

Doris Dillon School

# The Doris Dillon Newsletter

### **ABOUT US**

The Doris Dillon School nonprofit strives to provide the best education possible for students and village families to better their lives sustainably.

Our school serves five surrounding communities where families use many means of raising money to support themselves. Sadly, this often forces their children to drop out of school and work domestic jobs to support their families. Witnessing families who forced their children out of school each year drove us to fund scholarships for these children.

Over the years, we've funded over 100 scholarships to students who had dropped out of school. With the help of this nonprofit, these Cambodian children who were once unable to pursue their academic dreams are now able to resume their education from middle school to university.







#### SAVE THE DATE!

15 Years In Cambodia: A Celebration of Sucess The latest news about our DD students & graduates

#### **Cork Pull and Silent Auction**

When: September 17, 2022 from 4 to 7pm

Where: Almaden Country Club

## Our LA Graduates \*\*: °

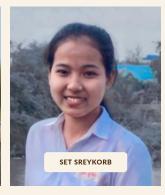
Students who are in their first year of college:



Kly is majoring in Tourism Management at ACLEDA institute of Business. In her spare time, she enjoys helping the children in her community. After her graduation, she hopes to work for the government and help the community with budget planning.



Sreynai is majoring in Tourism Management at the National University of Management. She has lived in Leadership Academy for over 2 years which has significantly boosted her ability to communicate in English.



Sreykorb wants to major in Medical Sciences at the University of Health Science. She previously attended Doris Dillon School and a local high school in Kampot Province. She recieved high scores in all of her classes that allowed for her to apply to very prestigious universities.



Vitha is majoring International Business Management at the Royal University of Phnom Penh. He has been living with other students at Leadership Academy for over 2 years.



Sreylim has been living in Leadership Academy since 2018. She is majoring in Food Engineering at the Institute of Technology of Cambodia. In the future, she hopes to help her local farmers convert their unsold produce into products that can be sold in the



Chhunlin wants to major in Medical Sciences at the University of Health Science. In the future, she hopes to become a doctor and promote health care to young children (personal hygiene, nutrition, and sanitation) and help take care of the people in her village.

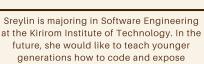


Mean is currently majoring in Software Engineering SETEC Institute. After graduating university, he hopes to teach children in his community about the magic of computers.

### Our LA Graduates 💠 · ° : \*

Students who are in their second year of college:

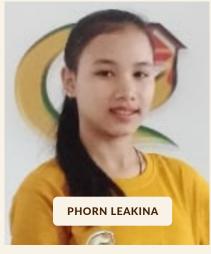




Cambodia to digital technology.



Sovanna is majoring in Fintech (Financial Technology at the ACLEDA Institute of Business. After his graduation, he hopes to develop software to help his community.

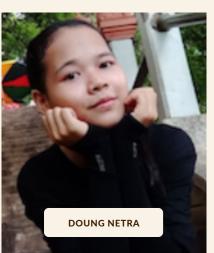


Leakina is majoring in Foreign Language at Western University. She aspires to become a teacher and educate children in her village.

By doing so, she hopes to pass down knowledge and inspire the next generation.



Sony has been living in Leadership Academy for over 2 years and majors in Food Engineering at the Institute Technology of Cambodia. In the future, she hopes to help her local farmers convert their unsold produce into products that can be sold in the market. Through her years at Leadership Academy, she has become more confident in speaking English and gained independence.



Netra has been living in Leadership
Academy for over 3 years and majors in
Tourism Management at the Royal
University of Phnom Penh. After she
graduates, she hopes to start communitybased tourism to help locals earn income
and present their culture to visitors.



Dalen is a brilliant student who originally hoped to major in Medical Sciences, but was unable to score highly enough in the entrance exam to be offered entry. She started university as an English major, but has continued to study and prepare to retake the entrance exam this month for medical school. In the future, she hopes to bring affordable health care to her community.

### The Dillon Garden \*: "





Pictured above, our students are busy harvesting peanuts with the help of our gardener

The garden at the Doris Dillon School has proven to be useful both before and during the pandemic. The garden was started with a Gold Award project by Sofie Gmerek to demonstrate the organic farming techniques from the non-profit CEDAC. For the project, CEDAC trained 25 local farmers in the latest techniques. A retired teacher Kol Ji, was hired to be our master gardener. He invites students to work with him, growing a variety of fruits and vegetables for families. The garden has become a major focus during the pandemic, supplying students and families with needed nutrition to supplement their diets.

This goal and mission have been continued and honored since its creation in 2018. Although there have been many setbacks, such as the storm that destroyed the sun structure for the garden, the gardeners and students have remained resilient. The garden has been maintained very diligently allowing for more recent expansion and growth of the garden to include fruit trees and larger planting areas for beans and peanuts.

During the pandemic, having some normalcy in those uncertain times was a relief for many of the students. Many changes occurred during the pandemic; from modes of education to social interactions. Despite the issues from COVID, the garden has and will continue to grow strong and provide for the students. It also provides learning opportunities as the students work with the gardener and learn about how food is grown and how it's done sustainably.

