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Find us here: 🥈 🎔

NYATEP's Executive Director, Melinda Mack Speaks with the Federal Reserve in Washington D.C.



On Friday, October 4th Melinda Mack, NYATEP Executive Director, was invited to participate on a panel discussion for the Board of Governor's of the Federal Reserve Bank's "Fed Listens" session on Perspectives on Maximum Employment and Price Stability.

The Federal Reserve plays a critical role in stabilizing national and international markets, and this discussion aimed at providing an on the ground perspective on how the current labor market, future recession, and inflation are impacting real Americans.

Moderated by Governor Lael Brainard, Melinda's fellow panelists included Gregory Haile, Broward Community College; Sara Horowitz, Truleo; Denise Scott, LISC: and Chad Moutray, NAM.



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NYATEP's Executive Director, Melinda Mack Speaks with the Federal Reserve in Washington D.C.

Continued







PBS NewsHour @NewsHour



Federal Reserve Chairman Powell opened the discussion underscoring the Fed's understanding that although the economy has reached record unemployment rates, and "maximum employment"; all workers or potential workers have not benefited from the recovery. He shared the value the Fed has gained by opening their internal conversations to hear feedback directly from working closely with individuals those directly impacted by the labor market.

Melinda utilized this as an opportunity to share key statistics from the State of the Workforce report, including that the fastest growing occupations in New York State earn less than \$27,000 per year; as well as the fact that around a quarter million New Yorkers are working part-time involuntarily; underscoring that maximum employment does not equate to quality employment.

Additionally, Melinda stressed the importance of understanding the "who" in the labor market – describing New York's challenges educating and training the 41% of New Yorkers with a high school diploma or less, and ensuring those looking to enter into good or better jobs have access to childcare, transportation, housing, and healthcare.

She was directly asked if employers were more engaged now than during an economic downturn. Her response is that it varies, depending on the sector and size of the employer. That race, equity and availability of capital for small business all play into the ability of America's most vulnerable populations access retention in and employment.

View the full session here



Announcing NYATEP's 2019 Statewide Workforce Award Winners!



STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP AWARD

Karen Springmeier FINGER LAKES WORKS

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP AWARD

NYC Council Members CARLINA RIVERA ANTONIO REYNOSO MARK TREGER





IBEW 840



WORKFORCE PROGRAM AWARD

Business Services

HERKIMER COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

IBEW 840

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS IN GENEVA

FRONTLINE STAFF AWARD

Christine Weaver

OSWEGO COUNTY

T*im Maloney* JEFFERSON COUNTY

NYATEP's 2019-2020 Policy and Advocacy Academy Application Process Closes on 10/11 at 4:00pm

The New York Association of Training & Employment Professionals (NYATEP) through their new Level Up NY training initiative, are accepting applications for the 2019-2020 Workforce Academy for Policy and Advocacy until Friday, October 11th at 4:00pm. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.

Through this intensive, informative, and fun training you will learn the ins and outs of federal & state political, legislative and budgetary processes and a candid take on the politics in New York. This year's Academy will recruit up to 30 members from across New York for a three-month immersive, professional development. In addition to the sessions from November through January, participants will engage in experiential learning through legislative visits.

What will you learn in the Academy?

- Learn invaluable, REAL advocacy skills
- Learn how the Federal, State and local legislative systems really work
- Grow your network of workforce colleagues from Upstate and Downstate
- Participate in at a minimum of two legislative visits to put your skills into practice

Who should apply to participate in the Academy?

Mid-high level workforce professionals (i.e. 3-5 years' experience; serving in a leadership position within your organization; will have the opportunity to influence the policy-engagement at your organization). To date, more than 200 professionals from 115 organizations have participated in the Academy. This is a great opportunity to network and grow your professional learning.

