



Students from Homeless Shelters Tour Twitter’s New York Headquarters

Teens living in CAMBA and Win shelters were given a chance to interact with Twitter in real life on a tour of the social media giant’s New York City headquarters on Wednesday, August 3. The students, who ranged in age from middle school to college, started their visit with a tour of the office, which includes amenities like a café, gym, and elevators perfectly lit for taking a selfie.

Students then had the opportunity to learn more about Twitter and what the company does, and talk with Twitter staff about using social media in a positive and responsible way. Three staff members from Twitter’s short video sharing app, Vine, took time to sit down with the teens and discuss their paths to working for the company, the many careers available in tech and social media, and the ways students can creatively use social media on their own.



Students learn about social media safety in a Twitter conference room



At NYC Twitter HQ



Students at the event



Getting ready for the Vine challenge

As their last activity, the students split into teams and competed to see who could produce the best six-second Vine video. The winning team went home with an assortment of Vine-branded gear.

The outing was organized by DHS in collaboration with provider partner Samaritan Village.

“Collaborating with icons such as Twitter with the intention of positively affecting the homeless children’s population through technological advancement is invaluable,” said LeBrandon Smith, Samaritan Village Recreation Specialist. “It gives teens an in-depth view of what it takes to work in the tech field and allows sponsors—Twitter in this case—to give back to the community.”



The teens pose for a photo with DHS and Samaritan Village staff



A student gets advice from a Vine employee