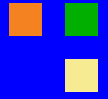


AWC Scholarship

ANNUAL NEWS 2014



Scholarship students at Pho Chai Chanupatham School proudly show their sponsor names.

donors like you encourages these young women to continue and complete their education through at least the high school. Thank you for your support of the Scholarship Program! We are grateful for the annual donations made by committed sponsors who make our mission possible. We hope you enjoy reading about the various activities from this past year.

WELCOME & THANK YOU

Since 1995 the AWC Scholarship Program has supported more than 350 students annually across rural Thailand through our sponsor-driven program. We have now helped 6,614 young women complete their high school education. Our mission is to advance the educational knowledge of disadvantaged female Thai high school students by providing supplemental financial assistance. Inspired volunteers within the American Women's Club of Thailand administer the program as an opportunity to contribute locally, support education in rural Thailand and inspire young women. The support of our program by

PROGRAM NEWS

2014 was another successful year for the AWC Scholarship Program. With generous donations from existing and new sponsors and charitable groups, we succeeded in helping 376 students continue their high school education. We supported 133 M4, 155 M5 and 88 M6 students which is the equivalent of grades 10, 11 and 12 in the United States. The student information certificates were emailed in the first week in August. We hope you had a chance to take a look at the certificates and initiate correspondence with your student.

We began our partnership with EDF (Education for Development Foundation) in May 2012 to administer the school interface portion of our Scholarship Program. We have had a wonderful year with EDF's help. They have assisted us with monitoring the student applications, English Camp, fund disbursements and monitoring student expenses. This partnership allowed us to bring our mutual strengths to the program. Since 1987 EDF's primary goal has been to improve educational opportunities and quality of life for less fortunate children and youths in remote areas of Thailand. Sponsored students receive many opportunities to develop necessary life skills and gain valuable knowledge that can be applied throughout their lives. Learn more about EDF by visiting their website: www.edfthai.org/en/



LETTER FROM A STUDENT

Dear my Sponsor,

My name is 'Pitchayanin Kamyot' and my nickname is Pinmook. I was born on October 24th, 1997 in Nanbure. I am now 16 years old and am studying in Mathayom 6. This term there are a lot of activities at school. I am very busy because I have to take the mid term exam. I have to study for it.

Since I have got your money I use it only for education. I want to be a nurse when I grow up because it is an honest profession. My family is not rich. On weekends, I go to work for earn money and I do my housework to help my family. I do activities at school, learn and helping my teacher's work.

Finally I want to say "Thank you" for your kindness and wish you Healthy and Happy.

Regards

Pichayanin Kamyot

(Tiew Wittayakhom School, Sponsor Vicki Erwin)



*The Gift of Education
Lasts a Lifetime*

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Association of Brazilians in Thailand (ABT)

ABT began supporting the Scholarship Program in 2012. Under the leadership of Naira Martorelli Rempel, ABT presented us with a check for 360,000 baht at their annual Carnival fundraiser, thereby supporting 60 students in 2014.

We are so thankful to the members of ABT for their belief in our program. The members of ABT also pooled their resources to take care of the university education for one of



their students for 4 years. This was a very generous gesture, and I hope the student makes them proud.

Once again, we would like to give a big Thank You

to all the members of the Brazilian community for giving the gift of education to the underprivileged girls living in rural Thailand.

Rotary Club of Denver SE, USA

The Denver SE Rotary Chapter has been a strong supporter of our program and has raised yearly sponsorships for the Scholarship Program since 1999. Thanks to Christa Reich, the members donated 104 sponsorships in 2014. Christa Reich has been instrumental in garnering the support of the members and we applaud her for her hard work, dedication and her continued support for



the program. We are extremely proud to have Rotary as our partner and want to extend a huge thank you to the generous members of the Rotary Club.



Individual Sponsors

Last, but certainly not the least, it is individual sponsors who are the backbone of the Scholarship Program. Without your help, the program would not be successful. Thank you!



