



*Dale Moe, Board Member of the AnnieRuth Foundation; Earl Robinson, 2016 award recipient; Pastor Terry Hill, Jr., Radio Personality, 107.9FM; and Stan Johnson, President of the AnnieRuth Foundation*

The AnnieRuth Foundation's Summer Internship Program is a six-week, needs-based program that affords high school students the opportunity to work part-time in a real life setting, learn new skills and interact with professionals. The program not only gives high school students an opportunity to earn money but a part of the application process includes understanding each applicant's career aspirations. Workforce professionals carefully select a safe professional environment that aligns with the award recipient's future goals.

Educators on the First Coast scored student essays using pre-defined criteria. Essay scores were ranked, 10 finalists advanced to the next phase of the process and four students were selected as 2016 award recipients! Earl Robinson, a graduating senior of Raines High school was one of two male award recipients! Earl aspires to obtain a career in the field of Mass Communications. With this in mind, Earl was placed at Praise 107.9FM. As a part of his summer internship experience, Earl also had the opportunity to gain additional insight into the industry through two shadowing experiences; iHeartMedia and The Morning Show (WJXT).

Praise 107.9FM radio personality, Pastor Terry Hill, Jr., had this to say about Earl's experience, "During Earl's tenure as an intern, he performed nearly everything imaginable. He ran errands, performed general office clerical assignments and maintained a positive attitude as he completed grunge work. On the technical side, Earl learned how to perform editing functions of multiple software platforms in order to prepare features and segments on the show. He was also responsible for website maintenance of specific features. The high volume of calls and requests gave Earl an opportunity to use his winning personality on a consistent basis. Earl became a favorite as an on-air voice, providing weather and traffic updates as "Earl the Intern." Earl even had the opportunity to assist as a host to a national recording artist for a major event presented by the station.

Having an intern like Earl presented the company with an opportunity to refresh the way we approach daily tasks. I am highly thankful to the AnnieRuth Foundation for placing a young man with such quality with us and for providing this program to other businesses in the community."

When asked his thoughts about the AnnieRuth Foundation's Summer Internship Program, Earl responded, "My internship experience was absolutely amazing! Almost every day, I learned something new that enhanced my knowledge of my future career. I had to learn quickly and catch on fast. It was a real life experience and I treated my job with great respect. Being chosen as an award recipient out of a large candidate pool really showed me that I have the potential to accomplish anything in this world."