Pack Family Career Pathways Program

The PMA Foundation Career Pathways Program brings top agriculture, agribusiness, food marketing students and faculty from universities to one of seven industry events each year. This year’s Pack Family Career pathways program in conjunction with PMA’s Fresh Summit Convention + Expo will be held:

Wednesday, October 21-Sunday, October 25, 2015
Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA, USA

Students & Faculty to arrive on Wednesday, October 21st – Programming begins 7:00 pm

Students receive one-on-one mentoring from a Career Ambassador (industry leader), customized education including an industry overview, and the chance to network with industry professionals at workshops, social events, and on the exposition floor.

Universities are hand-selected for participation in the program to maintain not only a manageable and successful experience each year, but to also create an intimate environment that fosters personal development and camaraderie. The selected university students attend this produce industry event with most, if not all, expenses underwritten by sponsors and contributors.

What is the PMA Fresh Summit Convention and Exposition?

One of the largest international events solely dedicated to fruit, vegetables and floral, Fresh Summit draws more than 20,000 attendees from 50 countries annually. The scope and energy of Fresh Summit is astounding. There is no other show like it in the United States. Attendees - from the entire supply chain - pack the convention center to experience all that Fresh Summit has to offer.

The types of attendees include: grower-shippers, retailers, processors of value added products (bagged salads etc.), suppliers of equipment, packaging, technology, transportation, food safety programs, importers/exporters, wholesalers, foodservice operators and distributors, consultants, trade press and more. All the attendees benefit from a wide ranging program which includes networking, an exposition, education, and more.

What is The PMA Foundation for Industry Talent?

The PMA Foundation for Industry Talent attracts, develops and retains talent for the global produce and floral industry. Our vision is to help sustain a vibrant global produce industry through its most valuable resource...people. We offer programs, like the Pack Family Career Pathways program being held in conjunction with the PMA Fresh Summit International Convention and Expo, to introduce students to the produce and floral industry. Visit our website for information and updates: www.pmafoundation.com

PMA Foundation Staff

PMA Foundation staff is available to help you make the most of this experience. PMA Foundation staff includes:

- Margi Prueitt, Executive Director
- Alicia Calhoun, Program Director
- Michelle Hoffman, Fundraising Manager
- Barbara Hochman, Program Manager
- Megan Nash, Program Manager
- Kathy Coyle, Coordinator

Since the inception of the Career Pathways Program in 2004, 637 students have participated in a Career Pathways Program. Of those who have graduated, 61% have either taken an internship or their first job in the produce or floral industry.