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May 2013

## May Musings

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### Message from our Founder, Cynthia Brian

As I pen this newsletter, our [Starstyle®](#) and [Express Yourself!™ Teen Radio](#) web sites are in the process of being uploaded to the server via FTP. For the past four days the upload has been in constant process since my computer's hard drive had to be erased two weeks ago. I spent twelve hours in a local Apple Store attempting to re-upload with their swifter internet speed, only to get an error message right before closing time. Thus, here I sit awaiting the re-upload of 376 hours of radio programming plus thousands of pictures, descriptions, videos, PSA's, links, and more. At this molasses speed, I believe we have at least 100 more hours before the site will be updated, assuming nothing crashes between now and then. My personal frustration is monumental as I crawl like a turtle to accomplish even the simplest on-line tasks. Perhaps this is a not so subtle hint that I need to take life slower.

[Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>](#), Be the Star You Are!® volunteers are participating in the Moraga Faire as well as holding a car wash fundraiser. We have over fifty people signed up to work the events. Thank you to our sponsors, [Comeford Solar](#) and Ho Wing Sit for making these activities possible.

Be the Star You Are!® has again been named a [Top Non Profit for 2013](#). Of the millions of non profits in the US, less than 1% receive this top honor. Thanks to our great volunteers and supporters we have won again. [Read](#) the reviews to see how our volunteers have personally benefited from their volunteer activities in public speaking, radio, TV, writing, organizing events, disaster relief, and helping others. The paradigm of life is that the more we give the more we get.

Writing of giving, remember that Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. We invite you to consider a [donation](#) to BTSYA as a special tribute to honor that special mom, daughter, aunt, friend, or grandmother in your life! Your contributions to BTSYA help our volunteers to continue our outreach programs, ships books, and broadcast our two international radio programs. Every donation makes a big difference in the life of your community. THANK YOU to all our supporters, without whom we could not accomplish all that we do!





I hope that my computer is working properly by the time you read next month's newsletter. Until then, may I wish all the mom's in your life a very special day. For those of you who live in the San Francisco Bay Area, I hope to see you at the [BTSYA Moraga Faire booth](#) where you can buy autographed books, fresh farm eggs, Meyer lemons, and other gifts as well as get your car washed as a tax deduction. Happy Mother's Day! Happy May.

Cynthia Brian  
Founder & Executive Director  
Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3  
[About Me](#)  
PO Box 376  
Moraga, Ca. 94556  
Cynthia@BetheStarYouAre.org  
<http://www.BetheStarYouAre.org>  
<http://www.BTSYA.org>

PS: My technology glitch has been a reminder that sometimes we need to surrender to be with nature and those we love. Read my [Mother's Day tribute](#) to my gardening Mom.

Make a [Donation](#) TODAY and honor a Mom!

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Moraga Faire and Car Wash Fundraiser, May 11th 11-4pm PT. Join the Fun while Making a Difference!



[Read More](#)

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## Spotlight on Donors



Thank you to the following donors who contributed \$500 or more to our charity

Sponsor of our Faire Booth: [Comeford Solar](#), Your Energy Solution  
Company 925-28-GREEN

MB Jessee Professional Painters, 510-655-7000, [www.mbjessee.com](http://www.mbjessee.com)

Ho Wing Sit, Donation Director of Be the Star You Are!® To arrange for a contribution, email [hwsit@bethestaryouare.org](mailto:hwsit@bethestaryouare.org).



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Reviews of Be the Star You Are!® Charity

[Read More](#)

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## Radio Flyer



[Starstyle®-Be the Star You Are!®](#) radio program continues to feature debut and best selling authors in all genres to help increase the love books around the planet. Broadcasting LIVE every Thursday from 3-4pm PT/6-7pm ET to 219 countries on [World Talk Radio](#), Cynthia Brian has interviewed more than 2000 guests since the show began in 1998. In Health Matters, Heather Brittany brings the latest information to keep you healthy in body, mind, and spirit.



**Express Yourself!™ Teen Radio** hosts and reporters will soon be recording show #80! Youngjoo Ahn is the chief host with co-hosting shared by Caie Kelley , Katelyn Darrow, and our field reporters. Tune in every Tuesday 12 NOON PT/3pm ET on the [Voice America Kids Network](#). Awesome guests and fascinating dialogue, Express Yourself!™ is where teens talk and the world listens.

