



Newsletter: Summer 2021 Edition

ISSUE 17

Our nonprofit charity foundation exists to honor the memory of thirteen-year-old Emily Rose Shane, who was tragically murdered on April 3, 2010 on Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu, CA.



The Emily Shane Foundation’s flagship SEA (Successful Educational Achievement) Program provides essential mentoring and tutoring support to disadvantaged middle school students in the mainstream classroom.

SEA makes a difference in the lives of the children we serve.

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	2
GET ACTIVE IN APRIL FUNDRAISERS	3
STUDENT SUCCESSES	4
SEA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	8
HYDRONALIX'S THE EMILY	11
ESF IN THE MEDIA	11
EMILY'S GIFT - CHILDREN'S BOOK	12
UPCOMING EVENTS	12
GOOD DEEDS	13

*Read how
your support
has changed
lives!*



**Please Click Here to
Support Our Mission!**

A Message From the Executive Director

To Our SEA Community,

The results achieved this school year by our students were remarkable! Despite the challenges presented by operating solely virtually, we witnessed incredible progress from our SEA students; a special thanks to the efforts, care and support our mentor/tutors provided. They truly went the extra mile. Many tracked their students outside of sessions to ensure work was submitted or to send reminders about preparing for tests. They contacted and communicated closely with parents/guardians and site liaisons to help with attendance, as often the students were left on their own. Some worked beyond the usual session time if their student's situation could not be fully addressed in an hour. Most students entered SEA with a myriad of missing assignments, a lack of attending classes and very poor grades. The plethora of online tools available and used by our mentor/tutors made sessions almost identical to meeting in person. They were creative and resourceful.

In fact, due to the success realized this school year, we will be providing a hybrid of the SEA at almost all sites for the 2021-2022 school year. This will allow us to serve more students.

Our wonderful and talented volunteer, Ananya, will be working on statistics once we obtain final report cards and grades, and we will share these with you. At our "End of School Year" meetings, where we acknowledge each SEA student's achievements, many voiced that they expected the posted students' grades to be higher as all submitted work and grading had yet to be updated. Stay tuned!

In lieu of our annual Wings Over Malibu (WOM) April fundraiser, which had to be postponed until April 2022, we presented a unique activity-focused fundraiser accompanied by a silent auction. We are grateful to all who participated, as the funds raised are critical to the continuation of our work. This year the SEA Program was truly a lifeline to many of our students, as some faced homelessness or felt isolated. Others were confined to small quarters with many people; some of our students were babysitting younger siblings while trying to keep up with school and homework. Whatever the situation, they could count on the guidance of our mentor/tutors. What a difference this made!

I am grateful to all who care about educating our less fortunate youth, and support our mission of setting them on the path to success in school and in life.

We look forward to the next school year and wish everyone a wonderful and happy summer!

Warmly,

Ellen Shane

Virtual Spring Fundraiser Event - Get Active in April

Throughout the month of April, The Emily Shane Foundation welcomed spring with its first-ever movement-based "Get Active in April" fundraiser alongside an Online Silent Auction. We are so grateful for the support of our participants and staff for making this event successful!



Special thanks to the participants who raised the top three dollar amounts! The Emily Shane Foundation is very grateful to everyone who participated in our "Get Active in April" fundraiser and/or the online silent auction.

First Prize - Hydronalix - awarded an at-home wine tasting from PRP Wine International

Second Prize - Jim Flock - won a dinner certificate to Simms Restaurant

Jim Flock kindly donated his dinner certificate to Simms Restaurant to a mentor/tutor, who has gone above and beyond to support a SEA student.

Allison, a mentor/tutor in Thousand Oaks, was selected as our winner for her exemplary work with her student, Jonathan. She has worked with him for 3 years and has been his ally and confidant as he navigated middle school and prepares for high school in the fall.

Third Prize - Bonnie Furgurson - 5 In-N-Out Burger meal giftcards

MANY THANKS

We would also like to express our gratitude to **Emily Schmidt Goldstein** for her extraordinary efforts especially with respect to our silent auction.



