

Greetings from the Laurie Schoendorfer Endowment for Education (LSEE). We hope you and your family are well. You last heard from us in May during the early stages of Covid-19. We pressed on, taking advantage of a new development. The virus closed one door – traditional classroom education but opened another – virtual internet-based education at home. This made it much easier for our wheelchair-bound scholars to participate from their own homes.

Currently there are eleven LSEE scholars. Let us tell you about three, one in Peru and two in Vietnam. Each one of them place a high value on their scholarships, and they work hard to learn as much as possible from the opportunity we gave them. We are happy to tell you that three of our scholars have turned their new knowledge into lucrative jobs and are now helping to support their families, earning many times more per year than their scholarships cost.

We are also excited to announce that we launched a dollar-for-dollar match campaign on GoFundMe. For every dollar you give, we have two generous supporters who will match your donation, until we reach \$20,000. Please visit this link:

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/lsee>

-Don Schoendorfer

LSEE Co-founder & Board Member



Nathaly from Peru

Nathaly is 20 and lives in Peru. She was diagnosed with scoliosis at age 7. A long series of surgeries dragged her family deep into poverty. Her pain was constant. When she was 17 she tried attending a university but had to drop out for another wave of surgeries. She is stable now with titanium bars and 23 screws along her spine. She does not feel physically capable of attending a university campus. When the covid virus hit, it caused universities to offer virtual classes at home. We granted her a \$600 scholarship to Pacific University to take a virtual two-month digital marketing course.

Nathaly reports: "In those 2 months I learned about how to start a digital business, based on marketing strategies. I learned so much, but more importantly, I overcame my fears. I started a digital business. I sold a bicycle that I had in the backyard of my house and bought another. I restored it with the help of my father. I sold that and with the profit bought another one and so we continued in this way without stopping. I started buying wholesale used and new bicycles. Then I started to buy bicycle accessories. The pandemic here closed public transportation. Business is really growing. I cannot do heavy lifting. I focus on managing the business and my parents do pick-ups and deliveries. Check out my website at Tubici.pe."

Tam is age 20 and lives in Vietnam. He was abandoned at childbirth and has lived in an orphanage all his life. A spinal cord hernia paralyzed his legs. He is passionate about becoming a professional designer, having a stable career and supporting himself. He plans to work as a freelancer from home. He is accepted into a 3-year program at Bach Viet College. More great news is that because Tam is a "special case," his orphanage will pay for his tuition, \$1,830! The orphanage will support him with room and board, books, and uniforms. He requests from us funds for a laptop (\$800, adequate for computer design) and a Grabbike pass (\$217/year) for transportation. When he graduates the orphanage will help him find a place to live.

Tam says: "For a person with a severe disability like me, being able to have a career is a very rare thing. I hope to help other people with disabilities like me who have dreams like mine and train them what I will learn. Happiness is all about giving."

Tham is 29 and lives in Vietnam. At age 9 she suffered a spinal cord injury and needed a wheelchair ever since. She finished grade 9 but had to drop out because the nearest school was 6 miles away. She learned to use her elbows rather than her feet to control a sewing machine. She currently earns \$26/month repairing clothes at a small workshop. She wanted to learn how to make "ao Dai" traditional long dresses. There are no tailoring schools in Vietnam that accept wheelchair users. Tham found a tutor who taught her these skills. We granted a scholarship to her for \$1,275.

Tham just reported: "Thanks to LSEE, I am now confident enough to recruit tailors to work with me at my tailor shop. There are a lot of customers coming to my shop wanting me to make their dresses and vests." Tham hopes to be making \$200-\$300 per month soon.

Donate to LSEE

Please support us through our GoFundMe page and your donation will be doubled. Type the following into your internet browser:

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/lsee>

You can learn more about us and you may also donate on our website at: www.lsendowment.org or send your donation to:

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