



February 2020 Newsletter



Thanks Pokimane for supporting STEM Advantage Scholars!

STEM Advantage is thrilled to be partnering with Twitch streamer and internet celebrity Imane "Pokimane" Anys. On February 13, during her live stream, Pokimane announced to her 4 million followers that she will be sponsoring four STEM Advantage scholars to help support them as they pursue their STEM degrees. Pokimane studied chemical engineering in college while she simultaneously grew her Twitch and YouTube channels. She rose to fame as a content creator, streaming popular games such as Fortnite and League of Legends. Because of her passion for education and engineering, as well as her first-hand experience trying to manage her studies and work, Pokimane felt a personal connection to the mission of STEM Advantage. We are grateful to Pokimane for her support and for spreading our message to her audience.

Click [here](#) to see Pokimane's announcement.



STEM Advantage @ Cyber Security Conference

The Cyber Security Club at Cal State Dominguez Hills hosted its 4th Annual Cyber Security Conference on February 15. We're proud of STEM Advantage Scholars Lia Metz, Wendy O.rtiz Contreras and Kevin Acosta, members of the ToroHack Committee that organized this sold-out conference with over 350 participants.

STEM Advantage presented a Security Careers panel that was standing room only. Thanks to our moderator, Board member Carole Schlocker and panelists:

- George Nam, Penetration Tester, Novacoast
- Ed Covert, Director of Security Assessments and Infrastructure, WarnerMedia
- Patricia Benoit, Senior Manager/Advisor, Risk & Compliance, Southern California Edison
- Ken Selfridge, Information Security Officer, Kinecta Federal Credit Union
- George Liano, Global Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), Deluxe Entertainment

Board Members Melanie Hildebrandt, SVP, Corporate IT, Sony Pictures Entertainment, and Lee Ann Kiine, President & Founder, STEM Advantage, participated on a Women in STEM panel. Many STEM Advantage Scholars attended the conference, including Margarita, Gabriela and Mei-Ying.



Public-Private Partnerships Drive Student Success

STEM Advantage Board members Charles Sims, Head of Technology for the LA Clippers, Cindy McKenzie, CIO for Deluxe Entertainment Services Group, and Thomas Phelps, CIO and Vice President of Corporate Strategy for Laserfiche, along with Helen Norris, CIO for Chapman University, delivered a dynamic keynote panel at the Laserfiche Education Leadership Symposium on February 12. Representing diverse industries, including sports, entertainment, technology and higher education, they discussed the importance of public-private partnerships in creating a path to success for students from K-12 through college and beyond. They shared initiatives, including STEM Advantage's 360-degree program, that are making a difference, and how it takes a village to realize a holistic approach to education, mentorship and talent development.



YOU can make a difference: Provide an Internship or Be a Mentor

We need more summer internships and mentors to help talented, first generation college students like Terence, Alyssa and Stephanie reach their potential.

- To provide a paid internship, contact cindy@stemadvantage.org
- To be a mentor, contact leeann@stemadvantage.org
- To hire a recent graduate, please contact [Cindy](#) or [Lee Ann](#)

Save the Date!

Saturday, June 6, 2020

Annual Scholarship Gala @ Sony Pictures lot

For sponsorship information, please contact [Melanie Hildebrandt](#)



To invest in STEM Advantage Scholars ...

DONATE NOW

STEM Advantage is a proven pipeline for vetted diverse talent. For more information, please contact leeann@stemadvantage.org

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