



**SHOOTING STARS
FOUNDATION**

NEWS LETTER

Educate | Empower | Enable

July - September 2023



Mission and Vision

At Shooting Stars Foundation, we envision a future where all young people have equal access to the STEM knowledge and skills needed to achieve academic success, career success, upward mobility, and a lifetime of economic self-sufficiency for themselves, their families, and their communities.



Quarter highlights

This quarter we wrapped up TEN summer programming initiatives reaching hundreds of students. From chess to bioinformatics to entrepreneurship, we feel fortunate to have educated those in need across the US. To all of our volunteers, employees, partner organizations, sponsors, and grant funders we say a big THANK YOU!



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Q3 Summer Highlights

Marching Towards Our Vision

744

STEM scholars funded

4730

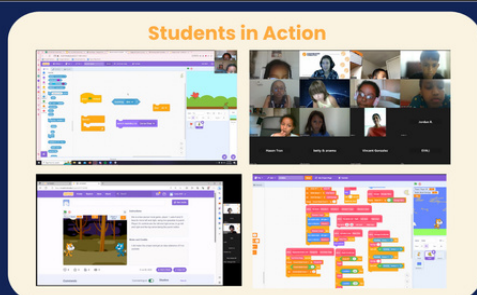
underrepresented students
served since BOY 2021

**Join our Movement
STEM FOR ALL**

US STEM Programs

EAH Housing - Game design

Coaches Rowan, Jan, Ayush, and Vishal led more than 30 residents of EAH Low Income Housing communities through the process of game design. As we continue our two year partnership with EAH we are excited to have hosted such an engaged and responsive group of young people. A big thank you to our coaches who were able to meet students where they were in their learning journey. With campers grades ranging from 3 to 10, this is quite a feat!

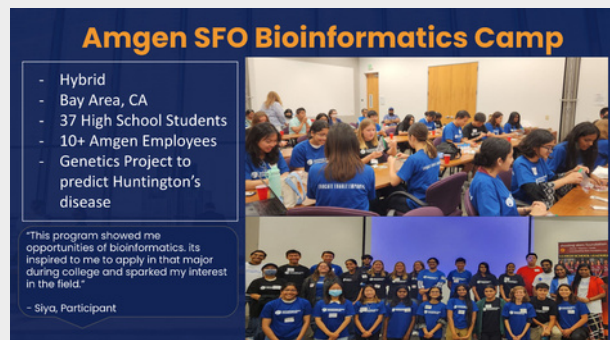


"My two favorite parts of the camp were learning how to use the more complex codes, to make a further complex game, which people like, and the second favorite part of the camp was actually showcasing my game, they told me their thoughts and the feedback was very helpful."- Damian, Participant

Amgen - Bioinformatics

Hosted by Amgen in their greater San Francisco Area offices, we held our very first bioinformatics camp where students learned the basics of drug development and programming, mentored by professionals and supported by peers in every session. 37 high school students completed the camp.

93% of students reported their understanding and level of confidence with bioinformatics concepts significantly by participating in this camp.



"I enjoyed learning how to code in R, learning about a software engineer's role in biotech, and learning the application of technology and systems and how important it really is to creating better treatments/finding information" - Iris, Participant

Tampa - Amgen - Entrep and Mobile App design

From July 24-July 28 75 middle and high school participants in Tampa, FL enjoyed 35 hours of programming taught by Amgen's very own professional mentors! 6+ plus professional mentors from Amgen taught the basis of ideation, product design, marketing, finance, and pitching.



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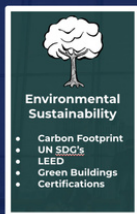
US STEM Programs

We are grateful for our continued partnership with Amgen and the ability to gather together once again for meaningful in person connection and learning.

Girls Only Sustainability

This program led 21 high school women through explorations of environmental, social, and economic sustainability. Participants completed impressive research projects such as Sustainability Scale to Prevent Greenwashing, Refill Stations for Recycling Skincare Products, and Pfand System to Diminish the Dangers of Lithium Waste. We are so impressed with all participants!

Sustainability



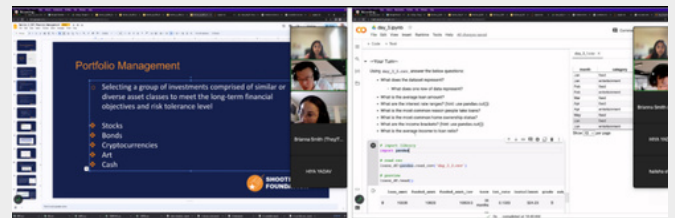
" I got to meet girls who have the same interest as me, learn about different environmental and economic issues, and we worked on research projects together"
- Hillary, Participant

Girls Finance Planning Academy

Board member Kevin Lee and talented coach Vanessa Anguiano led two dozen young women through python programming, data visualization, and helped students understand how to take care of their financial futures.

This two week, 40 hour camp for young women culminated in students creating a data science based finance project. We are honored to have created a space for young women to learn and grow in their financial literacy and understanding. 100% of program participants reported an increased ability to plan for their financial futures compared to before the camp.

"This program has helped me cement my desire to pursue a career in a stem field and has also helped me budget for the future." - Chloe, Participant



In Person - Tech Immersion - Netscout

Shooting Stars Foundation recently hosted a dynamic tech event with Netscout, engaging 15+ passionate employees. Managers shared experiences as women in tech, and leaders judged impactful business presentations by high school girls. The valuable feedback provided to students enhanced their projects. Post-presentations, girls explored Netscout's labs, igniting curiosity about technology. We continue to be grateful for Netscout's dedication to nurturing innovation in this longstanding partnership



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India Programs

A Engineering Career Panel, emceed by Rukshana featuring Jayashree, Jayasurya, and Vaibhav, provided valuable insights into Engineering career paths.



