

Thanks to your generous support, LEAP students have been exploring new ideas and developing skills through a range of activities and programs. With a new focus on careers, here is a round-up of what they have been up to at LEAP.

SMILE AND CAPTURE THE MOMENTS IN THE TEEN CENTER

The Teen Center is at it again – building innovative programs with strong career connections. Responding to youth interest, the Teen Center staff has introduced an exciting curriculum in photography that teaches technical and artistic skills while introducing new career pathways in this field. This new six-week program, “Capture the Moment” has given youth the opportunity to take to the streets of Salem to find interesting people, places, and things to snap. Youth visited Sperling Interactive on a field trip and heard firsthand from Founder and Director Mike Sperling on photography’s role in marketing and website design. Back at the Teen Center, the budding photographers had a hands-on opportunity to learn from master photographer and LEAP donor John Worrall. In the spring, students will learn how drones are used for aerial photography with help from Gravoc’s drone specialist.



Photographer and LEAP donor John Worrall with LEAP for Education students and staff.



Mike Sperling, Founder and Director of Sperling Interactive with LEAP for Education students and staff.

A big thank you to New England Biolabs and Cell Signaling, whose support enabled us to purchase all the necessary equipment to make this engaging learning experience possible!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

As a teenager, who hasn’t struggled with the question, “what do I want to be when I grow up?” As part of LEAP’s new Career Connections initiative, LEAP is teaming up with the business community and many of our donors to help teens address that very question. Thanks to your support, the Teen Center at LEAP’s headquarters in Salem has been home to two Career Slams this fall. Career Slams introduce high school students to professionals and skilled workers in a variety of fields and give the youth a chance to speak with individuals working in fields that the teens may not have familiarity with. The first Career Slam focused on Public Service, where elected and appointed officials from the North Shore gathered to discuss their career paths. Our second Career Slam featured skilled tradespeople

and paraprofessionals whose careers do not necessarily require a college degree but do demand some post-secondary education and/or licensure. In both Career Slams, the conversations between the working adults and the teens were both deeply personal and inspiring. The message was clear: choose a field you love, learn it, excel in it and you will be on your way to success.

Thank you Santander Bank, the Van Otterloo Family Foundation, Alfred E. Chase Charitable Foundation, and Norman H. Read Charitable Trust.



Mayor Kim Driscoll, State Representative Paul Tucker, Marblehead Town Administrator Jason Silva, State House Chief of Staff DJ Napolitano, and Everett Communications Director Tom Philbin with LEAP for Education students and staff.

I NEED A JOB!

LEAP introduces Career Connections

We have all heard this from our teens once they reach the employable age of 14. But do these youth have resumes? Do they know how to search for jobs? Bring their best to an interview or have a conversation with an adult?

The answers are all a resounding “NO.”

As teenagers reach high school, do they set career and college goals? Do they make intentional course selection decisions? Do they create their college lists based on their longer-term goals? Can they articulate what careers might best fit their interests or even what their own strengths, interests and values are?

Again, the answers are the same: NO, to all four questions.

LEAP students answer YES, thanks to your support of our Career Connections initiative.

A small sampling of our activities include:

- Career panels throughout the year (Finance, Public Service, Trades, Healthcare and more)
- Company field trips to Google, Analogic, Microsoft, CarMax, and more
- Networking nights hosted by such companies as McCue Corporation, Analogic, and Cell Signaling Technologies
- Mock Interview nights with volunteer interviewers from area businesses
- Summer jobs and internship programs including job-readiness workshops

Each year students complete multiple career benchmarks that culminate in the spring with the completion of an Education and Career Plan. This plan is updated annually at LEAP to inform course selections and college decisions.

These programs exist because of gifts of money and time from many generous donors and volunteers and major donations from foundations such as Norman H. Read Charitable Trust, Santander Bank, Amelia Peabody Foundation, Van Otterloo Family Foundation, James C. Melvin Trust, Wellington Management Foundation, Cummings Foundation, and Clark R. Smith Family Foundation.

