



## Metta Students Foundation announces third scholarship winner

Press Release 11/14/12 - An inspiring spirit, selfless, and positive are the words used to describe the Metta Students Foundation's third recipient.

In 2010 doctors diagnosed Kendra Cimaglia, a freshman at Johnston High School, with a malignant brain tumor. Over the course of her two year treatment protocol, she overcame many challenges and despite being sick from her treatments Kendra stayed on track educationally with home tutoring. Even more amazing Kendra wanted to give back to the people who helped her at the Tomorrow Fund.

"Through the eyes of an outsider, The Tomorrow Fund is just a pediatric cancer treatment center," says Kendra, "but through the eyes of a patient, it's so much more. It's a place where you make new friends, make crafts and find your second home. The Tomorrow Fund creates distractions so you don't focus on what's really happening."

While at the Tomorrow Fund Kendra came up with an idea to make bracelets out of soda tabs and instead of keeping the profits Kendra has raised more than \$8,000 and created Tabz-4-Tomorrow.



"She and her parents have been helped by The Tomorrow Fund. They in turn wanted to give back to help others who may need the same kind of support they received. We cannot believe how much money they have raised. We are truly amazed and thankful," says Kathy Connolly, Development Director of The Tomorrow Fund.

Kendra's guidance counselor, Tara Teolis sent in her nomination, saying, "It was important to me to nominate Kendra Cimaglia because I believe she is the definition of kindness. I am honored to be her teacher. She has taught me more about compassion, determination, and love in this short time that I have known her. She is an amazing sixteen year old young lady and I feel that her story will inspire others to pay it forward."

"Metta means love, compassion, kindness, empathy, and Kendra embodies all of those qualities," says Metta Students Foundation Founder, Norm Kelly, "We are honored to announce Kendra as the third winner of our \$1,000 scholarship."

"Recognizing and rewarding students for being kind to others and doing good deeds is motivation for others to do the same," says her mother, Kerry Cimaglia, "I am so happy that Kendra is a recipient. She is a fine example of what Metta stands for and I couldn't be more proud. Thank you for rewarding our children in such a positive way!"

To see the inspiring story of how the foundation began or for more information about the Metta Students Foundation or how to nominate a student log onto [www.mettastudents.org](http://www.mettastudents.org) . If you are interested in doing a story on the Metta Students Foundation contact Laura Clarizio at 617 852 7784 or [lauraclarizio@aol.com](mailto:lauraclarizio@aol.com)