Executive Internship Program

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To Our Sponsors:

It is my pleasure to compile and distribute the Executive Internship Program newsletter for this school year. The entries in this newsletter have been developed by the high school interns who participated in the Executive Internship Program throughout the school year.

This school year has been very successful for all involved. I would personally like to thank all of our wonderfully supportive sponsors for taking the time to teach these students what professional life is really all about. There is no greater challenge than to face the unknown, and these students have all taken that risk and grown from the experience.

As always, the Executive Internship Program thanks you for your continued support and for the meaningful experiences that you allow EIP students. I know how much of a responsibility it is to have an intern, and I am greatly appreciative that you are willing to take the time to enable students to experience the professional setting. I look forward to successful and exciting semesters to come.

Dr. Mary C. Black, Program Coordinator
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The Executive Internship Program offers academically talented students professional experiences in a community setting. Geared to developing management skills and refining career preparation goals, this program provides the opportunity for carefully selected secondary students to intern with community leaders. Through involvement in actual problem solving, students apply advanced academic skills and define goals for further study. It is offered as a dual enrollment course through a cooperative agreement between Pinellas County Schools and St. Petersburg College. Executive Internship Coordinators, who are certified Pinellas County Schools teachers, serve as liaisons between students, schools, and agencies involved; both high school and college credit are earned for the course.

The course credit which is awarded for this experience recognizes the importance of school and community partnerships in developing dedicated professionals and effective leaders. By extending career development beyond selecting appropriate professions and defining long-term goals, students actively work with personnel in a variety of professional fields, such as medicine, law, communications, government, business, and social services. Interns attend important meetings, prepare reports, analyze data, make public presentations, and recommend courses of action. Unlike a work study experience where students are paid for work in entry level positions, the Executive Internship Program pairs students with professionals who model leadership skills. In addition to determining their aptitude for a specific profession, students are encouraged to aspire to leadership roles and to explore career options within the field.

Colleges and universities find that professional goals of Executive Internship graduates have been tested through experience, and students have become effective self-directed learners. They are recognized as excellent candidates for the high expectations of colleges and universities and are often awarded scholarships or admitted to target programs as a direct result of their manifested commitment to the career and to personal and professional excellence. Sponsors who have participated in the Executive Internship Program see internship students as having well-focused goals, interest in the field, and practical ability in problem solving. Similar programs are offered across the nation, and since its introduction to Florida in 1972, and Pinellas County Schools in 1974, the program has provided thousands of students with unique career-related experiences. Follow-up surveys indicate that graduates of Executive Internship have completed programs of higher education and have become successful professionals who credit the Executive Internship Program as being a defining experience in their lives.
The Executive Internship Program was introduced into Pinellas County high schools in 1974. Today, the Executive Internship Program is affiliated with a national organization of experiential education programs and has been nationally recognized as a model program by the U.S. School-to-Work office. Well over 8,000 students in Pinellas County have participated in the program.

The program represents a unique blending of the business community, the local junior college, and the public schools. It is available to eligible high school students during their senior year. The students spend an average of 10 - 15 hours a week working with a professional at decision-making levels in their future career field. Students are not paid by their sponsors, but they do receive high school elective credit and college credit from St. Petersburg College for their participation. The serious educational nature of the program requires that interns maintain analytical logs of their activities; participate in seminars; prepare college-level coursework and presentations demonstrating what they have learned during the internship; and submit a program evaluation.

*Internship placements include but are not limited to:*

- Law
- Computers
- Medicine
- Advertising
- Communications
- Archeology
- Banking
- Public Relations
- Law Enforcement
- Social Services
- Accounting
- Physical Therapy
- Engineering
- Business
- Fire and Rescue
- Environmental
- Education
- Media Productions
- Dentistry
- Government/Politics
- Architecture
- Marine Science
- Cultural
- Veterinary Medicine
**Boca Ciega High School**

There were no summer Boca Ciega High School participants.

**Clearwater High School**

There were no summer Clearwater High School participants.

**Countryside High School**

With the help of Lisa Hartmann and Jack Hartmann, of Hop 2 It Music, Aimee Ranson decided that the music industry is a lot harder than she initially thought. She found that creating just one song is a long process and can take weeks to complete. Aimee was under the guidance of Chris Maletz, who showed her the process of animation in the company. Aimee worked on creating several animated videos with Chris’ guidance and learned many different tools and techniques during the process. Aimee also shadowed Jack Hartmann as he produced a song in the studio. She learned many different things but said the highlight of the experience was learning how the company produced a song from scratch. She exclaimed that this internship built her patience and discipline in her work and helped her look for finer detail in her work. Aimee stated that the internship helped her understand the process of the music industry and helped her understand that a professional singer in the industry is what she strives to be.

**Dunedin High School**

There were no summer Dunedin High School participants.

**East Lake High School**

Under the counsel of Gary Marshall of the City of Safety Harbor’s City Hall Finance Department, Patrick Hanrahan came to the realization that the City government’s Finance Department was responsible for far more aspects of the City than he had thought. Patrick learned the city is in charge of financing everything from parks to roads to even the library. To keep track of all of this the City utilizes extensive excel spreadsheets detailing every cost incurred across the year. Patrick slowly learned how to utilize excel in a manner that would allow him to interpret pages of data while analyzing and looking for trends in that data. He soon identified basic trends in the data and made projections of his own. While there Patrick also had the chance to work with the IT Department with Manager, Paul Cales. He learned of the advanced office space technology that IT deals with on a daily basis just to ensure the office runs smoothly as well as the great value that comes with having a reliable IT department such as the Safety Harbor City Hall does. He would make the comparison to the spine in the body such that any business would not be able to function without a reliable IT department. Patrick feels that overall, this experience will not only help him in the selection of a future career but also in making the transition to college in a year, having a work ethic
shown to him that will be important to carry with him for the rest of his life. He is so grateful to those within Safety Harbor City Hall because they gave him a better idea of what the fields of finance and IT involve and now for the future, he knows that he would enjoy a career in either field but, for now he plans to pursue finance.

With the oversight of Rebecca Spuhler, the Director of Finance at the City of Largo and Police Chief Undestad of the Largo Police Department, Jacob Metzheiser learned that finance is a career path that is broad and all encompassing. The Finance field can become quite specified to multiple different professions and does not only include accounting. Jacob observed the different roles within the Finance Department required to effectively run a city. Some of these roles include Senior Accounting Clerk, Senior Accountant, Accountant, and Payroll Specialist. Jacob was given time to talk to each person filling these roles and he then understood the function of each of these roles. He also witnessed the day-to-day duties of a police officer and what it required to be one. While on a ride along he witnessed and observed shoplifters, homeless people, and drug addicts. This gave him insight into the kinds of people that police officers must deal with. Because of his sponsors, Jacob realized that Law Enforcement could be a potential career path for him but likely not finance as he realized he likes job where he more mobile.

With assistance from Marvin Thoroughman of HCA Florida Largo Healthcare, Mark Ondash gained ample knowledge of both Radiology and the medical workplace through his experience in interning in the Radiology Department. Mark witnessed the general medical workplace of a hospital and visited several different departments. Mark viewed X-rays with Radiology Technician Angella Szydilk and Nuclear Medicine scans with NM manager Roy Symon. Mark was educated on differing procedures in multiple departments, learning processes and medical terminology that proved beneficial for a future medical career. Mark even gained insight into the differences between specific radiology-based occupations. Mark is grateful toward those who helped him learn, as this internship is a gateway into the world of medicine. Mark learned that while he still wants to pursue Orthopedics, he will put time and effort into incorporating radiology into his medical education due to understanding its importance in the world of medicine.

While shadowing the Senior Project Engineer, Michelle Giuliani, and other members of The City of Safety Harbor's Engineering Department, Alexander Zidar gained invaluable insight into the operations of a Civil Engineering firm and public administrative office. Alexander started his internship with only a basic understanding of civil design and engineering, understanding the mechanisms behind public administration even less so. Throughout his internship, Alexander reviewed countless capital improvement plans, observed active construction in the city, studied traffic calming reports and procedures, and assisted in digitizing civil documents crucial for future development in the city. This, in addition to tutelage from those in the
Engineering Department and his participation in a City Commission meeting, truly allowed Alexander to grasp the inner workings of Civil Engineering and Public Administration. Alexander is very grateful for the time those in The City of Safety Harbor spent to make his experience both meaningful and educational. The City of Safety Harbor provided plentiful experience in the engineering field and opened Alexander’s door to other engineering opportunities and career paths.

**Florida DOE Home School**

Hailey Scheinman interned at the Pinellas County Schools Multimedia Department with the mentorship of Sean Clark and Wallace Patanow. Hailey learned about the process for the production of various types of media created for the school district. She saw how different cameras and lenses are used to capture video and audio, and she was introduced to numerous computer programs used for editing images, video, animations, and drawings. Working with the social media team, Hailey helped with creating logos, banners, and other graphic design projects for schools in the area. Participating in weekly meetings, she learned about functions and goals of the school system and how the different parts of the department interacted. She enjoyed seeing the impacts that visual media can have, helping to highlight the good that a committed teacher can do for their students, and the best programs a school offers. Hailey feels that this experience has reinforced her goal to pursue a career that centers on creativity, art, and storytelling.

**Gibbs High School**

There were no summer participants.

**Hollins High School**

There were no summer participants.

**Lakewood High School**

There were no summer participants.

**Largo High School**

With the guidance of Scott Livernois at Walter Pownall Services Center Facilities of Design and Construction, Anna Carrubba learned about the processes of architects, engineers and project managers involved in construction. During her internship, Anna attended different meetings for each step of the construction process and learned about project budgets and the importance of contracts. She visited many project sites where she chose new paint colors, inspected the ceiling and roofing, and reviewed design plans. She learned about construction plans for not just schools, but also for FD&C itself. In addition, Anna learned about the drones used during projects for taking process photos and checking roofs for water. Thanks to her internship at Walter Pownall Services Center Facilities of Design and Construction, Anna now has a better understanding of architect’s and engineer’s duties and is more confident in pursuing an engineering career.
With the assistance of Doug Pollei, Director at the Walter Pownall Service Center Facilities Design & Construction, Ethan Griffith interned under Scott Livernois, Manager of Facilities Design, where Ethan learned about what goes into a successful project and the importance of each division to achieve the overall goal. During Ethan’s time there, he attended meetings both at the office and onsite to assess situations and check up on the overall progress of the project. The meetings also provided insight into how funding is attained and distributed to the different projects. Through floor plans and talking with people of different career paths he learned just what exactly each person may provide (i.e., Implementing HVAC systems to the low voltage wiring supplying energy to a good chunk of items within the property). Additionally, Ethan assisted within the interior of a campus by spotting damaged ceiling tiles and twisted grids within the classrooms of a building. Throughout the experience many opportunities presented themselves allowing the ability to constantly learn more with every day he visited the facility. Ethan still has his interest between the electrical or mechanical engineering fields but due to the internship he may now be consider being an architect.

Northeast High School

Thanks to the supervision of Michael Johanessen, Pinellas County Schools User Support Manager, and the Pinellas County Schools Technology and Information Systems Department, Kevin Duong learned how organizations manage their information technology infrastructure. Tyler Marcum and Will Fumero taught Kevin equipment parts shipping and distribution logistics and data entry. While at the internship site, Kevin helped Tyler Marcum develop a program that automates certain functions within the data entry process. Jay Frangipane trained Kevin on how to update and flash Windows 10 and 11 onto school computers. Kevin later used this to help Stephen Whitton update computers for the County’s School Resource Officers. The Data Center and Infrastructure Systems Department demonstrated how servers and data are protected and showed Kevin the PCS job application process. The Systems Programming Department explained how programming works to keep data organized, up-to-date, and accurate. They also gave Kevin practical college and career advice within the technology field. Learning about various career responsibilities reasserts Kevin’s ambition to pursue a career in information technology.

Osceola Fundamental High School

There were no summer Osceola Fundamental High School participants.

Palm Harbor University High School

Carin Abdelnour interned at the Lockheed Martin in Oldsmar with the Industrial Engineering team under the direction of Tricia Salchert, the Manufacturing Engineering Manager. During her internship, Carin toured all the different areas in the plant and witnessed assemblers and engineers from various fields in action. On many days, Carin either shadowed assemblers and
engineers during their routine tasks and asked questions or was at her desk looking at dashboards and spreadsheets. Some mornings Carin went on 6S audits with two of the industrial engineers, Courtney Intravichit and Elise Holland, or toured and talked with other engineers from other sections. During the slower times, Elise Holland and Jordyn Floyd, both Industrial Engineers in OLDP, shared college experiences and advice with Carin along with things to look for and keep in mind as she starts college and her career. Carin worked on a couple projects during her short time at Lockheed Martin and wished to stay longer, as she had met talented professionals who easily incorporated her into their work community. To keep her busy, Matthew Sakellarides also showed Carin many spreadsheets, databases, and the metrics that the Industrial Engineers depend on and share to improve savings and productivity. Carin was very impressed by all the complicated processes they go through to ensure the best work environment and successful products, in addition to how all the different engineering assemblers worked together to achieve those accomplishments. In the future, Carin hopes to double major in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and pursue those fields at a place like Lockheed Martin, where she will be sure to always stay busy but also love what she does.

Under the guidance of Jason Pettit, CPO, Michael Sosa, CPO, and Tim Cotte, Lab Technician at the Hanger Clinic, Serene Alandary learned about the detailed work that goes into creating prosthetics and orthotics. Throughout her experience, Serene observed several aspects of this process, starting from measurements and casting of a patient’s limb, to creating a check socket, and finally the definitive product. Serene also experienced some of these processes firsthand, one of the highlights of her experience being when she was able to get her leg casted and make molds of her feet. Serene spent most of her time in the lab, where she saw the different stages of several products and received detailed explanations of their functions. Serene also enjoyed observing patients as it provided an opportunity to see the application of the processes she had previously learned about. These impactful learning experiences have sparked Serene’s interest in the field of prosthetics and orthotics.

