

TIM *fork* KIDS

Joanne Chang is an entrepreneur, author, and award-winning pastry chef.



your  job


FLOUR POWER

**Experts share their recipes for career success.
Meet a pastry chef, a puppeteer, and more.**



DEAR READERS,

I love my job. It suits me perfectly. But when I was your age, I had no idea what I wanted to do when I grew up. It took years to figure it out—and that's okay! You don't need to know now, either.

But it's never too soon to start dreaming, and exploring the options out there. Your  Job, made possible by the PwC Charitable Foundation, is here

to help. This year, you've seen a story each week about cool careers, and this special issue is devoted to the topic. Let's dive in! Where will your strengths, passions, and interests take you?



Andrea Delbanco

EDITOR IN CHIEF



INNER STRENGTH When things feel hard, be brave. Rely on your strengths, and keep your goals in mind.



KLAUS VEDFELT—GETTY IMAGES

you from being brilliant. And three, despite life's obstacles, persevere to create the future you want.

What happens when you prefer a career path that others don't understand or support? You do get to make your own career choices, but you're also likely to experience outside pressure. This pressure is real, and it can cause you to doubt yourself.

That doesn't happen only when you're a kid. Even after you begin your first jobs as an adult, you can still feel pressure. I know I did.

Early in my career, I was teaching a workshop, when a person in the audience yelled out to me. He told me I had made a good career choice. He also said I had a bright future. This positive feedback came at just the right time, because, while the audience didn't know it, I was dealing with self-doubt.

Even now, I remind myself that I have a bright future. That's what I tell myself when I'm experiencing both success and failure. That's what I tell myself when I'm up against a wall—and after I've broken through one.

You have a bright future ahead. Think about this every single day as you begin your career journey. Remind yourself of your talents, skills, and interests. Explore the careers that fascinate you, persevere and have courage—and above all else, believe in yourself.

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

Career development expert Terina Allen shares words of wisdom about self-confidence.

You'll find them everywhere: well-intentioned people with an opinion about your career path. Some will cheer you on as you find your way. Others will try to steer you onto a path that doesn't interest you.

Your biggest challenge will be to believe in yourself. Let your talents, skills, and interests lead the way, no matter how much pressure you encounter from other people.

Even when you believe in yourself, your goals will sometimes seem

out of reach. When that happens, grab hold of the people who believe in you and your goals—your support system—and don't let go!


When I was younger, I struggled because of some personal stuff, and things felt so hard. I had dreams of becoming a teacher and a business administrator. I knew I needed a college degree, but I had stopped believing in myself. Then someone on my school's staff cheered me on.

He told me three things. One, if you don't believe in yourself, it will be hard to get anyone else to believe in you. Two, never let other people's inability to see your brilliance stop

COVER: KRISTIN TEIG



GET MORE ONLINE

Love sports? Excited about space? Passionate about programming? Check out the Your  Job site, at timeforkids.com/your-hot-job. Uncover

potential career paths with videos, articles, interviews, and more. Here are a few of the cool careers you'll find. Which interests you most?

DINO EXPERT

Myria Perez is a fossil preparator and educator at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, in Washington, D.C. "In my friend group, I was the only dinosaur kid," she says. "My friends were interested in other things, but they were all super supportive of my love for fossils."



COURTESY IF/THEN COLLECTION

HIGH FLYER

Missy Cummings was one of the United States Navy's first female fighter pilots. Now she's director of the Mason Autonomy and Robotics Center, at George Mason University, in Virginia. She studies how people and machines relate. "Always take the harder path," she says. "It will pay off."



COURTESY MISSY CUMMINGS

RICE RAISER

Nursery research supervisor Jean-Phillippe Bergmann works at Lundberg Family Farms, in California. He develops new varieties of rice that are suited for organic farming. "I love the way plants and animals interact," Bergmann says. "Everything's part of a bigger system."



LUNDBERG FAMILY FARMS

SOCCER STAR

Bukayo Saka plays soccer for Arsenal and England's national team. "I want young people to realize that I was just like them," he says, "with a dream." Saka says that some days feel harder than others, but that kids should "keep going, keep dreaming, and keep believing."



STUART MACFARLANE—ARSENAL FC/GETTY IMAGES



What Job Interests You?

The world of careers is always changing. New kinds of jobs are popping up every day. When journalists want to learn more about something new, they go straight to the source: They interview an expert.

Junior Journalists, we want to know: What job interests you? What career do you want to learn more about? Interview someone who has that job. Tell us how it went! Ask a teacher, parent, or guardian to send us your submission at timeforkids.com/tfkpressclub or tfkpressclub@time.com.

NEWS STORIES MAY INCLUDE REPORTING FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.



REPORTING FOR DUTY Harper and Chang pose for a picture during their interview, on October 3.



