

TECHFEST

Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Scottish Charity No SC010349

I first got introduced to Career Ready through a presentation a teacher from my school had done on the programme. What really got me interested in taking part was the opportunity to gain work experience alongside learning that networking skills would be developed as I didn't feel confident enough to be able to build solid professional connections.

Throughout my 2 years with the programme I've attended a handful of masterclasses and even had an opportunity to do an internship in the summer. All along this journey I had 2 amazing mentors, Kirsty and Gabi, there to support me. They helped me get comfortable with all these new experiences and pushed me out of my comfort zone during our fortnightly catch ups.

An experience I really appreciate them setting up for me was a job interview with Yashka, a team member from TechFest that I'd never met before. This simulation has definitely helped me feel more confident when I think of attending actual interviews in the future. They helped me prepare for this by giving their own tips on how they approach an interview and did mock questions with me.



INTERVIEW



“DURING MY INTERNSHIP AT TECHFEST I WAS ABLE TO EXPERIENCE BEING IN A WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT BY ATTENDING MEETINGS, PUTTING TOGETHER A FESTIVAL REPORT, HELPING RUN EVENTS AND MORE.”

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With TechFest being a hybrid workplace I also had the opportunity to see what it'd be like to work, both at an office and at home. This helped me gain more insight into what does and doesn't work for me in relation to productivity.

At first I was worried about TechFest being the company I'd be interning at as I didn't study STEM and was planning to go down a creative route but I was shown that despite the company being based on a topic I don't have a full grasp on doesn't mean I can't be of use.

Since then, I've helped out at events such as the Celebrate Aberdeen Parade and even got invited to go to an Award Show with them! I'm now planning on working with them as a Festival Assistant after my exams. Despite my time with TechFest as a Career Ready Intern coming to an end I'm reminded that it isn't the end of our time together and the connection that we built stays strong.

“ I APPLIED MY SKILLS AND MADE THEM KEY STRENGTHS, SUCH AS USING MY KNOWLEDGE IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION TO FORMAT THE FESTIVAL REPORT. ”



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Now that I'm coming to the end of my final year in High School I've applied to university and college to study art and design. The emphasis the internship and masterclasses placed on the necessity of good communication, time management, personal identity and teamwork are skills that I'll find especially useful as I go down the route of higher education, leaving me looking forward to what's yet to come.



“ TO THE FUTURE CAREER READY MENTEES, I HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS PROGRAMME AND ITS INVALUABLE EXPERIENCES AS MUCH AS I DID. THE AMOUNT YOU GROW AS A PERSON CAN END UP BEING WAY MORE THAN WHAT YOU BELIEVED YOU COULD EVER ACHIEVE SO MAKE SURE TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY AND USE THIS AS A CHANCE TO REACH YOUR GOALS. WITH YOUR MENTORS BEING THERE TO SUPPORT YOU I'M SURE YOU CAN DO IT! ”