Under the guidance of Dan Sultan, Practice Administrator of Bay Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery, Rohini Bhoomi learned about the inner workings of a medical practice and observed various procedures performed by Dermatologists and Plastic Surgeons. Throughout her internship experience, Rohini recognized the importance of teamwork and communication amongst everyone in the office to provide the patient with optimal care and a pleasant experience. Sarah Ohr, Medical Assistant, and Dr. Krina Chavda, Dermatologist, allowed Rohini to observe one-on-one patient interactions, involving anything from simple skin exams to cyst excision surgeries, and tasked her with highly valued assignments in a medical setting. Rohini was also given the opportunity to watch a full and mini face lift and explored plastic surgery under Dr. Jason Swerdloff, Plastic Surgeon. With all that she experienced, Rohini
exhibited greater passion and excitement to pursue a medical career and hopes to become a future doctor.

William Campbell interned at Congressman Bilirakis’ New Port Richey District Office under the direction of Office Manager Joanne Papanikas. William observed the workings of the congressional office and experienced constituent interaction firsthand. Many days, William answered phone calls and assisted constituents in-person at the front desk. Other times, William and intern, Maegan Smarkusky, reorganized office rooms, picked up mail, and maintained the office.

While there, William met other staff members, including Stavroula Coulouras, District Aide, and Jacob Perry, a Wounded Warriors Program worker. William enjoyed speaking with the office staff about their roles and the community as a whole. William met Congressman Bilirakis and participated in a community event, which portrayed how the work in the office connects to the real world. Through this internship, William gained communication and teamwork skills, a confident attitude, and a strong work ethic. William strives to pursue an international relations career, but his time with the Congressman’s office revealed how connected all government jobs are and that a career in Congress is a good option for his future.

With the incredible guidance of the caring staff at the AdventHealth Palm Harbor Emergency Room, Raphael Gabra was exposed to an active healthcare environment for the first time as a young professional and experienced what an Emergency Room was like firsthand. Raphael had always been interested in the medical field and this internship was his first official step in pursuing his career. Raphael easily found his place due to the welcoming atmosphere created by all of the nurses, who caught him up to speed and were always eager to help. Sandie Grady, RN gave a full ER tour and showed Raphael the devices and machinery used in patient care. Jim Witmer, TL and Chris Craig, TL were instrumental in assisting him with his understanding of medical terminology, daily practices around the ER, and the admission and discharge system for patients. Raphael often followed Ramzy Shehayeb, PM to pick up the patients, bring them to a room and complete the triage process, obtaining all the vital information required to assess that patient. Due to all of these important experiences with nurses, Raphael better understood how important teamwork is in an ER, and the many steps in the full process of receiving, caring for, and discharging a patient. He also spent valuable time shadowing many different Physicians around during the day, following them in and out of patient rooms and studying their habits and actions. Raphael had many unforgettable experiences with Dr. Matthew Smith, Dr. Jose Barquin and Dr. Michael Longley who allowed him great insight into the career he hopes for and increased anticipation for the role he hopes to pursue. By observing a myriad of procedures and tests done on patients, allowed entrance into the lab and radiology rooms, and under the supervision of Kathleen Goulding MSN, MBA, RN, Raphael participated in an incredible opportunity to receive learning he could have otherwise never obtained. He was eternally
fascinated and assured that he is on the right path to fulfilling his dream to save lives and care for others as a physician one day.

With the help of Dr. Syeda Rizvi at All American Family and Geriatric Care, Sabrina Hemani discovered that being a physician is as exciting as she had always expected. There is much research that is done before even meeting a patient. Sabrina observed Dr. Rizvi as she reviewed charts before meeting with the patient to understand the patient's medical history better. The most important aspect of being a physician is the relationships formed with patients and medical staff. Dr. Rizvi’s team is like a family. Not only do they care about each other, but they also extend that same caring attitude to the patients. Sabrina learned about the various protocols to follow to determine a diagnosis. There was also a sense of collaboration within the individual practice. Dr. Mairaj Uddin and Dr. Rizvi constantly bounced ideas off each other and the staff to ensure that they cover aspects. Sabrina’s experience increased her interest and enthusiasm for becoming a physician. This experience gave Sabrina more motivation to pursue her dreams of a career in the medical field.

Under the guidance of Elizabeth Celeste and Edna Thomas of the Clinical Education Department at AdventHealth North Pinellas, Elisa Jensen interned under the supervision of Dr. Jeffrey B. Smith. Thanks to Dr. Smith, Elisa had a learning experience better than anything she could have imagined when first signing up for the internship. Elisa learned the hospital is complicated and runs on procedures and protocols. Throughout her time spent in different departments such as the Lab, the Cath lab, the Operating Room, Pathology, Radiology and even the Hospital floors she learned that a lot of departments work together in one way or another to diagnose and care for patients. She enjoyed the various procedures in the Radiology Department including a thoracentesis and biopsies of the lung, pancreas, thyroid, liver, and bone. Elisa especially enjoyed her time in the OR watching a sigmoid colon, a gallbladder, and an appendix being removed. Thanks to Dr. Smith, Elisa was exposed to many aspects of healthcare, and she is convinced that medicine is where she will pursue a future career.

Lucas John interned at the Technology Information Systems (TIS) Department for Pinellas County Schools, under the supervision of Michael Johannesen, User Support Manager. Lucas gained firsthand experience in the technology industry through EIP. Stephen Whitton, one of the Computer Support Analyst, taught Lucas some of the methods utilized for device changes on a mass scale within an organization. Tyler Marcum, the Equipment Parts Manager, and Will Famero, a Technology Technician, educated Lucas on the Equipment Parts Process which is used by the department to make sure that all the schools within the county are provided with the technology needed to be successful. Extensively, under the tutelage of Ken Bonnell and Hunter Brissenden, Lucas got first-hand experience with hardware and technical repairs. Lucas's internship with the TIS department was incredible as it created a path for a potential future
within the technology industry.
Under the leadership of **Marvin Thoroughman** at the **HCA Largo Medical Center Laboratory**, **Jonathan Ling** learned about blood samples, urinalysis, and laboratory tests. Jonathan’s experience at the laboratory consisted of observing blood draws and filing and sorting through a variety of the samples delivered to the laboratory. He observed many of the tests performed in the Laboratory and partook in much of them. Jonathan observed **Romeo Palanca** and **Sherley Sia** as they carried out ordered tests in the Chemistry part of the lab. He created slides out of blood and watched the process of staining the slides as well as viewing them under a microscope. Although he is still unsure of his career choices after this internship, he is sure that he wants to pursue one in a medical setting.

Under the supervision of **Marvin Thoroughman**, **the Volunteer Services Manager**, **Saachi Makadia** had a truly amazing internship experience in the **Radiology Department of HCA Largo Medical Hospital**. Saachi visited various departments in **Radiology** such as MRI, Ultrasound, and Interventional Radiology, among others. Through Saachi’s sponsor in **Radiology, Angella Szydlik, Radiologist Technician II**, she witnessed a Gastrostomy Tube Placement, a Vertebroplasty, and many more procedures and surgeries. Angella guided Saachi’s internship and encouraged Saachi each day. Additionally, Saachi visited the OR department and through **Andrew James, Anesthesia Technician**, she shadowed **Landon, a CRNA**. During her time in the OR department, she learned what a nurse anesthetist does and witnessed multiple surgeries. One part of the internship that she enjoyed was watching a Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery. The people that Saachi met were a big part of her experience and she thoroughly enjoyed it all. The internship allowed her to explore the different opportunities in the medical field and led her to narrow down her future career to anesthesiology.

Under the leadership of **Kerra Almy at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium**, intern **Ray Osborn** gained invaluable insight into the inner workings of a functioning animal rescue and hospital. Within the aquarium, there are many different departments that work hard to care for the animals and educate the public about the importance of marine life. Ray shadowed and learned from **Guest Experience leaders Tatiana Kenny and Abbey Frazier**, as well as other members of the department, learning information about the resident animals, different stations, and how the aquarium functions. Duties as a Guest Experience member include welcoming guests, aiding and informing guests about the aquarium, communicating effectively with other team members, and preparing stations for the guests. They observed behind-the-scenes tours and learned about the history of the aquarium, which captivated them. Overall, Ray discovered that their passion for the marine sciences was obtainable and gained knowledge on how to work at an aquarium. They also absorbed information about a variety of marine animals, which will aid them in their studies at college. Due to the guidance and consideration of their sponsors and the wonderful opportunity
provided by Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Ray Osborn plans to continue working with marine life in the community and to pursue an education related to marine science.

Lucas Weaver discovered that the field of Medicine and the Medical System is much more complex and intricate than he initially thought. Through the knowledge and oversight of coordinator Ms. Edna Thomas and Educational Director Elizabeth Celeste, Lucas learned the dynamics of an ER and the teamwork required to efficiently and effectively make patients feel whole. Lucas observed Doctor Smith give examinations on several patients with critical conditions such as a psychogenic seizure and crippling anxiety. Lucas discussed with Doctor Dong his journey through his undergraduate schooling, medical school, and his residency and what drove him to acute medicine and emergency medicine. Lucas expressed that the experience made him more mature and prepared her for the future for college and for life. His sponsors gave him opportunities and impacted his learning in ways he could have gotten in a classroom environment and that convinced him that a career in medicine is his goal which he plans to pursue.

With the guidance of Beth Donaldson of Therhappy Therapy Services, Gabriela Wisz discovered the joy and creativity that comes with being a pediatric therapist. Gabriela observed multiple therapists including Brindy Klym, Hadil Alshair, Debbie Nelson, and Stormi Gryzbek, who each gave a unique perspective on Occupational, Physical, and Speech Therapies. The job is a creative journey and personalized to every patient that comes in. There is a lot of hard work in creating an action plan for every patient and being creative in reaching goals in therapy while trying to look through a children’s eyes and what will most benefit and interest them. Gabriela witnessed many sessions and interacted with a number of patients, each session different then the last. She observed Hippotherapy as well, which particularly fascinated her and learned about the benefits of hippotherapy on several diagnoses. Gabriela noticed that the experience has clarified many college decisions for her and made her more prepared for the future. Her sponsors gave her many opportunities and gave her a real-world view on the job of a pediatric therapist and has inspired her to pursue future plans in pediatrics.

Pinellas Park High School

As an intern at Largo Fire Stations 38 and 41, under the guidance of Assistant Chief of Training and Safety Joseph Manning, JaeLyn Patterson gained valuable insight into the processes of emergency care and rescue. JaeLyn began her internship at Station 38, where medical calls were their primary focus. During her time there she witnessed various severities of calls and how Fire Rescue personnel responded. She learned how to read the EEG and Vital Signs Monitor used in medical calls. Such medical calls ranged from general wellness complaints to open head wounds, overdoses, and cardiac arrests. She then transferred to Station 41 where they focused on structure fires, car accidents, and extrications. While interning there, JaeLyn gained extensive knowledge on the tools and protocols used during fires and had seen such tools
action used for a vehicle extrication. Seeing how the departments helped their patients solidified her dream of becoming a paramedic working in a Fire Department. Her experience was phenomenal, detailing the kindness and comradery she experienced with the various shift members, this being an experience she will never forget.

St. Petersburg College Early College Program

With the guidance of Jenny Sanchez of Kokolakis Contracting, Dean Mucaj learned that estimating in the construction field is a long and important step. Estimating involves a lot of time put into it because there are areas for mistake which can cause long delays and overall major problems to the company. This department deals with direct relations to clients and making sure all the financials are executed perfectly. In his daily activities Dean operated estimating software to quantify project designs. He also observed meetings and understood the environment in a construction business. Dean learned about deadlines involved with the process and other soft skills which make the relationship between the organization, the client, and the subcontractors efficient. Dean expressed that the experience made him more mature and taught him important professional and soft skills. His sponsors tried their best to ensure this was a meaningful experience for Dean and that it led to an impact on his future career. The time spent on the internship convinced Dean he should pursue a career in the construction field.

With the help and guidance of Amy Cascio, HR Specialist at Apyx Medical, Ana Constanza Sanchez gained insight on how the company operates while having the opportunity to explore her interest in engineering. Ana had the opportunity to work with all departments within the company which led her to acknowledge the importance of efficient communication between all members of the company. As Ana learned about the processes of designing and creating medical devices, she was surprised by how important it is for members of the company to keep documentation of devices for traceability purposes. Ana’s positive experience has left her with a greater appreciation for all that is involved with the field of engineering. Ana thanks everyone who helped make this experience outstanding and will forever value what she has learned from these wonderful professionals.

St. Petersburg Collegiate High School

While interning under Michelle Giuliani, Engineering director at the City of Safety Harbor Engineering Department, Matteo Escalera was introduced into the ins and outs of the engineering field. From scanning historical documents of past projects to viewing the process of a water main replacement, Matteo learned the responsibilities of an engineer as well as adapted to the expectations of a professional environment. With his numerous assignments, Matteo was excited for the chance to expand on his communication skills to complete his tasks. The experience Matteo collected further developed his desire to pursue an education in the engineering field, and he would like to thank everyone who assisted him in his quest for knowledge.
St. Petersburg
High School

There were no summer St. Petersburg High School participants.

Seminole
High School

There were no summer Seminole High School participants.

Tarpon Springs
High School

There were no summer Tarpon Springs High School participants.
Jibade King interned at Eaton Orthopedics, with the mentorship of his sponsor, Dr. Koco Eaton. Jibade went into the environment with no true understanding of the field, but he learned a great amount about his sponsor’s specialization which is knees and shoulders. Jibade learned about ACLs, PCLs, MCLs, meniscus, Tommy Johns, rotator cuffs, and more. The learning process has been a train of excitement, nonstop learning at a steady pace, and within a great environment. He overall enjoyed this learning process and was very influenced by the orthopedic field. Jibade stated: “My sponsor has advanced my learning experience and has been very kind and considerate to me. I have worked hard to make my actions improve my internship experience by following the procedure and slowly developing through the program.” Jibade plans on pursuing sports medicine and looks forward to going more in depth in the amazing field.

