



The need for computer training has risen with the evolution of technology. Gaining prior knowledge before entering school or work will aid in building a basis for their education. The training in Nifty Thrifty's youth program improves language, technical, and conversational skills. And in a recent study, it was found that computer and customer/consumer skills are among the top five traits looked for by U.S. employers. Nifty Thrifty's training is designed to give youth a step up before taking their next step forward.

Nifty Thrifty is a nonprofit high-end thrift shop that takes only clothing and accessory donations. These funds collected from selling the donated items go toward furthering the education of youth, between the ages of 16-20, before they enter a four-year school or the workforce. The youth are trained in computer skills, while also learning customer interaction skills as they work.

Nifty Thrifty has successfully transformed 50 youth in the last 10 years, from students to working adults. The program accepts five students for each half of the year, and in that time, they are trained in a job position within the store and are given in-house computer classes. Interactive computer training has been successful for 92 percent of people using the programs. And, 75 percent of our graduated youth found jobs within one month of leaving Nifty Thrifty's program.

The youth program is one that continues to amaze and achieve. Beverly Hills is often seen as being fun, free, and dynamic. Nifty does what we can to keep that lifestyle, but we also keep futures in mind. California's college-going rate sits at a stagnant 61.7 percent for the past three years. Nifty's

program has implemented a way for students to gain tech skills and step into college or the workforce with confidence. While they work to better themselves, the students are also paid for their time spent helping the store, and we often act as the first work-experience for students.

“I have never had someone help me in a way that made real-world sense. Teachers always stuck to the curriculum, and I always wondered how it would help me in the future. Nifty helped me see the possibilities for my future by building my fundamental skills. I went into my first job prepared and ready for anything!” Stacey Jean, a 2012 Nifty graduate, said.

Computer and customer skills are among the top five traits looked for by U.S. employers. Nifty Thrifty’s program is designed to increase students’ chances in being accepted into new positions or colleges. Some of our students went into technological companies, some into the fashion-tech industry, and some into retail to continue to build their communicational skills.

There are three ways to get involved with Nifty Thrifty’s program. If you’re a youth looking to be a part of our program, you can stop by Nifty Thrifty (located at: **123 Beverly Hills Drive, Los Angeles Calif. 90210**) and fill out an application, or go online at www.niftythrifty09.com. If you’re looking to donate clothing or accessories to the cause, stop by our store Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. And if you are looking to help teach our computer classes please stop by the store and fill out an application.

Geneva Denney, Owner and operator of Nifty Thrifty

Nifty Thrifty provides high-end thrift while furthering the education of our youth by providing computer training. In the last five years, we’ve helped 50 young adults successfully launch their post-graduate lives. For more information visit our website, Facebook, or Twitter.

www.niftythrifty09.org

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www.facebook.com/NiftyThrifty