“The Apprentice Schools have been and will forever be the educational centerpiece of what we do at Huntington Ingalls Industries, and The Newport News Shipbuilding Apprentice School is a national model of excellence. Not only do our schools at Newport News Shipbuilding and Ingalls Shipbuilding have a legacy of producing graduates with the technical skills required to design and build ships for the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard, our employees also learn the all-important craft of leadership. I am proud of HII’s robust workforce development initiatives and the fact that we are helping to meet the ever-growing demand for skilled workers across the United States.”

Mike Petters  
President and CEO  
Huntington Ingalls Industries

“As a critical component of Newport News Shipbuilding’s commitment to attracting, retaining and developing talent, The Apprentice School has trained more than 10,000 highly skilled shipbuilders since the school opened in 1919. Educated in the school’s tradition of craftsmanship, scholarship and leadership, our alumni are poised to lead and develop the next generation of shipbuilders as they build and overhaul the most powerful naval vessels in the world.”

Matt Mulherin  
President  
Newport News Shipbuilding

“As I put my apprenticeship and career with Newport News Shipbuilding in perspective, I’ve grown to appreciate the commitment apprentices and graduates of The Apprentice School make to act responsibly and with integrity to safely deliver first-time quality work. The school’s legacy is shaped by apprentices with a diversity of talents, backgrounds and experiences. Today’s apprentices will continue to shape the apprenticeship experience and shipbuilding industry for generations to come.”

Ray Bagley  
Vice President, Trades Operations  
Newport News Shipbuilding  
Class of 1978
“WE SHALL BUILD GOOD SHIPS HERE
AT A PROFIT IF WE CAN
AT A LOSS IF WE MUST
BUT ALWAYS GOOD SHIPS.”

- Collis P. Huntington, NNS Founder
The Apprentice School at Newport News Shipbuilding celebrated its 97th year in 2016, and to date more than 10,000 apprentices have completed one of the school’s registered apprenticeships. Central to the success of the school are faculty, staff and apprentices who are committed to craftsmanship, scholarship and leadership; uphold company values; and understand the role collaboration and innovation play in making NNS the shipbuilding industry leader.

In the past year, faculty, staff, apprentices and alumni have been recognized for their contributions throughout the company and community in which they work and live. Noteworthy accomplishments include The Apprentice School’s reaccreditation until 2022 by the Council on Occupational Education, the receipt of Model of Excellence awards for embodying company values and the first Professional Development Program cohort’s graduation from Old Dominion University.

As you read our 2016 annual report, enjoy learning more about these and other examples of the value our faculty, staff and apprentices add to the work performed at NNS and the opportunities inherent in our registered apprenticeships. They are innumerable and life changing and emerge from a willingness to collaborate and innovate and a commitment to craftsmanship, scholarship and leadership.

Everett H. Jordan Jr.
Director, Education
Class of 1977
Founded in 1919 at Newport News Shipbuilding, The Apprentice School offers four- to eight-year apprenticeships in 19 shipbuilding disciplines and eight Optional Advanced Programs of study. The Apprentice School is accredited by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education and registered with the Virginia Apprenticeship Council. The school affords apprentices the opportunity to receive competitive pay and benefits, earn college credit, learn a trade and develop a lifelong commitment to craftsmanship, scholarship and leadership.

**MISSION**
The mission of The Apprentice School is:

- To contribute to the profitability and growth of Newport News Shipbuilding by recruiting, training and developing men and women for careers in shipbuilding.
- To provide the company with a continuous supply of journeypersons who possess the skills, knowledge and pride of workmanship which have traditionally distinguished the shipbuilding craftsman.
- To develop core leadership principles in all students along with the character and technical competence that is required to fully meet the challenges of a shipbuilding career.

**CRAFTSMANSHIP**
Apprentices spend a minimum of 7,000 hours learning a shipbuilding discipline and play an integral role in the construction, maintenance and overhaul of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and submarines.

**SCHOLARSHIP**
Apprentices build a strong academic foundation during their completion of the World Class Shipbuilder Curriculum and Trade Related Education Curriculum, complementing on-the-job training in a shipbuilding discipline.

