#### March Edition















#### **PAVE YOUR WAY TO SUCCESS**



Academy of Finance and Enterprise 30-20 Thomson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101 Email: pave.ny@veinternational.org

# Announcement:

To all PAVE Employees,

For any one project, idea, or group, seeing evidence of success is always rewarding, especially after such a long wait with obvious investment of time and energy. Throughout the month of March, we truly saw the results in full bloom across not only the National Business Plan competition, but additionally with the National HR, Finance, and Marketing competitions. We could not be more proud of the individuals that strove for success and performed exquisitely. Beyond that, we are also very proud of our community department for a top 10% award in the newsletter competition! The month of March, outside of these amazing results, was one that brought optimism for the future as well. With vaccines being provided and masks still being fastned, we have truly been uplifted by the hope for a return to normalcy, which we are all striving for. Regardless, let us continue to defy odds in these "challenging times" and look to the future as we wrap up our fiscal year. Great job in the month of March!

Youssf Hegazy, CEO



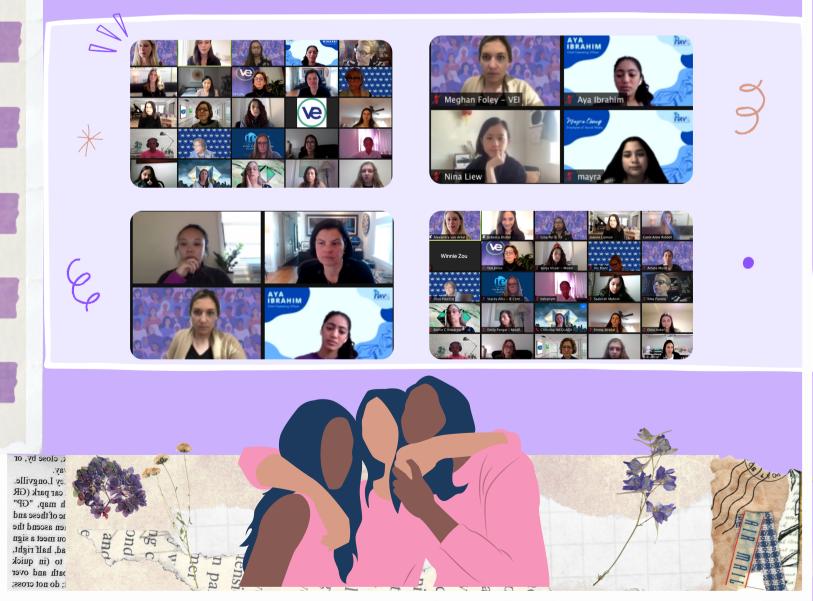
#### Dear PAVE Employees,

March truly highlighted our vast accomplishments that stemmed from each employee's hard work and passion. The "fan" that we operate is only spinning because each branch is a salient representation of our success. A huge congratulations to our Finance, Human Resources, and Marketing Departments for qualifying for the National Competition as well as to our Community Department for winning Top 10% at the 2021 National Newsletter Competition. I am immensely proud of where we have come so far and look forward to the finish line of this year's myriad successes! Youssf and I appreciate your continued commitment to the company and our growth. Let's continue paving our way to success!



# Winning Women Conference

The Winning Women Conference is a development program and an annual event that students at the Academy of Finance and Enterprise participate in. This was the second time this year that PAVE employees attended this conference. It was an amazing opportunity for female students to hear and learn from professionals in the business field. This workshop provided advice, ideas, and strategies for young female leaders who wish to establish a successful career. In addition, Winning Women implements training in communication skills, personal branding, and professional presence. It's the beginning for these young women to make a long-lasting connection with many professionals. Throughout the event, students were being joined different breakout rooms which allowed them to closely speak with experienced leaders.



