

## Incoming Students 2023 Bios



Lika (pronounced lee-gá) – Lika is a 15-year-old boy from a remote village. His parents would like to see him continue his studies and are thrilled that he's been accepted at the Plas Prai. He is the cousin of one of our current students. His older brother stopped studying at 5<sup>th</sup> grade and is now a Buddhist monk and his younger brother is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He gets good grades and says he'd like to be a soldier one day.

Panhavet (pronounced ban-yá-vet) – After his father died two years ago, Panhavet's older brother came to study high school with us in Plas Prai. Their financial situation is quite destitute. Panhavet was able to continue his current middle school studies with help from a humanitarian agency which provided a bicycle for him. At 16 years old, he is a good student and hopes to protect his country in the future by becoming a soldier.



Srey Khuich (pronounced sray koó-ij) – Khuich is 15 years old and the second child in her family. Her older brother stopped studying after completing 4<sup>th</sup> grade. She now lives with her brother as her father took a new wife and her mother is working at a factory to pay overwhelming debt. She would like to finish high school and go on to train to be an elementary school teacher if she has the opportunity.

Panha (pronounced ban-yá) – this 15-year-old young man is the brother of one of our volunteer staff and former student, Sophoeurt. He and his family came to faith over this past year through the influence of his sister. He is a good student and has a vision to strengthen his country by becoming a soldier.



Soklin (pronounced sok-liń) – Soklin is the third child of 6 in her family and she lives with her aunt. There has been some abuse in her family, and this has inspired her to try to study high school in order to join the police force. Soklin had an older brother who cared for the needs of the family, but he died two years ago. If Soklin had not been accepted at Plas Prai she would have stopped studying to help her family. She is hopeful now to continue studying and therefore get a better job to help care for her family in the future.

Leakna (pronounced laý-ek-ki-ná) – 15-year-old Leakna is the youngest in her family. We have taken her two older siblings at the Plas Prai and have been discipling her family since 2016. Leakna's father was hit by a car and killed in February this year. Her mother has stage four cancer. Leakna is regularly top in her class and would like to study medicine one day if she has the opportunity.





Sophors (pronounced so-poah) is the second of two children. She lives with her mother in a one room bamboo walled home. They farm rice and potatoes. Her father left the family when she was two years old. Despite the poverty, Sophors has been able to rank #3 in her class. She'd like to be a middle school biology teacher one day. She is thankful that she might now achieve this goal because she has been accepted to study at Plas Prai.

Sowphorn (pronounced sow-pawñ) – This young man is a strong student. He is the second of two children in his family. His older sister stopped studying at 9<sup>th</sup> grade. His parents are subsistence farmers whose land floods fairly often. Sowphorn would love to be a middle school teacher and help “explain life” to the younger students.



Tolo (pronounced do-lo) – Tolo is the 4<sup>th</sup> of 5 children in the family and his mother passed away 4 years ago. He is happy to be accepted at the Plas Prai because he can have extra tutoring in the evening. He is also glad to have an atmosphere that encourages prioritizing study. Eventually, he'd like to join the police force.

Chanda (pronounced Jan-dá) – This 16 year old young lady was abandoned by her parents from what we can tell. She lives with her grandparents and an aunt and is one of three children. Her family members are farmers other than her grandfather who is a soldier. She would like to follow in his footsteps and join the Cambodian armed services as well.



Theara (pronounced tee-a-rá) – Theara is #6 of 8 children. All of her older siblings stopped studying by 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Her father seems to have a chronic illness. On her last semester test, Theara was #1 in her class. Theara is grateful to be able to study at Plas Prai and she hopes to not only be the first child to finish high school but also has hopes receiving a scholarship to studying medicine in the future.

Sokchem (pronounced sok-jeñ) – At 18 years old, Sokchem is the oldest of our incoming students. At the same time, he is the youngest of 5 children in his family. He lives with his older sister as both of his parents have passed away. His father died when he was just a baby but he lost his mother just 2 years ago. Part of why he is an older student was that he had to stop studying entirely during Covid. If he had not been accepted to Plas Prai, Sokchem would have given up and started working this year. He is grateful for an opportunity to finish his education at the Plas Prai.

