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It is not now, and has never been, our intention to send this free newsletter to anyone who does not want it. If you received this in error, please respond with "REMOVE" on the subject line. Forward this to anyone who you think may be interested in its contents. If this was forwarded to you, and you want to receive it monthly, reply with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. Visit our web site at <http://www.bethestaryouare.org>. Thank you.

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ODE TO A GARDENER OF LIFE-FRANK DEFILIPPIS

by Cynthia Brian, Founder/Executive Director



My beloved Uncle Frank, affectionately called Franco or Coach D, died on August 25th. Franco was a World War II hero, a renowned track, baseball, and basketball coach for six decades, and a community servant. Besides being with his family, friends, and athletes, his favorite pastime was tending his garden and sharing its bounty. My cousin Leonardo's beautiful eulogy compared Uncle Frank's life to a garden and a race. As I sat spellbound listening to the accomplishments of this gentle, humble man, it dawned on me that the branches of our family tree have roots in making a difference in the world while we race to the finish.

Through energy, dedication, and action, each one of us has the ability and the responsibility to be a gardener of life. Every person has the exact number of hours in each day, yet how we use those precious seconds determines the legacy we will live and leave. Take a few minutes now to chart a way for you to be a "do gooder." Volunteer your time to a charity that

OUR MISSION:

BE THE STAR YOU ARE®! is a library of books and other media donated to youth at risk to raise their skills and self esteem to improve their daily lives. This media ranges from education and advisement to inspiration and guidance which covers every aspect of life from abuse through money management. **BE THE STAR YOU ARE®!** has no religious or political agendas or affiliations as it caters to the literate and illiterate by providing audio tapes and videos as well as books to give these kids a head start in their lives so they can beat the odds.

ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

"You are destined to become the peer of those you most respect because the greatness you perceive in them is your own." Alan Cohen

*Be the Star You Are!® charity celebrates its eleventh year as a 501c3 on September 9, 2010. It's hard to imagine that this small non-profit has been operating with all volunteers, mostly teens for all these years. It is with great gratitude that we recognize all the volunteers, supporters, and others who have been our foundation. **Be the Star You Are!** has served approximately 209,800 individuals and families within 72 organizations and has logged more than 229,990 volunteer hours, while distributing over \$1.6 million in resources. **Be the Star You Are!** was nominated for the California Governor's and First Lady's Service Awards and touted with five star ratings as a top rated non profit by GuideStar and Great Non Profits in the Women's Empowerment Campaign. **Be the Star You Are!** radio program broadcasts to 5.5 million listeners in 82 countries. More than 1800 authors, experts, and professionals have been interviewed on our show. Over 500 books have been read and reviewed by our Star Teen Book Review Team and published by*

gooder." Volunteer your time to a charity that resonates with you. Make a financial commitment. Donate goods. Be a mentor.

The world won't change unless we change. I believe it's time we all start planting the seeds of faith, hope, and love. It's autumn and I'm ready for a fruitful harvest. Here at Be the Star You Are!®, we grow people.

Thank you, Uncle Frank, for being the master gardener. You led the team and won the race. Even in death your garden will continue to flourish. Finché incontriamo di nuovo. (Until we meet again.)

*Read more about Uncle Frank and other family members in the chapter, "The Gift of Simplicity" in the award winning book, **Be the Star You Are!, 99 Gifts for Living, Loving, Laughing, and Learning to Make a Difference.** Buy copies at <http://www.bthestaryouare.com/Store.html>*

READ, READ

Acclaimed blogger and author, Martha Cheves reviewed our new book, Be the Star You Are!® for TEENS which is posted on numerous blogs and review sites. She sent us this email. *"I could have "singled out" every writer in the book because they were all great but I ended up choosing the two (Davis Lunsford and Heather Brittany) that meant the most to me personally as I thought about my own children and now my grand children. I could never give this book enough praise. It's wonderful."* Martha Cheves, Blogger & Author, Stir, Laugh, Repeat

Visit the web site and you'll even find a great recipe for Momma Mia Apple Pie
<http://marthaskitchenkorner.blogspot.com/2010/08/be-star-you-are-for-teens-cynthia-brian.html>
or http://bookblogs.ning.com/profiles/blogs/be-the-star-you-are-for-teens?xg_source=activity.

