Empowering Students to Achieve their Dreams

2010 - 2023
This Book is Dedicated to....

All of our amazing volunteers & interns!
The families who visited our libraries and StoryTents
Brassavola Bilingual School Students
The Moberly Family
Hezhi Naseem, Christelle Ballantyne,
Bethany Moberly, Leila Adel
Rebekah Cahalin, Cara Morrison, Jen Abma, Mandy Mabe,
Sarah Sternberg, Dwaine Smith
Kaylah and Scarlett
Ted and Paula Adams
Philip and Melané Lurie
Flora and Chris Anderson
Melissa Egan
Scott and Hannah Key
Emily and Eric Hughes
Julie Sim Edwards & ETCA
Cornerstone Children’s Home & The Trudeaus
Micah Williams
Remar School & Orphanage
Talin, Kamiah, Laura, Nick, Arman, Amit, & Shawn
San Diego Rotaract Club
Attitude Center for Education
10,000 Windows
My Refuge House
Nathan Fields
Jade Guthrie
Kathryn McCulla
The Pani Family + Waypoint Public
Kevin & Courtney Eastman
Kelley Allen
Humble Bundle
Landon Donovan
Abby Clarke Cook
San Diego Sockers
San Diego Loyal
Don and JoAnn Soderquist
George S. Mitrovich
Rose Sandler
Zelda, Jade, Rosie, and Peach
Why We Love Reading

“Sometimes there are funny words that are fun to laugh at. Also, jokes that characters tell each other.”
-Emma, 3rd grade

“Get to learn more stuff about Star Wars, planets, and neat stuff.”
-Cesar, 3rd grade

“The most fun thing about reading is learning about fun things you didn’t know about before.”
-Isla, 2nd grade

“Reading makes you discover a lot about yourself.”
-Richard, 2nd grade

“A book could be sad at the beginning and then happy at the end. I like when it gets different feelings in the book.”
-Ashanti, 3rd grade

“It’s exciting to learn new things while reading.”
-Madison, 3rd grade

“When you read a book you feel like you’re in the book and like the main character.”
-Kaylah, 3rd grade
Our story began with a silly idea in one woman's head. She couldn't keep that idea to herself and so it grew and grew.
It grew into little libraries in South Sudan, El Salvador, Nicaragua, the Philippines and Cambodia. As a result, 3,000 young people gained access to books for the first time!
Then it grew into StoryTents at malls and farmers markets. Every child who fell in love with reading at these Tents helped the idea grow even bigger.
Soon there were StoryTents in many places including City Heights, El Cajon, Santee, Orange County, Imperial Beach, Vista, Turlock, Nashville and even Toronto, Canada. This time, the idea helped more than 7,000 young people!
This idea grew so strong that even a pandemic couldn't stop it! It morphed into the Virtual StoryTent and started serving families online. In just three years, the idea grew to more than 9,000 hours of 1-on-1 reading support and mentorship for children in 1st-3rd grade.
Now this idea doesn’t want to stop just because Traveling Stories is closing. Maybe it’s your turn to help the idea grow?
Help the Idea Grow...

- Help someone younger practice reading
- Volunteer
- Listen to Emily Hanford’s podcasts
- Give a book to a Little Free Library
- Watch “The Right to Read”
- Tell someone about your favorite book
- Join a Book Club
- Visit your local library
- Share a cause you care about on Social Media
Did You Know?
Fun Facts about Traveling Stories

We were founded by a 24-year-old

2 of our staff members have written & published books

1,445
People Volunteered

We’re woman-run and 75% of staff were women

20,717
Volunteer Hours Logged

We had over 30 media appearances!

17,879
Books Given Away

We made famous friends along the way
- Co-creator of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Kevin Eastman
- Landon Donovan
- Todd McFarlane
- Ryan Sheckler
- Dav Pilkey
- Chiddy Bang
“Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.”

-Arthur Ashe