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## January 2024 Newsletter

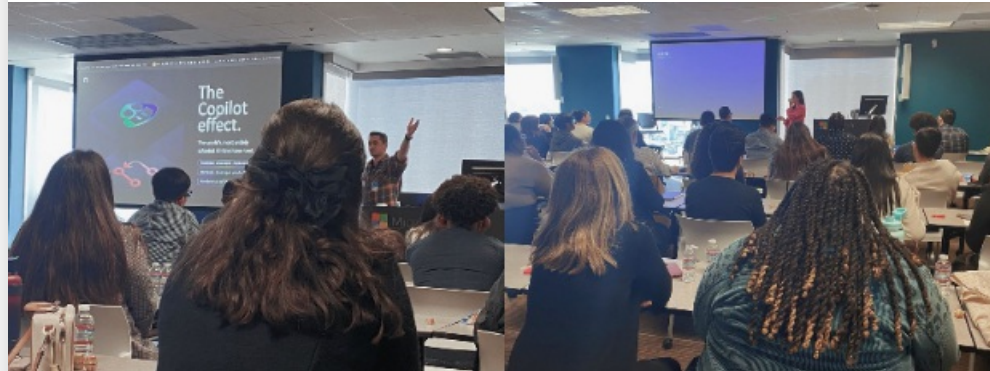
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### Thank You Microsoft



We kicked off our 2024 Leadership Development series, featuring career panels, professional development topics, such as behavioral interviewing, LinkedIn profiles, and certifications, and a career informational fair for STEM Advantage Scholars and students in our STEM Career Pathways program!

As part of the program, Microsoft graciously hosted an AI Briefing and Networking event, plus lunch and a tour, at their Irvine Technology Center. Special thanks to Brian Gant, Global Client Director at Microsoft, for hosting, and our outstanding speakers and AI specialists from Microsoft: Gabrielle T., Grant Earl, Curtis Carpenter, and Dave Bloom. Special appreciation also goes to Ali Mazaheri for organizing a tour and to Melanie Hildebrandt, EVP and CIO at Endeavor and STEM Advantage Board, for sharing her experiences and insights with our Scholars.



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### Thank You Reddit



STEM Advantage and Reddit joined forces to host a panel for our 2024 Leadership Development series, engaging scholars in discussions covering AI, strategies for overcoming Imposter Syndrome, technical interviewing skills, and navigating the job market as first-generation professionals. After a hosted lunch and networking, Scholars met with the panelists in small groups for in-depth discussions.

We extend our gratitude to our incredible hosts, Deitrick Franklin, Manager of Global Emerging Talent at Reddit, and Sade Ojuola, Diversity, Inclusion, Belonging and Operations Lead at Reddit. Additionally, we appreciate our esteemed panelists from Reddit: Diego Hernandez, Senior Software Engineer; Anthony Singhavong, Machine Learning Engineer; Kimberly Shi, Software Engineer; and Becca Rosenthal. They shared valuable insights and experiences with our scholars and contributed to the success of our event.



### Seeking Internships & Early Career Jobs

Did you know... Over 80% of internships and jobs are found through networking!

Please help us help talented women and underserved communities. If you, or someone you know, offers paid internships and/or hires new graduates, please contact Jasmyrn at [jasmyrn@stemadvantage.org](mailto:jasmyrn@stemadvantage.org) or Beatriz at [beatriz@stemadvantage.org](mailto:beatriz@stemadvantage.org)

### STEM Career Pathways for Community College Students



STEM Advantage kicked off our new STEM Career Pathways program at Pasadena City College and East Los Angeles College! The goal of this program is to help community college students understand career opportunities in a STEM field and paths to economic mobility, see the value of and feel motivated to earn a bachelor's degree in a STEM major, and increase the transfer rate to a 4-year university to earn a bachelor's degree. The program works with the CSUs and Community Colleges to help inform students how to optimize their community college experience and select a college that meets their needs. It is comprised of four key components: transfer and college selection tips, mentoring circles with STEM Advantage Alumni, professional and career development programs, and events and online discussion groups to build community.

This new program was funded through a generous grant from the College Futures Foundation. We are excited to expand our programs to increase the number of diverse STEM students to earn a bachelor's degree and increase the pipeline of STEM talent.



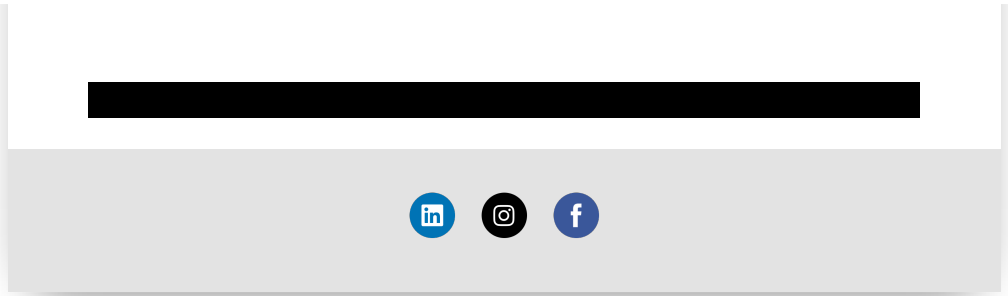
### Invest in Diverse STEM Talent

Talent is equally distributed, but opportunity is not. STEM Advantage mentors, prepares, and inspires women and underserved communities, primarily first-generation college students from low-income families, for STEM careers providing economic and social mobility to underserved groups and a vetted pipeline of diverse talent to businesses to fill their workforce needs.

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

[DONATE NOW](#)

To learn more and get involved, contact Lee Ann Kline at [leann@stemadvantage.org](mailto:leann@stemadvantage.org), visit our website <http://www.stemadvantage.org>, and follow us on social media.



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