

[View this email in your browser](#)



Director's Corner

Dear ERIE21 partners,

We bring you this edition of *The Channel* with some exciting news - thanks to the support and dedication of our students, partners and supporters-state, city and county government, the Syracuse City School District (SCSD), Syracuse Academy of Science (SAS) and numerous public and private partners, including M&T Bank, JP Morgan Chase and The Equitable-we were recently awarded an additional \$7.2 million from New York State.

ERIE21 has proven to be a high impact program that effectively serves hundreds of individuals throughout Syracuse. There is no doubt that we work with a special group of students, professionals, and partners. The continued support from our New York State partners, especially the Department of Labor, Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh, Onondaga County Executive and Le Moyne alumnus Ryan McMahon, Centerstate CEO & MACNY, ensures that we will continue to equip and empower all those we serve for years to come.

All of you-our educational, community and industry partners-have been instrumental in the success of ERIE21. We are thrilled to be able to continue to nurture these important relationships and advance our meaningful work empowering members of our community to make inroads against poverty, while also diversifying and expanding our local tech workforce. We are just getting started, and we are so happy you are part of our journey.

Sincerely,
Amanda M. Miles
Director, ERIE21



LOCK 1 & 2

Our Lock 1 and Lock 2 programs continued to offer a robust slate of programming and services to students during the winter and spring months. Below is a snapshot of the services, programming, and outcomes of ERIE21's 300+ 7-12 grade students during January-May 2022.

Highlights

- "**Learn To Code**" program. Our High School Students used Scratch, a tool designed by MIT, to learn coding principles
- Academic school year coding classes 5 nights per week for our middle school students led by **Pam Puri at Tech4Kidz**
- Tutoring & homework help four nights a week; and an undergraduate student-led program highlighting lessons on finance, technology, social emotional wellness, and more
- **Bryant & Stratton** virtual information session and in-person **SUNY Oswego** tour
- March 26th & April 30th **Tech Saturdays**
- March 16th **Hackathon** with 25 PSLA @ Fowler students
- Innovation Challenge -7 ERIE21 students in grades 7-12 comprised three separate teams for the **CNY Innovation Challenge**. An ERIE21 team received 2nd place for their pitch of "Abra-ska-dooky", a spray that dissolves waste matter
- MACNY- **Careers in Syracuse**- instructional workshops on Careers in Syracuse, as well as a virtual career fair event
- Virtual Fenimore Art Museum tour
- 3 week Financial Literacy workshop series with M&T Bank



Innovation Challenge



Tech Saturday activities

College Advising & Early Returns

ERIE21 has a class of **48 seniors**-100% of the students are expected to graduate on-time.

- Of our 44 who are decided or strongly leaning:
 - Four Year College/University-54.1%
 - Junior College-25%
 - Workforce-2.1%
 - Trade School/CTE/Internship-8.3%
 - Military-2.1%
 - Undecided-8.3%

As of this writing, we are still compiling outcomes. These are usually firmed up by mid-May. A selection of outcomes is as follows: **BOCES, Bryant & Stratton, Colgate University, Cornell University, Le Moyne College, MVCC, Niagara University, OCC, RIT, St. Bonaventure, SUNY Albany, Syracuse University, Utica University, US Navy and an internship program with the Syracuse Police Department**. We are proud to announce that ¼ of our graduating seniors will be supported by collegiate opportunity programs upon their matriculation into institutions of higher education.



Summer Programming



For students entering grades 6-12 in Fall 2022, we have a tremendous slate of technology-centered summer programming available!

- **5th Annual Quantitative Thinking Village**-robotics, learn to code, gain hands-on experience in engineering, basic programming principles, delve into mobile app development.
- **2nd Annual Innovation Academy**-strengthen tech skills, enhance college/career readiness, work with technology professionals from Le Moyne & the greater Syracuse-area community.
- **Inaugural GenCyber Summer Program**-Funded by the National Science Foundation and supported by the National Security Agency, the GenCyber program strives to be a part of the solution to the Nation's shortfall of skilled cybersecurity professionals. This is a free, week-long overnight program held on our campus. The Le Moyne GenCyber High School STARS (Students Trained in Awareness, Readiness, and Security) Camp will be held over two weeks, June 27-July 9.

Lock 3

Student Career Guidance - Insights from The Heights



Students, like all of us, are faced with competing priorities. They are all on a journey from being a college freshman to a full-time employee after graduation. The ability to hear, absorb and act on career readiness information varies from student to student. **Lisa Melara, ERIE21 Career and Workforce Advisor**, has first-hand experience with guiding our Lock 3 seniors to secure jobs post-graduation. In fact, she has worked one-on-one with the majority of our Lock 3 seniors this Spring – boosting our post-graduation job or graduate school placement to **exceeding 80%**!

