7 Ways to Support Pathways for Kids

1. Make a tax-deductible donation to Pathways for Kids, a tax-exempt organization under Section 501 (C) (3) of the IRS Tax Code. Federal ID number 94-3313219. You can go to our website: http://www.pathwaysforkids.org just click on DONATE.

2. Contribute real estate, antiques or jewelry to Pathways and write the contribution off at the fair market value.

3. Donate an old car. Go to: http://www.pathwaysforkids.org - Click DONATE, then Click on DONATE AN OLD CAR.

4. Include a bequest in your Will or Trust to Pathways for Kids and reduce your Federal Estate Taxes.

5. Set up a Charitable Remainder Trust.

6. If you are an employee with the City and County of San Francisco you can donate to Pathways for Kids through your Local Independent Charities (LIC) payroll deduction program.

7. Help Pathways for Kids raise money by soliciting individuals, corporations and foundations. If you prefer to mail a check, please mail donations to: Pathways for Kids Donations 331 Filbert Street San Francisco, California 94133

Every donation of any size is greatly appreciated!
On Thursday, March 26, 2015, Education Specialist, Rob Martini- nez escorted 10 students from Flex Academy to the Charles Henry Company. This visit was organized by Jeffrey Leon and Walter Dawyd- nez. The students engaged in conversation with the sales representatives and surveyed the luxury display cars while they waited for other students to arrive and the owner, Walter Dawyd- nez, to greet them. This visit was organized by Jeffrey Leon and Walter Dawyd- nez.

Walter Dawyd- nez escorted 10 students from Flex Academy to the Charles Henry Company on Thursday, March 26, 2015. He discussed his experiences, plans and dreams, leading to ownership of the Charles Henry Company. He began his presentation by announcing to the students “There is nothing that a man or woman can’t do if they persevere.” He also stated “This is a good time for females in industry; if you wanted to be treated equal, you must act like a man,” or “learning is your responsibility. It is your responsibility to arrive and turn it around and rise above their problems. Charles told the group that he spent a year in jail when he was 18 years old for stealing cars. He realized "How do you go from stealing cars to becoming a car dealer?" His response was, "One technique to learn is to always trust what you hear, also re- search and substantiate." He also stated a lot of energy, therefore he kept multiple jobs. He started in a detail shop then moved to body work in small shop and later moved to larger shops. People learn differently and have unique skills; your job is to figure out how you need to learn; teachers give directions.

Charles never finished grammar school, secondary school or college. He only received social promotions in school. He advised the students to use a bad thing that happened to them, turn it around and rise above their problems. Charles told the group that he spent a year in jail when he was 18 years old for stealing cars. He asked himself, “How do I turn my life around and honestly own cars?” There is nothing you can learn when you are determined. Some of the students asked, “How did you go from stealing cars to becoming a car dealer?” His response was, “One technique to learn is to always trust what you hear, also research and substantiate.” He realized he had a lot of energy, therefore he kept multiple jobs. He started in a detail shop then moved to body work in small shop and later moved to larger shops.

The students in conversation with the sales representatives and surveyed the luxury display cars while they waited for other students to arrive and the owner, Walter Dawyd- nez, to greet them. Walter joined them in the front area of the dealership and introduc- tions were exchanged. Walter gave them a brief history of the Charles Henry Company. He discussed his experiences, plans and dreams, leading to ownership of the Charles Henry Company. He began his presentation by announcing to the students “There is nothing that a man or woman can’t do if they persist.” He also stated “This is a good time for females in industry; if you wanted to be treated equal, you must act like a man,” or “learning is your responsibility.” It is your responsibility to discover your learning potential; people learn differently and have unique skills; your job is to figure out how you need to learn; teachers give directions.

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His parents taught him to start taking feedback from the world, and he took advantage of their suggestion. He realized that he needed to change his approach. He had a big mouth, and he needed to learn how to read and do math; he began to teach himself. He needed to take time to compose what he was going to say and think about what he planned to say. He spoke to the students about the importance of establishing a good reputation. He asked them to remember that the internet is final. You can’t change or take back what you say. Always think about what you say to assure a successful career.

This field trip was truly appreciated by everyone. Thank you Jeffrey and Walter.

For our Spring Newsletter (our 34th), I want to thank our Board of Directors and Advisors (young vigorous and enterprising) and Sponsors for what each has contributed this year. I am proud of our Business Programs and what our kids say they get out of them. We have now done this since 1998. We get better each year. This is “motivation by inspiring.”

As for our programs, I especially liked going to Cars Dawydiak. It’s in a building owned by Walter Dawydiak, a friend of our Board Member Jeff Leon. Walter told the kids early on he stole a car and went to jail. He came out, learned to work on cars, got into exotic cars, went from fix ups to sales and now owns a multimillion dollar building in San Francisco filled with Jaguars, Porches and Aston Martins. The kids got it.

Inner City poverty is a blight. The model I look to are immigrants who come here with nothing, save working jobs others don’t take, and their kids become doctors. They defer pleasure for their kids’ advancement. They stay in families. Many of our American youth do not exhibit this same sense of responsibility.

Cultures must keep their great aspects, but jettison negative aspects if they want their kids to have a slice of the pie; it’s there with work and education. It can’t come from without; it must be within.
San Francisco High School Student Visit Sacramento State & UC Davis

What an experience it is for high school students to have an opportunity to visit college and university campuses before they graduate from high school. Such an opportunity gives students a chance to see and feel what it might be like to walk on college grounds, to view college students independently attending class, and to experience the ambiance of the college educational system.

Students from Independence High School and UCSF’s Early Academic Outreach Program were fortunate to experience the college/university scene in late January of this year. Students along with their supervisors were met by Sacramento State college students in a designated parking area.

