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## March 2025 Newsletter



### Panel & Networking Event

On March 27, we hosted an outstanding panel 'Navigating the current job market' and networking event for our STEM Advantage community. A huge thank you to our stellar panelists - Samantha Nelson at Capital Group, Stephanie Manda at Aerospace, and Michelle Sypinero at Chapman University, and fantastic moderator Alice Franco at ADP, for sharing valuable insights and timely advice.

Our event sold-out with a great mix of STEM Advantage Scholars and alumni, who are the best ambassadors for our program, as well as mentors and friends in our STEM community. Your support and engagement make all the difference in the world - we appreciate YOU!

A special thank you to Citron Catering for the delicious food and Deloitte for allowing us to use your office. Sharing a few photos...



### Los Angeles Business Journal Nonprofit Team of the Year Finalist

Congratulations to our outstanding team - Jasmyn Masters-Culpepper, Tania Velazquez, Beatriz Garcia and Stephanie Manaster, along with Lee Ann Kline and Cindy McKenzie - for being honored by the Los Angeles Business Journal as a Finalist for Nonprofit Team of the Year!

Since the pandemic, competing priorities (school, work, and family), mental health concerns, and a competitive job market for both paid internships and new graduate jobs have been challenging for the students we serve. As a result, STEM Advantage's direct service one-to-one program model - which, among other impactful achievements, helps strengthen skills while preparing and building confidence for the career path ahead - has been stretched to meet student needs. Yet, our dedicated

team has supported students to achieve a 100% graduation rate, earn a bachelor's degree and persist in a STEM major. Congratulations team!



### Pennymac Volunteer Fair

On March 25, Cindy McKenzie, Stephanie Manaster, and Beatriz Garcia represented STEM Advantage at Pennymac's Volunteer Fair at their corporate headquarters. We appreciated the opportunity to discuss our program and volunteer opportunities, such as being a mentor and mock interviews, with Pennymac employees. Events like these *"play a vital role in building engagement and connections at Pennymac, while driving meaningful change in our communities. ...[and] provide our employees with valuable opportunities to engage with causes they care about deeply."*

Thank you, Pennymac, for your partnership, including providing mentors, internships, full-time roles, and funding. We look forward to continuing to work together to make a difference.



### Internships & Entry-Level Jobs

If you have **paid internships and entry level roles**, we have skilled, hard-working, and vetted STEM talent ready to contribute, learn, and make a valued contribution to your team! Our Scholars are earning a bachelor's degree in computer science, computer information systems, cybersecurity, mathematics, aerospace engineering, biomedical engineering, civil engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, software engineering, and more. Please contact Jasmyrn at [jasmyn@stemadvantage.org](mailto:jasmyn@stemadvantage.org) to discuss your hiring needs. *Thank you!*



### Invest in STEM Talent

Talent is equally distributed, but opportunity is not. STEM Advantage Scholars have the talent, grit, and ambition to succeed -- they just need someone to open the door. Your investment and generosity can provide internships and vital career-building experiences, mentors, scholarships, and community for students. Together, we can unlock potential and change lives. Join us in creating opportunities for those who need it most. We appreciate your support.

[DONATE NOW](#)

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



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