



VISIONNEWS

Fall 2009

Scholars' Progress

We conducted mid-year reviews with VISIONAR's five scholars. Read about their progress.

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VISIONAR Management

VISIONAR is about financial transparency, and the most efficient use of resources.

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Seeking help

2010 is fast approaching. Learn about how you can help VISIONAR reach its goals and continue making an impact.

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VISIONAR scholars take another step toward their future

With VISIONAR's help, one student is in his third year of college, and four others are debuting their freshman year, thanks to a great team, and true commitment to excellence from all.

VISIONAR supporters have reasons to be proud. All five students we are sponsoring are making progress toward their college degrees. They are driven, smart, hard working, and their efforts are paying off.

VISIONAR is providing these young Argentines with the opportunity to study. In return, VISIONAR asks for their serious commitment to success. VISIONAR requires a minimum GPA of 7.00, which is equivalent to a "B" in the American grading system, and at least 4 hours of community service per month.

VISIONAR is managed seamlessly by a local non-profit organization, Atrapasueños, run by Miss Evelina Feraudo. Atrapasueños board member Graciela Asis is instrumental in the success of VISIONAR in Argentina. Graciela is the on-site manager and mentor to the students. VISIONAR is very thankful to Graciela and Evelina for joining us in making this dream come true.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE as of July 2009

Emiliano Gudiño	7.21/ 10.0
Carolina González	8.00/ 10.0
Lucrecia Matteos	7.10/ 10.0
Elizabeth Quinteros	8.80/ 10.0
Karen Centurión	8.33/ 10.0

Minimum GPA required
by VISIONAR 7.0 / 10.0

An inspiring vision. A clear objective.

Since its inception in December 2006, **VISIONAR** provides scholarships to Argentine students who wish to earn a college degree. We select students with outstanding academic performance and financial need.

VISIONAR continues to grow. In 2009, the support of individual sponsors made it possible to offer four new scholarships. For 2010, our goal is to offer **three additional scholarships**.

We invite you to join us. Help us reach our objective and make an impact on students' lives.



A team of people sharing a vision: to provide opportunity to pursue a college education. Left to right: Carolina (student, Law); Karen (student, Human Resources); Graciela (VISIONAR manager); Elizabeth (student, Social Work); Gabriela (VISIONAR founder); Evelina (Atrapasuenos founder); Lucrecia (student, Accounting); Emiliano (student, Software Engineering).

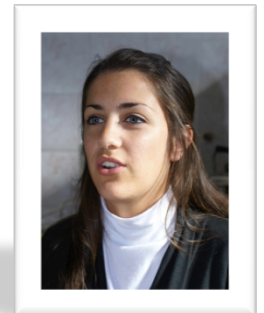
Emiliano, the first VISIONAR scholar, is now in his third year of Software Engineering studies at the Universidad Tecnológica Nacional, in San Francisco, Argentina (www.frsfco.utn.edu.ar). Emiliano is thriving in a highly competitive program. He declares that in these three years he has grown intellectually, challenged by professors and by his own desire to learn.



Emiliano's community service activities include volunteering at Atrapasueños' library, and at United Nations simulation projects where hundreds of high school and university students learn about and debate international issues.

"I want to become an IT Engineer because it is a career with great potential. My aspiration is to work in companies of great reputation, either in Argentina or abroad."

Last February, with VISIONAR's support **Carolina** started her first year of Law School at the Universidad de Ciencias Empresariales y Sociales, UCES (www.uces.edu.ar). In addition, Carolina takes English lessons. At this six-month review, Carolina emphatically confirmed that she has chosen a career she is passionate about.



As for community service, Carolina is actively involved with a local student center that provides free tutoring to students at risk of dropping out of school. In addition to being a tutor for English, Math, and Spanish at this center, Carolina serves as a role model to the kids she helps, showing them that staying in school and working hard are better options than quitting school and following unfortunate alternatives like drugs or petty crime.

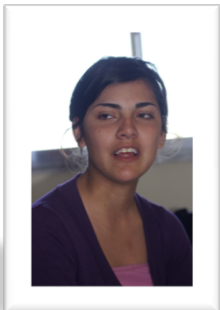
Lucrecia is a talented young lady who loves Math, English and History. Thanks to a VISIONAR scholarship, Lucrecia has embarked on a 4-year program at the Universidad de Ciencias Empresariales y Sociales, UCES, to become a public accountant.

Lucrecia spoke to us about the adjustment she is experiencing in this transition from high school to college: “I noticed college is much more demanding, but I am pleased with my classes and professors; the academic level at UCES is excellent.” In addition, Lucrecia feels that all her family supports her in this important stage of her education.



Lucrecia also volunteers her time to tutor students at organization La Luciérnaga. She feels strongly about helping other students achieve academic success.

Elizabeth, an honors student in high school, is very passionate about her goal to become a Social Worker. With VISIONAR’s help, she enrolled in a Social Work program at Fraternidad de Agrupaciones Santo Tomas de Aquino, FASTA (www.ufasta.edu.ar).



