

LIVES Program News

Learning Independence, Vocation, and Education Skills at SUNY-Geneseo

The *LIVES* Program is a four-year college experience (transition) program located on the campus of the State University of New York - College at Geneseo. The *LIVES* Program provides students with intellectual and/or other developmental disabilities the opportunity to learn independence, vocational, and educational skills within an inclusive community.

About the LIVES Program By Jesse C.

L.I.V.E.S stands for ***Learning Independence, Vocational and Educational Skills.***

The L.I.V.E.S program is a great program to be in now. We have experiences on campus. We also have a special tree called the Dr. Seuss tree, which looks like a tree from a Dr. Seuss book. We also get some work to do but we also get done with it sometimes. If not we have it for homework.

We also help some students with very difficult problems. Did I mention we also prepare students for the future, like preparing students for when they are on their own and what they should do. Because one day they may leave their parents and they will be on their own.

The best part I like about the L.I.V.E.S program so far is writing. I get to write stories about anything I can imagine. I like the L.I.V.E.S program so far and I hope I could accomplish something here. I'm not sure what I will accomplish yet, but I might know soon enough.

We also learn about U.S history and English. The L.I.V.E.S program also has an educational and vocational initiative as well. Well that's all I can tell you about the L.I.V.E.S program and I hope this information was helpful.



LIVES Program Mission Statement

To provide an opportunity for students with intellectual and/or other developmental disabilities to learn independence, vocational skills, and functional educational (academic) skills within an inclusive educational community supported by university students, educators, administrators, and community leaders.

Resumes

By Jonathan Kee

In Careers with my teacher Miss. Jones, we had to write then type up resumes. At the beginning I wasn't very happy about doing a resume because I've done so many resumes in high school that I didn't understand why to have one. The teachers in high school kept changing everything in my resume and I didn't remember what work experience I had at the time.

Now Miss. Jones here at the L.I.V.E.S. Program wants me to do another resume. I made a resume last year so when I got all my information for my resume I just added more information to it.

When I started working on my resume worksheet to get all the information I needed, I got a really frustrated because I couldn't remember my work experience and references. It was not easy. I got so frustrated that I wanted to quit at times. Instead I continued working on the resume worksheet. I finished the worksheet and went to my last year's resume and added the information in it.

It was very frustrating for me. The reason why is that I couldn't remember all the information for the resume. For example like work experience, skills, education, and past supervisors and employers.

After getting all the information down, I had to go back and get rid of some information that I didn't need in my resume. The resume had to be one page. It drove me nuts that I had to take out some of the information but I did take some out. In the end after all of that work I finished my resume. I felt great that it was done. I now have a resume that is good and easy to read.

BUSY Days in the LIVES Program

By

Mariely V.



I am a senior in the L.I.V.E.S. PROGRAM. I am working at Letchworth Dining Hall.

I am learning work skills like cutting and preparing food. I like the people I work with. They are nice and help me.

I like to read books I practice reading with Miss Jones. She helps me with my classwork. I have learned a lot while I have been in the program.

Working at Letchworth By Andrew S

Life for Me on Campus By Taylor C.



In March of 2014, I was presented with an opportunity to join the LIVES program. Mr. Laub and I sat down to discuss the program here at Geneseo. LIVES stands for “Learning Independence, Vocational and Educational Skills” It’s a four year transition program for that specializes in helping people with disabilities. When I came here for a visit I did not expect this place to be different than high school. Looks were deceiving, when I stepped out of the car and saw the bright future ahead.

After two months I had made my decision and sent out my application. As July had drawn to a close, I did not receive my acceptance letter. The next day a phone call was finally made to my mom, telling her that I was accepted into the program. Overhearing the news, hit me like a ton of bricks. I was actually going to be a senior in high school on a college campus. The feeling could not have been more exciting. I did not waste any time in getting ready and making goals.

