



FOR RELEASE: Immediate, Tuesday, January 31, 2017

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14 Companies Hosting 250 students for CNY STEM Job Shadow Day ***Tech Sector Group Is Building Relationships with Future STEM Workers***

Syracuse, NY – On Thursday, February 2, 2017, fourteen companies, many of them members of the CNY Tech Sector, will be opening their doors to high school and college students from the region as part of CNY STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Job Shadow Day. About 250 students from 12 area school districts/BOCES/Le Moyne College will be participating. Most visits will take place between 8:45am-12:00n.

"The United States will need approximately 1 million more STEM professionals than are projected to graduate over the next decade." This quote, excerpted from a White House news release, was intended to motivate individuals to chase their career ambitions related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The press release was issued four years ago, on December 18, 2012.

The CNY Tech Sector has taken up the cause. Companies that are participating are: Anaren, Anoplate, C&S Companies, GE Inspection Technologies, ICS Solutions, IV4, King & King Architects, Manth-Brownell, National Grid, Plumley Engineering, Schneider Packaging Equipment Company, SIEMENS, SRC, Inc. and United Radio.

School districts involved are Syracuse City, West Genesee, ESM, Living Word Academy, Syracuse Academy of Science, Marcellus, Skaneateles, Bishop Grimes, Central Square, OCM BOCES and Westhill. A few students from LeMoyne College are participating as well. The event is coordinated by Partners for Education & Business (PEB).

Students' experiences will include a vast array of activities: informational sessions about the company and the kind of STEM jobs they hire for; company tours; technology demonstrations; participation in team meetings; practice interviews; listening in on customer service calls; and, problem-solving exercises. Most companies are also providing lunch for the students.

"If we want the best and brightest to stay in CNY, local businesses need to build relationships with students while they are in school and thinking about their college and career futures. This is an exciting way for tomorrow's workforce to learn about and connect with technical and STEM employers right in their own backyard," said Lisa Mondello of SRC, Inc.

"We thank the CNY Tech Sector companies for their commitment to STEM education. These will be important experiences for young people from many CNY high schools who are interested in preparing for future Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers," said Dr. Donna DeSiato, CNY STEM Hub, chairperson.

Joe Vargo, Executive Director of PEB, said: "These relationship-building events with employers are some of the key strategies that the Technology Sector is using to get connected to their future workforce. This event is also intended to provide an opportunity for companies, both large and small, to open their doors to students and teachers. The programs are helping to increase student's awareness and interest in careers in the technology/STEM sector."

All information gathered through surveys for this event will be incorporated in the development of future programs.

About PEB

PEB, in its 23rd year, was created by education and business leaders as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to addressing the workforce preparation needs of both education and business. PEB develops connecting activities that enhance the career education and skill development of the future workforce while understanding and promoting the skill requirements of regional employers. PEB is an affiliate of MACNY, The Manufacturers Association of CNY. Visit www.macny.org.

The **CNY STEM Technology Sector** is a business-led initiative focused on leveraging business support of STEM education by helping businesses to compile data about STEM programs to get their best ROI of their time and resources. The **CNY STEM Hub** is an education initiative focused on impacting the classroom by ensuring an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math through problem solving, multi disciplinary teaching methods that will increase the quantity and quality of the skilled workforce in the region. PEB serves as the administrator of both groups and continually blends each of the efforts for the benefit of employers and students in the region.

Find more information about STEM at www.cnystem.com.