What is Rêve Academy?

// Rêve Academy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Minneapolis. Its mission is to help young people *dream with direction™* by creating pathways to digital careers.

How does Rêve Academy work?

// **In schools:** Rêve Academy partners with local schools to teach its curriculum in the classroom. Teachers and administrators receive expert training on how to administer the curriculum, and students learn marketable skills that include business strategy, website development, and digital marketing.

// **On site:** Exemplary students have the opportunity to intern at Rêve Academy throughout the year. They work on student-run businesses in a fun yet challenging atmosphere. Not only do Rêve Academy interns earn an hourly wage, they gain confidence in their ability to engage with technology, collaborate with peers, and thrive in a professional work environment.

How are Rêve Academy and Rêve Consulting connected?

// Rêve Consulting is an integrated strategy and service design consultancy. It was started by Kristin Pardue in 2009. Kristin was joined by her husband Brad von Bank in August of 2010, and they co-founded Rêve Academy the same year. The two organizations share a name and a mission, but they have separate governance, finances, and goals.

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Why was Rêve Academy founded?

// Rêve Academy began in North Minneapolis, which has a reputation as one of the roughest neighborhoods in the Twin Cities. It's here that Minnesota's academic achievement gap is on full display: compared to their white counterparts, students of color are far less likely to graduate from high school or become proficient in reading and math.

But there's something else you should know: the fastest-growing segment of Minnesota's future workforce is students of color.[1] So who is equipping these youth with the skills to succeed?

Brad and Kristin were determined to answer this question. By partnering with local schools, Rêve Academy is able to share its curricula with educators and reach as many students as possible. With a deliberate focus on digital skills, we're preparing students not for low-level jobs, but professional careers in high-demand fields. [2]

Our methodology helps students master skills in three core areas: business, technology, and design. When it's time to choose a career, Rêve Academy alumni will have the confidence and real-world experience to succeed in any modern workplace. We believe they'll go on to create lasting change—not just for themselves, but for their families, neighborhoods, and communities.

Sources:

1. http://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/03/07/graduation-gap-sources
2. http://tcbmag.com/News/Recent-News/2016/March/Minnesota-Hires-5-500-Tech-Workers-In-2015-But-Dem

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Who is employed by Rêve Academy?

// Rêve Academy employs several dozen student interns each year, along with three full-time team members who are responsible for Rêve's daily operations and long-term growth:

Amanda Janssen
amanda@reveacademy.org

As Director, Academic Excellence, Amanda leads Rêve Academy's innovative education programs and its outcomes.

Andrew Koch
andrew@reveacademy.org

As Director, Student-Run Businesses, Andrew leads Rêve Academy's Student-Run Businesses, as well as its skill-based volunteer program.

Eliza Wright
eliza@reveacademy.org

As Director, Marketing + Operational Excellence, Eliza leads Rêve Academy's marketing and fundraising efforts along with internal operations.

Who are the board members for Rêve Academy?

// Rêve Academy's board of directors is comprised of leaders from diverse fields. To see the full list of board members, please visit http://reveacademy.org/about/board/

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Contact information

// Address: 807 Broadway St. NE, Suite 160, Minneapolis MN 55413
// Phone number: (612) 284-9390
// Website: http://reveacademy.org/

Key statistics (as of June 2016)

// 3,000+ students served
// Over 90% competency
// 75+ student interns employed
// Average cost to serve of $220/student

Awards and recognition

// MN Business Magazine's 2014 Community Impact Awards (finalist)
// MN Business Magazine's 2015 Community Impact Awards (recipient)
// Minnesota's 2013 Tekne Awards (finalist)
// Minnesota's 2015 Tekne Awards (finalist)
// Jefferson Awards (awarded to Rêve Consulting in recognition of its work with Rêve Academy)

Press coverage

// 2/16/2016: Demand for IT workers may offer a way to close jobs gap – MPR
// 1/18/2016: Movers & Shakers: Pardue and Von Bank, Rêve Consulting, Rêve Academy – Star Tribune
// 8/10/2015: Be the Match hosts Tech Experience Tour for STEP-UP and Rêve Academy students – MHTA.org
// 6/5/2015: A STEP-UP Achieve experience in 3D - Achieve Mpls
// 1/27/2015: Under the hood with Rêve Academy – Tech.MN
// 9/16/2013: School in North Minneapolis offers digital training classes – Fox 9
// 3/8/2013: Consultancy doubles as teen training site - Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal
// 2/27/2013: Disruptive innovation: Changing future for Minnesota students, educators – TC Daily Planet
// 9/3/2012: Rêve Consulting thinks with the heart – Twin Cities Business
// 5/2/2012: Rêve Consulting fosters growth in North Minneapolis – The Line

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