



It's the time of year when we begin communicating information about the Disney Dreamer and Doer Program. This year, Disney will be celebrating students for their many actions to make their world, and our world, a better place. Students will be asked to self-nominate for this prestigious award. To complete the application students will need a teacher from our school to "champion" their application. Once the application has been completed by the student, it should be turned in to Mrs. Dillard at Sanford Middle's front office. A panel of judges at Sanford Middle will then review all the nominations and select "Sanford Middle's Shining Star". We will then submit our Shining Star's application to Disney for judging.

Those selected by Disney's panel of judges for the "Disney Dreamer and Doer Shining Star" award will receive a special visit from Mickey Mouse at their school, announcing their selection.

The application is being finalized by Disney in the next few days, and will be online this year. We will notify you when it is available for download.

Sanford Middle will need to select our "Shining Star" no later than March 13, 2012.

Please note, we are still waiting for Disney to release the application, but wanted to give everyone sufficient time to browse their website; see what prior winners have submitted; begin drafting ideas; and start asking teachers to be their "champion" sponsor.

For more information and applications visit Disney's new website at:

www.WaltDisneyWorld.com/about/community<<http://www.WaltDisneyWorld.com/about/community>>

If you have any questions feel free to contact Mrs. Dillard via E-mail at Dumarie_Dillard@scps.k12.fl.us. Best of luck!

Please note some of the information printed above is quoted directly from the Disney Website and letter.



**2012 Disney Dreamers and Doers Program (D&D)
Key Information**

New for 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The three students selected in each county as “Shining Stars” will be invited to attend, at no charge, the <i>2012 Conservation Celebration</i> taking place at Epcot April 12-14, 2012. This conference will be attended by hundreds of students from around the world, and will feature a DisneyNature film premiere, announcement of the Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund Awards, a Youth Summit through Disney Friends for Change, a recognition ceremony for Disney Planet Challenge and much more. Students fully registered at the Florida Virtual School will be formally included.
Continuing from 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is stronger emphasis on the many ways that children are engaged in positive actions, which is broader than our prior criteria focusing solely on volunteer service. Students submit a paragraph in their own words about their positive actions
Teachers: Key Messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each entry is assessed for the strength, passion, and caring spirit reflected in the student’s writing. Grammatical accuracy is not a factor. Students may be comfortable in the spotlight, or shy away from it. Some take positive action that is visible; some actions may not visible to many. We believe <u>all</u> students do good things, and have the potential to be a Dreamer and Doer. We look forward to hearing about students in each of these categories. A fun, two minute video clip featuring the Walt Disney World Ambassador Team is available to encourage students to self-nominate. Teachers may use in classrooms, assemblies, etc. Place the following link in your browser: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTp24-FgfSw. This is a private YouTube site.
Nomination Form/Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student is to write (300 words or less) about something they have done at home, in school, or in their community that has inspired others, and makes their world, and our world, a better place. Examples could be efforts in strengthening their families; conservation/environmental projects; helping others; safety; school achievement in spite of barriers; improving their schools; serving as a role model for siblings/friends; or other positive actions. In order to be fair to all, the description must be captured in the space allotted. No attachments will be considered. Students must select any one teacher to champion/endorse their application. The teacher will provide a short summary on why they support the student’s application.
Dreamer & Doer Process/Shining Star Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools receive instructions and encourage students to self-nominate. Principals (or designated representative) receive nominations from interested students. <u>One</u> outstanding student application is selected, and submitted as the school’s <i>Dreamer & Doer</i>. Only one entry per school will be considered. (For K-12 schools, one from <u>each</u> level [elementary K-5, middle 6-8, high 9-12] may be submitted.) Each school’s <i>D&D</i> will be considered by a Disney judging panel for the county’s <i>D&D “Shining Star”</i> award. One <i>D&D “Shining Star”</i> will be selected from the elementary, middle, and high school levels in each of the five counties, and from the Florida Virtual School. Once the 18 <i>D&D “Shining Stars”</i> are selected, a Disney “prize patrol” will visit each student at their school (April 3rd or 4th) to make the official announcement, and collect data needed for their participation in the April celebration.
Incentives: Disney Dreamer & Doer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specially-designed, unique keepsake for each student Four (4) park-hopper tickets to Walt Disney World Recognition as a <i>Disney Dreamer and Doer</i> on our <i>Shine On</i> website and other approved materials
Incentives: Disney Dreamer & Doer “Shining Stars”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specially-designed, unique keepsake for each student Annual pass to Walt Disney World parks Recognition as a <i>Disney D&D “Shining Star”</i> on website/approved materials Disney “prize patrol” visit to school including Mickey Mouse, Walt Disney World Ambassadors; edible treats, Mousecar (our equivalent to the Oscar) Invitation to attend the 2012 Conservation Celebration at Epcot April 12-14, 2012. Student must bring one parent/guardian. Disney will cover event costs, meals, and a resort room at no cost.
Sanford Middle School: Deadline	<p>The Student/Teacher Nomination Form must be submitted to Mrs. Dillard no later than Friday, 3/9/12. Sanford Middle’s Panel of Judges will choose one “Shining Star” to represent our school. If you have questions or concerns please E-mail Dumarie_Dillard@scps.k12.fl.us.</p>



