

# KPMG Today - Human Resources

Announcements

## Interns Committed to Making a Difference

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Unlike the vast majority of college-aged visitors who travel to New Orleans in search of fun, the 50 KPMG interns who descended upon the Big Easy recently had only one thing on their minds: making a difference in the lives of others.

The interns were winners in the firm's recent National Intern Community Service Challenge, representing seven teams (out of 48) that competed at the national level through their participation in literacy-focused community service events. Their reward was an opportunity to participate in the first-ever **National KPMG Intern Community Service Week**, during which they rolled up their sleeves for a Habitat for Humanity build and met children for a national First Book reading event.

The National Intern Community Service Challenge is a program of KPMG's Interns for Literacy, which is an extension of KPMG's [Family for Literacy \(KFFL\)](#). Interns for Literacy provides all our interns across the country with the opportunity to come together to give back to the communities in which we live and work. Like Family for Literacy, Interns for Literacy works with the non-profit First Book to raise funds and distribute new books to children from low-income families.

In New Orleans for the event, **Susan Flynn**, wife of KPMG International Chairman Tim Flynn, and co-founder of KPMG's Family for Literacy; and **Wendy Keizer**, wife of KPMG LLP Deputy Chairman and COO Henry Keizer and co-leader of the program, both noted the interns' energy and excitement.

Wendy, who joined the interns for the Habitat for Humanity build, said, "It was a pleasure to see the interns embrace every aspect of this very special outreach program and to share in their enthusiasm. They were energized to be part of something so positive and impactful. I am very proud of what they accomplished and the contribution they made to this deserving community."

"During the week the newest members of the KPMG family worked on building the foundation of homes with Habitat for Humanity," Susan said. "The week culminated with the interns distributing new books to children in need, and we were proud to help build the foundation for literacy."

"It was an amazing experience, the most rewarding work I've done all summer," said **Cody Wilson**, IT Advisory intern, who was part of the Silicon Valley team.

### Building Homes

On Tuesday after the interns' arrival, they traveled bright and early to a Habitat for Humanity site, where they spent the next three days helping with construction. The bulk of their time was spent laying the foundations for two homes, which required hauling sand, mixing concrete, mortaring cinderblocks, and hammering wooden floors in 100-plus degree temperatures.



Susan Flynn



Wendy Keizer

"Our interns not only appreciated making a significant impact on the New Orleans community—they also were excited and impressed that Wendy Keizer worked alongside them in building the houses," said **Gwen Reddy**, National Practice Manager, Campus Recruiting, who organized the event.

### Reading to Children

On Friday, the interns joined with Susan, HR Vice Chair **Bruce Pfau**, and members of the firm's Campus Recruiting and KFFL teams to participate in a reading event at the Royal Castle Child Development Center, a site that had been damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The team read to about 90 children up to age six who were divided up into eight different classrooms. The interns also gave each child two books (and helped them write their names inside the jackets), took them outside to the playground, and engaged them in learning center activities such as water coloring and building blocks.



"I was in a room with three- and four-year old kids," said **Alison Kuntzman** Audit intern, Detroit. "They asked me if I wanted to see their cheerleading moves. Of course I said yes, so they taught me the moves. Later, one little girl latched on to me. When she said nobody read to her at home, it really hit my heart."

But by giving books to the children to take home, the interns hope they have played a role in helping encourage the youngsters on a path to literacy.

"This experience reinforced the commitment KPMG has toward community service," Cody said. "It shows the firm lives up to its core value."

### For More About Interns for Literacy

Anyone interested in finding out more about KPMG's Interns for Literacy program should contact your [local Involve Coordinator](#) or [Campus Recruiter](#).



The National Intern Community Service Challenge winners were selected from approximately 400 interns who participated in 48 teams from all across the firm. The teams competed through their participation in literacy-focused community service events. Some examples of what the winning teams accomplished:

- **Atlanta** – The Atlanta team worked with a Boys & Girls Club to coordinate a two-hour event in which 65 children broke into

teams to participate in a variety of literacy and physical activities so they could collect puzzle pieces to decode a literacy-themed message.

- **Detroit** – The Detroit team, which dubbed itself the “Motor City Dream Team,” organized a community book read for more than 25 children at the main branch of the Detroit Public Library.
- **New York** – A team of interns from 345 Park Avenue brought the message of literacy to the children at a local shelter for victims of domestic violence by setting up a fun and information-filled visit for several of the kids to Brooklyn’s Sunset Park Library.
- **New York** – A second team of New York interns held a fun and informative event for 25 young children and their parents that included a puppet show about the importance of being active and eating healthy; and a read aloud session featuring *The Berenstain Bears and Too Much Junk Food*.
- **Short Hills/Princeton** – The Short Hills/Princeton team focused on the importance of the newspaper industry and created a presentation for a local church-based youth group that included a discussion with a columnist from The Star-Ledger newspaper, and a “Now It’s Your Turn” session that gave the children an opportunity to discover their own writing and journalistic talents.
- **Silicon Valley** – A team from the Silicon Valley office created a “Make a Book, Get a Book” program that was designed to instill a passion for literature and reading by providing about two dozen children a unique opportunity to create their own stories and turn them into books.
- **Tyson’s Corner** – The Tyson’s Corner office team worked with New Image Child Development Center in Washington D.C. to conduct a reading event. The team helped to plan fun activities that related to the books that were read, including a color recognition game for the youngest children.