

# On Site

Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ernest Roberts  
Executive Director, PVJOBS

Our job program has grown tremendously since we first opened our doors in 1998. We have expanded well beyond Playa Vista, where we started, and we now work with several major development projects in the Los Angeles area. We help the at-risk community gain meaningful employment in the construction trades, while assisting community college students with attaining paid internships to further their educational careers. We also run an architecture studio that provides digital archiving and 3D rendering services to the Los Angeles Community College District.

We expect to soon start an outreach program that assists the Center for Contract Compliance in educating communities throughout the Southland about construction-related careers. And we are actively supporting various initiatives to increase job placements in construction and other industries, including the Mayor's Faith-Based Initiative, which advocates for the inclusion of low-income residents in the construction trades. There is much more work that we're involved in, but there's not enough space on this page to include it all!

This kind of progress cannot be realized or maintained without a dedicated staff. PVJOBS has been extraordinarily successful because of our staff. They are the ones who interact and support our clients, and work with contractors and labor representatives to ensure that the system works smoothly – all while making certain that everyone gains in the process. It is not an easy task to which they are called.

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## The e7 Way

Nearly three years ago, the Los Angeles Community College District contracted with PVJOBS to run three programs: e7 Jobs Program,



*e7 Interns find time to get together for a group shot.*

which functions much like PVJOBS' other construction jobs programs; e7 Architecture Studio, which provides 3D graphics and digital archiving services to the District; and e7 Interns Program, which connects the District's students to internship opportunities with pro-

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# SAVE THE DATE!



*Keynote Speaker Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa*

It's that time of year again when PVJOBS brings together labor, business and community leaders to honor our job program's top workers and supporters. Our 8th Annual Recognition Luncheon – "Opening the Doors of Opportunity" – is set to take place on Monday, June 11 at The Center at Cathedral Plaza.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa is slated to serve as the luncheon's keynote speaker. The event will also give special recognition to two highest performing PVJOBS workers who have turned around their lives through our job program.

This annual recognition event has always been heartwarming, and this year's affair will be no exception. For more event information, please contact our office at (310) 448-4684. See you there!



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# PVJOBS At Work

## DEREK DAVIS: Making Peace

When asked about his new foreman position, Derek Davis admits that his job isn't exactly a piece of cake. "It's challenging," says 44-year-old Davis, who works for American Constructors, a PVJOBS partner. "But it's a varied learning experience."

Because learning is a focal part of Davis's career goals, his hard work has been worth it. "By having this work experience, I'm able to make the construction industry my career."



Derek Davis

Establishing a career in one's mid-40s has enough challenges in itself. Yet, as Davis sees it, he's making up for lost time. Raised in the reputable Crenshaw District of South Los Angeles, Davis and his older brother enjoyed a stable and warm upbringing by their parents, who owned a neighborhood dry cleaning business. But when he was just 19, his mother died from cancer.

The grief of his mother's death coupled with the pressures of young adulthood overwhelmed Davis. Out of frustration, he quit culinary trade school and a part-time job, and then eventually ventured into drugs to anesthetize his anguish. His drug use became so severe that he began making the streets his home. Says Davis, "I went from living in a nice neighborhood to living on Skid Row."

Davis spent the next 15 years struggling on the streets and serving time in prison. He lost touch with his family because he didn't want to expose them to his turbulent life of drugs. However, years of homelessness and incarceration ultimately wore on his spirit. When he was released from his last prison term four years ago, he experienced a self-described attitude change. "I made up my mind not to subject myself to activities that would harm me," he remembers. When he landed a street maintenance position, a coworker told him about PVJOBS. After attending an orientation hosted by PVJOBS, Davis remembers that "I finally knew what I wanted to do."

Today, Davis is busy making plans to further his construction career. Because of his avid interest in structural design, he recently enrolled in a Structural Inspectors training program. He credits the PVJOBS staff for helping him land on his feet and launching his career.