We hope you enjoy seeing the recap of this year's activities. Thank you very much for your support of the 2014 sponsorship drive and we hope to reconnect in 2015!

Chevron Thailand Exploration & Production, Ltd.



We have several members from our AWC family whose spouses work for Chevron in some capacity and who have helped us obtain sponsorships for

students. Chevron has been a strong corporate supporter of our program and to date has sponsored 152 students. They have also been generous donors for our English Camp by providing backpacks and totebags for the goody bags for all our students, teachers and Peace Corps Volunteers attending English Camp. This year they gave an additional donation to help fund the English Camp through the AWC sponsored Halloween gala. Funding from these corporate sources helps sustain this program.



Microsemi Corporation

The Microsemi Thailand operation is run by Scott Hudson, husband of AWC member Robin Hudson. The company makes semiconductor and system solutions supporting multiple markets around the world. Robin introduced the

Scholarship Program to Scott in 2013, and since then they have given a generous donation of 12 scholarships each year to



help our students. Scott enjoyed his first Camp in 2013, and we were so happy that he joined us again in 2014. Scott and Robin had a chance to meet nine of their students at this camp. He indicated that he would be happy to continue participating in the camp as he saw the benefits of this program and is a definite proponent of the English Camp. Thank you very much to Scott and Robin Hudson.



Other Donors

In addition to the above, continued support from corporations like PTTEP, Kris Energy, and Mainly Silver makes it possible to reach out to so many students. We are ever grateful for your continued support.



SCHOOL VISITS

This year we made three school visit trips. On our first visit in February, five volunteers visited Khon Thee Pittayakhom, Nernporangnokchanuth, Petchlakorn Wittaya and Tiew Wittayakakhom Schools and were able to meet 42 scholarship students. Khun Poo from EDF accompanied us on this trip and helped bridge the language barrier at times. The drive through the hills around Petchaboon was beautiful. This was the first school visit for three of our volunteers, and they were moved by the simplicity of lifestyle, the humbleness of manner and the warmth shown by the school advisors and students.

On our next visit in July, four volunteers visited Kokhorphittayakom, Pho



Students from Utain Pattana School in traditional dress waiting to perform



Smiling students at Khon Thee Pittayakhom

Chai Chanupatham, Somdej Phrayarn Sangworn and Selaphum Schools. One of our new volunteers wrote, "Take it from me, the visit was incredibly rewarding. I recommend everyone to attend a school visit or English Camp as you will not regret it."

Our third visit with four volunteers was to a beautiful part of Thailand in the Nakhom Phanom region where you could see Laos across the Mekong River. We visited Utain Pattana and Nongbowiittayanukul Schools. The last time we had visited Utain Pattana was in 2003, and the advisor was so happy that we were able to visit again.

These visits help us connect with the students, matching faces to names and hearing about their lives. It also provides great insight into the needs of the students and validates that our program does make a difference in the lives of these students. We also take

this opportunity to talk to the advisors and teachers about the school facilities, the number of students at the school, and the management of the Scholarship Program along with other pertinent topics.

During these visits, the students often perform a beautiful dance or musical number for us, thereby enriching our cultural experience. We frequently join the teachers for lunch at a local restaurant and gather information about their community. Finally, we have the opportunity to make a home visit at the end of the day. This is a very humbling experience to observe the smiles on the faces of the family members



Student with her mother during a home visit

despite having so little. These visits move us to tears after hearing about the tough life that these families are forced to face.

ART & ESSAY CONTEST

Save Planet Earth

The topic for this year's art contest was "Save Planet Earth". We had entries from 17 schools, and it was lovely to see the creativity of the participants. Our members and sponsors were very kind in taking time to vote. Winners were each awarded a certificate along with a cash gift of 1,000 baht.