The Emily Shane Foundation is grateful to **Big Sunday**, a nonprofit also based here in LA that does amazing work to help others in this city. This past year, which has been so challenging, this charity has been so generous to our foundation. Our deepest appreciation to Founder and Executive Director **David Levinson, Berenice Katcher**, Senior Director, and **the entire Big Sunday team.**

We would like to extend our gratitude to our ESF committee members who have been invaluable to the ESF community.

We would like to acknowledge **Lisa Ellis, Angela Thacker,** and **Mary Garrison** for their efforts in helping make "Get Active in April" a success.



Pictured left to right:
Lisa Ellis, Angela Thacker, & Ellen Shane

Many others contributed to the event to make it a reality. Thank you to all who embrace our passion for educating less fortunate youth, so they can achieve their dreams and goals.



There were several amazing items in our Online Silent Auction! Thanks to all who participated! Items won included Disneyland and California Adventure Park Hopper tickets, a 2-night stay at the Phoenician, wine tastings, and so much more!

Pictured: Executive Director, Ellen Shane, with Dr. Daniel Rastein, winner of the Disneyland and California Adventure Park Hopper Tickets as well as the certificate to Lucky Strike.

SEA Student Successes

IN THE WORDS OF SEA STUDENTS *(literally!)*

Zack (6th Grader in Malibu) works with mentor/tutor Elizabeth

"The program helped because I used to have an F in Math, but now I have an A! I had all my missing assignments done, and I got all my grades to A's and B's because of the program."

Karen (8th Grader in Pico Rivera) works with mentor/tutor Maya

"I have better grades now. I went from an F to a D in Science. I turn in more missing assignments and I pay more attention in class. I feel like I actually like school more than before."

Maria (7th Grader in South LA) works with mentor/tutor Chinelo

"My mentor is nice and she helps me a lot. She inspires me to turn in my work, go to class, and pay more attention. I would tell someone that if your grades are really low and you need help raising them, you should go to the SEA program."

Makhiya (8th Grader in Westchester) works with mentor/tutor Zoe

"The SEA Program will help you get better grades. My mentor/tutor is nice and helpful when I ask questions. She helps me by going step by step on assignments, working in groups, and asking questions."

IN THE WORDS OF SEA PARENTS

April, Mother of Allison (6th Grader in Oxnard)

"She is more organized and more independent. Yes, they talk about family stuff and also how it has been in quarantine. Ayana is awesome. She sets up calendars and goals for Allison. She sends emails and text messages for reminders. They also talk about how important school is. She gets excited when she accomplishes something important."

Erin, Mother of Francis and Robert (6th Graders in Malibu)

"The mentors are all positive and inspirational. My daughter waits for sessions and is excited each time to be with her wonderful mentor. This wonderful program works miracles and truly transforms kids' approach with adulation, making them realize how exciting the learning process could be. It is a way of discovery of the new world and widens their horizons in every aspect of life."

IN THE WORDS OF SEA SITE LIAISONS



Ms. Brown, School Counselor, Westchester

"This school year was the year of the worldwide pandemic. Our generation had not experienced anything like it, and many of our families were overwhelmed with work (or a lack of), health concerns, and virtual schooling. Ellen Shane and the Emily Shane Foundation stepped up immediately to support our struggling students with the SEA program."

Wright Middle School is grateful for your flexibility and determination to connect with our students virtually to help reach them and support them academically. Beyond continuing the SEA program with us via Zoom, the mentors went above and beyond to troubleshoot the hindrances to individual student learning and brainstorm ways to help kids who seemed to be drowning with the weight of it all."



Mr. Hernandez, School Counselor, Pico Rivera

"The SEA program has been such an impactful resource for our students. Especially in this difficult time when resources have been limited, the SEA program has been able to provide help for students who otherwise may not have received it. They target students who don't quite qualify for special education, but still require additional interventions.

