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Role play

Davie students
portray famous
folks at fair

By **Scott Fishman**
STAFF WRITER

Albert Einstein, Olympian Sasha Cohen, astronaut Sally Ride and President George Washington were all together recently.

The occasion was the People Fair at University School in Davie.

More than 120 fourth-graders stepped in the shoes of notable authors, inventors, scientists, astronauts, politicians, sports heroes, entertainers and other celebrities in the culmination of a month-long biography study.

Fourth-grade team leader

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Sheila Szikman said the project gives students a variety of ways to learn.

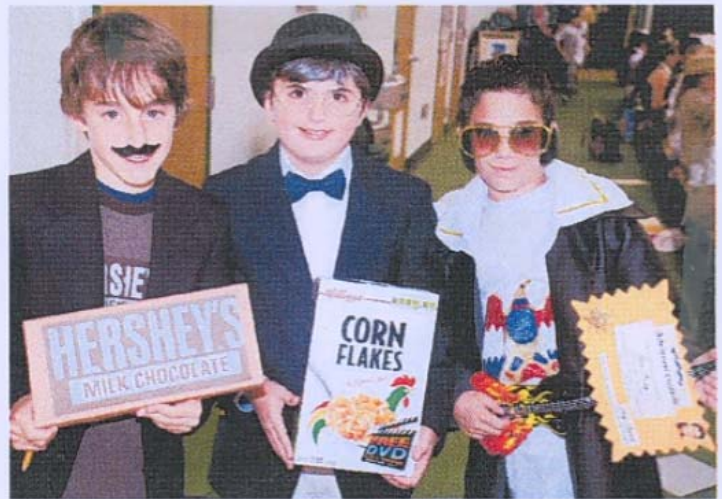
"They're having fun while learning, which is important," she said. "Every year it's different, getting bigger and more involved. Some of them really do an amazing job."

Students research and portray someone from the past or present who contributed to society and could be viewed as a role model. Students created monologues, narratives and awards for their person leading up to the fair.

They also designed a birth certificate and collage filled with things that make the person important. Many wrote news articles about the person or a letter she might have written to a friend or colleague.

Peri Shechtman enjoyed dressing up like Hillary Clinton and talking about what an inspirational person she is in her life.

"I think this type of unique project is great because it lets you express your knowledge in a creative way," Shechtman said. "I chose Hillary Clinton because she has made a huge impact and is a role model for many



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Among those taking part in the People Fair were, from left, Jonathan Reiner as Milton Hershey, Matthew Steiner as W.K. Kellogg and Josh Benbasat as Elvis Presley.

women."

Other grades get involved by participating in a scavenger hunt. Students go into fourth-grade classrooms at designated times in search of certain characters in the People Fair. They have to find a certain number of historical figures and go around asking for infor-

mation from the people they discover. The students bring back what they gathered to their classes for discussion.

Corey Riegelhaupt chose Arnold Schwarzenegger for his project.

"I admire him because he came from a foreign country, not knowing how to speak English,

and became the governor of California," he said. "Participating in the People Fair is important because it helps us learn in a different way. It's more exciting than reading the information in a textbook."

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