Timeline for Applications:

October 11: Completed Application Due (via the application link) October 22: Class Selection Notifications Sent (via email) November 18-19: Opening Session (in Albany, NY)

Completed electronic applications are due no later than 4:00PM on October 11th.

2019-2020 Workforce Academy for Policy and Advocacy Scheduled Session Dates:

November 18-19, 2019: Kick Off Retreat

Location: NYATÉP Offices, 540 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany November 18th 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM: Introductions to the Academy; Current Issues Facing Workforce; Overview of Project Teams and Schedule of Activities November 19th 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM: Seminar-Basics of Advocacy and Federal Policy

December 16-17, 2019: State and Local Workforce Advocacy

Location: NYATEP Office, 540 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany and NYS Capitol December 16 10:30 AM - 4:00 PM: Seminar- Overview of State Advocacy December 17 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM: Legislative Prep and State Legislative Visits

January 28, 2020 Advocates Town Hall & Class Graduation

Location: TBD, New York City A special invitation-only event to provide the latest in federal, state, and local workforce policy for Academy Alumni, current academy members, and special guests. This event will provide attendees with an advocacy refresher and introduce them to the scheduled opportunities to utilize their skills in Washington, Albany, and across New York. The Town Hall will also include a graduation ceremony for this year's class.

February 3-5, 2020- Optional: National Skills Coalition Summit/Federal Legislative Visits

Location: Washington, D.C.Up to three participants will be randomly selected to attend with registration costs covered by NYATEP.





PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY





Join over 500 professionals in workforce & economic development and education, business leaders, and key state leaders for the 33rd annual fall conference.

We invite you to join the New York Association of Training & Employment Professionals and the New York State Economic Development Council for a unique event to re-imagine the workforce system in NY, to learn from regional and national experts and to network with leaders in economic & workforce development, post-secondary education and job training, business and government.

VIEW FULL AGENDA

This year's #Partners4WorkNY conference will address:

National Best Practices

- Federal Reserve System's Investing in America's Workforce
- A Different Way to Do Workforce Development with First Step Staffing

Partnerships for Workforce Transformation

- 2020 Census Recruitment Opportunities and Strategies
- What is a Workforce Development Board?
- NYC's Customized Training Program: Engaging Employers for Successful Incumbent Worker Training
- 21st Century Employability Skills

New Ways to Work

- LadderzUp: Creating a Local Public-Public Partnership
- Roaring to the Finish: A Degree Completion Effort
- How Local Workforce Areas Are Using Metrix Learning to Support Online Skill Development

Trends in Economic Development

- Non-traditional Factors in Evaluating Economic Activity
- What is an Industrial Development Agency?
- Economic Inclusion and Investing in People



Microsoft's AI for Accessibility grant winners: 'You want to be seen as the person you are'



John Robinson was born without the extensions of his arms or legs. As a child, and an adult, he rejected wearing prostheses. They worked, but they were uncomfortable, and he never felt like himself with them on. And that's all Robinson really wanted to be, just himself.

It's why he understands the frustrations many other people with disabilities face in trying to get people to see who they really are – especially when it comes to looking for employment. And why his organization, Our Ability, is among seven new recipients of Microsoft's AI for Accessibility grants to people using AI-powered technology to make the world a more inclusive place.

In 2018, when the \$25 million program was announced, nine organizations were given grants to work on a variety of projects, some from scratch, some already underway.

The new grantees, announced in conjunction with Global Accessibility Awareness Day May 16, are: University of California, Berkeley; Massachusetts Eye and Ear, a teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School; Voiceitt in Israel; Birmingham City University in the United Kingdom; University of Sydney in Australia; Pison Technology of Boston; and Our Ability, of Glenmont, New York.

Their projects may differ, but the people behind them share a passion for how technology can improve the lives of their fellow human beings. "What stands out the most about this round of grantees is how so many of them are taking standard AI capabilities, like a chatbot or data collection, and truly revolutionizing the value of technology in typical scenarios for a person with a disability like finding a job, being able to use a computer mouse or anticipating a seizure," says Mary Bellard, Microsoft senior accessibility architect.