Cat Le interned at HCA Largo Medical Center Radiology Department with the guidance of Marvin Thoroughman. Cat not only got to immerse herself into the procedure and working aspect of radiology but also into the compassionate side of a professional, seeking to cater adequate care to every patient. With Imaging Supervisor Michelle’s assistance, Cat shadowed and expanded her knowledge on numerous procedures; ranging from the typical ultrasounds to interventional & neuro interventional procedures that can be intertwined with the more surgical aspect. With the help of RNAs, Greg, and Nathan, Cat was kept informed throughout the procedures as they periodically help her interpret the screen recordings and the process of more complex procedures such as MMA & aneurysm embolization, kidney biopsies, and AV fistula creations. Kim, the Speech Therapist, allowed Cat to wear professional lead wear and be in the procedure room during video swallows, granting Cat the grand opportunity to learn the safety precautions and the first-hand exposure. Radiology is packed with career choices, but the kindness of each professional is the same throughout, leaving Cat with an even more valuable lesson. Cat stated: “For me, EIP has meant growth, strength, and development. I’m sure the growth and development are a given, but strength means I’ve been able to approach situations with intention and I’ve done it affirmatively.” This internship helped Cat secure her passion on wanting to become a Radiologist, and maybe even an Interventional Radiologist.

Zharia Montgomery had a great learning experience at Bay Dermatology at St. Pete Beach. She was surrounded by lovely people every day and it pushed Zharia to become a more sociable and professional individual. With the guidance of her sponsor, Elizabeth Hattman, Zharia experienced patient care by
shadowing Medical Assistants (MA), Doctors, and Physician Assistants (PA). Once trained, Zharia also assisted in surgical set up and stocking to assist the MAs with room preparation prior to surgeries. Observing patient care enabled Zharia to confirm that she wants to go into the medical field, and she indicated: “…interning at Bay Dermatology really is one of the best parts of my week. Just being there solidified that I want to go into the medical field.” The dermatology practice and office experience solidified that her interest in medicine is not just a phase or fascination, but a real option for Zharia because more than anything, she learned how to present herself in a professional manner and as a part of the staff. Zharia thanks the MAs, PAs, and Doctors for giving her the chance to learn and grow in the medical field.

Under the guidance of Dina Katz, Physical Therapist, at Nina Harris ESE Center, Nekayla Simmons acquired many skills, techniques, and much information about the field of Physical Therapy. Throughout Nekayla’s experience, she learned about different types of equipment such as gait trainers, standers, and ankle foot orthosis (AFO), and how they are used in the Physical Therapy workplace. Nekayla also worked alongside the Occupational Therapist to see how Physical and Occupational therapy work together. Nekayla observed individual and group sessions of Physical and Occupational Therapy and interacted with the students during sessions by playing with toys, balls, and sometimes assisting with gluing, cutting, and coloring. Nekayla witnessed how treatments vary between therapy sessions and how each session is different. Nekayla watched Dr. Katz work with students in the Physical Therapy gym, classroom, PE gym, and pool. As Nekayla expressed, “my actions improved my internship experience by making me knowledgeable about physical and occupational therapy. [My] experiences impacted me because these are experiences that I will never forget now that I have built a relationship with the students and staff.” Nekayla’s experience with Dr. Katz and the Physical and Occupational therapy departments strengthened her interest in pursuing a degree in Pediatric Physical Therapy in college.

With the gracious oversight of Major Joseph Coyle at Largo Police Department, Samantha Spotts learned extensively what it like to work in a PD. As an intern, she learned how each division of the department works independently and how they work with each other. She was even able to ride along to the shooting range and was taught how to shoot multiple types of firearms that the officers can carry and observed officers recertifying their firearms training. She specifically learned about shooting a handgun, a shotgun, and a rifle, each of which an officer must certify to carry with them in their vehicle, and why the shotgun and rifle are optional to carry. She obtained hands on learning experience through riding along with a variety of officers, each with different shifts, experience, qualifications, and discretions. She witnessed and assisted officers with a variety of calls, from helping with car accidents, arresting criminals, thefts, domestic disputes, assisting citizens, and suspicious activity. Samantha shared: “The Executive Internship Program means the world to me. I never knew this internship would impact me as much as it has. I am forever thankful that I am able to participate in this program, as I love and
would love to continue to grow and learn in this field.” Because of her internship, Samantha was inspired and is motivated to pursue a career in Law Enforcement.

Clearwater High School

Lily Zeller interned at the Pinellas County Administration Building in the Strategic Communications Department under Manager, Sean Clark, and Multimedia Specialist, Wallace Patanow who provided a wonderful and broad learning experience. Lily also learned from David Cook, Shawn Briggs, Elizabeth Johnson, and Brian Jones. During her time there, Lily created videos using Adobe Premiere Pro, edited photos in Adobe Photoshop, and made graphics using Canva. She crafted a video that was shown at the Middle School Chorus All County performance for 2022. Lily further developed her skills in various editing software as well as learned the workings of professional environments. Lily stated: “The Executive Internship Program has taught me reliability and dependability. It broadened my responsibilities in a way that was new and interesting, allowing me to gain new skills and grow as a person.” Following the internship, Lily has broadened her career interest from graphic design to multimedia.

Countryside High School

With assistance from Head Nurse Kathrine and Nurse James at Advent Health ER Palm Harbor, Alexis Daphney gained ample knowledge of Emergency Room etiquette and patient care through her internship experience with the Emergency Department. Alexis witnessed the overall ER medical experience and visited other areas like the lab departments. Alexis saw people having their staples removed and fishhooks cut out learning from doctors that made it look easy and painless. Alexis learned about lab samples and how and why they are taken. Alexis learned medical terminology that will be useful in the future. Alexis is grateful for those who helped her learn and made interning in the ER a fun and knowledgeable experience, and she shared: “The EIP has helped me realize what I want to do in the future and helped be come out of my shyness. It also has helped me understand that I don't have to have all answers, it is ok to say I do not know and ask, can you teach me? I met some really incredible people who love their job and do not mind spending hours a day answering kid’s questions.

Dhruv Patel interned at AJ Orthodontics under the guidance Dr. Alex J. Johnson. Dhruv observed the Ortho Assistants perform procedures ranging from simple adjustments of braces and aligners to emergency appointments that required urgent oral care to patients. He also learned the process of taking teeth x-rays and distinguishing overall conditions of the overall mouth. Dhruv socialized with numerous amounts of patients while the orthodontic assistants had to prep for the incoming patients. Dhruv stated that discussing with different kinds of patients led him to strengthen his communication skills and improve the ability to understand dental vocabulary when spoken in conversations with staff members. Moreover, assisted in the experience by Nicole Kunzinger, Dhruv shadowed Orthodontic Assistants like Shelby Baker and was taught different kinds of procedures that help with
the alignment of teeth as well as the different methods to utilize when a certain process is not fixing a patient’s smile. Throughout the internship, Dhruv gained insight that efficiency is increased when organization is shown in a dental office. He observed this when he noticed the tiny details of the office like preparing basic dental trays before receiving patients, having a button presser to call on Dr. Alex J. Johnson when he had to overlook the procedures, and having computers that show the assistants when patients are there to better the time management. Dhruv shared: “EIP has taught me lessons that I would have never imagined. The Program taught me how to be business oriented by creating business-like scenarios and utilizing professional vocabulary throughout meetings and emails.” While incredibly gratifying, this internship experience showed that Dhruv should branch out to different types of dental careers prior to making a final decision rather than focusing on one dental career, so he can gain knowledge as to which dental career would suit him in his future.

Under the guidance of Allison Dolan, of The Clearwater Historical Society Museum and Cultural Center, Aimee Ranson found the history of Pinellas County and Clearwater is a lot more interesting than she imagined. During her internship, Aimee was positioned in what was dubbed the “digitizing room” at the Museum. She explained the room was full of vintage photographs, newspapers, and objects that were donated from residents in Pinellas and Clearwater. She stated that she would go there three times a week and work through stacks of these relics. Aimee imported the information attached to the pieces of history onto a computer, then took a photo of the object to put in with the information, then moved on to the next one. She also expressed that she was put in charge of a closet filled with donated gently used vintage clothing. She excitedly explained she would take photos and videos of the clothes and upload them online to try and sell them. She said she loved doing it and has several TikTok and Instagram posts of which she is extremely proud. Aimee stated that her experience at the Museum taught her many things, including patience and discipline. But she believes the most noticeable difference, is her ability to focus for longer periods of time. She stated that sitting for three hours, three days a week, to fill in information for different historical objects taught her how to focus on the task at hand for longer periods, to complete the work at hand. She clarified that she when she first started, she was only able to get eight to ten done in a day. But as she progressed in the program, she got more and more done. She stated that she is now able to finish twenty to thirty in a day. Aimee shared: I have never grown more personally in such a short amount of time; it is insane. I have become more confident, more efficient, patient, levelheaded, I have become something I was the complete opposite of last year. I have been pushed out of my comfort zone, time and time again, and I wouldn’t have it any other way.” Above all, Aimee expressed extreme gratitude to the Clearwater Historical Society Museum and explained that the experience has influenced her decision to actually manage and help future Museums so they can thrive to tell Florida’s amazing history.

Katelyn Ritter interned with the City of Safety Harbor Human Resources Director, Kimberly Nicholls and with the Communications and Marketing
**Department Coordinator.**

From the first second Katelyn walked through the doors on her first day, she instantly felt welcomed. All of the employees opened their arms and immediately connected with her. Katelyn's first few weeks were extremely thrilling. She made several different TikTok’s in order to help the marketing coordinator with promoting the city. In addition, through the course of the semester Katelyn was given the amazing opportunity to design flyers and posters for upcoming and current city events. Katelyn designed the City’s holiday event flyer using a designing application known as Canva. Using Canva, Katelyn efficiently designed flyers and posters to be posted either around the city and the office, and she created posters for the events at the October Carnival. Katelyn learned to incorporate workplace appropriate designs while drawing attraction to the different activities throughout the carnival. Katelyn also designed Job Opening flyers and marketing materials, and she also assisted in office duties. Katelyn learned the platforms Optiview and BS&A which are used by the City Human Resources Department to transfer paper to electronically organized files. Katelyn really enjoyed her internship experience the program provided her. She was given the amazing opportunity to understand and experience what it is like to be in the field of graphic design and marketing. She also was provided many different assignments to help her get a feel of what it is like designing posters or flyers for clients rather than following a rubric for class. Katelyn reiterated: “The city provided such an amazing experience and made me feel welcomed the second I walked through the doors my first day.” Katelyn was gifted an amazing internship experience and met many great people whom she will greatly miss.

**Eugene Valles**, interned under the direction of Jane Post, Physical Therapist – Rehab Student Facilitator at Madonna Ptak Outpatient Physical Therapy, Morton Plant Hospital campus. This experience gave Eugene the chance at the best Internship to shape his future path of becoming a Physical Therapist. Eugene was welcomed with positivity and kindness, and a lot of well-informed Physical Therapists gave him the information he needs to know and to learn while in college. He assisted the Physical Therapists the best way he could by helping them clean up, get the right tools, and help the patients with their workouts. The therapists gave Eugene advice on recommended paths to becoming a Physical therapist. He observed work with patients who were amputees, who had vertigo, and many more patients with a variety of needs. Eugene’s view of PT is that it is beyond perfect what Physical Therapists do, and that includes bringing a positive attitude, motivation, and in turn, finding it is self-rewarding. He experienced a very amazing machine called the zero-gravity treadmill which was like walking in space as he imagined. Eugene also shared: “I have improved by being more organized and taking control of my time management. I do feel better prepared for college and I can't wait to go! I am applying work ethics in PT to every public environment with positivity and determination.” Overall, Eugene has decided that he will pursue becoming a Physical Therapist, and he would not have done it if it weren't for his internship.
Johnathan Ellis interned at Williamson Design Associates under the guidance of Ted Williamson, AIA, PE, LEED AP, Jinky Albanilla, GGP, Sarah Hodges, and Brian Lapointe. During this experience, Johnathan spent many hours using Revit, a cutting-edge 3D modeling software used to create realistic digital models of buildings. He was mentored by multiple team members in the intricacies and technical details that go into making a safe and functional building. He also accompanied Jinky Albanilla to an active site, where he assisted with photography and with measuring all interior and exterior dimensions. Johnathan indicated: “I am applying the professionalism that I have observed other people practicing at my internship to my own life.” The experience that Johnathan has gained has incentivised him to continue EIP next semester, hopefully at WDA, in order to further his architectural knowledge and prepare him for his future career as an architect.

Graciously directed by Ashley Foltz and Stephanie Jones, Anjali Emandi was an intern in the Guest Experience Department at Clearwater Marine Aquarium. There, she helped educate guests about the aquarium’s mission and general marine biology facts. At the internship, Anjali gained immense knowledge about bottlenose dolphins, stingrays, river otters and even seahorses, with a special emphasis on the importance of marine conservation. Anjali greatly improved her public speaking skills while simultaneously learning about marine biology in terms of dolphin anatomy, sea turtle feedings, and more. She particularly enjoyed working near the dolphin exhibit, as she learned from animal care specialists first-hand and directly saw the natural behaviors of bottlenose dolphins. Working near the dolphins also allowed Anjali to engage in insightful conversations with guests, helping her ask and answer more questions, giving her an enjoyable and educational experience. Anjali shared: “Having the privilege to work in a place like the aquarium and learn what being a true professional is has taught me what my future will consist of. I feel that I have greatly improved my time management skills, and I feel better prepared for a successful college experience.” Marine biology is a field Anjali plans to pursue in higher education, and this internship gave her the surety that the subject is fitting for her interests and passions.

