



Internship Times

Lasting Internship for Tomorrow's Los Angeles (LIFT LA)

What they are saying About Us:



"Your program is not only innovative, but is an excellent example of how educational programs can make a difference. By helping to train our young people for exciting careers, you are providing an important asset to the community." - **Dianne Feinstein, United States Senator**



"I support this outstanding program- which has not only saved the City millions of dollars in overhead costs, but also helped to provide a meaningful, hands-on work experience for participating interns." - **Hal Bernson, former L.A. City Councilman, 12th District**

Why We Need TFLA's LIFT LA Internship

By Alan Monkawa



- TFLA intern Amir Qaheri developed the mobile APP for the LAPW Bureau of Street Services (BSS), now available on Google Play.

- Amir was a recipient of the October 2013 Employee Recognition Award from the BSS in recognition of his work. The mobile APP that Amir developed allows the user to report problems, read news, request service, or check the repair status on Los Angeles roads via manual input or by using the Smartphone's GPS locator.

"Before I started interning here I didn't have any real experience working on big projects, here I am working on the real stuff." - Amir Qaheri, Computer Science Intern CSULA

Amir (center) shows off his award with BSS Director Nazario Saucedo (right), and Supvr. Steve Chan (left)

The Transportation Foundation of Los Angeles's LIFT LA Internship program is a multiple award winning program that provides many of the brightest, most ambitious Students from Universities in the Los Angeles area. These candidates have a chance to hone their skills and show that they are capable of making major contributions at various Bureaus in the Los Angeles Public Works. The Transportation Foundation of Los Angeles (TFLA) has been in business for over twenty-two years, forming partnerships with Fortune 500 companies and Government Agencies alike.

TFLA helps their interns understand what it means to be a professional by analyzing and discussing with them the qualities expected of a professional and ensuring that interns are evaluated by those criteria during their internship. Consistent performance and delivery is a formula for success on all levels; it is what TFLA commits to. TFLA focuses on outreach, diligently selecting and providing the best University juniors, seniors, and graduate students to intern at the City of Los Angeles Public Works Bureau of Street Services, Bureau of Sanitation, and Bureau of Engineering.

Being in an internship is often a defining moment and a catalyst for the careers of many individuals. It is a defining moment in the sense that it often gives the student their first taste of what it is like to work in a professional environment of their chosen field. Students assimilate and begin their transition into professionals. It is a catalyst because it puts the intern on the fast track to success, giving them the experience and skills to jump start their careers.

Without an internship many graduates find that they lack the training and experience to compete with candidates that have years of experience. In many cases good students leave school without understanding what it means to be a true professional. These individuals need a chance to gain experience and build their resumes before graduating in order to ease their transition into the professional roles that they are working toward. The Transportation Foundation of Los Angeles's LIFT LA internship provides the student with that opportunity, while providing the employer with interns that have the skill set they need.



LIFT LA

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One on One with Hank Northrop



“Before this internship I really didn’t know about the lifecycle of software production and ever since I started interning here I have been involved with every single step of the process developing software.”- **Alex Bu, Computer Science Intern CSULB**



“It helped me build a strong work ethic and I have learned how to use a lot of computer programs better.”- **Stephanie Bahn, Administrative Financial Intern CSUF**

Internship Inquires Welcome

**Contact us at:
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Hank Northrop is a Senior, Majoring in Communications at USC. Hank is an intern at the LAPW Bureau of Street Services Executive Div. Hank does Journalism and Public Relations for the BSS, published on lacity.bss.org, and on the BSS mobile APP.

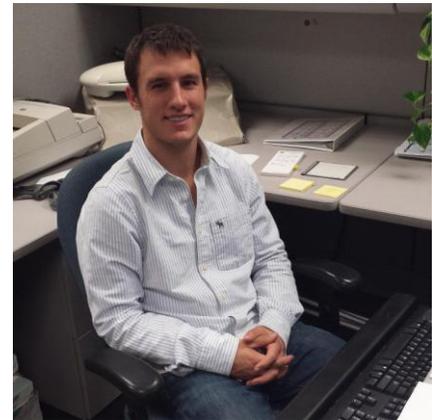
Alan Monkawa: Hank, tell us a little about your experience as an intern here.

Hank Northrop: It has been a great experience and a fantastic journey getting hands on professional experience tailored to my major. I have been able to do journalism both on camera and off, I have tackled many projects that I would have never dreamed of doing had it not been for this internship. Also it has been very beneficial financially for me because it’s tough to pay for all the things we need in school. It is nice to have an internship that pays because those are few and far between.

Alan: Tell us about some of your projects.

Hank: I am personally responsible for a monthly newsletter called Street Talk for the BSS. I get to write every article, collect the pictures, make the format and structure, and verify that all the info is correct. I work directly with the Director Mr. Nazario Saucedo, he approves and it goes out to the City, so I am very proud of that. Also I go to job sites and conduct interviews in the field, which is great experience.

Alan: Tell us a little bit about the challenges you faced.



Hank: There are challenges relating to school and outside life from being both a student and working like taking finals for example. But this internship actually mitigates those challenges because it allows you to be flexible. As far as challenges in the workplace, there haven’t been too many because it is a very cohesive and fluid environment, the people I work with are fantastic and I really enjoy it. If anything is really challenging there is always someone I can ask.

Alan: Is this internship helping with your understanding of your major?

Hank: Oh absolutely, with a broad major like communications it has really helped me narrow down what I want to focus on. While I focus specifically on journalism I also have tackled many other communications related issues like social media and public relations. It has really helped me get a wide range of experience in my major.

For employers and students interested in how to participate in the internship program please contact us at:

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