The one-year grants provide use of the Azure AI platform through Azure compute credits and can also include Azure compute credits plus engineering-related costs. AI for Accessibility has three focus areas: communication and connection; employment; and daily life.

Robinson of Our Ability knows about all of those. But it was his employment journey after college that always remained with him. He went through a discouraging, 4-1/2-year search to find a job – the right job. During those years, he sent out hundreds of resumes, and had 20 to 25 interviews for work in ad sales at TV stations. He also married and started a family.

"If I were really going to give up, I would have given up after the first 10 or 20 interviews," he says. "That's not who I am."

He vowed, someday, to find a way to improve the process for others who have disabilities. "You want to be seen as the person you are, in total, not just the shell that you are on the outside," he says.





Tradespeople in demand for skilled labor



Class has only been in session for a few weeks at Hudson Valley Community College, but the professors are already taking calls from companies looking for workers.

"By January, they'll be in here signing people up and they will hold the job until the students graduate in May," said Christine LaPlante, department chair for civil, construction, industrial and mechanical technologies at HVCC.

The Capital Region is hungry for tradespeople – men and women trained to be carpenters, welders, HVAC technicians, electricians and plumbers. The problem is, not enough people are going into those fields. According to data collected by the state Department of Labor, there was an average of 373 job postings in construction and extraction at the beginning of each month for the first half of the year – up 3.8 percent from the same period in 2018 and 12.4 percent over 2016.

Want ads for manufacturing jobs follow a similar pattern. But despite the job openings, employment in the region's construction sector was flat in 2018, and the local manufacturing workforce grew less than 1 percent. And there's water cooler evidence from everyone who tries to find someone to build a deck or paint a house and finds themselves on a long waiting list.

The unemployment rate for the area is low at 3.7 percent, but that doesn't fully explain why there aren't more people going into the trades. The reasons are tied to education policy from the top down.

The No Child Left Behind Act, the federal law that guided spending on education nationwide from 2001 to 2015, didn't include many incentives for career and technical education, said Tim Ott, director of the CTE Technical Assistance Center of New York in Rexford Kids were measured by academic tests and that's what administrators were concerned about," Ott said. But last year, the Every Student Succeeds Act replaced NCLB and brought with it a new emphasis on CTE, a broad umbrella that covers the trades, agriculture, family consumer science, culinary arts, automotive and more. Schools must develop CTE programs (called pathways) to be certified by the state. Ott and his staff assist with the certification process."

Today's CTE programs are not the shop and vo-tech classes baby boomers and Generation X'ers remember – they are far more demanding.

"There has been a perception CTE is not intellectually rigorous and not a good path to postsecondary education," Ott said. "Parents say, 'that's a nice program, but my kid is going to college.' We need to promote the fact CTE preps kids for college as well."

At the Abrookin Career and Technical Center in Albany, CTE classes are picking up speed as the Albany school district works to have more pathways certified. Five years ago, there were three pathways, said Abrookin Principal Andrea Marques; there are now nine, with more on the way. There are 800 students across the three grade levels of CTE classes. That number shrinks significantly in the upper levels. In 2019, 29 students graduated with CTE certification; 60 students are in the pipeline for 2020. In addition to classroom time, the students must do an internship and pass an industry-level exam with both practical and written portions, Marques said.

The school has partnerships with local colleges where students can start school with credits.







New Live SMART Training

While you can review the SMART training modules online, there is nothing like an interactive, live event! So mark your calendar, because ETA is hosting new, live SMART 3.0 trainings every Tuesday and Thursday from September 24 through November 19 (no October 10 session) at 2 p.m. EST.

We kick off with an ETA Grant Management Overview-Readiness Assessment followed by Financial Management Procedures and Internal Controls. If you haven't already created your free WorkforceGPS account needed to register, do so now to take advantage of these new and improved trainings! And register now!



