



**8TH GRADER DANIELLE COGDELL OF JACKSONVILLE WINS
GOVERNOR'S RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST AND
FOUR-YEAR FLORIDA PREPAID COLLEGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – February 2, 2011 – One local student's words will have a significant impact on her future. Danielle Cogdell of Jacksonville has been awarded one of three **Governor's Recognition Scholarships** by Duane Ottenstroer, chairman of the Florida Prepaid College Foundation Board, and Representative Mike Weinstein, at a recent Duval County School Board Meeting. Danielle, an eighth grader at James Weldon Johnson Middle School, received a four-year Florida Prepaid College Scholarship provided by the **Florida Prepaid College Foundation**.

Valued at approximately \$15,000, the Florida Prepaid scholarship covers four years of tuition and local fees at a Florida College of Danielle's choosing. The Governor's Recognition Scholarship initiative began in 2006, using private donations, with the goal of providing a college scholarship to at least one child in each county in the state. It is granted annually to middle school students who compose outstanding essays on the legacy of a past Florida governor.

This year, seventh and eighth grade students in select counties were challenged with the prompt: "Choose one former governor of Florida and describe his most significant impact on the Sunshine State and your life today."

Danielle writes about Governor Lawton Chiles' dedication to "serving the state of Florida's future: its children." She goes on to talk about how Governor Chiles' commitment to raise the education standards and create more community involvement allowed "Florida to continue to produce bright young citizens that would add to the success of the state." Danielle talks about how without Governor Chiles' challenge of "the standards of Florida's schools" she may not be receiving the quality education that would prepare her for college. Additionally, Danielle believes Governor Chiles' influence in healthcare will allow her to "have the chance to make a further impact as a pharmacist" by reaching all members of the population.

"This scholarship contest encourages students to immerse themselves in our state's rich history," Board Chairman Duane Ottenstroer said. "It inspires them to learn about their past in preparation for their future."

The Foundation is a direct-support organization of the Florida Prepaid College Board, which operates Florida Prepaid College Plans, the largest and most successful prepaid college plan program in the nation. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than 30,300 scholarships, including Project STARS Scholarships supported by the State Legislature.

For more information on the Florida Prepaid College Foundation, please visit floridaprepaidcollegefoundation.com and for more information on the Florida Prepaid College Plans, please visit myfloridaprepaid.com or call 1-800-552-GRAD (4723).

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About The Florida Prepaid College Foundation:

The Florida Prepaid College Foundation is the 501(c)(3) direct support organization for the Florida Prepaid College Board. Foundation scholarships provide a way for students who may not have otherwise had the opportunity to go to college, a guarantee of support to help them along the way. Many of the recipients are the first in their family to attend college. The Foundation was created in 1990 as a public/private partnership. Businesses, organizations and community groups may purchase contracts through the Foundation, allowing scholarship recipients to benefit from the advantages and guarantee offered by the Florida Prepaid College Plans. The Foundation provides prepaid college scholarships to economically disadvantaged students who are at risk of dropping out of school and to other deserving students in need of assistance.