













SIRUCIIVE NEWS YOU CAN USE | Q4 2024 | 5



Nevaeh Del Real —

Meet Nevaeh Del Real a west town resident, City Colleges of Chicago Dawson Technical Institute (DTI) graduate, and a first-year apprentice. Navaeh is a cement mason who was hired by Sumit Construction (MBE) during one of PBC's virtual community hiring sessions. Sumit Construction sponsored Nevaeh's apprenticeship, and she is now signatory to Union Local 502. She has aspirations of one day opening her own masonry construction company.

A cement mason since September 2, 2024, Nevaeh says that she really likes what she is doing as a first-year apprentice. "I met with Sumit Bohill and told him about my journey of attending Dawson Tech, being an instructor after graduation and now looking for an opportunity in the industry. He then told me that Sumit Construction is getting ready to start a series of projects on behalf of the PBC and if I was interested, I could become an apprentice," Neveah said. "Since starting I realized that I have a lot to learn but willing to learn every day."

Nevaeh started at Dawson Tech in the masonry certificate program. Following her stint as a Dawson Tech teacher's assistant, Nevaeh started attending career fairs and construction workshop hoping to find an opportunity in the industry.

"I give a shout out to PBC because I landed my opportunity with Sumit through the virtual community hiring session," Nevaeh said.



"I tell all contractors that if they are not serious about giving Dawson Tech students a real opportunity, please don't waste their time," Kenyon Douglas, Executive Director, Workforce Equity Initiative Dawson Technical Institute said at a recent event.

"We are dedicated to providing students with intensive and comprehensive industry validated training in the construction trade and utility industries. Navaeh is an example of DTI's committed to preparing students to compete in these industries by offering relevant competency-based instruction that leads to unionized apprenticeships and other relevant trade and utility worker opportunities." Navaeh is the first in her family to become a mason.



evaeh speaks during Macolm X College West Campus Pre-Submission Conference

"I started out being interested in brick laying but when I got to Dawson Tech my instructor was a cement mason. He taught us some of the aspects of cement masonry and I fell in love with the tools and the craft. I got in a rhythm with it and decided to just keep going with this craft and learn as much as I can. I love the work. Its always something to do," Nevaeh said.

Nevaeh is a part of a three-year apprenticeship program where she will continue to prefect her skills. Navaeh encourages other women to explore masonry as a career path.



"Females who are willing to be in this or any trade, never give up. When it's your turn, your opportunities will flourish, and you will be blessed. Know your worth and what you bring to the table. Don't get discourage by the number of 'no' answers that you hear when looking for a job. Because all you need is one yes. Once you hear that yes, it's an unbelievable feeling," Naveah said. "Don't get discourage because it will happen."

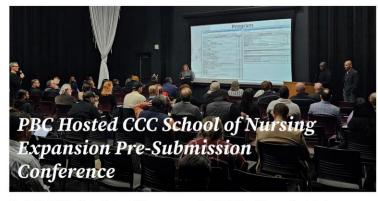
After completing the apprenticeship and getting a few years of on-the-job experience, Navaeh will be looking to open her own masonry construction company

"I will take the 'N' from my first name 'Del' from my last name and call my company N'Del Masonry Construction," Navaeh said.

"The PBC will continue to encourage local hiring because it creates local economic opportunities, fosters workforce diversity and strengthen ties between the project and the community," Ray Giderof, PBC Executive Director said. "By hiring locally, the PBC invests directly in the surrounding area, leading to long-term social and economic benefits, in addition to helping to ensure that the project reflects the needs and values of the people it impacts."

CONSTRUCTIVE NEWS YOU CAN USE | Q4 2024





The Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC) hosted a non-mandatory Pre-Submission Conference and Site-Visit to provide valuable information and guidance to potential respondents of the upcoming City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) School of Nursing Expansion project. The event enhanced the understanding of PBC procurements requirements while fostering networking amongst the general contracting community.

This gathering served as a platform for contractors to engage directly with PBC representatives, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the submission process, requirements, and expectations.



Key highlights of the event included:

- Information Session: PBC provided detailed information about the qualification process, ensuring contractors are well informed before submitting their proposals.
- Q&A Session: Attendees had the chance to ask questions and seek clarifications on any aspects of the submission process.
- Site Visit & Networking Opportunities: Contractors were able to network with peers, potential partners and PBC representatives, fostering connections within the construction community.

"We are dedicated to promoting transparency, collaboration and excellence in all of our projects," Ray Giderof, PBC's Executive Director said. "The CCC School of Nursing Pre-Submission Conference exemplifies our commitment to providing a platform where contractors can gather insights, engage with us directly and lay the foundation for a successful project."

For further information and inquiries regarding the prequalification of general contractors for CCC's School of Nursing Expansion project, please contact patricia.montenegro@cityofchicago.org



City of Chicago's 2024 Procurement Symposium



PBC team members attended the City of Chicago's Procurement Symposium at Malcolm X College. The event was a perfect opportunity for the PBC to support the City's efforts and connect with firms seeking to learn more about the procurement process and available opportunities.

MWRD 2024 Diverse Business Summit



The PBC was thrilled to participate in and support MWRD 2024 Diverse Business Summit which focused on minority-owned, women-owned, eteran-owned, disabled owned and LGBTQ-owned businesses.

PBC on the Radio



Ray Giderof, PBE Executive Director, appeared on WCPT-820 AM and WVON-1390 AM where he had engaging conversations with Cook County Board President, Toni Preckwinkle, about the duties of the office and alert listeners to upcoming PBC opportunities.

TRUCTIVE NEWS YOU CAN USE | Q4 2024 | 13











Malcolm X College West Campus



Community Hiring Events

Lincoln Square Brown Line Area Improvements

Friday, November 15, 2024 | 10:00am - 2:00pm Sulzer Regional Library 4455 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60625

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 | 12:30pm - 3:30pm Budlong Woods Library 5630 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60659

This event will provide a unique platform for job seekers to apply for work on the Lincoln Square Brown Line Area Improvements as well as other PBC projects. The project scope includes streetscape improvements, along with full reconstruction of the plaza located, at the SE corner of N. Western Avenue and W. Leland Avenue, reconstruction of the existing public parking lot at the SW corner of W. Leland Avenue and N. Lincoln Avenue, and renovations to the area under the CTA elevated tracks between N. Western and N. Lincoln Avenues, adjacent to the CTA Western Brown Line Station. The improvements include geometric changes to the W. Leland Avenue roadway, new traffic signal at N. Western and W. Leland Avenues, new protected bike lanes,











Community Hiring Initiative











Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council General Meeting

Community Hiring Initiative

