



SRJC Alumni & Friends Association

Alumni Hiring Alumni: How the Bear Cub Connection Launches Great Careers

Employers looking to recruit students or alumni from one of the premier community colleges in the state look no further than Santa Rosa Junior College. SRJC students and alumni are well prepared to take their place at the leading edge of today's workforce after rigorous coursework and hands on training.



One of the often overlooked stories of success at SRJC is the number of alumni who utilize SRJC's Career Center to find current student employees or full time employees.

A Bear Cub background is a common bond that connects more than 100,000 alumni and students - a huge network of smart and hardworking people who share the SRJC experience. This alumni bond opens the door for networking and employment opportunities.

Stephani Moore, General Manager at Baraka Neti Pots & Sinus Care Products, knows the personal value of an SRJC education and comes back to hire at SRJC because of it. "I attended SRJC in 2003-2004. I was finishing up my general education classes to transfer to Sonoma State focusing on Native American Studies and overall Anthropology. I loved how excited all of my SRJC professors were about their studies and classes. All of the professors wanted to be teaching at SRJC because Sonoma County is an amazing community, which in turn raises the standards of education at SRJC."

When it came time to hire for her current employer, Baraka Neti Pots & Sinus Care Products, Stephani chose to use SRJC to look for employees because it had originally connected her to Baraka. "Eight years ago, I saw a sign in the library for an ceramic production assistant at Baraka. Our company prides itself on being flexible which is helpful for students and their schedules. Plus I believe that if a student is willing to work while going to school, their personal drive is greater."

Over the last five years, Stephani has hired close to 10 SRJC students for a variety of positions mostly relating to ceramic production or piece work. "The nature of our positions has allowed working students to complete their education and move on to better full time jobs. I know that each one of them has gained real world experience and skills of understanding how a small manufacturing and wholesale company operates."

Recently, Lee Zieber, a current SRJC student, joined Baraka in January 2013. Stephani was impressed by his willingness to work while completing his engineering classes. "After the initial interview, Lee wrote me an email stating his desires to work for Baraka and how he would be a dependable employee and would commit to the job, two words an employer wants to hear! Thus far he has proven to be just that, dependable and committed."