



The PATHFINDER Staff

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The PATHWAYS PATHFINDER FOR KIDS

Career Opportunities • Mentoring & Motivational Programs • Entrepreneurialism • Investing • Capital-Building

A Wonderful Visit to SF Hotel Nikko



On September 18, 2015, Pathways For Kids students took an exciting field trip to the fabulous Hotel Nikko in San Francisco. Our host for the day was Louie Shapiro, Director of Human Resources.

SF Flex Academy students and their teachers met with Mr. Shapiro in the hotel's Mendocino Room, and they were given a presentation on possible career paths. Students and teachers viewed a video on the hotel's various working stations and working staff in various positions. There were three staff presenters who spoke about their job and duties and how their daily work affected the daily operations of the hotel and its guests. There was a question and answer period following the presentations.

Students wanted to know how many rooms there are in the hotel? Were there any famous people who had stayed at the hotel? How much the rooms cost? How many floors does the hotel have? How much does Front Desk Agent make? How much does the hotel engineer make?

Louis Shapiro mentioned there are over 534 hotel guest rooms and 25 floors; he mentioned there have been famous guests, and if he saw them it was in passing only.

There are rooms that have been famously named: Mendocino, Golden Gate, Bayview, The Lincoln, The Peninsula, and Presidio. Mr. Shapiro mentioned that some rooms are now under renovation to update and redesign the room to give the room a new look. He also mentioned that the work-

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331 Filbert Street
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We need your assistance. Please call:
Grace Long (415) 986-5885
to Contribute!

*Every donation of any size
is greatly appreciated!*

(continued on page 2)



ing atmosphere represents the Hotel Nikko as friendly and courteous. The rooms have been designed to look contemporary and modern.

The students were given a tour of the Presidential Suite and The Golden Gate room.

Students were most intrigued to learn about the positions and salaries of the hotel's employees. They were also fascinated with the views from the windows of the SF Hotel Nikko.

During this trip to Hotel Nikko, students learned that it takes the work and cooperation of all the employees to successfully operate a large hotel such as Hotel Nikko. Students also learned that at such a hotel there are employment oppor-

tunities in management areas, office positions, housekeeping areas, security, mechanics, culinary areas, bellman, and several other important service areas. To work in the hotel industry, students discovered that they must know how to meet, greet and speak to guests, be prompt and patient, work well with other individuals, be alert and efficient in all that they do, be friendly, and be able to work with a diverse group of people.

The field trip experience proved exciting for the students, and our presenters were wonderful. We extend our sincere thank you to the presenters and management of Hotel Nikko for in inviting us into the exciting world of the hotel industry!

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More Photos from Hotel Nikko





Peter Dwares
Founder & Chairman

The Board, core funders, our small staff and I thank all of you, our Supporters. That's what enables us to take youth who might not have a chance and give them a chance to have a real slice of what America offers. I appreciate all of you for helping with our mutual objective, and I mean all of us are affected by perpetuating poverty.

This year we reached nearly 1,000 youth from the Inner City of San Francisco. Next year our goal is more exposure to tech companies and funding from them. We also want to include more real estate companies in our efforts.

While we can't expect any of these companies to hire students without skills, we want them to help these young people get the skills. We will work towards more funding of Pathways, more internships, and more influence on schools teaching accounting, marketing, etc. Our young people need a secondary school business education.

Please call me or write me with your views.

Warmest personal regards,
Peter

Remembering . . . *Cassie*

Each year brings with it new and different experiences, encounters, relationships, and paths. We experience some bright and wonderful times and some frustrating and sad times. This 2015 year brought with it a continuation of successful field trip experiences for our many Pathways students, teachers and sponsors, *but it also brought with it the loss of our priceless Pathways Executive Director, Mrs. Cassie Miller.*

For approximately 11 years, Cassie worked diligently with the Pathways staff and constituents and the San Francisco Unified School District to provide outstanding career experiences and opportunities to the under-served youth in San Francisco. She formed lasting and important relationships with CEO's and staff at a variety of business organizations and institutions within San Francisco, enabling her to secure wonderful field trip adventures and learning experiences for young people.

Cassie brought her educational expertise, her administrative experience, and her ability to work with youth to her work with Pathways For Kids. She greatly enhanced the program with her drive, her deter-



mination and her congenial personality. Under her direction and with the support of Founder, Peter Dwares and the Pathways For Kids staff, the program grew to serve over 18,000 students.

Cassie has left her profound impression on the minds and hearts of the students, business owners and personnel, leaders of many diverse organizations, and countless others with whom she interacted with on a daily basis.

Peter Dwares, the Pathways for Kids staff and our many supporters and sponsors will most assuredly miss Cassie's excellent work ethic, her beautiful smile, her queenly presence, and her innate ability to get "The Job Done!"

Photos of Cassie with her Pathways students, teachers, & sponsors:



(continued from page 5)





Of course there are many, many more wonderful photos of Cassie with her students as she attended most of the field trips with her students. These photos can be seen in our Pathways newsletters and yearbooks.

Needless to say, we will miss Cassie's presence in the Pathways For Kids program, but we will always be able to use her example of hard work, positive attitude, and willingness to go that extra mile for the young adults she worked with most of her life.

Cassie stretched the boundaries of the Pathways for Kids program and worked hard to make sure the young people had invaluable experiences through the variety and diversity of field trips she planned for her students. As Executive Director of the Pathways For Kids program, Cassie will be a hard act to follow; her successor will be Mrs. Virginia Marshall, who also works for the San Francisco Unified School District.