In Lisa's one-to-one conversations with Lock 3 seniors, she focuses these dialogues around 4 common themes: 1. Future focused; 2. Theory to practice; 3. Fear of making the wrong choice; and 4. Tools at hand. A future focused discussion encourages students to shift focus from the past and put their energies toward the future – she explains, "Let's just begin. One small step and you are on your way. We are all walking beside you and are here to help." Theory to practice conversations assist students with thinking through how to translate their academic and internship experience into skills and strengths that apply to potential jobs. Fear of making the wrong choice dialogues hone in on identifying pressures; such as securing the "perfect" job post graduation! Lisa explains, "Students are on a journey, and the road is not straight. I encourage them to keep working on it, not for me, but for them." Lastly, she reminds them of the tools at hand – the many people, such as the **Lock 3 Team and Career Advising and Development Office**, and resources available to help them create their personal brand and be prepared for the job market.

New Team Member



In January 2022, ERIE21's Lock 3 welcomed **Cameron Albrecht** as a Student Success Coach.

Why he enjoys being part of ERIE21: ERIE21 enables me to assist students in the discernment of their intellectual and social passions. By identifying their passion and offering career guidance, I hope to position students to generate sustainable social change regardless of their vocation. Ethical engagement with technology represents an exciting avenue towards addressing the persistent socioeconomic struggles present in Syracuse. By exploring their complex and multifaceted identities in relation to social, educational, and career spaces, ERIE21 students are granted an opportunity to discern their place in the workforce and world. As a first-generation, low-income student who benefited from any number of opportunity programs, I am ecstatic at the opportunity to work with ERIE21 and the wonderful students served by the program.

THE CHANNEL: DELIVERING YOU BYTES OF INFORMATION STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE

Lock 3 Graduates Entering the Tech Industry



***This is a sneak peak of a few of our Class of 2022 outcomes!
Stay tuned for a special edition of The Channel highlighting all of our graduating seniors!***

Top (left to right): Arcela Balungaya (Equitable), Taylor Elie (Foundry), Alexis Ess (Equitable)
Bottom: Sarah Manning (IBM), Eric Mbirizi (JMA Wireless), Brent McKeown (EY), Declan Rapp (Lockheed Martin)



Lock 4

Undergraduate Certificate Programs

In January 2022, with the help of Centerstate CEO, we successfully launched our inaugural **Certificate programs in Cybersecurity Fundamentals and Computer Programming**. Soon after the new year a cohort of 17 students from the Syracuse area joined the Le Moyne community with a virtual orientation, embarking on a year-long academic journey that will help them take the next big step in their career development. This dynamic group can be found on campus on Monday and Wednesday evenings, in Reilly Hall engaging in hands-on learning experiences and getting advice and insights from industry experts, including our **two new Professors of Practice- Keith Wolfe (Cybersecurity Fundamentals) & Chad Harper (Computer Programming)**. We can't wait to see what is next for these future tech professionals!

These students are eager to expand their knowledge and learn from industry experts. If you have an area of expertise that you would like to share with them as a guest lecturer, please **contact Amanda Miles at milesam@lemoyne.edu**.



Careers in Code - Cohort 3

While the new Certificate programs were taking off, the team was simultaneously working to prepare and launch the **third cohort** of Hack Upstate's **Careers in Code** program. Thanks to the support of Centerstate CEO, ERIE21 has enrolled another vibrant cohort of aspiring software developers in a 24-week coding bootcamp, which kicked off in mid-March.

To enhance the student experience, this cohort is engaging in a multimodal learning experience, taking nightly classes in both virtual and in-person settings throughout the course of the program.

Guided by Max Matthews, Dean of Students, and a curriculum informed by industry experts, market demands and software development trends, these students are on track to become the **next generation** of entry-level software developers here in Central New York!



Surge Apprenticeship

Led by **Centerstate CEO**, ERIE21 is proud to support the **Surge Coding Apprenticeship**—a paid experience that targets diverse talent to attract them into Syracuse's tech sector.

The program is for those interested in a **career in software development** and combines classroom training with self-paced learning and on the job experience. It is part of Syracuse Surge and funded by JPMorgan Chase Foundation and the American Rescue Plan Act administered by the City of Syracuse. The program is a year-long depending on the employers, which include TCGplayer, Terakeet and Thales, among others. Participants will receive four weeks of preparatory training before beginning an apprenticeship. The program will begin this summer.

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about enrollment, or would be interested in sharing industry expertise, please **contact Laiza Semidey at lsemidey@centerstateceo.com**.



To learn more about our program visit <http://www.lemoyne.edu/erie21>

This email was sent to bakerjm@lemoyne.edu
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
ERIE21 · 1419 Salt Springs Rd · Syracuse, NY 13214-1302 · USA

Grow your business with  **mailchimp**