If you are interested in volunteering or hosting an event, please call or email me: 978.740.6667 x109 or lsaris@leap4ed.org.

Linda E. Saris, Executive Director



▲ Linda Saris, LEAP Executive Director, and Nadia Nkwetta, LEAP student.



▲ Gloucester High School 10th grade student Nicole Fernandes working for the Cape Ann YMCA as a lifeguard.

TAKING THE LEAP INTO THE WORKPLACE

Gloucester and Salem students enjoy summer workplace learning

LEAP launched its first six-week summer internship program. Thirty students worked four days a week in a field of their interest and one day per week engaged with LEAP staff and area HR specialists to develop skills such as professionalism, resume writing, and the college search process. One of our tenth grade students, Nicolle Fernandes, participated so that she could work for the Cape Ann YMCA as a lifeguard. After becoming lifeguard certified during April school vacation, she worked 200 hours at the Ipswich YMCA this summer, well over the minimum requirement of 60 hours, and is continuing to work during this school year to build her skills and experience for college.

Thank you to individual donors, the business community, the Clark R. Smith Family Foundation, the Institution for Savings Foundation, and North Shore Workforce Investment Board.

MIDDLE SCHOOL EXCITEMENT

Action! Camera! Lights! At O'Maley Academy in Gloucester

O'Maley Academy, the site of the LEAP-managed after school program, has launched its fifth year of exciting enrichment activities. One of these activities gives students the chance to serve as the technical and production team for O'Maley TV and to learn the skills to plan and produce daily morning announcements, which are live streamed into homerooms. Their first episode is a staff profile interview with O'Maley Assistant Principal Jeff Destino.

This program, which reaches 220 students annually, would not be possible without generous support from the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the City of Gloucester.

Zero Robotics at Expanding Horizons in Salem

This past summer, LEAP for Education offered middle school students a Zero Robotics program under the direction of LEAP alumnus Kevin Melo. Zero Robotics is a national robotics programming competition that takes place on the International Space Station. Students at the Collins Middle School, spent five weeks participating in the program and had the opportunity to visit MIT and the Museum of Science.

Thank you Norman H. Read Charitable Foundation and Salem Public Schools for helping make this possible for our middle school students!



▲ LEAP alumnus Kevin Melo and middle school students attending the Zero Robotics program.

UNITED WAY

LEAP becomes a Strategic Partner Agency of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley.



United Way supports many youth programs throughout Eastern Massachusetts and Southeastern New Hampshire that have helped over 24,000 youth graduate high school and succeed.

In September, LEAP proudly became a strategic partner agency of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. As a strategic partner, LEAP receives three years of funding to infuse our out-of-school enrichment, college and career activities with opportunities for our students to grow socially and emotionally. Social-emotional learning includes developing life skills, building self-confidence and awareness, and helping students make important social connections.

LEAP welcomes Erin Morrissey and Kayla Benoit as this year's United Way Americorps members. LEAP would also like to thank United Way for referring volunteers for our FAFSA Day and for providing opportunities for our youth to visit cultural venues in Boston.

“We are proud to partner with LEAP to create quality learning experiences that ensure all young people can access college and career training that will set them up for a successful future. We mobilize resources to support schools and organizations like LEAP through grant funding and our Americorps programs. Working together we can reduce barriers to quality education,” said Sarah Bartley, Senior Director, Community Impact, United Way.

IT'S A WRAP – OVER 200 COLLEGE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

