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Apprenticeship Program Recognizes Apprenticeship Champions

On June 12th, the MACNY Apprenticeship Program formally recognized, for the very first time, the Apprentice of the Year and the Apprenticeship Company of the Year. The awards were given out as part of the Partners for Education & Business Annual Awards Ceremony at Le Moyne College.

The Apprentice of the Year Award went to Alexis Havens. Alexis is MACNY's first New York State Registered Apprentice to complete a designated trade program. Alexis completed 4,000 hours of on-the-job learning as well as over 288 hours of related technical instruction to complete the minimum requirements for this nationally recognized credential. Alexis entered her apprenticeship with credit for prior work experience and on October 22, 2018, merely a year after she was enrolled in the two-year apprenticeship program, Alexis obtained her Journeyworker's Card as a Quality Assurance Auditor. Currently, Alexis is a Calibration Technician at Manth Brownell, in Kirkville, NY.

As part of her rigorous training, Alexis spent eight days at the Mitutoyo America Corporation in Chicago to train in their lab. At this facility, she was able to train with many other calibration professionals across several different industry sectors. The hands-on related instruction training focused on dimensional metrology, measurement, inspection, and calibration. This very specialized training, coupled with classes provided through ToolingU, gave her the foundational skills essential to grow her mastery of the skills needed to repair high-tech quality inspection equipment. She works alongside quality inspectors, auditors, calibration technicians, and quality engineers daily.

The Apprenticeship Company of the Year award recognizes a company who has supported apprenticeship at their company as well as in the community. Precision Systems Manufacturing, Inc. is a company who believes that a Registered Apprenticeship Program is a vital workforce solution for manufacturers across the country. They are finding enormous success in utilizing registered apprenticeship to attract, train, and retain talented employees. They do this because they believe in the concept of a structured on-the-job learning program and have a commitment to invest in both their employees and their company.

Ted Jeske is the President of Precision Systems Mfg., and he is an employer who doesn't believe in just training, but in developing an atmosphere of continuous learning at his facility. Ted explains, "For an apprenticeship program to be successful, a company needs to develop a culture of continuous learning. For a culture of continuous learning, a company needs people who are ready to learn and people who are ready to teach." As such, while finding candidates with some type of related background experience is ideal, Precision finds it very important to identify candidates who have the right attitude, are willing to learn, and are interested in developing their skills. At the same time, they look within their current workforce to identify those who are willing to teach the next generation of skilled workers.

Congratulation to both Alexis and Precision Systems Mfg., we wish you continued success in the coming year and look forward to working with you again.