The visiting students were escorted on a wonderful campus tour and informed of the services provided at Sacramento State University. After the tour, the visiting students were taken by bus to the UC Davis Campus. The UC Davis campus hosts escorted students to the Commons (cafeteria) where they were offered an “all you can eat” food pass.

After lunch, they were escorted to the Welcome Center where they were greeted by tour guides. During the lecture presentation, the students were provided with the following information:

- UC Davis is the #1 university in the world in agriculture and forestry, according to the “World University Ranking.”
- It is one of the “Top Ten” institutions granting degrees to students of color.
- It is one of the “Top 20” most affordable colleges in America.
- UC Davis has four undergraduate colleges: Agricultural/Environmental; Sciences/Biological Sciences; Engineering; and Science.
- They offer six Professional Schools: Education; Law; Management; Medicine; Nursing; and Veterinary.
- Tour guides also discussed: More services to ensure student success; Admission Requirements; Fees; and Financial Aid/Scholarships.

At the conclusion of the visit, the students returned to the Center where they engaged in a question and answer session. The students enjoyed the tours and appreciated the charter bus transportation and lunch provided by Pathways for Kids. This was a wonderfully well planned and organized field trip. We thank the sponsors for a superb field trip!

Pathways staff and students thank the San Francisco Fire Department for a wonderfully well planned and organized field trip.

Impressive Hotel Operations at the W

What’s more exciting than getting an opportunity to visit a five star luxury hotel in the eclectic, fascinating ultra urban city of San Francisco? Well, some lucky students from the San Francisco Unified School District participating in the Pathways for Kids Program were afforded such an opportunity.

These fortunate students were given an opportunity to leave their every day environment and travel into the world of the Hotel Industry when they visited the W Hotel.

Students met the hotel’s Executive Committee and spoke with them about career journeys in the hotel industry. Tour sponsor, Trisha Hildreth, introduced the students and their supervisors to staff presenters. Students were then given an overview of a variety of hotel areas.

Information was given to students about the hotel’s Front Office, Human Relations, Finance and Sales, Banquet Preparations Housekeeping, Culinary Services and Security.

Many of the students attending have never left their environment, and of course, have never stayed in a hotel of any sort. Needless to say, students found the hotel atmosphere exciting and their surroundings luxuriously comforting. They saw first hand the variety of activities and responsibilities required when working in the hotel industry. This was a wonderful field trip, a beautiful hotel, and a most gracious hostess, Trisha. We, at Pathways, thank the W for extending an invitation to benefit the students in our program.
Where’s The Fire?

Pathways staff has discovered that students love to visit the local Fire Station. Their experiences seem to be more real and tangible as they interact with the uniformed firemen and view the large, impressive looking fire trucks — some students, perhaps, seeing themselves as one day serving as a firefighter/paramedic, riding on the big red truck, putting out fires and most importantly, saving lives.

Undoubtedly several high school students were excited to attend a field trip to the San Francisco Fire Department. They were supervised by their Education Specialist, Rob Martinez. The group met in the lobby of the San Francisco Fire Department and were escorted to a lecture room where they were introduced the staff: sponsor, Public Information Officer Mindy Talmadge; Rob Neuneker, Lieutenant; and Jennifer Balestrier, Firefighter and Paramedic. They were joined by Fire Chief, Joanne Hayes White. She is the first woman in her position in San Francisco, and she has served 25 years in the fire department. The Fire Chief is selected by the mayor after successfully taking tests and exams.

Mindy Talmadge began the program with a “meet and greet” activity. Following her introduction, she introduced her co-workers. The students and adults were asked to give a brief self-introduction.

The first presentation covered “Career Firefighting and Possible Career Tracks in the San Francisco Fire Department.” They discussed information which an individual needs to know while preparing for a Firefighting Career. Applicants need to consider if a career as a Firefighter is really for them, and they must be diligent in their research. Applicants must also think about the training involved in becoming a firefighter (Firefighter 1 Certificate; EMT and Paramedic Certifications; CPAT - Physical and Ability Test). Potential firefighter should consider volunteering their time while gaining experience as practice makes perfect! Becoming a firefighter offers a variety of career options; it is rewarding; it is a team sport; and it is an excellent way to become trained to help people. Firefighters also have an opportunity to become actively involved in our educational system by being invited to visit schools and educating students about what firefighters respective jobs entail.

Following a brief tour of the building, the students visited Fire Station 8 for an additional discussion about Firefighting as a career and witness equipment demonstration.

Pathways for Kids’ students enjoyed this visit and appreciated the brochures distributed to them. They

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We par...I have attended...I had a splendid time...and...wonderful lunch that was served. I was greatly appreciated with the staff. Likely, the staff members were accommodating to our students and created a welcoming atmosphere for us. The presentations, the interviews, and the questions/answers session were well-organized and informative. The students were very engaged and participated actively in the discussions. The presentations were well-informed and enjoyable experiences for all involved.

The students were most accommodating to our students and staff. Likely, the staff members were polite and received the students with warm greetings. All of these were greatly appreciated with the wonderful lunch that was served. The staff was extremely supportive in helping us expose the students to various careers in engineering.

The presentations were given by several professionals in the field of engineering, providing valuable insights into the different aspects of the profession. Students were fascinated to hear about the equipment, materials, and building techniques it takes to make buildings and bridges safe during devastating earthquakes and other natural disasters. Students were inspired to pursue a career in engineering and were motivated to actively participate in field trips and other career-related activities.

The overall experience was a great way to introduce students to the world of engineering and to spark their interest in pursuing it as a career. The presentations, the interviews, and the questions/answers session were all well-organized and informative. The students were very engaged, and the experience was a great way to introduce them to the world of engineering.