The 2014 winners by category:

Art:

First Place: A7 Mayuree Sukasam (M4 Hansa Sujit 2 School). Sponsor Mare Harvey

Second Place: A82 Nisachon Tatsanasuwan (M4 Hansa Sujit 2 School). Sponsor Kabir Mundkur

English Essay:

First Place: E8 Juthamat Promtha (M5 Samoengpittayakhom School). Sponsor Leigh Ann Miller

Second Place tie:

E3 Nattarika Kheaw-On (M4 Thong Saen Wittaya School). Sponsor Mike and Treva Klingbiel

E9 Sukulthip Porkin (M4 Samoengpittayakhom). Sponsor Association of Brazilians in Thailand



Art Winners (above) A7 and (below) A82.



ENGLISH CAMP 2014

The 2014 English Camp was held at Somdej Prayansangworn School in Yasothon Province. The director Khun Chatchai, the advisor Khun Wilairat and the staff and students went way beyond expectations to make sure that everything was per schedule and went smoothly. We had 12 participating schools with 101 students, 20 teachers and advisors and 49 volun-



Smiles, smiles, smiles...



Breaking the ice and preparing group cheers...

teers including members of the Peace Corps, U.S. Embassy staff, members from Education for Development Foundation (EDF who is our partner in administering the school/student interface portion of our program) along with members from the AWC and the nearby expat community. We even had one of our



Yes, we're having a good time...



Fun and Games activity...

former members come from the US to join the camp.

Our camp starts on Friday evening with registration, welcome ceremony and ice-breaker activities. On Saturday, we have 5

activity sessions of 50 minutes each and an additional autograph-signing activity followed by a beautiful cultural show organized by the students of all the participating schools. On Sunday, we have 3 activity sessions and end the weekend with a certificate presentation ceremony. We have a good mix of



Putting Information Technology to use...

academic and non-academic activities such as Learn the Pronouns, Quiz Game, Just Say it, Conversation Cube, Build the Man (Hangman), Computer Literacy, the Shopping game and Fun & Games. The activity stations are run by the volunteers, and all teachers and students participate in every activity.

We presented goody bags to all the students and teachers. This was possible due to generous dona-



AWC volunteer with happy campers...



Shopping game loot...



Thank you for the goodies...



Conversation cube...choose a color...

tions from Chevron, DTAC, Bank of Ayudhya (Krungsri), U.S. Embassy, and Deb Wooden. Each student also received a book donated by the members from the community. A representative from Books 4 Thailand joined us at camp and donated a selection of books to each school to add to their library. We would like to say "Thank You" to each one of you in helping to bring smiles on the faces of these students.

For all English Camp pictures and more great photos about the AWC Scholarship Program, we invite you to visit... <https://picasaweb.google.com/AWCScholars>

Comments from a few of our fantastic volunteers:

Christine Bedenis, Peace Corps Volunteer:

Thank you again for the great opportunity to collaborate with you ladies! I had a great time and it's clear how much these girls are thriving because of the opportunity that the AWC provides them. I made a video from the camp and thought that you would like to share it around. You can check it out here: <http://youtu.be/XN30ov-HFM>. Thank you again for everything!



Traditional Thai dancing on Saturday evening...

Jamie and Mike Kuzemka, Peace Corps Volunteers: *Dear amazing members of the AWC, Thank you so much for allowing us to be a part of the English Camp in Ubon Ratchathani. We had a wonderful time getting to know and spend time with your members and the girls. The camp was well organized, fun, and filled with such positive energy. We were impressed in the classrooms as the volunteer teachers taught meaningful lessons with such patience, energy and skill. From the bottom of our hearts we would like to thank you all for your generosity. After 23 months of being away from home and seeing all our*



The Peace Corps Volunteers hamming it up...



Group photo with some of the students and volunteers...

favorite snacks, you went above and beyond to fill the Peace Corps Volunteers bellies with delicious American treats. It is difficult to be away from the ones you love, but being around such energetic, kind women helps tremendously. Our hearts are overwhelmed with gratitude. We wish you continued success in this program. The girls are so blessed to have this opportunity to an education (& spend a weekend with each of you).

