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LONDYN VEAL'S EXPERIENCE

JUNE 14-19, 2026

Peabody Magnet High School Student Gains Valuable Career Experience Through Financial Planning Academy

As a student of Second Evergreen Baptist Church and Peabody Magnet High School in Alexandria, Louisiana, Londyn Veal said she was honored to be selected by the Gloria Jane Harvey Foundation to attend the Financial Planning Academy Summer Camp at Prairie View A&M University from June 14–19, 2026. This unique opportunity allowed her to explore the world of business and financial planning while experiencing life on a university campus.

> ***I am honored to be selected by the Gloria Jane Harvey Foundation to attend the Financial Planning Academy Summer Camp at Prairie View A&M University.***

The Financial Planning Academy, hosted by Prairie View A&M University's College of Business, is designed to introduce high school students to careers in financial planning, wealth management, entrepreneurship, accounting, banking, and other business-related fields. Throughout the week, participants lived in residence halls, attended workshops, collaborated with peers, and learned directly from university faculty and industry professionals.

For Londyn, attending the academy was more than just a summer program—it was an important step toward her future career goals. The program provided hands-on learning experiences that helped students understand how financial decisions impact individuals, families, and businesses. By studying topics such as budgeting, investing, retirement planning, and wealth management,

Londyn gained practical knowledge that can be applied throughout her life and future career.

Londyn also spearheaded an initiative with a team of four other students to develop an app concept called "NextStep." The app was designed to educate young people ages 13–18 about budgeting, investing, retirement planning, and managing their money early in life, while highlighting the long-term benefits of sound financial decision-making. Their presentation to faculty members, panelists, and fellow students was professional, creative, and informative. The team's presentation earned the top ranking in the program, and each team member received a $500 award.

One of the greatest benefits of attending the Financial Planning Academy was the opportunity to explore career paths within the financial services industry. Through mentorship and networking opportunities, Londyn connected with professionals who offered valuable insights into the skills, education, and experiences needed to succeed in business and finance. These interactions will help her make informed decisions about her college major and future profession.

Additionally, the academy strengthened Londyn's leadership and teamwork skills. Working with other students on projects and real-world simulations taught her how to collaborate effectively, solve

problems, and communicate ideas confidently—skills that are essential in any career field.

Living on campus at Prairie View A&M University provided Londyn with a firsthand look at college life. This experience helped her better understand the expectations and responsibilities of higher education while motivating her to continue preparing for academic success after high school.

Londyn expressed her gratitude to the Gloria Jane Harvey Foundation for investing in students like her and creating opportunities that support educational and professional growth. She noted that the

> **Gloria Jane Harvey Foundation's commitment to empowering young people opens doors to experiences that can shape futures and inspire students to pursue their goals with confidence.**

Reflecting on her experience, Londyn shared her excitement about the knowledge she gained, the relationships she built, and the skills she developed throughout the academy. She believes the experience not only expanded her understanding of financial planning and business but also brought her one step closer to achieving her future career aspirations.