Dr. Parasakthi graced the event, and Ms. Deva conducted an engaging icebreaker session, where scholars introduced themselves with adjectives. A lively dance session by Sreeni Master added a touch of exuberance, lifting everyone out of their seats for a moment of pure fun.



The Chennai edition of the Shooting Stars Foundation Family Meet transcended the traditional event format, becoming a dynamic space for learning, interaction, and celebration. The collective spirit of scholars, alumni, and mentors marked this day as a true testament to the success and impact of Shooting Stars Foundation.



Alumni Stories Highlight

Every Quarter we highlight 9 of our Scholars and Alumni stories to our donors



For the month June, the Inspiring stories of Atchaya, Shiraksha and Sheik Jilani were shared. They are a true testament of unweaving hardwork and commitment.



For the July Edition, the Inspiring stories of Yogi, Renuka, and Saranya were shared. They are a true testament of building oneself from scratch to becoming a Padmashree Nominee



For the August Edition, the Inspiring stories of Bhavaneshwari, Pradeep and Nandini were shared. They are a true testament of unweaving hardwork and commitment.

We are thankful to the wonderful donors who have created a huge impact in the lives of these students through their generous sponsorship.

Spotlights

This quarter we would like to spotlight our amazing peer and professional mentors and judges who were critical in making our summer programming a huge success. We could not have done it without each and every one of these amazing volunteers.

Tech Immersion 1

Professional Mentors, Judges, and Keynotes

- Priya Gurumurthy
- Latha Narayanan
- Jay Nair
- Abhi Saxena
- Andira Desouky
- Kevin Lee
- Bhanu Ganesh
- Subha Sriram
- Siva Raja
- Sunil Sankaramanchi
- Veda Thirumandas

Tech Immersion 2

Professional Mentors, Judges, and Keynotes

- Subha Sriram
- Sowmiya Narasimhan
- Theresa Abbamondi
- Andira Desouky
- Vrunda Desai
- Siva Singaram
- Brian McCann
- Chris Gaebler
- Nancy Brady-Boyle

Tech Immersion 3

Professional Mentors, Judges, and Keynotes

- Priya Gurumurthy
- Ansh Gupta
- Lata Ravi
- Priyanka Chopra
- Michael Segal
- Vrunda Desai
- Zachary Gittelman
- Ansh Gupta
- Sanjiv Datt
- Kevin Lee
- Ankur Gar

Sustainability Camp July 2023

Professional Mentors, Judges, and Keynotes

- Ellen Koehler
- Libby Dunne
- Amanda Howard,
- Sengavi Thirupathy
- Dean D'Angelo
- Sarah Merricks
- Dylan Gu
- Ashwini Balasubramanian

Financial Planning Academy July 2023

Professional Mentors, Judges, and Keynotes

- Kevin Lee
- Vanessa Anguiano

Summer Peer Mentors across ALL Programs

- Vishal Swamy
- Vishal Varma
- Neha Sharan
- Roshan Balla
- Keerti Koya
- Khavya Balamurugan
- Anaya Jain
- Roshan Balla
- Amulya Kumar
- Neha Sharan
- Aksanaa Sakthi
- Anish Manda
- Manas Rajkumar
- Srinjana Chatterjee
- Jachin Thalik
- Sanjana Sudheer
- Aditya Nagaupudi
- Ayush Malpani
- Shreenidhi Kunta
- Roshan Balla
- Adrian Camacho
- Ricardo Diaz-Torres
- Advika Jayanti
- Roopashri Hariram
- Akshita Kumar
- Nivetha S
- Mira
- Krishna



Placement Highlights



PLACEMENT

I whole-heartedly thank the SSF team and my donor for supporting me financially and for motivating me during my placements. I was able to keep a good amount of effort and concentration on learning without any fears.

**ASSOCIATE SOFTWARE ENGINEER,
GENESYS, CHENNAI**



Sai Sandeep Napa,
ECE Student at Anna University, Chennai,
Batch - 2023

PLACEMENT

I feel happy to be a part of the SSF family, the whole SSF family supported me financially as well as mentally to pursue my education. Thanks SSF for helping me with placement interviews. Grateful to my donor, the way she motivated me and her kindness towards me in my bad times changed my life forever.

**SOFTWARE ENGINEER,
GIGAMON, CHENNAI**



Parusu Sunny,
CSE Student at College of Engineering,
Guindy,
Batch - 2023

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GIGAMON, CHENNAI**



Parusu Sunny,
CSE Student at College of Engineering,
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STEM College Scholarship

We create a path for highly competent global scholars through college sponsorships, resources, training and mentorship to help them successfully graduate from top medical and engineering schools with a STEM degree.

[Learn more →](#)

Upcoming Events and Programs

Program	Participants	Location	Dates
NETSCOUT Hackathon	7-12 Grade Girls	NETSCOUT Allen Office	September 23
Congressional App Challenge Camp	6-12 Grade Students	Online	October 7-29
Optiv Cybersecurity Hackathon	College Students	Optiv Bangalore Office	October 14
IBM Z Datathon	College Students	Online, London, Bangalore, Chennai	October 21-22
SSF Donor Meetups	Donors and Partners	San Jose, Portland, Vienna	October and November 2023
Western Digital and AAUW Hackathon	7-12 Grade Girls	Online	December 9th



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