



TCU/IAM Advanced Training

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TTX Donates Railcar to Gary TCU/IAM Training Program for Hands-On Learning

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On October 25, the Gary TCU/IAM program received a railcar donated by TTX. Students of the Gary program were on site to watch the railcar be delivered and assembled on the tracks. Students were able to assist with the assembly and gain knowledge firsthand from experienced rail workers. Students can now perform brake testing and installation, gauging and inspection of the entire brake system of the railcar referencing American Association of Railroads (AAR) and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) rules.



A huge thank you to TTX for their generosity and support of TCU/IAM Advanced Training. Also, a special thanks to TCU/IAM General President/National Vice President Richard Johnson and the Carmen Division along with **Gary Job Corps Center** Director Lonnie Hall and his staff for all of their support and help in this very collaborative effort.

92 Students Transferred into TCU/IAM this Quarter!

TRANSPORTATION PLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

KEVIN PIERCE
Gary TCU/IAM
SkyWest
Ramp Agent
\$10.25/hr

THOMAS GARCIA
Los Angeles TCU/IAM
Amtrak
Service Attendant
\$17.91/hr

ANTONIO ASHFORD
Potomac TCU/IAM
Long Island Railroad
Car Appearance Maintainer
\$17.00/hr

JESSICA ALLEN
San Jose TCU/IAM
METRO
Human Resource Visitor Services
\$18.80/hr

LILLIAN BACHANAS
Shriver TCU/IAM
AMTRAK
Coach Cleaner
\$15.58/hr

LEDORA BURKS
St Louis TCU/IAM
Amtrak
Utility Worker
\$15.85/hr

MICHAEL LOPEZ
Excelsior Springs TCU/IAM
TTX
Carman
\$15.48/hr

ANDREW LITTLE
Humphrey TCU/IAM
Swissport North America
Aircraft Fueler
\$9.50/hr

TEMPIE BACCUS
Atlanta TCU/IAM
Amtrak
Passenger Service Representative
\$19.65/hr

ATLANTA REGION

Bamberg: 2
Brunswick: 3
Gadsden: 1
Gainesville: 1
Homestead: 1
Jacobs Creek: 1
Lyndon B. Johnson: 2
Mississippi: 2
Montgomery: 2

SAN FRANCISCO REGION

Hawaii: 1
San Diego: 3
Tongue Point: 1
Treasure Island: 1
Wolf Creek: 1

BOSTON REGION

Barranquitas: 1
Delaware Valley: 1
Edison: 4
Northlands: 4
South Bronx: 1
Westover: 3

PHILADELPHIA REGION

Carl D. Perkins: 4
Earle C. Clements: 5
Flatwoods: 1
Frenchburg: 1
Great Onyx: 2
Harpers Ferry: 2
Keystone: 1
Muhlenberg: 4
Philadelphia: 2
Red Rock: 1
Whitney M. Young: 3
Wilmington: 1
Woodland: 1
Woodstock: 2

DALLAS REGION

Anaconda: 2
Cass: 2
Collbran: 1
North Texas: 1
Ouachita: 3
Trapper Creek: 1
Tulsa: 1

CHICAGO REGION

Atterbury: 3
Detroit: 1
Flint/Genesee: 1
Gerald R. Ford: 1
Joliet: 2
Mingo: 4
Paul Simon Chicago: 1
Quentin-Burdick: 2



Sept Muyage, Shriver TCU/IAM graduate and Amtrak Assistant Conductor and his brother, Steven Toko, Gary TCU/IAM graduate and Union Pacific Conductor meeting at the Shriver TCU/IAM

What a Story—Made for the Movies! Two Brothers' Odyssey to Success in America!

Sept Muyage and Steven Toko faced many hardships and challenges growing up in Central Africa. Coming to the United States with their family and going to school here was the best opportunity they ever received. While their hardships continued as they planned to further their education after high school, they found Job Corps and were eager to enroll at the **Old Dominion JCC**. They both excelled in their trades but wanted more. TCU/IAM Advanced Training was their next choice. Sept was accepted to the program at **Shriver JCC** in Devens, MA and Steven was accepted to **Gary JCC** in San Marcos, TX.

Apart from the first time in their lives, their passion to succeed kept them united and they excelled in their TCU/IAM classes. Hard work and dedication paid off for both of them. Sept was hired by Amtrak as an Assistant Conductor and Steven was hired with Union Pacific as a Conductor. Both brothers are extremely grateful to Job Corps for the opportunity they received.

Los Angeles Graduates Promoted to Conductors with Amtrak

Samantha Tames, from the Office Administration trade, and Dayshonna Marshall from the Electronics Assembly trade at the **Los Angeles JCC**, began successful transportation careers with Amtrak following their training at the Los Angeles TCU/IAM Advanced Training program. Samantha began her career at Amtrak in April 2011 as a Train Attendant in Los Angeles with a starting salary of \$17.65/hr. Dayshonna was hired with Amtrak in July 2011 as a Guaranteed Extra Board baggage clerk with a starting wage of \$18.87/hr. Recently, Samantha and Dayshonna stopped by the Los Angeles TCU/IAM location to share the wonderful news that they had both been promoted to Conductors and were starting their training soon.