Part of what makes the SEA program so great is the connection the mentors strive to make with our students. These mentors don't just view this as a job, but as an opportunity to help facilitate academic and social-emotional success for our kids. I would highly recommend any school district to look into inviting the SEA program as a partner in their district. The opportunities for growth are limitless with this program supporting your students!"

IN THE WORDS OF SEA MENTOR/TUTORS

Chinelo works with Maria (8th Grader in South LA)

"Since I started working with Maria, we have built a stronger relationship. She trusts and tells me areas she has difficulty in and lets me know when things are wrong. I feel like I have made a difference for my student as I have watched the positive change in Maria's educational habits over time!"

Reese works with Kemet (8th Grader in Westchester)

"I have enjoyed being a mentor for the SEA Program this year. Looking at Kemet's progress sheet, our tutoring sessions have helped him significantly raise his grades. Writing out a to-do list at the beginning of each session has been the most effective strategy. The list helps teach Kemet organization and allows him to turn his assignments in on time."

Angelina works with Jack (8th Grader in Pico Rivera)

"My overall experience working as a mentor/tutor has been a little difficult, but fulfilling and rewarding. I feel proud when I see their motivation and grades increase, although it might be difficult to reach these goals. The strategies that I found have worked the best are creating a schedule for current and late assignments. Also, I found that asking them to complete assignments that they find difficult in session and giving them easier assignments to complete on their own have been helpful."

Brisa works with Emily and Ethan (7th Graders in Oxnard)

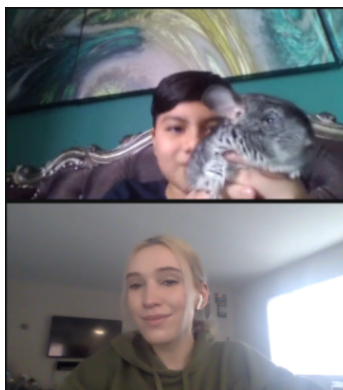
"Working as a tutor is a rewarding job. Seeing how our support helps students get motivation and confidence in school is great. Sometimes students just need a bit more practice or explanations that are not always available in a big classroom. The tool that I have seen make a real difference is the whiteboard mode on Google meets. It allows the student and me to write on a blank page at the same time. Using YouTube for videos also helps students review information."

IN THE WORDS OF SEA MENTOR/TUTOR & STUDENT PAIRS



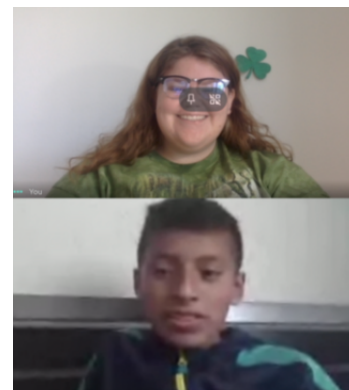
Yariel, 7th Grader in Malibu

"I feel good about school right now. I have all A's. I don't know what more I could ask for. I would totally recommend this program, because it helps kids to meet new people that are older than them."



Jaycee, 6th Grader in South LA

"The SEA Program showed me that sometimes school can be fun even though it is a lot of work. This program is good before high school, because then it will make school easier for you."



Ulises, 8th Grader in Oxnard

"My Science grade went from an F to an A, my Language Arts went from a D+ to a B+, my AVID went from a C+ to an A-, and my Math went from a C to an A!"

