



### The Forge 2023



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PRIVATE WEALTH



The Forge was a great success! There were 14 participants who took the classes. They were taught by various guest instructors each week on topics such as finance, cash flow, marketing and more. The last night was a Shark Tank type of contest where participants presented their business plans and judges awarded cash prizes. The winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place and \$2500 – Elaine Strine for her nonprofit, C. L. Gregory Music Academy
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place and \$1500 – Crystal & Justin Bessler for their bookstore, Birch Tree Bookery
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place and \$1000 – Angie Thompson for her nonprofit, The 1951 Initiative
  - 4<sup>th</sup> place and \$1000 – Erina Frank for her business, Gloomy Erina
  - 5<sup>th</sup> place and \$1000 – Sharon Johnson for her nonprofit, Friends of Caledonia
  - 6<sup>th</sup> place and \$1000 – Steve Stiles for his business, Memory Lane Weddings & Events Rentals
- Congratulations to all!



### Careers Made in Marion!

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, the MTC Mobile Lab joined 29 other exhibitors in the Marion Coliseum for a great day of career exploration. This year we opened up the event to include not only manufacturing, but also safety, social services, utilities, banking and healthcare. We also changed the focus to high school seniors from the Marion City and Marion County Schools to help them learn about local opportunities. Students learned not only about the wide variety of careers available right here in Marion County, but also how many companies will pay for their education and training. Some students came prepared with resumes to hand to those companies in which they were interested. For more information, go to: <https://madeinmarion.org>

### Wyandot County Career Showcase

The MTC Mobile Lab was at the Wyandot County Fairgrounds on October 19<sup>th</sup> along with 17 other employers to showcase opportunities to 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders from all the school districts in Wyandot County. Many of the exhibitors had hands-on activities to engage the students and peak their interests in various career fields.

### Workforce Solutions and New America

The MTC Workforce Solutions team just returned from Washington D.C.! We were chosen, along with 14 other community colleges across the country, to be a part of New America's Workforce Transformation & Implementation Cohort. We will be working with them to design and implement some change in practice to strengthen workforce programs.

