

NYC Department of Design and Construction

Community Partnerships + STEAM Initiatives

High School Summer Internship Program

July 5th, 2016 to August 12th, 2016





DR. FENIOSKY PEÑA-MORA

Department of Design and Construction
Commissioner

Dear High School Summer Interns:

I would like to congratulate all of the 2016 High School Summer Internship Program participants! It is amazing to think that this program went by so fast.

For the second year, the Department of Design and Construction (DDC), a leader in the fields of design and construction in New York City has partnered with the Department of Youth Development (DYCD) and the Administration for Children Services (ACS) to provide NYC High School students with internship positions at DDC. This partnership was created in an effort to encourage students to pursue professional disciplines related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Architecture/Art, and Math (STEAM), as well as to introduce students to the broad variety of professions that support the built environment in New York City.

We are very pleased to have been able to provide you with a chance to work in the fields of architecture, engineering, construction, design, business administration, community outreach, and finance. The bar was set very high for all of you. It is our hope and expectation that you will use the information and guidance you have received to advance into STEAM related fields and the many careers that support it. As you continue secondary education and college careers, we encourage you to use the many tools provided and the skills you have acquired in your future endeavors.

This was a once in a lifetime opportunity. You have shown tremendous dedication during your time at DDC. It was an honor to witness your enthusiasm, hear your thoughtful questions and learn about your insightful contributions to your respective units. We have a promising future ahead for STEAM fields and I am happy DDC was one of your first steps on your journey. Remember that the people at DDC that you worked with were once in the same position you are in today. We hope that you have found this summer's experience to be both rewarding and eye-opening. Please keep in touch with us; we would love to hear from you again.

Congratulations to the High School Intern Class of 2016! You are the young leaders of tomorrow. Good luck in the upcoming academic year.

Warmest best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Feniosky Peña-Mora". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Feniosky Peña-Mora



Lillian "Lee" Llambelis

DDC Community Partnerships + STEAM Initiatives
Deputy Commissioner

To Our High School Summer Interns:

Congratulations on successfully completing the High School Internship program at the NYC Department of Design and Construction. We set very high expectations for you, as individuals and as a group. And you exceeded them. You made your supervisors proud and left your workshop presenters with a very positive impression. Each of you has demonstrated unique talents, dedication and willingness to work hard. And you have all grown during your period here.

You have learned how to read blueprints, become adept at Excel and SketchUp, and developed networking skills. You have demonstrated an ability to master the skills and shown the initiative that will help you succeed and excel in your chosen careers. Your inquisitiveness, passion and candor will serve you well as you prepare to become the leaders of tomorrow.

We look forward to following your progress and are confident that you will take advantage of the many other educational opportunities DDC has to offer. You should be proud of what you have accomplished. And you should be confident that you have the ability to meet and overcome any challenges you may face.

It has been a privilege working with all of you. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Warmest best wishes,

Lillian "Lee" Llambelis

Deputy Commissioner

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Department of Design and Construction High School Summer Internship Program is designed for students interested in pursuing careers in architecture, engineering, building trades, public administration, business administration and information technology. The program is structured to enable students to gain exposure to the many careers in the built environment and to learn about what it takes to build NYC. It is a unique opportunity to prepare students for the growing demands of the job market.

Assignments varied from working with computer aided design programs, budgeting applications, to accompanying DDC supervisors to collaborative meetings with agency and community partners. Interns attended insightful workshops led by DDC staff members and were provided the unique opportunity to hear first hand their career and educational experiences. Students worked for six weeks in a program that combines hands-on work and educational programming.

DDC partnered with DYCD and ACS to host the 2016 High School Summer Internship Program. This partnership was formed in an effort to encourage more NYC students to pursue STEAM related disciplines. Thirty interns worked in-house in various apartments.

Meet the Interns





Catreen Abouelsaad

Millennium High School (Manhattan)

Infrastructure | Program Administration

Progressing through high school, I found myself moving towards a STEM field, specifically engineering. I was always passionate about math and science because I liked the idea of knowing that any problem has a solution if you push yourself to find it. Through the DDC internship program, I observed the multiple steps involved in the completion of a single construction project. Arduous as it may seem, I enjoyed applying the skills I attained in my STEM classes to the workplace and with the help of my supervisor, Mr. Patel, and my co-workers, I gained insight into the work life of a DDC employee. Intrigued by the presentations of civil engineer, Jorge Tua, and structural engineer, Ashwani Bedi, I have decided to pursue structural engineering in college. Overall, without the aid of this internship, I would not have been inspired to pursue a career path in engineering.



Kwesi Afriyie-Blay

Ethical Culture Fieldston School

Public Buildings | Executive

I have been taking architecture classes since freshman year. I was introduced to mechanical engineering during a class trip to the architecture firm, ARO, and I applied to the DDC High School Summer Internship Program to learn more about the field. I have learned about subdivisions of engineering and architecture under expert supervisors and even engaged in individual design projects on public buildings such as the Edenwald Public Library in the Bronx. I also participated in workshops covering topics such as college readiness and resume writing, and gained experience in making architectural models, both physically and through computer programs such as SketchUp. This internship provided a very well rounded learning experience that will prove invaluable for my future endeavors, and for that I am thankful.



As a rising sophomore at Forest Hills High School, I felt that it would be beneficial to get an opportunity to explore more professions in the STEAM field. Working in Public Buildings, I have been able to learn a number of different skills, including learning how to graph and plot points. I have had an amazing and nuanced work experience here because every day has provided me with brand new lessons and experiences. My learning has been enhanced by my dedicated supervisors. I have come to realize that pursuing a career at DDC would really allow me to make a difference in myself and in my work environment. Thank you, DDC!

Kevin Alvarez

Forest Hills High School

Public Buildings | Executive



I am a rising senior who took a head start in participating in the STEAM workforce. Under the supervision of multiple mentors, I observed and engaged in the daily routines of the construction management office which maintains and validates contracting, inspection, and consultant orders for many construction projects that affect the existing infrastructure systems below our city. As an intern assigned to one of the most detail-oriented divisions in the agency, I engaged in work that offered new insights and prospects to my future career as a civil engineer. I also participated in workshops and presentations that prepared me for college readiness, personal finances, and introduced me to valued skills in the engineering fields. I consider working at DDC one of the greatest opportunities that I have come across during high school, as there are limited resources where a teen like me from the South Bronx can fully engage in a professional work setting that reflects his interests. I am extremely thankful for my awesome supervisors and the amazing STEAM Team for blossoming my future as a civil engineer.

Christopher Ansah

Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics

Public Buildings | Executive



I never gave much thought to how buildings were made until I was exposed to the buildings of Chicago during a family trip. The buildings there fascinated me and sparked my interest in learning about the process of creating these amazing structures. Once I returned back to school, I applied to this internship and I got in. STEAM is pushing me into the direction of becoming an architect. I have already learned a great deal and I still have a lot to learn. I am ready and excited to learn more.

Ana Abarca

Manhattan Center for Science and
Mathematics

Office of the Chief Architect | Public Art

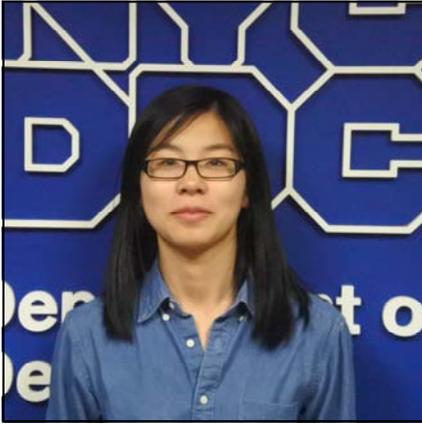


Every day, I learn something new because there is so much to explore. I like to talk about college because I want to major in either Information Technology or Information Systems. My experience at the DDC was a fun one. I was able to compose various spreadsheets and I created new organization charts for everyone in my division using Excel. I love what I do and the DDC has given me a chance to explore various fields of interest. Being an intern has also given me experiences that I would have never been able to learn and I am truly thankful for that.

