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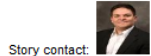


Missy Clark discusses STEM opportunities with a local student.

Highlights

- MasterCard was presenting sponsor of the STEM portion of the Spirit of St. Louis Air Show and STEM Expo.
- During the three-day event, more than 60 MasterCard employees volunteered both onsite at the expo and to plan the event.
- 'Career Guru' application, designed by MasterCard employees for this event, was a big hit with the kids.

Making a Difference: Showcasing Opportunities in STEM



Story contact: Fotenos, Jim on: 5/5/2014

This weekend, MasterCard employees in St. Louis set aside their personal plans to show area children how science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) can not only be fun, but also lead to a promising future.

As the presenting sponsor of the STEM portion of the Spirit of St. Louis Air Show and STEM Expo, MasterCard had the opportunity to showcase the importance of technology and innovation directly to the St. Louis community.

"We were overwhelmed with employees' interest in helping local students learn about technology careers," says Amanda Gioia, senior business leader. "The 'Career Guru' application, specifically designed by MasterCard employees for this event, was a big hit with the kids and really got them thinking about opportunities in STEM."

During the three-day event, more than 60 MasterCard employees volunteered both onsite at the STEM Expo and to plan the event. Friday was a preview day for the event, and provided a sneak peek to 1,600 area students. More importantly, it gave volunteers the opportunity to share the benefits of STEM education and career ideas that students may not have considered.

More than 50,000 visitors attended this year's Spirit of St. Louis Air Show and STEM Expo. Many stopped by the MasterCard exhibit and learned more about how we connect consumers, financial institutions, merchants, governments and businesses.

"We saw this as a great opportunity to educate the St. Louis community about the work we do as a technology company and the high priority MasterCard places on STEM skills," adds Amanda. "By highlighting the value and demand for STEM skills to students, parents and educators they can help identify additional classes, activities and opportunities for the kids to help them become strong in these areas."

Photo above right: Ben Gibson helps a student use the Career Guru application designed by employees to assist kids in matching their interests with STEM careers.



Tools

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Edwards, Anne 5/7/2014 4:13 PM

What a great event with so many students! The event was well planned and executed with great value! Thanks Comms team! I will be looking forward to next year!



Nachu, Phani 5/5/2014 5:03 PM

Appreciate the opportunity given to us to be able to advocate the importance of STEM



Appreciate the opportunity given to us to be able to advocate the importance of STEM.



Shrestha, Rachana 5/5/2014 2:42 PM

The best part of the day was to see the kids (and the parents) really excited about their STEM career. The Career Guru app was wonderful!



Rios, Shelly 5/5/2014 2:41 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to make an impact in our community. That's one thing I love about working here at MasterCard.



Gibson, Ben 5/5/2014 2:33 PM

This was such a fantastic experience! I can't wait to be a part of more events like this in the future!



Sundararajan, Alagendran 5/5/2014 1:02 PM

Thank you for the opportunity, it was great experience for me talking to a lot of people and explaining about the STEM program to the KIDS.



Hergenroether, Maureen 5/5/2014 12:55 PM

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers. It was a great event for MasterCard to demonstrate our commitment to STEM in the community!