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Through shadowing Nicole Gitney at BayCare Health System, and Michelle Wright at the Sally Bailey Education Center, Sophia Galbraith learned a lot about how nurses and other medical professionals use informatics and patient simulation to maximize confidence and efficiency in the medical field. With Nicole Gitney, Sophia attended various meetings in which she learned about the methods required to identify a need or issue, and the collaboration required to develop an appropriate plan for innovation. She especially enjoyed learning about the various technological implementations which were currently being piloted across BayCare hospitals. Sophia took notes and asked appropriate questions in order to better understand the technology, its benefits, and in which situations it is used. During Sophia’s time with Nicole,
she also visited three Hospitals, and watched the technology she learned about begin to be implemented at each of these hospitals. Visiting these hospitals was Sophia’s favorite experience with Nicole because she witnessed the learning curve that takes place with change in technology, and how teamwork, collaboration, and an open mind is so important to its success. With **Michelle Wright**, Sophia dove into the world of simulation and learned about the various types of simulation, what they can be used for, and the benefits they can add to a nurse’s education and experiences. At the Sally Bailey Education Center, Sophia met all the simulation mannequins, and learned what each could do. She attended the LPN Internship in which nurses were being evaluated individually in the simulation room. Seeing the nurses’ different approaches and responses to the same simulation was Sophia’s favorite part of this experience. She also saw a class of nursing students work in groups to practice providing patient care at Pinellas Technical Education Center. Seeing the nurse’s excitement and passion for this hands-on learning environment, and their reflections within the debrief following it helped Sophia understand the true benefits of simulation education. Sophia stated: “I challenged myself to step outside of my comfort zone and enter settings that were almost completely foreign to me. I asked questions, took notes, and reflected on my learning before sharing it with the class and others. I loved the learning opportunities I gained through each of my internship sites, and I became incredibly grateful for my sponsors, and all the other nurses and medical professionals I met and conversed with during my time interning. “This incredible opportunity has led Sophia to confirm her interests in the medical field and in the various specializations nursing has to offer, providing her with a great deal of excitement for a future in this field.

With the help of **R. Thomas Kiger**, Wastewater Division Manager and Environmental Engineer with the City of Tarpon Springs, Simone learned basic skills from a wide variety of individuals’ fields. Simone learned how to research important topics and gained a better understanding of reliability of sources and the limits of technological measurements. She also had lengthy conversations with Mr. Kiger about everything she learned and real-world examples. With Mr. Kiger’s assistance, Simone also learned under several other individuals like **Shannon Brewer**, Municipal Arborist. With Ms. Brewer, Simone developed her knowledge of plants and their importance to the community. Simone learned how to use a resistograph to find out a tree’s age while being minimally invasive. Simone shared: “The Executive Internship Program has given me completely new experiences that I did not know I was missing out on. Especially the highlights that helped me grow more confident in my professional decision making and my overall ability to process information and apply it relatively quickly. “Simone Gladstone’s time with the City of Tarpon Springs has been unforgettable and invaluable to her future.

**Madison Henry** interned at Brooker Creek Elementary School under the leadership of **Elizabeth Ficca**, 4th grade teacher. Madison learned many things at her internship such as how to grade papers, make copies, teach in small groups, and safety protocols. Something that
was new to Madison was working one on one with students and finding a good method to small group teaching. Madison experienced a couple of new and exciting things along the way. She really enjoyed going to Diamond Dell on a school field trip while the children were mining for rocks and minerals but learning how each mineral was made and what they are. Madison also enjoyed room transformation days as she believed it was a great interactive experience for the students to get a better understanding of the math lesson taught. Madison’s experience has strongly influenced her career decision and made her want to teach in the future. Madison stated:” The internship program has really boosted my confidence and has made me willing to learn, plan, and achieve. This has made me fall in love with teaching and working with children.” Madison plans to earn her Elementary Education degree and pursue this career.

During his internship at AdventHealth Palm Harbor Emergency Room, Brayan Hernandez-Lopez observed all of the everyday instances and procedures of an emergency room. From greeting and taking in patients to seeing what happens in the laboratory, he had seen and learned a lot. Evaluating a patient’s severity, or triage, with the help of charge nurses Jim Witmer and Chris Craig, Brayan learned and how patients were prioritized and treated. Sometimes things would call for blood work or other lab work where he witnessed, with the help of Jacky, how tests are run in order to receive results for a patient’s diagnosis. Brayan also observed how lab results are evaluated by Dr. Dong and/or Dr. Crystal where Brayan could apply his own or learned knowledge to converse with the staff. With all sorts of conditions and situations patients were in, Brayan observed a variety of treatment and procedures such as stitches, abscess removal, stroke alerts and the combination of other forms of diagnosis such as X-Ray, CT scan, Blood Draws, Ultrasound, COVID or Strep Testing and more. Brayan shared: “The internship itself was nothing compared to anything I have experienced. Sure, one could watch say, Grey’s Anatomy, though it is not the same as physically being there, feeling all kinds of emotions and pressures as well as applying critical thinking. “Brayan is very grateful for learning a lot about the emergency room, and while he likes the excitement, he is still unsure if the emergency is his path. Still, this confirmed that the world of medicine may be his path.

With the supervision from Andrew Corry, Director of Golf at Innisbrook Resort, Andrew Johnson learned the inner working of the resort golf business, including how golf shops are run, to merchandising, and to club service. Andrew spent his first few weeks in Copperhead golf shop, where he learned the computer systems and how to get customers ready to tee off for their scheduled golf time. He learned many new skills and developed his customer service skills to be tailored to resort guests. He learned how to check out a customer and set tee times using the computer systems onsite. In golf merchandising, Andrew learned to take inventory and learned what happens behind the scenes, where each item is tagged, and made ready for the shop. In club service, he learned how the golf bags are stored onsite and how those bags are transferred from storage and prepared for the golfer reservations. Through these experiences, Andrew realized: “I’ve become more aware of the learning process. I feel that
my motivation and productivity has prepared me for college. I have applied this to my other job and my schoolwork.” Thanks to his experience at Innisbrook Resort, Andrew now has developed a better understanding of the resort and sports business operations, and he wishes to pursue a career in Business.

**Caetano Peralta** interned at the City of Tarpon Springs under the guidance of R. Thomas Kiger, Wastewater Division Manager. Caetano toured the city’s reverse osmosis water treatment plant and learned how the process works from groundwater collection to potable water distribution. He tested water for parameters at various stages of the treatment process including production wells and the finished water. Caetano witnessed how modern technology is used to automate many of the functions at the water plant. He was also tasked with researching how an organization determines the health guidelines for numerous chemical parameters in drinking water. Caetano related: “Having the opportunity to notice and apply facets of jobs in my internship that I would not normally think of, such as ethics, has provided me with a larger perspective than I would have if I hadn’t been involved in EIP.” Caetano’s experience interning at the City of Tarpon Springs and its water treatment plant reinforced his interest in pursuing chemical engineering in the future and provided an insight into possible industries within his selected career field.

**Lily Ramirez** interned at Animal and Bird Medical Center under the mentorship of Tobi Leotta. At the veterinary hospital, Lily learned all about how to care for animals and the components going into performing checkups. With the help of the veterinary technician assistants, Lily ran fecal and heart worm tests and learned how to process blood for analyzation and set up a urinalysis. For Lily, a typical day would include cleaning checkup rooms, holding animals for checkups, cleaning around the clinic, and observing the doctors and vet techs during diagnosis and treatment of patients. Lily indicated that the experience “helped me develop as a person having to deal with this new professional situation and having to ask people who I don’t know questions and be in situations that would normally make me uncomfortable. It has changed me and has given me insight about what I want to do for the rest of my life.” During her time at the clinic, Lily experienced some very exciting things including holding multiple birds, helping bathe kittens, holding puppies for checkups, and witnessing procedures. Through her experience Lily has learned that being a veterinary technician or a vet is something she could want to pursue. In addition to that, she learned that she wouldn’t be satisfied with solely being a veterinary technician assistant. She would like to be more involved in the medicine aspect of the career field.

Under the leadership of Kenneth Jack and Christopher Barron of Lockheed Martin, Alexander Talbott had valuable experiences and developed career skills that will last a lifetime. Alexander observed the operations and was a part of the aerospace company Lockheed Martin as an intern. At his internship, Talbott experienced what it was like to see a production line in action, and observed the assembly line process of preparing, creating, and testing circuit boards used for government aerospace purposes. Learning
valuable organizational skills, such as the organization and cataloging of parts and fixtures used for production, Talbott earned the knowledge about parts of the manufacturing process and organize them efficiently for use. Throughout his experiences, thanks to Lockheed Martin, Talbott enjoyed being part of the production process, and feels like his experience gave him the confidence and real-world skills to pursue a career in engineering. Talbott concluded: “To me, the Executive Internship Program is a golden opportunity to get an early start on my career, and explore fields that I am interested in, as well as learn valuable college and professional experiences for myself, that will help me now, and throughout my academic and professional life.”

**Lakewood High School**

With the guidance of Elaine Prado at Consumer Law Attorneys, Katelyn Barnes gained a true lawyer experience. During her internship Katelyn approached many tasks with a hands-on approach by scanning, reading, and uploading actual legal documents. Katelyn learned about bankruptcy, foreclosure, and homeowners’ association cases and what laws people must adhere to. Thanks to the one-on-one conversations with Stephanie Hansberry, Katelyn also gained more information and had a better understanding of bankruptcy cases. She learned what a bankruptcy case is and how people can go about filing for bankruptcy. Katelyn also gained information about the daily tasks of a bankruptcy and foreclosure paralegal by making phone calls to bankruptcy clients to check and see what documents they are missing. Katelyn stated: “The overall EIP experience has enhanced my personality and brought out a more extroverted side of myself. It also allowed me to function in a work environment, so I am sure be ready for the real world.”

**Largo High School**

With the assistance of Wendy Scheechner, Vice President of Marketing at Awning Works Inc., Ethan Griffith interned under Nathanael Whittington, Production Lead of Seam Team, where he learned about how to complete projects in a timely manner while performing joint networks with different fields within the department to accomplish what is set forth. This allowed him to hear feedback on the situation from all sides. During Ethan’s time interning, he attended meetings at the corporation and completed the entire process pertaining to work orders with the assistance of those around him, which he stated to be a long and tedious process. Upon breaking it down, Ethan learned about the foundation of each work order, whether custom or not, and just how many people it passes through to get approved to then perform the next step. Designing would then occur to get all the specifications laid out onto the program to meet the demands of the order so it may easily be used for the cutter on the cutting board.

**Gibbs High School**

There were no Gibbs High School participants.

**Hollins High School**

There were no Hollins High School participants.
to perform his step of the process. In order to cut, Ethan learned that no matter the pattern or length of the material it would have to be a constant pattern all throughout the cuts with no flaws to the product. The process finally came to an end after it was sewn and processed through shipping, making the product finally able to be sent. Throughout the experience many opportunities were presented allowing Ethan the ability to learn and hone skills with every day onsite. Ethan shared: “In the end I am truly thankful to everyone at Awning Works Inc. and believe that it has further prepared me for college. After all, I have fully sharpened my skills of professionalism along with a new determination to keep pushing through to finish with whatever I may be tasked. “ Though this field has not assisted in Ethan concluding what engineering field he is interested in, this was a great opportunity, and he is grateful for the experience presented to him by everyone at Awning Works Inc.

**Northeast High School**

**Alejandro Bermúdez** interned at the **Largo Fire Department’s Station 38**, under the supervision of **Chief Joseph Manning**, and various members of the fire station, and while there he learned the functions that firefighters perform, as well as gained knowledge of various tools and medical devices used by firefighters during emergencies. He witnessed numerous emergency calls, in which he was able to witness different scenarios and procedures carried out by the firefighters. These experiences have reinforced Alejandro's goal of one day becoming a firefighter and being able to do all the work that comes with being a firefighter.

**Kevin Duong** interned at the **Pinellas County Schools Technology and Information Systems Department** under the guidance of **Michael Johannesen**. Initially, Kevin imaged computers with **Jay Frangipane’s** and **Cheryl Jordan’s** help. Soon after, **TIS Associate Superintendent Keith Mastorides** introduced Kevin to **Kevin Haugabrook** who gave Kevin the opportunity to learn about artificial intelligence (AI). Kevin gladly accepted this offer and quickly became immersed in this field. He learned about different AI models such as K-nearest neighbors, support vector machines, and logistic regression. In addition to learning about AI, Kevin was also taught how to manipulate and display data, various mathematical concepts, and challenges that AI faces today. He fully enjoyed the entire process and looks forward to interning next semester. Kevin also shared: “To me, EIP is a program that gives you an early head-start in your desired career field. It gives you the chance to see what a job in the field is like and whether you enjoy it or not. It also gives you the opportunity to build a professional network very early on.” Moreover, Kevin’s foundational learning in AI motivates him to pursue a career where AI is used on a routine basis.

**Osceola Fundamental High School**

Under the guidance of **Michael Wasche** and the **Licensed Physical Therapists at the Orthopedic Medical Group of Tampa Bay**, **Ana Jurgensen** grasped and enjoyed the experience of being taught the different responsibilities of a Physical Therapist. The
experience helped Ana stretch her knowledge further in the field by observing the many patients she came across who needed therapy. She learned the different parts of a Physical Therapist's job, including front desk administration, various injury exercises, terminology she hadn't heard of before, and more. Ana shared: “Everyone I met during my internship enhanced my experience because they all treated me professionally and wanted me to experience more and get in the action to learn more and more.” Also, Ana tried many exercises used for injured patients to get the feel of what they are used for. For example, she learned about the rehabilitation exercises of the rotator cuff and would be able to demonstrate it to others. Physical Therapy takes a lot of accountability, honesty, and creativity in a small space. Ana decided that Physical Therapy is a possibility for a career because of the great experience she had during the internship, and she noted: “I have changed since being in the internship program. This program has allowed me to get more involved in a professional environment and get out of my shell more than before.”

