

## People Fair Brings History to Life and Celebrates Leaders in the Community

By Scott Fishman

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Abraham Lincoln, Coco Chanel, Albert Einstein, Bill Gates and Cleopatra were among those featured at the University School's annual People Fair.

The event was the culmination of a month-long project where fourth-graders delved into the lives of a historical figure. This resulted in a plethora of entertainers, entrepreneurs, politicians, astronauts, Olympic champions and others being represented at the Davie fair. Lower School students visited the tables with QR codes to scan on tablets, which took them to multimedia projects their classmates made.

"They research their person, read biographies and think about why the particular person inspired them," said Ana Rodriguez, fourth-grade team leader. "Things they accomplished and struggles they battled through to become successful and made them the person they became or are."

Students created bio cubes with facts about their person, timelines, mock interviews, portraits, ChatterPix presentations and more.

Camila Goldszmidt took on Mexican artist Frida Kahlo and wore a colorful ensemble her mom sewed together. Camila painted a cast, which what Kahlo did after a bus accident caused her to be put in one. "I learned lot," she said. "When my mom told me about her, I knew I found my person. She really loved to paint, and even though she had trouble during her life, she still did it no matter what."

Asher Richter picked Milton Hershey. Dressed in a suit, Asher displayed a Hershey factory made of paper. "I liked the fact Milton never gave up," he said. "He tried many times to make a successful business until it was successful."

After participating in the People Fair last year, fifth-graders Brianna Lehrer, Max von Kahle and Madison Davis liked being spectators. "For me, Malala [Yousafzai] stood out," Davis said. "I think it was courageous of her to do what she did. ... She wanted to speak out for girls who couldn't go to school." "Anne Frank was also very brave and never gave up," Lehrer said.

"I was Wilbur Wright and saw someone did him," von Kahle said. "There was Wright with his brother, Orville. The student did a good job with it by making the big model of their plane they flew."



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Adam Carswell, lower school director, said students were engaged in the process. "Although the fair is the end result, I believe the process to get to this point is most important," he said. "The learning taking place is clearly ingrained in them. They knew their person they've chosen so well. I've learned a lot, too."