

### **Monthly Newsletter**

June 2020

Summer is here! Shooting Stars Foundation stays on course to provide youth around the world with ways to practice a healthy lifestyle, staying home, while exercising our bodies and minds. In Spring 2020, *Nebula Youth Camp* program successfully conducted online incubator classes, which were followed by the early summer sessions on June 3rd. We also received many interesting project ideas for our *COVID-19 Youth Initiative* program, resulting in SSF providing seed funding for 2 humanitarian projects in India and Indonesia, and 4 problem-solving projects from U.S. applicants.

In this edition, we would like to showcase the people 'behind the scenes'. Our *Donor-Scholar Liaison Team*, who help facilitate ongoing communication between generous donors and their grateful scholars and our *High School Officers*, who have worked smart and hard to deliver successful programs, bringing in more funds to not only help worldwide disadvantaged youth receive a college education, but also to help local youth in the U.S. realize their full potential through academic and entrepreneurship trainings.

# Our Scholars Highlight

Meet our scholar, Aarti Bhosale, a 4th year student math-enthusiast, at the College of Engineering Pune. During the COVID-19 lockdown, she worked on a mini project "Heartbeat Sensor" with 3 classmates, as part of their curriculum. She wishes to be a productive citizen in the world and provide her parents with a comfortable life in the future. She enjoys counseling young people and guiding them to work hard and strive for a better future. She thanked the Shooting Stars Foundation for supporting her.



Ashish Gangwani is doing his B.E. Computer Science at Thadomal Sahani Engineering College, India. He fell in love with computer science engineering in 11th grade. Waking up at dawn for a long train ride from home to college, Ashish tried to balance his studies and responsibilities at home. He dreams to work for Google, and apply his insight for a global corporation. With the help of Shooting Stars, he hopes to earn a degree in business administration, and donate to those from backgrounds like his.



## **NEBULA Youth Camp - Spring 2020**

The first set of April Cohort Online Incubator graduated on Sunday, May 17, 2020, with an amazing pitch and demo presentation. The 2 teams spent 4 weeks in online classes with professional mentors and our own peer mentors – Vaarun and Ansh.

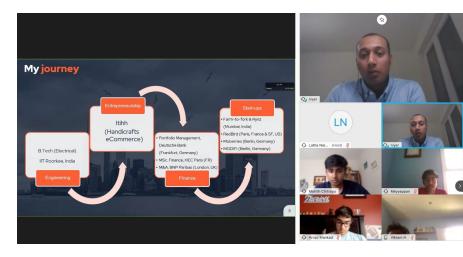
In such a short period of time, the teams learned to develop mobile applications, created an entire working prototype of their products, and delivered a pitch on their companies to the 2 professional judges – an Operations Manager at Uber, and a former Data Scientist and now professor at UC Berkeley. One team created a product aiming to upgrade the gadgets in our home, and the other proposed a Book Rental App.

The proceeds from this camp will fund the college education of 3 students!

Thanks to Nalini who ideated this program in just 1 week, and to Preetha and Shreya who helped with operations. More info: <a href="https://www.nebulayouthcamps.org/incubator">https://www.nebulayouthcamps.org/incubator</a>







### **COVID-19 Youth Initiative Results**

COVID-19 is a worldwide pandemic that has affected so many. Anybody could get it, recover from it, or lose the battle against it. When the Shooting Stars Foundation launched the COVID-19 Youth Initiative in March 2020, we received applications from youth around the world, ranging from ages 11 to 23 years old, proposing projects to help their communities deal with this pandemic. Our team, Samyu, Meera, and Elisa, thank our judges Agnes, Shyam, Amalu, Moeljadi, Litti, and Meera, for taking time to give feedback to our applicants so they could provide more applicable and sustainable solutions through their projects. This project is available for view at https://shooting-stars-foundation.org/covid19, SSF Facebook, and https://twitter.com/shootingstarorg/status/1276308978679582723?s=21.