Sheri Douglas, AWC member: *Thank you for all the hard work and dedication it must have taken to make this weekend happen. You were a confident, organized leader and everything ran incredibly smoothly and calmly. I completely agree that it was a truly memorable weekend. What an incredible con-*



Lunch is delicious....

fidence-building experience for the girls! Even when there were few words exchanged, I felt the power of my belief in each girl I met and through the smiles we exchanged I know they felt it, too. I am very thankful to have been a part of English Camp 2014!



Build a Man (Hangman) team...

Bonnie Zellerbach, Community member: *I just wanted to drop you a line to tell you how much I enjoyed English Camp and how very impressed I was with the organization of the event. I wasn't sure what to expect but it was a great experience for the volunteers and the teachers as well as the students. I wanted to congratulate you all on a wonderful event and to thank you all for taking it on. Well done!*

IN RELATED NEWS



EDF Awarded Thai Virtue Prize 2014

EDF won the Thai virtue prize 2014 awarded by Association of the Union of the Disabled of Thailand and co-partners. The prize memorializes the Royal Grandmother or Somdet Phra Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani's birthday (National Social Administration's day) and is given as a model of a virtuous NGO. Besides this, EDF has handed out over 12,500 scholarships in 2014. They have also been involved in the English Access Microscholarship Program to help students in the North to learn communicative English and help in their personal development. They are very active in the Isaan region and have been helping the students affected in the South due to the political unrest. In the picture (left), M.R. Somlab Kitiyagorn (Secretary of H.R.H. Princess Soamsawali) presents the plaque and certificate of esteem to EDF as a model of virtuous NGO.

Letters From Advisors

Thank you very much for a parcel of six English-Thai dictionaries arrived at the school office last Friday. Right away, I took it to Foreign Language Room and announced the students to receive them. We had a meeting and I gave them moral promotion to keep on their school lives and keep learning well. I would like to bring my gratitude to kind sponsors. I hope they will be proud and very happy to hear and see the students keep on their learning to make better lives. Education builds human.

I do think of you, Khun Rene and Khun Netra. Wish you always be very very happy.

*Yours sincerely,
Soontorn Su-bha (Thakum Ngern School)*

Hello. How are you? I am Jiraporn from Nongbowittayanukul School. I am very happy that I got your message. I will go to visit US for study in the culture Program for 2 months. Khun Priscilla came to visit scholarship students at my school 2 years ago and helps me to go to US on March. I am very happy too. It is the first time for me. She is very nice and kind to me. Thank you for your message and interest in my trip.



*Yours Sincerely
Jiraporn (Nongowittayanukul School)*

Dictionaries



In June we sent approximately 140 dictionaries to the new scholarship recipients enrolled in the program. The girls use them daily, and several advisors wrote very kind notes thanking us.

THE AWC EDUCATION FUND

Started in 2012 with the goal of educating 120 students through all 3 years of high school, the fund will be ending in March 2015 when those 120 students graduate as a part of this special program.

Special English Camp

In July we were able to put together a team of volunteers to help out with the English Camp organized by Hansa Sujit 2 school in Suphan Buri. It was great to see that the schools are trying to focus on the importance of learning English at the schools.



AWC Donates to EDF

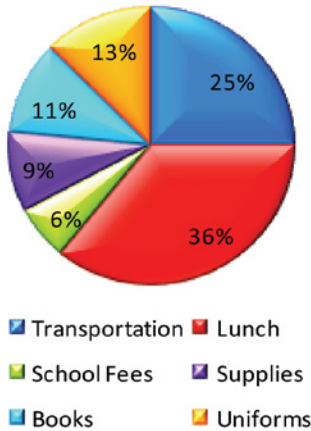
The AWC Scholarship team presented this year's donation of 2,250,000 baht for 375 scholarships to EDF representatives in May 2014. An additional 6,000 was presented in June, making a total of 376 sponsorships.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM INFORMATION

Student Annual Expenses

The graph below represents educational expenses which are not fully covered by the Thai Government. These costs are the responsibility of the student's family. An AWC scholarship can help limited-income families cover these expenses, which can make the difference between the student staying in school or not.