TEAM FLOUR Chang's staff keeps the bakeries running smoothly. "Everything is teamwork," she says.



SWEET CHEF Chang presents a plate of the bakery's famous sticky buns, which are topped with pecans.



YUM! Flour sells sweet and savory goods. (Harper's favorite is the brown butter rice crispy treat.)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BRONWEN CARROLL; KRISTIN TEIG; BRIAN SAMUELS; KRISTIN TEIG



COUNTER CULTURE

TFK Kid Reporter Harper Carroll asks pastry chef Joanne Chang about starting and running a successful string of bakeries.

Joanne Chang opened the first Flour bakery in 2000. Now there are nine locations, all in and around Boston, Massachusetts. TFK Kid Reporter Harper Carroll, who lives there, met Chang at Flour's original location to discuss the pastry chef's career.

Tell us about your career pathway.

I studied math and economics at Harvard, then spent two years as a management consultant. I was baking and bringing stuff into the office, and I thought, "I wonder if there's a way I could work in food?" So I got a job in a restaurant. It was busy, it was hectic, it was intense. It was fulfilling: fun, stressful, but also rewarding. I continued to work in a restaurant, then a bakery. Eventually, I decided to open my own place.

How do you balance being a business owner and a chef?

I have a pastry team that does the **nuts and bolts** of the pastry cheffing, so to speak. The balance is in trying to give them direction and guidance, then letting them show me what they can produce for the bakeries. The business part outweighs the pastry chef part, at this point.

What's a typical workday like?

I try to get to two bakeries a day if possible, sometimes three. When I go in, I look at the counter. I talk to the staff, and ask the managers if there are any issues. I like to sit in the dining room and watch the team as I get caught up on work.

What do you look for in employees?

They have to be eager to work with

the team. They have to love pastry or great **hospitality** or creating a great environment.

Were you ever worried that Flour might not succeed?

The first year of Flour, I wasn't sure we'd be successful. We weren't losing money, but we weren't really making any money. It just felt like every day was a struggle, but, slowly, things started to click.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

That we are here in this bakery. It's 23 years old. The pastry counter is beautiful, and the guests are still getting a really warm greeting.

What advice would you give to kids who want a career in food?

Spend time in the kitchen at home. If you go out to eat, observe the jobs there are, not just in the kitchen. In hospitality, there are jobs in front service, in marketing, in accounting. There are many ways to be involved.

Do you prefer sweet or savory?

I definitely prefer sweet over savory, but I don't like things *too* sweet.

Power Words

hospitality *noun*: serving guests; making guests feel welcome

nuts and bolts *noun*: the basic tasks

your job

— FIND YOUR FUTURE —

Think you have what it takes to start your own business? Visit timeforkids.com/your-hot-job to meet other entrepreneurs, such as . . .

ANTONY RANDALL, ADVOCATE
MICHELLE PHAN, YOUTUBER
MITU KHANDAKER, GAMER

THIS INTERVIEW HAS BEEN EDITED FOR LENGTH AND CLARITY.

GET IN CHARACTER

Puppeteer Megan Piphus Peace describes how she landed the part of Gabrielle on *Sesame Street*.

It took years of learning her craft for Megan Piphus Peace to land the role of Gabrielle on Sesame Street. The puppeteer met with kids at a Your Hot Job career event. Here's what she had to say.

I started **ventriloquism** and puppetry when I was 10. I'd watch other ventriloquists and puppeteers. When I saw them tell stories with their puppets and bring them to life, my imagination ran wild. I imagined myself being able to talk to puppet characters. I got VHS tapes from the library and taught myself how to talk without moving my lips.

I got a puppet and took it to school, and had my first performance. I was inspired by the spark in children's eyes. I learned that I could teach them anything with a puppet. That's why I always include a message in my performances, usually about character values, like **perseverance**, honesty, and respect. That became my passion.

A PUPPETEER'S PATH

I attended Vanderbilt University, in Tennessee, on a scholarship. Even while I was studying economics—I loved math—I never stopped performing with puppets. In my junior year, I auditioned for *America's Got Talent*. I made it all the way to the boot camp in Las Vegas, Nevada.

After that experience, I thought I would be able to go full-time in entertainment. But I had to work for several years in real estate. I kept practicing puppetry and never gave up. In 2017, I took a chance. I wrote

a letter to the Jim Henson Company, explaining why I love puppetry and ventriloquism. I included a reel of my performance.

In March 2020, I got an email from *Sesame Street*. They said that because of the pandemic, they had extra time to go through applications. They asked if I'd be willing to try out. So I trained in Muppet-style puppetry for a year. In September 2021, I became the first Black woman puppeteer on *Sesame Street*.

Until I made it to *Sesame Street*, I kept practicing. I kept dreaming, never knowing what the outcome would be. I always told myself,

"Tomorrow, I will be a better puppeteer. The day after tomorrow, I will be better than ever. Someday, I will be the best me that I can be." And now, I get to inspire young girls like me, when I was 10.

