



AMANDA AARON

B.S. BUSINESS '15

When Amanda Aaron signed up for an internship through CI's Hank Lacayo Institute (HLI), she knew it meant opportunity.

What she didn't know was how much or how fast.

The program placed her with [Tech Coast Angels](#), where she worked directly with Paul Meyer, President of the organization's central coast chapter.

Aaron grew rapidly in her understanding of business and finance, and, as graduation approached, Meyer facilitated an introductory connection to her employer of choice, [Ventura Investment Company](#) (VIC). Aaron followed up with VIC representatives at CI's career fair and secured an interview with the company. She got the job and started work the Monday after graduation.

The position was only temporary due to a previously planned two-month trip abroad, but Aaron had made a lasting impression.

"Upon my return, I got a call from the company and the offer of a promotion to Investment Associate!" she says. "And, recently, I've been given the opportunity to mentor an HLI intern this spring – just one year after I completed the program."

Aaron, who hopes to pursue an M.B.A. from CI and a real estate license, credits her rapid success to her internship. She also believes strongly in having a positive attitude.

"Everything I've accomplished professionally is due to my participation in the HLI program," she says. "I hope to build on it by continuing my education and by being happy and positive in my work. I think if I follow that path I'll always be successful."

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