

Community Supporter Spotlight: How Mariano and The Watch Aficionado Became Our First Business Partner



The TCSFA community achieved something remarkable this month, and it all started with a local business stepping up to lead the way.

As we look back on April's Autism Awareness Month, we want to shine a spotlight on Mariano Steisel and the entire team at The Watch Aficionado, who came up with the brilliant idea for the Autism Awareness Challenge. Through their dedication and community spirit, they helped us reach an amazing new milestone.

The Power of Local Partnership: Mariano's Success



When Mariano launched this April challenge, he opened his doors and created a special experience. By hosting and selling custom awareness T-shirts, Mariano turned his storefront into a hub for advocacy and support, blending the fundraiser with his famous Whiskey and Cigars event format. Every conversation

started, every shirt sold, and every dollar raised at his shop went directly toward building the foundation for the Treasure Coast School for Autism. Mariano has set an example of how local business owners can directly impact the lives of local families. His leadership provided the spark that ignited our entire community.



Cracking the \$3,000 Mark

Thanks to the momentum generated by The Watch Aficionado and the overwhelming generosity of everyone who bought a shirt or donated online, the challenge officially raised over \$3,000!

These funds are critical as we transition into our final phases of preparation. They will directly support the startup costs, specialized curriculum, and resources needed to welcome our students this August.

Who Will Be Our Next Business Partner?

If you own a business and want to follow in Mariano's footsteps, or if you would like to volunteer with us, please email us directly with your contact information. For potential volunteers, please include any relevant skills or experience (such as being a former teacher or having specialized training) and a brief idea of how you see yourself fitting into our mission.

Thank you, Mariano, and thank you to everyone who made this month such a historic success for TCSFA!