Geovanni Colon

Chelsea CTE High School

Program Management



Yanmin (Cindy) Dai

Francis Lewis High School

Program Management

I am a rising senior at Francis Lewis High School. I applied for DDC STEAM Summer Program because I have been interested in the STEAM field for a long time. I wanted to explore and find out more about these fields. I really enjoyed my experience in this program. This internship provided many workshops that helped me gain both soft skills (communication skills, networking, and leadership) and hard skills (SketchUp, Outlook, and OSHA training). When I worked in my division, my supervisor Jeffrey Au and many other coworkers taught me a great deal. Now, I am positive that I want to become an engineer in the future. I am really glad that I had the opportunity to participate in this great program.



William Delince

NYC LAB High School

Infrastructure | Executive

When first starting the program, I had imagined everyone would be filing papers and drafting images of the latest NYC buildings. I quickly learned that DDC is much more complex and authentic than the stereotypical idea of design and construction. My appreciation for the city and its aesthetics has been amplified during this internship. Working in the green infrastructure division, I was given insight into the future of a sustainable NYC. The green infrastructure unit is at the forefront of stormwater control. Their work keeps dirty sewer water from being dumped into our local rivers. Their long term goal is for NYC water bodies to be swimmable. This ambitious goal has sparked my interest in designing NYC buildings for the future, where green features will become standard in terms of resiliency and sustainability in infrastructure design.



This is my first year being part of the DDC High School Summer Internship Program. I was born and raised in East Flatbush in Brooklyn and I am 16 years old. I appreciate all the patience and excellent advice I have received that I can apply to myself in the future to get me ready for the real world. I learned the importance of responsibility. I learned how to use a computer design program called SketchUp. DDC has exposed me to a multitude of opportunities and resources that have broadened my knowledge of the STEAM fields. Attending workshops and visiting construction sites have also offered invaluable information and insight.

Shania Douglas

New Dawn Charter School

Community Partnership + STEAM Initiatives



I am approaching my junior year, which will probably be the most difficult year in my high school career. I wanted to start building my resume and add key experiences for colleges to review. I found this internship online while researching jobs and I was very interested in the program. There are things in New York City that I had never taken the time to notice. This internship has opened my eyes to how and why things are built. We would not be able to progress as easily without all of the hard work that DDC puts into the city. Now, after completing this internship, I have learned so much. I worked on plans for infrastructure road construction in Brooklyn, on estimates, and created spreadsheets using Excel. Not only was the work exciting, but my supervisors were also amazing. They are willing to share stories about how they came to become engineers and architects. This was truly a great opportunity and I'm proud to say that I took part in the DDC experience.

Nadia Ferguson

St. Mary's College Preparatory High School

Infrastructure | Design 2



Chantal Flores

Manhattan College

Infrastructure | Design 2

This is my second year as an intern for DDC, but this time I am a high school graduate and an incoming freshman at Manhattan College. I returned to DDC because I thought that I could learn even more from being a part of the program for a second year. This summer, I was able to gain additional experience in infrastructure and actually do some consulting on ongoing projects. I learned how to use SketchUp, as well as keep my skills with Excel fresh and I was able to gain a deeper understanding of not only the department to which I was assigned, but all other departments as well and their holistic importance to DDC. Being able to work with my same supervisor, I was able to learn how important it is to work in groups at DDC because every project has to be revised multiple times by many different divisions to make sure that it is easy to understand and as close to the finished product as possible. Because of my two summers at DDC, I am confident that I want to pursue a career in civil engineering and I hope to work at DDC in the not too distant future.



Kiran Freeman

High School of American Studies at Lehman College

Office of the Chief Architect | Design Excellence

As a rising senior, I am entering the phase of my life where I need to start making serious decisions concerning what career path I want to be headed on in the future. When I heard about this internship I was ecstatic because it offered the opportunity to get real-world work experience in a field that highly interests me. Acting as the meeting point between building and design, and architecture envelops numerous different subfields that all contribute to the greater progression of our society. The Design Excellence program teaches me the standards of how a project transforms from an idea to physical reality - a great first step in understanding how the profession conducts business. I want to build important and beautiful structures that mean something in this world, and the DDC is helping me get there.



Katharine Gorayeb

Ethical Culture Fieldston School

Community Partnership + STEAM Initiatives

I have taken architecture at school for three years and applied to work at the DDC because of that interest. As a rising senior, I am constantly asked what my prospective major will be in college and what career I want to pursue. My usual answer to that is, "I have no idea." My experience at the DDC has helped me to narrow the wide range of degrees and careers that interest me. I have learned invaluable lessons during the course of my internship. I now know how to dress, work, communicate, email, and behave professionally in a workplace environment. I am incredibly grateful for my supervisors: Lee Llambelis, Teresa Ye, and Jillian Ramos, for all they have taught me.



Daniel Hernandez

**High School for Construction Trades,
Engineering, and Architecture**

Public Buildings - Executive

I joined the DDC STEAM summer internship to hone my communication skills and further gain information regarding the practices used in the design and construction trades. My hobbies include robotics, computer gaming, and drawing. My experience at DDC was an excellent opportunity where I learned about business etiquette from firsthand experience. The staff here introduced me to programs including SketchUp, Visio, and Outlook. The skills learned during my internship experience will prove vital to my future career.



As a rising junior at the High School for Law Enforcement and Public Safety, I realized that it was time for me to start thinking about my future. The DDC High School Summer Internship was a great way for me to enhance myself as a student and a working professional. Due to my interest in law, I was placed in the DDC Equal Employment Opportunity Division, where I was able to learn from a great supervisor, Dalela Harrison. In addition to the work we did, I was able to make connections with other employees within DDC through events, workshops, and construction site visits.

Emely Hernandez

High School for Law Enforcement and Public Safety

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)

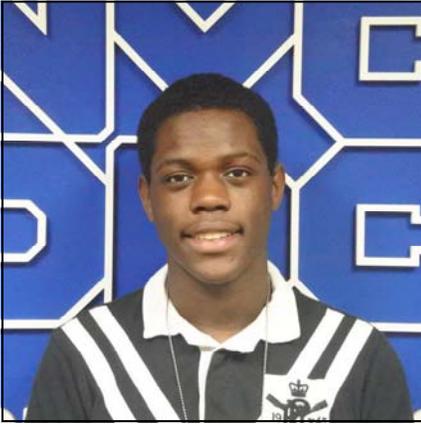


As a rising junior at the Bronx High School of Science. I am only just beginning to open my eyes up to the world of infrastructure. Working with my supervisor Bharat Parek and the rest of his unit has been a great learning experience. I spent most of my days reviewing and correcting design plans. This has given me a better understanding of how professional engineers do their jobs. Although I am still unsure of what specific career I want to pursue in the future, this internship has been extremely beneficial.

Malik John

Bronx High School of Science

Infrastructure



Jahani Kendrick

Hillcrest High School

Public Buildings

I was raised in Queens, New York. During the DDC summer internship, I learned how to use a computer design program called SketchUp. My interests include fashion styling, working for the city, cars and other popular vehicles, and moving ahead on the road to becoming extremely successful.



Emily Larcher

The Young Women's Leadership School of Astoria

ACCO | Competitive Sealed Bid Contracts

As a rising senior, I felt it would be beneficial for me to explore a variety of career fields. I applied to the DDC STEAM Summer Internship Program so I could experience an exciting opportunity with engineering. I have also participated in other STEAM programs, such as the Girls Who Code Summer Immersion Program last year, which gave me the opportunity to become more involved in the field of computer science and coding. In my high school, I am currently the Project Manager for Tech Crew, which is an internship that supports girls in departments that include filmmaking, coding, graphic design, and project managing. At DDC, I am currently working with different aspects of contractual bids, such as helping to fill out paperwork, and organizing different projects. My work proves to be an immersive experience everyday, especially with the help of such lovely and amazing supervisors. I am incredibly fortunate to have been able to gain this type of work experience, and as a result I feel more prepared to enter the workforce.