**LEADERSHIP**
Apprentices become leaders as they grow in their commitment to The Apprentice School's leadership principles of integrity, commitment, improvement, respect, teamwork, empowerment, communication, planning and decision making.
The Apprentice School has been committed to achieving the highest standards for craftsmanship, scholarship and leadership for more than 97 years. This commitment is honored by a strict adherence to the company values of Huntington Ingalls Industries:

**INTEGRITY**
Integrity is at the heart of who we are and what we do. We are each personally accountable for the highest standards of ethics and integrity. We will fulfill our commitments as responsible citizens and employees. We will consistently treat customers and company resources with the respect they deserve.

**SAFETY**
We value our employees above all else and will not compromise on maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for them. We expect everyone to actively participate and take responsibility for their own safety and the safety of those around them. Employees can report safety concerns without fear of reprisal and are empowered to stop work if an operation presents significant risk or danger. We continuously evaluate and improve our operations to understand and mitigate risk.

**HONESTY**
We are committed to being honest and fair with our customers, our employees, our stockholders and each other. We will be truthful, trustworthy and honorable in all aspects of our work.

**ENGAGEMENT**
We are committed to an engaged workforce. Our employees are very involved in what they do and take ownership of their work and their work processes. Engagement is a heightened level of ownership where employees want to do whatever they can for the benefit of their internal and external customers, and for the success of the organization as a whole.

**RESPONSIBILITY**
We seek and accept personal responsibility for our actions and results. We keep promises and commitments made to others. We are responsible for ensuring quality is a component of everything we do. We take pride in providing outstanding customer service.

**PERFORMANCE**
We hold ourselves to a very high standard of performance. We are committed to improving our company’s performance while upholding our strong values. Superior performance and quality ensure future trust and confidence in our products. We promote continuous improvement, innovation and creativity.
Keisha Pexton
Manager, Strategic Projects, and Athletic Director
Class of 2003

Dan Brookman
Manager, Admissions and Student Services
Class of 1976
Everything I am, I owe to The Apprentice School and NNS. As an apprentice, I was involved in experimenting with new tooling technology and new design and engineering features on Nimitz-class aircraft carriers and Los Angeles-class submarines. More than 40 years later, the school and company must still stay in touch with the latest shipbuilding technology. It is also imperative for different departments to collaborate with each other because what one department does affects others.

Charlie Smith
Machinist Craft Instructor and Master Shipbuilder
Class of 1972
Inside Machinist Craft Instructor Mike Reaves provided input for the design and manufacture of a fixture to machine crank shaft housing castings, eliminating the reliance on a contractor to perform the job. Inside Machinist Chris Hamlet manufactured the fixture, and Inside Machinist Apprentices Troy Petrowicz and Tim Mills performed the required machining work on a manual slotter, averaging just 20 minutes per casting.
Apprentices are recognized for their hard work and commitment to continuous improvement. Their commitment to collaboration and innovation benefits the company and our U.S. Navy customer with new ideas, modifications to shipyard processes and advances in technology. True apprentices are always willing to aid and support others and always looking for ways to better themselves.

John Jackson
Outside Machinist Apprentice and Builder Football and Baseball Player
Outside Machinist Foremen Scotty Marois (front row, far left) and Skyler Smith (not pictured) led a crew, including Outside Machinist Apprentice Kenneth Hipps, Outside Machinist Craft Instructor Josh Wehr and Outside Machinist Apprentice Anthony Monfalcone (front row, second from left to far right) and Outside Machinist Apprentices Jeremiah Waynick and Phillip Hunt (back row, left to right), to support the overhaul of one of the four catapults on USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). The catapult overhaul required an extensive amount of work, and its success was the result of collaboration among several shipbuilding trades.
Inside Machinist Craft Instructor Nick Perry tasked Inside Machinist Apprentice Raven Sickal with milling two pieces of scrap metal to cover and correct two trip hazards in the floor of the Main Machine Shop. Sickal efficiently located the materials needed and modified them to perfectly cover the holes. The pieces blend in with the existing floor and improve the safety of the work area.
Welder Apprentice Joseph Wayland successfully welded six heavy wall hydraulic pipe sockets on a Virginia-class submarine’s aft pressure hull section to support the delivery of the unit to blast and coat, the next step in the vessel’s construction process. Wayland completed the job to specifications, without accident or injury, and all welds passed inspection.

