

# Path To Shine®

## Spring 2018



### From the Director



"How many Path To Shine® programs do we need?" asked the [Bishop of Atlanta](#) at a recent meeting. "Hundreds!" I replied.

According to Kids Count there are over 500,000 children in Georgia who could benefit from building a relationship with a caring, trusted adult, just like we do at Path To Shine. Consequently the Board decided to set a growth goal of "20 by 20" - that's 20 programs by 2020! While that may be ambitious, we believe mentoring elementary-school children to foster their dreams is essential work, and we will be doing all we can to make this happen. In the meantime, let us know how you can help. We'd love to have you join us!

Keep in touch!

Lesley-Ann, Executive Director

### New, New, New!

**New Art Contest Winners!** Each year we invite our students to enter the annual art contest. From the selections we choose three winners. We frame their art-work for them, and give each winner a set of watercolors and art paper. This year's winners were from our programs in Warner Robins, Roswell and Marietta. The detail in this 3rd grader's picture is wonderful.

**New Website & New Strategic Plan!** The Board and staff have been hard at work to ensure your donations are used carefully and wisely. Visit our new website at [pathtoshine.org](http://pathtoshine.org). You can also read a copy of our Strategic Plan there. If you would like a print copy, please contact us.

#### **New Spotlight Article from GSAN!**

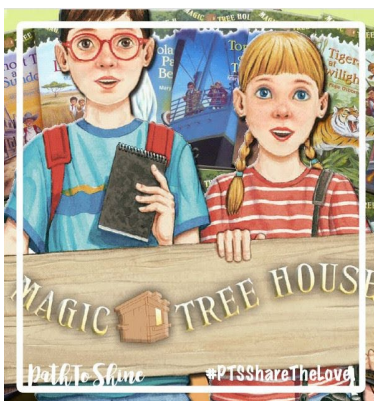
The Georgia Statewide After-school Network recently wrote a nice article about our work. Their mission is to expand the potential of children because learning doesn't end at 3PM. We agree!

#### **New Summer Programs**

Our programs in Marietta, Smyrna, Morrow, Kennesaw, Roswell and Columbus will all be offering the children in their programs with summer learning opportunities. If you're interested in learning more, please contact us.



### What Happened with Share the Love?



Share the Love was a successful campaign so we were able to:

Buy several sets of Magic Tree House & Roald Dahl books for local programs.

Buy hundreds of books from First Book (for pennies on the dollar) to provide summer reading material for every child in Path To Shine.

Buy new books to supplement our curriculum. (Our favorites are a picture book edition of Hidden Figures, and a poetry book entitled Can I Touch Your Hair?)

Give \$500 grants to programs in Macon, Morrow, Kennesaw, Marietta and Smyrna for enrichment and summer activities.

Give bookstore gift cards to the 5th graders who will be leaving our program.

So many good things, all thanks to you!

## Update from St. Bede's



While parents attend classes to learn English, children attend Path To Shine. Both programs are offered at St. Bede's Episcopal Church. The children enjoy strengthening social emotional skills. This school year one student earned Student of the Month at his school (a big achievement for a child where there is minimal English spoken at home); there was an outing to attend an ice hockey game (that was a BIG hit!) and another outing to watch the ballet (that was not so popular!). Everyone carved pumpkins for Hal-



loween, dyed eggs for Easter, and learned a little yoga. The children completed homework, read stories and built relationships. The end of year gathering included making a decorative paving stone to add to the church garden, complete with hand-prints. Now completing their 5th year, this dedicated group of Mentors demonstrate perseverance and flexibility as they nurture children to foster their dreams.

## Ugly Pants 10th Anniversary! Open to All!



Registration for our annual fundraising event is now open at <http://pathtoshine.org>.

We will begin the 2-day event with dinner and a show on Saturday, Oct. 20 at St. Benedict's for \$22.50pp. (Adults only but options for babies through 12 year olds will be provided. Links on the registration form.) There will be both silent and live auctions, and items are already rolling in: handy-man for the day; Chick-Fil-A for a year; hand-turned wooden bowl; a beautiful quilt; Frontgate gift cards; bagels with the Bishop. Let us know if you have

something to donate. We'll be happy to come and pick it up! We are also looking for corporate sponsors; we have several levels to fit your budget and desired marketing opportunities, as outlined on our website.

Golf will be on Monday, Oct 22 at Brookstone Country Club. Your golf package includes breakfast, a 10AM tee-time, post tournament lunch, goodie bag, fleece vest (thank you Jonquil Sporting Goods for your support!) and CHEATS package. Register on our website for Early-bird foursome package for \$600; available now through July 1st only.

## We're Hiring!

We are looking for a **Communications and Administrative Support** person, who will have responsibility for communications with current and future donors through print and electronic media, as well as providing support for a variety of administrative tasks. While initially part-time, we expect this position to become full-time by 2020.

Please contact Lesley-Ann for more details or if you are interested.



For more information about **Path To Shine** and about the articles in this newsletter, please visit our website at [www.pathtoshine.org](http://www.pathtoshine.org) or contact us: Lesley-Ann Drake, Executive Director, Path To Shine, 2160 Cooper Lake Road SE, Smyrna, GA 30080. 678-279-4308 [lesleyann@pathtoshine.org](mailto:lesleyann@pathtoshine.org) [facebook.com/pathtoshine](https://www.facebook.com/pathtoshine)