

Reflection of Spark Me Camp 2025 (Raymond Xia)

The Spark Me program has been an exceptional opportunity to enhance my skills and broaden my understanding of the future. Over three days, I collaborated with new friends in numerous team discussions and group activities, gaining valuable insights and key lessons that will undoubtedly contribute to my future success.

In an era shaped by AI and global challenges like climate change, Spark Me has equipped me with essential tools to thrive. We were privileged to hear from many inspiring guest speakers who shared memorable lessons crucial for our future. We explored diverse topics, including Plato's Allegory of the Cave, which highlighted how people can be blinded by their own preconceived notions. We also delved into renewable energy, the dynamics of business rise and collapse (such as the Blockbuster vs. Netflix case study), the critical issue of deforestation and nature, and how AI can be a double-edged sword, used for both good and bad. The program also emphasized discovering our core values and passions, engaging in leadership lessons through drumming, and learning about various career paths.

One of the most impactful lessons was the strategic showdown between Blockbuster and Netflix. It powerfully demonstrated that focusing too much on current possessions and immediate profits can lead to failure if one doesn't adapt to future trends. This reminded me of the vital need to embrace environmental changes and continuously evolve to avoid being left behind.

At the conclusion of the three-day experience, we each presented our key learnings and future aspirations. My presentation focused on how I plan to achieve a high score in a realistic airline management game, aiming to master the skills needed to run a real-life airline – my true passion and future goal. The multitude of lessons from various speakers about future professions and other helpful insights was another remarkable highlight.

Overall, the Spark Me session was a splendid and enlightening experience. It provided invaluable guidance on navigating the future, offered profound insights from its wonderful guest speakers, and allowed us to summarize our goals and passions for the inevitable future, which I now feel better prepared to thrive in, thanks to this program.