Scholarship Application

EDF collects the student application form (in Thai) to ensure the student meets our criteria of low family income, good academic performance (GPA > 2.5), demonstrates good behavior, and a commitment to learning. The student must also submit a biographical statement and current photo.



For an example of the AWC/EDF scholarship application, visit www.awcthailand.org/Resources/Documents/EDF-application-new.pdf.

Donation Processing

The 2015 scholarship donation amounts remain unchanged at 6,000 baht or US\$200. When you choose to make your sponsorship donation online via PayPal, it is now on a "subscription" basis, renewable annually. We incur fees as follows:

- PayPal transaction fee = 275 baht (US\$8)
- US dollar check fee = 203 baht (US\$6.50)
- No fee for THB check & Domestic bank transfer (We prefer to receive THB checks, domestic bank transfers or cash donations from Bangkok residents.)

Program Statistics

376	Students
133	New
243	Renewals
88	Graduating
185	Sponsors
39	Schools

AWC Scholarship Sponsor Guide

Here is some basic information you might want to know after becoming a sponsor in the AWC Scholarship Program:

1. Donation receipt
 - AWC Sponsors will receive an original receipt within 7-14 days by e-mail, after the donation has been fully processed.
2. Scholarship Student Information
 - Your student information will be sent to you by e-mail in August after the start of the school term and all students' enrollments are confirmed by schools. Enclosed in the e-mail are the Student Information Certificate which includes a student photo, map with her province location and a message from the student.
3. Correspondence with Scholarship Students
 - Also included with the student information is the name of the counselor and address of the school the student attends. If you wish to correspond with the student, please send a letter to the student in care of the counselor or at the school address. Please include your address and e-mail contact information if you would like the student to correspond with you. The student is not given the sponsor contact information by AWC or EDF.
 - AWC does not want the student asking the sponsor for money or any inappropriate communication. If your student does so, please let AWC know at scholars@awcthailand.org, and we will contact the counselor to inform the student that such communication is not acceptable.
4. Transfer of Scholarship Funds to the Scholarship Recipients
 - Funds are transferred to scholarship students twice a year after confirmation of school term enrollment has been received. Funds are transferred in July for the 1st School Term and November for the 2nd School Term.
 - Occasionally student substitutions are necessary as a result of factors such as change of school or relocation due to changes in parents' employment. Sponsors will be informed of such changes and AWC will reallocate the funds to other qualified candidates whose information will be e-mailed to you at the earliest possible time.
5. Tax-deductible donation receipt (only for those filing taxes in Thailand)
 - You may request a tax-deductible donation receipt by contacting scholars@awcthailand.org. It will be sent to you by The Education for Development Foundation (EDF), the nonprofit organization directed by AWC to administer a portion of the Scholarship program.
6. Regular updated news and information
 - AWC Scholarship Program will e-mail sponsors quarterly newsletters to keep you informed about our activities and progress reports about our program.
7. School Calendar in Thailand
 - Term I Mid-May / June – early October
 - Term II Early November – early March
 - Children's Day Second Saturday of January

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FAQ

What is the Scholarship Program?

Founded in 1995 and operated entirely by volunteers, the American Women's Club Scholarship Program has helped thousands of girls to pursue one common dream: an education. In Thailand, the compulsory education system requires students to attend school only through grade 9. The final grades, 10-12, which mainly focus on academic or vocational training, are often sacrificed because of financial pressures on individual families. The AWC program offers scholarships to female students who are at great risk of dropping out during these crucial years. We currently have 40 schools participating in our program.

Why is the Scholarship Program Needed?

While the Thai government provides basic tuition, this subsidy does not cover all educational expenses. The fees for books, uniforms, supplies, meals and transportation are all the responsibility of the student's family. These extra expenses are a real burden for most families in rural communities in Thailand. Your sponsorship covers most educational expenses for one year, enabling a student to further her education.

Who is Eligible for an AWC Scholarship?

