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## **Harbor Branch Foundation Event Raises More Than \$50,000 for Indian River Lagoon Research**

**FORT PIERCE, Fla. (March 6, 2013)** – The Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation (HBOIF) raised more than \$50,000 at the second annual “Love Your Lagoon” dinner benefitting FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute’s (HBOI) Indian River Lagoon Observatory (IRLO) research and outreach efforts.

More than 230 people attended the dinner that celebrated lagoon research and this year’s guest of honor, Alto “Bud” Adams, Jr., selected by the HBOIF Board of Directors for his leadership in utilizing best practices in agriculture, greatly benefitting the lagoon. Proceeds from the dinner help to underwrite events including the recent Indian River Lagoon Symposium, Community Forum on Lagoon Health, and will support the upcoming first-ever national workshops regarding estuarine observatories to be held at HBOI.

This year’s sponsors included: PNC, Joe & Jennifer Duke, Michael & Misty Minton and the law firm of Dean Mead Minton and Zwemer, The Ethel Kennedy Foundation, Evans Properties, Ed Lippisch & Jacqui Thurlow Lippisch, John & Marilyn McConnell, Alto L. Adams, Jr., The Adams Ranch, Jean Geddes, Marilyn C. Link, Michael & Marie O’Reilly, Saunders Real Estate, Bill & Laurie Stewart, Michael & Carol Toner and Wells Fargo.

For more information on the Love Your Lagoon dinner, call 772-466-9876 ext. 224 or visit [www.indianriverlagoon.org](http://www.indianriverlagoon.org). For more information on HBOI, contact Carin Campbell Smith at 772-242-2230 or [carinsmith@fau.edu](mailto:carinsmith@fau.edu)

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**About Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute:**

*Founded in 1971, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at Florida Atlantic University is a research community of marine scientists, engineers, educators and other professionals focused on Ocean Science for a Better World. The institute drives innovation in ocean engineering, at-sea operations, drug discovery and biotechnology from the oceans, coastal ecology and conservation, marine mammal research and conservation, aquaculture, ocean observing systems and marine education. For more information, visit [www.hboi.fau.edu](http://www.hboi.fau.edu).*

**About Florida Atlantic University:**

*Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000*

*undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU's world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit [www.fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu).*