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Pathways Students Experience...

by Malia Cohen



If you are like me you have probably wondered what kind of company is Salesforce exactly? Well, I took 20 students from Downtown High School in San Francisco to investigate and find out exactly.

Salesforce is a cloud computing company headquartered in San Francisco, California. It is one of the most highly valued cloud computing companies of 2016. Cloud computing is a type of Internet-based computing that provides shared computer processing resources and data to computers and other devices on demand. So what does all this mean? It is a method to share and gather information without housing it in a physical location. Well, the students understood every word of the presentation. We discussed how this technology is used in our everyday life whether they are posting pictures on Facebook or sharing *memes*, they all understood how this technology is used.

So once we got all that squared away we begin an exciting tour. The students were given a tour of the five major buildings that make up the Salesforce campus and boy were they impressed!

Meditation areas, nature-inspired decor, personal air controls, energy-efficient sensor lighting and adjustable-height desks are just a few of the amenities inside Salesforce's newest office space at 350 Mission Street. It is one of five Salesforce buildings across the city, with the highly anticipated Salesforce Tower expected to open by 2018.

The company not only has one of the biggest office footprints in the city, as measured by square feet, it's also the city's largest tech employer — with around 5,000 employees. But the students were most impressed with the arcade filled with old school video games!

(continued on page 2)

7 Ways to Support Pathways for Kids

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Contribute real estate, antiques or jewelry to Pathways and write the contribution off at the fair market value.
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- ☐ 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, CA 94133 We need your assistance.Please call: Grace Long (415) 986-5885

Every donation of any size is greatly appreciated!

to Contribute!

Our guide for the day was Nikki, and she shared a little insight as to why the company went to great lengths to create such a fun and relaxing environment. "It's really about creating an environment that helps worker productivity and the employers to retain the best and brightest."

Our program tour took place several weeks before Dreamforce — a major event sponsored by Salesforce for thousands of people come together to learn, connect and grow, as well as mingle with thought leaders, industry pioneers, and thousands of their peers. The students were given an opportunity to review a few plans and schematics for the big event and play a game to win prizes.

During the tour there were several employees walking with us and answering all kinds of questions like: How long have you worked here? Are you the first in your family to go to college? What did you major in? Do you ever stop and play video games in the middle of the day? Everyone was friendly and willing to answer all questions.

After the tour, we had a snack and settled into a conference room setup with several laptop computers. Here the students were able to engage in a hands-on interactive coding exercise. This exercise illustrated exactly what and how coding worked but most importantly how coding is implemented in everyday life.

This field trip was wonderfully successful, and we thank Salesforce for inviting our group to tour and experience an exciting and interesting career path!

The Genius of Walter Dawydiak



Walter Dawydiak of Cars Dawydiak is a small business owner in San Francisco. Cars Dawydiak has been serving the San Francisco Bay area since 1981. Our host, Walter, opened his beautiful showroom which houses vintage Porsches, Lamborghinis and other high-end sports cars. Students had an opportunity to learn of Walter's personal story and brushes with the law early in his life. Much of the discussion focused on how one should make good decisions consistently and to learn from past mistakes. Hey

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(continued on page 3)

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15

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14

stress the importance of showing up to a job site on time and ready to work hard.

Students were highly interested in his story and how much he is accomplishing in his professional life. Many of the students were interested in being a mechanic. One student in particular, Luis, called Walter and was interviewed by Walter. Consequently, Luis will start an apprenticeship program in the Spring.



Matthew Vasquez, Founder & Owner Vasquez Construction and employee at Cars Dawydiak had this to say, "Rise above frustrations. No one hands you a business, it's hard work. In life nothing is easy. Not having a job or being a drug addict is just as hard; life is hard work."

Walter says, "Read books, be influenced by someone and find support from one person. I started my business 1981 at age 21, washing and detailing cars for auto businesses. We rented a stall 20 x 30, and we had uniforms made to make our business look professional. Take what you learned to be a good person or a good parent.

"Always have a plan 'A' and a Plan 'B.' Find out what you want to do, and stick with it. Here at Dawydiak's Autos we are blind to color and gender; here we are a Team. Start with the small successes! In our company an Apprentice has to be able to listen and follow instructions. That's the key in any

occupation — policeman, mechanic, or an apprentice — you start out at the bottom, you listen and learn to follow instructions. The most important muscle to build on is tenacity, and it starts with smaller successes."



(continued on page 4)

Founder's Corner



Seasons' Greetings From Pathways For Kids

The holiday season is a great time for fun and family. In 2016, Pathways For Kids is proud.

To our Donors, Pathways For Kids impacted the lives of hundreds of young people.

Gifts to our program are vital. You can greatly enhance the lives of our students by giving a donation to the program. Your donations make it possible for our students to experience the world of business and explore possible business career paths for their future. These students gain experience, exposure, and important information that will help with their career decision making.

Your gift to Pathways For Kids is very much appreciated. Please make gift donations before December 31.

Happy holidays & Warmest personal regards,

Peter

Let's Help Our Young People!





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4



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- 29. Physical therapists
- 28. Manicurists and pedicurists
- 27. Environmental science and protection technicians
- 26. Gaming and sports book writers and runners
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- 24. Database administrators
- 23. Computer systems analysts
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- 6. Personal financial advisers
- 5. Veterinary technologists and technicians
- 4. Computer applications software engineers
- 3. Home health aides
- 2. Personal and home care aides
- 1. Network systems and data communications analyst

Malia Cohen New Program Director, Pathways For Kids



Pathways For Kids staff is pleased to welcome Malia Cohen as our new Program Director. She brings to the program new resources, fresh ideas, and a great enthusiasm to work with students, teachers and business workers and executives. Malia will continue to add depth and substance to the program.

Malia Cohen has been twice elected to serve on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors representing the Southeastern neighborhoods of Dogpatch, Potrero Hill, Bayview and Visitacion Valley.

Supervisor Cohen has prioritized developing policies and legislation that keeps the residents of San Francisco's Southeastern neighborhoods working, healthy and safe. She has authored and passed dozens of pieces of legislation focusing on issues including police and law enforcement reform, affordable housing and land use matters.

Malia was born and raised in San Francisco, so she knows how to successfully navigate through this thriving metropolis and discover new career venues for our students.

Students Speak with SF Employees

At the end of October several students from Downtown High School had an opportunity to hear presentations from two employees that direct the apprenticeship program for the City and County of San Francisco. In the presentation we spent a lot of time discussing the kinds of jobs and opportunities that exist in San Francisco as well as covering wages and work life balance.

Pathway students were able to hear presentations from an electrician, ironworker, a plumber, machinist and general laborer.

The purpose of these presentations were to discuss alternative career paths. It's important

to expose the young students to honorable careers of which they may not be aware.



12 5

If you've never been to a San Francisco Mardi Gras Celebration and Banquet, you missed a wonderful such celebration and fund-raiser.

On the evening of November 6, 2016, distinguished guests dressed in colorful mardi gras and evening attire attended the Pathways For Kids 18th Annual Live & Silent Auction Banquet Gala.

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 where handled by excellent auctioneer, Mr. Steven Godfryd.

Entertainment for the gala evening was provided by The Charles Unger Experience.

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!

Pictures of the event are on the pages that follow. If you would like to view more photos, please visit our website: www.pathwaysforkids.org

A San Francisco Mardi Gras Pathways For Kids

18th Annual Live & Silent Auction Banquet Gala