Level/School	2011 SHINING STARS – LAKE COUNTY
<p><u>Elementary</u></p> <p>Eustis Heights Elementary School</p>	<p>Jairo Salgado describes in his application three reasons why he helps his uncle mow the lawn. First, it helps his tired uncle. Second, he enjoys having a clean and safe environment to play outside.</p> <p>Jairo says the third reason is that grass is a big part of our earth, and he compares watching it grow to watching human beings grow. He refuses to take money for a task that takes 30 minutes because he is grateful he can help, and it makes him a stronger man.</p> <p>One of Jairo's teachers describes his maturity and resilience since losing both of his parents in an automobile accident recently. She describes him as helpful and caring, and admires his amazing spirit.</p>
<p><u>Middle</u></p> <p>St Paul's Catholic School</p>	<p>Ryan Argo's application describes the day he found his dad having a stroke, and how he had to take charge to get him medical care. Since then, he has devoted his time to being involved in his dad's diagnosis, treatment, and recovery. He inspires his dad and his entire family.</p> <p>Ryan says he is only doing what any regular kid would do. His grades have improved since this happened, something he never expected. Ryan knows that it is his calling now to help others in need, because through this experience he can apply the crisis skills he has learned with patience and love.</p> <p>One of Ryan's teachers admits that at one time he was worried about him, but not anymore. He's now a leader, with the ability to handle crisis and inspire others.</p>
<p><u>High</u></p> <p>Tavares High School</p>	<p>Dillon Sherman's application describes many of his inventions, from a window that serves a generator, to a building that can double as a power plant.</p> <p>Dillon is committed to recycling, improving his school, and even plays soccer. He says that everything he does is to help others, and he inspires his peers with his optimism.</p> <p>One of Dillon's teachers says that his passion for science inspired him to write a patent that could benefit many lives.</p>



Level/School	2011 SHINING STARS – ORANGE COUNTY
<p><u>Elementary</u></p> <p>Rock Lake Elementary School</p>	<p>Dieuvenson Juste's application describes his move to the US from Haiti 3 years ago. He remembers being scared - he had no friends and spoke no English. Luckily, he and his younger brother are best friends who enjoy reading and playing together.</p> <p>Dieuvenson had lost sight in one eye, and finally was able to see a doctor. With a new glass eye, he regained his confidence and made new friends, who he credits for teaching him English. His experience is now the inspiration to help others who come to the US from other countries.</p> <p>One of Dieuvenson's teachers said that in spite of his challenges, he did not become defensive, but rather compassionate and inquisitive. His teachers are proud of him.</p>
<p><u>Middle</u></p> <p>Liberty Middle School</p>	<p>In his application, Steven Costa talks about how he was inspired by his grandfather's work ethic. He was a man with vision, and a hope for a better future.</p> <p>Steven struggles with a disability and had a desire to become a healthier person. He began a health initiative, and later inspired his mom, who is diabetic, to join him. As a result, they are eating healthier and working out regularly. To honor his grandfather, Steven has kept a promise to do his best every day, and inspires others to do the same.</p> <p>One of Steven's teachers said that he is an outstanding young man, and that he has the potential to reach the goals he has set for himself.</p>
<p><u>High</u></p> <p>Bishop Moore Catholic High School</p>	<p>Kissel Goldman's application describes his desire to help others. He has delivered supplies for children in Nicaragua, collected books for children in Uganda, and donated shoes to those in need.</p> <p>Kissel has a medical condition and demonstrated compassion when he volunteered to counsel a younger student who was learning to cope with a similar condition. He is also a band leader and musician for his church youth group. He says he wants a more <i>just</i> world, and wants to help create it.</p> <p>One of Kissel's teachers describes him as one who lives his faith and commitments. Because of his desire to serve humanity, he is an amazing leader.</p>



