



The Shooting Star

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Upcoming Events



Creative Arts Program Exhibition | Through January

STARS Creative Arts Program has a current exhibition of participants' art work on through the end of January at Scottsdale First Baptist Church - 7025 E. Osborn Ave. Scottsdale. Check it out!!



Fiesta Al Fresco 2017 | Save the Date

April 29, 2017

Join us for a Farm to Table Inspired Dinner with STARS. Enjoy a three-course al fresco dinner featuring locally sourced, sustainably grown and ethically harvested cuisine prepared by Chef Dan Medlen of Singh Farms and wine pairing by local vineyard. [Click here](#) for more information and to purchase your tickets.



Aventura Catering and STARS partner to provide job training at Phoenix Convention Center.

Through a recent agreement with Aventura Catering, the premiere catering service of the Phoenix Convention Center will provide individuals with developmental disabilities opportunities for community-based, integrated employment in Phoenix.

STARS provides life changing opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities, and job training programs - are one way it does so. While working in the community, participants receive on-the-job training in team settings from experienced job coaches. In addition to Aventura Catering, STARS has enclaves at select HonorHealth, Fry's Foods, Scottsdale Department, and Chick Fil A locations.

“Working at STARS gives me the opportunity to help our participants make the most of each day and feel confident they are making a difference and that they are appreciated, respected and loved as individuals”

-Linda Hamrick, Administrative Assistant and Job Coach to the Administrative Enclave at STARS

December Holiday Party



STARS hosted its annual Holiday Party for the participants on Friday December 16th at Cholla. The cafeteria was beautifully decorated and lots of food and good cheer abounded. Karaoke is always a favorite and we loved hearing our participants sing!! Our supporters are always welcome to join us at our holiday parties.



Movie under the STARS

STARS hosted its first Movie Under the STARS at Chaparral Park on a beautiful Saturday evening in early December. A good time was had by all. We had new sponsors, new volunteers and new supporters in attendance. We hope to grow the event and look forward to building community around this event in 2017.

STARS is the Recipient of AAED's Annual Charity and Raffle

Danielle Casey, Director of Economic Development for the City of Scottsdale nominated STARS to be the beneficiary of the Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED) Annual Charity and Raffle Event. Out of 18 submissions was chosen! On December 6th, Anne Gray, STARS Director of Advancement Debbie Kattleman, STARS outgoing Finance Manager, accepted a check for \$

A special thank you to The Marusiak Family, The Sunrise Rotary Club and the The Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce.

from AAED at the Phoenix Country Club. We were able to tell a room full of established supporters about the good work that goes on every day at STAR is grateful to Danielle Casey and the AAED for working to improve the lives c with developmental disabilities.

Donate to STARS and take the Credit!



You have the ability to substantially impact opportunities for growth, learning and recreation for individuals who have cognitive and developmental disabilities by “Donating to STARS and taking the credit.”

Beginning with the 2016 tax year, Arizona’s dollar-for-dollar tax credit for QCOs has been DOUBLED. Arizona residents now have the ability to contribute up to \$400.00 (\$800.00 if filing jointly) to organizations like STARS and claim that amount as a CREDIT against Arizona State income taxes.

For more information about how to take advantage of Arizona Charitable Tax Credit opportunity and to donate, click the link

below.

[Donate Today](#)



Dave's Corner

Happy New Year STARS supporters!

I can't think of a more exciting way to jumpstart 2017 than with news of our enclave with Aventura Catering at the Pho Convention Center. Why is this so exciting? Because this is STARS' newest collaborative to create community-based, int employment opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities!

Aventura provides premiere catering services at one of the top 10 convention centers in the U.S., in facilities that encor nearly one million square feet of meeting & exhibition space, and include Symphony Hall and the Orpheum Theatre.

STARS is a member of Arizona Employment First, a collective with a vision that *competitive employment is the preferred activity for all working age Arizona citizens with disabilities*. STARS is leaning into that vision through its collaboration w Aventura and other Valley businesses, providing on-the-job training for participants, and employment for the job coach mentor them. If you are a business owner/operator with awareness and compassion for individuals with development disabilities, I'd love to talk with you about *real jobs with real wages* for individuals with disabilities!

Thank you for supporting STARS,

Dave.

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