

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY



**Reach  
FOR THE STARS**

**FUNDRAISING AUCTION & GALA**

## ***Frequently Asked Questions About “Reach for the Stars” Featuring Famous Speed Painter Michael Israel***

### **What are the event details?**

“Reach for the Stars” will be the first time Admiral Farragut Academy opens its doors to the new performing arts building, **DeSeta Hall!** Expect to be surprised, delighted, and over-the-moon when you see this amazing space and witness art-in-concert by famous speed painter **Michael Israel**. Mark your calendars to join us on **Saturday, April 6, 2019, from 6:30-10:30 p.m.** Purchase sponsorships and tickets at [www.farragut.org/RFTS](http://www.farragut.org/RFTS).

### **What makes Admiral Farragut Academy special?**

Admiral Farragut Academy is a college-prep, private school located in St. Petersburg, Florida which serves girls and boys in PreK-12th grade. Our Upper School, which starts in 8th grade, is also known worldwide for its Boarding program and Naval Science program. The school’s mission is to provide a college preparatory environment that promotes academic excellence, leadership skills, and social development within a diverse community of young men and women. With two graduates who have walked on the moon and course offerings from scuba to aviation, Farragut is proud to offer students the opportunity to quite literally “Reach for the Stars”. As a diverse community with students coming from 30 countries, 17 U.S. states, and various cultural backgrounds, Farragut provides financial assistance for deserving and qualified families.

*“We have three daughters at Farragut. It’s an amazing institution. Farragut has state-of-the-art facilities with great technological systems. The academics and college prep aspect here is phenomenal but above all the Academy helps these young men and women build self-confidence. Any child after attending two years at Farragut can walk up to any adult and look them straight in the eye and shake their hand. This firm foundation of being able to show respect, integrity, and high self-esteem is embodied in the values taught to our children here. Our kids are taught to respect and honor every individual regardless of their race, religion or national origin. The extracurricular activities like robotics, art, science, and sports encourage the kids to think outside the box. Our daughters love and cherish every moment they spend at Farragut.” - Dr. & Mrs. Fackih*

### **Why does the Parents’ Group host a fundraising event every year?**

For 20 years the Parents’ Group, which consists solely of Admiral Farragut Academy parent volunteers, has raised funds to pay for additional school needs that are not allocated in the school’s budget. Recent projects that were funded include buying a school van, resurfacing the tennis courts, installing filtered-water stations, adding sun shades at the playground, and much more! This group is a vital part of annual school improvements and they raise funds through large events including the Golf Tournament hosted in fall and the Annual Auction hosted in spring.



## Who is Michael Israel?

“Speed Painting” performances and inspiring compassion and support for many charities including the Special Olympics, Make-A-Wish, Komen Breast Cancer, and Ronald McDonald House Charities. [Watch this video to see Michael in action!](#)

Michael was born in 1960 in New York and began painting at age 2. His childhood was split between a nomadic life traveling across America with his father and an aquatic life aboard a houseboat with his sea captain mother. By age 6 he was obsessed with martial arts and became a national black belt champion by 17; he credits martial arts training for his super-fast painting. He has shared the limelight with celebrities, CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, and world leaders alike painting at prestigious venues including Grimaldi Forum in Monte Carlo, the Olympic Medals stage in Salt Lake with Brooks & Dunn, the Berkshire Hathaway Shareholders Meeting with Warren Buffett, and Presidential events in Washington, DC. Michael’s audience must only be present to be drawn in, engaged and energized. His live action painting viscerally makes the connection between music, art, and the viewer’s heart - there are audible gasps as he works his magic, passing energy back and forth with the cheering crowd during an experience they will remember the rest of their lives! A testament to the emotional and inspirational power of his art is that paintings completed in minutes have sold as high as \$250,000!

## What will the silent and live auctions include?

There will be opportunities to silently bid on items like parking spots, class projects and experiential events. The live auction will focus on paddle raises for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) projects and special experiences similar to last year. In addition, Michael Israel will put on an impressive performance as you witness art-in-concert which will be available for live bidding. There will be items for all budgets and a variety of paintings and artwork to choose from. All proceeds will go to the Parents’ Group and Admiral Farragut Academy.

## Who is invited and welcome to attend?

As always all Farragut families and supporters are invited and encouraged to attend but we hope you also extend the invite to your friends, family, neighbors, employers, employees, and more too! With an exciting artist like Michael Israel, we are inviting the community-at-large including art enthusiasts, politicians, corporations, Farragut friends and family, and more. Please note this event is 21 and up.

## What are the ticketing prices and sponsorship levels?

- **The Unforgettable Universe \$10,000** (12 tickets)
- **The Glorious Galaxy \$5,000** (8 tickets)
- **The Shooting Stars \$2,500** (4 tickets)
- **Individual Ticket \$150** (1 ticket)
- **Registration information available at [www.farragut.org/RFTS](http://www.farragut.org/RFTS)**

## How can you be involved and/or support the auction?

Are you connected to major players or companies in our community? Do you want to work with your child’s grade to create the class project? Do you want to help set up and decorate prior to the event? The Parents’ Group President Marjorie Deskovich is in the process of forming committees and would love to find a fit for you based on your skill sets and area of interest. Please email [parentsgroup@farragut2.org](mailto:parentsgroup@farragut2.org) or call 727-384-5501.