



PORTLAND WORKFORCE ALLIANCE

Career Day @ ZGF Architects

When: Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015
Time: 9:30 am to 2 pm. **Check in at 9 am.**
Where: ZGF Architects' downtown Portland office, 1223 SW Washington St., #200.
Industry: Architecture
Careers: Architecture, landscape design, interior design, urban design
Note: Tri-county career day, open to juniors and sophomores.

What is ZGF, anyway? It's Portland's largest architecture firm, and it has offices in Seattle, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, D.C., and Vancouver B.C. Learn more at www.zgf.com/

What makes ZGF special? It has been named one of the top 50 architecture firms in the country. One of its projects, the restoration of the King Street Station in Seattle, received accolades as "an incredible transformation of an important civic landmark, and one that reinforces Seattle's commitment to sustainable design and to preserving our historical and cultural heritage."

What other Oregon projects have ZGF employees worked on in recent years? ZGF designed the "mod, minimalist" Emery apartments in the South Waterfront district – many units are smaller than 500 square feet. ZGF also designed the University of Oregon's football complex, a facility that has inspired both praise and hand-wringing, as the Portland Architecture blog described it. And it's working on the development of Zidell Yards, one of the last riverfront parcels awaiting development near downtown Portland.

Who are its clients? According to ZGF, "The firm's design portfolio is intentionally diverse, ranging from transportation terminals, commercial office and mixed-use developments to corporate campuses, healthcare and research buildings, academic facilities, libraries, and museums."

What is ZGF's design philosophy? ZGF says it's "centered on the premise that design excellence should be reflected in each and every aspect of a building -- its fit with the community, its function and relationship to its users, its building systems, and its cost."

What students will do: Tour the ZGF offices, hear from professionals in various career fields, participate in a walking tour to learn about different building styles in downtown Portland, and participate in a team activity to design a school.

About PWA: The nonprofit Portland Workforce Alliance works with employers and educators to create career-learning experiences for high school students. These opportunities include career days, mentorships and the annual NW Youth Careers Expo, which will be held Feb. 24, 2016. Learn more at www.portlandworkforcealliance.org/