



What's New?

Congratulations to BlueBit Technology Teacher Scholarship Recipients



Don Johnson, CEO of BlueBit Technology, a California based reseller of IT infrastructure, services and cloud solutions, has been providing IT services pro-bono to Vital Link for over 10 years and continues to support Vital Link's day-to-day IT needs. He has a strong relationship with leading global training and consulting companies that provide IT training courses.

This year, Don developed a partnership with NterOne to help provide technology training and certifications programs for educators to assist with their personal IT knowledge development. NterOne is a global training and consulting company focusing on live online IT training courses, self-paced e-learning, private onsite training, consulting, and software focused on the training industry. Vital Link is honored to announce that 7 teachers will be receiving training scholarships for this upcoming school year. The total donation value is over \$24,000 in training costs.

Don Johnson said *"It has been rewarding assisting Vital Link with their growing IT needs over the past many years. Now with being able to provide this scholarship program it allows us to impact educators that are shaping the lives of students entering into IT careers."*

Vital Link is grateful for Don and BlueBit technology's time and continuous support and congratulates the following Scholarship Recipients:

Carolina J Kussoy: Irvine Valley College
Christopher Warrior: El Modena High School
Dwight Osborne: Valencia High School
Elizabeth Sykes: Golden West College
Jane Hang: Morningside High School
Michael Salviani: Irvine Valley College
Nicole Muilenburg: El Toro High School

Featured Program

BUILDING OUR NEXT GENERATION FOR THE SOLAR POWERED WORLD

To help today's youth prepare for, and work in a world increasingly powered by solar energy, SunPower®, a global solar technology and energy services company, has just completed its 7th annual SunPower® Solar Energy Academy, a five-day, immersive, learning experience for California high school students.

Through hands-on activities, field visits and lectures from solar professionals, the students learned about project scope, design, finance and environmental impact. By week's end, students gained work-ready skills and spoke confidently about residential solar projects and renewable energy careers.

In partnership with SunPower® last month, Vital Link delivered academies in Santa Ana, Riverside, and Escondido Unified School Districts. Since the inception of the partnership in 2013, Vital Link has served over 400 students and this summer alone we had 70 graduating students.

Congratulations to the 2017 Solar Energy Academy Graduates!



"Thanks to Science Solar Academy, I've made new friendships and learned a lot about solar energy." - Jonathan Valenzuela, Grand Terrace High School

A Special Thanks to our Partners

Corporate and foundation grants are essential to Vital Link's effort to help thousands of students to transition into meaningful careers. We gratefully acknowledge the following corporations for the month of July.



Meguiar's - 3M Foundation awards a \$5,000 grant to Vital Link

Meguiar's - 3M Foundation supports schools, universities and other community organizations around the globe to ensure students and teachers have the tools, resources and knowledge they need to succeed. This will be Meguiar's - 3M's fourth year supporting Vital Link's Project-Based Learning programs.

Western Digital Foundation awards a \$10,000 grant to Vital Link



Vital Link is pleased to announce that it has received a \$10,000 grant from Western Digital. These funds will help support two Project-Based Learning programs: the Robotics Programs where Orange County middle- and high school students experience real-world opportunities by utilizing the Performance Engineering model of *build, test and modify* to maximize the performance of their robots; and STEM and the Arts Career Showcase, which is the culminating event displaying all Project-Based Learning student accomplishments.

Vital Link Partners with Macy's Shop For a Cause



Donate at least \$5 or more and receive an exclusive Macy's Shop for a Cause savings pass.

Support Vital Link and Earn a Macy's Day Exclusive Savings Pass!

Vital Link has joined the Macy's Shop For a Cause Charity Challenge, teaming up with CrowdRise. This is a fundraising campaign by US based 501(c) 3 charities and accredited schools across the country. Macy's 12th annual Shop For a Cause will take place both in-store and online. You will receive an exclusive savings pass good to use at Macy's from Thursday, August 10 - Sunday, August 13.

How It Works:

The fundraising campaign launched on Tuesday, July 11th at 12pm ET and runs through Wednesday, August 9th at 1:59:59pm ET.

The charity that raises the most online during the Challenge wins \$100,000.

Second place receives \$50,000

Third place receives \$25,000

Fourth place receives \$15,000

Fifth place receives \$10,000

Donate \$5 or more through August 9th to receive a Macy's exclusive savings pass that includes:

-EXTRA 25% OFF

select regular priced, sale clothing, accessories & jewelry, exclusions, and restrictions apply.

-EXTRA 20% OFF select regular priced items & select sale home items; exclusions and restrictions apply.

-EXTRA 10% OFF select regular priced & sale electrics/electronics (in-store only); exclusions and restrictions apply.

Please share with friends, family, and fellow Macy's shoppers! Fundraiser runs through August 9th.

[Donate Today!](#)

About Vital Link:

Vital Link, a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization (Tax ID# 33-0632256), provides creative and professional programs that focus on leading edge job skills and job development curriculum. We reach over 30,000 students each year through Career Exploration Programs, support services and use of the Vital Link curriculum. Encouraging students to make the connection between their education and their future career is the foundation of Vital Link and will impact lives today and in the future.

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