Samuel Liang

New Explorations into Science, Technology,
and Math (NEST+m)

Infrastructure | Design |

When I initially applied for DDC's High School Summer Internship Program I had one goal in mind: to pursue architecture, that was the career path that I planned to follow. However, I soon realized my ignorance of the many other career fields that corresponded with my interests. Although I'm still aiming to pursue architecture, the program has aided my understanding of partnering fields in the built environment. Joining DDC exposed me to a multitude of opportunities and resources that broadened my knowledge of the STEAM fields. Attending workshops and visiting construction sites have offered invaluable information about these fields. Most importantly, I had the opportunity to work with like-minded individuals and professionals. These interactions have not only expanded my network but also led to lasting friendships. My experience at DDC has become a catalyst for future work in the STEAM field. I'm grateful to have been a part of this wonderful opportunity and proud to join such a welcoming community.



Andrea Nunoo

Florida International University

ACCO | Executive

As a recent high school graduate, I started to think about what I could do in order to get a taste of what the real world is like before I jumped into college. My internship with DDC was the perfect opportunity to achieve just that. In the little time that I've been here, I've gained experience in the field of contracting with my supervisor. I was given the opportunity to attend workshops where I learned how to enhance my resume writing, develop budgeting and financial awareness, as well as explore different STEAM career paths. I was also able to receive OSHA training and see how these techniques and policies are implemented on construction sites. The experiences and skills that I acquired throughout this internship program will definitely help me thrive in college and beyond.



As a rising senior, I was looking for a way to make my summer productive, and explore various departments related to business administration. I came across many different internships, but I thought DDC was the best option because I would be surrounded by professionals with many years of experience. During the time that I have spent at DDC, I have met many different supervisors and executives. I have learned what a full work day is like and the benefits of being a New York City employee. Interning at DDC has been great experience. I see myself taking all of the information and skills I have learned and applying it to my future career.

Steven Perez

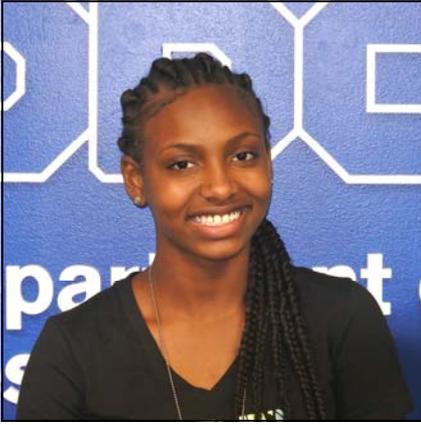
High School of Computer and Technology
Administration



I am a graduate of the Kew-Forest School and will be attending Morehouse College in the Fall. I worked in the Public Buildings Division under the keen supervision of the Associate Commissioner Eric Boorstyn. My internship experience for the past two summers has been both very enjoyable and enlightening. The other interns and I had the opportunity to build bridges and design a living space. If I could repeat my time at DDC a third time I would definitely take advantage of the opportunity.

Jordan Ralliford

The Kew-Forest School
Public Buildings | Executive



Ramona Ramdeen

Brooklyn Institute for Liberal Arts

Administration

Throughout my internship at DDC, I have learned a great number of skills that will make my future better and brighter. I appreciate everyone at DDC, especially my supervisor and the STEAM Team. Thank you for giving me a wonderful summer experience.



Divya Sabu

Bronx High School of Science

Public Buildings

When I first encountered the intern position for high school students at DDC, I was immediately captivated by the opportunity as I had been interested in engineering, but I had held myself back in declaring it as my future career. I was not sure exactly sure what went into engineering; the different types of engineering, and the daily routine of an engineer. After being under the supervision of Vincent Falkowski, Executive Director in Public Buildings, I realized the extensive amount of work involved in this career not only related to construction but also managing, overseeing plans, inspecting construction sites, and setting deadlines. Vinny also introduced me to a lot of the different types of engineering careers, especially structural engineering. My interest in engineering has been further enhanced after seeing the many beautiful buildings and fortified structures created by DDC that will soon play a major role in the lives of many New Yorkers and will make our city a better place.



Diana Solano

Academy for Language and Technology (ALT)

Public Buildings | Executive

I am an immigrant from the Dominican Republic. During my time at DDC, I worked in the Public Buildings Unit where professionals design, renovate, and build libraries, museums, police precincts, firehouses, transportation facilities and other public buildings. This internship has given me the opportunity to make new friends and meet professionals within the fields of architecture and engineering. I learned a great deal in the classroom, but the hands-on approach to the real world problems has been invaluable. It has served to compliment my education and reinforced my understanding of responsibility, focus, drive and ambition. I became tired sometimes, but did not give up because I believed that the only way to gain experience and move up in the working world is to be driven, focused, and to never give up. One of the most important things this internship has taught me is that it is important to enjoy what you do because it will affect your job performance. When I started at DDC, I was assigned to my main supervisor, Eric Boorstyn, and his colleagues, Starling Keene, and Ashwani Bedi. I am fortunate to have had such a positive working relationship with my supervisors. While they were often very busy, that did not prevent them from closely supervising their team, steering us in the right direction, and helping us to achieve. I know that they appreciated the work I did and that motivates me to achieve my very best. The skills that they had taught me included module design, sketching, using structural design software for buildings and structural engineering. Saving a portfolio of all the work I have done has expanded my knowledge of what I want to study in college. I want to thank my supervisors for all the effort they have put in this program to allow me feel comfortable and reassuring me that architecture is what I want to pursue as a career. I am truly grateful for this opportunity.



Reda Souaidi

Fort Hamilton High School

Public Buildings | Executive

As I finish high school, I am working on applying to the U.S. Navy Academy in Annapolis because I have always been in love with ships and protecting our country by involvement in the armed forces. This internship was a great opportunity to learn about architecture and engineering as well as gaining experience in the professional field. I really enjoyed the trips to different worksites like the PSAC II. My supervisor, Oscar Gonzalez, is a great mentor and has taught me and my colleagues a lot about working and management.



Erik Walter

Millennium Brooklyn High School

Infrastructure | Design |

I have always been interested in architecture, engineering and infrastructure; however, my knowledge about the preparation required for these fields was minimal. Taking part in the DDC's High School Summer Internship Program has opened my eyes to the work done here by architects and engineers. As a result, it has influenced how I now approach the college process. DDC's internship has made this possible by assigning me a supervisor who allowed me to be immersed in his work each day. Thomas Leung, along with his colleagues, Mariola and Roberto, constantly provided me with valuable hands on experience. Not only did I observe their work, but they encouraged me to speak up, ask questions and help them with their projects. I learned how to use AutoCAD to plan sewers, and utilized textbook information to make estimates for new construction. Every other week, my fellow interns and I went to a different construction site where we spoke with architects and engineers about the way their buildings were built, and I learned about the innovative features of the various structures like solar panels and rain collection methods. We were given workshops by employees who shared why they became engineers and architects, as well as introductory classes on SketchUp. DDC's internship does not just look good on my resume, it made me much more aware of the opportunities the design and construction fields have to offer.



Mariasol Xu Mei

Millennium High School

ACCO | Public Contracts

As a rising senior, I am entering the college application process which requires me to start thinking about which professional field I want to pursue. I was very excited about working with the Business Administration Department of DDC this summer because it incorporated business, one of my potential majors. During my time at DDC, I learned a great deal about contracts and the college admissions process. I also learned that this type of working environment is not really suitable for me as I prefer being in a laboratory handling blood samples. I learned that I am passionate about biology. That said, I'm very thankful to have been a part of the 2016 STEAM Internship, not only was it an excellent opportunity, but it was also very fun and entertaining.

