

ExxonMobil News

A publication for neighbors, employees and retirees in the Baton Rouge area

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GET INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

School is out, but ExxonMobil is in!

This summer, 40 rising juniors and seniors from East Baton Rouge and West Baton Rouge schools are getting a head start on their futures by participating in ExxonMobil's eight-week High School Internship Program. Students are exploring careers as electricians, instrument technicians, machinists, pipefitters, welders, analyzer technicians, laboratory technicians, engineers and more – all while working 40-hour weeks and earning a competitive wage. The program started in 2021 with six students and has grown exponentially each year.

"People that have been (at ExxonMobil) for years are showing us beyond what you can see outside the gate or what you read online," said Bradley Hardy, summer intern and student at Madison Preparatory Academy. "They show us the technical things that go on at ExxonMobil."

Each student has an ExxonMobil employee mentor and is receiving hands-on training in addition to working on an intensive technical project throughout the summer. Beyond career exploration, the program includes volunteering, resume building, interview skills, presentation skills and contractor site visits.

New this summer, rising freshmen and sophomores recently spent a week learning about industry through ExxonMobil's inaugural Jumpstart Academy. Students learned about technical careers as well as the education required to secure those careers.

ExxonMobil's summer programming for students creates a direct pipeline to the North Baton Rouge Industrial Training Initiative (NBRITI). Founded by ExxonMobil in 2012 in collaboration with Baton Rouge Community College, NBRITI provides basic craft training at no cost to qualifying participants. Students receive fast-tracked classroom and hands-on training, which also includes life skills and workforce preparation.

What do the students say about their experiences with ExxonMobil? Scan the QR code with your phone's camera app to watch the video.



EXXONMOBIL HONORS OUTSTANDING TEACHERS WITH GRANTS



The Baton Rouge Alliance for Students and ExxonMobil Baton Rouge recently recognized three local educators with \$2,000 awards to honor them for their commitment to serving their students and community.

"So many ExxonMobil employees owe their successful careers to teachers who inspired and engaged them. This collaboration allows us to say thank you," said ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Public and Government Affairs Manager Stephanie Cargile. "Teachers are vital to the success of our community and our future workforce, and we are honored to collaborate with the Baton Rouge Alliance for a second year."

The recipients were Tommie Gipson of Sherwood Middle Magnet School, Yamica Carmouche of the Eva Legard Center for Coastal and Environmental Studies, and Elika Everson of Community School for Apprenticeship Learning (CSAL) Charter Middle School.

Among his students and colleagues, Gipson can be described by many as a friend for life. Gipson teaches eighth grade literacy and language arts and has educated young minds for 28 years. He frequently stays in contact with his students and can be found catching up with them over a meal, making phone calls to chat about life updates, or even lending a hand in helping them to run errands.

Janna Rogers, Gipson's former student who nominated him for this recognition, speaks to the positive impact he has made on her life years beyond the classroom.

"Back then, he was well known as a motivator and a genuinely compassionate teacher," Rogers said. "Years after being his student, he remembered my love and talent for writing. Soon, I will be publishing my first book. Mr. Gipson is partially responsible for my accomplishments and has inspired my daughter to pursue her dreams as well."

Carmouche's sixth grade homeroom and advisory students would agree that her class is one of the highlights of their day. Known among her students to radiate positivity, she is always open to have a conversation or give advice due to her open-door policy. Carmouche's contagious positivity does not go unnoticed by the people around her. Her colleague, Valerie Milton, said that her optimism creates a feeling of comfort in her classroom.

"Everyone knows Ms. Carmouche is dependable and trustworthy. She gives her all to her colleagues just like she does to her students," Milton said. "It makes a huge difference in people's lives."

"I try to keep everyone motivated because teaching is challenging and you never know what you are going to deal with," Carmouche said. "I spend time with my students on social and emotional learning because I want to keep their self-esteem high. If you feel good about yourself, you will do well."

It comes as no surprise that teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic brought its challenges to educators worldwide, but Elika Everson's flexibility and ability to adapt quickly has made a positive impact on countless students' lives. Everson has taught sixth grade science for two years and was nominated for the meaningful change she creates in her community through education.

"This confirmed my thinking that I should have been teaching all along," Everson said. "It wasn't even about the monetary part. It was the affirmation I needed to keep pushing and reassure myself that I made the right decision. I entered teaching after another career, so it was an adjustment, but I feel like I chose the right path."

Everson said that being able to deeply understand the children she teaches, as well as appreciate the fact that her students depend on her, pushes her each day to be the best she can be for her students. She hopes to provide a source of support in each life which she impacts.

"You have to love kids, be able to adjust quickly, be understanding of where they are coming from, and appreciate the fact that they are depending on you," she said.

ExxonMobil is delighted to recognize each of these outstanding teachers for their dedication to positively impacting students in their communities.

-ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Public and Government Affairs Manager Stephanie Cargile

DIVERSITY SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT: JASMINE REDO



Jasmine Redo is a rising senior majoring in industrial engineering at LSU. In 2022, she was selected as an ExxonMobil Diversity Scholar, which provides mentorship as well as financial and educational support to minority students enrolled in LSU's Engineering School.

"My experiences here have pushed me out of my comfort zone and propelled me towards a level of courageousness that allows me to confidently accept any challenges that come my way," she said.

Jasmine serves as president of LSU's Society of Women Engineers and is also a student ambassador. This summer, she is interning at ExxonMobil's corporate headquarters in Spring, TX as a supply chain intern in Procurement.