Rigger Craft Instructor Jarrod Burke coached his apprentice crew as they replaced wire on whirler, portal, bridge and gantry cranes and fabricated mooring ropes for the aircraft carrier Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78) and lifting and handling gear for the North Yard crane team. Rigger Apprentices Ryan Darnell and Bryan Kral (left and right, respectively) were among shipbuilders who played integral roles in accomplishing these tasks.
Welder Apprentice Amy Craven and alumnus Welder Jered Wright (not pictured) welded a recent Virginia-class submarine weapons module. Craven and Wright worked together to complete the job in five days, without accidents and 450 hours under budget.
Production Planner Apprentice Jessica Watkins was a member of the NNS team responsible for submitting a contract proposal for work at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. Watkins supported the compilation of the estimate detail sheets using General Services Administration rates and a rate request based on the labor spread from detail sheets. NNS was awarded the contract and will supply PHNS with nuclear pipefitters and supervisors to support nuclear-related trade work on various hulls through 2017.
Electrician Craft Instructor Clifton Cox (back row, far right) and his team participated in the battery load out of the Virginia-class submarine Indiana (SSN 789). The process took six days of around-the-clock work by Electrical, Sheet Metal and Waterfront Support Services departments. The team included Test Electrician John Harwood, Deck Electrician Kenya Wilkerson and Test Electrician Chelsee Mooring (front row, left to right) and Test Electrician Specialist Andrew Gray and Electrician Apprentices Wilford Banks and Justin Lyle (back row, left to right).
“My apprenticeship experience caused me to mature faster, put me in positions outside of my comfort zone and challenged me make the best decisions possible. I have created lifelong bonds with other employees at The Apprentice School and throughout NNS who took me under their wing and showed me a multitude of ways to be successful while meeting customer demands.”

David Blunt
Shipfitter Craft Instructor
Class of 2008
Heavy Metal Fabricator Apprentice Kevin McNeill successfully completed a large plate forming rotation in the Fabrication Shop. While the rotation is only two months in duration, it is one of the more challenging rotations in the apprenticeship. The rotation required McNeill to apply trade theory principles and experience gained during the first year of his apprenticeship to form large plates using more complex machinery. During this rotation, McNeill performed difficult tasks safely, with first time quality and minimal supervision, earning the confidence of his foreman.
Patternmaker Apprentices **Bryan Cullen** and **Rebecca Harris** completed a complex redesign and rebuild of a thrust collar pattern with three unique cores and core prints. Cullen and Harris utilized their experience with Autodesk Inventor and PartWorks3 to develop accurate layouts and templates and create casting sketches. A test casting will be made, and the Foundry will perform a full dimensional inspection to prove the pattern.
Sheet Metal Apprentices Brian Weinz and Travion Ross (left to right) along with Garrett Gatz, Stephen Carter, Jr., David Prilliman, and Frontline FAST alumnus Ryan Wheelock (not pictured) received an Employee Recognition Program award for construction of 69 shell bank hanger cable assemblies. Their collaborative efforts resulted in a 33 percent cost reduction.
“As a STEM educator I get to contribute to the academic formation of our apprentices. They represent some of the most engaged workers at NNS due to the company’s investment in their unique workforce development and training. Their work rotations provide them with so many collaborative opportunities where they always do hard stuff right.”

Gilbert Adams, Ed.D.
Academic Instructor
Inside Machinist Apprentice Eric Parsell created a torque value reference chart and obtained all torque wrenches necessary to meet these requirements. Using tooling manufacturer standards, Parsell was able to offer accurate data to the Tool Preset Room for use when building tool assemblies. This success will minimize premature tool wear due to over tightening and decrease the probability for tool failure during operation because of under tightening.
“Being a craft instructor allows me to train and pass on my knowledge to apprentices in Welding School and trade theory courses. The role also allows me to watch them grow as individuals and become successful in their trade and with the company. By developing trade and leadership skills in apprentices, we demonstrate our commitment to the company while continuing to help the school grow.”

Jacob Johnston
Welder/Non-Destructive Test Inspector Craft Instructor
Class of 2006
“Through the collaborative efforts of The Apprentice School and Night School, a curriculum was designed to develop innovative leaders. This program focuses on individual success while preparing future leaders to meet the demands and challenges of a shipbuilding career. Many Apprentice School graduates and former Night School students have achieved some of the highest leadership positions in the company—a record we can all be proud of.”

