



Making a Difference

Renaissance Schools

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, autism spectrum disorder (ASD) now effects 1 in 88 children and 1 in 54 boys. It is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the U.S. The **Renaissance Learning Center** (elementary school) and the **Renaissance Learning Academy** (high school) are Florida charter schools

located in West Palm Beach with a mission of developing and providing effective education and tailored programs for children with autism spectrum disorders. Both are model programs, not only in our community, but they have also received national attention. The BallenIsles Charities Foundation awarded the **Renaissance Learning Center** grants in both 2012 and 2013 to develop a Healthy Life Skills program to educate and reinforce good nutrition. Our funding of a small portable greenhouse provided the children with an opportunity to plant, water, and harvest fruits and vegetables to underscore classroom learning about healthy foods and the science curriculum. At the High School level, our support of the **Renaissance Learning Academy's** Employment Transition Program supports student vocational plans and employment prospects especially knowing the unemployment rate for ASD children is 88% or higher. Job skills learned at the Academy and



at the school's employer partner locations will increase both student confidence and competence. Many families here in BallenIsles appreciate personally the special needs of autistic children. Now you have **made a difference** in the education and employment of local students who need our special help.

BallenIsles Charities Foundation, Inc.
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Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
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enter or find a pledge form which is available throughout
the Club facilities.

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