Under the guidance of Kelly Day, Andrea Guglielmo, and Lynette Hartmann at Nina Harris Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Center, Jasmine Litvak gained insight on the daily tasks and responsibilities of Speech Pathologists in a unique school setting. She learned about the projects and activities that are created behind the scenes to aid in sessions. Jasmine even created several herself with the helpful oversight of these three wonderful Speech Pathologists. She also observed many different sessions from one-on-one therapy to entire classes. In these sessions, Jasmine experienced how Speech Pathologists must adapt their lesson plans to align with the wide range of disabilities and levels of communication that the students have. The amount of patience, compassion, and hard work it takes to be a Speech Pathologist was incredible to observe. Jasmine indicated: “All three of the Speech-Language Pathologist that I spent my internship with enhanced my experience. I was extremely nervous in the beginning, but they all made me feel comfortable from the start. The Speech-Language Pathologist, Kelly Day, always gave me great advice and made me feel as if I could always ask her questions to improve my learning experience. “ Although Jasmine has decided that Speech Pathology might not be the career path for her, interning at Nina Harris ESE Center was an extraordinary learning experience that provided her with meaningful lessons and insight that she will continue to carry with her.

Under the mentorship of April Skye, Lead Managing Partner at the Creative Design Team, Sydney Powell gained insight into all aspects of interior design by participating in community business corporations and assisting in design projects and referrals. She attended networking/business meetings and learned how to present herself in front of large corporations and people. Sydney embodied the typical workday of a designer. She learned how to check for cost and availability on certain products, as well as navigate their websites, familiarizing herself with how professional websites work and operate. She has become very efficient at creating detailed Power Point presentations and helping finish projects. Sydney met many people throughout her internship, communicating with local business officials and clients all throughout the county, truly pursuing the
teamwork part of interior design. Sydney’s favorite part of the design firm was creating marketing materials for the company. She created folders, stuffed bags, and made holiday newsletters to distribute to previous clients. Sydney’s experiences convinced her that marketing is something that she is hopeful to pursue in the future, while interior design may not be the right fit, she is forever grateful to April Skye, Marya Flurnoy, and Jules Gillis for providing her with an amazing experience and life skills that will be useful for the next chapter of her life, and she indicated that “they made my experiences in the real world so much better, providing me with inspiration and words of wisdom at every opportunity. They also never failed to have a smile on their face, teaching me the importance of self-presentation and body language.”

Under the guidance of Kayla Kaser, a Certified Veterinary Technician and BAS-VT at Avian and Animal Hospital, Marissa Smith learned about the various procedures and treatments provided to animals in need. She received basic knowledge and techniques such as filling needles, animal restraint, drawing blood, giving vaccines, trimming nails, proper diets for different animals, and animal behavior and conditioning, all of which will prove very helpful down the road. Through her internship, Marissa saw the care and dedication that each Vet tech and veterinarian has for their job and duties, making her remember how much the field meant to her. She asked about certain illnesses such as heartworms and metabolic bone disease, how those illnesses impact the animal, and what the next steps are for treatment. As she looks forward to her future, Marissa knows much better who she wants to be as a veterinarian, what she does and does not want to pursue, and how to give animals the best care possible. Marissa shared: “This internship through EIP has meant so much to me; it has meant personal growth and confidence in myself. It has taught me that hard work can go a long way, that I love veterinary medicine, and even that I wish to have my own practice once I have my DVM degree.” Knowing that veterinary is the career she wishes to pursue, Marissa will forever be grateful for the experience she gained through her internship.

Palm Harbor University High School

Luanna de Paula interned at Largo Medical Center Emergency Room under the guidance of Emergency Chief Director Robert Robinson, DNP, RN, TCRN. During this experience, Luanna observed the behavior nurses take in Emergencies situations, labs triage needs to do to admit the patient, CT scans, X-rays, nurse coordinators, the Stroke Department, the Intensive Care Department, as well as the ER Physician Department, where she mainly stayed and did her rotations. The more time Luanna spent in the ER, the more she realized she belonged there. Treating patients, networking with doctors, and assisting nurses helped Luanna see patients as more than their medical conditions. Luanna stated: “The experiences at the ER definitely changed my perspective in a lot of ways I used to see my life. Now I care more about other people's feelings, I care about how I can do more than just stay in my comfort zone or even how can I help.” Medicine is more than learning about humans and existing medical treatments. It’s making and understanding connections between patients and doctors.
Luanna wants to learn and say that she changed medicine. Luanna shadows the Emergency Room daily, but she dreams higher every time she sees and treats patients. A part of the present mirroring the future Luanna desires with her whole heart.

Ella Engle interned at the Tarpon Police Department and was taught about all the different jobs in law enforcement through Major Frank Ruggiero. She assisted in Property and Evidence with Crime Scene Technician Casey Johnson where she got to lift prints, bag evidence, and learn about the filing process for reports. She also went on patrol with Officer Christine Brinker and Officer Johnson and was able to experience their line of work as a patrol officer, patrolling through neighborhoods in their zones to check on the people of Tarpon. The most exciting experience Ella enjoyed the most was going with Tarpon Springs Crime Scene Technician, Casey Johnson, to the Sheriff’s Office and saw their Property and Evidence Room, evidently a lot larger than TSPD due to enforcement over the whole county. Ella benefited from her internship at the department because she was able to learn more about law enforcement and was able to learn what she wants to pursue as a career. She shared: “Throughout my time at the department, I feel very accomplished, being able to see all of the careers TSPD has to offer and see if I liked it or not.“ She quickly learned that forensics was the career she wanted to go forward in and learned about the different kinds of forensics, figuring out that crime scene forensics was the career she wanted to pursue.

Efraim Haraktsis interned at the Law Office of Peacock, Gaffney, and Damianakis, his sponsor was one of the attorneys at the office, Anthony Damianakis. During his internship, Efraim focused on business, litigation, and real estate law. In order to get a good grasp of the daily activities of a lawyer, he was responsible for fielding calls. During his internship, it was realized that lawyers are on the phone more than you would think. He also assisted paralegals with their work and was able to view mediations. This was a very exciting process, and he was able to learn that in those moments it is crucial to keep composure in order to get a desirable result for your client. Efraim also saw the transfer of houses and businesses from buyers to sellers, this covered the real estate part of the law. Through this, he was able to see what lawyers had to do during the duration of this process. While Efraim enjoyed his time at the law office he found that this is not the career for him, he discovered he needs a job that has more physical movement and not a desk job. Efraim indicated: “I feel good about my accomplishments especially since I have completed all of my goals. I feel I have improved as a scholar and as a person. I feel more independent now and I feel ready to leave home and go to college. Along with that I feel prepared for the content.” He enjoyed his experience at the law office and is thankful he was able to receive the opportunity to intern there.

Tatiana Jenkins interned at Bay Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery under the supervision of Dan Sultan, Practice Administrator. During the internship she learned the importance of teamwork and communication in a medical practice by observing how the medical assistants and office providers worked together for to ensure patient care satisfaction. Throughout her interning experience, Tatiana observed a diverse number of procedures performed by different
providers for skin conditions. Katie Bernhardt, Physician Assistant, and Richard Miller, Dermatologist and founder of practice, and medical assistant staff allowed Tatiana to observe interactions with patients from a simple skin checkup to Micrographically oriented histographic surgery (MOH’s). Tatiana shared: “All the physicians, medical assistants and physician assistants helped me in the office and played a big role in how I felt there because their kindness and generosity helped me feel more comfortable and safer to ask questions.” Tatiana also helped medical assistant with daily tasks that are done that helped her realize that every role in a medical office is just as vital as the other. This internship amplified Tatiana’s passion to pursue her medical career to become a doctor and specialize in dermatology.

Under the supervision of Ashley Lopez, Pharmacy Manager at Walgreens Pharmacy, Elisa Jensen learned about the inner workings of retail pharmacy. She is very grateful for how welcome and helpful everyone in the pharmacy was. Elisa learned of the various tasks performed by both the pharmacist and the pharmacy technicians. She learned how to refill prescriptions and performed other helpful tasks around the pharmacy. Elisa also learned about various medications and their uses and a lot about the ethics behind the pharmacy and what is done to ensure medications are not abused. Elisa values the experience and knowledge gained at her internship. Elisa feels it will help her in whatever aspect of healthcare she decides to pursue, and she shared: “The Executive Internship Program has been a life changing experience for me as it has helped me gain confidence in a professional setting, become a more independent student, and helped my communication skills…I am very grateful to have spent my semester in the pharmacy as they helped facilitate this learning experience that will have an impact on my future.”

Under the guidance of Christine Joyner and Anamarie Rivera, Ari Katz learned about both the environmental protection and stormwater infrastructure management programs of Pinellas County Environmental Management. Sean Vandergracht and Chip Heintz showed Ari basic aspects of civil and environmental engineering, including how to operate the Geographic Information System, how to read a site plan blueprint, and how to evaluate infrastructure in the field. During his internship, Ari assisted in both reactive investigations of failing stormwater pond systems across the county, and proactive investigations of systems in the Allen’s Creek Basin. Ari was involved in the sampling efforts to detect and record red tide after the passage of Hurricane Ian and Tropical Storm Nicole. Ari also learned about the invasive plants afflicting Pinellas County, and the efforts taken to mitigate their negative effects. He even aided in the introduction of native plants to a privately managed stormwater pond through the Pinellas County Environmental Management “Adopt-a-Pond” program. Ari shared: “Christine Joyner was an excellent supervisor, and always asked for my input on events she thought I’d be interested in. Anamarie Rivera, the manager of my section, took the time to make sure I was accomplishing everything I was interested in, and enjoyed my time at the agency. Sean Vandergracht and Chip Heintz, the engineers I spent most of my time working with, were extremely welcoming, and
always willing to spend an extra minute to ensure I understood every facet of the projects we worked on. “Though Ari is still unsure of the occupational direction he will pursue in the future, the lessons learned from his time with Pinellas County Environmental Management will provide the foundation on which to build a future career.

Greis Tiko interned at Garrison-Jones Elementary and was taught the ways to aid children with mental, social, and emotional issues with help and support from Rachel Poole, School Counselor. Greis learned how to assist and support children who need mental help, social and emotional help as well as learn how and why children may act differently than others. Greis learned how serious schools take students’ mental health and making sure that every student is getting the help they need to succeed. With an interest in child psychology, Greis got to see individual counseling and give some input when resolving issues. During Greis’ time there, she saw assessments that are used if a teacher or parent suspects that a student has ADHD, depression, ASD, or other issues. With the help of Rachel Poole, Courtney Boote, and Shannon O’Keeffe, Greis was able to understand how to assist children with social and emotional behavior, as well as learning the different types of disorders. Greis understood the difficulties and complexities of helping students out. Every child is different, and because of this, every child needs a different plan to help them achieve success.

The Executive Internship Program has taught Greis what it’s like to be in a professional environment and also taught her the importance of collaboration, respect, and knowledge. The time and experience at Garrison-Jones Elementary School taught Greis that she is interested in child psychology, however she is unsure if she wants to pursue it as a career. She is thankful and appreciative of the opportunity given to her, and she thanks all the staff at Garrison-Jones Elementary for helping her through this journey of discovering her interests, especially, as she stated, “the people that enhanced my experience, my sponsor, Mrs. Poole, the School Psychologist, and the School Social Worker. They were always very supportive and very open to any of my questions and concerns.”

Michelle Giuliani, Senior Project Engineer at the City of Safety Harbor Engineering Department, gave Matthew Walker the opportunity to learn and experience what a civil engineer does on a day-to-day basis. Matt learned the basics of what a Civil Engineer does for a local government. Matt went on many inspections where he and other fellow Engineers would make sure different construction sites were following government regulations and codes. Matt stated: “Everyone at the City was very nice and accommodating. All of the engineers really cared about me and made sure that I was learning a lot and always gave me great opportunities and were very welcoming and accepting.” Matt assisted in documenting data on different sidewalks and ramp replacements in different subdivisions in Safety Harbor. Matt also got his Environmental Protection Agency Certificate, which shows that he is well educated for Environmental Protection at construction sites. Matt is beyond thankful for this opportunity and will use the knowledge and experience to grow as a future engineer.
Ava Warticki interned at Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital Outpatient Center in East Lake in the Sports Rehabilitation Physical Therapy Department under the supervision of Kelli Miller, PT, DPT. Thanks to Kelli Miller, Ava had a great learning experience in expanding her knowledge of the anatomy of the body and was able to be hands on in the physical therapy department. Ava worked with multiple physical therapists and physical therapist assistants in her internship, which gave her the opportunity to see many different techniques for similar injuries. In addition to Kelli Miller educating Ava on the practice of pediatric physical therapy she also worked with Eric Steinberger a PT and DPT, Scott Ruth a PT and DPT, Jessica Johnson a PTA and Stephanie Perez a PTA. All the staff gave Ava an amazing insight into this career field and gave her many opportunities to observe stretches and strengthening exercises for multiple injuries which broadened her scope of understanding of the field. Thanks to Gloria Boone PT, Marijcke Van Der Merwe PT, Morgan Montaudo, MOT and OTR/L, Jennifer Hogan OTR/L and Lee Ann Tripepi.

OTR/L, Ava also experienced multiple career opportunities in the pediatric field. Throughout her time in different departments, such as neuromuscular physical therapy and occupational therapy, she learned how different departments work together to reach their goal, which is to help a child succeed in life. She enjoyed observing and learning the techniques that the therapists use to see how the child is progressing. Ava especially enjoyed helping and challenging the patients in their exercises to position them to heal and strengthen their injury. Ava shared: “I am very grateful I had the opportunity to intern with Ms. Kelli and her team because they taught me so much, not only about Physical Therapy but about how to work with kids in a medical setting. I am very proud of my accomplishments, of getting out of my comfort zone, and of doing an internship for the first time; it was such a rewarding experience. I feel I have improved as a person by being more independent, being more confident to ask questions, and learned to be a better listener and observer.”

Thanks to Kelli Miller, Ava was exposed to many different healthcare careers, and she is now definitely set on a career in pediatric medicine.

Kyle Lawler had the opportunity to intern with Fire Chief Josh Stefancic, District Chief Andrew Hawkins, and the Safety Harbor Fire Department. Kyle was involved in riding with the teams as they went on medical and accident calls, and he learned about medical terminology as well as how to engage with adults in the workplace. Kyle learned what it means to be a professional, and he appreciated the guidance and opportunities the Fire department gave to him.

