



TOOLMAN TIMES



Impact that Cascades for Generations

FOUNDER'S CORNER by *Todd Trainor*

When Toolmanship Mentoring humbly started by teaching two neighborhood kids how to use tools, I had no idea it



would grow into a program that changes lives. Yet today, the impact we see in our students — confidence, capability, maturity, and a willingness to help others — continues to

reach further than I ever imagined.

In this issue, we highlight three alumni students: **Zelie**, **Mat**, and **Alistair**. Their journeys show exactly why Bendix Academy exists. Toolmanship mentoring doesn't just build skills; it builds character, direction, and mechanical self-reliance that stays with a young person for life.

Our concept is simple: *Connect generations so students can learn toolmanship, career readiness, and responsibility from those who have lived it.* And the results are powerful.

Students become problem-solvers. Families feel the difference at home. Communities benefit when young people know how to fix, build, and serve. The impact flows to our mentors as well. Many tell us that sharing their lifetime of experience brings renewed purpose and joy, proof that this is a two-way partnership that strengthens everyone involved.

What we are building in Brighton is only the beginning. If our work changes lives here, it can change lives anywhere. Imagine a Bendix Academy in many communities across the country, helping thousands of students gain confidence, capability, and a sense of purpose.

Interestingly, in the 1980s, my goal was to *"make a large-scale, positive impact on society."* Fast forward to today, the stories of Zelie, Mat, and Alistair make me realize that impact is not just what we do, it is who we are at Bendix Academy.

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Todd Trainor, Founder



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