SEA Program Highlights

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

Extraordinary Mentor/Tutor Sammy Goehring



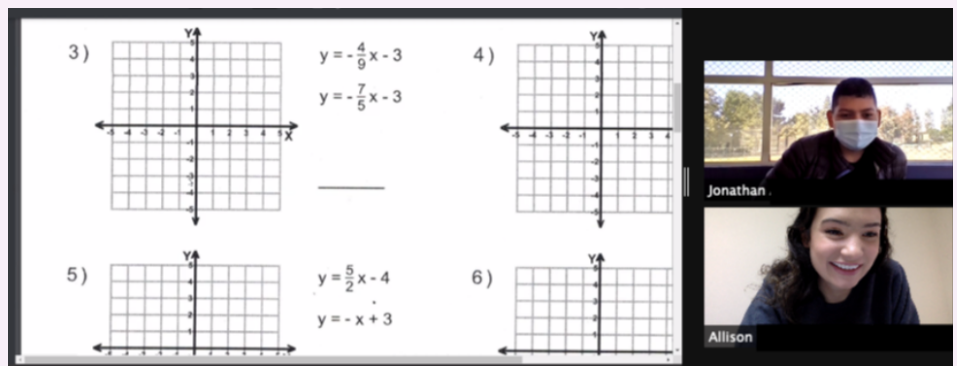
Sammy has gone above and beyond this past school year. After learning that there were students in need of extra support via the SEA Program, she kindly took on four students this past term. Not only has Sammy adapted every lesson plan to create individualized study and homework calendars for her students, but she also goes the extra mile to ensure that her students are prepared for their exams, turning in assignments on time, and developing positive relationships with their teachers.

"It has definitely been a learning experience. I started off with two students, then took on 2 additional students halfway into the second trimester. This along with school has been insane, but I have loved working with the kids. They make every day wonderful and I don't want to leave them. I believe that I am making a difference with my students. Genuinely caring about them, their grades, and their mental health has helped every aspect of being with them."

- Sammy

Outstanding Mentor/Tutor Volunteer Allison Rummell

Jonathan and Allison have been working together since he started middle school. The rapport between this pair has truly made the difference as Jonathan gets ready to start high school.

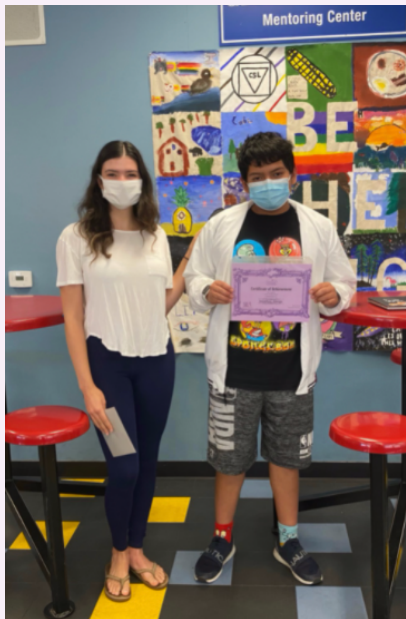


When he first started, he showed no emotion, was disenchanted with school, and was dealing with the effects of a challenging home-life situation. At this point, Jonathan sees Allison as an ally and more importantly, his cheerleader. She has shown him how to advocate for himself when addressing concerns about the material or getting extra credit with his teachers. Jonathan feels comfortable talking to her about his life as well as working on issues with school. This is just one example of the bond that mentor/tutors typically develop with their students in the SEA Program.

Allison shares that as she and Jonathan have had the opportunity to connect more, "he has been much more proactive about his assignments than when I first met him and has grown a lot as a student and person." In addition, Jonathan did not initially see the purpose of higher education. Allison showed him the difference in salary projections based on level of education to illustrate the importance of school.

Over the last three years, Allison has served as a mentor/tutor, area coordinator, and volunteer! She will be starting Physician Assistant school in the fall. Thank you, Allison, for your hard work!