# **Team Building**

### <u>Skribbl</u>:

This Friday, the HR department planned a fun activity. Within each department, the employees and chief competed against each other. Each member will have a chance to draw based on the word they were provided, the other member will have to guess the right word. It was a fun and relaxing activity where we could unleash our creativity.









3/12/2021

3/26/2021

This Friday, the HR department planned an activity where PAVE employees were preparing to interview the rising seniors for VE. Everyone took turns asking questions to the monitor. At times, the monitors would give weird/unprofessional responses, and PAVE interviewer have responded to these situations quickly and assist the student to answer the question on point. We are excited to welcome new VE students to be part of this fun and exciting journey for their senior year. This interview will provide information for the student about VE and at the same time, we can get to know each individual student.

#### World Down Syndrome Day



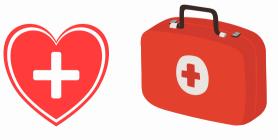
March 21 was World Down Syndrome Day. The day is to celebrate the lives of people with Down syndrome and raises awareness about the condition. We encouraged people to wear mismatched socks to call attention to World Down Syndrome Day. The day is celebrated on March 21 because the date symbolizes the three copies of the 21st chromosome. The genetic irregularity leads to Down syndrome. Typically, the nucleus of each cell contains 23 pairs of chromosomes, but an extra copy occurs in people with Down syndrome, altering the course of development.



#### American Red Cross Month



Month Red American Cross is celebrated all month long in March to honor and celebrate those volunteers employees and who make α difference in their communities bv donating blood or volunteering to help people affected by a natural disaster. You can join the Red Cross mission by volunteering, giving blood, learning lifesaving skills, or making a financial donation.



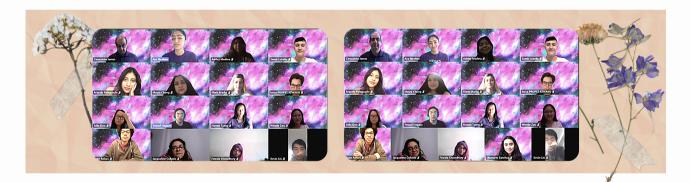
March Is Red Cross Month Red Cross

#### Women History's Month



Women's History Month - a month to honor and recognize the achievements and struggles women have endured. Throughout history, women have many faced obstacles with equality and gaining rights. At PAVE, we celebrated this by wearing purple on March 8, which is International Women's Day. In addition, PAVE created a video by the social media department in which we spoke about our female role models.





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#### **Trade Show**

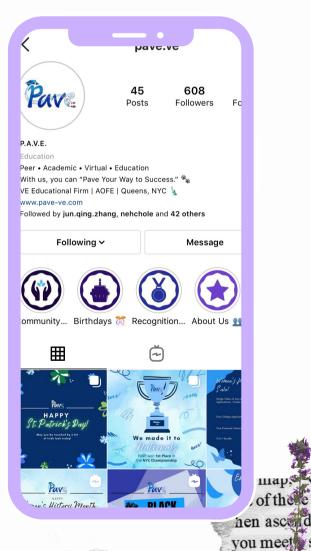
In March, we participated in our fourth regional trade show. Each employee is being broken up with a different set of partners during the trade show. One employee will make the pitch to the customers, and another one will be showing our products and putting information into the POS systems. It requires collaboration and coherent communication with each other. Furthermore, PAVE's industrious employees also demonstrate professionalism throughout the trade show. Furthermore, as always PAVE directly extend a "special thanks" to both Marketing and Social Media department for preparing the trade show by creating flyers and making an announcement to our customers along with St. Patrick's day promoting. Last but not least, we would like to thank our customers who have shown tremendous support!

# Word of the Week



PAVE is proud to launch "Word of the week" series! Featuring admission officers, industry professionals, and professors, PAVE is providing a platform for young adults to open their eyes for college and career success. Stay tuned as we release our interviews on Wednesdays! Check out our Instagram for more info!