*Shirley Smith-King*
Night School Administrator
Professional Development Program graduates Engineer, Facilities, Brandon Weiler and Engineer, Test Operations, Jarrod Griffith (left to right) were the first two PDP marine engineer apprentices to pass the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam. As a result, they were exempt from the mandatory FE preparation class and have successfully completed the first steps to obtain their Professional Engineer license.
Frontline FAST Welder Apprentice Sean Turner completed a welding engineering special rotation during which he led a project to improve the process for welding high-tensile alloy steel to a nickel-based alloy using an argon and helium mix. Turner was responsible for initiating and researching the project, welding the qualification joints and submitting his findings. The process improvement project required collaboration among engineers, lab technicians, shipbuilding trades and the U.S. Navy.
The Engineering & Robotics Club of The Apprentice School participated in the American Society for Engineering Education Model Design Competition in New Orleans, Louisiana. Marine Engineer Apprentices Johnathan Wyatt and Jonathan Tugman and Inside Machinist Apprentice Tim Mills (first row, second from left to right); Inside Machinist Apprentice Eric Parsell, Marine Engineer Apprentice Jacob Wirtes, Electrician Apprentice Evan Throckmorton and Marine Engineer Apprentice Chris Helton (back row, left to right) and Electrical Designer Apprentice Michael Fahy (not pictured) competed as Team Bayou Bots and Team Plimsoll Robotics. The teams built autonomous robots capable of using infrared sensors to follow lines. Bayou Bots and Plimsoll Robotics placed 4th and 10th, respectively. Advanced Programs Lead Craft Instructor David Tilman (front row, far left) and Advanced Programs Craft Instructor Rick Burgos (not pictured) accompanied the teams to the competition.

Designer David Hux and Lead Craft Instructor Al Melton (left to right) participated in the Poquoson Education Foundation’s Real Men Read program. Melton and Hux, Apprentice School alumni with a long history of active involvement in their community, were among community members who participated in the event. The group read to classes at Poquoson Primary School and Poquoson Elementary School during the National Education Association’s annual Read Across America event.
The first cohort of Professional Development Program marine engineer apprentices graduated from Old Dominion University in May 2016. Engineer, Facilities, Brandon Weiler; Software Engineer David Lamb; Mechanical Engineer Patrick Boston, Marine Engineer Apprentice Eric Ollenberger; Electrical Engineer Angel Counts; and Structural Engineer Ryan Riddle; Engineer, Test Operations, Jarrod Griffith and Mechanical Engineer Chris Spencer and Brenden Frazier (left to right) received bachelor’s degrees in engineering. Marine engineer apprentices complete an eight-year apprenticeship, which includes rotations with a variety of NNS Trades Operations and Engineering & Design Division departments.
Academic Instructor **Jennifer Ryan** taught an eight-hour course, *Introduction to Naval Architecture, Part 1: Transverse Stability*, to approximately 20 NNS engineers. The course is part of an initiative at NNS to offer continuing education courses to help Professional Engineers maintain their license and to provide information about various topics to interested NNS engineering personnel. Ryan also represents The Apprentice School on the cross-divisional team responsible for organizing and maintaining the PE Community of Practice.
Inside Machinist Apprentice Tim Mills, Professional Development Program graduate Engineer, Test Operations, Jarrod Griffith and Marine Designer Apprentice Chris Boone (left to right) presented an overview of The Apprentice School Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Student Section Boat Design Competition during the May 2016 monthly meeting of the Hampton Roads SNAME Section. They delivered an update about the current status of the competition and the shipbuilding-related STEM outreach the competition provides the community.
“To be affiliated with The Apprentice School means I am united with hardworking shipbuilders, educated by a rigorous curriculum, adaptable, perceptive and dedicated to quality, professionalism and growth. We are all here to do one thing: build the greatest ships for our U.S. Navy customer. All of our roles are important to building our product, and I frequently see people help each other. No one works alone and every member counts.”

Jessica Dunlap
Dimensional Control Apprentice
“While I have only been an apprentice for a few months, I have noticed that the same spirit of collaboration found at The Apprentice School is very much present throughout NNS. In my experience learning how to weld, all of the instructors wanted their students, apprentices and non-apprentices alike, to succeed. They worked together with each other and with the students to make that happen. Everyone benefits from a commitment to work together.”

Dustin Costides
Pipefitter Apprentice
The Apprentice School was reaccredited until 2022 by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education. In late April, the school hosted COE representatives for a site visit during which they toured NNS and the school's facilities and interacted extensively with faculty, staff, apprentices and internal customers. At the conclusion of the visit, the school received two commendations from COE for its training model and faculty and staff. The collective efforts of faculty and staff to develop and deliver high quality programs and document adherence to COE’s stringent standards resulted in The Apprentice School’s successful reaccreditation.
Electrician **Eric Bevis** received the Homer L. Ferguson Award during the Feb. 22 commencement exercises for the class of 2015. Bevis served 11 years in the U.S. Navy and worked as an electrician at NNS for four years before beginning his apprenticeship. During his address to his fellow graduates, Bevis encouraged them to make the most of the opportunities available to lead and motivate others.

