



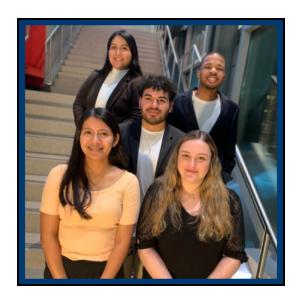




There's No Slowing Us Down.

It's hard to believe that there is less than 2 months to go in the 23-24 school year. Where has the time gone?! While we wish we could slow down time, one thing is for sure, there is no slowing down how awesome our STARS students are and all the incredible things we are accomplishing this school year!

Let's catch you up, shall we?



2024 Leadership Team

We are so proud to announce our the 2024 Leadership Team! These amazing students are the ones that create and facilitate every event and activity all year long. They work hard to make sure we always have a friendly and inclusive environment while also showing everyone a good time. Thank you, STARS Leaders for all you do!



Major: Mechanical Engineering | Pictured: Center

Vice President: Lizbeth Cisneros

Major: Health Sciences - Nursing | Pictured: Front Left

Public Relations Chair: Melyssa Barcellos

Major: Accounting | Pictured: Front Right

Student Ambassador: Ciridany Genchi Cortez

Major: Visual Arts - Art Therapy | Pictured: Back Left

Student Ambassador: Noah Hendree

Major: Visual Arts - Graphic Design | Pictured: Back Right

Join Us for the Milky Way 1K!

April is Autism Awareness Month. A month to raise awareness, acceptance, inclusion and connectedness for people with autism. Our favorite way to pull our greater community together to experience STARS and enjoy time together is with our Milky Way 1K. Grab your shoes, a friend and join us as we get our fit on while we take a stroll or jog through our beautiful CBU campus! Your registration will help us pay for the pizza and supplies we use for our weekly events. Water and ice cream will be provided along with fun activities and prizes. We greatly appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you there!



Milky Way 1K Registration



We are very excited to share our newest collaboration with University of Tennessee Heath Science Center. The Center on Development Disabilities serves graduate students in a clinical based setting, studying autistic children. In collaboration with STARS, these clinicians-in-training have the unique opportunity to work and interact directly with STARS students. This is providing students with a broader knowledge of autism in students beyond childhood and high school, to young adults in college and beyond. It is our deep desire to fully educate our graduate students so as they move on and begin their careers, their knowledge and passion within the field of autism is one of ambition, enthusiasm and affection.

Learn More Here!



Dr. Colby Taylor and Kim Jameson were recently invited to The School of Sciences at CBU to provide a presentation titled *Supporting Autistic College Students in the Classroom.* The collaboration and dialogue is encouraging all of us to continue to work together to ensure we are providing our STARS students with the best support and education possible. We are so grateful for the partnership and support of CBU, departments and faculty, thank you!



STARS' climbed high with our first InsideOut field trip! On January 31st, our crew enjoyed an exciting adventure at Memphis Rox. Our experience provided us a great full body & low-impact workout while focusing on our physical & mental strength, endurance, flexibility and confidence, all while having a present mind and having fun! A true testament to our InsideOut program. A BIG THANKS to Dr. Colby Taylor for putting this awesome event together and all of the support and encouragement you provide our STARS every day!









Delta Sigma Pi!

We enjoyed a fantastic collaboration night between STARS students and Delta Sigma Pi. As part of our career planning, Delta Sigma Pi students helped with creating LinkedIn profiles, educating us on the platform and took awesome headshots of our STARS to use. We are so appreciative of their time, knowledge and guidance. Thank you so much, Delta Sigma Pi!

Our Forever STARS!

It's always such a special treat when our STARS Alumni join us for an evening of togetherness. The energy, smiles, stories and laughter are contagious and leaves us all excited for our next gathering!





Forever grateful to you, our supporters.



For 28 years, I've been inspired and blessed by raising an autistic child. I do not see autism as a disability, it's a gift. A gift to show the world how far kindness, intelligence, loyalty, honesty and perseverance can take someone despite the daily challenges they face. Daily challenges that most neurotypical people don't experience.

It has been my life's privilege and honor to channel my years of motherhood and entrepreneurship into STARS, an organization solely focused on encouraging, supporting and coaching autistic young adults navigate through higher education and beyond into their careers. Our success in programming, events, coaching and ongoing enrichment is a direct reflection of you, our supporters. Knowing our students are supported and believed in is all the encouragement they need to spread their wings.

If the opportunity is available to contribute to STARS, please know that we do not take that honor lightly and all funds raised go directly to supporting our STARS students. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much.











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