



# FSU College of Medicine 10th Anniversary Jazz Brunch

By Gayle Guynup , Herald-Tribune / Monday, December 7, 2015

*See gallery from 10th Anniversary Jazz Brunch.*

You couldn't have asked for a more picture-perfect day for a jazz bunch celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Sarasota branch of the FSU College of Medicine. The event, chaired by **Renee Hamad**, was held under tent adjacent to Ca d'Zan, with the sun shining and a cooling breeze coming in off the water.

On hand for the occasion was **John Thrasher**, president of FSU, who said, "To see the college grow, to see it prosper and to see all of this support, it's just overwhelming."

Also seen among the more than 250 guests were **Cathy and Ali Choker, George Kole, Judy Zuckerberg, Michael Zuckerberg, Deb and Larry Kabinoff, Mark Famiglio, Jayne Giroux, Karen Hamad, Anne and Frank Folsom Smith, Pat Johnson, Dan Bailey, Robert and Pamela Meade, Scott Anderson, Michael Scott, Marjorie Singer Hillary Steele, Washington Hill and Drayton Saunders**, among many others.

Following the brunch, prepared by Michael's on East and some great jazz, performed by Pyramid Jazz, emcee **Heidi Godman** introduced the afternoon's speakers, which included Ringling Museum Executive Director **Steven High**, who paid tribute to FSU's impact on our community, and College of Medicine Dean **Bruce Berg**, who reminded guests that the college now serves three counties, with the help of six area hospitals and 330 physicians, and has graduated 149 MDs in its 10 years.

Next to speak was fourth-year student **Heather Lopez**, who said the day she received her acceptance, she knew that "everything I had dreamed of and hoped for was coming true." She found her calling in the Ob-Gyn rotation, and hopes to return to Sarasota to practice after her residency. "No other medical school compares to the one we have here," she said.

Thrasher recognized **Pat Johnson**, and paid tribute to the late Sen. Bob Johnson, who past away earlier this year, calling him a tireless supporter of FSU. He said of the students, "They are inspiring young men and women, who are the future of medicine."



Jean and John Thrasher. Photography by Wendy Dewhurst-Clark.