Field Visits

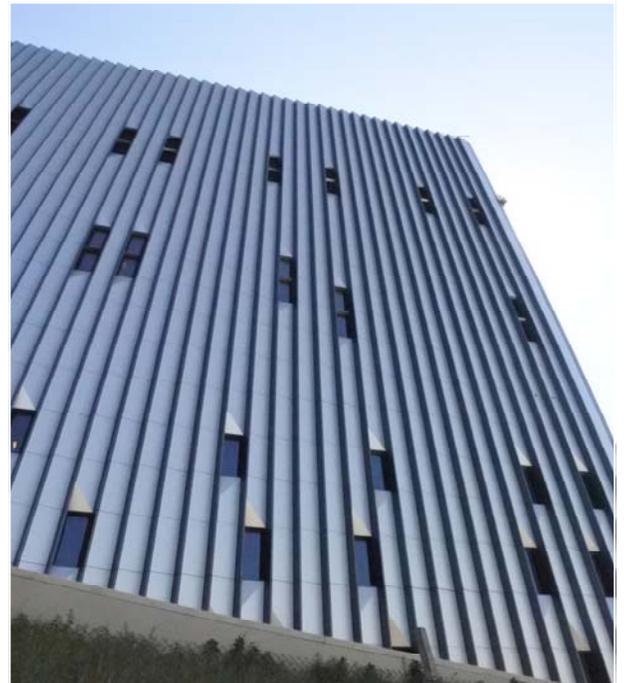


FIELD VISITS

PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING CENTER (PSAC) II



Located in the Pelham Bay neighborhood in the Bronx, the second Public Safety Answering Center (PSAC II) was erected as an additional 911 call center in New York City. Following the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, PSAC II was developed to serve as the backup call center for the existing center in downtown Manhattan, PSAC I. The key function of PSAC II is to house and combine the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) and the New York Police Department (NYPD) and New York Fire Department (FDNY) along with their respective dispatchers. DDC Project Executive and Dale Peterson gave the high school interns an extensive tour through the new building, which featured a unique design that provides an increased in security, plant-powered air filters that double as the required Percent for Art component, enthalpy wheels a system that salvages useful energy and transfers it to incoming fresh air. The building also features powerful and efficient generators, and other aspects that contribute to the building's Silver LEED rating in energy efficiency. LEED is a certification program for buildings that have a reduced environmental impact.



FIELD VISITS

SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOLS



Department of Transportation (DOT) introduced the Safe Routes to School initiative to focus safety improvements at city schools with the highest accident rates. Located in the South Bronx, in District 9, J.H.S. 22 has been facing a crisis over crossing safety in its zoned school area. The interns were introduced to a construction community liaison who has been working to improve traffic safety around the school and community. The initiative includes extended sidewalks that force drivers to slow down before turning, improving catch basin designs and water pipe replacements. J.H.S. 22 is also the site of a new collaborative DDC STEAM Summer Enrichment Program, which provides middle school students the opportunity to explore the STEAM fields while learning about the history of architecture and engineering. The interns were able to directly experience the importance of creating a safer environment for commuting students.



FIELD VISITS

BRONX RIVER HOUSE

The Bronx River House is a cutting edge environmental learning laboratory and base of operations for the restoration of the Bronx River community, cleansing the water while also providing a recreational area for the public. The Bronx river house is located in the in the South Bronx is currently in the construction phase to revitalize the Bronx River community, cleansing the water while also providing a recreational area for the public. Claudia Ibaven, Greenway Coordinator for the Bronx River Alliance, stated that from the 1960s to the 1970s the Bronx River was isolated due to urban development and the extensive construction of highways. As a result, the river was used as a dumping ground. Starting in the 1980s, the National Guard along with other organizations helped to clean out the Bronx River and it started being used as a resource rather than a dumping ground. As a result of hard work and determination, the community has successfully been able to reform the area with the assistance of the Bronx River Greenway project.

Initiated two years ago, Irene Alpert, Program Director of Parks, emphasized that the Bronx River House is “one of the projects we monitor and move forward as it will help the community.” The high school and college interns were amazed by all the hard work and dedication that has been put into constructing the site. While touring the construction site, DDC interns learned about the various materials used for the building and how it is eco-friendly. Robert Egbert, the Administrative Project Manager of the project, explained that there will be a 10,000 gallon tank that will store rainwater from the roof that will be used for irrigation and flushing toilets. The project also includes solar panels that will cover $\frac{2}{3}$ of all the energy used in the house, a screen wall which will contain vines that will provide shade for the River House in the Summer and trap heat in the Winter, and many more environmentally friendly accommodations. It is no wonder the Bronx River House received the 2008 Design Award from the NYC Art Commission.



FIELD VISITS

STATEN ISLAND



On August 4, 2016, the high school interns went on their third and final construction site visit to Staten Island. There they learned about the many steps the city is taking to repair flood damage and prevent and redirect flood waters. These infrastructure projects are extremely important to Staten Island, as most of the area is at or below sea level and has historically experienced flooding in residential neighborhoods. Engineers and designers came together to develop and construct storm water best management practices (BMPs) that collect runoff that would flood otherwise neighborhood homes, streets and parks. The BMPs are designed to reduce flooding by optimizing operation and maintenance procedures using existing treatment facilities and the wastewater collection system to their maximum extent practicable, and to implement related sewer retrofits and replacements. During the collection process, rocks and sediment in the water sink to the bottom and are filtered out. Construction of BMPs can take months or years to construct, depending on the project, and can cost millions of dollars. The interns visited four BMP sites under various levels of construction.



The first location the interns traveled to was Mid Island New Creek. Heavy storms regularly flood the basements of many houses in this neighborhood. This BMP was still under construction. Interns had the opportunity to ask engineers and inspectors questions about the ongoing project. Mechanical and civil engineers spoke about the challenges they faced such as over flooding of the BMP. They also spoke about how projects like these involve several types of engineers, inspectors, construction workers, and designers.



From there the interns traveled to their second location, the SE 818 Sheldon Avenue BMP. This project was larger than the first BMP. The Consultant Construction Manager, Mark DeSantis, introduced the team of civil and mechanical engineers. They each gave a little bit of background on their education and what they were doing on the project. Mr. DeSantis explained that this particular BMP project is part of a bigger project with an estimated cost of \$7.7 million. There will be two ponds that will be filled with water from 109 catch basins that are connected by 15,000 feet of pipelines. The approximate time to build is 1.5 years. The land on which the BMP is constructed is wetland; the inclusion of a drainage pond will help remove certain nutrients. Native plants will be planted. The goal is to have 85% of the BMP project area covered in plants and trees.



The last two locations, Arden Heights Watershed BMP and Willowbrook Park, were completed projects. The Deputy Director for Construction Division, Arvin Patel introduced students, recent college graduates who worked on this BMP. At Arden Heights, water is collected into the basin and all sediment and suspended solids are filtered out in less than 24 hours. The water is then returned to the watershed.

Workshops



WORKSHOPS

ROAD TO ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

Throughout the DDC High School Summer Internship Program, various engineers, architects, and designers shared their educational and professional experiences with our High School interns. Civil engineer and designer, Jorge Tua, led the workshop on Road to Engineering. Jorge has worked on major projects around New York City that include both infrastructure and landscape design. His presentation featured detailed plans of Times Square and Chinatown that are currently under construction. Sharing his personal journey to becoming an engineer, Tua stressed the concept of being able to, “plan, design, and build your future, just like an engineer.” The interns, with a diverse range of career interests, took notice of Tua’s experiences and journey to civil engineering. Ashwani Bedi, PE, Deputy Director of Engineering led a workshop on structural engineering. He shared his experiences and advice with the high school interns with great enthusiasm. Mr. Bedi talked about his experiences with different companies both overseas and in the United States. He put great significance on staying focused on goals by sharing Robert Frost’s famous lines:

“The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But i have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.”

DDC architect Starling Keene spoke about what it is like to be an architect and her personal road to this profession. Her emphasis on “observing the world, particularly the built world, with a new kind of curiosity” inspired several students to consider the field of architecture.

DDC engineer Barry Vanterpool led a workshop on the world of Infrastructure in the public built environment. He gave an extensive presentation on the detailed preliminary designs, materials, and end phase of Infrastructure.



DDC engineer Ashwani Bedi and architect Starling Keene speak to High School Interns about the architecture, engineering, and construction fields.

WORKSHOPS

LEED SUSTAINABILITY

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design is a green building certification program that recognizes best –in-class building strategies and practices. To receive LEED certification, building projects satisfy prerequisites and earn points to achieve different levels of certification. This workshop was lead by Noah Kaufman, project manager in the Cultural/Parks Unit. Mr. Kaufman was able to connect core LEED concepts to current events and media, such as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a collection of marine debris in the North Pacific Ocean. Marine debris is litter that ends up in oceans, seas, and other large bodies of water. His presentation also included the Love Canal disaster in Niagara Falls in the 1950’s, the site of a superfund disaster that affected the health of hundreds of residents and also demonstrated the dangers of unsupervised toxic waste dumping. He spoke about his personal experiences working to save the environment, such as helping to create a garden near DDC, built from what was previously a trash pit. Mr. Kaufman’s incredible zeal for his job and for LEED has inspired many students to research and personally make a change in the environment around them.