Oct 08 - Oct 15, 2019 • 2:00 - 3:30 PM ET This module reviews the requirements for budget and grant modification processes as described in Employment and Training Administration's (ETA) grant terms and conditions and the Uniform Guidance. Partnering with Conservation Corps for Out-of-School Youth and Young Adult Outcomes



Partnering with Conservation Corps for Out-of-School Youth and Young Adult Outcomes Oct 10, 2019 • 2:00 - 3:30 PM ET

This Webinar will provide examples of how Workforce Development Boards and Conservation Corps are partnering in employment, training, education and placement programming for Opportunity Youth and young adults.



SMART 3.0 Series: Procurement and Contract Administration Oct 15, 2019 • 2:00 - 3:30 PM ET

SMART 3.0 Series: Budget Modification and Grant Modifications

This module focuses on the updated procurement standards in the Uniform Guidance along with the needs of proper contract administration.



SMART 3.0 Series: Payments and Cash Management Oct 17, 2019 • 2:00 - 3:30 PM ET

This module focuses on the Uniform Guidance requirements for payments and the general principles of proper cash management, including internal controls, improper payments, and interest income.







Cost Per Participant Tool - WIOA Annual Performance Report

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Annual Performance Report (ETA-9169) requires states to report on the cost per participant for participants receiving training services and for participants receiving career services. In June 2019, the Departments of Education and Labor made a non-material change to the ETA-9169 cost per participant calculations to clarify how the Departments are using the data submitted by states to calculate these measures.

This tool is designed to assist state agencies that administer WIOA title I and III programs in determining how they should be calculating the funds expended amounts needed to complete the cost per participant portions of the WIOA Annual Performance Reports.

The tool allows users to determine the level of detail they want to use when conducting this calculation, having simple, standard, and detail versions of the tool. To account for programmatic differences, the tool also has different iterations of each of these for the WIOA Youth program. Each tab has the instructions needed to use the tool, which are consistent throughout: fill in blue cells, which generate numbers in the green cells. Other cells provide additional information, with the orange cells indicating which numbers to enter in the ETA-9169 when reporting to the Department of Labor. View More here

*Note: On 6/24/2019 OMB approved a non-material change to this template, which modifies the calculations of the cost per participant (career services) elements. See the WIOA Annual Report page for additional details.

Finger Lakes Works With Their Hands Events Provides 700+ Students with Hands-on Career Exploration



On October 3rd, Finger Lakes Works hosted their annual **Finger Lakes Works With Their Hands** event bringing together over 700 students to learn more about career opportunities in the trades. While the weather was a little rainy, spirits were high as these young adults experienced a high-rise lift, handled a bobcat and competed in a nail hammering competition among other activities.

The Finger Lakes Works's FAME program has been a leader in providing hands-on programming for students. Taking their lead, other regions have replicated their efforts to bring this type of learning across the state. Congratulations to the whole team for executing such an amazing and worthwhile event!





Commentary: Create portable benefits for all employees in New York

Winston C. Fisher is partner at Fisher Brothers and co-chair of the New York City Regional Economic Development Council. Eli Dvorkin is policy director of the Center for an Urban Future, a New York City – based think tank focused on expanding economic opportunity. | Oct 3, 2019

Across New York state, the future of work is already here.

In New York City, 34 percent of the workforce is freelancing. In Saratoga County, the number of people working from home has increased by 37 percent since 2010. And across the state, hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers are working independently, subcontracting, or earning income in the gig economy. These trends are only going to accelerate in the years ahead, especially when technology is enabling a new level of on-demand flexibility.

But while the rise of independent work has clear benefits for New Yorkers and New York's economy, it is also bringing a host of new challenges — and new insecurities. To stay ahead of these shifts while ensuring the future well-being and security of independent workers, the state should take the lead in developing the next generation of public benefits for the future workforce.

