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Digital Workssm

CONNECTING PEOPLE & JOBS

➔ 2015 February Graduate Newsletter



Digital Works Graduate Spotlight

Jill started class on September 10, 2014. Jill



has inspired everyone at Digital Works, but her story started before she walked through the door.

"My story is pretty much just trying to make up for a bad choice I made in 1999," Jill said. "I was charged with a crime in 2000, sentenced to do seventy days in county jail, four months house arrest and one year of probation, let me tell you I have learned my lesson," Jill said.

After completing the classes and submitting several applications, Jill got a call for an interview with Cheryl's Cookies and on November 7, 2014, she was hired.

Jill started training with Cheryl's Cookies on November 17, 2014. Her training consisted of 8 hours per day for 10 days. She then began her official employment on November 28, 2014. Jill picks up any extra hours that she possibly can, working all shifts including ones lasting until 2:00-3:00 AM. She even had to put training with eDegree, another Digital Works employer on hold for right now, due to working so much for Cheryl's Cookies. However, she hopes to eventually work full time for both companies!

Jill is by far one of the most dedicated, hardworking, and driven graduates that has come through the program. She is an inspiration to everyone!

Great Work Opportunities

Digital Works is happy to announce a number of available positions created by one of our newest client partners, Teletech. Teletech is a global process outsourcing company with over 250 global clients in 24 different countries, and over 40,000 employees. Teletech serves a number of industries, including automotive, communications, financial services, healthcare, media and entertainment, technology, travel, and transportation industries.

Teletech offers many customer service work-at-home opportunities, and in recent months, they have hired multiple Digital Works



graduates. Currently, Teletech is recruiting for Technical Customer Support positions to support the Teletech@Home division. These jobs can be found at: www.teletechjobs.com.

Thursday Think Tank



What is a Thursday Think Tank you might ask? Every Thursday morning at 9:30AM, Digital Works students, agents, staff, and the occasional special guest come together via phone and webinar to discuss industry best practices and employment opportunities. Most recently, the Think Tank started a series to cover the new employment opportunities more in-depth, sharing information about the employer, highlights on working for them, technical requirements, qualities of an agent, and where to apply. There will also be special guests, agents just like you, presenting their experiences working for the company being highlighted that week.

Do you have a question or want to offer insight into best practices that you have developed? Each week there is also time devoted for an open forum in which attendees can ask questions and share insight with everyone on the call. This is a wonderful resource and networking tool. Please come and join us on our next Thursday call.

We hope you will login and join us each Thursday morning at 9:30AM EST for this great opportunity

REGISTER NOW:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/483333210>

Connect Ohio Opens Second Jobs Skills & Placement Center in Gallipolis



“The Digital Works program offers a great opportunity for Gallia County citizens to take advantage of the ever-growing Internet based employment opportunities,” said State Rep. Ryan Smith (R-93rd District). “This training is very forward thinking in attempting to accommodate the demand in the quickly evolving technology marketplace. This program is a direct result of the creativity of our local team at Department of Jobs and Family Services and Melissa Clark in the county’s Economic Development Department and its ability to think outside the box to find ways to put people to work.”

The grand opening was held at the new Digital Works center on Wednesday January 21st. The presentation began at 1pm, followed by tours of the facility and refreshments. Digital Works facilitators and students were on site to answer any questions about the Digital Works program.

The event also included a special announcement from Adam Grzybicki on the partnership between AT&T and Connect Ohio regarding twenty scholarships for students to pursue a [Udacity Nanodegree](#). Nanodegrees are a new category of online education that connects people wherever they are with affordable, effective training focused on high-demand technology skills.

Each scholarship has an approximate value of \$2,000, and enables students to complete one Nanodegree of their choice. The

Nanodegree program is part of [AT&T Aspire](#), AT&T's signature education initiative to prepare students for success in school and the 21st century workforce.



"AT&T is thrilled to announce this partnership with Connect Ohio today at the Digital Works grand opening in Gallipolis," said Adam Grzybicki, AT&T Ohio President. "I can't think of a better place in the Buckeye State to target for this program as many local residents are anxious to develop the skills needed in the digital economy. I especially want to thank State Rep. Ryan Smith for all of his work in Columbus to support legislation to further incent broadband investment so constituents in his district can obtain the training and eventually careers in the 21st century workforce."

"The Digital Works locations in Ohio have seen remarkable success and we are thrilled to be opening a second location in Gallipolis to connect even more people to jobs," said Stu Johnson, executive director of Connect Ohio. "Proving the success through our job numbers is a strong indicator for the program; however, the greatest impact that Digital Works is having is on the participants' lives after helping them to secure employment. We are very thankful to AT&T for providing the Udacity scholarships as well as donating broadband services to the center, along with the entire Gallipolis community, Gallia County Department of Job and Family Services and the tireless efforts of Representative Ryan Smith."

Digital works is currently taking applicants for the program and they can register at <http://www.connectednation.org/applicant-intake-form>.

DW GRADUATES

Carrollton - Patricia Bennett

Logan - Karen Fetherolf

Logan - Linda Rarey

Portsmouth - Joel Bolden

Portsmouth - Mary Moore

West Union - Carolyn Sheeley

West Union - Debra Alexander
West Union - Emily Evans
West Union - Kyle Updyke
West Union - Leticia Updyke
West Union - Nathan Hughes -Holbrook
West Union - Pam Nehus
West Union - Winston Hall
Woodsfield - Tiffany Heightland

Congrats to this month's recent hires

Carrollton - Tyra Hillyer
Gallipolis - Niclos Dailey
Thorn Hill - Donna Sizemore

TAX TIPS

As a home based 1099 contractor, there are several deductions potentially available to you:



1. Office supplies and equipment necessary for your independent business. Be sure to save all your receipts!
2. \$3 per square foot of your independent business home office space.

3. Self-employment tax is 15.3%= 15 cents on a dollar.



4. Portions of your monthly utility bills relative to your independent business including security systems, Internet, phone, electric, trash, water, etc.

5. If you travel for your business, you may be eligible for mileage deductions. Be sure to track mileage with dates.

As you can see, there are many potential deductions available for your independent business. Talk to your local Certified Public Accountant to learn more.