Opportunities are available for [StarStyle®-Be the Star You Are!®](#) and [Express Yourself!™](#) Internet Radio Programs.

Have your message heard by millions of listeners from around the world.

For guest guidelines, email [Cynthia@BethestarYouAre.org](mailto:Cynthia@BethestarYouAre.org)

For sponsorship, email [Sales.StarStyle@gmail.com](mailto:Sales.StarStyle@gmail.com)

Welcome to our youngest reporter on [Express Yourself!™](#), twelve year old Isaiah Rankin brings us all things having to do with animals and reptiles with his informative and entertaining segment, Nature Calls.

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## Teens Join Cynthia Brian to Talk Writing and Reporting

L to R: Konnie, Cynthia, Youngjoo, Jennifer,



Isaiah.

[Read More](#)

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## Update on Operation Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief

Our collaboration to help the victims of Hurricane Sandy with our teen reporter Katelyn Darrow's, [Angels of God](#)





[Clothing Closet](#) in New Jersey was a huge success. Katelyn wrote: "Thank YOU for your support. Also, I appreciate all the work of the Leo Club at Campolindo High



School! The distribution was a big hit here in NJ, and the victims (especially the children) loved the books that were sent. I'm happy we could partner, and make a difference together for Hurricane Sandy victims." Thank you to author Brook Olbrys and everyone who helped with our disaster relief campaign.

[Read more.](#)

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## The Star Teen Book Reviews

Make sure to check out the BTSYA creative community at [www.BTSYA.org](http://www.BTSYA.org) where you'll find the latest book reviews, news articles, music, and more by our talented youth volunteers. [Catalog of reviews by](#) our Star TEEN Book Reviewers. A big shout out to our Book Review chairperson, **Courtney Cheng**, who makes sure to keep the site updated.

Courtney is also the reporter for Book It! on [Express Yourself! Teen Radio](#)



## In the News

A big part of our [Be the Star You Are!](#)® outreach programs is to help our volunteers learn writing skills, garner community service credits, and get published. Enjoy the articles!

### Youngjoo Ahn

[Reading](#)  
[Technology](#)  
[Stress Relief](#)

### Caie Kelley

[Technology](#)  
[Fashion](#)

### Caie Kelley and Youngjoo Ahn

[Prom](#)

### Konnie Guo

[Eldercare](#)  
[Green Teens](#)

### Lucy Portnoff

[Music](#)

### Alex Pawlakos-App Rap Column



[DropBox](#)  
[Evernote](#)  
[Google Maps](#)  
[Google Goggles](#)  
[SAT](#)  
[Amazon Mobil](#)

## Cynthia Brian-Digging Deep & Ask Cynthia Columns

[New Leaf](#)  
[Love Potions](#)  
[Branching Out](#)  
[Cymbidiums](#)  
[Grow Your Own](#)  
[Weed, Seed, Feed](#)  
[Vetch](#)  
[Mother's Day](#)

Support our literacy programs. Buy books on [Amazon](#) as a donation!

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## EBAY GIVING

EBAY and Paypal have made it very easy to help Be the Star You Are!® If you sell anything on EBAY, you can designate a percentage or dollar amount to be donated to BTSYA. You'll get a break on fees, and BTSYA gets a donation. Or if you are buying on EBAY, you can check a box to donate to BTSYA. Check it out and start your support now! Go to <http://givingworks.ebay.com> and under FIND A CAUSE to support, type in **Be the Star You Are!** A big thanks to the three lovely ladies of the [Good Earth Store](#) who have been donating to BTSYA via Ebay since 2009.



For more information on joining our STAR teams, contact our Volunteer Manager, Jerome Tennille at [Jerome@Bethestaryouare.org](mailto:Jerome@Bethestaryouare.org).



To become a donor, contact our Donations Director, Ho Wing Sit at [hwsit@bethestaryouare.org](mailto:hwsit@bethestaryouare.org).

Thanks for making us a [TOP RATED NON PROFIT](#) with your continued interest in increasing literacy and improving positive media with

**Be the Star You Are!®**

**PO Box 376**

**Moraga, Ca. 94556**

**925-376-7126**

[BetheStarYouAre.org](http://BetheStarYouAre.org)

[BTSYA.org](http://BTSYA.org)

Happy Mother's Day!

Happy May!



[DONATE TODAY!](#)

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Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3  
PO Box 376  
Moraga, California 94556  
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

