



# ANNUAL REPORT

OUR WORK IN 2014-15 // THE YEAR AHEAD IN 2015-16

The Portland Workforce Alliance builds enduring partnerships between businesses and Portland-area high schools.



*Big dreams. Good Jobs. All students.*

## Our work in 2014-15

PWA works with schools, employers, colleges and other postsecondary partners to help students develop their career aspirations. We want students to graduate with an informed sense of the many paths toward middle-class jobs and great careers. This year, we helped to provide students with more than 8,700 career-related learning experiences:

### CAREERS EXPO

More than 5,600 students from 70+ high schools in Oregon and Southwest Washington attended the 11th annual NW Youth Careers Expo on March 17. Our 130+ exhibitors included universities, apprenticeship training centers and nearly 100 of the region's leading employers. About 1,000 students did mock interviews at this year's Expo.

### CAREER DAYS

We connected with businesses and other community partners to offer 25 career days this year, serving about 900 students. Our career days took students to every corner of Portland, from sleek downtown offices to the industrial Swan Island. Employers showed students their workplaces, shared their insights and described the skills and education needed to thrive in their careers.

### MENTORSHIPS

We worked with our partners to provide about 180 students with mentorships this year. Opportunities included the ACE Mentor Program, which educates students about careers in architecture, construction management and engineering. Another was the new PACE Mentorship Program, which gives students the chance to work with caring professionals in the skilled trades.

### APPRENTICESHIPS

PWA supported the Youth Apprenticeship Training Program, a state-approved program that allows select Oregon students under 18 to work in facilities alongside skilled craftsmen, including millwrights and electricians. This year, students worked at Blount International and PCC Structurals, two manufacturers.

### CLASSROOM AND BEYOND

PWA connected teachers with employers through the Educator Industry Program, a joint effort with Portland Public Schools to develop career pathways in health care and engineering. PWA also played a key role in other learning opportunities, including the Summer Construction Camp, job shadows, classroom speakers and school-based mock interviews.



*PWA educates students about career opportunities to boost Oregon's graduation rate, develop a strong workforce and help young people find pathways to great jobs.*

**8,745**  
total career experiences

**5,643**  
students at the Expo

**899**  
students at career days

**25**  
career days

**179**  
mentorships

**1,031**  
mock interviews

### Thank you to our partners

Nike • Mercy Corps • Ziba Design • Howard S. Wright • Microsoft • Wieden+Kennedy • ZGF Architects  
PCC Swan Island Trades Center • Oregon Humane Society • Portland Parks & Recreation • Port of Portland  
Second Story Interactive Design • Oregon Health & Science University • Portland Public Schools • adidas  
Portland State University • Banfield Pet Hospital • Portland Fire & Rescue Training Center • McKinstry • ebay  
Portland Human Resource Management Association • Pacific Northwest Carpenters Institute • ESCO • Gunderson  
Kaiser Permanente • Providence Health & Services • Daimler • Legacy Health • Viewpoint Construction Software  
Portland General Electric • Wells Fargo • Hoffman Construction • Tri-County Consortium • and more

*"When you go off campus and see things, it's a totally different experience."*

*— Anayla Warren-Premisingh, Jefferson High School*



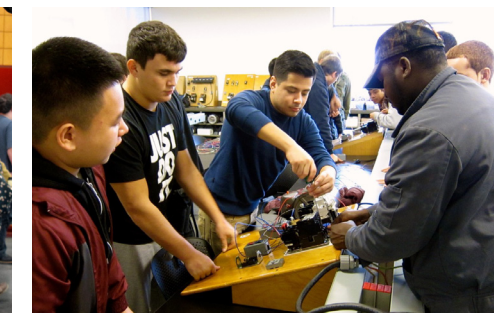
*"They showed you what it takes and how competitive it is, but also how worth it. ... All of it has given me more of a direction."*

*— Emily Myers, Franklin High School*



*"I realized it wasn't so daunting, it wasn't so scary, the idea of my future."*

*— Skylar Williams, Madison High School*



## Our board of directors

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*Nike*

**Scott Kleiner, President Elect**

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*Howard S. Wright*

**Abby Williams**

*Student, PSU*

## Our staff

**Kevin Jeans Gail**

*Executive Director*

**Susan Nielsen**

*Program & Communications Director*

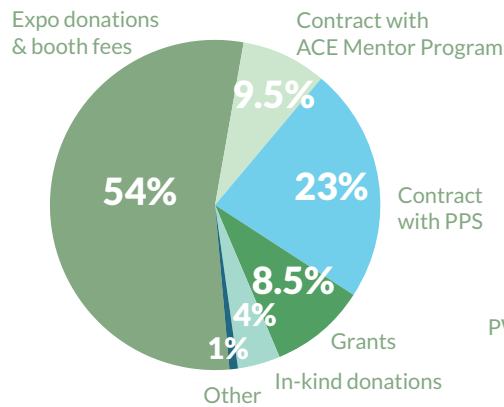
**Kristen Kohashi**

*Program Manager*

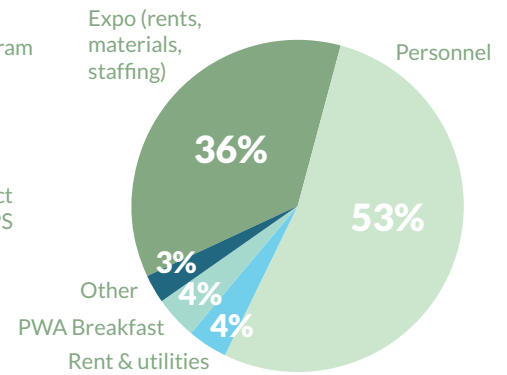
## Our finances

Most PWA revenue comes from the business community through the NW Youth Careers Expo. Grants from foundations leverage more support. A contract with Portland Public Schools allows PWA to provide additional career experiences specifically for PPS.

**Revenue \$291,058.95**



**Expenses \$278,060.64**



\* Finances as of June 30, 2015.

## Looking ahead

Oregon is a beautiful state with dynamic employers and rich cultural assets. However, Oregon sports one of the nation's lowest graduation rates, and household income lags the national average.

PWA's mission is to build partnerships between businesses and schools that help young people graduate, find rewarding careers and contribute to the region's economic vitality. In 2015-16, we will continue three strategies:

- 1 Expand opportunities for all students, with extra outreach to high-poverty, high-diversity high schools.
- 2 Connect students with growing sectors, including health care, technology, manufacturing and construction.
- 3 Create more career-learning experiences that are connected to the classroom.

## Get involved

**Volunteer** to do mock interviews

**Talk** to a classroom about your career and educational path

**Host** a career day at your workplace

**Join** the Expo as an exhibitor or sponsor

**Create** opportunities, such as job shadows or internships

**Donate** to support career learning

## Connect with us

 portlandworkforcealliance

 portland-workforce-alliance

 pworkforcea

[portlandworkforcealliance.org](http://portlandworkforcealliance.org)