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...opening a world of possibilities

UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY

Summer 2023 was an unforgettable journey of growth and learning, all thanks to my internship at LBA Realty. LBA Realty is renowned for its excellence in property management, acquisitions, and development. As a leading player in the market, they handle a diverse portfolio of commercial properties. Their strategic approach to real estate investments and commitment to creating thriving communities left a lasting impression on me. Under the guidance of my supervisor, Don, I had the privilege of gaining insight into the inner workings of the real estate industry and honing my skills in various areas.

During my internship, I was involved in conducting property research, analyzing property data, and preparing reports for potential investment opportunities. It was a hands-on experience that allowed me to contribute meaningfully to the decision-making process. Additionally, I had the chance to shadow in various departments, providing me with a comprehensive understanding of how the company operates as a whole. I was also given the opportunity to tour a property that LBA was potentially going to purchase.

Throughout my internship, Max stood out as an exceptionally helpful and inspirational mentor. He patiently guided me through complex tasks, always encouraging me to think critically and approach challenges with a fresh perspective. Max would take the time to

make sure I understood each assignment thoroughly. He also answered my questions regarding the college process, and he was extremely helpful.

As for self-discovery, this summer opened my eyes to my own capabilities and areas of interest. I discovered a passion for real estate finance and development, which I had only scratched the surface of the previous year when I interned at LBA. Embracing responsibility and accountability boosted my self-confidence, and I recognized that every task, no matter how small, plays a crucial role in achieving overall success.

In conclusion, my summer at LBA Realty has been a transformative period of growth, education, and self-discovery. I am immensely grateful for having had the opportunity to intern at such a remarkable organization, and I owe much of my development to the guidance and support of Don, Max, and the LBA team. This experience has solidified my passion for real estate, provided me with a clear direction for my career, and instilled in me a commitment to excellence and integrity. I will carry these lessons with me throughout my journey and approach future challenges with a newfound sense of confidence and determination.



Isaac Garcia-Zuro
ARHS '24



COLLEGE TOUR

achieve juniors tour Midwestern colleges and universities: Carleton College, Gustavus Adolphus College, Hamline University, Macalester College, St. Catherine University, St. Olaf College, University of St. Thomas

UNEXPECTED LESSONS

This summer, I was an intern at the UC Berkeley Girls in Engineering program, a camp for middle school students designed to introduce them to the world of engineering. I worked with my supervisor, Anne, and six college students. I had many different responsibilities during my five-week internship, including helping prepare for the start of camp and preparing food during the last session of camp.

My favorite thing about my internship was the amazing people I met and all the life lessons they taught me. The people were from different backgrounds, but they each taught me something new. I learned from the campers to find pleasure in the little things; their jokes made the walk from our building to the campus so much fun. The college students taught me to trust myself. I was worried about being able to make the best choices for my group of campers, but the college student in my group told me to trust my intuition. I listened, and I made good choices. From my boss, I learned about UC Berkeley's Engineering program and all the preparation that comes with directing a camp.

Throughout this experience, I not only learned from my peers, but I also learned some important things about myself. I realized that I was a much better public

speaker than I had thought, and I delivered the morning news in front of the entire camp for two weeks. I also realized that I work efficiently under pressure. Preparing food for the last week of camp, I often had to cut watermelons and make popcorn in a short amount of time. I did not expect to learn all of this about myself.

My internship experience was nothing like I had expected. I expected to listen to a lecture about engineering while surrounded by "judgy" middle school students. I definitely did not expect to learn about engineering in such an exciting way. I did not think I would learn my way around the UC Berkeley campus. I did not expect to make so many new friends. I did not think I would gain so much from this experience. This internship was unlike anything I could have imagined and I gained so many important skills. I learned how to feel less anxious when speaking in front of large groups, how to listen to my intuition, and how to work efficiently. I also gained more knowledge about the Public Health major from one of the college students. Most importantly, I gained an experience that I will forever cherish.



Cierra Jones
HNHS '26

LEARNING IMPORTANT SKILLS

This summer I interned at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. SFMOMA has a huge collection of modern art and multiple educational programs for both adults and children. Most of my time there was spent shadowing my supervisor, Amy, my boss, and even some coworkers, learning about all the things they do. I joined their weekly meetings, did numerous tours, and even joined their Wednesday Crochet Lunch Club. Everyone there was so nice and welcoming. I appreciated every second I spent with them because they were the ones who truly made the experience worthwhile. We had our own designated space in the museum called the "Education Center," which was connected to our studio. This space was where all our programs took place, and it was where I helped with my first free family day program—truly a wonderful experience. This was also the place where I held my own program.

