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STARSEARCHER'S EXPRESS

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MIRACLE MOMENT®:

*A book is a
gift you can
open again and
again."*

*Garrison
Keillor*



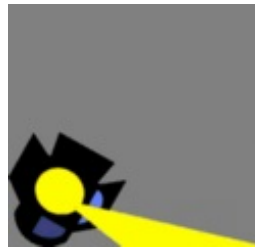
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MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER, Cynthia Brian

It's that time of year again when all of us are bombarded with requests for donations by a plethora of worthy causes. I know both my email and snail mailbox are overflowing. Network for Good, a charity watch dog organization, released a landmark study indicating that through their platforms, \$381 million, including 3.6 million gifts to 66,470 different nonprofits from 2003-2009 had been given. **A third of all online giving occurs in December, and 22% of annual giving happens in the last two days of the year.** Online giving (by dollars) on December 31 is concentrated between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. in each time zone. Since I don't plan on sending out a request for contributions on New Year's Eve, my hope is that you'll decide to make a tax-deductible donation today, right now after reading this. [DONATE HERE!](#)

Be the Star You Are!® makes it easy for you to help. We are associated with numerous on-line shopping sites that offer you discounts to thousands of your



AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

Brooks Olbrys, Author, [The Adventures of Blue Ocean](#)

Bob (Vol.1): Blue Ocean Bob Discovers His Purpose (illustrated by Aleksandra Beaucher)

In the first volume of his new picture book series inspired by the philosophies of achievement, Brooks Olbrys introduces us to Bob, a courageous island boy who yearns for a greater sense of fulfillment. Accompanied by Xena, an overly cautious hummingbird, Bob elicits the help of Al the dolphin and Doc, an elderly turtle, to discover his purpose to become a marine biologist. Brooks will be interviewed live on [Stars tyle-Be the Star You Are! radio](#) on Dec. 16 at 3:37pm Pt/6:37pm ET



SHOPPING TIME

READ THIS BEFORE YOU DO ANY HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

You can find coupons at more than 1,600 top stores (including Amazon, Macy's, J.Crew, Toys R Us, Best Buy, Gap and more) AND a percentage of virtually every sale will be donated to "BE THE STAR YOU ARE!" Just go to [GoodShop](#) at <http://www.goodshop.com>, select "BE THE STAR YOU ARE!" at "our cause" and then click over to your favorite store and shop away! Or, add the [toolbar](#) to your browser at <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar> - and your purchases will earn a donation for us even if you forget to go to GoodShop first!

Here are other on-line sites where you can shop 'til you drop and still make every gift count!

[IGIVE](#)
[MyCause](#)
[GiveBackAmerica](#)

sites that offer you discounts to thousands of your favorite stores. A small percentage of every sale will be given to Be the Star You Are!® (make sure to choose Be the Star You Are!® as your cause). A list of our partners with direct links is below. Use it today, tomorrow, and forever! These sites are not just for the holidays.

Another way for you to make the most of your philanthropy is to take the smart approach to giving through a donor-advised fund like [Schwab](#)

[Charitable](#)™ or [Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund](#). These can give you immediate tax benefits, tax-free potential growth, and a possible way to avoid capital gains taxes.

Another idea is to donate as a tribute or in memoriam of someone you love. Giving a donation is the perfect gift that continues to give. And, we have books, lots of books you can buy via a donation as gifts for others. While toys, clothing, furniture, and accessories go out of style and age, books provide escape, adventures, learning, and laughter for a lifetime. Make sure to donate before December 31 so you can write off your donations in this year's taxes.

From all of us at [Be the Star You Are!®](#), we thank you so much for your support throughout 2010. As we plan our programs for 2011, we look forward to your generosity in helping the dreams of the women, families, and youth we serve become a reality.

From our homes to yours, we offer you the gift of happiness this season.

Cynthia Brian

PS: As my special holiday THANK YOU gift to you, I will personally send you an autographed copy of my "heart" book, *Be the Star You Are!®, 99 Gifts for Living, Loving, Laughing, and Learning to Make a Difference* for FREE when you make a [donation](#) to the charity of \$100 or more. You'll get a tax receipt, help our programs, and enjoy an inspirational gift to share. I'll even gift wrap it and send a personalized message from you. Email me directly and we'll make this happen. Cynthia@Bethestaryouare.org

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Teen event chairs, Jacqueline and Vivian set up a booth at



Acalanes High School for the Volunteer Recruitment Day. They are now preparing to organize volunteers for an upcoming film festival. If interested in volunteering, email info@bethestaryouare.org.

Book donations by Tatyana Noel and Diana Zimmerman were shipped to one of our beneficiaries, Cayce Charities in Arkansas. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive on the importance of receiving books from us. The director wrote us asking to PLEASE continue to send books as the area is plagued with poverty, drug and alcohol abuse, violence, homelessness, school drop outs, mental diseases and more. There are not enough books in

[Amazon](#)
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There's no easier way to support us this holiday season! Please spread the word. And make sure to choose [BE THE STAR YOU ARE!®](#) Thanks so much.

