

Romeo Crennel, head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs, celebrates after a game in 2012.

With perseverance, you can reach your goals. Learn from a former NFL coach, a success instructor, and an app developer.

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## SECURING SUCCESS



#### Success coach DeVanté Starks works for Son of a

Saint, a nonprofit that supports boys in New Orleans, Louisiana. Here are his top tips.

My role as a success coach involves preparing young men for life after high school, whether they're attending college or heading into the workforce. Each of my sessions begins with me asking the same two questions: "What do you want out of life?" and "What would constitute a successful life for you?"

A recent graduate of our program said that his definition of success was built from the obstacles he's needed to overcome. We discussed five tips for pursuing a meaningful career, derived from his experiences and achievements in the face of adversity.

1. Start where you are, with what you have. You can always work toward your goals, no matter what you feel you lack.

2. Set goals. Setting goals gives you direction. If you don't have anything you're working toward, you're not working.

3. Celebrate the small stuff. Don't get stuck comparing your accomplishments to everyone else's. Be proud of yourself and your progress toward your goals.

4. Don't be afraid to ask for help or to work with a mentor. No one knows everything. It's okay to admit you need help.

5. Gain exposure. Find your passion. Exploration of different things is the only way you'll encounter things you can be passionate about. This tip is worth repeating: Don't limit yourself!



Son of a Saint mentees, mentors, and staffers play kickball in 2020. COURTESY SON OF A SAIN

"Football is not about who you are, it's about what you do." Crennel was all about supporting his team from an early age: first as a defensive player, then as an offensive lineman. He measured his success by what he could give back to his colleagues. Crennel thrived when surrounded by others. This was especially true on the field, where he earned the trust of his teammates and coaching staff. He knew then that helping others excel, while recognizing their true potential on and off the field, was what he wanted to do.

"With extreme honor came immense pressure." Crennel graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1969. He began his career there as a graduate assistant coach. He was the school's first Black coach. While this was an honor for him, it was also a lot of pressure. He says, "I felt as though I always needed to be at my best to help others realize that the color of my skin, as well as the color of the skin for all who aspired to be a coach after me, had nothing to do with the game of football or coaching."

"We help others—teammates, fellow coaches, aspiring players, and fans—recognize what it takes to be successful, both on and off the field." Are you interested in becoming a coach? Crennel says that loving the game isn't the only important thing. You must also thrive in what he calls a "people environment." He explains that coaches support players in all aspects of life, including overcoming obstacles. "We celebrate their success," he adds, "and we challenge their perspective." -By Rachel MacPherson

In 2011, as interim head coach for the Kansas City Chiefs, Crennel monitors a game.



and New England Patriots players celebrate after the 2005 Super Bowl

Florida, in 2005.

As defensive coordinator for the Patriots,

Crennel speaks to the media in Jacksonville

When Becky Hansmeyer was about 8 years old, she loved using her family computer to make pictures and write stories. COURTESY BECKY HANSMEYER (2

### **DEVELOPING HER DREAMS**

Becky Hansmeyer builds and releases apps. Learn more about her passion for app development at ti.me/hansmeyer.

Mobile applications, or apps, have become a key part of people's daily lives. There are many kinds. Some help with schoolwork, others are for gaming or staying in touch with friends. App developers might come up with an idea for themselves or work for a large company, such as Instagram, designing and building apps and new features.

Becky Hansmeyer builds apps for iPhones. She remembers using her family's computer as a kid. "I spent all my free time on that thing," she says. Though she was interested in technology, Hansmeyer went to college for music. But "something just didn't feel right," she says. So she took online tutorials to learn programming languages, and soon built her first app.

Hansmeyer says if you want to create apps, you should develop your writing and communication skills. And take basic programming tutorials and classes. You can do it! -Bv Jason Cipriani

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### Romeo Crennel coached football for more than 50 years, earning five Super Bowl rings. Here, he shares words of wisdom.

A supportive, instructive coach can make all the difference. Coaches are often former athletes who want to share their love of the game with the next generation. They strive to foster enthusiasm, skills, and confidence. Your 🍐 Job spoke to former NFL coach Romeo Crennel. Read his words below, and find more inspiration at *ti.me/crennel*.

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# GET MORE ONLINE

Whether you're into sports, space, or anything in between, check out the Your blob site, at timeforkids.com/your-hot-job. Uncover potential job paths with articles, videos, interviews, reading lists, and more. Get inspired! What does your future hold? -By Allison Singer

### **PICTURE IT**

**Trevor Stuurman is** a photographer and multimedia visual artist. "The first camera that I picked up was actually a cell phone," he says. From there, he was inspired to study filmmaking and storytelling. Working as an

artist has allowed him "to connect with so many of my icons." Stuurman says.



#### **DREAM BIG**

Using artificial intelligence and voice-recognition software, we're connecting you to people in the careers you're curious about. Talk to Krista Kim, a digital artist with big ideas about art, the emerging digital world, and people's mental well-being. Want to learn

about the metaverse, or how you can create an NFT? Ask her all about it.

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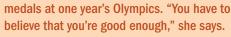


#### TAKE OFF

Joan Melendez Misner is an aerospace integration engineer at NASA. She's also a part-time science communicator. Melendez Misner's applications to work at NASA were rejected 13 times before she was finally accepted. "As clichéd as it sounds," she says, "never give up. No doesn't mean 'never." It just means you have to keep going."

#### WIN GOLD

"When I started this journey," gymnast Gabby Douglas says, "I never knew what it actually took for me to get to the Olympics. I had a lot of self-doubt." Douglas overcame that self-doubt to become the first American gymnast to win both solo all-around and team gold



#### **HELP OUT**

Stella Sigal works at the **NewYork-Presbyterian** Westchester Behavioral Health Center, in New York. Her role as a medical librarian gives her an opportunity to connect with both hospital staff and patients. Sigal conducts research for doctors and nurses, lends books to patients, and runs



#### **GO WILD**

Forrest Galante is a wildlife biologist and conservationist. He travels the world locating animals thought to be extinct. "I'm very lucky with all the places I've gotten to go," he says. "My favorite place I've ever been that nobody would think of is Palau, in Micronesia. Palau is just perfect underwater. The coral reefs are immaculate."

support groups for people in need.



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