

## Fort Bend Boys and Girls Club Discover Careers that Rock

Written by Forward Times Staff  
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The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Houston has been a leader in at-risk youth development for over six decades. The goal is to provide healthy lifestyles, character development and inspiration for career success. Renowned as "The Positive Place for Kids," the Clubs serve nearly 10,000 children and teens ages 7 to 17 each year, many of whom have few other positive relationships or dependable resources in their lives.

Realizing that all the student members were fascinated with the entertainment industry and their favorite band or artist, the Fort Bend Boys and Girls Club partnered with MediaTech Institute in Houston and Sunrise Recording Studios to give students a behind the scenes look at what it takes to have a career in the entertainment industry. Supervisor, Dara Thompson, says " With the growth in popularity of careers in the music industry, this was a great opportunity for our kids to see behind the scenes on how many people it takes to produce music and film and what types of careers are available."

At MediaTech Institute the teens met with music industry professionals who also teach others how to succeed in the field. Some are musicians, record producers, audio engineers and more, but all have real world experience to assist in mentoring aspiring teens on life in the industry. The Boys and Girls Club group were excited to tour the professional recording studio where many well-known artists such as Destiny's Child, Lenny Kravitz, La Mafia, Selena, Kings X, Clint Black, and many more come to take their careers to the next level. Demonstrations on mixing and mastering DVD's, applying audio to films and videos, creating special effects, recording live performances, and more give these low-income students a vision that it is possible to have an exciting career in the entertainment industry.

Most of the students all said they either played an instrument, participated in a band, or enjoyed

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singing. Fifteen year old Sam Holmes, who recorded his singing in the sound booth and one of the most enthusiastic of the group, stated "Today was the best day of my life! I know what I want to do. I will definitely be an audio engineer!"

When students see adults enjoying their job, students can envision themselves with a successful career and rewarding life. For more information on the Fort Bend Boys and Girls Club go to [www.bgclubs-houston.org](http://www.bgclubs-houston.org) . For more information on MediaTech Institute go to [www.mediatech.edu](http://www.mediatech.edu)