On the first day at Geneseo, I was greeted with a warm welcome by Mr. Laub and Mrs. Wolcott. Then I was introduced to other students, Jenna, Brenden and the other new student, Jesse. All the three of them had seemed just excited as I was and it was sure to be a good day. As we explored the campus, every angle of its beauty was just breath taking.

When we were presented with work I did feel overwhelmed, Mr. Laub told me to relax and take my time. It got easier as the months continued. Mr. Laub, Mrs. Wolcott and the other teachers in the program give each of

their students a fair chance in what they are capable of achieving here at Geneseo and in the real world. The teaching methods are easier, there’s no one hovering over me, I am not singled out or feel suffocated. I’ve been told by Mr. Laub that I express such detail in my writing that I should look into a class that has writing component.

One of the greatest perks of being here in the LIVES program is that you can be recommended for a college class of your choice. The next goal that I have achieved here is registering for an audit class in Women’s Civil Movements. I went to Dr. Hall, the head coordinator of the program and told her what class I wanted to specialize in. She helped me write a letter of recommendation to Dr. Adams, the professor of the class. I was told I gave great insight in why I wanted to join her class. The last part of that goal is to be accepted into the class for the spring.

Being on a college campus is different from being in high school. You have the freedom to go where ever you want, you can have your cellphone out, no restricted sites and be in a healthy atmosphere where no one judges you. This place allows you to be who you are on the inside. Disabled or not, when I am here I am not treated like a child, I am treated like the young independent woman I know I can be.

I keep myself positive and it has helped me in expressing my opinion and passions through writing.

The Curse of the Magical Pinecone Tree

By Richard J.

In a town called Olafville there was a magical pinecone tree in the middle of town. It was said that the pinecone tree can give people magic powers. However if you take the pinecone out from the middle of town you will be cursed for 10 years or you return the pinecone to the tree. One day three people went to the magical pinecone tree their names were Bill, Mack and Jones. They had fun using the magic from the tree.

At the end of the day Jones broke the rules and took the pinecone with him. The next day he was cursed and everything he did was bad luck. During the day Jones caused an accident on Main Street, hit a man, and was injured by a wolf. His friends did not know what to do so Bill and Mack did some research on the tree and the tree was there long before Olafville was built. The only way to reverse the curse is to return the pinecone to the tree. Bill and Mack went to Jones's house to let him know the way to reverse the curse.

The friends were heading out to the center of town to return the pinecone to the tree. A chase began when the bad luck followed them. Then the bad luck got Bill and he was on fire. Mack and Jones were almost to the tree until the bad luck got Mack and he was shocked by lightning. Finally, Jones made it to the tree and returned the pinecone.

The bad luck was reversed and Jones had good luck again. They went home and learned to not take the pinecone away from the tree again.



My Experiences at Corner Pocket

By Matt K.



For my internship this semester, I am currently working at the Corner Pocket on Tuesday and

Thursday afternoons while making up my L.I.V.E.S Program work in Biology at the same time. I know that it is not very busy until 1:30 pm, but that does not stop me from meeting my goals there, such as organization and social skills.

In fact, there was one time last month where I met so many people that I had to stay until 2:45 pm to help out. Another benefit to my internship is that I get to have opportunities to multitask on various goals, whether it is working on my homework, or initiating numerous conversations with my supervisors on several topics.

One of the most hilarious moments within my internship is that one of the Ping-Pong balls went into the garbage can, and it was too dirty to be used. That is what my internship at Corner Pocket has to offer. May the force of the internship be with you, and in L.I.V.E.S we trust!

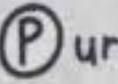
Good Fit Books By Patrick C.

We were taught how to find a right fit book and were given a bookmark to help us find books that are good for each of us. The bookmark helped me use a strategy called BOOKMATCH. The bookmark was a guide for picking out a book so you'll know what to look for. The bookmark said please pick a good length of book for you. It also had me think about what kind of books I liked, and what interested me. It was helpful because the bookmark helped me pick a story that I could read by myself without going way too fast.