Review of Be the Star You Are!®

Star Teen Book Review Team and published by publishers, The Reading Tub, and on our web site at www.bethestaryouare.org. Congratulations everyone! We couldn't do it without you.

If you'd like to make a donation in honor of our 11th anniversary, please go to <http://bethestaryouare.org/donate.htm>



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MIRACLE MOMENT®:

"Profound joy of the heart is like a magnet that indicates the path of life. " Mother Theresa of Calcutta

NEW STAR BOOK REVIEW

TEAM

With our partner, The Reading Tub, a new book review process has been instigated. Because of the expense in shipping books and the lack of donations being received our Star Teen Book Reviewers will now be able to check books out at a local library to review. Some libraries have an audio or Ebook download section, that allows library card holders to borrow a book, read it on their own computer for a designated amount of time, then the book disappears like the due date on a book.

With our new program, book reviewers now can be anywhere in the country as long as they

Review of Be the Star You Are!® For Teens

by Martha A. Cheves, Author of *Stir, Laugh, Repeat*

I could actually sit here and write a 10 page review for Be the Star You Are and still not cover everything. This book is one I plan to keep within reach at all times. The short stories are actually life experiences of not just the author Cynthia Brian but others that have contributed as well. The topics range from Achievements and Adapting to Dating and Letting Go. This book is written for teens but I've found them useful for all ages.

As I read the different stories, I found myself relating to most. Some from my younger years and some from my "older" years. I also found myself wishing there had been a book like this around when my own children were growing up. Be the Star You Are is actually more than stories. Author Cynthia Brian has included exercises that will help teach through action. In the chapter "The Gift of Affirmation" story author Davis Lunsford talks about his pastor sending a handwritten letter and a dollar bill every time Davis' name appeared in the paper. To Davis, the letter was more important than the publicity and the dollar bill combined. In the exercise, Cynthia Brian suggests you write a letter to someone who encouraged you in the past. She suggests that you write a letter to someone you would like to pat on the back and then write a letter to yourself picking out something positive you've been doing.

One of my favorite chapters is called "The Gift of Financial Literacy" by story author Heather Brittany. Heather talks about allowances and how they were not a part of her and her brother's lives. Instead, their mother allowed them to earn points. Instead of paying them to do household tasks, their mom created a point system. They made up a list of the things they both really wanted. Then there was a number of points attached to acquire each item. They listed things like movies, backpacks, special meals, bicycles, skateboards, skis, and even trips. When they saved enough points, they could cash them in for the items they wanted. Their mother even kept a bulletin board which showed the weekly tally of their points. They were being taught to work, earn and save their own money and spend it with care.

I could go on and on about the stories and lessons taught in Be the Star You Are. To me, this is a book that needs to be read by everyone with children. Actually it would benefit everyone to not just read this book but to listen and learn as you read. If my kids happen to read this review, you can bet that you will each be receiving a copy for Christmas this year in hopes that you too will find the stories and exercises helpful during the growing up stages of your own children.

