

# NEWS

Educate | Empower | Enable



### **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!



### **Marching Towards Our Vision**

744

STEM scholars funded

4730

underrepresented students served since BOY 2021

Join our Movement
STEM FOR ALL

## **US STEM Programs**

#### **Chess Camp**

A one hour per week program spanned the whole summer, teaching students to play chess with thought and precision. Students enjoyed learning together and playing against one another.



### **Girls Tech Immersion Camp**

We hosted three sessions of tech immersion programming this summer reaching more than 80 students.. Girls from across the US learned about the cycle of entrepreneurship (ideation, product design, marketing, finance, and pitching), as well as web design and app design - all in just 3 weeks. Students received coaching from professionals from Apple, Amazon, Kaiser Permanente, Netscout, etc and were supported by peer mentors. showcase During day students presented their final products to panels of professional judges and competed for awards and prizes. We are so proud of all our participants and budding entrepreneurs!

" I loved meeting new people, coming together to piece together a business idea, and learning how to market your product in a wide scale." - Jada, Participant



**Girls Tech Immersion Camp** 

### **EAH Housing - Mobile App Design**

Il students from EAH Low Income Housing locations across California participated in a fun and collaborative mobile app design camp coached by our newest mobile app design coach, Abigail Batinga. We are grateful for our continued partnership with EAH Low Income Housing, allowing us to directly serve those in need, supported by EAH leadership.

"My favorite part of this camp was learning how to make an app and also showing my mom!" - Isabella, Participant



**Students In Action** 



## **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.





## **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 environmental, social, and economic sustainability. Participants completed impressive research projects such as Sustainability Scale Greenwashing, Refill Stations for Recycling Skincare Products, Pfand System to Diminish the Dangers of Lithium Waste. We are so impressed with all participants!









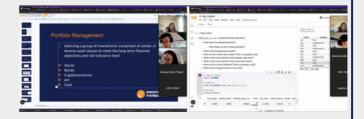
"I got to meet girls who have the same interest as me, learn about different environmental and economic issues, and we worked on research projects together" - Hillary, Participant

#### **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





## **India Programs**

### All India Women ONLY Hackathon

This quarter we hosted Shooting Stars largest hackathon EVER - our All India Women only Hackathon was a huge hit with a massive 8000+ registrations from 350+ cities and 750+ institutes across India.

The theme of the Hackathon was Tech for Good and teams were first shortlisted on the basis of their idea. After abstract shortlisting, 213 teams submitted their projects with working code. 16 top teams were selected from these 213 teams. A total of 10 winners were declared on the basis the live presentation in front of senior corporate leaders.



The hackathon was sponsored by Persistent Foundation and supported by corporates inclduing IBM, TCS, Cognizant, Persistent Systems, YES Bank, Paypal, Citrix (Cloud Group), Genesys etc.



### SSF Chennai Family Meet - 2023

The Shooting Stars Foundation's Family Meet in Chennai, held on June 11th, unfolded as a day filled with inspiration, education, and shared success. The event, dedicated to discussing the aims and achievements of our scholars, provided a platform for learning, empowerment, and community building.

The gathering was warmly welcomed by Latha Narayanan, setting a positive tone for the day. Ms. Rukshana, as the Master of Ceremonies, skillfully guided the proceedings, ensuring a smooth flow throughout the program.

The event commenced with a soulful recital by our scholars, creating an atmosphere of creativity and talent. The ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Mrs. Latha Narayannan, Mr. & Mrs. Singaram, marked the symbolic beginning of the day.

Meena, Israth, Yogabalaji, Raksha, Bhuvaneswari, and Deva Dharshini - scholars and alumni, took the stage to share personal experiences, highlighting the enduring impact of Shooting Stars Foundation on their lives.

A Medical Career Panel, Emceed by Deva featuring Dr. P. Kuganantham and Dr. Dinakar Moses, provided valuable insights into career paths in medical field.





## **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, Shriraksha and Sheik Jilani were shared. They are a true testament of unweavering 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 unweavering 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 Narayannan
- 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, Chenna 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,



Parusu Sunny, CSE Student at College of Engineering Guindy, 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

### **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,



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



### **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	Sepetember 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