DDC architect Noah Kaufman speaks to interns about LEED and sustainability.



High School Intern Emely Hernandez

WORKSHOPS

WORK ETIQUETTE & MOCK INTERVIEWS

In the first session, STEAM Program Coordinator Jillian Ramos stressed the importance of networking and proper work etiquette in order to advance in one's career. After her insightful presentation, the interns participated in an exercise where they were able to practice networking with each other. The session was followed by mock interviews which led by four DDC college interns and Ms. Ramos. While the interns were being interviewed, their peers evaluated their interview skills and learned how to prepare themselves. The college interns answered questions and shared insights on how they have prepared themselves for interviews.

Deborah Owolabi, one of the DDC College interns, evaluated the practice interviews with the high school interns, noting "If you're uncomfortable, they know and if you're comfortable, they know". She stated that one of her biggest strengths is that she interviews the interviewer, following any tangent they go off on. Deborah believes that going off on tangents helps relieve the stress of an interview and "makes the interview more personal."

Prior to the end of the workshop, Ms. Ramos asked the college interns if there were any vital issues left to be addressed. Each college intern advised the high school interns to always remember to write thank-you notes or e-mails. Deborah continued and recommend including a personal tangent from the interview "to set you apart from other interviewees." She also advised high school interns to practice their interviewing skills, preferably with a comfortable, older person. "Take it seriously," she adds, "You want them to notice your body language or if you tangle your hair when you speak."

The workshop was a great success. High school interns received practice and gained insight into the interviewing process from college interns who have greater experience having been interviewed many times before.



High School Intern Geovanni Colon

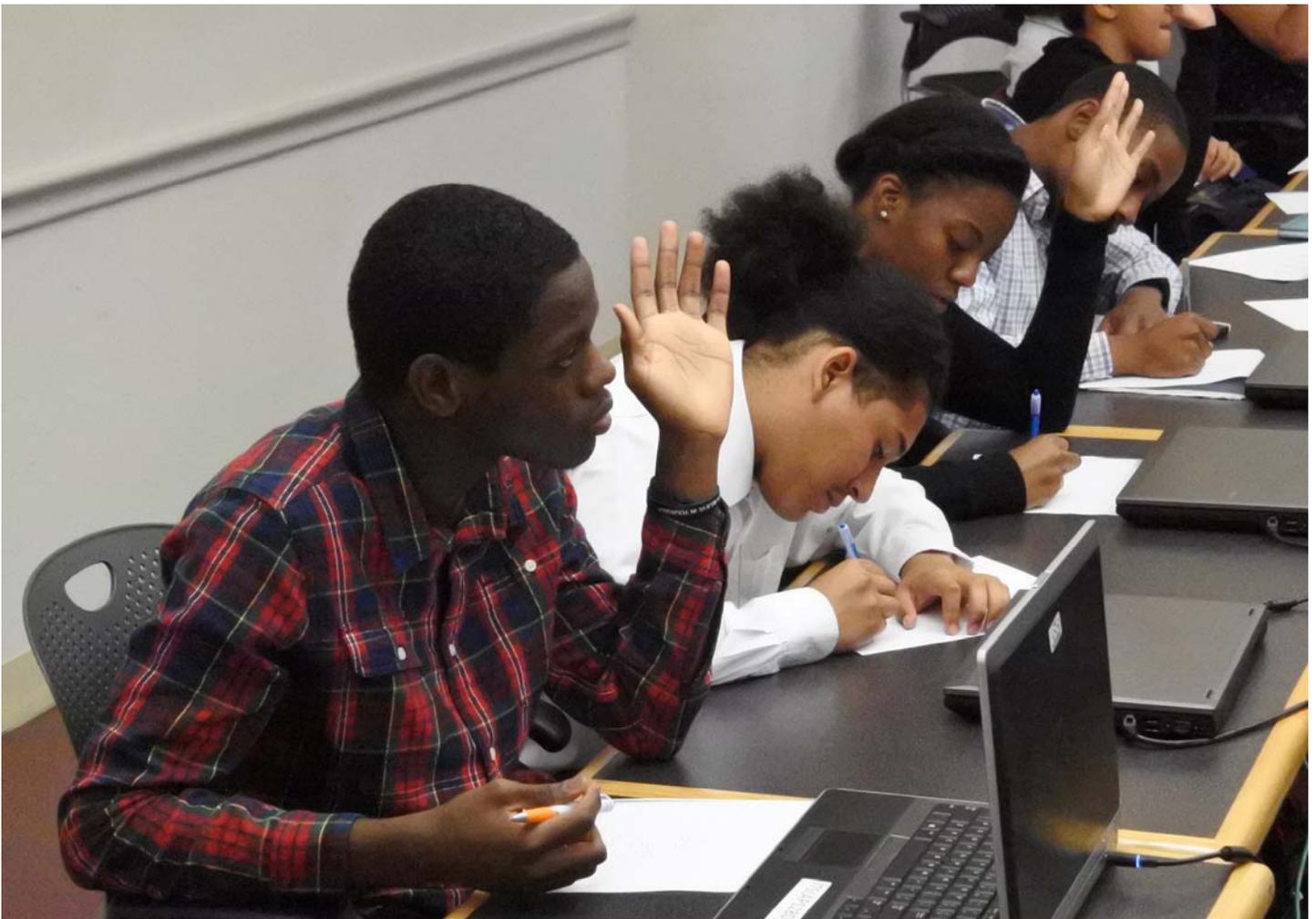


College Intern Pritha Sinha speaks to High School interns regarding work etiquette.

WORKSHOPS

RESUME WRITING

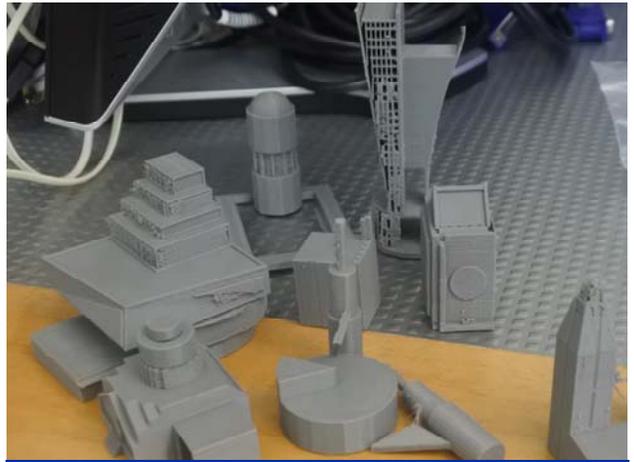
One of the most vital parts of the college application is a resume of the student's grades, experiences, and achievements. During the Resume Writing Workshop, Thomas Leung, presented the basic aspects of a resume along with a brief description of what should be noted under each topic. Mr. Leung advised the high school interns to put effort into their resumes and cover letters as that is the first impression given to employers. He went on to say, "Opportunities do not simply come by chance. They often are created by those who confidently and enthusiastically aspire for them to happen." Similarly to Newton's Third Law, if one does not put effort into their resume and cover letter, one should not expect good results. As a result of this workshop, many students have revised their resumes and, gained more confidence in the college transition process.



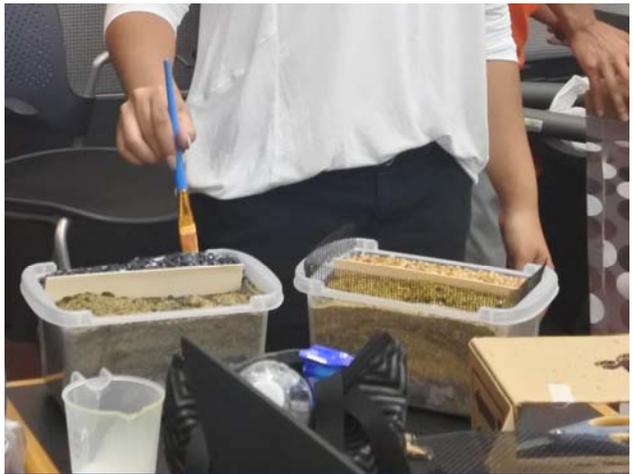
Jahani Kendrick participates in the Resume Writing workshop led by DDC engineer Thomas Leung.



