



Winter

STAR/CSF-Ft. Worth Times



Helping students achieve a choice in education!



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STAR Graduates Continue in Excellence

Vision Statement

The Board of Trustees of STAR Sponsorship Program, Inc./CSF FW is dedicated to increasing educational options for children in Tarrant County whose parents do not have the financial means to provide an education best suited to their children's unique needs.

We believe the well-being of the entire community is enhanced when children are given a quality education that allows them to achieve to their utmost ability. Therefore, we intend wherever possible, to encourage partnerships with schools, parents, community organizations and concerned citizens in supporting its children to achieve the

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316 Bailey Avenue
Suite 109
Fort Worth, Texas
Phone: 817-332-8550
Fax: 817-332-8825
starcsf@gmail.com

We recently caught up with some of our STAR graduates to find out how they are doing now. We are so pleased and proud to see how their dedication to excellence in education is benefiting their lives!

Dear STAR,

I am graduating in May with a BS in biochemistry and a minor in Global Health Technologies. I am planning to teach at a middle or high school for my gap year before going to medical school. Part of the reason I'm choosing to teach instead of taking another job like research is that I believe the way students are learning today and how they are taught can be improved upon. School is not just a place to learn new concepts, but it should be a place that encourages students to think about and build upon those concepts. In my Contemporary Issues in Education class this semester, I've learned how the huge academic gap can be mitigated by great teachers who encourage creativity and critical thinking in their classrooms. That really inspired me to become a teacher for my gap year.



Along with my family, STAR program played a huge part in helping me get to where I am today. Without the sponsorship I had in my early years, I wouldn't have been exposed to the great teachers, the environment, and the inspirations that have led me to this part of my life. [My first sponsor] started me on this journey, so that any good things I do in the world is in part because of him.

Ly — STAR Graduate



"All I Want For Christmas is a Sponsor!"

We have excellent STAR students who need sponsors! You get to see your gift in action all throughout the year! The rewards are

immense!



Dear STAR,

I have been serving in active duty in the United States Navy for the past two years now. I have been stationed in Monterey, California studying to be a linguist with a 63 week Chinese Mandarin course. We were taught how to fluently and proficiently read, write, and speak Chinese Mandarin. I graduated from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in December with a 3.5 GPA. I am currently moving to Hawaii where I have been stationed.



During this long, arduous journey, many times I have thought about my sponsor and how grateful and appreciative I am of the time and finances invested in me, which has played a major part in the success I have experienced in my career thus far. I am thankful for the commitment that was made investing in my potential, starting from the third grade. Those contributions have positively impacted me now, even as a young adult.

I honestly feel that being a part of the STAR program has given me the opportunity not only to succeed but excel. I owe a large part of my accomplishments to the STAR program, and I feel like other talented but disadvantaged youth whose parents don't have the financial means or access to a better education will greatly benefit from this type of program.

God Bless,
Jamie — STAR Graduate



Dear STAR,

The most current update on my life is that I just got a new job working in my degree field. I am now the Multimedia Specialist here at Texas Wesleyan University. I completed my first week last Friday and I am really enjoying it. I am also continuing to work on my Master's in Professional Counseling. I plan on taking the upcoming spring semester off to concentrate on learning my new job responsibilities and I will return to school in the summer or fall of 2011. When I return I should graduate the following year.



Thank you,
Kenneth — STAR Graduate





Help a STAR Student - Donate Your Old Computer!

Do you know many STAR Students do not have a computer? Drop off your old computer and we will donate it to a STAR student! It will help them reach for the stars in their educational journey! Drop it by the office at 316 Bailey Ave. Ste. 109 Ft. Worth, TX 76107 and receive a tax deductible gift letter!



Parents Write Expressing Gratitude...

Dear STAR,

My son Javier received help from the scholarship fund for four years... The help we received from the fund was tremendous. We were blessed during his senior year with increased employment to meet the financial needs of his education. Javier graduated with an 86.6 GPA. He has been accepted into the University of Advancing Technology in Tempe, Arizona, and is pursuing a degree in software engineering.

The scholarship fund has made all of this possible. Thank you to each and every one of your donors and supporters. My prayer is for your continued work in helping children and their families. You have been a blessing to your family. Thank you, thank you.

Blessings,

Etta — STAR Parent



Students Write to their Sponsors....



Dear Sponsor,

How have you been? I have been very good! I've been good in both life and school. So far all of the papers I have gotten back from my teachers have been A's and B's. I would like to say thank you for letting me go to [my school]. If you didn't help pay for my school, I would be in a public school right now. I am so grateful that you helped...

So far school has been awesome! There have been no bumps on the highway to school! I can't wait till next year when I finally go to middle school! I am so excited! Thank you for everything you have done for me!

Love,

Leticia — Grade 5



Dear Sponsor,

This season I am in soccer for the first time, and I made my first goal! Also, in practice last week we scrimmaged the boys and I made the only goal. It was really cool.

I have made a lot of friends... I am learning a lot of new and interesting things like Vietnamese and piano that I wouldn't be learning without your help, so thank you very much!

In Science we are going to do a project that is about an egg turning into a chick and I am very excited about it because it's my first Science project and I can't wait to see how it works.

In Spanish I have learned body parts, colors, and shapes. I also got a 100 on a Vietnamese test!

I hope you have a good day,

Macie — Grade 3



Dear Sponsor,

How are you? How is your family? I hope everyone is okay. ...As you know, I have been talking violin classes. I will perform on our school's Turkey Bingo. But I haven't told you the best part. In our school, out of

all the 5th grade classes, I was the only one who skipped a book in math! So I am the only 5th grader who went to a 6th grade class. I am very happy right now and forever. So when I am in the 8th grade I will be in Algebra. Yay me! Only I'd like to say thank you to one person for giving me this chance in life! So thank you for this great opportunity. May God thank you for what you are doing.

May God Bless You!

Daniela — Grade 5



To my dear Sponsor,

Greetings! How are you? I hope that you are fine and in good health. Last weekend my siblings and I went canning. Canning is a word invented in our school which means knocking on people's doors and asking for cans that they want to donate to the poor and the homeless. Through canning we collected almost 170 cans! It was a lot of fun. That you for being such a wonderful blessing to me and my family. I am always praying for you. God Bless!

Sincerely,

Grant — Grade 8



These wonderful and inspiring letters are a sample of what our STAR students send to their sponsors during the year to update them on their progress. If you would like to receive some of these special letters yourself by sponsoring a child, or know someone who would, please let us know by contacting us at 817-332-8550 or starcsf@gmail.com

We have students on a waiting list that would love to have the opportunity for a choice in education.

It is increasingly clear that better education is essential if children at all socio-economic levels are to feel a part of what has been called the American Dream—a chance to work hard, excel, and reap the rewards—both personally and in the marketplace. By providing the opportunity for a private education to students whose parents cannot afford it, STAR Sponsorship Program and Children's Scholarship Fund Fort Worth will help make a difference—student by student. *Giving parents a choice, giving children a chance...one student at a time!*

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316 Bailey Ave. Ste. 109 Fort Worth, TX 76107

Phone: (817) 332-8550 Fax: (817) 332-8825

Email: starcsf@gmail.com Website: <http://www.starcsffw.org>