**Jeff Bilodeau**, general foreman and former shipfitter craft instructor, received the Frank F. Satchell Jr. Outstanding Faculty Award. He is a member of the class of 2009, a year in which he was also named Virginia’s Outstanding Apprentice by the Virginia Apprenticeship. Bilodeau served as a craft instructor from 2011-2016.
The class of 2015 includes 170 members. Seventy-six graduates completed one of the school’s eight Optional Advanced Programs, and 17 are military veterans or reservists. The class includes 63 honor graduates, 14 of whom earned a 4.0 grade point average in all required courses during their apprenticeship.
"We are a team at The Apprentice School. Academics, Craft Training and Athletics work closely to develop the greatest shipbuilders in the world, and our commitment to collaboration helps us perform better as a team. We encourage our golf team to play one shot at a time, helping the team score. This commitment is what makes us a winning team on the golf course and the deckplate."

**Joey Maben**  
Construction Supervisor and Builder Golf Coach  
Class of 1982
Coatings Specialist Apprentice Christopher Brimley attended the Virginia Ship Repair Association’s 10th Annual Tradesmen of the Year Awards in Portsmouth, Virginia. Brimley represented NNS and was among the 11 nominees for the VRSA’s Junior Tradesmen of the Year Award. Junior Tradesmen of the Year nominations are made based on creativity in job performance and problem solving and demonstrated commitment to workplace safety and professionalism.
“As shipbuilders, we each play a part in a process bigger than any single player. The most successful shipbuilders know how to work with other people and who to call to get information or to coordinate a job. Knowledge, experience and skills are only part of what I need to acquire during every apprentice rotation. Knowing and working with other people is the other part. Recognizing and working with others’ knowledge, experience and skills is the only way to succeed at what we do.”

Nicholas Bates
Professional Development Program
Marine Engineer Apprentice
Jaycees Production Planner Aleshia Jackson, Craft Instructor and Apprentice Jaycees Faculty Advisor Linda McMillian, Test Electricians Chelsee Mooring and Thatania Taylor and Maintenance Electrician Apprentice Quanisha Bruce (front row, left to right); Electrician Apprentice Thaddeus Smith Jr., Production Planner Donte Anderson and Test Electrician Devante Watson (back row, left to right) and Test Electrician Glenn Skinner Jr. (not pictured) planned the inaugural Apprentice Jaycees Basketball Tournament. The Squad took home the three-on-three tournament trophy. Funds raised from tournament registration fees will be used to send a child to Camp Virginia Jaycee, a camp for children with autism or intellectual disabilities and their families.
Production Planner Apprentice Adam Ferry performed several tasks during his rotation with the Virginia-Class Submarine Program Quality department. With less than a week before the scheduled launch of USS Washington (SSN 787), Ferry took the lead to resolve two quality issues before the launch. Ferry quickly researched the issues, worked with other departments to determine the actions to clear the issues, and moved swiftly to satisfy those requirements, contributing to the successful launch of the submarine.

The sixth cohort completed The Apprentice School Leadership Experience at the College of William and Mary. The 25 apprentices chosen for the immersive leadership experience represent The Apprentice School’s Frontline FAST waterfront leadership development program and Advanced Shipyard Operations Curriculum Optional Advanced Program. HII President and CEO Mike Petters (front row, center) began the weeklong event by sharing his leadership experience with the cohort. Apprentices received hands-on leadership experience during a ropes course and boat building competition while W&M Executive Partners helped apprentices evaluate their personality and leadership styles throughout the week. The week concluded with NNS Vice President, Trades Operations, Ray Bagley (first row, fourth from right) hosting a discussion with the cohort.
“Apprentices often collaborate through the sharing of ideas and previous experiences while working together on jobs. This promotes growth among apprentices and helps the company save money by reducing man hours spent on rework and downtime. This same collaboration helps to increase the quality of our product delivered to the U.S. Navy.”

*James Adkins*
Frontline FAST Electrician Apprentice
“It’s a great honor to be affiliated with The Apprentice School. I never imagined I would be an instructor at The Apprentice School when I retired from the U.S. Air Force after 24 years. It just shows there is life after the military, and I have found a new home. The people I work with and the apprentices I instruct make this job inspiring and rewarding daily.”

