

Kerlan-Jobe and the Da Vinci Schools Partners in Learning

Atending public high school in Los Angeles has its challenges. In 2012, only 62 percent of incoming high school seniors received their diplomas, with a dropout rate 20 percent higher than the national average. Studies show that combining academic rigor with career or technical learning, work-based learning and mentoring designed to help the student move toward postsecondary goals not only improves graduation rates but also helps boost scores in reading, math and science. This stands in stark contrast to students who do not believe their schoolwork is relevant and who are not engaged being at a much higher risk of dropping out. Engaged students not only attend school more, but they are also likely to get more out of their time in school because they approach learning more eagerly, seek greater opportunities and are able to persist in the face of difficulty.

Known collectively as Da Vinci Schools, Da Vinci Science High School and Da Vinci Design High School opened in 2009 as independent, college-prep public charter high schools. The unique focus of Da Vinci Schools is to provide an outstanding and rigorous high school education in preparation for admission to college, coupled with real-world experience. The ultimate goal of the Da Vinci Schools experience is to bridge the gap between the classroom and the workplace and prepare students to be successful in college, their careers and lives.



Priscilla Romero, Da Vinci School work experience student in the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic

Behind this approach lies the belief that schools, in collaboration with local businesses, should be able to provide learning opportunities outside the classroom that harness the relevance and needs of business with the academic rigor of the school curriculum. This increases both business support and student engagement. This approach has proven to be very successful for the students attending Da Vinci Schools, as demonstrated by the class of 2013 achieving a 97 percent daily attendance rate and a 100 percent graduation rate, with 78 percent of Da Vinci graduates being accepted to four-year universities.

The curriculum at Da Vinci Schools takes a “learn by doing” project-based approach to high school studies. In the process of learning by doing, students develop critical-thinking, problem-solving, communication and presentation skills while mastering state and national educational standards. Among the programs included in this real-world experience are college classes taught on-site, honors courses, work experiences in the local community, and seminars related to current world issues and skill development.

► **The relationship with Da Vinci Schools benefits all parties. Students receive a firsthand experience in the health care arena and career mentors. Kerlan-Jobe has pleasant, smart and energetic students supporting patient care and research.**

Through Da Vinci’s Work Experience Program, students have the opportunity for short-term internship-like experiences with local business and other organizations. During these half-day-per-week experiences, Da Vinci students learn on-the-job skills while providing the host organization with a helping hand and a fresh perspective. Students make a contribution to the host organization and gain a hands-on understanding of what it’s like to function in the workplace. In Kerlan-Jobe’s collaboration with Da Vinci Schools, students gain real-world experience, along with exposure to the community service mission of the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Foundation. At Kerlan-Jobe, Da Vinci students get the



Kylan Soriano, Da Vinci School work experience student in Select Physical Therapy at Kerlan-Jobe

chance to experience a variety of health care-related business settings, including physical therapy (in cooperation with Select Physical Therapy), a patient clinic, a business office, and the research and education programs of the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Foundation. The students selected

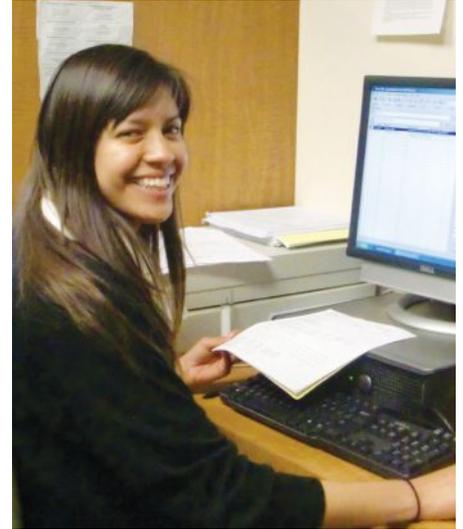
to participate at Kerlan-Jobe are there because they have an interest in pursuing a career in health care.

During their workplace experience at Kerlan-Jobe, Da Vinci students get an up-close and personal look at a variety of professions in the health care field. Through class field trips to the Kerlan-Jobe Biomechanics Laboratory at the Ossur facility in Foothill Ranch, California, Da Vinci students get an

insider's view of how physics and other scientific disciplines are applied to the study of human motion. The Biomechanics Lab is a wonderful teaching facility offering opportunities to develop injury-prevention and -treatment programs, optimal surgical techniques, and medical devices such as prosthetics and orthotics, all based on scientific principles and research.

The relationship with Da Vinci Schools benefits all parties. Students receive a first-hand experience in the health care arena and career mentors. Kerlan-Jobe has pleasant, smart and energetic students supporting patient care and research. Moreover, mentoring Da Vinci students energizes much of the Kerlan-Jobe staff, since the energy and excitement of the students is infectious. Students with particular interests are matched to opportunities such as observing surgical cases in the Kerlan-Jobe Surgery Center.

The interest in the students carries on after their internships at Kerlan-Jobe, with staff members frequently asking for updates on how students are doing in school, where



Karen Gutierrez, Da Vinci School work experience student in the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Foundation

they are applying to college and what career paths they ultimately choose. In this era of technology-based communication, having personal interaction between students and professionals in a work environment and guiding and mentoring future caregivers are win-wins for all. ■



Like athletes always delivering their very best, HUB International will deliver the very best in exceptional client service, and provide the very best insurance products, programs and risk management services to protect our clients.

We are a leading insurance broker for businesses and successful individuals who demand the best coverage, service and pricing. HUB is known for its extensive resources, industry specialists and wealth management advisors. It is important to work with a professional who can fully serve all of your insurance and risk management needs.

For more information, contact:

Rosemary Pudlik, Senior Vice President
6701 Center Drive West, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Direct Line: (310) 568-5916
Mobile: (626) 222-6632
Rosemary.pudlik@hubinternational.com

