



TRiO Newsletter

November 2017

Wallace Community College

TRiO Student Support Services Participants Tour Techsonic (Humminbird)



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Picture: Kenny Othiossini, Josh Algood, and Tia Yarbrough are pictured with several of the units manufactured by Techsonic in Eufaula.

Kenny Othiossini and Tia Yarbrough toured Techsonic Industries (Humminbird) in Eufaula, Alabama on October 23, 2017. Prior to beginning the tour, the students watched demonstrations of several of the units manufactured in the Eufaula facility. During the tour inside the plant, Josh Algood, Production Manager, explained the process used in producing the various types of GPS systems (fish/depth finders) that are manufactured in Eufaula. Since friction is an issue while working on the units, the students donned jackets with wires as part of the fabric prior to entering the plant. The process is very precise and tightly controlled due to the electronics used in the units. Mr. Algood was very thorough with his descriptions of each of the machines used in printing, gluing, and soldering the parts to the boards. Most of the process is completed using special machinery. However, some boards require the human touch to complete. Both students were amazed at what is required to manufacture the units that are sold worldwide.

—Jane French

KIA Motors Hosts Tour for TRiO



Students had the opportunity to sit in the beautiful Sorrento behind them. Ravis Hall, Tia Yarbrough, Kenny Othiossinir, Noah Kelly, and Patrick Sands (KIA Employee)



Pictured in KIA plant: Noah Kelly, Kenny Othiossinir, Jane French, Tia Yarbrough, and Ravis Hall

On November 13, 2017, four students toured KIA Motors Manufacturing of Georgia in West Point, Georgia. It was a very successful tour for those who attended. During the tour, many details about soft skills needed to be employed, the manufacturing process, and the advantages of working for the KIA Corporation were shared by our tour guide and the representative from Human Resources. Students learned about the importance of on-time delivery from within the plant and from the suppliers which are located on site. Although the factory was a one story facility, the overhead space is used to transport parts to the correct station just in time to match up with the correct vehicle. The line may produce a Sorrento at one moment and then produce an Optima after that and then another Sorrento. The production line varies according to the order received from the dealers. It was amazing to watch the steel plates become parts, then watch the robots weld the parts together, and after a trip of several hours in the paint shop, the parts return to have the finishing touches like the fenders, dashboards, seats, and doors attached. It takes approximately 22 hours to produce a car. Each station involved works on the vehicle for one to two minutes, and then the process is complete.

KIA is very concerned with the health and safety of its employees and makes certain that they work under the best conditions. For example, they work on one part of the line for two hours and then change to another station, and they work on wooden, not concrete floors to protect their bodies. Robots or specialized equipment is used to place parts in the correct positions. Robots are also used to weld and move parts from place to place.

Our guides also discussed the importance of soft skills in the workplace. They emphasized being at work and being on time. Any employee who is not even one second late each working day of the month, automatically receives a \$100 bonus in his/her check. There are also other bonuses for being present and on time for longer periods of time. KIA promotes from within, if possible, and that allows for advancement within the plant. Employees are considered team members and are expected to act as quality control throughout the process. Even though there are quality control stations, any employee can stop the assembly line at any time if he/she believes there is a defect or if the process has gotten out of sync.

The attitude of the employees was that of working on a team. We were told repeatedly how they felt they were part of a team and not just an employee. The pride in their work showed as we travelled through the plant.

Barbour County High School Talent Search Visits Auburn University



Barbour County High School Talent Search juniors and seniors recently visited Auburn University. The students felt welcome as they toured the 377,000 square foot Ralph Draughon Library which was updated this fall. The library seats 4,850 students and is fully accessible 24 hours a day.



Juniors and seniors listen to Admissions Advisor, Jawara "RahRah" White (Auburn graduate 2015), as he explains the admissions process at Auburn. He also tells the students he is from our area and attended Charles Henderson High School in Troy, Alabama.



Seniors listen carefully as the tour guide tells the urban legend about the Auburn seal. Legend has it that if any student steps on the seal, they will not graduate or marry an Auburn man or woman. The students were very careful not to touch the seal.



After a long day touring the Auburn University campus, participants enjoy a meal at Shakey's Pizza.

—Priscilla Smith





TRiO on the Wallace Community College Sparks and Dothan Campuses is made up of three programs: Student Support Services, Upward Bound and Talent Search. They are federally

funded programs by the U. S. Department of Education that provide support and opportunity for eligible students-middle school through college. To reach any person on this list, call 983-3521 or 687-3543 and then the extension below:

Student Support Services

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Upward Bound

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Talent Search

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*“It is never too late to be what you might have been.”
—George Eliot*

Scholarships and Financial Aid Information

2018 Alabama Municipal Electric Authority Scholarship (External). To be eligible for an AMEA scholarship, a student’s parent and/or legal guardian must receive electric service from an AMEA Member utility. Granted only to graduating high school seniors, the student must attend a four-year college/university, community college, and/or vocational /trade school within the state of Alabama. Forty-four, \$2,500 scholarships are available. For an application, visit the AMEA web site, www.amea.com, Scholarship Program. **Application deadline for the 2018 program is Monday, February 12, 2017.**

2017 Ignition Scholarship (External). Ignition is a non-profit, privately funded business incubator and accelerator. They have put together a scholarship for student entrepreneurs at universities across the country. **Applications are due December 15, 2017, and winners will be announced January 1, 2018.**

2017 Seth Okin Good Deeds Scholarship (External). All applicants must submit a full application (personal essay, transcript, and cover sheet). **Deadline: No later than January 31, 2018 by email to scholarships@crimnallawyermaryland.net.**

Clean This Carpet Scholarship. Clean This Carpet is a company specializing in reviewing carpet cleaning products such as vacuums. **The deadline for submission is February 20, 2018. The winner will be announced two weeks later.**

2017 InformedMag Security Scholarship (External). InformedMag is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to students based on their ability to effectively communicate their experience with a product. The “InformedMag Security Scholarship” is an annual scholarship awarded on January 15th each year. **Application deadline is December 31, 2017.**

The Glen Lerner Gives Back Community Scholarship will be awarded to the student whose personal essay best describes their commitment to community service and how their experience has played and will play a role in their academic career. **Deadline to submit completed application is no later than January 31, 2018.**

The Preszler Injury Lawyers –Triumphing Over Adversity Scholarship will be awarded to the student who demonstrably embodies the determination, ability and steadfast commitment not only to their own personal success, but also to promoting the greater good for those in need. **Deadline to submit completed application is no later than January 31, 2018.**

For more information and copies of application packets, go to: www.wallace.edu/scholarships.