(Editor's note: Pick up a copy of Martha Cheve's cookbook Stir, Laugh, Repeat on Amazon or your favorite store. Stir, Laugh, Repeat was written for young adults and busy people making cooking simple by taking it back to using common ingredients. <http://stirlaughrepeat.blogspot.com>)

With our new program, book reviewers now can be anywhere in the country as long as they have access to a computer. We still have guidelines that must be met. If you are interested in reading books, writing reviews, and getting published, email info@bethestaryouare.org. For those volunteers who are already registered with our program, go

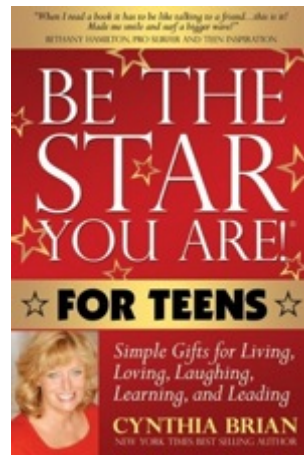
<http://www.goodreads.com/review/list/932434-terry?format=html&shelf=teen-needed>

Here's a sampling of books that need to be reviewed:

Baseball Great by Tim Green
The Red Pyramid by Rick Riordan
The Trials of Kate Hope by Wick Dowling
Crispin: The End of Time by Avi
Closed for the Season Mary Dowling Hahn
Stargazer, Hourglass, Evernight (3 titles) by Claudia Gray
The Shadow Project by Herbie Brennan
The Lost Conspiracy by Frances Hardinge
Dancing through the Snow by Jean Little
Wolf Pack of the Winisk River by Paul Brown
The Prince of Fenway Park by Julianna Baggott
Septimus Heap - volumes 1 through 4 by Angie Sage
Bamboo People by Mitali Perkins
The Incurable Children of Ashton Place,
Book 1: The Mysterious Howling

Choose a book to read, write a review according to the guidelines and send a copy to our teen chairperson, Gaby at gabygryko@gmail.com with a copy to Cynthia@bethestaryouare.org.

Live our motto, "Read, lead, succeed!"



BUY BOOKS

WRITE, WRITE

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, www.USBank.com <!-- [if !vml]--><!-- [endif]-->



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

www.bethestaryouare.org.

FEE \$10 donation per entry

DATES: October 18, 2010-January 18, 2011

FIRST Prize - \$100 plus guest appearance on the nationally syndicated radio program, Be the Star You Are!® (Total value, \$700)

www.bethestaryouareradio.com Additionally, your story will be published in our Star Searcher Express newsletter and at www.bethestaryouare.org. 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!®

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?"

All submissions must be received by Be the Star You Are!® by midnight January 18, 2011. Essays accepted by email being only.

You may enter as many essays as you'd like, however each one must be

LISTEN, LISTEN

Starstyle-Be the Star You Are!® radio program continues to garner rave reviews. 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 at <http://www.BethestaryouareRadio.com>. 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@bethestaryouare.org.

"Thank you for a wonderful interview, Cynthia. I will be passing on the info to my friends. You are doing a great job at the radio station." Annette Osborne, Author of As a Tale That is Told

"Thanks for the very positive interview. I am very pleased with the results, as particularly with your method of interviewing." Joel Gibbons, Author, The Empire Strikes a Match in a World Full of Oil

"Thank you so much for that interview ! It is true, you really have a gift and I was so impressed with how you understood the message and verbalized it so well to the audience. Your comments and questions were right on and had a flow to the whole story. Thank you. And I love your charity work as well." Ann Eller, Author, Dragon in the Sky

[LINK to LIVE SHOW](#)

[LINK to ARCHIVES](#)

PLAY, PLAY



It's the 12th annual Pear Festival on Saturday, September 25 from 10-4pm. Come visit the booths of Be the Star You Are!® where volunteers will be offering a plethora of free activities for children. You'll be able to pick up plants and buy books autographed by some of our

January 18, 2011. Essays accepted by email being only.

