

Volunteers Are Always a Pleasure

By Beverly Perkins

As the 2020-2021 school year ends, many students and teachers have received recognition for their outstanding efforts and hard work during such a challenging time. But Learning for Success, Inc. (LFS) always believes that volunteers should be thanked and acknowledged just the same.

"The mission of Learning for Success, Inc. (LFS) is to help students connect their strengths,



Christine Bagnati, Publix Supermarkets
HR Retail Specialist

skills, talents, and interests to their dreams for the future, through partnerships with teachers, schools, volunteers, their businesses, organizations, and the community," said Program Director Tania Reynolds.

The organization with the award-winning program will present a special award to Christine Bagnati, HR Retail Specialist with Publix Supermarkets for her extraordinary commitment to career education at a virtual ceremony this month. Bagnati has created and hosted virtual field trips for more than 1000 Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe elementary and middle school students in 17 schools throughout this school year.

"The pandemic curtailed the in-person trips to our stores

we've been doing with LFS for many years," explained Bagnati. "We developed a great new collaboration to keep our young people connected with their futures in the workplace. It's been a win-win for everyone."

Beyond the exposure to the jobs at Publix stores provided previously, the presentations included a comprehensive look at their manufacturing, distribution, and information technology centers. These visits support year-long career awareness and workplace skills lessons developed by LFS and presented by partner volunteers and teachers through its Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW) and My Future Is Now (MFIN) programs.

"As a Title I school, our students have limited exposure to career opportunities beyond



what they know immediately around them," expressed Eliana Jimenez from Hollywood's Boulevard Heights Elementary. "The Publix virtual visit helped them learn about a myriad of new possibilities for their futures."

"Our partnership with Publix Supermarkets continues to grow every year thanks to their amazing leadership team that shares our vision for a better future for our young people," added Reynolds

► For more information about Learning for Success, Inc. and its career development and community collaborations programs, please contact Program Director Tania Reynolds at 305-338-5548, or visit <https://kapowlfs.com/>