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March 2021 Newsletter



NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR HONOREE

On March 24th, the Los Angeles Business Journal honored STEM Advantage as Diversity, Inclusion + Equity Nonprofit of the Year! Thank you LABJ - we are grateful for this award.

Thank you to our Board of Directors and Advisory Board for your commitment and dedication to our mission and scholars.

Thank you to our mentors, internship partners, donors, and sponsors for bringing our program to life.

And thank you to our STEM Advantage Scholars, who are the best ambassadors for our program. They are also great ambassadors for themselves, their families, schools, and communities. They inspire us every day by their stories, grit, resilience, and talent. As they "Pay It Forward" as role models and mentors for young girls and boys, we will have an exponential impact because *if they can see it, they can be it.*

If you are looking for a great organization to invest in, please reach out to [us](#). We want to scale our program to support many more students and close the gender and racial gaps in the tech workforce.

STEM ADVANTAGE CAREER PATHWAYS FOR BLACK STEM PROFESSIONALS Getting Beyond the Starting Gate Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Networking: 5:30 - 6:00 PM PT Event: 6:00 - 7:00 PM PT - Virtual



DARRELL BOOKER
LEADS NONPROFIT TECH ACCELERATION FOR BLACK AND AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES (NTA), MICROSOFT



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STEM ADVANTAGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DARRIELLE CARRINGTON
TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT MAJOR, CAL POLY POMONA
STEM ADVANTAGE SCHOLAR

FREE TO ATTEND - REGISTER AT: bit.ly/STEMBLM

To be a sponsor, please contact Lee Ann at leeann@stemadvantage.org



Please join us for an evening of open conversation with Black STEM professionals where they will share the factors that influenced their academic and professional journeys. They will delve into obstacles encountered, how they overcame challenges, and the unwritten rules in the workplace Black professionals navigate through or jump over to achieve professional advancement and success.

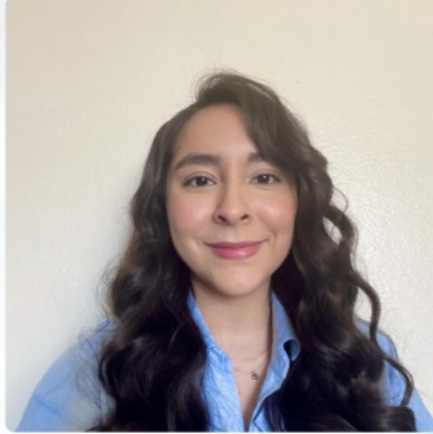
The discussion will also provide actionable tips for career growth from HR leaders and unpack the corporate viewpoint as companies develop and apply diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.

[Click here to learn more and register for this free event](#)

Women in Technology Hollywood (WiTH) Honors STEM Advantage



WiTH: Developing Community, Connections and Belonging



Beatriz Ruiz
Freelance Consultant,
Deluxe Entertainment
Services Group (STEM
Advantage Alum)

On March 8th, STEM Advantage was honored by Women in Technology Hollywood with a Charity Leadership Award - Thank you WiTH!

STEM Advantage Scholar Beatriz Ruiz represented us on a panel during the event. Beatriz is earning a B.S. in Computer Science at Cal State LA. She will graduate in May. Through STEM Advantage, Beatriz was selected for an internship at Deluxe Entertainment Services Group, where she has continued to work while earning her degree.

As a first-generation college student, Beatriz remembers how little support she had when it came to breaking into the field of computer science. It was the STEM Advantage program, and the support of the nonprofit by the Women in Technology Hollywood (WiTH), that "changed my life."

From Beatriz...

"You hear of how women are scared of STEM programs, but we do not fear the challenges of the curriculum, we fear the lack of diversity that these STEM careers often have. By having an organization like WiTH believe in us, they are setting an example as to how women can excel in such male-dominated industries and that we do not need to fear these career options, because there are people like them who wish to see us succeed and are there to help us."

"The message that I would hope the attendees of our panel go away with is to support STEM students and programs as much as possible, because there is nothing better for our society than to pass the torch onto the next generation," she said.

Thanks Beatriz for being an amazing role model and STEM Ambassador! *If she can see it, she can be it!*

Cal Poly Pomona's Tech Symposium - Security Careers Panel

<p>Lee Ann Kline</p> <p>Lee Ann Kline is President & Founder of STEM Advantage, a non-profit that mentors, prepares and inspires women and underrepresented.</p>	<p>Danielle Yamane</p> <p>Danielle Yamane is a Cyber Security Engineer at Deluxe Media Inc. where she is responsible for security operations and managing risk.</p>	<p>Shawna Delgadillo</p> <p>Shawna Delgadillo is a management consultant with Accenture. She grew up in Los Angeles and received a bachelor's degree in both.</p>
<p>Anita Ashong</p> <p>Anita Ashong is a Director of Information Security at Farmers Insurance. She has over 10 years of experience in IT Audit and.</p>	<p>Beth Jones</p> <p>Beth Jones is a Senior Advisor in Cybersecurity at Southern California Edison. She leads a team that assesses supply chain risk and.</p>	<p>Peter Nguyen</p> <p>Peter Nguyen is a Cyber Security professional. My professional career started as an IT Intern at various locations. The.</p>

Cal Poly Pomona's SWIFT club - Students With an Interest in the Future of Technology (SWIFT) - held its annual Tech Symposium on March 13th. STEM Advantage was honored to present a **Security Careers Panel** during this student-led conference for students and professionals interested in cybersecurity.

Thank you to our panelists, who shared their experiences and advice:

- Anita Ashong, Director of Information Security at Farmers Insurance
- Shawna Delgadillo, Management Consultant at Accenture. STEM Advantage alumna
- Beth Jones, Senior Advisor in Cybersecurity at Southern California Edison
- Peter Nguyen, Information Security Engineer at Synergis. STEM Advantage alumnus
- Danielle Yamane, Information Security Engineer at The Trade Desk. STEM Advantage alumna
- Moderator: Lee Ann Kline, President & Founder, STEM Advantage

The panelists were well received. A few comments: "You all did some great work, thank you for this fun and educational panel!" and "I was fascinated by the number of professionals that I got to meet and learn from."

Thank you SWIFT club and Silas Shen, SWIFT Co-President and STEM Advantage Scholar, for inviting us to participate.

funds STEM Advantage Scholars, who are mostly low-income, first-generation college students, attending California State University (CSU), the largest and most ethnically diverse four-year public university system in the nation.

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For more information, please contact leeann@stemadvantage.org

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