

Opportunities '08 Career Fair for High School Students

Inspired by the Chamber of Commerce's "Drop Anchor" initiative to entice our talented workforce to develop roots in Tompkins County, we collaborated to develop a program for high school students to have opportunities to begin their careers with local companies committed to furthering professional development and growth.

Project Objective

To connect high school juniors and seniors with local employers that provide opportunities for growth, including tuition reimbursement and internships, through an annual career fair held at Trumansburg High School. In addition to providing access to several local employers, students will also be given assistance with resume writing, interviewing skills, and "dressing for success".

Community Partners & Consultants

Opportunities '08 is a collaboration between Trumansburg High School Tech. Prep. class and Leadership Tompkins. Tech Prep is a program funded federally through the Carl D. Perkins Act to help high school students gain experience and coursework in preparation for college and careers. Employers attending the *Opportunities 08* career fair include:

BorgWarner
CFCU Community Credit Union
City of Ithaca
Cornell Dining
Franciska Racker Center
International Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers
Ithaca College
Ithaca Police Department
Museum of the Earth

New York State Parks
Sodexo/Ithaca Dining Services
TC3 Tech Prep
TCAT
Tompkins Insurance Agency
Tompkins Trust Company
Tompkins Workforce NY
Trumansburg Ambulance
Wegmans

Project Outcomes

Opportunities '08 will be used as a template for high school level career fairs that have the objective of providing professional development opportunities especially for students that may not be college-bound.

Trumansburg High School will be using this format to develop an annual career event. The Tech. Prep. class will undertake this effort as an annual project, and invitations will be extended to other area schools.