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# STEM ADVANTAGE

ADVANCING EQUITY THROUGH EDUCATION

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## May 2022 Newsletter

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Oh The Places They'll Go! Celebrating Our New Graduates...



Leslie earned a bachelor's degree in Computer Science and her brother Matthew earned a master's degree in Computer Science at Cal State LA.

"We're excited to celebrate by taking a trip to Europe and of course begin our careers as Software Engineers at Disney Streaming at the end of June!

We have a lot to thank you for as you helped both of us develop professionally. And allowed us to share our story with everyone. We are truly and forever grateful for you and STEM advantage and will always pay it forward!"



Gary earned a bachelor's degree in Information Technology at Cal State Dominguez Hills. He is starting a position as an IT Support Engineer at Amazon.

"I am incredibly honored to have been part of STEM Advantage. Thank you for all the support and mentoring."



Elizama earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics at Cal State LA.

"I am working at N Consulting Engineers as a Data Entry Specialist, which includes doing analysis of engineering documents and delivering data reports. I am also attending USC for a master's in Applied Data Science this fall.

Thanks to the guidance of STEM Advantage and my mentor, I have the courage and motivation to work hard to obtain my career goals. Thank you STEM Advantage for all your help, guidance, and advice you have given me."

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#### Over 100 STEM Advantage Scholars graduated in May!

We will share more photos next month.

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#### Hire Summer Interns & New Graduates

If your company can provide paid summer internships for STEM talent and/or hire new graduates, please reach out to Lee Ann at [leeann@stemadvantage.org](mailto:leeann@stemadvantage.org)

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#### STEM Advantage Alumni Featured at MarinaHacks



STEM Advantage alumna Hosna Qasmei was keynote speaker for Cal State Long Beach's MarinaHacks, a female-centric, beginner-friendly hackathon, on April 30. She began by discussing what led her to choose a career in STEM and the challenges and difficulties she faced. Growing up, Hosna would help her father fix items around the house that broke. That was the first time she was exposed to problem solving and enjoyed everything about it.

She chose to go to CSU Northridge and get a B.S. in Computer Engineering after being part of the robotics team in high school. She emphasized the importance of students taking initiative in joining clubs and organizations at an early stage to instill networking skills and gain knowledge outside of typical class work, as well as taking advantage of resources and opportunities to find internships and jobs. Hosna had an internship at Northrop Grumman, then started her career as a Software Engineer at Teledyne Imaging Sensors before joining Proterra Ag, an agricultural technology startup. Hosna shared her biggest take away after working in the industry the last few years. She recommended students gain a growth mindset. In this field especially it is important that people believe that their intelligence and talents can be improved through effort and actions. Although they will experience many setbacks and failures, they can learn from them and overcome them to advance their career.



STEM Advantage alumna Emily Sanchez, a Software Engineer at Farmers Insurance Group, participated in a STEM Advantage information session for attendees to learn about our program and apply in September. Emily earned a bachelor's degree in Computer Technology at Cal State Dominguez Hills. She has been an active alum serving as a role model and mentor and sharing her experiences to help students succeed in college, prepare for a career, and realize their full potential.

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#### Invest in Diverse STEM Talent

Talent is equally distributed, but opportunity is not. STEM Advantage mentors, prepares, and inspires women and underserved communities to pursue STEM careers. We provide economic and social mobility to underserved groups, while providing a vetted pipeline of diverse talent to businesses to fill their workforce needs. In 2021, Los Angeles Business Journal honored STEM Advantage as Diversity, Inclusion + Equity Nonprofit of the Year.

100% of your tax-deductible gift supports STEM Advantage Scholars Thank you for making an investment that is changing lives.

DONATE NOW

For more information, please contact Lee Ann at [leeann@stemadvantage.org](mailto:leeann@stemadvantage.org), visit our website <http://www.stemadvantage.org>, and follow us on social media.



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