NEW VIDEO-SHINE



YEAH!!!! Thanks to our professional movie director, Robert Mohr, the world may now enjoy a short new webisode of SHINE. Robert's video focuses on the Be the Star You Are!® activities orchestrated by our teens and showcases our two event chairpersons, Jacqueline and Vivien. Read, lead, succeed and most of all SHINE!!!

[Watch here!](#)



ESSAY CONTEST

WIN \$100 AND A GUEST SPOT ON OUR RADIO SHOW!

Be the Star You Are!® 2010 SEVENTH Annual NATIONAL Essay Contest

[Sponsored by US Bank](#)

[Be the Star You Are!®](#) 501 c3 charity announces its 6th annual essay contest to promote literacy and positive messages..

FEE \$10 donation per entry

DATES: Now -January 18, 2011

FIRST Prize - \$100 plus guest appearance on the nationally syndicated radio program, [Be the Star You Are!®](#) (Total value, \$700) Additionally, your story will be published in our Star Searcher Express newsletter. . Winners will also receive an autographed copy of Be the Star You Are!®

Runner-ups –Published in our StarSearcher's Express newsletter and noted on web site.

TOPIC

"How do we create more happiness and abundance in our lives through service to others?"

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the schools or libraries. The books we give are usually the first GIFT and the first BOOK received. Read below how you can donate \$99 for us to ship a case of brand new books.

The movie, [Tapping the Source](#), continues to get rave reviews and more press. Read about [Cynthia Brian's experience](#) in being in the movie. [Radio Blog](#).



Memoriam: On December 8, one of our talented contributors to the book, [Be the Star You Are!® for TEENS](#) lost her battle with cancer. [Jill Byington](#) wrote [The Gift of Ingenuity](#) and [The Gift of Laughter](#). Her sister, Kim Carlson is the web master for [Be the Star You Are!®](#) and her aunt, Pat Halberg was a dedicated volunteer for eight years. Please keep her family in your prayers. You can read more at her [blog](#). Jill was interviewed on our radio show on 4/30/09. [LISTEN](#). Donations in her name may be made at the [Jill Byington](#) memorial at [Be the Star You Are!](#)



RADIO FLYER

Starstyle-Be the Star You Are!® radio

program continues to grow and glow. Listen live every Thursday from 3-4pm PT/6-7pm ET on [World Talk Radio/Voice America](#)

For photos, descriptions, links, and more information, visit the [archives](#). Here you can search for shows by date and name under [Radio](#), meet our [Distinguished Guests](#), read the [Praise](#), find out about upcoming [Events](#), and even watch [Videos](#).

For guest guidelines, contact our Guest Coordinator, Angela Siekman at radio@bethestaryouareRadio.com.

"A heartfelt thank you to you for being the Star that you ARE! For being SHERO! I absolutely appreciated the interview and the exposure. Thank you for reading the book and understanding the true essence of it." [Rebecca Moradoghli](#), Author [From Sheep to Shero](#)

"Chunyi Lin thoroughly enjoyed his interview with you. Thank you so much for being such a wonderful

NEW BOOK REVIEW SERVICE for AUTHORS

Are you an author who needs a book review? Be the Star You Are!® is now providing a special book review service for a tax deductible contribution of \$150.00 per book. We'll read the book, write a review, and post it at various on-line sites. Email us for details. info@bethestaryouare.org

GIVING TIME

GIVE GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING!

Books are like a garden in your pocket. For a tax deductible donation of only \$99, you can have a case of brand new books valued at \$500 or more shipped anywhere in the US to the cause of your choice. Books for all ages are available. Checks or credit cards accepted. [Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3 charity](#), PO Box 376, Moraga, Ca. 94556. Donate at . Call 925-376-7126. Email: info@bethestaryouare.org



READ, LEAD, SUCCEED

For a tax deductible donation of \$99, choose any four of the autographed books listed and receive a FREE T-shirt (\$15) with the slogan, "Read, lead, succeed!" along with a bookmark. Buy a case of books to receive wholesale pricing. All books are autographed by New York Times best selling author, [Cynthia Brian](#) (featured in the new film, [Tapping the Source](#)) and all proceeds benefit the 501 c3 literacy charity, [Be the Star You Are!®](#). Books available: [Be the Star You Are!® 99 Gifts](#), [Be the Star You Are!® for TEENS](#), [The Business of Show Business](#), [Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul](#), or [Miracle Moments®](#). Donation includes gift wrapping, note card from you, tax, shipping/handling to anywhere in the US. Checks or credit cards accepted. [Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3 charity](#), PO Box 376, Moraga, Ca. 94556. [Donate](#) Call 925-376-7126. info@bethestaryouare.org

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SET YOUR GOALS for 2011

Need assistance creating a plan for success in 2011?

Empowerment expert, [Cynthia Brian](#), is available to help you with life challenges, acting, writing, presentations, and media training. Call 925-377-STAR or email Cynthia@CynthiaBrian.com to set up a consultation by phone or in person. Jump start your life.



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<http://www.voiceamerica.com/worldtalkradio/vshow.aspx?sid=764>

host." Gary Rebstock, co-author, *Born a Healer*



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- <http://mycause.com/BTSYA>
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- <http://www.flickr.com/photos/btsya/>

**Wishing you a happy, healthy,
and bountiful holiday with all
the trimmings!**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY!**

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YOU ARE!

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