the ember cast

a global student leadership tribe

The Ember Cast ProtoGuide Experience

Description

One of the core offerings of The Ember Cast is the ProtoGuide experience, specifically designed for high school students. We call it ProtoGuide because the experience combines opportunities to serve with various Ember projects at a Guide level [Guide being what we call our staff] with the deep learning and mentorship similar to a protege program. This experience is one school year long and focuses on the concepts of global missions, world cultures and leadership development. Other core concepts include risk, multiplication, experimentation, long term perspective, catalytic behavior and the utilization of technology. The overall goal is to spawn and multiply a community of high impact leaders from students who burn for the world.

People Like Us

You have a dynamic, personal, growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
You have a calling to cross cultural service, either vocational or bi-vocational, long term or for a season.
You take personally the idea that you have been blessed to bless others.
"I love airports," is something you naturally say.
You have a history of initiative and leadership - people follow you and you like to start things and desire to yield a positive influence on people.
You are willing to sacrifice some things to be a ProtoGuide.

Do Things Like This

Upon successful completion, ProtoGuides will have:
+ Been well informed and equally inspired with regard to major issues surrounding global missions.
+ Understood social dynamics as they relate to culture, worldviews and belief systems.
+ Participated in a number of learning experiments involving creating community and mobilizing peers.
+ Experimented with the art of catalytic leadership.
+ Gained an even greater passion for the world.
+ Contributed at a staff/guide level for helping facilitate an Ember global leadership experience.

Format

+ Reading assignments will be done virtually.

+ Small group discussions once every two or three weeks.
+ Inherent use of technology include blogs, social networking sites, video chat venues.
+ On site experiential experience once a month - selected field observation assignments.
+ The context will be in the suburban Washington, DC area, with access to a myriad of suburban and urban ministry resources. Time requirements are estimated to be 20 hours per month. Remote interns are possible - please contact us for more details
+ The experience is best executed under school mentorship programs - you get credit and time off from school which allows for a greater level of commitment, flexibility and availability.
+ There is a materials fee for each semester, which mostly entails paying for books. Other incidental costs will occur with field experiences such as transportation, and food or snacks.
+ You will primarily mentored by Tony Sheng, founder and principal catalyst for The Ember Cast. You will also get a chance to have deep and significant interaction with selected board of directors from Ember specific to their interests and specialties.
+ If you have a lot of other commitments, this is probably not for you. We are looking for students that have a passion for this kind of learning and make themselves available for it.
+ As of 2018, there is a grant that will pay for most ProtoGuide costs, including some of the costs for being on an Ember team the summer after the experience ends. Most ProtoGuides have historically joined an Ember team when their experience ends.
+ Every year is different, past internships have included serving or learning from activities/ministries such as: DC ServeFest; National Community Church; Church Resource Ministries; Sunday Breakfast Mission; Catalyst leadership experiences; The Bridge, Silver Spring; The M Conference; Humana 2008, Orlando; Urban Youth Worker Institute; Stop Hunger Now food packing event; The Well in Curtis Bay; gatherings with various vocational missionaries from around the world; global missions experiences in Philadelphia, New York, Phoenix, Austria, Hungary, Cameroon, France, The Czech Republic and Italy. More at these links too:
http://tonytsheng.blogspot.com/search/label/protoguide2014
http://tonytsheng.blogspot.com/search/label/ProtoGuide2015

Sample Reading List

Selected passages and chapters, The Bible
Movements That Change the World, Steve Addison
What Jesus Started, Steve Addison
Church in the Making, Ben Arment
Waking the Dead, John Eldredge
The Forgotten Ways, Alan Hirsch
Toxic Charity, Robert Lupton
An Unstoppable Force, Erwin McManus
Dream Year, Ben Arment
Selected blogs on missiology, leadership development and global issues.

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What Others Have Said

"Interning for the Ember Cast was a truly eye-opening experience. We live in a fast-paced world where the manner in which the Gospel is advanced is changing daily. Innovation and adaptability are key components to propelling the Jesus movement forward, and these are precisely some of the tools that I gleaned from being an Ember Cast intern. Unique perspectives, coupled with practical applications made the internship an unforgettable experience. " - A Rotolo, 2009-2010 Ember intern

"I'd like to throw a few embers your way so more can know what Tony is doing and be inspired to creativity and innovation.
While Joe and I regularly lobby for a sound missions philosophy grounded in reading, studying, and broad understanding of the world and missions, the reality is that we need a Sheng-like healthy balance between sound missiological thinking AND solid practical "doing."
Tony is a doer, a practitioner, a hands-on implementer. (In fact, I want to coin a new word to describe Tony: "imple-mentor.")
While the idea of mentoring is increasingly bandied about these days, for The Ember Cast this is more than a clever motto. Mentoring (sometimes called "discipleship") is not a slogan or code word for Tony: it is rooted in his very DNA."
- D Shive, missions mobilizer, US Center for World Mission. June 2013.

"As I'm prepping for Kenya on their culture and stuff like that, I am just realizing how much you taught me about really viewing the world and people and culture-just by listening to you and everyone else, and each of the places we went really was so beneficial to me! It was so good having those ideas planted, and then giving them time to grow in me! I hadn't really realized until recently how much the internship molded me and taught me! And I'm so so SO thankful! It really set such a solid support and foundation for me, I seriously couldn't have asked for a better one. – C Stolte, 2011-2012 Ember intern. May 2013."

"This past year, I interned with The Ember Cast, and it was truly one of the most rewarding experiences I have had. It has reshaped my idea of missions, churches, and my individual relationship with God because of the many projects I have been a part of over this year. Actually, without Ember, I don't think I would have considered bi-vocational missions in my future, and it may be that Ember has changed the course of my life. - D Knox, 2012-2013 Ember intern. July 2013.

About Ember

Started in 2010, The Ember Cast is a missional tribe that exists to resource and catalyze students to serve a world in need. We seek to engage emerging global student leaders, those

students that are interested in global cultures, world missions, live a Gospel centered life and routinely proclaim, "I love airports!"

Core competencies of Ember include:
+ An internship program, called The ProtoGuide Experience, designed for high school seniors. This internship includes working with founder Tony Sheng for a school year in all Ember projects, which may include activities related to our competencies. There is also a significant amount of reading and writing related to current innovations in global missions.
+ Short term mission team pre-field training and post-field decompression.
+ Facilitating culture, service, leadership experiences for school and church student groups.
+ Leading a student summer team, traveling and serving with some of our brightest emerging global student leaders partnering some of the most creative and innovative workers in the global missions space today.

Our founder, Tony Sheng, is intentionally deeply involved with every activity around our competencies, honing the craft of discipling global leaders. He runs The Ember Cast bivocationally while also working full time as a database engineer for Oracle America and embraces the bivocational model both as part of his personal ministry philosophy and as a model for future missional leaders.

The Ember Cast is a 501(c)(3) organization, EIN: 27-0867072.

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Questions

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