Savannah Stophel was fortunate to work with the Innisbrook Resort sales and marketing teams. She enjoyed being a part of a professional group, and she learned what it takes to promote and to run a large organization. Savannah indicated: “Throughout my internship, I have gained knowledge in the professional business industry, and how to dress professionally. It never occurred to me how complex sales and management would be. As a result of the Executive Internship Program, I feel more confident in myself, and I have gained experience working in a professional environment.” Savannah is unsure of her
future direction, but she enjoys business as a general field.

Through the mentorship of Steven Ulbrik, David Brodosi saw the ins and outs of being an engineer at Lockheed Martin in Pinellas Park. He observed machinists at work, and helped the engineering team with various tasks, such as routine inspections of equipment as well as data analysis. Through this experience David found out that being an engineer wasn’t the easiest field. He learned the day-to-day things that the engineers at Lockheed do, so he got an overview of the responsibilities engineers have to take on! He also learned about technology there, such as skills in Microsoft Excel! The wonderful people at Lockheed were a major highlight for David, and he was welcomed with open arms! He truly felt like he was a part of the team during his stay at Lockheed. David stated: “EIP means a lot to me. I have grown as a person and as a student. EIP has helped me do better with how I go about my education, and it has also greatly helped me with being better at talking with others.” David’s experiences helped him confirm a passion in the engineering field, seeking to major in that general area in college.

Under the Volunteer Resource Manager, Marvin Thoroughman, Lesly Nonthe-Lopez had an amazing time observing the Imaging Services provided by HCA Largo Medical Center. Lesly saw some incredible procedures like a Brain Aneurysm Embolization and also saw amazing x-ray images taken by Radiology Technologist, Tu Nguyen. While attending Lesly observed the day in the life of one who works in the medical field; with this experience she has a better understanding of what she may pursue in the future. Lesly shared: “One thing that helped me and that I learned and improved during this internship was being able to make eye contact with people. With this I can improve my social skills and can use them in my daily life thanks to the Program. Another thing I am working on and have improved on would be speaking to others.” Coming out of this experience Lesly has a much greater knowledge about Radiology and a hospital working setting which may come in handy later in life when she may later want to pursue a career in the medical field.

Richard O. Jacobson Technical High School at Seminole

While at Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Alexis Silva’s sponsor was Ms. Ashley Foltz. Alexis worked in the Guest Experience Department where she interacted with guests and the animals at the aquarium. Alexis worked with a lot of the staff members at the aquarium that helped her learn. With the help of her team leads, she learned so many new information about the animals at the aquarium. Alexis felt very connected with the animals when isolated with them and watching them continue their everyday activities. She even interacted with the animals through the glass. Alexis was always interactive with both the guests and the staff members and was always up for a new task or to help the members at the aquarium. Alexis is so thankful for being able to have such a wonderful experience at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium and for the chance to connect with the animals and the staff members. Alexis thinks that having her experience at
Clearwater Marine Aquarium has influenced her to continue her progress with marine life and wants to continue the journey into college.

**St. Petersburg College Early Admissions**

Joyce Bun interned with the Varying Exceptionalities Team at Skycrest Elementary School. With the guidance of Team Leader Michael Temples as well as Delena Colleton and Alicia Willower, Joyce interacted with the children and helped them with areas where they had difficulty. Joyce felt that the experience taught her to better convey content knowledge and she enjoyed tutoring the children and seeing the different ways that they learned. Joyce has determined that education is a viable career choice for her.

Over the last semester, with the help of Bay Dermatology and Clinic Manager Lacie Daehler, Stephen Perenich has learned a significant amount of information. This was Perenich’s first internship experience and first experience learning about the inner workings of a dermatologist office. Over the course of the semester Perenich acquired knowledge of basic types of skin cancer and how to treat many different skin diseases. Perenich shared: “Overall, I would say that I have grown significantly in my professionalism and feel a lot more confident going into new situations and meeting people that I have never seen before. I am much more confident in myself and know what I am capable of. Not only has EIP helped me grow personally but it has also helped me get one step closer to choosing the field of work that I will spend the rest of my life doing.” This experience has been great for him and has furthered his interest in the medical field and is now seriously considering going into the dermatology field.

**St. Petersburg Collegiate High School, North**

Cassandra Ryan interned with Pinellas County Schools Multimedia and TV Operations Department under the guidance of Manager, Sean Clark and Coordinator, Wallace Patanow and learned how to successfully operate an Apple computer operating system and Adobe Premiere Pro software. She developed her graphic designing skills more with experience in Canva. She enjoyed interacting with people in the department and had an amazing experience. Cassandra stated: “A highlight of my experience was being able to talk with others in the department; they were fun to talk with and very encouraging. Talking to them allowed me to open up more and have a normal conversation with them.” Cassandra is unsure of the what the future holds, but she enjoyed learning from this professional team.

Makayla Ryan interned at Hendry & Parker P.A. under the supervision of Kris Parker. She learned how to write briefly and create blogs for the firm’s website. Makayla also learned how to write memorandums for cases as well as court petitions. Makayla’s most exciting project that she worked on at her internship was a PowerPoint project to highlight her presenting skills. Makayla shared that the internship experience “allowed me to learn what I was good at and what I needed to work on in terms of my comfort around other people “ The internship experience influenced her career decision and she decided to take a more backstage role in the law field.
Under the supervision of Kimberly Nicholls, HR Director at the City of Safety Harbor, Jacey Parisi gained a greater perspective of what it takes to run a business/company. As an intern her job included important jobs such as, researching and updating the hiring page, assuring that new hires paperwork was up to date and in the system, and looking over job applications and making sure requirements for each department were met. Jacey shared: “The Executive Internship Program helped me further figure out what I wanted to study in college and what future career I want to pursue. It helped me meet new people who showed me things I would not have learned if I had never met them. And my experience was enhanced by the lovely, friendly people that worked there.” Jacey is extremely grateful for this learning experience and is happy that she is one step closer to becoming a successful business owner.

St. Petersburg High School

Rhiannon Crawford had the enlightening experience of interning at HCA Largo Medical Center under the guidance of Marvin Thoroughman. Mr. Thoroughman arranged for Rhiannon to experience the Imaging Department where she learned the many types of radiology that are available and the purposes for each medical test. Rhiannon shared: “There has been majority of the women that worked in the Interventional Radiology that I have gotten a lot of experience from and information to help me understand what I’m learning about. Learning to speak up more helped me by getting taken firsthand to where I can observe procedures and biopsies. This whole internship overall impacted me I have learned that there is more to Radiology than I thought there was. It has meant a great deal to me because this is something that helped me experience a real professional place and to determine how I want to choose my career.”

With the help of Evan Ligon, MS, LAT, ATC, owner of Legacy Sports Medicine, McKenzie Grey widened her perspective on what she would like to do in the future. McKenzie learned that every day was a new adventure in learning and that she faced new assignments. McKenzie realized that the transition from watching basketball on TV then watching basketball courtside, is a longtime dream come true for her. McKenzie learned how to communicate properly with her sponsor, the athletes, and the coaching staff. She also stated that she learned how to wrap an ankle and assist an injured player on the court. She states, “Being able to know how to already wrap an ankle is beneficial, and I am ready to hop on the court whenever someone needs an ankle wrapped.” McKenzie loved having a “family” to hang with when she interned. The family aspect on the sidelines and locker room was encouraging and very endearing. She also learned to weigh the differences between becoming a Physical Therapist and other options such as being an Athletic Trainer. With Ms. Evan also being an entrepreneur, McKenzie learned about the medical side of the profession as well as the business aspects and that was beneficial to her as she navigates her career decisions. Being able to intern as an athletic trainer shaped McKenzie’s perspective and paved a path to her future.

Seminole High School

There were no Seminole High School participants.
Skyla Vanpelt had the fortunate opportunity to learn from Elizabeth Celeste and Edna Thomas of the Clinical Education Department at AdventHealth North Pinellas, while she interned under the supervision of Dr. Jeffrey B. Smith. Throughout her time spent in different departments such as the Cath lab, Cardiac Rehab, the Operating Room, Pathology, Physical Therapy, Radiology and even the Hospital floors, Skyla saw not only how the hospital operates but also how important it is for the departments to collaborate and communicate to prioritize their patient’s care. During her time spent shadowing, she saw many procedures such as an Endoscopy, a Gallbladder removal, a Heart Catheterization, a Pacemaker put in, a Paracentesis, and a Total Knee Arthroplasty. She also learned to take Blood Pressure Readings which she practiced on many patients in the Cardiac Rehab room. Skyla is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with such a caring team and says she has learned so much in the short time she was there. Skyla shared: “I am beyond thankful to have been part of the EIP program. At my internship, I saw things some people will never get to see in real life. I have made connections within the hospital that I would never have been able to make without EIP. In terms of work, I really had to push myself, which in turn ended up allowing me to know my strengths and weaknesses, and I am more confident in myself that I am able to get where I want to get in my future career.” Skyla’s experience at AdventHealth has solidified her decision to pursue nursing in the future, with the hopes of specializing in pediatrics.
Jibade King was honored to have continued his internship under the guidance and mentorship of Koco Eaton, MD of Eaton Orthopaedics. Jibade indicated that he gave the internship his all and learned as much as he could prior to leaving. Although it was difficult to balance everything in his senior year, Jibade feels that this experience, with the help of Dr. Eaton and Michelle Carver, Dr. Eaton’s Office Manager, he is more prepared for college. The internship not only taught Jibade about reading x-rays MRI’s and other radiography, but also showed him the importance of patient care and managing a busy schedule as well as being professional and taking different steps to maintain professionalism. Jibade stated: “Overall, this was a fantastic opportunity, and I thank my sponsors and EIP for giving me the opportunity to participate in this class, and from the bottom of my heart I appreciate everything EIP has done for me”.

Cat Le could not be more appreciative of the time that her sponsor Charles Martinez-Cartagena, Internship Coordinator, at the 14th District of Florida Congressional Office of the Honorable Kathy Castor, spent teaching her about the value of civic participation regardless of age and that action and opinions of the community at large do matter. Cat learned the importance of working as a team for the greater good and how valuable understanding political science and involvement is, even for people her age. Cat gained invaluable knowledge about how to use a discerning eye when perusing the news, but her greatest lesson was, in her words, “Being with the community and around the team and seeing how we touch the hearts of our constituents and seeing the love in everyone's eyes touches a place in my heart that I can’t express in words.” Cat’s internship changed her views forever, and she feels privileged to have been with such a gracious team who showed that hard work and commitment can make a difference.

Zharia Montgomery loved the dermatology environment and was so happy to learn from the best at Bay Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery, St. Pete Beach. With the leadership of Office Manager Elizabeth Hattman and the Physicians and Medical Assistant team, Zharia observed skin cancer removals, skin exams, and many other procedures that convinced her that she definitely wants to pursue the medical field where she can later perform procedures in a medical setting. Zharia expressed what a great learning experience she had, and she is thankful for the time and effort everyone gave to teach her so much.

Under the guidance of Dina Katz, Physical Therapist, at Nina Harris ESE Center, Nekayla Simmons acquired many skills, techniques, and information about the field of Physical Therapy and
Occupational Therapy. Nekayla worked more independently in sessions with a college intern to provide treatment to the students. Nekayla was a part of a training, where she learned how to do a two person lift for lifting bigger students, and how to use the sling to transfer students. Nekayla interacted with a new piece of equipment called a kid walk, which is used to help kids walk and strengthen their legs. A kid walk is similar to a gait trainer. Nekayla also got to work alongside the Occupational Therapist, observing individual and group sessions of Occupational Therapy. Nekayla interacted with the students during sessions by assisting with gluing, cutting, and coloring to help teach the students activities of daily living. Nekayla’s experience with Dr. Katz and the Physical and Occupational Therapy departments strengthened her interest in pursuing a degree in Pediatric Physical Therapy in college.

Samantha Spotts had the good fortune to intern with the City of Largo Police Department under the guidance of Major Ann Starling and Lt. Christy Lomonaco and the many officers who enhanced and enriched her learning and experience. Samantha became more involved in the spring term as she learned more about the procedures and laws within our communities and even was trusted to be a part of compliance checks. She was lucky to participate in many patrol rides where they responded to many calls. She learned about what the Crime Prevention Officer, Officer Bowling, does, responded to a call with Officer Malandro, the Homeless Liaison, and witnessed multiple arrests, traffic infractions, and a Baker Act with the amazing law enforcement teams at the Largo PD. While on a call, Samantha also learned what First Amendment Auditors are, and she observed as the person enter the City, recording on cameras and/or his phone, to instigate a scene and see if law enforcement will tell them to stop recording, which would violate their first amendment rights, hence their title. Overall, every officer Samantha had the joy of shadowing was welcoming, educational, a cared about her experience. Samantha is forever thankful for the year she spent with the Largo PD, and she thanks Ms. Hasen-Sinz, Human resources Director, for facilitating this experience.

Clearwater High School
There were no Spring candidates from Clearwater High School.

Countryside High School
Dhruv Patel interned at Christina Rudman D.D.S. P.A. under advice from his sponsor Dr. Christina Rudman. Dhruv learned different dental procedures in a general/cosmetic office with aid from the Dental Assistants. Dhruv observed the dental assistants perform procedures like fillings that are required when a small area of decay is shown on the tooth as well as more complicated treatments such as crowns which requires several appointments since the assistants are essentially placing a cap on your tooth because it is heavily decayed, broken, or weak. While Dhruv was watching the dental assistants perform multiple procedures, he also earned a major role in the office called a sterile technician. Dhruv’s position as a
sterile tech had tasks such as placing the tools in the ultrasonic to exterminate germs of a tools used, sterilize to kill bacteria clean tools, and store the tools where they are supposed to be. Dhruv explains that having this role allowed him to create better time management skills because he was observing the assistants be with patients while being a sterile tech. Dhruv noted that when watching the assistants, he was allowed to discuss the procedures with the patients since it enabled him to build his communication skills and let the patient be comfortable with an intern in the room. Dhruv would like to thank Dr. Christina Rudman, her Practice Administrator, Susan Scrivner, and the Staff for allowing him to gain the foundational knowledge of dentistry at an early point in his life. Because Dhruv interned at different dental professions, he can now understand the careers that best suit him.