As a final project, I was assigned to design a program of my own. I was taught about all the different types of programs and everything that goes into making and planning them out. I learned to create spreadsheets

and word docs for show-flows and staff plans. I asked questions whenever I didn't understand how to do something and had my work checked by my supervisor and coworkers, all of whom said I did a fantastic job. The final program was executed on my last day, which turned out to be a surprise going-away party organized by my coworkers. They allowed me to fully manage the program, including the decorations, food and drinks. At the end of the day, they gave me super-sweet letters, gifts, and even let me keep the remaining amazing food.

One of my favorite memories from working at SFMOMA is the team bonding day with four of my coworkers, my supervisor, and my boss. The day started off like any other: I arrived, greeted everyone, started my computer, and worked on my project. At noon, my boss bought us lunch from a restaurant called Madeleine's, and we chatted about how excited we were while we ate. We then walked to an escape room where we played the room "Gold Rush," which was said to be fairly easy. The escape room was tons of fun; I managed to find many clues, and my coworker even said that they were proud of me for finding so many.

Overall, this experience taught me great communication skills, leadership skills, and helped me learn more about the work world. I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to be in this wonderful workplace and hope to return one day.



Ezro Barrera
MHSB '25



ALUMNI EVENT | **achieve** graduates (Classes 2001–2023) gather at The City Club.

A TIME OF GROWTH

This summer was truly an enriching experience. I had the incredible opportunity to intern at the Jewish Community Federation, with a primary focus on the Diller Teen Foundation. Under my two supervisors, Megan and Vincent, I learned many skills that I would not have learned in school. They taught me about business operations and various web browsers that help to connect people, providing me with valuable hands-on experience.

One of the most exciting aspects of my internship was delving into the realm of technology and online platforms. My supervisors introduced me to different browsers and tools that facilitate connections and communication, and taught me which browsers are best for navigating business-related tasks. They also showed me how to set-up meetings on Microsoft Teams and assigned me projects that helped me to better understand these various tools. For instance, Meagan gave me a project involving the Diller Team Scholarship and asked me to compare it to other scholarships by analyzing the data.

This internship was really interesting and unexpected. Everybody seemed really nice and welcoming. On my first day, I was given a tour,

and I had the opportunity to meet the rest of the staff. To my surprise, everyone was super friendly. My supervisors always gave me work, so I never got bored. When I started working, I hesitated to take short breaks, as they had suggested, but when I decided to do it, I realized that it really helped improve my mood and reduce stress. I learned that a short break can go a long way and can leave you feeling happier throughout the day. Now that I am back at school, I make sure to take short breaks when I am studying.



Yosef Gebreselassie
SJND '25

This summer was very productive and a time of growth and self-reflection. I appreciate the time that my supervisors at the Diller Teen Foundation took to teach me skills and connect me with other people in the organization, allowing me to ask questions about business, finance, and stocks. I am grateful that I was able to intern at JCF this summer. All the skills and knowledge I gained during my time there will be invaluable throughout my high school and college years.

FRESHMEN ORIENTATION

On the first day of **achieve**'s freshmen orientation, we walked up the Filbert Steps to Coit Tower. It felt great being surrounded by nature. The vivid flowers



Dulce Martinez
MHSB '27

and lovely butterflies brought a wave of peace and appreciation. We then climbed the stairs in the Tower. I felt inspired by all the murals and couldn't stop thinking about the meaning behind them. Once we reached the top, I was speechless. The view was majestic. I was able to see the ocean, the buildings in San Francisco, and a bit of the Golden Gate Bridge not covered by clouds. Even though it was a challenge getting to the top, what

matters most is that I never gave up. In the end, it was all worth it! Beyond the challenge was a doorway full of inspiration and beauty. On the second day of orientation, we took a ferry to Angel Island. This was another day of being inspired and amazed. Witnessing poetry carved on the walls by immigrants who had stayed at the holding center brought a feeling of respect and made me appreciate the opportunities and blessings in my life. I bonded with my peers during lunch, starting with silence but ending in laughter. I loved that in less than a day, I became so close to a group of people I didn't know.