School counselors nominate students who show a strong desire to complete their secondary education and meet the established grade-point requirement (>2.5 GPA), but whose family income levels place them at risk to discontinue their studies. A comprehensive application form must be submitted to EDF for verification of need. EDF then matches approved students to individual sponsors. In return, the students must continue to meet the grade-point requirement and correspond with their sponsors.



How Much of my Contribution Goes to Overhead?

1,000 baht of the 6,000 baht donation will go towards the EDF administration fee. And the balance of 5,000 baht goes to the student in two installments, first and second semester respectively.

Is my Scholarship Donation Tax Deductible?

AWC does not have tax-deductible status in the US, although we understand members do claim under charitable contributions much the same as clothing donations. Our partner EDF can offer tax-deductible receipts for taxpayers in Thailand, expats or nationals.

How are the Funds Disbursed and Tracked?

EDF works closely with an advisor at each school to oversee the disbursement of the funds to the students each term. The student is responsible for submitting an expense report for each term. The advisor will review and monitor the student's expenses. In addition, committee members periodically visit and audit the schools in order to ensure proper use of funds and to

assess compliance with AWC guidelines.

What if my Student Drops Out?

As soon as EDF is notified by the school advisor, they will assign the sponsor a new student and send both the student and sponsor a letter of introduction.

Can I Correspond with my Student?

Yes, you can send a letter to your student at her school address on the Student Information Form you receive from EDF.

How Can I Participate?

Every scholarship is made possible by the generosity of individual sponsors. Your support is needed! Complete the application and mail it today along with your donation to the American Women's Club of Thailand. We accept donations of 6,000 baht or US\$200. Donations can also be made via PayPal at our website: www.awcthailand.org/scholar_sponsor.

We thank you for your generous support!



AWC Scholarship Program
c/o American Women's Club of Thailand
72/1 Sukhumvit 38
Bangkok 10110 Thailand
662-712-3380

E-mail: scholars@awcthailand.org
Web: www.awcthailand.org/scholarship


Facebook: [American Women's Club of Thailand - Scholarship Program](https://www.facebook.com/American-Women's-Club-of-Thailand-Scholarship-Program)

Sponsor a Student This Year



Please complete this sponsor application and mail it along with your payment to our office in Thailand. Or visit www.awcthailand.org/scholar_sponsor for online application and payment.

American Women's Club of Thailand Scholarship Program	
Sponsor a Thai student in rural Thailand in grade* M4, M5 or M6 for the academic year May to March. (*Equals U.S. grades 10, 11, and 12)	
Donor Information: AWC member? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	

City: _____	State/Province: _____
Zip/Postal Code: _____	Country: _____
Contact Number: _____	
E-mail: (required) _____	
Note: All future AWC correspondence will be by e-mail.	
Sponsorship: <input type="checkbox"/> New Sponsor <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Sponsor	
For sponsorship renewals, we will assign the same enrolled student.	
<input type="radio"/> I will sponsor ____ student(s)	
<input type="radio"/> I will make a general donation toward the Scholarship Program in the amount of _____ Thai Baht/USD.	
<input type="radio"/> I will donate ____ student sponsorship/s as a gift to:	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
_____ City: _____	
State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____	
Country: _____	
E-mail: _____	
Donation: (per sponsorship) THB=Thai Baht, USD=US Dollars	
Amount: <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 USD or <input type="checkbox"/> 6,000 THB	
Payment by: <input type="checkbox"/> PayPal <input type="checkbox"/> Check (USD or THB) <input type="checkbox"/> Bank Transfer	
Make Checks payable to American Women's Club of Thailand	
TOTAL DONATION: _____ Thai Baht/USD.	
Return to: American Women's Club of Thailand, Scholarship Program 72/1 Sukhumvit 38 Bangkok 10110 Thailand	
Email: scholars@awcthailand.org	
Website: www.awcthailand.org/scholarship	
Facebook: American Women's Club of Thailand – Scholarship Program	
	
Thank you for your generous support! Funds will be distributed in July, so we appreciate your donation by April 30th.	
Rev. for 2015/1	