Level/School	2011 SHINING STARS – OSCEOLA COUNTY
<p><u>Elementary</u></p> <p>Neptune Elementary School</p>	<p>In Amanda Hernandez's application, she talks about her special sister, Amy, who has autism. She said she figured out a long time ago that Amy sees the world in a very different way than she does.</p> <p>Amanda made it her mission to be more patient in order to guide Amy's behavior, and has taught her how to make friends and be accepted by others. Because of her personal experience, Amanda now volunteers at Special Olympics and Challenger Baseball, where she is also Amy's buddy.</p> <p>One of Amanda's teachers describes her as an inspiration because of her positive attitude and caring personality.</p>
<p><u>Middle</u></p> <p>Narcoossee Middle School</p>	<p>Patricia Sparks' application describes some difficulties she has experienced in her life that no child should have to experience. She began to act out, blaming others for her situation. Then she realized that dwelling on the past would not lead her to the successful future she envisions for herself.</p> <p>She decided to take control of her destiny, and is now an outstanding student. Patty is rising above her situation and being the best she can be by helping others, being strong, and making positive choices.</p> <p>One of Patty's teachers said that despite tremendous hurdles in her life, she respects herself and others, and is a positive role model and student.</p>
<p><u>High</u></p> <p>New Dimensions High School</p>	<p>Sasha-Gay Thompson's application describes tremendous hardship in her family after her brother took a negative path in life, severely affecting her mother. She quickly realized that she had the power to motivate her younger brother to do better.</p> <p>Sasha-Gay admits she's not perfect, but finds strength every day to rise no matter how many times she has fallen, all for herself and her brother. She knows her actions are having impact - he is asking for more help with school work, and his grades are up. Sasha-Gay is now in the National Honor Society and will be the first in her family to go to college.</p> <p>One of Sasha-Gay's teachers said that in spite of the obstacles she has faced, she serves as a role model to her peers, and shows determination and fortitude.</p>



Level/School	2011 SHINING STARS – POLK COUNTY
<p><u>Elementary</u></p> <p>Bethune Academy</p>	<p>Jocelyn McIntee’s application describes how she took action when an area in her school that was once a butterfly garden turned into an eyesore with weeds and trash. This inspired her to start the “Go Green Garden Club”.</p> <p>Jocelyn convinced others to join her in transforming it back to a green space, and approached sponsors to help donate materials to build a garden. As a result, the refreshed garden is now an outdoor classroom again for students at the school to enjoy.</p> <p>One of Jocelyn’s teachers said that her initiative in forming the club is indicative of her leadership skills and her many contributions to the classroom.</p>
<p><u>Middle</u></p> <p>Southwest Middle School</p>	<p>Alicia Nwajei explains in her application that based on where she lives, others do not have high expectations that she will be something in life.</p> <p>Determined to change this mindset, she is committed to serving as a role model in her community, tutoring her brother and four other students in reading and math. Their grades continue to show improvement. She also inspires students as a Junior Counselor at the local Boys & Girls Club, where they discuss abstinence, drug prevention, and the importance of education.</p> <p>One of Alicia’s teachers says that she is a powerful role model and tireless champion for all causes that improve the lives of those in the community.</p>
<p><u>High</u></p> <p>Fort Meade Middle/Senior High School</p>	<p>Mason Nickerson describes in his application how he writes, produces, and stars in short films, addressing topics that negatively affect students such as teen loneliness, the need for acceptance, or giving up in a difficult situation.</p> <p>Mason uses positive messaging to address these issues, focusing on friendships, second chances, having faith and being forgiving. His films are being used in Polk, Hardee and Highland counties in their schools’ alcohol use awareness efforts.</p> <p>One of Mason’s teachers said that besides his production talent, he is a dedicated volunteer for various charities, and plans to major in business.</p>



Level/School	2011 SHINING STARS – SEMINOLE COUNTY
<p><u>Elementary</u></p> <p>Longwood Elementary School</p>	<p>Jayne Peterson’s application describes how she is committed to helping animals, the community, the earth, and children. She also helps her ailing grandmother.</p> <p>Jayne has filled shoeboxes with toys for children who wouldn’t have a gift for the holidays, and inspired her family and neighbors to recycle to help the earth. She has donated her hair, volunteered at Ronald McDonald house, and built water fountains, benches, and flowers out of canned food.</p> <p>One of Jayme’s teachers said that she thinks of others first, finding creative ways to be helpful. She <i>paves the way</i> rather than be affected by peer pressure.</p>
<p><u>Middle</u></p> <p>The Master’s Academy</p>	<p>Isabelle Runge describes in her application how she created a non-profit organization called <i>Kingdom Courts</i> to refurbish abandoned or rundown basketball courts. Through “a hug and a game”, children living in distressed communities can enjoy safe places to play thanks to her efforts.</p> <p>Isabelle solicits donations, sponsors, and volunteers for her projects, which have included restoration of an outdoor court in Orlando and an indoor gym in Eatonville.</p> <p>One of Isabelle’s teachers says that she knows how to put to action her attitude towards service to others, as evidenced by her activities.</p>
<p><u>High</u></p> <p>Liberty Christian School</p>	<p>Austin Adcox describes in his application how he created a non-profit organization called GUITARS – Guidance Under Inspiration, Teaching and Reaching for the Stars. His belief is that music keeps children focused. He says being addicted to music is therapy for the soul, so his goal is to teach and inspire children who might not have access to music instruction.</p> <p>Austin and his family volunteer together to help the environment. They have participated in various coastal cleanups to preserve and restore our shorelines. He also participates in his church band.</p> <p>One of Austin’s teachers said that he makes a difference in the lives of his peers by helping others be the best they can be.</p>