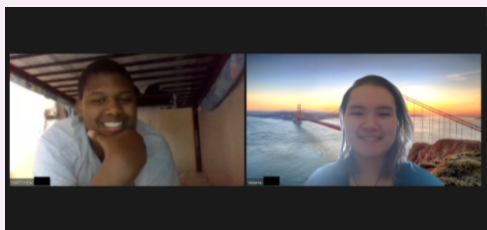
Read more about Allison's thoughts on working with Jonathan:



"This past term, we went over jobs ranked by U.S. News and showed the difference in salaries for jobs with and without a Bachelor's Degree. I showed him scholarships, because he believes 'college is a scam,' so I showed him what you can do with a college degree that you may not be able to do without one, especially because he doesn't want to do manual labor. I have been grateful to develop a mentor relationship with Jonathan over the last few years. Although we are on Zoom, I still feel that Jonathan trusts me to talk about his life and to work on issues with school. He has been much more proactive about his assignments than when I first met him, and has grown a lot as a student and person."

- Allison

Mentor/Tutor Volunteer Valerie with 8th Grader Matthew in South LA



Despite early challenges with internet access and virtual learning schedules, Valerie has helped Matthew with far more than just catching up on his daunting number of missing assignments. She has been an advocate, a leader, and most importantly, an ally in helping Matthew reach his academic potential. When Matthew began in the SEA Program, he had 2 months worth of missing assignments. With Valerie's help, he now understands the importance of achieving academic success and works harder to attend all of his classes and come to sessions prepared and ready to learn.

Mentor/Tutor High School Volunteer Hannah

"Working for the SEA Program was a life-changing experience! Helping a child in need excel in school work is one of the best feelings that one could feel. Being a tutor helped me become more patient and understanding."



University of Southern California ESF Club President Valerie Araki



"I have been working with ESF since the Fall of 2020. I have loved seeing both mentors and students become passionate about the work that they are doing, building relationships that help their students succeed in their studies. I hope to continue working with the foundation and help many more students achieve what I know they are capable of."

Kyle Friedler

Kyle took over our foundation's social media and has dedicated over 3 years to the Emily Shane Foundation. He has worked behind the scenes to help with all related to social media platforms. His incredible organizational and design skills have enabled us to showcase the work of our mentor/tutors and students. Kyle has now graduated with a BA in Sociology with a Double Minor in Film, Television, and Media Studies and Women's and Gender Studies and will be moving on.



Chloe Rodgers, who will be a junior in the fall at LMU, is taking over for Kyle. She is studying film and TV production, with a minor in English. She has already demonstrated a terrific work ethic and capability in the social media realm.

Before he goes, Kyle is working closely with us on our new website. He will be going to graduate school to either study Leadership, Social Sector Leadership and Nonprofit Management, or Public Policy. We will miss you, Kyle, and want to acknowledge your talent and efforts in doing all you can to help with ESF's digital visibility. Thank you for all your hard work! We wish you every success for the future.

Loyola Marymount University ESF Club President Bianca Salinas



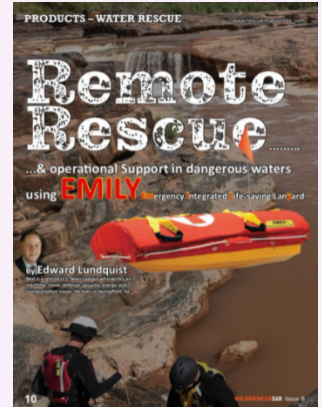
"My time at ESF has been a rewarding experience in both the aspects of being a mentor and the LMU ESF President; as I get to really make a difference and help students in need, especially during the pandemic. I am excited for the future with ESF as the program continues to grow!"

Updates on "The EMILY"



We are grateful to our corporate sponsor, Hydronalix, manufacturer of the EMILY, a robotic, life-saving device used for water rescue.

Hydronalix has a newer product, Sonar EMILY, which is used for search and recovery and infrastructure inspection. Sonar EMILY is a remote-piloted boat that Panama City Beach, FL will use to reach swimmers in distress. In addition, the Michigan Department of Transportation has named Sonar EMILY a "Gamechanger" for bridge inspections. Results showed it could be safer, less labor-intensive, and in some cases, less costly than traditional techniques. To learn more, please visit hydronalix.com.



