

Greetings from Laurie's Scholars (LS)

We have some exciting news to share with you! Our first announcement is about our new collaboration with Cilsa in Argentina. For over 50 years Cilsa has focused on helping people with disabilities. Cilsa identified sixteen (16) scholars who match our funding requirements. Their career paths include Business, Accounting, Law, Psychology, Engineering, Nursing, Social Work and Journalism. All plan to graduate within the next 18 months. Part of Cilsa's program is to prepare these scholars to successfully gain employment, including composition of their resumes, conducting mock interviews, and gaining self-confidence. Over half of Cilsa's scholars reach their professional goal within six months. The average salary is \$380 per month.

Please enjoy the brief stories of four scholars that LS is supporting.

-Don Schoendorfer
LS Co-founder & Board Member



Agustina focuses on a degree in Social Work.



Pablo is seeking a degree in Political Science.



Florencia will soon graduate with a degree in Nutrition.



Antonella is in pursuit of a degree in Journalism.

Our second announcement is about our new Adopt a Scholar Program. To date, we have pooled donations from you, and other generous supporters. We use these funds for scholarships. Recently, some of our supporters expressed interest in adopting a scholar and funding their entire educational needs. This means an individual supporter will pledge earmarked funds for their adopted scholar so their scholar may complete their education and start their career. We believe this program will enrich the lives of both the donor and the scholar. It could lead to lasting relationships and understanding of life in both the USA and in developing countries. LS will offer the Adopt a Scholar Program in addition to our current endowment funding program.

We present updates of two of our scholars: Nhung and Tiep:

Nhung was born in 2001. At five years old, she suffered a spinal cord injury, leaving her paralyzed from the waist down. She has needed a wheelchair ever since. Her mother would drive Nhung on a motorbike to and from school. Nhung dropped out of school in the ninth grade, wanting to end some of the burden she placed on her mother and family. She started looking for a suitable job for someone using a wheelchair. She found her dream, to become a beautician, and to have her own salon. She learned what she could, on her own, but this was not enough. After years of searching, pleading, and begging, she found a salon that would pay her a modest salary, mainly just to do cleaning. She learned as much as she could, but it wasn't enough to become an accomplished beautician. Our partner in Vietnam (GIBTK) found out about Nhung and introduced her to LS. We granted her a \$600 scholarship to take a course on becoming a beautician. She became an expert, and reached her dream, opening her own salon. She is making \$1,000 per month now!



In Spring 2019 we introduced you to Le Phuoc Tiep. He lives in Hue City, Vietnam. Tiep applied for a \$591 scholarship to study Graphic Arts at a local university. It was an intensive three-month course. He is the first student to attend this university in a wheelchair. Within months after graduation, he learned how to do short-term contract graphic design projects over the internet. This was fabulous as Tiep could work at home. His main job is to create photo and graphic content for clients' websites. Tiep earns \$310 each month. He pays the daily expenses for water and electricity for his parents and siblings. He started his own company called Offer Traffic Online. He directs his six employees, some of which he trained himself.



Our third announcement is about our recent score with Candid. We are proud that we have just earned our 2023 Platinum Seal with @CandidDotOrg! Being awarded the Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid is a major testament to the transparency of Laurie's Scholars. The Platinum Seal of Transparency is a rating that puts us in the top 0.1% of charities nationally in terms of transparency and means that Laurie's Scholars has shared clear and important information with the public about our goals, strategies, capabilities, achievements and progress indicators.

Donate to LS

You can learn more about us and donate on our website at:

www.lsendowment.org

or send your donation to:

Laurie's Scholars

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Platinum
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2023

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