



2024 TIME Fellowship Awards

The following 25 Sarasota County Schools educators were awarded 2024 TIME Fellowships by Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation. TIME Fellows each receive up to \$12,000 to complete a project designed to provide professional renewal and personal refreshment.

Alison Bapst and Kristen Kinkin

Toledo Blade Elementary School

"Rome More, Stress Less!" – An exploration of Rome and southern Italy to renew the desire for lifelong learning while visiting historical sites, schools, and churches.

Joseph Conner

Venice Middle School

"The History of the United States Through Math and Science" – A family journey through several influential, history-rich U.S. cities to explore the country's history through a lens of math and science.

Elise Conway

Englewood Elementary School

"Family and Community at the Intersection of Technology, Mental Health, and Culture" – An adventure to embrace culture, education, and community in the Philippines, carrying forward a passion for embracing differences and establishing connections.

Karen Cramer

Cranberry Elementary School

"Pioneer Pathway for My Pupils" – An expedition on the Mississippi River and across the prairies of Wisconsin in the paths of past pioneers to reignite passion for learning and enhance classroom lessons on American history.

Kate Daniel

Bay Haven School of Basics Plus

"Bringing Greek History and Culture Home" – An exploration of the culture-rich country of Greece, with small-group tours in three historical cities, to better understand its influence on the modern world.

Amanda Daughtry

Southside Elementary School

"Investigating the Equator and the Galapagos Islands" – A visit to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands to gain insight into the scientific treasures and beauty of the area, with the goal of inspiring future scientists and conservationists.

Kathryn Dougherty

Riverview High School

“July Rejuvenation in Costa Rica” – An immersion in nature and tranquility on the pristine and wild Osa Peninsula of Costa Rica.

Chrystal Hunt

North Port High School

“Refocus to Relearn: Math in Nature Across America” – A rejuvenating journey through several U.S. National Parks and along Route 66 to incorporate new learning and found treasures into math history lessons for students.

Laura King

Alta Vista Elementary School

“It’s About Time!” – A mother and son’s return visit to explore Bavarian towns in Germany and bring back experiences to inspire others.

Carrie Mills

Booker Middle School

“All the World’s a Stage: A Transatlantic Theatre Adventure” – A theater teacher’s family excursion to witness the apex of performance in two live-theater capitals of the world—New York City and London.

Susan Nations

Wilkinson Elementary School

“STEAM Through Europe: Past and Present to Build the Future” – A journey to experience the history of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) in France and Italy from the Renaissance to today.

Jennifer Nzeza

Sarasota Middle School

Malele Nzeza

Pine View School

“Greece, Spain, & Portugal: Exploring Treasures of the Iberian Peninsula and Mediterranean” – An immersive family exploration of history, culture, architecture, and science in three unique European countries.

Elizabeth Ogren

Venice Middle School

“Ancient Connections” – A quest to the sites of early civilizations in Egypt and Turkey to uncover the roots of humanity’s shared past and inspire students with the wonders of the ancient world.

Cameron Parker

Emma E. Booker Elementary School

“Refresh, Refocus, and Renew Joy” – A rejuvenating excursion through Alaska by train to experience nature, encounter wildlife, and learn new things.

Cynthia Pelosi

McIntosh Middle School

“Alaska Adventures Await!” – An adventure to see Alaska and bring back firsthand experiences for an annual, multidisciplinary teaching unit on the famed Iditarod dogsled race.

Tanya Pryer

North Port High School

“The Lower the Latitude, the Better the Attitude: Observing the Island Life Mentality Through a Psychology Lens” – A psychology teacher’s once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore San Juan, Puerto Rico, while integrating cultural research to gain professional content, grand experiences, and personal rejuvenation.

Carlos Silva

Booker Middle School

“Tunes & Tranquility: A Finnish Adventure” – A music teacher’s family journey to Finland to experience the culture and lifestyle of the “happiest country in the world” and attend the International Society for Music Education World Conference in Helsinki.

Anne Smith

Englewood Elementary School

“Mrs. Smith Goes West” – A journey west to several National Parks to recharge and renew while expanding knowledge of U.S. history and geography to bring back to the classroom.

Aimee Walker

Riverview High School

“At The Heart of Learning Lies Compassion” – A journey to experience South Africa, learn about its pre- and post-Apartheid history, and bring back lessons of compassion and tolerance for students in the International Baccalaureate program.

Dwana Washington

Emma E. Booker Elementary School

“Ending with the Beginning in Mind: An Egyptian Creative Residency” – A visit to the “open-air museum” of Egypt to walk the path of the ancestors and creators of this civilization, explore its ancient wonders, and appreciate the influence of its past on the modern-day present.

Tymesha Williams

Booker High School

“Exploring Ancient History” – A mother-son journey in Europe to bridge generations while exploring iconic sites and then connecting classroom ideas with real-life experiences.

Scott Wolfinger

Pine View School

“Wolfinger History Tour” – An educational and personal tour of European sites with historical connections to the Holocaust, to gain deeper understanding of its scope and apply new learning and resources to a high school course in Holocaust Studies.

Michael Wujnovich

Riverview High School

“Mr. W’s Grand Backpack Tour of Europe” – An AP human geography teacher’s “grand tour” of Europe, with stops in Portugal, Yugoslavia, the Netherlands, and England, to explore his parents’ respective heritage.