A Visit to the Prestigious Wells Fargo Bank



Each time we take a group of students to Wells Fargo Bank, we are amazed at the work it takes to run a bank efficiently and the possible career positions available at such an institution. This season our group of students and their advisors hailed from the Bayview Hunters Point YMCA C.A.R.E Program.

In October we went to the Wells Fargo Bank on Market Street in San Francisco, where we met with our tour guides and presenters, Michael Sanchez and Selena Young of Wells Fargo Bank.

The main goal of this particular visit was to help our students become successful. Several interesting and important topics were discussed. Students received information about basic banking, career development, career opportunities, and movement of money.

The students were asked to write one word on the board regarding banking. The following were responses from students: APR, Compound Interest, Saving, Checking, Interest, Investment and Certificate

of Deposit. Information on general banking was discussed, and students' questions were answered.

Selena Young discussed career development and opportunities within Wells Fargo Bank. She stated a few of Wells Fargo goals, which were finding out what customer needs are and hiring people who want to work for Wells Fargo. She provided students with some information on her education and background. Selena told students that, "Your smile is your logo. Your personality is your business card, and how you leave others feeling after an interaction becomes your trademark."

We also meet with Ruben who was in charge of Wells Fargo Bank public relations, communication and media. He advised students on the importance of money management, setting goals and saving.

The meeting was completed with a tour and discussion on international currency exchange, buying and selling and movement of corporation funds.

The field trip was a wonderful experience for all, and there was great student participation. We look forward to our next trip to Wells Fargo Bank; and we send a heartfelt thank you to our Wells Fargo Bank management and staff for graciously inviting us into the world of banking.

Students Listen to Presenters & Tour the Bank



Who is your favorite movie star? Almost everyone has one. Distinguished guest attending the Pathways For Kids 17th Annual Gala came dressed as their favorite movie star.

As usual guests came in their finest to this entertaining, opulent affair. This regal gala has been held for the past few years at the fabulous Intercontinental Mark Hopkins Hotel and hosted by Peter Dwares, Founder and Chairman of the successful Pathways For Kids Program.

Guests come each year to support this worthwhile program which provides under-served youth in San Francisco with experiences outside their daily environment. These experiences involve students visiting a variety of businesses, organizations, and entrepreneurs within the San Francisco Bay Area.

Students learn about different and lucrative career options available to them as employment and/or business ownership possibilities.

This year's gala had wonderful silent and live auction items on which to bid. Live auction items were handled by excellent auctioneer, Mr. Steven Godfryd.

Entertainment for the gala evening was provided by Laurent Fourgo and His Ensemble.

Guests mixed and mingled, bid on silent and live auction items, enjoyed delicious cuisine, listened to great music, met some of the students, teachers, and parents, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves!



(continued on page 12)

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Welcome Aboard! Mrs. Virginia Marshall Pathways New Executive Director



Virginia P. Marshall has spent her entire life making a “positive difference in the lives of children.” Virginia was selected as a Jefferson Award Winner in June of 2009 and showcased with her students on KPIX, Channel 5. Under the auspices of The San Francisco Alliance of Black School Educators, Virginia is the Chairperson for the annual Honor Roll Celebration for more than 1,200 African American students enrolled in the SFUSD, grades 3-12. Virginia’s motto is, “We can change the world...one student at a time.”

Virginia is currently administrator for the SFUSD Citywide Tutorial Program housed in churches and organizations throughout the city. She has worked with Pathways in the past and states, “It has been my pleasure to work collaboratively with Peter Dwares, Director/Founder of Pathways for Kids for more than eight (8) years. Pathways for Kids is an excellent organization that helps the SFUSD bridge the achievement gap for underserved students; especially African American and Latino students.

“Over the years, this great collaboration with Pathways has helped students in my classes from the former Enola Maxwell (now ISA) to Galileo Academy of Science & Technology learn about various careers. In conjunction with Pathways for Kids, for four (4) stellar years, Peter Dwares and his staff helped me to put forth excellent *Career Days* each year for a student body of more than 1,800 students.

“Via Pathways for Kids, Peter and his staff have taken my students behind the scenes with the San Francisco Giants, back of the house and front of the house at the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

“Peter and Pathways mentored a single Mother and her three children throughout their high school years at Galileo and further exposed these students to careers and experiences they would only read about in books.

“Pathways for Kids — bridging the gap for SFUSD in the dawning of the 21st Century. As an educator and parent, I will always be grateful to Peter and *Pathways for Kids*, for the work you do on behalf of the 55,000 students enrolled in the San Francisco Unified School District.”

Virginia comes to Pathways For Kids with a wealth of experience. She brings over 30 years of educational experience and talent to the program, and is prepared to add significantly to the quality of Pathways.

Pathways Founder, Peter Dwares, and the Pathways staff welcome Virginia aboard and look forward to working with her for the years ahead.

Welcome to Pathways, Virginia!

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Peter Dwares

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Pathways Annual Reception

Each year Pathways For Kids Founder, Peter Dwares, and the Pathways staff host a reception for our students, teachers, supporters and sponsors throughout the year.

This reception is our way of saying a gracious thank you to all those who have given their time, talent, knowledge, and money to support the on-going efforts of Pathways to enhance the educational and environmental experiences of the under-served youth of San Francisco.

Our reception this year was held at the beautiful Hotel Nikko. We invited those who wished to attend to meet some of our students, parents, teachers, other sponsors, staff members and founder, Peter Dwares.

The setting is relaxing and fun; guests are able to network with each other and enjoy the delightful ambiance of the Hotel Nikko.

There is always delicious food and a variety of beverages to consume in a very comfortable setting. If you have not had an opportunity to attend, we hope you will in the future.

Enjoy the photos from this year’s reception.