Under the guidance of Allison Dolan, the President of the Clearwater Historical Society Museum and Cultural Center, Aimee Ranson learned about the historical significance of Clearwater, while understanding the process of business management. During her time, Aimee was trusted with researching the Clearwater Colored Cemetery. Aimee devoted her time to the long process of looking up in a catalog the names of those who rest in the cemetery, researching the name for information about their life, and obtaining a hardcopy of all the information to put alphabetically into a binder to catalog and acknowledge the deceased. Aimee had many other jobs around the museum, and she worked in a room called the “Digitizing Room” where she would put information in the museum’s database. In the room, scanned donated artifacts from Clearwater residents. Aimee also worked in “The Plumb Closet” finding different ways to advertise and sell clothes. Aimee loved interning at the museum as she learned many facts about Clearwater and the process of running a business. Aimee has decided that she will major in Business, and she took the opportunity to closely observe the museum environment for tips and insightful information. Aimee said the workers there are very disciplined and loyal to their work and are super friendly and open which made every day there enjoyable and interesting. Aimee loved her time at the museum, and exclaimed she would love to go back even after the internship ends.

With the guidance of Austin Calantoni, DPT, in the Baycare Health System at Ptak Orthopaedic and Neuroscience Pavilion, Morton Plant, Eugene Valles is very grateful to have learned in an environment that was very positive and taught him more than enough to pursue his dream of becoming a Physical Therapist. Eugene’s best experience was a heart-to-heart conversation with a patient that was there for a session that taught that he loved to help others and learning from them. Eugene always looked forward for being in such an amazing environment, and he is ready to become a Physical Therapist.

Dunedin High School

Johnathan Ellis had the honor of interning with the professional architecture and design team at Williamson Design Associates under the guidance and mentorship
of Ted Williamson, AIA, PE, LEED AP, Principal and Johnathan’s primary sponsors, Jinky Albanilla, GGP, Sarah Hodges, and Brian Lapointe. While at Williamson Design Assoc., Johnathan learned to refine the Revit software while working on models at the firm, and even earned a perfect score on the Revit certification exam. Some of Johnathan’s favorite times were visiting sites and designing with Revit. Johnathan indicated: “I have definitely benefited from the experience and learned a lot along the way. I have greatly enjoyed the time I spent at Williamson Design Associates”. Johnathan credits his internship with giving him the experience he will need for college and for enabling him to progress with his certification and studies.

East Lake High School

With guidance from Michelle C. Giuliani, E.I., Sr. Project Engineer at the City of Safety Harbor, Karis Ellis learned the many aspects of Civil Engineering. She learned about City planning, permitting, outside site visits, and construction. Karis saw the bigger picture of how a City interacts with private businesses, and she experienced professional relationships that proved invaluable to her learning and future pursuits. Karis is appreciative of the time and effort everyone put into her internship experience, and she plans to study engineering in college.

Graciously directed by Ashley Foltz and Stephanie Jones, Anjali Emandi interned in the Guest Experience Department at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. There, she helped educate guests about the Aquarium’s mission and about each resident rescue animal. At the internship, Anjali gained immense knowledge about bottlenose dolphins, stingrays, sharks, river otters and even seahorses, with a special emphasis on the importance of marine conservation. Anjali has greatly improved her public speaking skills while simultaneously learning about marine biology in terms of dolphin anatomy, sea turtle presentations, and more. Anjali particularly enjoyed working near the stingray exhibit, as she was able to learn from animal care specialists first-hand and directly see the natural behaviors of cownose stingrays. Working near the stingrays also allowed Anjali to observe many stingray feedings, giving her more information to relate to guests. This internship has given Anjali an educational background of marine conservation that can be later utilized in her passion for general microbiology and cell science.

Under the direction of Robin Benoit, Performing Arts Director, Sophia Galbraith spent the semester interning at East Lake Middle School Academy of Engineering, where she assisted in dance classes and expanded her choreographic experience and knowledge. Through this opportunity, Sophia taught dance and color guard basics to build a strong foundation for middle school dancers of various levels. Sophia also assisted in the production of multiple group numbers and solos. She spent time with Robin Benoit staging and choreographing work to teach the students. Beyond the technical side of teaching middle school dancers, Sophia also learned what goes on behind the scenes when
preparing for events. She was a part of the costuming, music cutting, and planning that allowed Robin Benoit to take several students to a judged event and put on the annual end of year dance recital. In the weeks leading up to performances, Sophia dedicated extra days during the week to work on one on one with soloists and prepare them to have their best performance possible. As the weeks went on, Sophia gained independence and responsibility in her internship and was able to build relationships with all the dancers. Sophia’s favorite part of the internship was forming closer relationships with the students which helped in seeing their confidence and skillset improve over time. She found it so rewarding to see students’ passion for dance and performing grow overtime and especially enjoyed the time she spent preparing for and watching the dancers perform. Sophia loved that she could see the direct impact of her instruction and motivation on the students in dance class. This internship improved Sophia’s leadership and collaborative skills which will be applied to her future education where Sophia hopes to continue to pursue dance while also preparing for a career in pediatric health care.

**Simone Gladstone** interned at the **Lockheed Martin Corporation in Oldsmar with the Quality Engineering Team** under the instruction of Jake Bolnick and Lisa Williams, the Quality Engineering Manager and Quality Engineer, respectively. During her internship, Simone toured all the different areas in the plant and witnessed assemblers and engineers from various fields in action. On many days, Simone assisted quality engineers during their routine tasks and asked questions or was at her computer training on different topics, looking at dashboards, or process plans. Some afternoons Simone went on MDA pre-audits with Quality Engineer, Alexander Martinez, or toured and talked with other engineers from the quality engineering department. During the slower times, Simone helped lighten other quality engineers’ workloads by reviewing cable process plans for them. To keep her busy, Alexander Martinez also showed Simone many spreadsheets and databases to help create instructional material for future Lockheed Martin Employees. Simone worked on projects during her time at Lockheed Martin and wished to stay longer, as she had met talented professionals who easily incorporated her into their daily work environment. Simone was very impressed by all the complicated processes they go through to ensure the best work environment and successful products, in addition to how all the different engineering assemblers worked together to achieve those accomplishments. In the future, Simone hopes to major in Mechanical Engineering, with a focus on the ocean/submarines, and pursue that field at a place like Lockheed Martin, where she will be sure to always stay busy learning and doing what she loves.

**Madison Henry** interned at **Brooker Creek Elementary School** under the guidance of Elizabeth Ficca, Intermediate Grade Teacher. Madison learned many skills while interning that she will be able to apply in the educational setting as well as in life. Madison not only learned time and
stress management in managing a classroom, but she also learned to be patient and to have empathy as every student has different needs and abilities. Madison found one of the most exciting aspects of her experience was when she planned and taught her own lesson. Another exciting experience was when she went off campus on a field trip with the children. This internship has had a major impact on Madison’s career decision, and she is keeping field this in mind while looking at other careers.

Caetano Peralta interned at Walgreens Pharmacy under the guidance of Mike Botouroglou, Pharmacy Manager. Caetano learned how a pharmacy operates, and about the manufacturing, engineering, and research aspects of the pharmaceutical industry. He assisted in basic tasks around the pharmacy and shadowed the pharmacy's technicians and pharmacists. Caetano's time at the pharmacy has solidified his decision to study chemical engineering, and he is grateful for the time and knowledge given to him in this experience.

Under the guidance of Tobi Leotta and the Practice Veterinarians and Staff at Animal and Bird Medical Center, Lily Ramirez had gained a lot of insight into the veterinary and animal care field. Lily has learned all about the day-to-day tasks of a veterinary clinic and the different positions that are available including doctors, technicians, and assistants. She has acquired the ability to perform numerous tests including fecal tests, heart worm tests, urinalysis, etc., and has also learned how to properly hold animals for procedures. She is eternally grateful to Animal and Bird Medical Center for giving her an opportunity to experience a career she’s always had a passion for. As a result of this experience, Lily has now confirmed her desires of becoming a veterinary doctor and plans to pursue this career after high school.

Under the guidance of Kenneth Jack and Christopher Barron, Alexander Talbott gained valuable experience at Lockheed Martin. Working with a team of engineers and technicians, Talbott gained firsthand manufacturing and engineering experience that he will hold valuable for a lifetime. Talbott experienced what working at an engineering company would be like in the real world, and he developed his communication skills to improve interviewing and networking. Doing tasks like maintenance on production lines, learning about processes, and observing professionals helped Talbott to gain engineering experience and prepare him for a future in mechanical engineering. Talbott obtained his most valuable experience from working with technicians and operators in servicing the production line and making sure parts such as circuit cards for defense equipment are manufactured properly. Learning how the machines function on the production line was another way for Talbott to learn, as he witnessed dozens of boards being manufactured and could watch them go through different steps and machines as they flowed through the lines. Talbott indicated that the experience “solidified his interest to pursue mechanical engineering,” and helped him to, “experience a real-world professional work environment that will get
me started on a future in this career.”

**Gibbs High School**
There were no Gibbs High School participants.

**Hollins High School**
There were no Hollins High School participants.

**Lakewood High School**
Under the supervision of Elaine Prado at Consumer Law Attorneys, Katelyn Barnes gained an unforgettable experience. During her internship, Katelyn approached numerous tasks with a hands-on way by scanning, reading, and uploading legal documents. Katelyn learned what it takes to become a lawyer with the guidance of a paralegal. She learned about bankruptcy, foreclosure, and homeowners’ association cases and what the legal process is. Thanks to the one-on-one conversations with Stephanie Hansbury, Katelyn also gained more information and acquired a better understanding of bankruptcy cases. She learned what documents are needed to file for bankruptcy and how to prepare a bankruptcy case for filing. Katelyn also gained more information about the daily tasks of a bankruptcy paralegal by contacting clients to obtain their paperwork for their bankruptcy case. Katelyn stated: “The overall experience of EIP was one I will never forget. It allowed me to function in a work environment that pertains to my future career, so I am sure to be ready for the life of a lawyer.”

**Largo High School**
With the assistance of Shelby Beauchemin, Director at the Largo Environmental Services Wastewater Treatment Plant and many other giving co-workers, Ethan Griffith learned the ins and outs of how the reclamation facility functions along with how it so important and vital to our everyday lives. During Ethan’s semester he observed at different lift/pump stations across the county and learned how they are maintained as well as the electrical features behind them. Ethan was very surprised at just how many stations there were. Other aspects of his internship included assisting in the disassembling of an obsolete control room where he had hands-on experience. Helping with the hourly checks of plant machinery to make sure they are functioning correctly and observing the overall functions of a plant from several monitors set up to ensure nothing incorrect was occurring and if something popped up alert the staff were great learning experiences. Ethan also watched as the line crew cleaned out manholes which would then was followed by placing cameras in the line to make certain nothing was wrong with the interior of the pipe. Throughout the experience many opportunities presented themselves allowing the constant opportunities to learn new things every day he was there. Ethan still has his interest in engineering, and he is beginning to refine his direction in the major field.

**Northeast High School**
Alejandro Bermudez was honored to intern with the Largo Fire Department, Station 39, under the supervision of Fire Training Chief Joseph Manning II EFO/MA. While at the Station,
Alejandro gained a great deal of information and tips about EMT exams which he plans to eventually pursue, the tools on the fire truck that are used on emergency calls, and the crews shared their experiences. Alejandro met many Shift members and instructors who helped him to achieve his goals. Alejandro is appreciative of all that Station 39 gave to him and how they prepared him for a future in Fire Fighting.

Under Michael Johannesen’s guidance at the Pinellas County Schools Technology and Information Systems Department, Kevin Duong deepened his learning into artificial intelligence (AI). He learned about deep learning models, neural networks, and numerous parameters that affect their performance. Even with all this learning, Kevin is left with more questions than answers and is more eager to deepen his knowledge within this field. During the internship, Kevin presented a possible application for AI to Kevin Haugabrook. The project was to make a program that tracks mouse movements and use AI to detect cheaters. Mr. Haugabrook approved the project and provided Kevin with valuable guidance and insight. While the program was never finished, Kevin is grateful that he was able to experience the software development process. Kevin was glad to learn about AI and software development. He believes that the skills he gained from summer, fall, and spring can be applied to solve problems in any career field. In the future, he plans to major in cybersecurity and use his skills in AI to create secure, automated systems.

Under the guidance of Dr. Thuy Nguyen, DDC, and Dr. Jan Delassen, DDC, at Exceptional Dental, Ana Jurgensen grasped and enjoyed the experience of being taught the different responsibilities of a Dentist. This experience helped Ana stretch her knowledge in the field by observing many patients she encountered who needed dental care. She learned the different aspects of a Dentist's job, and with the help of Deborah Bertoglio, Practice Manager, she learned much more including front desk administration, various procedure protocols, and terminology she had yet to hear of. In addition, Ana observed many other procedures, including fillings, root canals, implants, crowns, and routine cleanings. Dentistry requires honesty, accountability, and responsibility in a fast-paced environment. Ana decided Dentistry is a possibility for a career because of her exposure to the practice of dentistry during the internship.

Under the guidance of Sean Clark, Multimedia and TV Operations Manager, Wally Patanow, Multimedia and TV Operations Coordinator, and Social Media and Marketing Coordinators Britnie Meyer and Libby Jourdan, Jasmine Litvak gained immense knowledge of marketing, design, video, and multimedia through her internship at Pinellas County Schools Strategic Communications Department. Jasmine witnessed several team meetings in addition to marketing meetings where she was given the opportunity to participate and share her own ideas. With the help of Britnie Meyer, Jasmine also created an entire marketing plan for a local elementary
school and designed several marketing tools. She even learned skills such as video editing and graphic design while shadowing Libby Jourdan, and Wally Patanow. Overall, Jasmine is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to intern with such knowledgeable and welcoming individuals that have taught her skills she will carry throughout her career. This wonderful internship has led her to the decision to continue on the path of marketing and design.