We all have unique gifts. Keep dreaming, and keep working hard. The right door will open for you, just like the door of *Sesame Street* opened for me.

Power Words

perseverance *noun*: the ability to keep going when things are hard

ventriloquism *noun*: the art of making a voice seem as if it is coming from somewhere else

your  job
— FIND YOUR FUTURE —

Did you like learning about what it takes to be a puppeteer? Visit ti.me/creators to discover other exciting careers in entertainment, such as . . .

COSTUME DESIGNER
DIRECTOR
FILM AND VIDEO EDITOR

THIS TRANSCRIPT HAS BEEN EDITED FOR LENGTH AND CLARITY.

SING OUT Piphus Peace plays Gabrielle on the set of a music video with singer Lizzo in January.

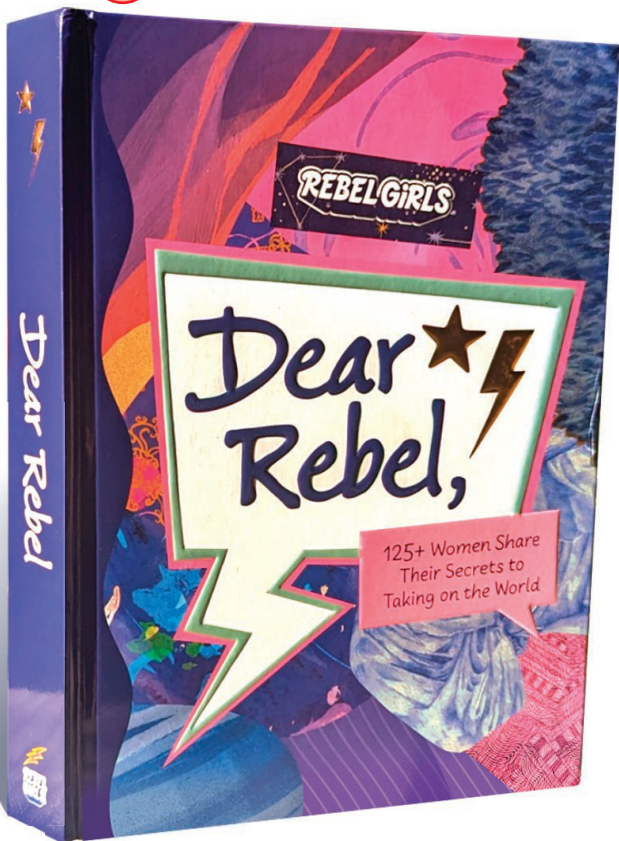


PUPPET PAL Piphus Peace poses Gabrielle for a picture with a girl in Harlem, in New York City, in October 2022.



ON SET Piphus Peace performs as Gabrielle with TV personality Al Roker on the set of *Sesame Street* this past February.

COURTESY MEGAN PIPHUS PEACE (3)



REBEL READING

Dear Rebel gathers advice from more than 145 women who've taken different paths to success. They share their stories and advice to inspire kids everywhere. Read excerpts of letters from journalist Friederike Fabritius, inventor Andini Makosinski, and guitarist Berta Rojas. What inspires you? —By Cristina Fernandez

EXPLORE YOUR INTERESTS

I'm an inventor, a writer, a speaker, and an aspiring filmmaker. I have interests in both the sciences and the arts, so you could call me a Renaissance Rebel. That means someone who decided to pursue all their different interests and talents. . . .

Many adults grow up and leave behind the interests they had when they were your age, believing that they were just playful, silly hobbies and nothing more. Personally, I think you should never give up on all your different interests! Growing all of them while you're young can result in some unique combinations and inventions when you're older. —By Andini Makosinski

GO WITH THE FLOW

When you put fun, fear, and focus together, something magical happens. You enter what's called the flow state. Think about a time when you got totally involved in one of your hobbies. Maybe you were out playing soccer for so long that you forgot it was time for dinner, or you got so absorbed in a book that it was dark outside when you finally looked up. These are examples of the flow state, an ideal situation for learning and achieving. In the flow state, you get so wrapped up in an activity that everything else falls away. You can accomplish anything you set your mind to.

—By Friederike Fabritius

BELIEVE IN YOUR SONG

While I was a guitar student, my family encouraged music and celebrated my achievements. . . . However, everything changed when I told my parents that I was going to take up the guitar full-time. The news did not make them happy. . . . It is here where being a Rebel Girl helps a lot. When you make a decision from a deep conviction, the doors open and a domino effect begins: Piece after piece of the fine web of life comes together to write your own story. I can't guarantee that it will be like that for you. I can only tell you that it was like that for me. The greatest gesture of rebellion was to listen to myself.

—By Berta Rojas

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