



## CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT >>PROGRESS AND HIGHLIGHTS<<

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## Business Division Student Success Story

College of Marin and Drake High School senior, Amanda Gordon dba California Gem, was the winner of the COM Spring 2016 Business Pitch Competition sponsored by the Business Department and went on to score a BIG WIN: second place as 2016 Student Entrepreneur of the year awarded by the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE). Ms. Gordon will be awarded her \$2,500 prize on October 10 in Sacramento at the 2016 NACCE Innovate Now! conference. The COM Pitch Competition was funded by grants provided by sponsors and Deputy Sector Navigators Alex Kramer and Molly Stuart and State Sector Navigator, Chuck Eason of California Community College **Doing What Matters for Small Business/Entrepreneurship**.



Amanda, an amazing achiever, adept business woman and savvy social entrepreneur, was in two of COM Business Instructor Nancy Willet's classes: BUS 121 Entrepreneurship and BUS 101 Intro to Business and is headed for university in the Fall of 2017. Expect to see Amanda on the cover of *Entrepreneur magazine* in the next few years!

## Career Pathways Milestone Achieved

With College of Marin's completion of its second year of the Northern California Career Pathway Alliance (NCCPA) grant, it reached a key milestone with the articulation and credit by exam of the Medical Assisting class at Terra Linda High School. This allows high school students an opportunity to earn college credit and transition into college.



## COM featured at National Drive Week

On September 10-18, Instructor Mark Barrall (who teaches Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Design and Maintenance Troubleshooting), participated with students in National Drive Electric Week, which highlights the benefits of all-electric and plug-in vehicles.

Featured was a VW vehicle, restored and converted to an electric vehicle by COM Auto Collision Repair Tech (AUTO) students. Mark said that nearly everyone was unaware that COM had AUTO or and worked on these types of projects.

Getting out in the public was one of the key steps to making the program visible!



## Coming Soon: Food Safety Course

Starting in late October, COM will begin offering Food Safety for Managers, targeted at the food service and hospitality industry. Courses are intense one-day or two-day training, followed by a certification exam. The program is accredited by the National Restaurant Association and meets California Food Safety Law. See the [marincareers.com](http://marincareers.com) website for more information.

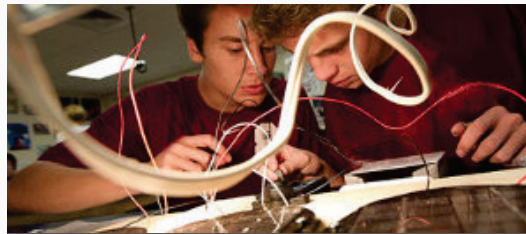


## New Programs/Courses Launched



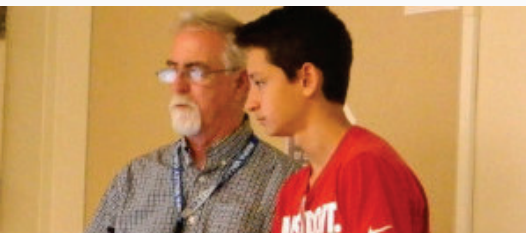
**The Trades Introduction Program** was a landmark for COM's Adult Education program. **The 10-week course graduated 19 students from five counties!**

Funded by the Adult Education Block Grant, the rigorous program is a 'pre-apprenticeship' introduction to a wide range of trades. Success stories are coming in already!



**Solar Academy** packed in a **whopping 63 students** in a highly successful learning experience.

This new 6-day program exposed students to careers in the renewable energy sector, paired with paid (\$200) work experience! It included six NCCPA teachers, two guest speakers, and new partner, SunPower.



**Entrepreneur Boot Camp** is for high school and college students ages 14-27. The week-long program included guest speakers, exercises, and fun, as nine students explored their entrepreneurial ideas — and created a business plan. The program culminated with a business plan competition.



COM piloted a week-long **Career Exploration** program signing up 23 high schoolers, grades 9 to 12.

Students explored their values, interests and personalities relating to careers. They gained occupational insights while earning their first college credit.

## Growing Community Partners

New partnership with the **Small Business Development Center at Dominican University**.

The newly-signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will bring a range of business classes to educate start-up and growing businesses. Some classes will be available in Spanish.



COM also has a new partnership with **Homeward Bound** offering the **Fresh Start Culinary Program** for adults.

Covered by the Adult Education Block Grant, one group of students completed a recent training, and another is scheduled in October.

## Program Performance Highlights

### Court Reporting = Stellar Career

The Court Reporting program just had three of its students pass the last state dictation exam in July — quite a contribution since only 41 people in the entire state successfully completed this exam!

This is a growing career with 2,300 job openings by 2018 — and it is also a very successful one, with careers typically reaching \$100,000 (Forbes Magazine)!



### Strong Workforce Action Group Poised to Begin

The COM Academic Senate has appointed faculty members to serve on the *ad hoc* committee co-chaired by the Dean of Career Technical Education (CTE).

Designated the Strong Workforce Action Group, SWAG will work with CTE faculty to plan use of \$579,000 in Strong Workforce allocations. The first SWAG meeting was on 9/23, with a CTE faculty breakfast on 10/7.



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