In our conversation, Elizabeth noted that “Social Work is definitely what I want to do in the future. In terms of academics, the program exceeded my expectations. One advantage is that my class is small, only ten students, which means a more personalized approach from the professors, and good camaraderie among the students.”

Elizabeth’s community service consists of volunteering at Cotolengo Don Orione, a nursing home where patients, most mentally ill, need the company and help of volunteers.

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

Elizabeth adds: “I am thankful to my family, to my professors, and to VISIONAR for this opportunity to study what I love and to make my dream come true.”

Karen’s story is an example of perseverance. Karen’s dream is to become a nutritionist. However, in her hometown of San Francisco, nutrition is temporarily not offered as a degree. Unable to relocate and enroll in a nutrition program elsewhere, Karen decided to make the best of her situation and study Human Resources, another area that she finds interesting, and a stepping-stone to her ultimate goal.



Karen started a 3-year Human Resources program at Institución Cervantes (www.cervantes.edu.ar). She is earning good grades and she hopes that this degree will allow her to

find employment later while she pursues a degree in Nutrition.

On weekends, Karen devotes time to assist a bed-ridden person with house chores and nursing care. From this experience, she highlights the good spirits and disposition of her patient. Karen has learned about the power of a positive attitude in the most difficult circumstances.

Thorough management. Transparency. Efficient use of resources.

The rigorous management of VISIONAR resources allows us to maximize our impact.

Graciela Asis, who volunteers her time to manage VISIONAR on site, is responsible for cash flow, disbursing funds to students, and collecting their invoices. Her work is invaluable and key to VISIONAR's success.

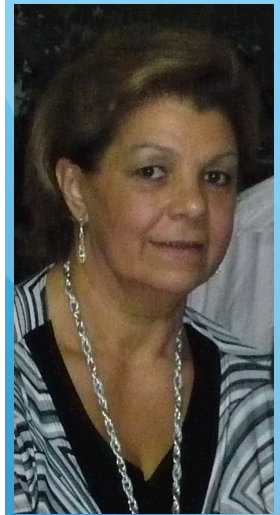
Allocation of the funds depends on the specific student's needs. If a VISIONAR scholar, like Emiliano, has the option to enroll at a National University, where tuition is subsidized by the State, then VISIONAR funds will primarily cover other expenses such as books, meals and public transportation to and from school.

Conversely, in the case of the four first-year students, their

programs are offered only by private institutions. The majority of their scholarship funds go toward tuition fees.

The chart below represents the summary of scholars' expenses year-to-date. There were no administrative expenses for the same period. Detailed expense reports are available for donors' scrutiny upon request.

VISIONAR SCHOLARSHIPS		
Items	Expenses Jan-July 2009 (USD)	% of TOTAL
School Fees / Tuition	\$ 1,784	57%
Books / School Material	\$ 492	16%
Transportation	\$ 96	3%
Clothing	\$ 421	14%
Meals	\$ 248	8%
Events	\$ 44	1%
Other	\$ 26	1%
TOTAL	\$ 3.112	100%



Graciela Asis
Atrapasueños
Board Member and
VISIONAR manager

VISIONAR participates at Argentine Wine Tasting during International Tango Festival in Chicago

Thanks to the support of the Consulate General of Argentina in Chicago, VISIONAR was present at the opening of the International Tango Festival that took place at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel on August 27th.

VISIONAR board members Sandra Cravero and Marcelo Lanzarotti presented the scholarship program to more than 200 guests, thus raising awareness and visibility.

VISIONAR is thankful to Mr. Gustavo Martino, Consul General of Argentina in Chicago, Mr. Jorge Manghi, Cultural Attaché, and the Consulate General for this valuable opportunity.



How you can help.



As a growing organization, VISIONAR has diverse needs:

DONATIONS

- A donation of USD 1,400 provides a ONE YEAR scholarship to a college student
- A donation of USD 116 covers ONE MONTH scholarship
- Scholarship funds are used for tuition, books, school materials, transportation, meals, clothing
- Itemized expense reports for each student are available upon request

TO MAKE A DONATION :

In the US, VISIONAR is registered with the GlobalGiving Foundation, a 501 (c) 3 organization.

1. Make your check payable to the GlobalGiving Foundation
2. In the memo line, please add VISIONAR's ID: GC-85805-CB-GG
3. Mail your check to:

The GlobalGiving Foundation
1816 12th Street NW
Washington DC 20009

WEBMASTER

We are seeking a webmaster to update the information on our website on a quarterly basis. Contact us if you would like to help.



INTERNSHIPS

VISIONAR is about providing opportunity. In addition to their college education, our students would greatly benefit from an internship in the United States or in Argentina, for up to 6 months. This experience would broaden their horizons and strengthen their skills as they work toward their degrees. Let us know if you would like to get involved in this project.

FUNDRAISING and PROMOTIONAL EVENTS

Join us to organize and participate in events that will help VISIONAR continue its mission by raising awareness and funds to provide additional scholarships.

Contact us:

Gabriela Mondino 312 402 7578; Sandra Cravero 773 404 7411
or Marcelo Lanzarotti 773 720 9425 or write to us at contact@vision-ar.org