

Play a Starring Role!

Support the Future of Young Artists

Because of your generosity during the holiday season last year, the Clark Center Scholarship and Grant program assisted hundreds of kids in pursuing their dreams in the performing arts field. Building individual skills in creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, cultural awareness and confidence are essential components of a well-rounded education and are rooted in a performing arts education.

Who are these kids? Does my donation really make a difference? We thought we would take this opportunity to introduce you to some of them. They are all local kids and after reading their stories you will realize your gift genuinely makes a difference.

Chloe is attending UC Davis and majoring in Theatre and Dance. Even though she had never performed improv, Chloe joined Birdstrike Theatre, an improv comedy team of twelve members that performs on campus. Besides being fun and challenging, she says that performing improv is teaching her team building and to trust her fellow actors.



After a jam packed summer of taking dance classes his scholarship supported in Southern California, **Trevor** was offered a position with Royal Caribbean Cruise lines. He is having a blast sailing and dancing his way to New Zealand, Mystery Island, Bora Bora, Tahiti, and Hawaii!

"I am the happiest I have been in my whole life." **Dylan** is enrolled in PCPA's professional Acting and Technical Theatre education program at Allan Hancock College. Dylan is so grateful to be able to live and learn all aspects of the profession. Ballet training, yoga, studying about the playwrights of the 1930's and 1950's and learning how to sew for the first time are part of his rigorous, yet fulfilling schedule. He is inspired by the staff of teachers, artists and performers at school. Right now, Dylan is working on a one-act play.



While **Kiyenna** is at San Diego State University majoring in Public Health, she is also exploring the field of education and teaching. Either way, her goal is to continue to dance and find ways to help other dancers while maintaining her standard of excellence in completing her general education.



Majoring in Theatre and minoring in Music at UCSB, when **Nick** is not attending one of his theatre classes or writing and reciting poetry, you can find him working with the Arts and Lecture staff at a campus theatre or at the Granada Theater and Arlington Theatre. Working behind the stage has given him the opportunity to meet celebrities like Joan Baez and Jeff Goldblum. Nick is looking forward to returning back to front stage and is preparing for auditions next quarter.



Yumin is attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo as a Music major. Since he and his family moved quite a bit and lived in four other countries, Yumin had not played as consistently as he is now. He's now playing at least four hours a day. Yumin desires to compose and play his own music professionally. He said individuals are usually composers or musicians, but not both. Yumin is especially grateful for the scholarship since he must commute daily to campus.





Teacher **Cadence Mitchell** is the Hysterical Artists Improv Coach at Central Coast New Tech. With the grant's help they hired two professional Cal Poly improv professionals to lead two intensive workshops for the students. The group took what they learned about utilizing improv to convey positive social messages to Ocean View Elementary fourth through sixth graders during Red Ribbon Week. They feel it is important to use their talents for good, to support others and inspire others to do the same. The Hysterical Artists Improv Team performance on December 20, 2018 at Nipomo High School will support a charity of the students' choice in the spirit of giving back.



With the help of a grant this summer, twins **Andy and Ella** had the opportunity to receive a formal introduction to five instruments. They are now enjoying kindergarten and look forward to painting every Friday. Andy is taking Zulu Dance and Ella is taking ballet classes. The twins just celebrated their 6th birthday and hoping to start lessons on their new keyboard that lights up as you learn to play.



Under the guidance of Chrissy Belo, **Nipomo High School Dance Company**, has been busy performing at their rallies and football games' half-time; and will compete at Dance Fusion with other area high school teams. The twenty-one member student dance company is also spending a lot of studio time dedicated to creating new choreography for their dance performance at the Clark Center on May 10, 2019. The performance will feature a variety of dance styles and is open to the public.



Thank you for taking the time to read about some of our scholarship and grant recipients. As a contributor, you play the starring role in their future.

To learn more about the programs, visit our website – www.clarkcenter.org.