You may enter as many essays as you'd like, however each one must be emailed separately accompanied by a \$10 tax deductible donation entry fee. You may make the donation by check or credit card. Donation can be via PAYPAL

- All entry fee donations are tax deductible according to the law.
- Any statistics must be documented with researched sources.
- Word Count: Please keep stories between 300-600 words. Please TITLE each entry
- Email address: – cynthia@bethestaryouare.org (attachments in a WORD document, please)
- Send donations via US mail – Be the Star You Are® charity, PO Box 376, Moraga, Ca. USA 94556
- All submissions must be original, and the sole property of the author. Author retains all rights to submission. Winners and runners-up entries will be published on Be the Star You Are!® web site effective February 9, 2011. Winners notified by that date. Winners will be listed in the newsletter and on the web site. No additional mailings will be considered. Payment accepted by check, VISA, MasterCard, or PAYPAL. Payment must be done at the same time of submission. If sending multiple entries, you may send one check with noted essay titles. All entries without donation are disqualified.

Please supply:

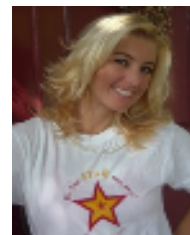
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- * Phone number * Word count * 30 Word BIO

Visit www.bethestaryouare.org under WRITE for more information or email info@bethestaryouare.org

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T-Shirts, Tanks, and Books

"Read, Lead, Succeed" is how we believe you can be a star. For your donation, you can buy white t-shirts, black tanks, and lots of books that will inspire and motivate. Be the star you were born to be with our tax deductible products.



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<http://www.youtube.com/Bethestaryouare>

<http://twitter.com/BetheStarYouAre>

books autographed by some of our contributors. It's all happening at Moraga Commons Park. Hope you'll join our fun. And if you'd like to be a **sponsor**, email info@bethestaryouare.org.

WISH, WISH

Our Letters for Literacy Campaign is in need of **postage stamps**. If you have stamps of any denomination that you'd like to donate, we'll be most appreciative. Send stamps to Be the Star You Are!®, PO Box 376, Moraga, Ca. 94556. For donations of \$10 or more, we'll email you a tax receipt.

Give a Case of Books to the charity, school, non profit, or organization of your books with a donation of \$99 to Be the Star You Are!®. We will send \$500-600 worth of brand new books on subjects appropriate to your cause. You'll get a tax deduction while giving the gift of reading.

THANK YOU FROM THE KIDS!

[Empowering women, families, and youth since 1999.](#)



http://www.amazon.com/shops/be_the_star_you_are_charity

<http://www.igive.com/welcome/warmwelcome.cfm?c=30993&m=421262>

<http://mycause.com/BTSYA>

<http://www.givebackamerica.com/charity.php?b=768>

www.myspace.com/starstylebethestaryouare

<http://www.redroom.com/member/cynthiabrian>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Moraga-California/Be-the-Star-You-Are/38096443724>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Be-the-Star-you-Are/120523041318595>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/btsya/>

BE THE STAR YOU ARE!® is a top rated charity and empowerment leader. We are seeking collaborators and sponsors for our many outreach projects. Please email

info@bethestaryouare.org



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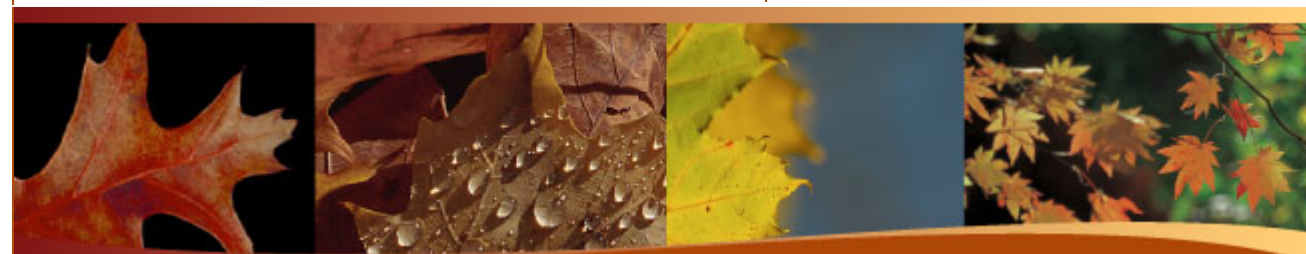
CONTACT

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