

# Press Release

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The Science Center  
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[www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org](http://www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org)

**For Immediate Release**  
**Thursday, February 4, 2016**  
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## Local Organizations Invest in Upgrades to the Science Center

**PINELLAS COUNTY, FL (February 4, 2016)** – The Science Center is pleased to announce the gift-in-kind donations from Ledman USA, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 915, Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers (RENEW) committee, and Tampa Area Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) to complete a LED lighting retrofit for the 55 year old building.

The LED lighting retrofit will replace antiquated, energy-consuming fluorescent lighting. The retrofit is part of a modernization project that includes window tinting, roof replacement, and updates to the HVAC system. These improvements are intended to cut the Center's energy usage and reduce maintenance costs while improving the quality of the classroom environment.

LED lamps valued at over \$9,500 were donated by Mr. Nick Melnick, President of Ledman USA; Mr. Martin Lee, CEO of Ledman Optoelectronic Co., Ltd.; and Colin Huang Vice President of Ledman Optoelectronic Co., Ltd. Ledman is an international manufacturer specializing in high quality LED components, LED displays and LED lighting products. IBEW Local 915, RENEW, and Tampa Area JATC generously donated time and labor valued at over \$6,200 to complete the project.

Since its opening in 1959, the Science Center has been creating innovative STEM learning experiences and programs that are accessible to all segments of our community. For the children and families who walk through the front door of the Science Center each year, that door represents fun, friendship, hope and opportunity. During this past school year, over 6,000 children participated in after school programs, enjoyed summer camp activities and attended classes offering hands-on learning experiences in four science categories, including Life, Physical, Earth & Science and Nature of Science.

Gifts such as these ensure that the Science Center is able to continue its important work in developing high quality programs and education for families, teachers, and students. To learn more about the Science Center or to find out how you can help, please visit [www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org](http://www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org).

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### **About The Science Center**

The Center is located on seven acres in west St. Petersburg. Each year the Center educates school children through field trip classes; offers winter, spring and summer workshops; and takes science education courses to the community. To learn more about the Science Center's offerings, visit [www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org](http://www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org).