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Save-the-Date!



Graduation Ceremony

May 24, 2017
6:30-8 pm

Starfinder
4015 Main Street
Philadelphia PA 19127

Come celebrate our seniors' graduation from high school and from Starfinder.

Starfinder's youth are significantly out-performing their peers. Since 2008, 100% of Starfinder's seniors have graduated high school, and 99% continued on to college.

Come and celebrate their big night as they graduate from our program to become Starfinder Alumni!

(Keep an eye out for an upcoming RSVP to the event.)

**March
2017**

**Spring
is in the
air!**

International Day is one of our rites of Spring. Created by our kids, this event brings us together to celebrate the great diversity at the heart of Starfinder with food, song, and cultural sharing. This year our teens represent 16 nations; other years as

Can I get a Wah-Boo?



Moradeyo "Deyo" Olorunnisola
Director of Admissions
Schreyer Honors College
Penn State University

We want to send out a big THANK YOU to Deyo for [coordinating an unforgettable visit to Penn State](#) on Saturday, March 18.

For all of the behind the scenes work that you did, allowing the day to run smoothly. For coming in on a day off, and being there with us throughout the day. For inviting a diverse group of panelists, honors students, athletes, and tour guides, who reflected our students, their backgrounds, and their aspirations--to meet with us. For hooking us up with lunch, and Schreyer swag bags! For challenging our students to set the bar high for themselves, and letting them know that PSU is a place for them, if they want it to be. For your commitment to making PSU a more diverse, fair, and inclusive community, and for opening the door for Starfinder students to explore the school.

Can I get a Wah-Boo?

Thank you so much! We hope to stay connected with you going forward. I'm sure you will see some of our students on campus in the next few years.

Their Journey so far: So much more

This winter and spring, we're taking you on a journey through a year in the Senior Leaders Program. Come travel with us to find out what young people experience here at Starfinder.

We say it all the time: "The Starfinder Cup is so much more than a typical tournament!" It's an opportunity for our corporate partners to enjoy a day of soccer and build bridges with our teens as well. On March 4, we had over 150 players on 18 teams in 2 tiers. As 4 Starfinder referees (including 3 alumni) kept the games on track, and 12 volunteers helped it all run smoothly behind the scenes, our 15 Starfinder teen coaches got to stretch their leadership wings on the field. It was a day full of impressions. Here are just a few from those who participated in Starfinder Cup 2017 ...

"I love the fact that all the teams get a teen coach from the Starfinder programs." ~Gabiella, Team Evolve IP

"Everyone is very supportive and having a good time. Our Teen Leader, Adam, is awesome. He's a good coach. He's keeping our morale up." ~Mary Rose, Team Fox Rothschild

"I've never had the opportunity to coach before. I've been playing soccer for two years, but haven't coached so it's been eye-opening. When you're coaching, you get to see a team's strengths and weaknesses and how to make the most of everyone's playing ability. It's been very motivating for me." ~Yarisnel, Starfinder Teen Leader, Team Keystone Risk

"I really liked the introduction given by Heidi Warren, the Executive Director. I was surprised to find out how much the organization does for the kids. Being here is a great way to giveback and not a bad way to spend a Saturday morning!" ~Diana, Team Pepper Hamilton

"The Cup is bigger than ever this year! There's twice as much soccer. It's so great seeing all these companies and teams coming out to help a great organization. It's so obvious how the kids are being helped. Just take a look at the Teen Coaches, who are Starfinder kids, and how they are working with each of the teams. Starfinder is doing a great job with them." ~Chris Miller, Partner, Team Pepper Hamilton

This year The Cup raised \$27,300 to support our Senior Leaders Program for Philadelphia teens – with donations still coming in. It was a beautiful day as everyone present enjoyed the beautiful game.

[Click here to see pics of the day's play-by-play!](#)

many as 25 countries have been represented. Perhaps you've seen the colorful country flags adorning our field – they showcase the wide world that is Starfinder.

As we embrace and celebrate cultural differences, we create an environment of tolerance and understanding that encourages our young people to take pride in themselves.

It's a colorful world we live in, made even more beautiful by the smiling faces of our kids.

Best,

Heidi Warren
Executive
Director

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