

August 2011

## STARSEARCHER'S EXPRESS

**A World of Difference!**



**PO Box 376**

**Moraga, California 94556**

**<http://www.bethestaryouare.org>**

### Miracle Moment®

*Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible. St. Francis of Assisi*

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**FROM OUR FOUNDER, Cynthia Brian**

**Joy for Joplin**

It all started with yet another



## OUR MISSION

**BE THE STAR YOU ARE®!** is a 501 c3 charity dedicated to empowering women, families, and youth through improved literacy and increased positive media. **BE THE STAR YOU ARE®!** has no religious or political agendas or affiliations.

## PROGRAM PRAISE



*"Wow! You have been amazing! Thank you so much for all that Be the Star You Are!® is doing for Joplin Schools" Kristen, Joplin Schools Operation Center*

*"Your gifts are greatly appreciated. We are now just learning how widespread the*

disaster. "An act of God" as the insurance companies determine natural tragedies, but true life devastation for the human survivors.



Joplin, Missouri, May 22, a bit later than 5 pm, a roaring, rushing, rabid tornado surged through the city, leaving rubble in its wake.

Since the terrorist attacks on New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania in 2001, Be the Star You Are!® has always quietly responded with Operation Disaster Relief. It began on 9/11 with Operation Ground Hero when volunteers across the nation helped collect and distribute 57 pallets of books, CD's, videos, games and more to the families of the victims, continued with Operation Hurricane Relief (for Katrina and Rita), Operation Fire Relief (major Southern California Fires), and now Operation Tornado Relief.

We have packed, logged, shipped, and coordinated distributions for tsunamis, volcanoes, explosions, and earthquakes affording the survivors a glimpse of relief, entertainment, and offering the hope for rebirth.

As of today, [Operation Tornado Disaster Relief](#) has shipped \$47,000 worth of resources to the schools and clinics destroyed in Joplin's tornadoes. We will continue to help until all the children have a new book and the hospitals have healed patients with optimism.

Please help us help them by making a [financial donation](#) so that we can ship books. [Read the article](#) written by volunteer Kyla Christie and published this week in The Lamorinda Weekly. Our gratitude to all the authors, publishers, and individuals who have stepped up to the plate to assist. My personal thanks to our team of dedicated

*devastating effects of the tornado. At our community health center we serve many children and these books will be most helpful, putting them at ease and giving them something special. The books are a big hit. Fabulous. Thank you."*

Dr. Debra, CFO, Access Family Care, Joplin



*"THANK YOU for the wonderful books which go to the poorest children in America They came at such a needed time to help us have a successful back to school give away. Your books help so much. Thank you for all you have sacrificed to help the poor. We pray that God will return it to you in multiplied blessings. Much love and thanks to you. " Joannie Cayce, Cayce Charitiess*

*"That is great news and we received the beautiful books. Please thank the authors." Karen Ktichel, Cheerful Givers*



teen volunteers who continue to astound me with their diligence, compassion, and willingness to do whatever it takes to make life better for others. Teens rock!!!

Enjoy the final days of vacation and please do make a [donation](#). Every dollar goes to the cause. You can send a check to PO Box 376, Moraga, Ca. 94556, pay via PAYPAL, or call us with a credit card number. We make it easy and it's TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Click your heels, bring joy to Joplin, because, Dorothy, we're not in Kansas anymore.

Blessings to you all,

Cynthia Brian

Executive Director

[Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3](#)

[READ ARTICLE](#)

Photo above: Teen volunteer, Gaby, and Cynthia deliver cases of books to the post office with Mark, postal clerk serving.

Below: Teens sorting, logging, & packing books for Joplin



## TEEN TALK!

From Teen Web Master, Steven Zhou & Writing Coordinator, Courtney Cheng:



Hey everyone! We're excited to declare that the [BTSYA Express Yourself](#) website, after being introduced to the public in June, is now self-sustaining; processes are up for the submission, evaluation, and posting of

## NEWS TO USE

iGive will donate \$5 to Be the Star You Are! when you [sign in](#), no purchase necessary. They'll donate another \$5.00 when you buy something at any of the 800 participating stores.



## [AUTHOR 101:](#)

Get published, promote yourself, make your book a bestseller, & transform your business into a mega success at Author 101 University, Oct. 27-30 in Las Vegas. Early bird discount now

## [DONATE NOW](#)



## WISHING WELL

Asking for

\* sponsors for essay contest.

