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AGENCY:

Janet Mansfield
Single Source Marketing
Phone: 978-777-9992
jmansfield@singlesourcepromo.com

ALIGN:

Lauren Robinson
Align Credit Union
Phone: 978-323-0663
lrobinson@aligncu.com

Align Credit Union Sponsors Student Tours of UMass-Lowell Labs

Lowell, MA, August 26, 2015 - Align Credit Union is proud to have recently sponsored tours of the labs at the University of Massachusetts Lowell for students from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell.

One tour was of the Nanofabrication Lab at the Saab Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center. The Center offers clean-room facilities equipped to handle complex research projects for corporate partners that require micro and nanoscale fabrication. The students also visited the Characterization Suite for a demonstration of the Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope. The tour was given by Thomas Ferraguto, the Director of the Nanofabrication Laboratory and a Boys & Girls Club Board Member.



A second tour was of the Baseball Research Center. Since 1992, the Center has served as an independent research center for studying equipment used in America's greatest pastime. It performs research for Major League Baseball, the NCAA, USA Baseball, Little League Baseball and the NFHS as well as sporting goods manufacturers. The tour was given by Patrick Drane, the Assistant Director of the UMass-Lowell Baseball Research Center.

A third tour was of the Plastics Engineering Department. The students got to fabricate materials using injection molding and blown film extrusion equipment. They saw the manufacturing equipment in the Plastics High Bay and compounding rooms used by researchers to develop new materials. The tour was given by Steve Johnston, an Associate Professor in the Plastics Engineering Department.

"The Boys & Girls Club is grateful for the partnership with UMass-Lowell and Align Credit Union that allows our members to get excited about engineering and careers in STEM fields," said Joe Hungler, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell. "We are thrilled that this annual event has led to two of our alumni being accepted into UMass-Lowell's Francis College of Engineering, with one of the students receiving a Work Study position in the Nanofabrication Lab at Saab Emerging Technologies and Innovation Center."

“Align has been a long-time supporter of the Boys & Girls Club because they do so much to support our community,” said Align EVP/CFO and Club Board Member Tom Hammond. “We enjoy being part of programs like the lab tours where we get a chance to actually meet members of the Club and see them get excited about learning.”

PHOTO CAPTION:

L-R: Joe Hungler, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell; Boys & Girls Club student, Kyle Perry; Thomas Ferraguto, the Director of the Nanofabrication Laboratory at UMass-Lowell; Boys & Girls Club student, Marcus Cherenfant; and Align EVP/CFO, Tom Hammond.

About Align Credit Union

Since 1922, Align Credit Union has provided customized banking solutions to individuals and families throughout Northeastern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. Align offers a full suite of products and services including Personal and Business Banking, Mortgages, Financial Planning and Insurance. Founded as the Northern Massachusetts Telephone Workers Credit Union (NMTW), the Credit Union changed its name to Align in 2013. Membership is open to anyone who lives, works or attends school in many communities throughout Eastern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. For additional information, stop by one of six branches in Amesbury, Danvers, Framingham, Haverhill and Lowell or visit www.AlignCU.com.

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