FREEDOM, EQUALITY CELEBRATED ON JUNETEENTH



The 2nd annual Juneteenth celebration was held on June 19 to commemorate the effective end date of slavery in the United States after the Civil War. Juneteenth symbolizes freedom as well as a time to reflect on the hardships enslaved ancestors faced. Our Black Employee Success Team hosted local Black-owned food vendors along with festive music.

On January 1, 1863, Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation stating that "all persons held as slaves" within the rebellious states "are, and henceforward shall be free." However, federal communication, especially regarding enslaved persons' rights, was slow at the time. Word did not reach Galveston, TX until June 19, 1865. This was a joyous day within the African American community at the time and was widely celebrated. In 1980, Texas became the first state to designate Juneteenth as a holiday. Then, in the summer of 2021, a law was passed making Juneteenth a national holiday.

NEW YOUTH CENTER AIMS TO KEEP YOUTH ON TRACK



In an effort to turn youth away from crime, ExxonMobil is working with leaders in government, business, law enforcement and nonprofit organizations to build the Inspiration Center at Howell Park.

Our city's youngest residents will soon be able to pursue their dreams at the Inspiration Center, a safe haven that will provide after-school

education and activities as well as workforce development programs. The center will also feature a football field, basketball court, game rooms, recording studio bays, reading and computer labs, meeting spaces, a cafeteria and more.

"One of the purposes for the investment is to offset the number of violent crimes that happen here," said Clay Young, chairman of the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Foundation.

"It is going to involve a lot of different organizations, so these young people have a place to study, they'll have a place to play, they'll have athletic facilities. But they're going to be interacting in a positive way with law enforcement, and they're going to have their needs analyzed and evaluated," said Governor John Bel Edwards.

The groundbreaking ceremony took place in May. Boys and Girls Club will operate the 34,000-square-foot center, which will be staffed by members of law enforcement, the Department of Children and Family Services and BREC.

EXXONMOBIL ANNOUNCES \$2M INVESTMENT TO LSU

ExxonMobil is strengthening its decades-long relationship with LSU to pursue key priorities in LSU's Scholarship First Agenda, including by advancing energy security and sustainability initiatives, and to invest in community workforce programs and athletics.

Exxon Mobil Corporation and ExxonMobil Foundation's latest investment in LSU is \$2 million. Key elements of the gift include:

- Funding for research in carbon capture utilization and storage and for research in the rapidly evolving areas of advanced recycling and greenhouse gas emission reduction technology
- Support for student scholarships, mentorship programs and workforce development in the College of Engineering, theanship School of Mass Communication and in North Baton Rouge through LSU's new Future Scholars Pipeline Initiative
- An elevated commitment to support student-athletes with LSU Sports Properties
- Academic program funding for the E. J. Ourso College of Business and the College of Engineering
- Donations to the LSU Olinde Career Center as a Gold Partner for student recruiting and career preparation



Employees Celebrate Earth Day



During Love the Boot week, employees held an Earth Day event with a litter clean-up, bird box installation, bird watching and other fun activities. Employees also enjoyed creating sunflower pollinator gardens at five designated areas in our Greenbelt, and celebrated the grand reopening of our Wildlife Education Building.

Donation Supports River Road African American Museum



ExxonMobil Pipeline Company recently supported the River Road African American Museum in Donaldsonville with a Good Neighbor Grant. The museum educates visitors about the history and culture of African Americans in the rural communities of South Louisiana through the collection, preservation and interpretation of art, artifacts and historic buildings.

Employee Dances for Big Buddy



We're so proud of our dancing queen Rory Denicola, who danced her heart out at Big Buddy Program's annual Dancing for Big Buddy event! Rory not only put on a great show but also helped this impactful organization make a difference in our community.

Golf Tournament Supports Diverse Suppliers



ExxonMobil sponsored the Southern Region Minority Supplier Diversity Council's recent spring golf tournament, which provided an opportunity to connect diverse suppliers with larger corporations like ExxonMobil. ExxonMobil is committed to increasing its diverse supplier spend, identifying new diverse suppliers, and supporting local communities where we live and work.

GIRLS, GIGABYTES AND GADGETS – AND EXXONMOBIL!



Several employees volunteered at the annual Girls, Gigabytes and Gadgets, an innovative session to get young girls engaged in internet, technology and digital spaces. Louisiana District 15 State Senator Regina Barrow joined another National Organization of Black Elected Legislative (NOBEL) Women of Baton Rouge colleague, Representative Vanessa LaFleur, to host the special event and inspire the young women.

Laura Eiklor Named New Plastics Plant Manager

ExxonMobil has named Laura Eiklor as the new Plastics Plant and Resin Finishing Plant manager. Laura replaces Kristin Thomas-Martin, who has taken another role with ExxonMobil in Spring, TX. Laura, a chemical engineering graduate from Pennsylvania State University, has been with the company for 15 years. In addition to her new role, Laura will also serve on the Baker Chamber of Commerce board of directors.



SCIENCE CORNER

WHAT IS THAT SMELL?

Odors can come from many sources. Refineries and chemical plants use raw materials and convert them to things we can use such as gasoline, jet fuel, plastic and rubber. Part of the process involves removing impurities to create these products.

At our sites, we take an active approach to determine the source of odors in the neighborhoods near our plants. We encourage our neighbors to call us if they think we may be the source of an odor. Plant personnel will promptly work with neighbors to help identify the odor.

While responding quickly to an odor call is important, preventing odors is our true goal. We follow stringent air regulations, and our emissions and odors are carefully monitored, controlled and reported to regulators such as the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) to minimize impact to the community.

When you call ExxonMobil to report an odor, our employees will ask questions, such as:

What does the odor smell like?

Where are you located?

Which direction is the wind blowing?

How long have you smelled an odor?

These questions and more help us take the first steps in determining what the odor is and where it might be coming from.



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