Interns' SketchUp designs printed using a 3D printer.



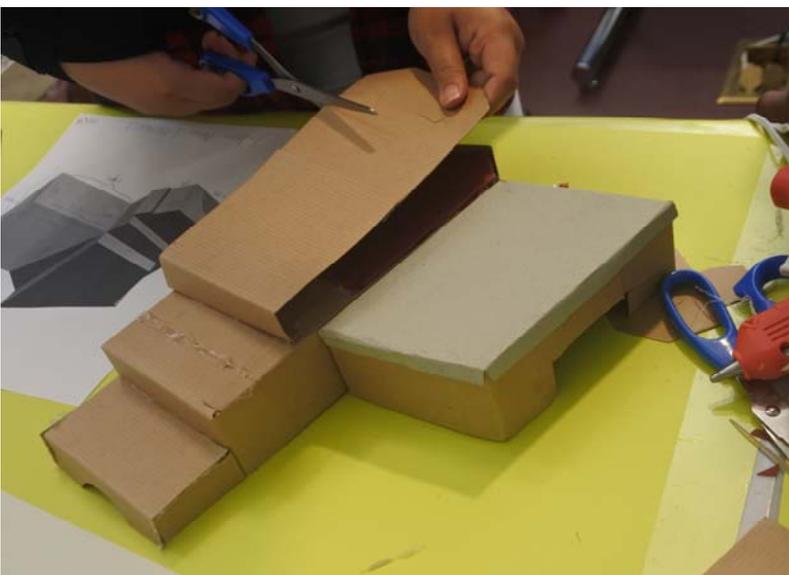
Interns' SketchUp designs printed using Makerbot Replicators.



Interns construct a bioswale model.



Interns' SketchUp designs printed using Makerbot Replicators.



Interns construct a futuristic Public Building model.



Interns construct a futuristic Public Building model.

WORKSHOPS

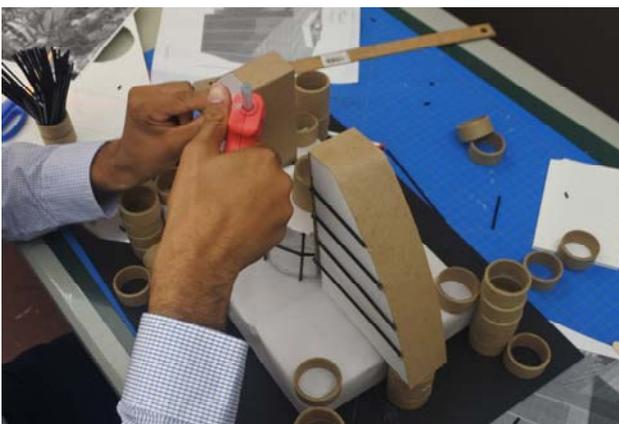
SKETCHUP

One of the most important workshops we took part in was SketchUp 3D modeling, taught by STEAM Program Coordinator Anthony Martin. SketchUp is an introductory CAD program, which allows students to access the world of architecture and engineering. The program allows the user to construct virtual 3D models with a multitude of design options and is essential to the architectural/engineering process in today's world. When asked why this workshop is a part of the STEAM curriculum, Martin explained, "I created a workshop that would introduce interns to the basics of SketchUp and challenge their creativity." In just one hour, interns learned the basics and benefits of what SketchUp has to offer. With this new knowledge, a project was assigned. The task was to create a unique public building that could benefit users in the future. The interns immediately started to transfer ideas from their heads to the computer screen. At the end of a successful day, Anthony stated, "As part of the STEAM Team I'm really here to be a mentor. I have had to deal with tough situations in the past and like to share my experiences so that interns can avoid the same situations or handle them better than I did."

After learning SketchUp, the interns used their creativity to make innovative and eco-friendly buildings. The futuristic models were uploaded to 3D printers where they were converted to the necessary formats. Interns used Makerbot Replicators that used plastic filament to make robust, but rough study models. Each Makerbot was able to print multiple projects at once, eliminating the time restraint of older 3D printer models.

The second 3D printer used powder that when laid down, is hardened by glue and results in a ceramic-like finish. When the process is completed, a vacuum is used to suck up the powder until only the hardened project remains. To assist the process, interns brushed off all remaining powder, before spraying the models with diluted epsom salt.

Thank you to the Fordham Street Foundation for providing the funding for the Makerbot 3D technology!



Reda Souaidi constructs a futuristic Public Building model.



STEAM Program Coordinator Anthony Martin leads the SketchUp workshop.

Special Events



SPECIAL EVENTS

DDC WELLNESS WALK

The Wellness Walk is an annual event coordinated by DDC's EEO department to promote health and unity within the agency. The high school interns volunteered at various checkpoints around the "course", encouraging the employees who walked. This included handing out water, bracelets, snacks, gift bags, cheering, posing for pictures, and even having fun with air horns! Dalela Harrison, EEO director and organizer of the Walk, explained, "EEO ensures that DDC maintains an environment that is both equitable and engaging."

This year's Wellness Walk took place on Friday, July 15th, and began at DDC's side entrance, at 30-30 Thompson Place. Walkers were given the option of either doing the 1.8 mile long route or a 5K, if they were feeling up to a challenge. At the end of their stroll, participants were presented an array of healthy snacks, ranging from fresh fruit to granola bars and water. One participant, Vincent Sawinski, commented: "They do a nice job providing us with fruits and cold water," then added jokingly, "I would recommend that they also give you a bag or a hat for the sun!"

The Wellness Walk is not the only health initiative DDC offers to their employees. The DDC also provides different exercise classes, such as a lunchtime Yoga, Zumba, and Tai Chi. The interns deeply admire DDC's dedicated effort to create opportunities for workers to achieve a healthy work-life balance.



Intern Jahani Kendrick, DDC Cassandra Richards, and Intern Kiran Freeman volunteer during the 2016 Wellness Walk.

SPECIAL EVENTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY



DDC High School and College Interns paint the STEAM Unity Mural.

On August 1st, DDC high school and college interns visited the Jordan L. Mott Middle School in the South Bronx for Community Service Day. Upon arrival, the interns were given a warm welcome from the LEAP SONYC and SYEP participants. Monique Jarvis, Deputy Supervising Director for LEAP SONYC After-School program, gave a brief overview of how the LEAP program reaches out to schools in the poorest sections of New York City. This summer, DDC partnered with LEAP in order to get kids who otherwise might not be exposed to STEAM fields, interested in these careers. Monique expressed her gratitude to DDC saying, “In STEAM Arts and Programming, when you have limited resources, partnerships like these are invaluable to expand capacity. There’s no way we could have done this without DDC!”



DDC High School and College Interns make gifts for DOE District 9 teachers for Teacher Appreciation Day.

T-shirts were then distributed to the high school and college interns and they met with their respective programs: Peace Basketball Game, Father & Son Basketball Game, Bombay Dance Lessons, Teacher Appreciation Day Preparation/ Gardening, or the Mural Painting. The Basketball games gave interns a chance to network with each other and the middle school students. The interns formed teams and played against outstanding middle school teams. The Teacher Appreciation group made gifts bags for well deserving teachers. The gift bags consisted of little pots of soil and seeds that symbolized the teacher’s extensive efforts to plant seeds of knowledge in student’s minds to push them to excel not in only in school but in the larger community. The mural painting group painted a huge tree that branched off into 5 sections to represent each part of STEAM.



DDC High School and College Interns and J.H.S. 22 students participate in the basketball tournament.

SPECIAL EVENTS

HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE INTERN BREAKFAST

Nothing is better than receiving advice from those who have worked in your shoes previously. The DDC internship provided high school interns time to socialize and ask college interns questions regarding their majors, the college experience, and, of course, the arduous college application process! Welcomed by a large assortment of fruit, muffins, bagels, juice, and coffee, high school and college interns grabbed a quick breakfast and sat down in tables. Each table was assigned three college interns and three high school interns, allowing a friendly atmosphere between the two groups while also encouraging conversations. The breakfast included a “HUMAN BINGO” game where the first two winners received gifts for getting to know the other college and high school interns.

