, has stood the test of time, reassuring us of its effectiveness and impact.

Together, the Orange County Head Start program and Orlando Science Center have achieved a significant milestone with the successful operation of the Ignite Discovery program. This program has not only empowered parents and teachers to support young children's educational development through STEM-focused teacher professional development training and hands-on engagement activities but has also significantly improved children's outcomes in science and math, exceeding the national averages. This is a testament to our collective efforts and a cause for celebration.

The FHSA annual awards luncheon will occur on December 11, 2024, at the DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Orlando as part of the association's 25th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Conference. Complete details are available at www.FLHeadStart.org.

About FHSA

The Florida Head Start Association (FHSA) is a nonprofit organization that empowers its members to advocate for and enhance education, health, and social services for 45,000 children and families in Florida. Head Start is a key player in the early childhood education landscape, providing critical services, including school readiness and comprehensive health support, guided by the Head Start Program Performance Standards. Since 1999, FHSA has organized impactful events and training sessions to elevate discussions within the Head Start community. FHSA's dedication to this cause is unwavering, striving to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the most at-risk children and families.

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