



## TAKING AN EXTRA STEP TO HIRE LA YOUTH

### Wells Fargo Bank's Commitment To Make Job Candidates, Job Ready!

Creating a pipeline of ready and educated future workers is a priority at Wells Fargo Bank. That's why Wells Fargo has participated again in the City of Los Angeles' Hire LA 18-24 Youth Employment Program. This is the second summer the bank has partnered with CDD, and its Wilshire Metro WorkSource Center, the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and LA City College to recruit, train, and employ interns for the bank's various offices and the non-profits it sponsors.

This summer, Wells Fargo was so pleased with the professionalism displayed by the first 15 Hire LA Youth interns it placed corporate offices, the bank asked for 15 more and paced them in positions at several non-profit organizations including Project Angel Food, Para Los Ninos, Pacoima Beautiful, and the Koreatown Youth and Community Center.

The Wells Fargo Hire LA's Youth Summer Internship Curriculum incorporates six weeks of paid work experience under the tutelage of bank executives. The interns also spent one day each week in specially designed classes,

requested by Wells Fargo, that included business protocols, business correspondence and dealing with difficult employees. They also visited various downtown venues including Disney Concert Hall and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

The young people were selected from a pool of candidates referred by the City of Los Angeles Community Development Department (CDD), Mission College, and the Magic Johnson Scholarship Foundation.

Kudos to Wells Fargo Bank for creating this unique, innovative, high-quality internship opportunity! This public-private partnership has a terrific outcome; putting young people to work is good for the future of Los Angeles.

The Wells Fargo internships are part of the City's Hire LA 18-24 Youth Employment Program sponsored by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, the City Council and the City of Los Angeles Workforce Investment Board.

**Right top photo:** Nicholas Smith (l) landed a part-time job with Wells Fargo following his internship. He's a student at Santa Monica City College.

**Right:** Wells Fargo Senior Vice President Jerry J. Ruiz congratulates Gerardo Mercado a sophomore at the University of California at Santa Barbara. The bank has hired him to work part-time at a branch in Camarillo.

**Top Photo:** The first group of Wells Fargo interns are pictured with Carmel Sella (far left) of Wells Fargo Bank and Shelly Wax (far right) from the Wilshire Metro WorkSource Center.

