

Volume 1



Where Differences are Celebrated, not Tolerated

**January 2017 News from
LiFT Academy
and LiFT University**

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Student Spotlight Shines on Grayson Jennings

Grayson has Found a Home at LiFT Academy.

He has great teachers, good friends and a safe place to learn and grow. Grayson has been identified with autism. At his old schools he made excuses to avoid attending. At LiFT he is excited to start his day and is thriving. Since coming to LiFT, Grayson is now more engaged, both in the classroom and at home. He is making excellent progress in both reading and math and his parents share that he has made dramatic improvements in working to develop peer relationships. Grayson loves dinosaurs and is a fantastic artist! Take a tour of LiFT and see his many talented drawings on display.

Grayson is just one of a myriad of stories that could be shared with you about how LiFT is helping children in our community. Many of the students attending LiFT Academy are diagnosed or identified with a "neurodiversity" - such as autism, Asperger's syndrome, ADHD and other learning disabilities.



Therapy Swings

For children with special needs, therapy swings and adaptive outside equipment provide critical sensory integration therapy. LiFT Academy currently does not have *ANY* outside adaptive playground or exercise equipment. However, we *DO* have a great outdoor space **just waiting** to be filled!

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LiFT University, Our Students Work



"Founder's Day and Spirit Week" Celebrating our Four Year Anniversary

Gideon is a junior in our LiFT University transition program. During his freshman year, he began an internship at Wendy's. His skills and abilities progressed so much; he was offered a paid part-time position his sophomore year. Now in his third year, Gideon not only works part time, he also attends classes at LiFT U, volunteers at Menorah Manor and will be starting a new internship at Community Tampa Bay this month.



LiFT Academy and LiFT University
Board of Directors
Cordially Invites You

"LiFT Your Spirits at the Derby"

A Kentucky Derby themed mixer and auction benefiting LiFT Academy and LiFT University Transition Program, serving students with neurodiversities, (autism, spectrum disorders, Asperger's syndrome, Down syndrome, ADHD, and other learning differences).



Live viewing of the 143rd Kentucky Derby, dinner, open bar, live music, ladies hat contest, best dressed gentleman's contest, amazing silent and live auction.

Advance tickets required:

Click [here](#) to purchase tickets and sponsorships.

**The St Petersburg Coliseum
535 Fourth Avenue North St Petersburg, FL**

Individual Tickets: \$150

Individual, Business and Title Sponsorships Available

For more information contact jmiller@liftacademy.org, www.liftacademy.org or call (727) 258-7659.

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