L.A. TECH TALENT PIPELINE

BACK-TO-SCHOOL 2019 IMPACT REPORT
L.A. TECH TALENT PIPELINE

The L.A. Tech Talent Pipeline, Bixel Exchange’s partnership with L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti, connects low-income, diverse students to careers in the fast-growing technology sector. In 2019, we worked with more than 60 of L.A.’s top tech employers to connect more than 4,277 diverse, underrepresented high school and community college students to work-based learning opportunities (company tours, classroom guest speakers, immersive workshops), internships and job placements. Our goal is simple: develop career pathways to technology jobs for underrepresented Angelenos that otherwise wouldn’t have access to opportunities with top tech employers in L.A.

BIXEL EXCHANGE

Bixel Exchange is the Center for Innovation & Technology at the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. As the tech industry convener, we are at the intersection of community and business. We host councils, conduct skills research and evaluation, and develop programming that connects our participants to resources, jobs and access to the evolving tech industry.
PROVIDING ACCESS

Underrepresented communities lack exposure and access to tech careers, and they are continually left on the sidelines of the tech economy. Youth are left not knowing about the wealth of opportunities available to them in one of the largest growing job sectors. Without access to tech companies willing to invest in these communities, even while educated, these students will have to overcome many barriers that may ultimately deter them from pursuing a career in tech.

WHO WE SERVE

95% Low-Income
1% Justice-Involved
4% Foster Youth
5% Home-Insecure

In 2019, more than 70 tech and media companies engaged with students to provide hands-on learning opportunities and inform them on the state of tech, skills demands, job roles and educational requirements. These are our areas of focus:

- Information Services & Support
- Software Systems & Development
- Design, Visual & Media Arts
Our Company Partners

Our efforts bring marginalized communities into the tech industry through internships, workshops and job preparation. These are our initiatives:

Snap Design Academy

In 2019, we teamed up with Snap Inc. to bring back the second annual Snap Design Academy. Because of their experiences, more than half of the students went on to secure full-time jobs with other companies. We also co-developed a six-month apprenticeship with Nike where seven out of 13 students converted from interns to employees at Nike HQ.

Nike X Design Academy

“This whole experience has pushed me in so many ways, and I found out I’m capable of doing more than I ever expected.”

Christy
Nike Apprentice
Los Angeles Trade Technical College
We took students on company tours of some of the biggest tech companies in Los Angeles.

We hosted workshops for high school and community college students.

And we connected tech employers with volunteer opportunities to give back to the next generation of tech talent!

I found a better sense of what networking could look like, new ways to adapt to unfamiliar situations and a better understanding of who I am and who I could be.

JEREMIAH JOHNSON
WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

TOMS GIVING TUESDAY
12/3/19

IT INDUSTRY INSIGHT PANEL

SUMMER INTERNSHIP KICKOFF
In 2019, we reached even more students across Los Angeles. This is a snapshot of our highlighted achievements.

216
INTERNS PLACED FROM
SEPT. 1, 2018 – AUG. 31, 2019

40%
OF INTERNS PLACED IN 2019
ENDED UP RECEIVING PART-TIME
OR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT AT
A TECH COMPANY

4,277
STUDENTS ENGAGED WITH
TECH COMPANIES THROUGH
WORK-BASED LEARNING

OUR STUDENTS ARE...

39% Latino
12% African-American
1% Native American/Native Hawaiian
16% White
56% Men
44% Women

AND THEY COME FROM...

16% California State Universities
10% Opportunity Youth Serving Organizations
10% High School or Occupational Centers
45% Community Colleges
THE FUTURE

We envision a more prepared, diverse and equitable tech workforce that draws from every community in Los Angeles. In order to keep up with the demand for tech talent, we are exploring new ways to continue our deep engagement in the community, providing insights to the tech industry and educational institutions and creating online opportunities so that Angelenos can compete in the fast-paced tech industry.

In 2019, we piloted apprenticeships and online soft-skills prep courses that yielded an overwhelming and positive response from our participants. In 2020, we will expand these efforts to further impact the outcome of future tech talent students.

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**SOFT SKILLS**

- Resume Building
- Interview Techniques
- Job Preparation

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**CORNERSTONE ONDEMAND WORKFORCEREADY PILOT**

"THE WORKFORCEREADY PILOT WAS GREAT. THE COURSE WAS ENGAGING, AND IT MADE ME WANT TO LEARN MORE. I THINK ALSO BEING ABLE TO SEE LIKE-MINDED, AMBITIOUS PEOPLE IN THE FOCUS GROUP MOTIVATED ME TO CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY."  

REBECCA WORKFORCEREADY PILOT PARTICIPANT PAGADENA CITY COLLEGE
Our team is committed to creating an inclusive and prosperous tech community. We’re working with Los Angeles’ top tech employers to create pathways to tech opportunities for L.A.’s diverse talent pipeline.

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