

## STARS Teen Advisory Board Presents at Adolescent Sexuality Conference

Spring Newsletter 2007

### Teen Advisory Board Leadership Travels to Seaside to Present Insight.



From upper left to right: Chez, Katie, Allie, Margarita and Krishnan 2006-07 STARS TAB Members.

In March, five representatives of the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) traveled to Seaside, Oregon, to present a workshop at the Adolescent Sexuality Conference. The conference is an opportunity for providers working with youth to gather new information that is relevant to their professional work. Assisting in the presentation were: Katie McCausland, Margarita Castillo, Krishnan Raghavan, Allie Smith, and Chez Valentine.

The theme of the conference was *Healthy Teens in Tomorrow's World*, and keynote speakers and workshops covered such diverse topics as adolescent brain development, theatre games and improvisation, and understanding harassment and violence in schools.

The TAB workshop focused on how to develop and implement a youth board that can effectively represent any youth-oriented program. TAB members talked about the structure and goals of the board, common missteps and tips for avoiding them, as well as their individual projects and goals for the future.

Of course, our time at the conference wasn't all work! We enjoyed a group dinner together and a bonfire on the beach complete with s'mores.

The conference was a great way to share the message of the STARS program, practice new leadership skills, and build memories as an Advisory Board.

For information about next year's conference visit: [www.ascoregon.org](http://www.ascoregon.org)

**STARS Teen Advisory Board 2006-07**  
 Jill Owen, *Curry County*  
 Margarita Castillo, *Marion County*  
 Kelli Bloom, *Benton County*  
 Rebecca Carpenter, *Multnomah Co.*  
 Chez Valentine, *Benton County*  
 Brooks Baumgartner, *Washington Co*  
 Katie McCausland, *Columbia County*  
 Allie Smith, *Linn County*  
 Sara Rushby, *Douglas County*  
 Krishnan Raghavan, *Washington Co.*

### Here's What Kids are Saying About STARS!

"STARS rocks/was fun and exciting/great time/was well taught/pretty interesting/important."

"Helpful for me to learn to say no when I am older; Great program, now I will set a limit."

"It was a great class to figure out and set personal limits to wait for sex."

"Fun and taught me about not having sex and what to say and do."

"I enjoyed learning how to say no if someone is pressuring you."

"It was a really fun program and I'm hopefully going to do it in high school."

"I would like to be in STARS when I'm in high school, hope I can be a STARS leader."

### STARS Students and Program Receive Accolades and Awards

This spring one of our STARS teen leaders was awarded a scholarship for her community service contribution teaching STARS classes in the Gresham-Barlow school district. Melanie Gibson is a graduating senior at Gresham High School and has been active in STARS for three years. Her classroom facilitator, Billie Carlson was honored to write Melanie a letter of recommendation to be included with her scholarship application.



Melanie Gibson

The Soroptimist International of Gresham held a luncheon to award scholarships and recognize the young people doing good work in their community. In addition to Melanie's scholarship, the Multnomah County Health Department STARS program received matching funds to continue their partnership and provide services to youth.



STARS Program  
Multnomah County

### STARS Foundation Awards Scholarship



It is with great pleasure that the STARS Foundation announce Brook Baumgarten as the 2007 TAB Scholarship Recipient.

Brook, a graduating senior at Forest Grove High School, has been involved with the STARS program since 2006 when he became a Teen Leader and was "given the opportunity to visit the middle schools students and speak to the students about the consequences of early sexual involvement." Discovering that this was a program he was "passionate" about, he then proceeded to become one of 11 members of the STARS Teen Advisory Board (TAB). Through this past year, he has attended the Fall Leadership Retreat, has recruited more than 90 individuals to become Teen Leaders in his community and also served on the Community 101 Class of Forest Grove HS.

Brook has been accepted and will be attending Pepperdine University this coming fall.

Congratulations Brook! Keep us posted on you future works!

# Make a difference to the Universe by joining the STARS Galaxy.

Over the past eleven years, the STARS Foundation has been raising funds to provide financial support to the acclaimed "Students Today Aren't Ready for Sex" program throughout the State of Oregon. In its first year, STARS provided education and empowerment to 683 middle school students. Over these eleven years, it has grown to a total of 27,682 middle school students. In addition, while our program continues to grow, Oregon's teens have seen a drastic reduction in teen pregnancy— from a whopping 19.2 pregnancies per 1,000 girls age 10 to 17 to 9.3 percent today. And yet, *there is still more we need to do.*

Currently the STARS program is in 59% of Oregon's middle schools. Our goal is to provide this program to 100% of Oregon's middle school children, thus empowering today's youth to make safe, sound and thoughtful decisions that will have a dynamic impact on the communities of our future.

Help us reach our goal by making a financial commitment. Or, consider making a contribution in the name of a child who you know who deserves to have a bright future.

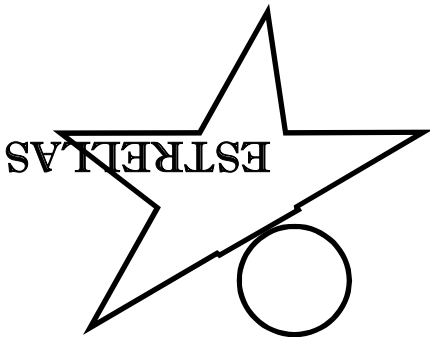
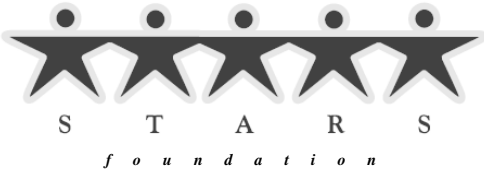
Galaxy Donor Levels	
\$1-\$250	Little Dipper
\$251-\$500	Orion
\$501-\$1000	Corona Borealis
\$1001-\$5000	The Big Dipper
\$5001 -plus	Shooting Star

To make a contribution, simply contact the STARS Foundation to set up your pledge of support at 503-226-0849 or online at: [www.stars-foundation.org](http://www.stars-foundation.org)

**Because all kids can be stars!**

**STARS Foundation**  
**1410 SW Morrison, Suite 501**  
**Portland, Oregon**  
**97205-1968**

**Phone: 503-226-0849**  
**Email: [starsfoundation@ctfo.org](mailto:starsfoundation@ctfo.org)**



**NEWS FROM ESTRELLAS**

Three Beaverton High School students, Danielle Baumann, Sydney Bowman, and Alicia Pasik, were able to draw on the Spanish they have been studying to present Estrellas to a beginning English Language Learners (ELL) class at Whitford Middle School in the Beaverton School District during March and April.

The three girls were able to present the lessons almost entirely in Spanish, with help from Oliver Vera of the Department of Human Services. Their efforts were well received by the students, and the three girls had such a great time, that they want to do Estrellas again next year.

Following the five sessions, one of the girls in the middle school class expressed interest in becoming an Estrellas teen leader when she got to high school.

This is the third time in three years we have been able to reach ELL students with the Estrellas curriculum in the Beaverton District. Two years ago, Five Oaks Middle School had two ELL classes participate in Estrellas. Last year, we presented a condensed version of Estrellas to the Migrant Summer School program. We continue to seek opportunities to present Estrellas in our middle school programs. We reach many of our ELL students in the mainstream classes that they have been placed in.