# PVJOBS Employment Update

PVJOBS will soon start our second series of Electricians Preparation Training. Clients attending this 60-hour classroom training will receive a certificate that will count toward the algebra requirement for entry into Local 11, the Electrical Workers Union. Trainees will get an opportunity to prepare themselves for the entrance exam, which is a prerequisite to entry into Local 11. For more information about this training opportunity, please call Jeffery Henderson at (310) 448-8046.

The development team for University Gateway, a 400+ dormitory and mixed-use project at USC, has secured the necessary approvals to move forward. PVJOBS is tasked with providing support for the local and at-risk hiring goals established for this development project. Set to launch construction in less than six months, this project will provide added client placement capacity for our job program.

Construction Trade	Active in Database	Construction Trade	Active in Database
Carpenters	1565	Operating Engineers*	105
Flooring/Carpet Layers*	91	Painters	875
Concrete Masons/Finishers	192	Plasterers	199
Electricians*	420	Plumbers	653
Iron Workers	193	Roofers	243
Laborers	3801	Sheet Metal Workers*	56
Tile/Marble/Brick Masons	382		

*\*Trades Specifically Needed*

The compliance rates among the various PVJOBS projects remain exemplary, led by Playa Vista, which maintained a 13.7% overall performance (1999 to present). The Los Angeles Community College District's Proposition A/AA bond program for construction on its nine campuses is realizing hiring levels of 8% for at-risk residents and 37% for local residents – both well above the originally stated hiring goals. In addition, new projects are currently in negotiation, which will ultimately increase the number of available job opportunities for our clients.

As of March 2007, PVJOBS has cumulatively placed 1,343 clients in more than 2,622 positions. Additionally, 457 clients have completed more than 500 hours of labor and 94 clients have completed over 3,000 hours. As we enter the spring and summer months, we expect to have an increased number of new positions at various project sites. Please call our knowledgeable and dedicated staff at (310) 448-4684 for more details and assistance.

## Message from the Executive Director

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Weekends and evenings are sometimes required. They have to be mediators, mentors, instructors, psychologists and advocates. And they have to do it all in a professional manner, maintaining the dignity of all concerned.

Our program's successes rest in the spirit of our hardworking staff. They are the heart and soul of PVJOBS, and I thank them heartily.



## The e7 Way

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professional employers working on the LACCD's bond program.

One of the largest employers working with e7 Interns is PVJOBS. The job program maintains an intern staff of 30 who work at the e7 Architecture Studio. Here, some of the District's brightest students are interns working on cutting edge technology.

While e7 Interns working at the e7 Architecture Studio is an advantageous opportunity for students, the program's innovative technology creations are revolutionary. Here's a look at what makes this program a leader in the campus technology world.

e7 Interns working at the studio are redrawing the definition of information technology by creating professional work through a personal lens. In a society where rapid global change demands a local digital response, these students' groundbreaking work pushes the limits of how people experience visual and textual information.

The students' most innovative work stems from their category-busting products that are penetrating the community college environment. Based on a traditional education model, a professional architectural R&D lab for students creates new media works for the



*e7 Interns work on producing an animation design segment.*

bond program. Media savvy students converge each day at the studio to seize the technical tools of the future and reinterpret them for professional and personal growth.

e7 embodies the meaning of a "new school" education. Once the province of high-polish tech firms, the "smart media" solutions offered by the studio's GIS, CAD, and VIZ teams (Geographic Information Systems, Computer Aided Design, Visualization, respectively) include 3D mapping and animations, interactive kiosks, share-point workspaces, software programming, new media production, and video enabled libraries – just to name a few. Utilizing these technologies and supported by a team collaborative effort, students hone their skills in a mentor-based environment that help mold them into becoming 21st Century professionals.

To give you a real world example of what's happening at e7, think of this: When a nationally recognized architectural firm wants to preview a massive building site even before ground is broken, that firm will call the e7 Architecture Studio and their talented and gifted staff of interns to design an animation image that will bring a building environment to digital life. That's called the e7 Way.

To learn more about the e7 Architecture Studio, please visit [www.e7studio.net](http://www.e7studio.net) or <http://streaming.e7studio.net>.

