Los Angeles Unified
Los Angeles, California

Program Model: Grades 9 – 12

Industry Focus: Health Care, Biotech, Business, and Software Systems

Overview of the Los Angeles Unified YCC Program
The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) utilized Youth CareerConnect (YCC) to focus on its growing Linked Learning Initiative. Through the Linked Learning approach, the YCC program ensured that students had strong industry pathways infused into their core content areas.

In the six YCC pathways, students mastered industry skills through semi-annual interdisciplinary projects adjudicated by industry experts, working toward the goal of becoming certified in an industry recognized credential and being placed in an internship.

LAUSD partnered with the Los Angeles Community College District to give students opportunities to earn credits toward Career Technical Education coursework. Students across the pathways were further prepared by creating industry aligned portfolios, which they defended prior to graduation.

Through the implementation of Linked Learning, the YCC grant has made it possible for LAUSD to provide strong support systems for our YCC students, all of whom were afforded additional tutoring and other educational and career assistance throughout their high school programs.

Program Highlight
Our YCC schools have been extremely effective at embedding the industry core into academics. Industry centered, project-based learning experiences give students the ability to see the connections between subject areas, creating relevance for them in their daily lessons.

Not only are students acquiring skills across many content areas, they are also demonstrating additional mastery through their portfolios. The portfolio defense gives students the opportunity to reflect on their learning over four years and share what aspects of the YCC Linked Learning approach truly prepared them for life after high school.
Success Story

STEM Bernstein, a certified Linked Learning pathway, partnered with Kaiser to create an industry readiness mentor program to support its students. The program consists of eight Saturday sessions during which students and Kaiser employees come together for the students to learn the soft skills necessary for industry readiness. Upon completion, students are granted an internship at Kaiser’s Sunset Hollywood, where they shadow members of the mentor community.

Community Impact

The YCC grant has made it possible for schools to offer more internship experiences with local employers, increase the number of students earning certification, and create a strong culture at school sites.

During the four years of its implementation, students have been able to access jobs at locations such as:

- The Mexican Consulate
- Kaiser Health Centers
- St. John’s Health Center
- USC’s Keck School of Medicine
- Abbott Pharmaceuticals
- LAUSDs Informational Technology Division
- Graphic Design Industry, and more.

The grant was deployed across North East Los Angeles, Downtown/Central Los Angeles, and South Los Angeles. Across all three city-centers, schools have been able to build on their partnerships and develop strong ties to industry.

Los Angeles Unified

Contact: Lindsey Corcoran, Lmc0129@Lausd.Net

https://achieve.lausd.net/linkedinlearning