

To Whom It May Concern,

My initial thought when I reflect on my College Works experience is how much experience I've gained - experience that would be unattainable through any other sort of work offered to me at this point in my life. There are few people my age who have done this sort of hands-on work, regardless of how wealthy they are, how well they do academically, or what sort of exclusive internship they've been working for. No matter who you are, if you have the right work ethic you can succeed through this company. Ultimately, there are things I've learned and skills I've gained through College Works that are essentially unattainable through anything else a college student could be doing.

I'm walking away with a lot more than just money, something more valuable: confidence in job security. Considering the current job market (only 50% of college students finding work after graduating, and 19% of them even needing a college degree to have that occupation in those first place) knowing that an employer would have trouble turning me away makes me feel that all the hard work I've put in truly worth it.

This is not an easy job. However, something I've learned through this as well is that I shouldn't want an easy job. Putting in work now so you can enjoy yourself later is a philosophy that has been stressed to us all by Pantea throughout the course of the internship, and as a result has been a philosophy that I've adopted into my lifestyle: leaving nothing in order to make myself proud down the road serves as the ultimate motivation. Sitting here now, writing this letter is the greatest relief. From someone who has done it to someone who's thinking about doing it, I tell you this: just do it. You'll thank me and yourself later.

Alex Giampapa