



TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN – Escambia County  
North Pensacola Optimist Club  
Student Update – March 2023 [Meeting Presentation]

Thank you so very much for your continuing support of the Take Stock in Children program all these years. Your generous contribution each year has helped us change lives through “scholarships, mentors & hope.” College student notes are new, while middle and high school students will have new pictures and be doing new notes next month. I hope you enjoy reading about “your” students. Sincerely, Sally Lee, Student Services/Mentor Coordinator, Take Stock in Children

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Donation 2021-22

Your newest student, Olivia Capell, joined the program this fall and will start writing thank you notes this spring. Olivia is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at Brown Barge Middle and wants to be a dental hygienist. Her favorite class is science. She lives with her mother and younger sister and said she is excited to have this opportunity to learn and grow.



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Dear Optimist Club Members & Cox Communication,

Donation 2020-21

Thank you so much for donating my scholarship. This scholarship means so much to me and will help me in the future. I live with my mom, my sister, and our pets. I will be the first to go to college. My favorite class this year was Spanish. Some activities I enjoy are running, swimming, and playing piano. I'm not sure what I want to be when I am older but I know that your hard work will help me. Thank you so much again for making college possible for me.



Sincerely, Kenna Mastrianno

Bailey MS, 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021-22

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Dear Optimist Members & Ms. Aarness,

Donation 2019-20

I want to thank you for the scholarship you have provided me! What you've done means a lot to me and my family. I live with my dad, and he is very happy that I got the scholarship so I can go to college and get a degree! I am not entirely sure where I will go to college yet, but I'm still planning! Thank you again for what you've done for me.



Sincerely, Ollie Lawhorne

Brown Barge MS, 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021-22

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Dear Mr. Jones & Optimist Club Members,

Donation 2018-19

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to get a scholarship. I can't wait to go to college. I know it will be so much fun. This year has been amazing. I have learned so much, and my favorite class is geometry. I'm going to England this summer to visit my stepmom's family. I'm working to get my eagle scout rank for boy scouts. For my eagle scout project, I'll be redoing a church's signs and redoing their garden. Next year I'm looking forward to taking algebra 2 and then calculus the next year. Thanks again for this amazing opportunity. Sincerely, Andrew Moles



Pine Forest HS, 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021-22

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Dear Optimist Club Members & Donor Group 17-18 B,

Donation 2017-18

I am beyond thankful for the opportunity you have given me to go to college. This scholarship means so much to me. I live with my mom and brother and will be the first in my family to get a college degree. Although I do not know what I would like to be yet, two colleges have caught my eye, UWF and FSU. Once again thank you! Jayla Stallworth



Escambia HS, 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021-22

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Dear Optimist Club Members & Donor Group 16-17 B,

Donation 2016-17

Thank you for the opportunity to go to college after graduation. I plan on going to PSC to get my associates then transferring to UWF to study science. This year my favorite class was marine biology. We had class teams and we got to take care of our own fish tank. My team's had crabs and shrimp in it. Next year I'm looking forward to taking AP environmental science and AP bio because the teacher is really cool and over spring break there's a field trip and we go to South Florida. Thank you again.



Washington HS, 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021-22

Sincerely, Kelsey Bolling

Dear Benson Family, Ms. Kress & Optimist Members,

Donation 2015-16

*I am enjoying my first year of college and am working extremely hard. I have to work 2 part-time jobs to pay my bills, but have kept my grades up (3.4 first semester). I am attending Pensacola State College in the pre-med AA track. Thank you for making college possible for me.*

Sincerely, Aidan Sidner-Palafox

Pensacola State College, 2022-23

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Dear Benson Family, Ms. Kress & Optimist Members,

Donation 2014-15

*I want to sincerely thank you. Being able to attend college with this scholarship has been a blessing for me and my family. I am a sophomore at Tallahassee Community College with plans on transferring to Florida State University in Fall 2023. I plan to pursue a career in dentistry. Overall, my college experience has been life-changing. I have met incredible people and have had great opportunities. College would not have been possible without this scholarship. Thank you for the support.*

Sincerely, ShaTee McDonald

Tallahassee Community College, 2022-23

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Dear Benson Family, Ms. Kress & Optimist Members,

Donation 2013-14

*Thank you for your donation. Without you, my college education would not have been possible. Thank you for believing in me, helping me pursue my dreams, and for giving me a chance for more great opportunities. I received my LPN from PSC, then worked for a while. I am currently at PSC again, working on my associate degree in nursing. You are greatly appreciated.*

Sincerely, Rasheda Watson,

Pensacola State College, 2022-23

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Dear Benson Family, Ms. Kress & Optimist Members,

Donation 2019-20

*Thank you for helping with my scholarship and my future. I live with my mom and brother and my mom is deaf. This year I was an office assistant, my favorite class. Next year I am going to Washington High School. When I go to college I want to study accounting. Thank you again for this amazing opportunity.*

Omar Shajrawi

Ferry Pass MS, 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021-22

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Dear Optimist Members & Donor Group 11-12 A,

Donation 2011-12

*As life brings on its different challenges, I remain determined to keep the promise I made to myself. I'm still going strong for what I want and it's that degree! I've been attending Pensacola State College, and I hope to soon be entering the Sonography program and starting a new journey. This year I volunteered to become a mentor to a Take Stock student, something I'm enjoying very much. I thank all of the donors that have contributed to my scholarship. I'm forever grateful!*

Thank you all, Brianna Walker

January 2023

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**COLLEGE GRADUATES:**

Donation 2010-11

*Kaitlyn Negron graduated from The University of West Florida in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in Nursing and is currently working as a chemo infusion nurse at Sacred Heart Cancer Clinic in Destin. She lives in Niceville. "Take Stock in Children has shown me first-hand what it means to give back to the community and spread kindness. Because of the kindness and donations towards my scholarship, I have had the opportunity to chase my dreams and pass along that kindness to each patient I serve."*

March 2023

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Courtney Greene received an AA and a BS in Business and Management from Pensacola State College in 2019. She lives in Pensacola and has a full-time, remote position with a California-based firm.

Donation 2009-10

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Linorche Delouis graduated from the University of West Florida with a bachelor's degree in Nursing in 2019, and is working at Select Specialty in Pensacola as a Registered Nurse. "Take Stock in Children has been a pivotal opportunity for me, because without this program I wouldn't believe I could be in my field. I plan on getting my master's in the near future."

Donation 2008-09

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**Thank you for making a huge difference for all of these young people!**