### **Connecting Passions with Education!**

Hear from Benoit Jadoul, an amazing SAT Tutor volunteering for the New York Cares Program as he shares his passions for higher education and his exquisite journey with PAVE!



My name is Benoit Jadoul and for the last five years I have been an SAT tutor for New York Cares. Today I would like to tell you why I think the SAT program is so important for young, college-bound people and why I decided to tutor topics I learned about half a century ago, some of which I have neither seen nor used since then.

First, I am a firm believer in education. It is the gateway to a better, more fulfilling, more interesting life. As a matter of fact, I am a child of privilege. Not financial privilege, but academic and educational privilege. Both my parents went to college and graduate school. From my very first day in kindergarten, they instilled a strict discipline of "study before fun," "homework before playground." It really sank in and has served me extremely well professionally, personally, and socially.

Strong in the conviction that higher education opens doors and multiplies opportunities, I am determined to assist youngsters eager to learn and know.

Second, as you may have noticed from my accent, I am neither from the Bronx nor from Texas. I came to the States from Europe to attend graduate school and had to adapt and adjust at multiple levels – different language, different educational system, different culture. Belonging to different cultures is a fabulous personal enrichment, yet reconciling them can be a tremendous challenge. Many of my students are first generation immigrants and some were born as far away as the Philippines, Russia, South Africa, or Ecuador. As a tutor, I try to help them bridge the cultural divide and overcome the obstacles that may interfere with their educational aspirations.

Third, most of the students enrolled in the New York Cares SAT program are from middle- and low-income families, and few of them have parents who attended college. They are clearly as gung-ho, as motivated, and as determined to enter college as the children from families who are better off financially and educationally, but they face one major disadvantage: tutors are not affordable. By volunteering, I try to level the playing field and remove a serious hurdle these kids should otherwise face when taking the SAT — the first step on their road to college.

One of my former students, Chelsea Diokno, will address you next. She is one of the many very motivated and focused young people enrolled in the New York Cares program. She too has wrestled with the transition to a totally different country and culture but has refused to let the fact that English is not her first language stand in the way of going to college.

Helping students like Chelsea bridge the cultural gap, have an equal chance at the SAT, and pursue a life-changing college education explains why once a week for eight months, I take the subway from the Upper West Side to far, far away Long Island City. Because, just like New York Cares, I care.

### **National Qualifers**

We are so proud to announce that our finance department, marketing department, and human resources department are qualifiers for the national competitions! They have worked extremely hard on the employee manual (HR department), marketing plan (marketing department), and financial statement (finance department). These are the building blocks towards PAVE's success, their work provides the fundamental pieces for PAVE to be operated. In addition, the Community department made it to the Top 10% National Newsletter Competition. Once again, congrats to all departments on their diligence, dedication, and commitment.



Congratulations





**Aracely Palaguachi** 

#### **Kevin Lin**

Congratulation to PAVE employees who are prizewinners of this program!

The Ceros Gives Progra

### Description:

Creo, a digital content creation platform for marketers and designers has provided an opportunity for VE students who are interested in design.

The Ceros Gives program plans to support VE students interested in design by providing them with a laptop donated by former Ceros employees, along with training using the Ceros design platform which comes installed with each laptop. The full benefits are One laptop donated by Cero, access to the Ceros Studio, two 30-45 minutes, small group training sessions, recorded sessions, an overview of and access to Educate page with design tips, How-To's, instructional videos, build-alongs and more.



During difficult times, it is important that a company highlights their surrounding community, as it is important for their collective success. For the month of March, this would not have been possible without our chief of community, Winnie!

Whether it is continued outreach and monthly events or being awarded top 10% in the newsletter competition, Winnie is always at the forefront. Her leadership is admirable, her creativity is inspirational, and her energy is truly amazing.

We are lucky to have Winnie!

March Birthdays



Jackie Collado Chief of Marketing

Facial Hassan Chief of Social Media

Winnie Zou Chief of Community



Happy Birthday!