Without action, far too many of New York's independent workers will continue to lack access to crucial benefits from workers compensation to retirement savings, putting themselves and their families at risk — and eroding the middle class.

Building a modern social safety net that works for all New Yorkers will require the state to break new ground, even as other states struggle to develop an effective response. For instance, California lawmakers enacted major legislation last week that will require all gig economy platforms — from ride hailing to dog walking — to reclassify their workers as full-time employees. While this is one way to extend traditional workplace benefits to independent workers, it may have the unintended consequence of limiting flexibility for workers themselves without tackling the underlying challenge of extending public benefits to people who choose independent work.

New York should start by creating a system of portable benefits that are available to all workers and move with them from job to job. Under this model, freelancers and gig economy workers of all sorts would have the ability to choose providers through a regulated benefits exchange, including offerings from established companies, innovative start-ups, unions and government. Employers should be required to contribute substantially to these benefits, sharing the cost with workers. To ensure that lower-wage workers have the same access to benefits as those earning higher rates, the employer contribution should be calculated based on time worked rather than dollars paid. In addition, a small surcharge added to a broad range of ondemand services could help cover the employee contribution to portable benefits for lowerincome workers in the gig economy.

To develop this new system, the state should harness New York's unmatched talent in pursuit of solutions. New York could become the first state to create a state portable benefits innovation fund — modeled on pending federal legislation introduced by Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va. — that will provide competitive grants to support scalable portable benefits experimentation and seed pilot programs.

New York should also ensure that independent workers can access existing government benefits that typically require full-time employee status, including government-created retirement programs and paid family and medical leave. In addition, the state could pilot a program allowing independent workers with a record of stable earnings to opt into traditional unemployment insurance coverage.

Finally, the state should consider creating a new, third classification of "independent worker" that would extend key benefits to gig economy and other nontraditional workers while providing regulatory clarity to employers, but this process shouldn't be rushed. Convening tech companies, labor leaders, workers, and other stakeholders to put forward workable solutions would be a good place to start.

New York has never shied away from the challenge of shaping the future, and this pivotal moment is no exception. It's time for New York to lead on creating universal portable benefits and upgrading the social safety net for the 21st century.



Manufacturing jobs peak interest in high school students

North Country Manufacturing Day huge success



PLATTSBURGH, N.Y. —Hundreds of high school students gathered at Clinton Community College to learn about manufacturing jobs in the North Country."We have been basically been exploring multiple job opportunities and how multiple job industries run," Saranac student Jordan Rock said.

Some were even unaware about the many opportunities so close to home."I had no clue that there were some many local places that did all this stuff," Saranac student Connor Recore said.

This is one of the main reasons the event was created several years ago.

"We want to open their minds as to what is available here in the North Country for careers, pathways and how you get there," ETS Inc. Director of Marketing and Engagement Amber Parliament said.

"Businesses are looking for employees and are having a hard time finding them because they are all employed basically. What we are trying to do is enable students to understand what is available here," North Country Workforce Development Board Executive Director Sylvie Nelson said.

Clinton Community College works hand and hand with the manufacturing businesses in the area to get students a head start into their future careers.

"Every one of our students has two-three jobs offers before they even graduate. Before they walk across the stage, they have companies fighting for them already. I don't know a lot of schools or programs that have that opportunity," Vice President for Institutional Advancement Steve Frederick said.

While some of these students already know what they want to do with their futures they say it's important the younger generation knows all about the ever-expanding field.

"There is always going to be jobs in manufacturing. It's going more and more robotic. So, they will need people to come and program the robots. It's good to get knowledge about it because there is a lot of jobs in that field. And you can make a lot of money doing it," Recore said.