#### **GRANT RECIPIENTS**

\$100 Grant	\$100 Grant	\$75 Seed Grant
Humanitarian project.	Humanitarian project.	To develop the Gropol App to help improve public safety.
2 <sup>nd</sup> year student PSG Institute of Technology 8 Applied Research, Coimbatore, Janubladu, India. http://www.psgitech.ac.in Yoga Balaji	Incoming 12 <sup>th</sup> graders team SMAK Santo Paulus, Jember, Jave, Timur, Indonesia. http://saintpauljember.sch.id Theodorus D. Darmawan, Gabriela M.R. Van Frebn, Angel Victoria Lee Veronica F. Meilitasari Elizabeth F. Silvyor, Fernando G.A.T. Putra	incoming 8th graders team 49ers STEM Leadership Institute at Cabrillo Middle School, USA. https://cabrillo-scusd- ca.schoolloop.com/49ersSTEM Om Kulkarni
\$50 Seed Grant To develop Fluoresce! for personal hygiene. Incoming 8th graders team 49ers STEM Leadership	\$50 Seed Grant To develop Cash Disinfecting Box for commerce hygiene. Incoming 6th grader Monticello Academy, USA.	\$50 Seed Grant To develop Tap19, a Website that will help public direct their funds to help needy organizations/individuals during COVID-19 pandemic.
Institute at Cabrillo Middle School, USA. https://cabrillo-scusd- ca.schoolloop.com/49ersSTEM	https://www.monticelloacademy.org/ Djoni Ray Muresan Incoming 8th grader 49ers STEM Leadership	Incoming 12th graders team 49ers STEM Leadership Institute at Santa Clara High School, USA.
Aryan Ponnuru Karan Kolappa	Institute at Cabrillo Middle School, USA. https://cabrillo-scusd- ca.schoolloop.com/49ersSTEM Grace Muresan	https://santaclara.schoolloop.com/sl  Anwar Mujeeb Pranav Gunda, Naga Trish Thy-Thy Le

#### HONORABLE MENTIONS

- Vinaya Gopal Kharvi and Shreedevi, 3<sup>rd</sup> year students, Mangalore University, Bhatkal, Karnataka, India. <a href="https://mangaloreuniversity.ac.in/">https://mangaloreuniversity.ac.in/</a>
- 2. Mamta Brothers, 3<sup>rd</sup> year students, R.R. College of Nursing, Gurgaon, India.

#### ORGANIZERS



#### JUDGES



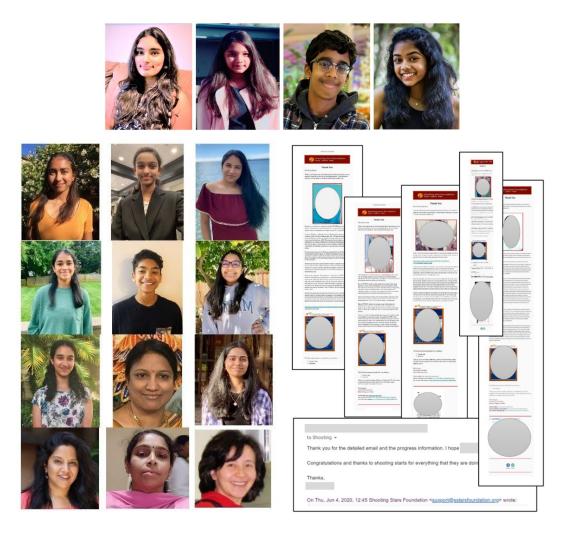




### **Honor the Donor**

At Shooting Stars Foundation, the process of keeping our donors updated on the scholastic progress and general happenings in our scholars' lives starts with our Donor-Scholar Liaison Team who arrange for phone calls between SSF Volunteers, Scholars and Donors (when available). An SSF volunteer takes notes on the discussions during this phone call, which high school / college volunteers from the Donor Update Team then put into writing to be sent to our donors.

We thank our current letter writers: Shreya S, Ashwni, Shreya J, Sinthu, Ramen, Isha, Nikhita, and Meera and our previous letter writers: Shrishti, Anirudh, Nisha, Divyanshi, Rishitha, and Smrithi. The team also comprises adult volunteers who help review the letters, attach scholar documents and send the letters to donors. We are touched to learn that this letter writing experience is very meaningful to our high school volunteers. We are equally humbled to hear that our donors are appreciative of the detailed update letters they receive.



# **High School Officers Appreciation**

To commemorate the achievements of our organization and the people behind the scene, we organized a Shooting Stars High School Officers Appreciation Online Event on Sunday, June 14th, 2020. All 30 officers were featured to present their work for SSF, 4 alumni officers were present to support their successors, 2 scholars were in attendance (at 5AM - their local time) to appreciate the work that led to the scholarships that they received. A few adult volunteers were also present to thank these high school volunteers.

All of us came out inspired by the amount of work put in during the 2019-2020 period, and the impact we have made as a team. We heard uplifting stories from past alumni, and heartfelt grateful words from our current scholars! We are looking forward to an even more amazing 2020-2021!

For more information, follow this link:

https://shooting-stars-foundation.org/meet-the-team-2/meet-the-team-2020





### More Ways to Support Shooting Stars

- Become a High School Officer: Lead programs, social media, mentor
- Adopt a Scholar Help one student graduate college
- Professional Mentoring: Coach Nebula Incubator Program
- Volunteer with Scholars: Mentor Scholars, Teach them Skills, Rounded development
- Volunteer with SSF: Run Programs, Write Content, Manage donors!

Copyright © Shooting Stars Foundation. All Rights Reserved.

www.shooting-stars-foundation.org



