Dan Shirley Named Lead Instructor at Pullman Tech Workshop

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Equipping Justice-Involved Individuals with Classic Trades and Cutting-Edge Technology

CHICAGO, IL ? Dan Shirley, owner of Chicago Handyman, has officially joined Pullman Tech Workshop as Lead Instructor for its workforce development program. Located in the historic Pullman neighborhood on Chicago?s Far South Side, the Workshop provides participants with essential trade and tech skills?paving the way for self-reliance, viable career paths, and a positive impact on local communities.

?At Pullman Tech Workshop our main goal is jobs?job security, jobs that will sustain a family, and jobs that someone can be proud of,? says Nick Lubovich, Executive Director. ?We don?t care who you were; we only care about who you are. You must be willing to learn and better yourself, and we?re going to help you along the way.?

?I?m excited to combine my love of hands-on trades with the Workshop?s forward-thinking approach,? adds Dan Shirley, Lead Instructor. ?By working side by side with our students?and bringing in skilled staff from Chicago Handyman?we?re creating a supportive community that helps people truly thrive.?

A Track Record of Impact

Just a few years since opening, Pullman Tech Workshop has served dozens of participants, many of whom have gone on to secure stable employment or pursue further education in the trades. As Lead Instructor, Shirley oversees weekly lessons and helps shape the overall curriculum?ensuring each learner gains traditional construction know-how (framing, carpentry, drywall, electrical, and plumbing) while also getting hands-on exposure to cutting-edge technologies such as 3D printing, CNC routing, and laser engraving.

Building Community with Chicago Handyman

Beyond Dan Shirley?s leadership, staff from Chicago Handyman regularly teach specialized classes at Pullman Tech Workshop. This partnership provides advanced expertise in areas like water damage restoration, remodeling techniques, and lead paint or mold removal?further strengthening the Workshop?s focus on in-demand skills. Together, both organizations foster a sense of community and shared purpose, helping participants establish meaningful connections and gain the confidence to succeed.

The program's innovative approach combines practical skills training with mentorship opportunities, creating a comprehensive support system that addresses both technical expertise and personal development. Participants benefit from real-world projects and hands-on experience that directly translate to marketable job skills in today's competitive construction and technology sectors.

Key Supporters and Media Mentions

Supported by Chicago Cubs Charities, SC Johnson, and The Tullman Family Office, Pullman Tech Workshop has also been featured on CBS Chicago, FOX 32 Chicago, and the hit BYUtv show The Fixers. These endorsements underscore the Workshop?s mission of revitalizing communities and fostering workforce development through meaningful, skill-based education.

About Pullman Tech Workshop

Pullman Tech Workshop is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to workforce training in the historic Pullman neighborhood on Chicago?s Far South Side. By pairing traditional trade skills with state-of-the-art technologies, the Workshop creates life-changing opportunities for justice-involved individuals and underserved communities?promoting self-sufficiency, innovation, and real economic growth.

About Chicago Handyman

Owned and operated by Dan Shirley, Chicago Handyman offers comprehensive home repair and renovation services across the Chicagoland area. Their expertise spans lead paint and mold removal, water damage restoration, remodeling, and general home repairs?all underpinned by a commitment to quality craftsmanship and community-focused outreach.

Media Contact
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Pullman Tech Workshop 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization
For more information, to donate, or to schedule a visit, please reach out to info@pullmantechworkshop.org or call 708-645-6277, or visit www.pullmantechworkshop.org.
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