\*44 cent stamps

\*Grant Writer

**CAN YOU HELP? Email**

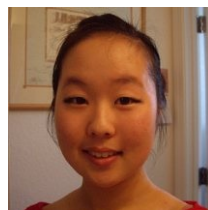
[info@bethestaryouare.org](mailto:info@bethestaryouare.org)



new entries as they come in. The only step now... is for YOU to contribute. We want to see this site grow and expand as much as possible, to give as much voice to each contributor as we can. This can't be done without your participation... so start writing, performing, editing, photographing, or whatever you want today, at [www.btsya.com/submit.html](http://www.btsya.com/submit.html)!

### From Event Coordinator, Vivien Lee

Summer is coming to a close, and the breezy autumn is approaching, which can only mean that the Pear Festival in Moraga is coming up, on September 24<sup>th</sup>! Be the Star You Are!® will be hosting a booth once again this year, filled with fun mask-making, bookmark making, face painting and other activities. We will be having a fabulous book sale, with a variety of genres targeted for all ages. We will also be selling t-shirts and tank tops with discounted price for all our volunteers. We may also host a car wash. If you would like to participate, volunteer, or donate for this exciting event, please contact the event coordinator, Vivien Lee, at [vivien-lee@live.com](mailto:vivien-lee@live.com).



### From Book Review Chairperson, Gaby Gryko



I'm back from Poland! It was fantastic, but there is no place like home! Hope you've had a great summer and don't hesitate to shoot me an email about our book review program at [gabygryko@gmail.com](mailto:gabygryko@gmail.com)



## SNEAK PEAK

### The 8th Annual National Essay Contest



**DATES:** October 18, 2011-January 18, 2012

**FEE** \$10 donation per entry

**FIRST Prize** - \$100 plus guest appearance on the nationally syndicated radio program, [Be the Star You Are!®](http://www.bethestaryouareradio.com) (Total value, \$700)

[www.bethestaryouareradio.com](http://www.bethestaryouareradio.com) Additionally, your story will be published in our Star Searcher Express newsletter and at [www.bethestaryouare.org](http://www.bethestaryouare.org) plus our new Express Yourself!™ site at [www.btsya.com](http://www.btsya.com) In the event of a tie, winners share cash prize and both receive publication and radio interviews. Winners will also receive an autographed copy of Be the Star You Are!

## RADIO FLYER



*"You are awesome and we all appreciate the great work you do with and through the radio show and beyond!"* **Brandy Jackson, Network Director, Voice America/World Talk Radio**

[Starstyle®-Be the Star You Are!®](http://www.bethestaryouare.org) broadcasts live every Thursday from 3-4pm PT on [World Talk Radio/Voice America](http://www.worldtalkradio.com) with "The Oprah of the Airwaves" Cynthia Brian & health professional, Heather Brittany.

The month of August & September we are featuring many international guests.

Free on ITUNES

To sponsor our program, email [infor@bethestaryouare.org](mailto:infor@bethestaryouare.org)

For guest guidelines, contact our Guest Coordinator, Angela [radio@bethestaryouareRadio.com](mailto:radio@bethestaryouareRadio.com).



## WE REVIEW BOOKS!

For a donation of \$150, we'll read and review your book and upload to sites.



**Runner-ups** Published at Express Yourself!™, [www.btsya.com](http://www.btsya.com), a shout out on the radio and in StarSearcher's Express newsletter as well as noted on web site.

### Choose a Topic:

Topic 1: "The World at Your Fingertips": Technology allows people to access and do so much more than ever imagined. How has technology changed your life? Is it better or worse?

Topic 2: "Hear Me Out": Got something to say? Then say it! What does it mean to express yourself so that others can hear you? How do you personally go about doing so? Express your opinions on it in an essay.

**Want to Sponsor? Email us at [info@bethestaryouare.org](mailto:info@bethestaryouare.org)**

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to **Express Yourself!™** and  
**PLEASE** help us bring Joy to  
Joplin!

Email: [info@bethestaryouare.org](mailto:info@bethestaryouare.org)

### BUY T-SHIRTS

Cool back-to-school T-shirts and tanks.  
All sizes, with a positive message.

"Read, lead, succeed!"

### BUY



### UPCOMING EVENTS

September 24- Pear Festival  
October 18- Essay Contest



MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE IN  
OUR WORLD IN A  
WORLD OF  
DIFFERENCES.

**OTHER WAYS  
TO HELP**

[Donate Now!](#)



THANKS SO MUCH.....

*"To be a leader, you must be a reader! Read, lead, succeed!" Cynthia Brian*

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Tel: 925-376-7126

<http://www.bethestaryouare.org>

<http://www.btsya.com>

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Be the Star You Are!@ 501 c3

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