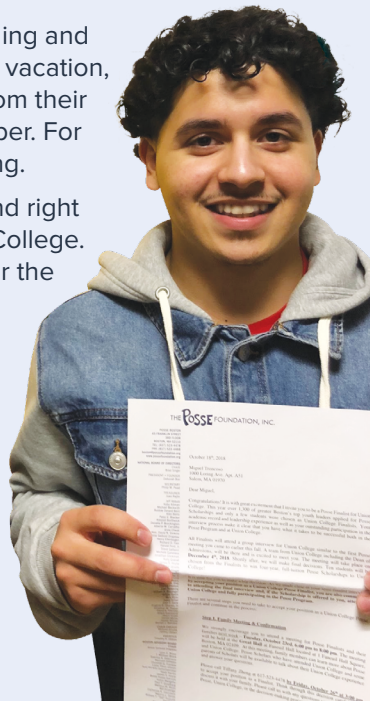
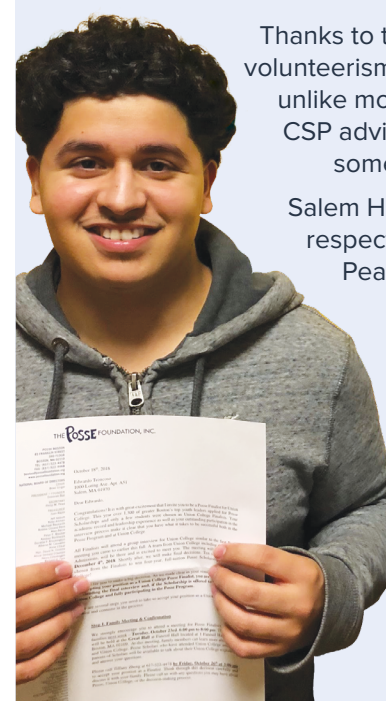
LEAP students in the College Success Program await scholarship decisions

Thanks to the many who support our College Success Program (CSP) through funding and volunteerism, LEAP students will get to enjoy a stress-free and well-deserved winter vacation, unlike most other high school seniors. LEAP's 31 high school seniors, with help from their CSP advisers, will have submitted **over 200 college applications** by mid-December. For some students awaiting scholarship decisions, the excitement is still mounting.

Salem High School seniors, twins Eduardo and Miguel Troncoso (pictured left and right respectively), are both finalists for the Posse Scholarship (full-tuition) at Union College. Peabody Veterans Memorial High School senior Jenny Santos is a finalist for the QuestBridge scholarship (full-ride). When asked about this opportunity, Miguel said,

“I told my LEAP advisor that I wanted to be a mechanical engineer. LEAP introduced me to an engineer at General Electric who has become an important mentor to me and then LEAP nominated me for a scholarship to Union College's School of Engineering. With help from LEAP advisor, Allison, I have made it to the final round and am trying to remain calm as we prepare for the final interview with admissions.”

Congratulations on making it to this step and best of luck as finalists!



Save the Date

GREAT EXPECTATIONS FUNDRAISER

Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 6:00 PM
Danversport Yacht Club

Gather your friends, family, and
colleagues for North Shore's best
Trivia Fundraiser!

RAFFLES AUCTION TRIVIA

We are delighted to present several
sponsorship, advertising, and donation
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for essential youth educational
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leap4ed.org/great-expectations

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LEAP IS A COMMUNITY...

Student: Deury Collado

Age: 17

School: Salem High School (Junior)

Program Participation at LEAP: Teen Center, including
Brothers for Success and ELL Street, Early College and
College Success Program

College Choice: Salem State University

Future Goals: Work in the media

Deury, a junior at Salem High School, has been attending the Teen Center at LEAP for Education for the past two years. After moving to the North Shore from the Dominican Republic, Deury was able to find a community at LEAP and participate in a variety of programs, including Brothers for Success, a mentoring program for young men of color. Outside of LEAP, Deury is volunteering for the YMCA at Horace Mann Laboratory School.

In addition to participating in programs for his own advancement, Deury has recognized the importance of supporting other immigrant students like himself. He has continued to participate in ELL Street, LEAP's program for English Language Learners, to make sure

that students with limited English skills feel more comfortable. He also worked in LEAP's summer middle school program, Healthy Harbors, supporting younger students in their environmental marine projects.

With encouragement from LEAP staff, Deury was one of the first to complete his application to the Early College program at Salem High School and join the College Success Program to support him in making important college and career decisions and becoming college and career ready.

To Deury, LEAP is a family.

"Taylor [Teen Center Program Manager] has helped me through some really tough times. LEAP is a community that helps with more than just school work."