Under the mentorship of Sean Clark, Manager of Pinellas County Schools Department of Strategic Communications, and Wallace Patanow, Multimedia Specialist, Sydney Powell learned the aspects of building eye catching PowerPoint Presentations, how to improve her technical skills through design websites like Canva, and the steps to developing a marketing plan for local elementary schools. She attended the Pinellas County Schools Leadership Summit where she conducted student interviews and learned the importance of camera angling and microphone placement. Some of Sydney’s typical activities were designing posters, enhancing school newsletters, and building marketing materials for Pinellas County Schools and its local elementary’s to help boost student enrollment and family involvement. Sydney used Canva for many different design projects, she learned the differences in color palette, font, and information that was used for each type of project. School newsletters should be mostly white paper, no color, but PowerPoint presentations needed to enhance the amount of color used. Sydney’s favorite part of the Internship was working with a team and experiencing what it was like to collaborate in a group setting. Sydney’s experiences convinced her that marketing is something she is hopeful to pursue in the future. She is forever thankful for Sean Clark, Wallace Patanow, Libby Jourdan, and Britnie Meyer for providing her with an amazing experience and life skills that will be useful for the next chapter of her life. She will never forget what a fun team and fulfilling environment they created and will cherish the memories she made throughout her internship.

Under the guidance of Sue Black, Hospital Administrator, and Dr. Kyra Hartog, DVM and Medical Director at Haines Road Animal Hospital, Marissa Smith learned to better recognize the signs of certain illnesses in domestic animals and their treatments. She received basic knowledge on animal restraints, animal holding techniques, injection techniques, animal conditioning, and how to conduct various tests such as blood or heartworm tests. Through her internship, Marissa saw firsthand the daily lives of veterinarians and vet techs and the love and dedication they have for every animal that comes through their hospital. She asked questions about the education that each of the four veterinarians received, as well as questions about different radiography results and what they mean for the animal, which is a field of veterinary medicine that she is quite interested in. As she looks forward to her rapidly approaching future, Marissa feels more confident in herself and her ability to adapt and grow. Knowing better than ever that veterinary is what she wishes to pursue, Marissa will be forever grateful for
the experiences and professional relationships she built at Haines Road Animal Hospital.

Palm Harbor University High School

Luanna de Paula interned at Largo Medical Center Emergency Room under the guidance of Emergency Chief Director Robert Robinson, DNP, RN, TCRN, facilitated by Marvin Thoroughman, Volunteer Services Manager. During her experience, Luanna was presented with numerous experiences that definitely changed her perspective related to medicine and gave her opportunities to have direct contact with patients, assist nurses, see treatments up close and elaborate diagnoses. Besides the ER, Luanna also interned in other departments, such as the Intensive Care Unit, Imaging Department, being exposed and learning about MRIs, CT Scans, and X-Rays, and Radiology. The more time Luanna spent in the ER, the more she realized she belonged there. All the experiences and time spent with nurses and doctors made Luanna realize that she was integrated in the right field. Every time Luanna interned at Largo Medical Center, she felt like she was doing what she desires to do for the rest of her life - help people. Her time at the Emergency Room showed her that medicine is more than being there to people, but is also to listen, help, care and do her best to improve their health, both mentally and physically. Luanna learned that medicine is not easy, and that it takes a lot from you. You truly need to love and be ready to face all the challenges that come with the choice of integrating in the medical field, and throughout this year interning, Luanna is 100% sure of her choice and she is more than ready to spend her days at a hospital helping people and being there for them.

Efraim Haraktsis interned at the City of Safety Harbor Human Resources Department with the guidance of Lexie Lindhart, learning about Human Resources. While at the Human Resources Department, he mainly dealt with hires for the summertime. Efraim learned through writing letters, posting jobs, and putting together orientation packets for new hires. He has also put together binders for Commission Meetings for citizens to look at and go over during the meeting. The most exciting experience he had was on a ride-along with the fire station, and during that time he learned a lot about firefighters and even went out on multiple calls. The important skill he took was learning to be proactive, and when he communicated his learning goals with his sponsors, he was able to accomplish more and more. Efraim is still not too sure about his career path, and he looks forward to attending college then determining his career path.

Tatiana Jenkins Interned at Bay Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery under the supervision of Dan Sultan, Practice Administrator. During this internship Tatiana learned the vitality of everyone on a health care team. Tatiana observed medical assistants at work and worked with them assisting the needs of providers and other tasks. Throughout her internship she assisted in the process of helping Medical Assistants prepare for micrographically oriented histographic surgery (MOH’s) and watched the surgical process as well.

Richard Miller,
Dermatologist and Practice Founder, and Katie Bernhardt, Physician Assistant, allowed Tatiana to view a diverse number of procedures to treat different skin conditions. This internship allowed Tatiana to fuel her passion of becoming a doctor, specializing in dermatology.

Under the guidance of EMS Captain Dave Young, Ari Katz learned about the Firefighting and Emergency Medical Service duties of Oldsmar Fire Rescue Station 54. During his internship, Ari rode with Station 54 Firefighters in their Rescue Truck, Ladder Truck, and Fire Engine to observe their response to Emergency calls. Paramedics Ross Pinney and Riley Nolan instructed Ari in the Systematic Approach of Emergency Medicine, the procedural steps Station 54 Firefighters undertake on medical calls, and useful First Aid procedures for his own life. Ari learned about the many Continuing Medical Education courses Firefighter EMT’s and Paramedics must undergo to keep their certifications up to date. Ari also learned about the fire response of Station 54, including the gear, tactics, and communication protocols used by their Firefighters. He observed these protocols in action during a multi-station coordinated response for a live fire call. Ari attended a combined search and rescue training between Station 54, the City of Oldsmar Sheriff’s Department, and the City of Oldsmar Public Works. Though Ari is still unsure of the occupation he will pursue in the future, his time with the City of Oldsmar Fire Rescue has further fostered an interest in emergency preparedness and medicine.

Savannah Stophel was very fortunate to continue her learning experience at Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club with guidance from Darin Riggio Director of Sales and Marketing as well as in Food Services. Savannah greatly enjoyed her experience, and she is very appreciative of the time and effort everyone put into her learning. Savannah is uncertain of her future path, but she extends a big thank you to Jacqueline DuChene Heyward, HR Manager, and the Human Resources Department for all that they did to facilitate this experience that will prepare her for the real world.

With the help from Edna Thomas of the Clinical Education Department at AdventHealth North Pinellas, Greis Tiko gained a new understanding of Radiology Imaging and procedures needed to help care for patients. Greis learned all the different procedures, equipment, and the difference between the imaging modalities. She was even taught how to move the X-ray machine around. She also learned how to identify different body parts on a scan. As well as the importance of the different modalities and how they are each used to diagnose different things. In her time at X-Ray, she went to the OR to see stent placements and more surgeries. Greis did not know that imaging was required during surgeries. At Greis’ time at MRI, she learned how the device uses magnetic forces, and how strong the magnet in the machine is. In CT, Greis learned its function in diagnosing specific things. Finally in Nuclear medicine Greis learned the safety of the nuclear isotope and how careful everyone has to be. Greis enjoyed her time within the different radiology
departments thanks to the X-Ray, Nuclear medicine, CT, and MRI Staff that made her experience memorable. Due to the amazing staff and her memorable experience, Greis believes Radiology will be her path for the future.

**Taylor Wilson, Assistant Project Manager at Kokolakis Contracting**, taught Matthew Walker a lot about the field of Civil Construction and its application through management. During Matt’s time there, he assisted with two different preconstruction projects. Additionally, Matt assisted with calling subcontractors to find out if they were bidding on the project, as well as calling for pricing on the project. Matt also learned how to read blueprints of an entire project which includes architecture and engineering. Matt is very grateful for this opportunity, and the important knowledge gained through real world construction.

With the outstanding guidance of the incredible staff at **Advent Health Palm Harbor Emergency Room**, Ava Goodrow was exposed to the fast-paced healthcare system. Thanks to **Kathleen Goulding, MS, MBA, RN**, Ava had an amazing learning experience that was better than she could ever have expected. It expanded her knowledge of medical issues, diagnoses, the anatomy of the body and being able to watch intense procedures. Ava worked with multiple emergency medicine physicians and nurses in her internship, which gave her the opportunity to learn and see many different approaches to diagnosing and treating medical conditions and issues. Ava worked with multiple emergency medicine physicians including **Dr. Matthew Smith, MD, Dr. Mary Bister, MD, Dr. Elizabeth Martino, MD, Dr. Michael Longley, MD and Chief Medical Officer, and Dr. Robin Dong, MD**. Ava also worked with many registered nurses including **Sandy Grady, RN, Jim Witmer, RN, Dana, RN, Glenna, RN, Austin, PM, and Ramzy Shehayeb, PM**. All of the staff gave Ava an amazing insight into the career field of emergency medicine and gave her many opportunities to observe procedures and expand her knowledge in medical terminology and conditions. She saw the daily practices of the ER and experienced firsthand the thought processes between prescribing medications, treatments, and admission to the main hospital. Ava thoroughly enjoyed watching procedures that occurred such as observing sutures placed and removed, abscess drainage, splints placed and reading x-rays and CT scans. Ava was very thankful for all the descriptions and further detailed explanations of each patient’s diagnoses that helped her learn so much in the field of medicine. Thanks to the extraordinary staff, Ava was exposed to many different healthcare careers and procedures, and she is now definitely set on a career in Emergency Medicine.

**Pinellas Park High School**

David Brodosi returned to his internship with **Lockheed Martin, Pinellas Park**. With mentorship from **Steven Ulbrik**, David saw much more engineering planning rather than the machinist’s perspective. This area showed a large emphasis on documentation, and David observed and even helped with the creation, modification, and
adjustment of work orders based on what the situation needed! He learned about communication and just how important it was in the field of engineering - finding out that success in the field relied largely on effective communication between all involved parties when it came to projects. Once again, the wonderful people at Lockheed were a major highlight, with David being welcomed heartily. During his stay at Lockheed, he genuinely felt like a member of the team and believes he will pursue engineering in the future.

Lesly Nonthe-Lopez interned at Belleair Elementary School under the guidance of 3rd grade ELA teacher Jessica Groom. Lesly observed Ms. Groom in her classroom and assisted as needed in watching over the students and even helping with classroom activities. Ms. Groom taught and showed Lesly what it’s like being a 3rd-grade teacher, and Lesly learned that teachers' style of learning comes from the student's style of learning, being hard on the students doesn’t mean being mean, and with all that hard work comes great results and seeing the students grow. Thanks to Ms. Groom and the rest of the staff at Belleair Elementary School, Lesly has found a great appreciation for her teachers as she has seen the profession firsthand. Lesly is very grateful for the opportunity to intern at Belleair Elementary School and will take what she learned from her internship to the next chapter of her life.

Richard O. Jacobson Technical High School

While at Bay Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery, Alexis Silva’s excellent learning experience was facilitated by Michelle Cook, Office Manager, who arranged for Alexis to shadow and learn from the Medical Assistants and was able to join them in the rooms with patients where Alexis learned so much more about skin and new information about the dermatology office. Alexis watched the doctors treat and care for their patients and was always there to help the MA’s. Alexis shared that she was so thankful for being able to have such a wonderful experience at Bay Dermatology and being able to experience a career that she was interested in. Alexis’s believes that her experience at Bay Dermatology has influenced her to pursue a career path in the medical field and wants to continue the journey in college.

St. Petersburg College Early College Program

Lance Williams interned with the Philadelphia Phillies and Clearwater Threshers under his sponsor, Jason Adams, General Manager. During his time interning at BayCare Ballpark, Lance saw the operations of a professional sporting facility. Throughout his time with the organization, Lance worked with multiple departments including Ticketing, Food and Beverage, Merchandise, Operations, and Broadcasting. Lance also experienced the transition from Major League Spring Training to the Minor League regular season. Lance particularly enjoyed his time with Threshers’ radio broadcaster, Josh Sperber, and the time he was allowed to host the Threshers’ Post-Game Show. Lance is grateful for the guidance of Jason Adams and was encouraged to pursue a career in sports which he will do.
St. Petersburg High School

With the encouragement of Evan Ligon, MS, LAT, ATC owner of Legacy Sports Medicine, McKenzie Grey has broadened her horizons. McKenzie spent her second semester with Ms. Ligon, and she was fortunate to continue to take on new tasks. McKenzie enjoyed that the second semester brought a whole new season of sports, transitioning from watching basketball courtside to basking in the sun at beach volleyball and watching the team dynamics of softball. McKenzie has learned how to communicate properly with her sponsor, the athletes, the coaching staff and especially the parents. Being able to intern in a different variety of sports has helped her become more educated when an injury has occurred. For example, at the beach volleyball tournament, she watched her sponsor assess different types of injuries that helped McKenzie realize that all sports have a unique set of risks which means different ways in assessing an injury. Because Ms. Evan had a friendly and nurturing personality, McKenzie never wanted to miss a day out there with her. McKenzie was excited to learn that the Physical Therapy community is so welcoming and uniting, and she believes that she found her new home. Thanks to Ms. Evan, McKenzie can now explore a plethora of options in the sports medicine world.

Seminole High School

There were no Seminole High School participants.

Tarpon Springs High School

Skyla Vanpelt had the fortunate opportunity to learn from Edna Thomas of the Clinical Education Department at AdventHealth North Pinellas, while she interned under the supervision of Mike Perry. Throughout her time spent in different departments such as the Cath lab, Intensive Care Unit, Respiratory Therapy, and even the Hospital floors, Skyla learned all about the different roles and duties of each position within the hospital and how they all work together to provide the best care for their patients. During her time spent shadowing, she saw many Heart Catheterizations, Insertions of Pacemakers, and how care is provided to patients in the Intensive Care Unit. Skyla is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with such a caring team and says she has learned so much in the short time she was there. Skyla’s experience at AdventHealth has greatly prepared her for the medical field, and she hopes to return to AdventHealth once she has earned her degree in nursing.