After the “HUMAN BINGO” game and a nutritious breakfast, three college interns spoke about the college process. They advised high school interns to major in something that they enjoy rather than push through college without enjoying the experience. Not only did three brave college interns speak on behalf of their colleges, Columbia University, City College, and Manhattan College, but high school interns were also given some insight on what college interns wished they would change about their past actions that would make their college experience simpler.

DDC College Intern and Columbia graduate, Deborah Owolabi, shared her experience with four internships prior to her DDC College internship. She advised high school interns to either apply to the same internship next year or sign up for other internships and gain additional experience in their desired field. She further stated that creating a LinkedIn profile should be a priority, stating “I didn’t learn about LinkedIn until my sophomore year in college. You guys are ahead of the game.” Capitalizing on that advice, many of the high school interns focused on creating a LinkedIn page before college and “getting ahead of the game”.



College and High School interns share their educational and professional goals.



College Intern Corine Laplanche speaks to High School Interns about the college application process.

SPECIAL EVENTS

HALFWAY LUNCHEON

July 21st marked the halfway point of our internship at the DDC and we celebrated with a halfway luncheon. Even though we were only halfway through, we had still accomplished many tasks together such as completing our OSHA training, which allowed us to take trips to construction sites, learning how to use Sketch-Up, and gaining insight in the architecture, engineering and construction divisions. We participated in a “parking lot” exercise led by Jillian Ramos and Teresa Ye. Each student had to identify new professional skills they had learned and DDC professionals they had met along the way.



High School interns at the Halfway Luncheon



High School interns at the Halfway Luncheon



High School interns pictured with DDC Commissioner Feniosky Peña-Mora (center) and Deputy Commissioner Lee Llambelis (far left).



Chantal Flores post DCC Professionals she had the ability to network with.

Intern Experience





William Delince and Samuel Liang



Jordan Ralliford and Katharine Gorayeb



High School Interns at the Bronx River House construction site



High school and College Interns at the Wellness Walk



High School Interns at the Halfway Luncheon



Healthy Snacks handed out at the walk.



High School Interns enjoying lunch together.



High School Interns practicing tying ties.



High School Interns bonding on their way to a construction site. Charades anyone?



Public Building High School Interns' project depicting Public Buildings in NYC.



High School Interns collaborating on a project.

Supervisor Appreciation



Ana Abarca

As an intern for Deputy Director Xenia Diente in the Public Art Unit, I have learned about the significance of artwork to the community. I have learned many things about New York City's public buildings and infrastructure, especially how water reaches homes, buildings and other structures. I've also visited construction sites alongside Project Coordinator Dora Blount, observing various art projects in progress. I am thankful to have met these two wonderful individuals who have taught me many things over the past six weeks.

Catreen Abouelsaad

Through the DDC internship, my supervisor, Program Administration Director Nitin Patel, and his colleague, GIS Analyst Stella Uwaeachie, showed me the multiple steps and processes necessary to ensure the completion of the paperwork behind construction projects. I was even able to attend a public hearing and observe the process of land acquisition. Furthermore, I have never dealt with Microsoft Excel until Mr. Patel handed me a project, instructing me on what was to be done. As a result, I have learned how to create indirect formulas, something I never thought I would accomplish! It was a great experience getting to know my co-workers and receiving advice I will carry with me throughout my senior year of high school, career, and my future.

Kwesi Afriyie-Blay

Working for architect Kristina Kesler, Deputy Director Ashwani Bedi, and Program Executive Starling Keene has been an incredible learning experience. I have gained a great deal of work-related experience that could only be gotten through actual architecture work. They have truly given me the opportunity to work in this field. And as a result, I have a better understanding of what it takes to be an architect.

Kevin Alvarez

I am grateful to Assistant Commissioner Oscar Gonzalez, Associate Commissioner Christine Flaherty, Executive Assistant Kristine Malek, and Administrative Officer Janice McDonald, for helping me throughout my summer internship. I really appreciate all the help given to me and my fellow interns. I was able to gain advice from my supervisors which I will use to gain more knowledge as I get older. Thank you!

Christopher Ansah

Working with Infrastructure Director Ralph Wuest has been one of my best experiences here at DDC. I had the opportunity to observe and engage in the everyday routine of a construction support director. I have learned a great deal in the short amount of time that I have spent in DDC. I especially enjoyed the countless laughs we shared and his exceedingly open and amiable manner. As a result of communication and exposure with Mr. Wuest and my colleagues, I have decided to pursue a career in civil engineering and discover where I can best excel in the field. Ralph discovered his passion for civil engineering by sheer wonder and the need to be involved in projects that fascinate him. I have been inspired by his example and ideals and I thank him so much for his guidance.

Geovanni Colon

I would like to thank my supervisor, Program Controls Specialist Zubair Kazi, for showing me how data management works in terms of spread sheets and organization charts. I would also like to thank Project Analyst Amel Al Hariri, College Aide Syed Rizvi, and Project Controls Specialist Vivian Toscano for making me feel welcome and for all the good laughs. I'm extremely thankful for meeting Mr. Kazi and the entire Project Controls team. I appreciate all of their work!

Yanmin (Cindy) Dai

Geotechnical Engineer Jeffrey Au has been a great help to me throughout my time here at the New York City Department of Design and Construction. I was exposed to the real work environment of civil engineers. He also explained to me the difference between the many engineering fields, which is helping me to decide my career path. I am truly grateful to have had him as my supervisor for the duration of this internship!

William Delince

Throughout my internship at the New York City Department of Design and Construction, Infrastructure Project Executive Sofia Zuberbuhler-Yafar has made me a part of her team. I was treated like a responsible and mature adult during my involvement in the green infrastructure activities, meetings, and assignments. I've learned more about the field and the future of sustainability thanks to Sofia and the green infrastructure team.

Shania Douglas

I had the pleasure of working with Deputy Commissioner Lee Llambelis throughout my internship at New York City Department of Design and Construction. I am grateful for all the support extended to me during my time here. From day one, Ms. Lee has been nothing but helpful and supportive, which means a lot to me. I recall the time when Ms. Lee called me into her office to hear about my first week of work. Instead of ridiculing my insecurities, she gave me some friendly advice and a little pep talk. This conversation has stuck with me throughout this internship and will stay with me for the rest of my life. Your encouragement and support have made all of the difference. Thank you, Ms. Lee.

Nadia Ferguson

I would like to thank Infrastructure Engineer In Charge Glorybee Taveras for all of the time she has dedicated to teaching me about the workplace and allowing me to work on projects with her. I greatly appreciate the patience she has had with the numerous questions I have asked. I would also like to thank Director Jorge Tua for taking me in when Glorybee went on vacation; I learned a lot from him as well. I couldn't have asked for better supervisors. Thank you so much!

Chantal Flores

I am very fortunate to have been able to work with Director Jorge Tua and Engineer In Charge Glorybee Taveras. They sacrificed time from their workday to explain the function of Division 2 in the Infrastructure Unit. With them, I have been able to gain experience with consultant work on city plans. I also enjoyed being a part of a friendly yet extremely professional work environment. I am thankful that Mr. Tua and Ms. Tavaras were able to share their knowledge of civil engineering with me.

Kiran Freeman

My time interning at the DDC has been incredible. I would like to thank my supervisors Director Michaela Metcalfe and Design Liaison Zachary Aders for making it all possible. They have set apart time from their workday and led me through the whole process of DDC projects from conception to completion. Going to site visits has been my favorite part, as I got to see the beautiful modern creations that the department team helped become a reality. The experience I've received is priceless, and I'll never forget all that they've taught me.

Katharine Gorayeb

My time interning at the New York City Department of Design and Construction has been a great learning experience. Thank you to my supervisor Deputy Commissioner Lee Llambelis for all her efforts in introducing me to the STEAM team and the work environment.

Daniel Hernandez

My supervisor, Assistant Commissioner Oscar Gonzalez, is an outstanding mentor and despite his constant meetings, he has made time for my colleagues and I. Over the past few weeks, he has demonstrated many traits of leadership and professionalism that I will incorporate into my life. I would also like to thank Executive Assistant Angelique Chase-Mcmillan for providing me with assistance during the absence of my supervisor. I thank these two for their patience and mentorship.