Throughout the three-day orientation, I felt so many emotions. I felt happy, safe, inspired, accepted, and the list goes on. I had never connected with a community as fast as I did with **achieve**. **achieve** makes me feel so joyful! I can't wait to discover a new side of me over these four years - the new Dulce. I'm blessed to be part of this family and can't wait for the adventures that lie ahead.





2023 Summer Internship Providers

- Baker Avenue Asset Management
- BRIDGE Housing
- California Academy of Sciences
- Cartier
- Center for Independent Living
- Compass Family Services
- DFS
- Eureka – Girls Inc of Alameda County
- Exploratorium
- Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund
- Jewish Family & Children's Services
- Jewish Vocational Services
- KP Launch
- KQED
- LBA Realty
- Prado Group
- SFMOMA
- TEF Design
- UC Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive
- UC Berkeley Botanical Garden
- UC Berkeley Data Sciences (BUDS)
- UC Berkeley Girls in Engineering
- UC Berkeley HAAS School of Business
- UC Berkeley IT Client Services
- UC Berkeley IT Communications & Network Support
- UC Berkeley IT Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging
- UC Berkeley IT People Operations
- UC Berkeley IT Research Teaching & Learning
- UC Berkeley IT Student Affairs
- UC Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science
- UC Berkeley Parking and Transportation
- UC Berkeley Recreational Sports Camps
- UC Berkeley University Development and Alumni Relations
- UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute
- UCSF Hospital
- UCSF Institute for Global Health Sciences
- Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital

JOURNEY OF LEARNING AND GROWTH

This summer, I had the privilege of having an internship with UC Berkeley IT under the guidance of my supervisor, Amanda. Working within Berkeley IT, I was introduced to the diverse world of technology that supports the University's various departments. I was placed with a team called Research, Teaching, and Learning (RTL), and tasked with making changes to an application capable of recording audio, video, and screens of classes at UC Berkeley. I embarked on a journey of learning and growth that left an unforgettable mark on my professional future.



During my internship, I discovered that Berkeley IT encompasses much more than just technical problem-solving. The scope of IT at UC Berkeley ranges from web development to data visualization, opening my eyes to the possibilities within the field. Moreover, I realized that the work environment can seem intimidating at first, but once you become familiar with it and the people, it becomes a space of collaboration and support.

From the beginning, RTL welcomed me with open arms, and my mentor, John, proved to be a great resource. His willingness to share his knowledge of the application called Course Capture, providing me with step-by-step demos, was crucial in helping me quickly understand my role in the team and how I could effectively contribute to the team's efforts. Additionally, another mentor from the team, Paul, gave me insights into quality assurance testing on the application that I aided in modifying, which broadened my understanding of the application's overall lifecycle.

A valuable lesson I learned during my internship was the realization that I was a fast learner. I found that I could grasp new concepts with relative ease, which boosted my confidence in tackling the tasks given to me. I am grateful my team showed their trust in my abilities by allowing me to work on Course Capture from the start, especially given my age.

Beyond the technical aspects, I gained insight into the significance of effective project management. Witnessing how a small team can accomplish substantial work by breaking down tasks into manageable portions was eye-opening. I have always heard about this method of work, but I had never seen it in action and at such an effective rate. I also learned how to use project management tools like Slack, GitHub, and Jira, which provided me with useful skills that will undoubtedly prove to be helpful in my future line of work.

One highlight of my internship was attending the UC Tech Conference, where I interacted with peers from the entire UC system. At this conference, I was exposed to new technological innovations being used by all the UC campuses, which broadened my perspective on the industry and further piqued my interest in the IT field.

Additionally, my internship allowed me to connect with four recent **achieve** graduates who headed off to college this fall. I used my time with them at lunch to gain more insight into what I can expect once I have selected the college that I will attend next year. This bittersweet goodbye to these **achieve** alums also made me realize that I need to further appreciate the time I have left with all my peers before we all head our separate ways.

In conclusion, my internship with UC Berkeley IT was so much more than I could have hoped for. It heightened my interest in IT and showed me the range of possibilities within the field. The knowledge I gained, the skills I acquired, and the connections I made have left me with great gratitude and enthusiasm for my future endeavors. I want to thank **achieve** for allowing me to have such a fulfilling internship this summer, and I cannot wait to see what I will do next year.



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