The Linking Experience, Academics, and Practice (LEAP) program provides students with customized major and career exploration, intensive academic advisement, and access to experiential learning opportunities such as campus-based leadership, community service, and internships. LEAP supports second-semester freshman through their sophomore year. Contact us at LEAP@jjay.cuny.edu and follow us @jjcleap.

OUR VOICES:

ARIANA YLLANA GONZALEZ, HUMAN SERVICES ’23

Ariana was looking for an experiential learning opportunity to help her develop the skills she would need to become a social worker: public speaking, critical thinking, presenting new information, and disseminating information. And she found it in the Museum Employment Education Program (MEEP) at the American Museum of National History. Ariana said “This internship allowed me to explore the professional world and focus on my career while identifying my talents and abilities. It helped support my future goals by strengthening my skills in projecting my voice, speaking confidently, collaborating with others” noting, “Since in-person experience is different from the classroom experience, this program allowed me to gain expertise by watching, learning, and participating in the work. Leaving my comfort zone helps you to deal with change and have personal growth.” Finally adding: “It is a really fun experience and a friendly work environment that I recommend everyone to at least try something you are wondering/interested in.”

In fact, Ariana impressed everyone at the American Museum of Natural History and was offered a part-time job at the culmination of the internship! How did she transition from intern to employee? “I applied as the Visitor Service Representative and asked my supervisors if they could be my references. If there is an opportunity, and a will, take it. I would not have been working where I am without this internship. Internships are excellent sources of networking, experience, growth, knowledge, and practice.”

Reaching out to your supervisors during your internship is a fantastic way to find out about more opportunities in the organization, and supervisors can provide reference, coaching, and insight. Excellent job, Ariana!

INDUSTRY & SKILLS:

JENNIFER VERA, FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY ’23

LEAP PEER ADVISOR

Our newest LEAP Peer Advisor, Jennifer Vera, took advantage of the Sophomore ACT program last year on the recommendation of her LEAP Advisors after being rejected from an internship she really wanted. After applying and being accepted into Sophomore ACT, Jennifer shared that: “After various one-to-one meetings with Jessica Lawes [from the Center for Career & Professional Development], I had finally created the perfect resume I still tweak today. As for my cover letter, I also received advisement on it and can now develop my own without needing much help as I once used to. After this step was completed in the program, we had to apply for our first internship. I remember sharing thoughts of anxiousness with the rest of the students in a group chat that we had. We had all finally been ready to apply for opportunities along our college journey.”

Jennifer’s tips for your resume? Formatting! In her opinion; “This is the most important tip of them all. When an employer is looking at an applicant’s resume, they expect it to be easy to read. But what exactly does this mean? Simply put, you need to make sure that you choose the perfect font size to prevent eye strain!” She wants you to know that making the font smaller to fit everything all on a page is, unfortunately, a no-go! And this brings her other tip: “Prioritizing the important stuff!” It would be amazing if resumes could be at least two pages. But unfortunately, a page is the required format for a resume. Therefore, you should learn to prioritize the experience that is interconnected with the opportunity you’re applying for.” These tips worked! This year, Jennifer is a LEAP Peer Advisor and an intern at Nardello & Co., a global investigations firm.

Welcome to the LEAP Team Jennifer and thanks for sharing your experience!

More questions? Reach out to Jennifer, or your LEAP Advisor, for questions about the Fall 2021 Sophomore ACT program, formatting your resume, cover letter, and finding Experiential Learning Opportunities.
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES:

Manhattan Theatre Club, Paul A. Kaplan Theatre Management Program Application (Fall 2021-Business Internship):

Interns are assigned projects and responsibilities that contribute to the day-to-day running of the company. Additionally, interns’ relationships with their supervisor and mentor ensure that they are not only gaining valuable skills but also receiving continuous support and feedback.

Apply here! (Applications are due by October 15, 2021)

Broadway Mall Association, Development Associate:

BMA is currently seeking a Development Associate for 8-12 hours over 2-3 days per week. The position reports to the Development & External Affairs Manager. Duties include but are not limited to: fundraising, volunteer & special events, marketing, and general office management.

This is a paid position at $15 an hour. Except for volunteer events, work will be a combination of in-office and remote. Applicant must be fully vaccinated. To apply, please send cover letter and resume in one pdf document Erin Powers at epowers@broadwaymall.org. You can find more info here.

You can find more ELO opportunities by visiting our website or by searching on John Jay Careers Online!