# PVJOBS At Work

## JUAN ROBLES: Building Worth

Twenty-six-year-old construction worker Juan Robles says there's no mystery behind his strategy to earning high performance marks on his job. "I hustle and keep busy," he simply says.

Robles adds that liking your job doesn't hurt either. "I look forward to going to work," he says. "Everyday I learn something different, and it keeps me motivated."

Such conventional words of wisdom for someone who ignored those critical values as a youth.

Born in San Diego and raised by a single mother in Long Beach, Robles and his two sisters grew up in a caring household. But the absence of his father and acceptance of a neighborhood gang influenced him to drop out of high school at age 16. After joining the gang, his life was utterly unproductive throughout the four years he remained in the gang.

But once he entered his 20s, Robles realized his life was headed nowhere. "I was tired of it," he remembers about his gang involvement. "There was nothing for me there." So he left the gang and moved in with a roommate in East Los Angeles, where he found part-time work at a local auto parts retailer. Discouraged by his low pay, he searched for other opportunities that offered higher wages. While attending a construction workshop, he met PVJOBS staffers, who encouraged him to apply for an upcoming mining training program.

Soon after completing the application process, Robles learned that he was one of only 16 clients who was specially selected to participate in the mining training program, which operated from Tucson, Arizona. He successfully completing the training, and later landed several construction positions with PVJOBS partners. Last fall, Excel Paving, a Playa Vista contractor, hired him in his current position.

These days, Robles often takes stock of the new life he's etched out for himself. "My life has totally changed," he says. "Now I stay focused on the positive things."

Some of those positive things include his growing interest in expanding his construction career while making plans to return to school. He vows to eventually enroll in night school to earn his GED. Says Robles, "I want to learn as much as I can. The more you know, the more you're worth."



*Juan Robles*

# PVJOBS Community Partners

## APPRENTICE PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Century Community Training Program (Mary Lou Clinkenbeard) (310) 673-3941  
Los Angeles Technology Center (Ryan Whetstone) (323) 732-0153

## WORKSOURCE CENTERS

Career Planning Center Marina Worksource (Nick Gonzalez) (310) 309-6000  
Career Transition Worksource Center (George Fernandez) (562) 570-3700  
Chinatown WorkSource Center Chinatown Service Center (Kerry Situ) (213) 808-1700  
Community Career Dev.Cntr Wilsh/Metro Worksource (Justina Munoz) (213) 365-9829  
South LA WorkSource Center Community Centers Inc. (Gale Gilliam) (323) 752-2115  
Compton Career Link Worksource California Center (Henry Smith) (310) 605-3050  
Hollywood Worksource of California (Marjorie Gardner) (323) 960-1300  
Metro North Worksource Center (Anna Zakarian) (323) 223-1211  
Northeast San Fernando Valley WorkSource Center (Sheila Wright) (818) 890-9400  
PACE/Westlake Worksource Center (Albert Sy) (213) 353-1677  
Urban League Adams Baldwin Hills Wrksrce Cntr (Myrna Anguiano) (323) 732-7867  
Urban League WorkSource Business and Career Center (Annita Wallace) (323) 600-1106  
WLCAC Southeast LA-Watts Worksource Center (Victor Archaga) (323) 563-5669

## YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS

All People Christian Center (Saundra Bryant) (213) 747-6357  
Anchor of Hope (Jean Franklin) (310) 766-8337  
California Rehabilitation Employment Program (David Glover) (213) 251-1432  
California Rehabilitation Employment Program (Inglewood) (Jaime Gallardo) (310) 419-1937  
Canaan Housing Corporation (Brenda Evans) (213) 748-0250  
CCFP/ Meals on Wheels for Children (Sandra Moore) (323) 638-0760  
Chinatown Service Center (Lawrence J. Lue) (213) 808-1700  
ChrysalisSanta Monica (Adelai Whitman) (310) 392-4117  
Communities in Schools (Roy LaVoise) (818) 891-9399  
Community Build (Babatu Bektamba) (323) 789-9950  
CRTD Faithworks (David Richardson) (310) 673-0287  
DARE U TO CARE (Sabrina Parker) (323) 756-3208  
Ex-Offender Action Network (Monnie Anderson) (323) 238-0445  
FAME Renaissance Assistance Corporation (Dwayne Price) (323) 730-8354  
Gratitude Retreat Foundation (Steven Nelson) (310) 618-9173  
Homies Unidos, Inc. (Silvia Beltran) (213) 383-7484  
Housing Authority of LA (Judy Rasheed) (213) 252-1800  
Human Pontential Consultants, LLC (Deidre Norville) (310) 756-1560  
Jobs for the Future/Homeboy Industries (Ft. Greg Boyle SJ) (323) 526-1254  
Joint Efforts Inc. (Matt Davison) (310) 831-2358  
Korean Churches For Community Development (Hyepin Im) (213) 984-4243  
LA Family Housing Corporation (Abel Moreno) (818) 982-4091  
LA Works (Salvador R. Velasquez) (626) 960-3964

LACOE (Nathan Auzenne) (213) 744-3168  
Mar Vista Family Center (Pedro Valenciana) (310) 390-9607  
Marriott Foundation Bridges (Tad Asbury) (213) 381-1220  
Meaning and Purpose (Ted Moore) (323) 296-2553  
NABSIO Nahaniel (Rashad Aii) (323) 755-6024  
New Directions (Brigitte Slayton) (310) 914-4045  
NO GUNS (Hector Marroquin) (310) 901-6570  
PATH (Jonathan Bennett) (323) 644-2272  
Public Allies of Los Angeles (Ernesto Saldaña) (213) 741-2202  
Raeverly's Resource Center (Luis Pattarroyo) (323) 752-9987  
Rose Vista (Jane Bright) (310) 915-1179  
Save Our Future (Ken Jordan) (323) 234-0846  
SHARP (Denise Shook) (323) 751-3026  
St. Vincent's Cardinal Manning Center (Chuck Happold) (213) 229-9963  
Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE) (Samantha Quintero) (213) 745-9961  
Success in Challenges (Leon Mosely) (562) 423-8111  
Transitions Network (Eimon M. Raouf) (323) 751-1366  
Union Rescue Mission (Stephen Mitchell) (213) 347-6300  
Unity One (Bo Taylor) (213) 963-5843  
Unity T.H.R.E.E (Shonteze Williams Sr.) (323) 732-0230  
US VETS (Katherine Gibbs) (310) 348-7600  
US VETS (Long Beach) (Fernando Godinez) (562) 388-8046  
Venice 2000 (Melvin Hayward) (310) 823-6100  
VIP Mentors (Volunteers In Parole, Inc.) (Pal Roman) (626) 450-6250  
Volunteers of America (Mark Jackson) (213) 689-2179  
Walden House Inc. (Ralph Mendoza) (310) 412-3702  
Walden House SASCA Region 111 (Sal Wilson) (213) 741-3720  
Weingart Center Association (Ronnie Price) (213) 267-9000  
Youth Rebuild (Victoria Foreman) (310) 600-6201

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Archdiocesan Youth Employment Services (Robert Gutierrez) (213) 736-5456  
CCEO Youth Build (Joe Starks) (310) 225-3060  
Covenant House of California (Lori Koenig) (323) 957-7455  
Goals For Life (Reggie Berry) (562) 864-6040  
La Causa Youth Build (Noemi G. Soto) (323) 887-2501  
Los Angeles Conservation Corps Youth Build (Gabriela Jimenez) (213) 749-3601  
LA Youth At Work (Sean Jernigan) (213) 580-7505  
Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement - Watts (Adrian Veliz) (323) 971-7640  
United Friends of the Children (Mindy Raphael) (213) 580-1850  
Venice Community Housing Corporation Youth Build (Sandy Eiges) (310) 399-4100  
Youth Oppurtunities Unlimited Inc. (James L. Watson) (323) 789-4977

For more information, call PVJOBS at 310/448-4684.



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