[Read More About Sonar EMILY in Michigan at Michigan.gov](#)

ESF in the Media

PROJECT WORLD IMPACT

Project World Impact is an online hub for individuals and nonprofits looking for innovative ways to make a difference in their communities. ESF is excited to officially have a platform on Project World Impact!

[Explore ESF and Make an Impact on PWI](#)

INSPIRING CONVERSATIONS WITH ELLEN SHANE

[Read More from Voyage LA](#)

THE INVEST IN YOUTH COALITION

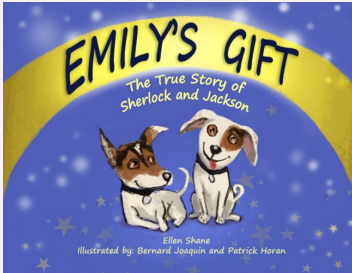


The Invest in Youth Coalition is comprised of 60 nonprofits across LA working towards investment in equitable and positive youth development. Our foundation is proud to be a part of this terrific team of nonprofits, all focused on empowering youth in this city, and reaching those from underserved communities.

Emily's Gift Purchases to Help Support the SEA Program

PLEASE NOTE: NEW PURCHASE LINK BELOW!

ESF's Executive Director released the first true story in a series about the family's dogs last August. The engaging and entertaining tale relates the journey of how the youngest Shane sibling tries to negotiate bringing a puppy into her loving and pet-less family.



Available in English and Spanish!

bit.ly/Emilysgift

**New Link to Purchase
Emily's Gift in English or
Spanish**



Upcoming Events!

AUGUST BRACELET FUNDRAISER: AUGUST 1ST - 31ST

For the entire month of August, a variety of bracelets created specifically for ESF will be offered for sale by a nonprofit charity based in Florida. This charity creates and sells bracelets for selected nonprofits, typically grassroots organizations such as ours. In addition to the bracelets being offered online, the LA-based representatives will present a booth with ESF bracelets and an array of items that can be used to create customized bracelets. The booth will be at Point Dume Plaza on both Saturdays, August 7th and 21st from 10:30 am - 2 pm. Stay tuned for more information!



RAINBOW HALO INSTALLATION: MONDAY, AUGUST 9TH

A Rainbow Halo will be installed and marked by a small gathering on what would be Emily Shane's 25th birthday. It will take place at Sterling Farms in Malibu, adjacent to the area on the road where Emily was tragically struck and killed. Rainbow Halo installations are a project of the City of Los Angeles' Department of Transportation and commemorate those killed due to traffic crashes. The City of Malibu has been instrumental in coordinating the installation, and the management of Sterling Farms has graciously offered their property for the gathering. Particulars will be announced.

BUTTERFLY EVENT: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH

We are excited to present our seventh annual butterfly-themed fall fundraiser! This happy event, suitable for all ages, will again take place at Pepperdine University's Alumni Park. A variety of attractions are being planned, including a silent auction, a kids' activity table, a butterfly release, food trucks, musical entertainment, a magic show, and more!

Please email info@emilyshane.org if you are interested in sponsorship or participating in the auction.

2020-2021: A Sampling of SEA Program Students' Good Deeds

I made sure my brother had dinner when he got home.

- Sapphire, 8th Grader in Pico Rivera

I taught my little sister how to bowl and played games with her.

- Jacob, 8th Grader in Pico Rivera

I let other kids play baseball.

- Sebastian, 7th Grader in Malibu

I made my dad smile today!

- Angeley, 7th Grader in Pico Rivera

I picked up a water bottle that someone dropped on the ground and put it in the recycling.

- Yariel, 6th Grader in Malibu

I helped take care of my neighbor's baby and helped my mom clean the house.

- Maria, 7th Grader in Pico Rivera

**Click Here for More
Good Deeds!**



Please Click Here to Support Our Mission!

Our new website is coming!

We are expecting to present our new face to the world before the end of July 2021. We look forward to formally announcing when it is live!



www.emilyshane.org

Copyright © 2021 The Emily Shane Foundation. All rights reserved.