View The Segment Here



recordonline.com TIMES HERALD-RECORD

Newburgh Library launches workforce development program

NEWBURGH — The Newburgh Free Library has launched the Career Smart @ Your Library workforce development program. This program funded in part by the Ramapo Catskill Library System Mini-Literacy grant, will work towards enhancing digital literacy and career literacy in Newburgh. The City of Newburgh currently has an unemployment rating of 4.9 percent, the highest in the Hudson Valley. This program series will work towards addressing this issue by funding computer classes, including Spanish language computer courses, and workshops that will help patrons find and apply for jobs. See the Newburgh Free Library's program calendar at newburghlibrary.org for the full schedule.

On Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m. Orange-Ulster BOCES will present on the career paths available through their comprehensive technical and vocational programs. On Oct. 2 at 7 p.m. Orange County Government's Department of Human Resources will present on the civil service process and how to obtain a civil service position. On Oct. 23 at 7 p.m., Montefiore St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital will present on healthcare career paths, and entry level healthcare jobs for different levels of education.

Career counselor Gregg Knowles will be offering two Career Search Strategies workshops, Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m. and Oct 5 at 11:30 a.m., on how to conduct an effective job search and how to market oneself as a potential employee. Knowles will also offer One-on-One Career Help for individuals that need additional assistance writing resumes and cover letters, exploring career options, applying for jobs online, preparing for interviews, or learning how to use LinkedIn.For more information about The Career Smart @ Your Library program, call or email Chris Programming Outreach Morgan, and Librarian at 563-3625 or cmorgan@rcls.org or go to newburghlibrary.org. The Newburgh Free Library hours are 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Mon. through Thurs.; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri. and Sat.; and 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. on Sun.

Read the complete article here

Upcoming Member Information, Events & Funding Opportunities

Join NYATEP for the next NYC "Wine Down" Happy Hour Networking Event

5:00-7:00 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10TH





LIGHT FARE WILL BE SERVED

DRINK SPECIALS INCLUDE:

LYCHEE MARTINIS SOUTHEAST RED AND ROSE SANGRIA HOUSE WINES MIXED DRINKS \$7

NARRAGANSETT BEER

\$4

RSVP to Evelyn Ortiz at eortiz@nyatep.org or by clicking HERE

Upcoming Member Information, Events & Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunity

The New York City Complete Count Fund Request for Proposals.

The program is the first of its kind in the city and represents an investment of \$19 million in community-based organizations to mobilize New Yorkers to self-respond to the 2020 census.

The application period is now open and the online application for funding will remain open through **October 15, 2019, at 11:59 PM EST.** We encourage all organizations that have deep connections to historically undercounted communities to apply, and the City's support will range from \$25,000 to \$250,000, depending on organizational size and capacity. **Learn More HERE**

Job Opportunity

Warren County - Employment and Training Director II

The Director is responsible for the planning, coordination, and administration of a wide variety of local Employment and Training Program operations. This involves coordination of activities with adjacent counties who make up the local workforce area andi ntegration of services with the local NYS Department of Labor office to deliver services to the public through the local career center. Learn More HERE

Webinar

Rethink Re-Entry: Empowering Formerly Incarcerated Individuals Who are Re-entering the Workforce

October 24th 9:30 AM — 11:00 AM 9:30 AM — Introduction to MHANYS 9:40 AM — Panel Discussion to IncludeKacie Hull, Rensselaer County Reentry Task Force Coordinator, Chris Wessell, Principal of StaffegyJack Delaney, Transportation Manager at McLane Foodservice 10:40 AM — Question & Answers REGISTER HERE



Upcoming Event

NYC CTA High School Fair

The NYC Department of Education will host a citywide Career and Technical Education (CTE) High School Fair on October 19, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at George Westinghouse High School. This event will provide middle school students, parents, guardians and families an opportunity to interact with leaders and students from CTE schools and programs. The event will also showcase industry and college partners collaborating with CTE programs, as well as a panel discussion at 11:30 a.m. entitled, "Bright Futures: Girls in CTE."

Click here to register.