Emely Hernandez

After working under my supervisor, EEO Officer Dalela Harrison, for several weeks, I believe a thank you is in order. I am extremely grateful to her and the rest of the Equal Employment Opportunity Division. I was able to learn many things that will help me succeed in the future.

Malik John

Working with Mr. Bharat Parekh, Infrastructure Division Executive Director, I have gained more insight into the process of construction and renovation of the city's infrastructure. My experiences have helped guide me on a possible career path in structural engineering. Additionally, Design Intern Abdullah Al Mamun, Design Intern Alexander Gebremeskel, Engineer In Charge Alimur Rahman, Design Intern Ivan Estevez, and Design Engineer Gabriela Lara have taught me valuable life lessons that have increased my understanding of everyday life in the workplace.

Jahani Kendrick

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to Administrative Officer Janice McDonald for giving me the opportunity to work in the Public Buildings division. I appreciate the time spent working with her, on both a professional and personal level. I have certainly learned a tremendous amount about the unique aspects of Public Buildings.

Emily Larcher

My experience interning with Deputy ACCO Lorraine Holley has been absolutely amazing and inspiring. Lorraine is a pleasure to work with. She not only made sure I was working efficiently, but also explained in-depth the protocols behind my tasks. She is also an incredibly funny and warm person, which makes it easy for me to approach her with any work-related issues that I may have. I am also deeply fortunate to be in an office that provides support and assistance whenever I need help. I am deeply grateful for this work experience and feel better prepared to enter the workforce in the years to come. I also had the opportunity to work with Diane Thomas, which has been an absolutely lovely experience. Diane has an incredibly funny and calm demeanor, and is just a great person to be around. I appreciate how she's always asking how I am doing and offering to help on work-related issues. I deeply admire her work ethic and patience when handling her job.

Samuel Liang

I had no idea what to expect when I found out that I was going to work in Infrastructure Design. Even though it wasn't what I expected, I am deeply grateful to have had the opportunity to join a professional team that welcomed me into their community. Under Engineer In Charge Thomas Leung's leadership, I learned about more than just civil engineering; I learned about the realities of this industry. I have grown as a prospective engineer and most importantly, as a person through my experiences with the team. Thomas, thank you for an amazing summer and everything you've taught me!

Andrea Nunoo

I am grateful for my supervisor, Chief ACCO Charlotte Hamamgian, for welcoming me to her division with warmth and kindness for the short amount of time that I was here. As her intern, I was able to witness first-hand how hardworking and dedicated she is to her career. She took the time to explain exactly what ACCO does and why it's necessary for the workplace. I would also like to extend my gratitude to Computer Data Specialist Melanie Sanchez, who guided and assisted me in some of my tasks. She took time out of her work day to ensure that I knew what I was doing. I am very grateful for the opportunity to work alongside these two and get first-hand experience in ways of the workplace.

Jordan Ralliford

Thank you Associate Commissioner Eric Boorstyn and the Public Buildings team, for the past two summers of wonderful supervision and introduction to various architectural values. I have learned so much and will be sure to keep in contact as I continue my journey to college and beyond.

Ramona Ramdeen

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to Director Jenny Lai for giving me the opportunity to receive experience in the administration aspect of the Human Resources division. I greatly appreciate the time that I spent working with her. I have certainly learned a great deal and I will be sure to carry on everything she has taught me into my future.

Divya Sabu

Interning for Public Buildings Executive Director Vincent Falkowski has shown me what it's really like to be an engineer and to manage over 50 employees. It allowed me to get a better sense of what path I want to follow in the future and gain exposure to the many different types of engineering careers out there. I have also become more aware of the process it takes to become a licensed engineer through talking to people in the Public Buildings Division. Going to the Courthouse construction site was an interesting experience as well. I now realize how much time and effort it takes to complete city projects. Thanks again to Vincent for your guidance, time and experience!

Diana Solano

I would like to thank my supervisor, Associate Commissioner Eric Boorstyn, for the patience, guidance, encouragement and advice he has provided me throughout my time here as his intern. I have been extremely fortunate to have a supervisor who cares so deeply about my work, and who responded to my questions and queries so thoughtfully and promptly. I would also like to thank all the members of the staff: Associate Commissioner Christine Flaherty, Program Executive Starling Keene, Executive Director Jaime Fournier-Ferra and Deputy Director Ashwani Bedi, who helped me in my supervisor's absence during the first three weeks. I enjoyed working for Mr. Boorstyn because he gave me the autonomy to perform my job to the best of my abilities. I also appreciate the constructive criticism and feedback that he gave me on every project I worked on. Because of this, I was able to improve upon myself within this program. It has been a pleasure to work with the staff. I have gained much practical knowledge about Architecture, Structural Engineering, and Module Design.

Reda Souaidi

My supervisor, Assistant Commissioner Oscar Gonzalez, has been a great mentor throughout my time here at the Department of Design and Construction. He has taught me and my fellow peers many things and has been very patient with us. Thank you, Mr. Gonzalez, for showing me the ways of the professional world.

Erik Walter

I've had the pleasure of working for Infrastructure Engineer In Charge Thomas Leung and his colleagues for the past six weeks. He's taken time from his busy schedule to teach me about the department's work. He gives me assignments that help me learn useful skills applicable within and beyond DDC's parameters. Under his supervision, I practiced AutoCAD, as well as developed estimates for project costs, both essential skills necessary to work in this division. Thomas also encouraged me to help the team on their current projects, adding to my experience and sense of accomplishment. Now, I know what is expected working at the DDC, I might even take it to the next step and consider a career in engineering.

Mariasol Xu Mei

I am thankful for the guidance and patience my supervisor, Professional Contracts Director Andrew Cammock, has provided during my time here at DDC. Before I started my internship here at DDC, I was uncertain as to which major I would choose. I have gained insight into the STEAM field. Andrew showed me how his department, ACCO, contributes to the built environment of New York City. He was extremely patient and explained extensively the concepts of business. I am now looking to pursue Business Administration. I'm glad I had the chance to be selected for this internship because it has provided me with great mentors that have given me wonderful guidance.

Supervisor Selfies





Malik John and Bharat Parek



Kiran Freeman and Rick Bell



Kwesi Afriye-Blay, Jaime Fournier-Ferra, and Diana Solano



Mariasol Xu Mei and Andrew Cammock



Kevin Alvarez, Reda Souaidi, Oscar Gonzalez, and Daniel Hernandez



Charlotte Hamangian and Andrea Nunoo



Dianne Thomas and Emily Larcher



Jordan Ralliford and Ashwani Bedi



Chantal Flores and Jorge Tua



Christine Flaherty and Kevin Alvarez



Daniel Hernandez, Angelique Chase-Mcmillan, Jahani Kendrick, Janice McDonald, and Reda Souaidi



Dora Blount, Ana Abarca, Xenia Diente



Christopher Ansah and Ralph Wuest



Zubair Kazi and Geovanni Colon



Catreen Abouelsaad, Nitin Patel, and Stella Uwaechist



Shania Douglas and Lee Llambelis



Ramona Ramdeen and Jenny Lai



Opeoluwa Taylor, Kevin Alvarez, Daniel Hernandez, Angelique Chase-Mcmillan, Reda Souaidi, and Adrienne White



Glorybee Taveras and Nadia Ferguson



Yanmin (Cindy) Dai and Jeffrey Au



Thomas Leung, Erik Walter, and Samuel Liang

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Commissioner Dr. Féniosky Peña-Mora
Infrastructure Deputy Commissioner Eric Macfarlane
Program Management Deputy Commissioner Kevin Donnelly
Chief Architect Margaret Castillo
Chief Financial Officer Justin Walter
Human Resources Associate Commissioner Janice Stroughter

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Thank you to the following agencies for their partnership and support in making the 2016 High School Summer Internship Program a success.

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Commissioner Bill Chong, Senior Director Julia Breitman, and Workforce Analyst Nurus Salam

Administration for Children Services:

Deputy Commissioner Felipe Franco, Associate Commissioner Charles Barrios, Senior Program Advisor Ismelda Rosario, and Program Coordinator Tiffany Williams



**Department of
Design and
Construction**