Amtrak Conductors- Samantha Tames and Dayshonna Marshall

San Jose TCU/IAM Ramp Agent - Glowing Success

Erica Sims transferred to the San Jose program from **Inland Empire JCC** and is now working at the San Francisco International Airport with SkyWest Airlines as a Ramp Agent.

When Erica enrolled into our program, she was excited to start this opportunity and always maintained a respectful attitude, was very dedicated when it came to her training, and she strived to attain the position she now holds today. After working with SkyWest, she came out to speak to our students about her job duties, experience, and SkyWest expectations. Erica said "I would like to thank TCU/IAM Advanced Training and Job Corps for giving me a chance to succeed in my career goals."



San Jose Makes Successful Placement Partners with TASI/Herzog

The San Jose TCU/IAM program recently had a very successful meeting and tour with TASI/Herzog HR Manager Dewayne Quock. Mr. Quock toured the entire facility, spoke to students and staff, reviewed curriculum and training regimen, and was very impressed with the quality and caliber of students, staff, and relevant curriculum. He had excellent suggestions about what qualities TASI is looking for in entry-level employees, how to be successful in an entry level interview, and also mentioned very positive comments about the program from former students, now current Amtrak HR employees, Sandra Leon and Leticia Deleon.

Mr. Quock also volunteered to visit again in the future to give the students a presentation on interviewing do's and don'ts and successful interviewing. This was a great start toward re-establishing the program's long standing placement relationship with CalTrain's new contractor.



SJ FEA LeAnn Chen, FER Michael Cohen, TASI/Herzog HR Manager Dewayne Quock, TCU/IAM RC David Kollwe, LFER, Erika Sarmiento and FER Erin O-Malley-Minchell

IAMAW Officials Visit Shriver TCU/IAM Program

In September, Officers from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, toured the **Shriver JCC** and the TCU/IAM Program. Shriver students learned about job opportunities within industries they represent like Bath Iron Works and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Bus Mechanics. They also represent companies that work on aircraft at Andrews Air force Base including Air Force One.

Following the tour, the IAMAW Representatives had a Question and Answer session with the TCU/IAM students. A special luncheon was prepared and presented by the Shriver culinary students.



*Front row- Oscar Derderian Jr.-TCU/IAM Regional Coordinator, Joe Flanders- IAM Representative Dave Sullivan- IAM Representative
Back row- Barbara Holt- TCU/IAM Lead Instructor, Craig Hughes- IAM Representative, Edward Michael Vartabedian- IAM Representative, Rick Compher- IAM Representative*

Potomac Graduate Returns to Promote and Share Personal Success



"I originally attended **Kittrell Job Corps** in Kittrell, NC. I trained in the Facility Maintenance, Cable Networking, and Electricians I trade. I heard about TCU/IAM through the Career Transition Representative. I was president of the SGA and did well in my trades and was recommended and accepted for Advanced Training at the Potomac Job Corps Center. I was originally interested in working in the Airline industry so I figured I'd give it a shot. I moved to Washington, D.C. and started the TCU/IAM program. I thought the book work was a little boring, but I thought it was like a college atmosphere. The work was steady and there was a lot of it. I completed the TCU/IAM curriculum pretty quickly in only about four months. My focus shifted from the airline industry, to the rail industry and I applied and interviewed for Freight Rail Conductor with Norfolk Southern. I made it down to the last three people being interviewed out of a 100 group interview, but just came shy of making it. I then applied for Amtrak Auto Train On Board Service in Lorton, VA and was hired! I started working there in February 2009. I am currently working On Board Service where I fill many position such as Chef, Service Attendant, Dining Attendant, Bartender and Coach Attendant. This is the best position to be in because I have been trained in everything and can move to any position. I travel to and from Florida on a daily basis and take advantage of free train tickets for as many vacations as possible! I am very appreciative of the TCU/IAM Advanced Training Program. I often return to TCU/IAM program so I can share my story with the students and let them know what life at Amtrak really is like."

Dena Robinson, Potomac TCU/IAM Graduate and Amtrak Auto Train Onboard Service Attendant in Lorton, VA.



St. Louis TCU/IAM Students Volunteer at Museum of Transportation



Students Nathaniel Jackson and Damaseni Ntahimpera demonstrate parts of "coupler" on a rail car.

St. Louis TCU/IAM students are able to gain valuable hands-on learning through a volunteer opportunity. The students are able to demonstrate how a railcar coupler is disassembled and to check for defects. Students also give public demonstrations on rail safety, inspection of railcars and how air-brakes work.

BNSF/TCU-IAM Donates Air Brake Simulator to St. Louis Program

On September 20, 2012 the St. Louis TCU/IAM program received a railcar pneumatic air brake simulator donated by BNSF Railroad through the efforts of TCU/IAM Local Chairman Bob Long.

This simulator will help students test and diagnose problems with air brake systems on railcars and was enthusiastically received by students and staff. The simulator was built by carmen from BNSF.

Many thanks to Bob Long, the BNSF Railroad and everyone else who was instrumental in donating this wonderful hands-on training device.



Michael Blumenkemper, St. Louis TCU/IAM LFER and Bob Long, Carman Division Local Chairman 6743