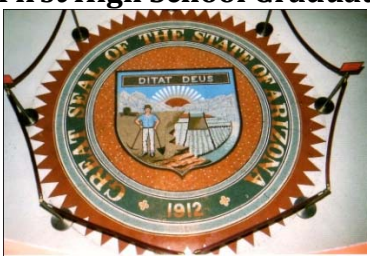
STARSHINE ACADEMY...Stepping Stones

Successful Implementation of StarShine Principles and Student Achievement

"Rich Dad" with inspiration from Robert Kiyosaki:

Robert and Kim Kiyosaki of Rich Dad gave StarShine its first donation of $25,000 and hundreds of books and games to teach financial literacy to the students, parents and teachers.

First High School Graduation at Capitol (June 2004):



Even though there were only four students at the first high school graduation, we had a memorable ceremony at the Arizona state Capitol building with notable people offering their best wishes, including Vernon Parker, future mayor of Paradise Valley.

LA MUSIC AWARDS (November 2004):

Trish McCarty, founder and CEO of Starshine, received a notable award...the Humanitarian of the Year...for her stellar work with the underprivileged children of the StarShine Academy.

11 DAYS OF PEACE (September 2004):

This yearly event marked the time between the anniversary of "9/11" and the International Day of Peace on 9/21. Each day brought new experiences to the children of StarShine Academy. The 11 day event was further celebrated on9/21 with the distribution of flags from the countries of the world and a festive march around the property.

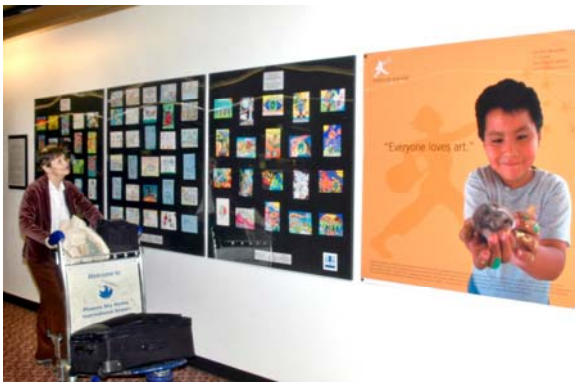
"PEACE PALS" INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S ART SHOW (November 2005):

StarShine Academy sponsored the first UN children's art show in the U.S. This involved thousands of entries from children around the world. We viewed, sorted and judged those entries and shared this work with the world in a public art show viewing.

ARIZONA INTERFATH MOVEMENT AWARD (May 2006):

Trish Adams was presented with the prestigious *Golden Rule Award* from the Arizona Interfaith Movement, in the field of education, for her work exemplifying the application of the *Golden Rule* in the education arena.

THUNDERBIRD SCHOOL OF GLOBAL MANAGEMENT marketing campaign winner:



A team of students in a marketing class at Thunderbird won a national campaign bringing the efforts of a first-class marketing company to the development of StarShine Academy's reputation in the field of education. They created our signature "Sower" as a fundamental logo and "mascot" for the work at StarShine. This lead to a display about StarShine at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport.

AFGHAN WOMEN VISIT STARSHINE (November 2006):

As a part of their special certificate program at the Thunderbird School of Global Management, a large group of Afghan teachers visit StarShine Academy. They enjoyed their day interacting with the children and offering some of their native culture to all grades.

VIET NAM NUNS VISIT STARSHINE (December 2006):

A group of nuns from Viet Nam spent a day at StarShine interacting with the children and staff, in preparation for opening a StarShine Academy in Viet Nam.

BRENDA COMBS and her amazing story of survival:

Our own 3rd to 5th grade teacher, **Brenda Combs**, was recognized for her amazing recovery from homelessness, drug addiction and physical abuse...an astonishing story. The highline of her connection to StarShine was publicly shared with a special news report on the Phoenix chapter of a national network. At her graduation in May of 2007, she brought her whole class up on stage to sing with her. She was the "star" of the graduation ceremony, culminating in a personal reading of a letter of acknowledgement to her from the First Lady, Laura Bush.