I picked the book "Scary Stories 3" without the bookmark and "Same Sun Here" with the bookmark. I liked the book "Same Sun Here" better than "Scary Stories 3." I picked longer books because they help me organize my thoughts and because I like that they last a long time. In "Scary Stories 3" there was Harold Scarecrow, Sewer Rat, Killer Bees and Shadows. "Same Sun Here" was a Hindi drama novel about two lovers and they wrote letters back and forth between the USA and India. I liked using my bookmark because it helps me pick a good book for me and because it gives me information.

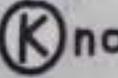
 I PICK a
Good-Fit
Book

 I choose a book.

 Purpose
Why do I want to read it?

 Interest
Does it interest me?

 Comprehend
Am I understanding
what I'm reading?

 Know
I know most of the words.



Trips Taken This Semester – Where will the road take us? By Tyler B.

We took a trip to Wegmans to look for the better buys at the store. Our group wrote down the prices, times the amount, and we circled the price for this amount. The group picked the expensive item from the store. We talked about having the better buy for those items. Last but not least, we sat down and chit-chat with our trip to find the better buy for the expensive price.

We went to the post office to mail our letter with the group. I asked the mail carrier to purchase \$.50 a stamp and I have \$.01 left.

We went to the Knight Spot to watch Savior drum practice with these drums.

Audit Class with Dr. Mackenzie

By Amanda C



I am taking American Sign Language with Dr. MacKenzie. He is a good audit class teacher for ASL 1 and a good professor. I love to learn how to sign in ASL 1. I am learning new words in ASL and it is fun. I am taking this class because I want to learn sign language to help me talk with my friend and other people. I have learned my new signs well. I am taking quizzes in class and doing homework. I am happy to be learning how to sign colors and I am excited to learn new signs. Dr. Mackenzie helps me with my fingerspelling and numbers and he has me practice with a partner. I meet new people in ASL 1. Dr. MacKenzie is a good teacher because he's funny, helpful, positive, smart, and teaches me a lot of interesting things. Dr. MacKenzie is helpful as an ASL 1 teacher to me.

My First Year of Internship

By Robert M.

On Mondays and Wednesdays I go to my internship at the Red Jacket Dining Hall from 9:00-11:00am. During my work at the Red Jacket, my job is to wash dishes and putting away dishes, stack cans, cut bagels, put bacon on trays, and put the milks in the café. During my job, If I need help, I ask Shawn or Brenda to help me to know where the kitchen stuff goes like plastics, silvers, and black and white containers. I wear a hat and gloves while I'm working with the food. Shawn, Brenda, and Lisa Conway are so nice to me, and they like me working at the Red Jacket.

All About Me and The LIVES Program

By Jennifer P.

My name is Jennifer and I am a first year student. I love the LIVES program. I love Miss Grant's class. I like to do math. I read books for reading. I am reading Big Bubble, Small Bubble. In geography, I color in maps. I am excited to see what is next!

Detailing Cars, What I Wanted to Do

By Brendan P.

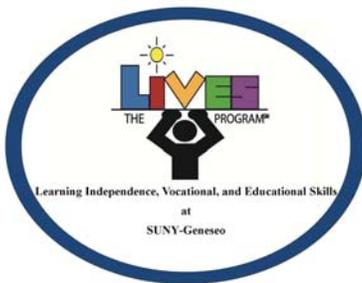
I have an internship working at Clark service building. My job is detailing cars at the campus garage. I work Tuesdays in the morning and Thursdays in the afternoon. George is my boss down at the garage. There are other nice people working down there. A car looks much better after it's clean. The reason I enjoy this job because I like to detail cars.



Learning From Career Services

A guest speaker from Career Services at Geneseo came to speak to our classes on careers and the importance of getting ready for a job. We learned how to interview, how to fill out applications, how to dress for an interview and what a resume should look like.

The speaker gave us a lot of good information. We practiced some of what we learned in our internships.



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