Meet Your Future Boss: Industry Leaders and Gen Z Team Up for Job Shadow Week 2020

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High school students to connect with professionals nationwide through virtual workplace experiences

HERNDON, Va.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr. 30, 2020--Job Shadow Week will kick off July 13, 2020, engaging high school students and industry leaders nationwide in an in-depth look at the world of work, from the comfort of home and office.

Presented in collaboration by K12 Inc. (NYSE: LRN), Nepris and Tello, Job Shadow Week connects students with professionals in diverse industries to ignite a curiosity for career paths in growing and in-demand fields. Through interactive workshops, professional development courses, networking opportunities and mentorship, Job Shadow Week will connect the next generation of business leaders with today’s experts in growing fields of business, health care services, information technology, and more.

Job Shadow Week 2020 will be an entirely virtual experience. Participating high school students will go on virtual workplace visits, attend web-based meetings with career professionals and view recorded class sessions to get an in-depth look at real work experiences. The week of virtual events will include topics such as entrepreneurship, professional skill building, and education and credentialing guidance.

A recent survey of HR decision-makers conducted by K12’s Destinations Career Academy showed that when it comes to screening job candidates, having a two- or four-year college degree ranked below “workplace experience in a similar work setting,” “prior industry-relevant work experience,” and “soft skills/professional skills.” Job Shadow Week aims to give students a first-hand look at what it takes to fill that skills gap, in order to join and get ahead in growing industries.

“Job Shadow Week cultivates a deep national conversation about the future of work,” said Leilani M. Brown, Senior Vice President of Strategic Partnerships at K12. “While the workplace has changed dramatically over the last decade, the ways in which students are preparing to join it have not. By connecting students with industry leaders in an online environment, we will show more young people how they can chart their own path to success.”

Job Shadow Week serves as an extension of the career readiness education programs offered by K12-powered Destinations Career Academy, a collection of tuition-free online schools that combine traditional high school courses with industry-relevant, career-focused electives in high-demand fields. Destinations students have the opportunity to earn college credits, gain work experience and industry exposure, develop real world skills, and prepare for industry-recognized credential exams to get a jump start on college and career goals.

Using Nepris, Job Shadow Week will allow industry leaders who want to play a role in helping to close the skills gap to open their virtual doors with job demonstrations, workspace tours, or by hosting workshops on topics such as financial literacy, interview prep, corporate social responsibility, and more.

“More than ever, industry has an essential role to play in preparing the next generation of talent,” said Sabari Raja, Co-Founder and CEO of Nepris. “Job Shadow Week celebrates the potential of collaboration between students, educators and businesses, and presents an incredible opportunity for young people to prepare today for the industry-relevant skills they’ll need tomorrow.”

Tello, the nation’s premier online platform for connecting talented students with employers, colleges, and universities, will provide participating students with the platform to build a virtual profile of their educational and professional accomplishments and goals and identify ways to participate in the week’s events. During Job Shadow Week, Tello will offer workshops and lessons on the value of creating a portfolio of educational and career accomplishments, and how to set oneself apart in the world of work.

“Early career exploration and networking opportunities like Job Shadow Week can help students develop a broader view of opportunities, support more informed post-high school choices and prepare them for meaningful and financially-secure careers,” said Casey Welch, Tello’s CEO and Co-Founder. “Delivering Job Shadow Week online will allow even more students to take advantage of this opportunity, as we meet this generation of digital natives where they are already comfortable.”

Job Shadow Week will take place July 13-20, 2020 and is free and open to any student in the US aged 13 and up and in grades 9 through 12, regardless of where they attend school – public, private, charter, virtual high schools, as well as homeschoolers. Students can participate using any device with an internet connection and a camera, including computers, laptops, mobile phones, and tablets.

For more information, or to register as a student or organizational participant, visit www.jobshadowweek.com.

About K12 Inc.

K12 Inc. (NYSE: LRN) helps students of all ages reach their full potential through inspired teaching and personalized learning. The company provides innovative, high-quality online and blended education solutions, curriculum, and programs to students, schools and enterprises in primary, secondary and post-secondary settings. K12 is a premier provider of career readiness education services and a leader in skills training, technology staffing and talent development. The company provides programs which combine traditional high school academics with career technical education through its Destinations Career Academies. Adult learning is delivered through K12’s subsidiary, Galvanize, a leader in developing capabilities for individuals and corporations in technical fields such as software engineering and data science. K12 has delivered millions of courses over the past decade and serves students in all 50 states and more than 100 countries. The company is a proud sponsor of the Future of School, a nonprofit organization dedicated to closing the gap between the pace of technology in daily life and the pace of change in education. More information can be found at K12.com, destinationsacademy.com, jobshadowweek.com, and galvanize.com.
About Nepris

Nepris provides a cloud-based platform connecting industry professionals with K-16 classrooms so that students see the relevance of what they are learning in school. Students are exposed to diverse role models and career paths in STEM, the arts, retail, manufacturing, and countless other careers. Nepris makes it easy for teachers to leverage industry connections while offering a scalable platform for companies and regional intermediaries to easily and effectively engage the current workforce with the future workforce, virtually. Over 500,000 students have participated in a Nepris virtual session or have viewed one of the 10,000 hours of videos in its library. See Nepris in action at Nepris.com.

About Tallo

Tallo (formerly STEM Premier) is an online platform that connects talent with opportunities. The Tallo app assists students in designing a career pathway, educators in recruiting top talent to their schools, and employers in developing a stable, continuous talent pipeline. More than 850,000 students (age 13+) and professionals showcase their skills and abilities in their online profile, connect directly with companies and colleges looking for the next generation of talent, and match with over $20 billion in scholarships.

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