READER'S DIGEST Magazine crew shoots film of Brenda Combs at STARSHINE (August 2007):

A film crew from the Reader's Digest magazine spent several days at the school shooting Brenda Combs at work with her classroom and around the StarShine Academy campus.

11 DAYS OF PEACE Event (November 2007):

This year's annual peace event included an executive from STARBUCK'S coaching the kids in the kitchen and sharing Starbuck's drinks. A special training in SOLAR COOKING resulted in a delicious meal prepared solely with solar cooking. A festive moment, with ice cream from Breyer's and a special presentation from company staff excited everyone. RON NEILSEN, retired captain with America West Airlines, offered advanced training in self-improvement.

HARD ROCK CAFE concert with Steve McCarty (September 2008):

As a major fund-raising event for StarShine, Steve McCarty of Steve Miller Band fame...and now Trish's husband...offered a major rock concert with his band at the Hard Rock Cafe in downtown Phoenix.

FEED THE CHILDREN and the St. Vincent de Paul food distribution (November 2008):

The staff at StarShine helped this major food distribution program at the St. Vincent de Paul main headquarters. Shaquille O'Neal and local music talent, including Steve McCarty's band, added a special festive note to the day. Many families from StarShine were able to receive much needed support from the event.

SOLAR TRUCK concert with Steve McCarty's band (September 2009):

Using only energy supplied by a "solar truck", Steve and his band played for and with the kids on the StarShine campus for a good portion of the day. This allowed the kids to have a close-up experience of the value of solar energy.

THE HARP FOUNDATION and Harp training with the kids (September 2010):

Several of the professional harpists with The Harp Foundation brought their small harps to the campus and offered several classes in playing the harp to the children in the lower grades. The kids loved their time with their little harps.

DISNEY'S day of clean-up & remodeling with Mickey & Minnie (February 2010):

Through Trish's efforts, the DISNEY gang brought about 100 local people to the StarShine campus for a major remodeling and repair day. Mickey & Minnie were present all day to entertain everyone, along with a major drumming group. This was a very productive, as well as a festive day for all!

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING WEEK (January 2011):

A full week of training in the "StarShine Effect" was offered to several people from around the world who are interested in opening StarShine Academies in their home countries, including India, England and Africa.

STARSHINE MOVES TO A NEW CAMPUS (December 2011):

After 10 years in one location, the school moved to a new, much larger campus nearby. The vision for the new, expanded global concept for the StarShine Academy's growth around the world, is rooted in Vernon Swaback's concept of "Creative Community". He is designing the new campus renovation which will include a beautiful new schoolroom building and a state-of-the-art gymnasium that easily converts to a full scale theater.

100th MONKEY BREAKFAST each January:

Based on Ken Keyes' 100th Monkey concept, this breakfast gathered many notables from the Phoenix area together to enjoy a freshly prepared breakfast by some of the kids under the tutelage of the executive chef of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. The latest news and progress of StarShine is presented to the visitors. In 2012, the 10th annual breakfast was offered at the new campus.

GARDENING:

Ongoingly, the children are involved in the preparation, care and harvesting of their own produce and flowers in the StarShine garden. This is a requirement for all the kids and is a daily event.

PEACE POLE:

The Peace Pole on campus has been a source of inspiration and connection for hundreds of visitors, as well as the children and staff of StarShine, over the years.

INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADORSHIP:

Every child at StarShine is assigned as an ambassador of one of the United Nations countries. They then learn everything they can about their country and will make a presentation about what they've learned at various times during the school year.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNEYS:

Trish McCarty and Jan Shoop have traveled to China, Africa, England and the United Nations to share the StarShine concept. In Liberia, Africa they did an intensive 4 day training with 800 teachers which led to the establishment of several StarShine schools in Africa.