Steve Romolo
Academic Instructor
Frontline FAST Non-Destructive Test Inspector Apprentice Shawn Morro completed a special rotation with the Continuous Improvement Work Package Team. In fewer than four weeks, the team performed Eddy Current Testing on 389 inspection sites with a 100 percent first time quality pass rate. The Non-Destructive Testing department completed the inspections using 3D Visual Work Instructions developed by Morro during his VWI rotation and saved 80 man hours.

Frontline FAST Sheet Metal Worker Apprentice Ryan Wheelock and Frontline FAST Sheet Metal Worker Apprentice Christopher Miller were assigned a ventilation job expected to take at least three days to complete. Wheelock and Miller, who had never before worked ventilation, completed the job in one day. Their sheet metal training well prepared them to complete the job safely, ahead of schedule and with first time quality.
Electrician Apprentice Brenden O’Neil rushed for 684 yards, passed for 355 yards and accounted for nine touchdowns. The freshman quarterback was twice named United States Collegiate Athletic Association offensive player of the week and led the conference in rushing touchdowns.

Outside Machinist Apprentice Perry Barber established a school record for the lowest individual tournament score with rounds of 78, 71, and 72 in the Marlin Invitational Tournament. Barber’s 221 total was five strokes better than the school’s previous record.
“The spirit of collaboration at The Apprentice School is very strong. The best week of my career at the shipyard was The Apprentice School Leadership Experience at the College of William and Mary. Every member of the cohort wanted to see the person on either side of them succeed. To be affiliated with The Apprentice School is to be affiliated with something larger than yourself.”

Ryan Wheelock
Frontline FAST Sheet Metal Worker Apprentice
“A commitment to collaborate and innovate is essential to the longevity of NNS and The Apprentice School. So many moving pieces are required to build our product. The willingness to share processes, tools and materials developed by your team to make jobs safer, easier and more ergonomic will keep the shipyard moving in the right direction. You never know if a new process will help the crew next to you. You just have to keep the willingness to collaborate open.”

Vivian Lopez
Frontline FAST Millwright Apprentice
Ylexzis Traeger, a sophomore Sheet Metal Apprentice, averaged over 11 points per game for the Lady Builders. The team ended the regular season by winning its last eight games and qualified for the United States Collegiate Athletic Association’s national championship in Pennsylvania.

Following a freshman season in which he compiled an earned run average of 2.36 while striking out 59 batters in 61 innings, Shipfitter Apprentice Mike Brumfield returns as one of the team’s top pitching prospects.
Jacob Michael, a senior Pipefitter Apprentice from Bridgewater, Virginia, was named National Collegiate Wrestling Association All-America in the 133-pound weight class. The team competed against 100 teams in the national championships and finished sixth.

Junior Electrical Apprentice Zach Johnson scored a season-high 25 points in the Builder’s victory over Southern Virginia. The team completed the season with a record of 12-12 and qualified for the United States Athletic Association national championships.
“In 2016, I chose to pursue an apprenticeship at The Apprentice School. As someone who has been with the company since 2007, I have seen firsthand the value of the opportunity offered by the school. It is one in which I am able to further my education, learn how to be proficient in my trade and get paid to do it all. The immense amount of integrity and teamwork displayed by apprentices and craft instructors is something I knew I wanted to be involved in.”

Crystal White
Heating and Air Conditioning Worker Apprentice
Coatings Specialist Apprentice Travis Camden and Frontline FAST Coatings Specialist Apprentice Hailey Kahlbaum received a Director’s Coin from USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Refueling and Complex Overhaul Program Director Bruce Easterson for work completed during their special rotation with the group. During the special rotation, Camden and Kahlbaum coordinated compartment completion and ordered supplies for the Surface Preparation and Treatment department. Additionally, they attended compartment completion meetings, discussed the department’s actions items with the project team and coordinated Service Order Request processing.

Frontline FAST Sheet Metal Worker Apprentice Stephen Grizzle completed a construction supervisor special rotation during which he was tasked with the start-up of outfitting and joining of two modules of the Virginia-class submarine Vermont (SSN 792). In addition to managing the daily operations of the job, Grizzle was responsible for safety and cleanliness and took the lead on multiple special projects, including line maintenance and the design and implementation of protective covers for deck plate openings.