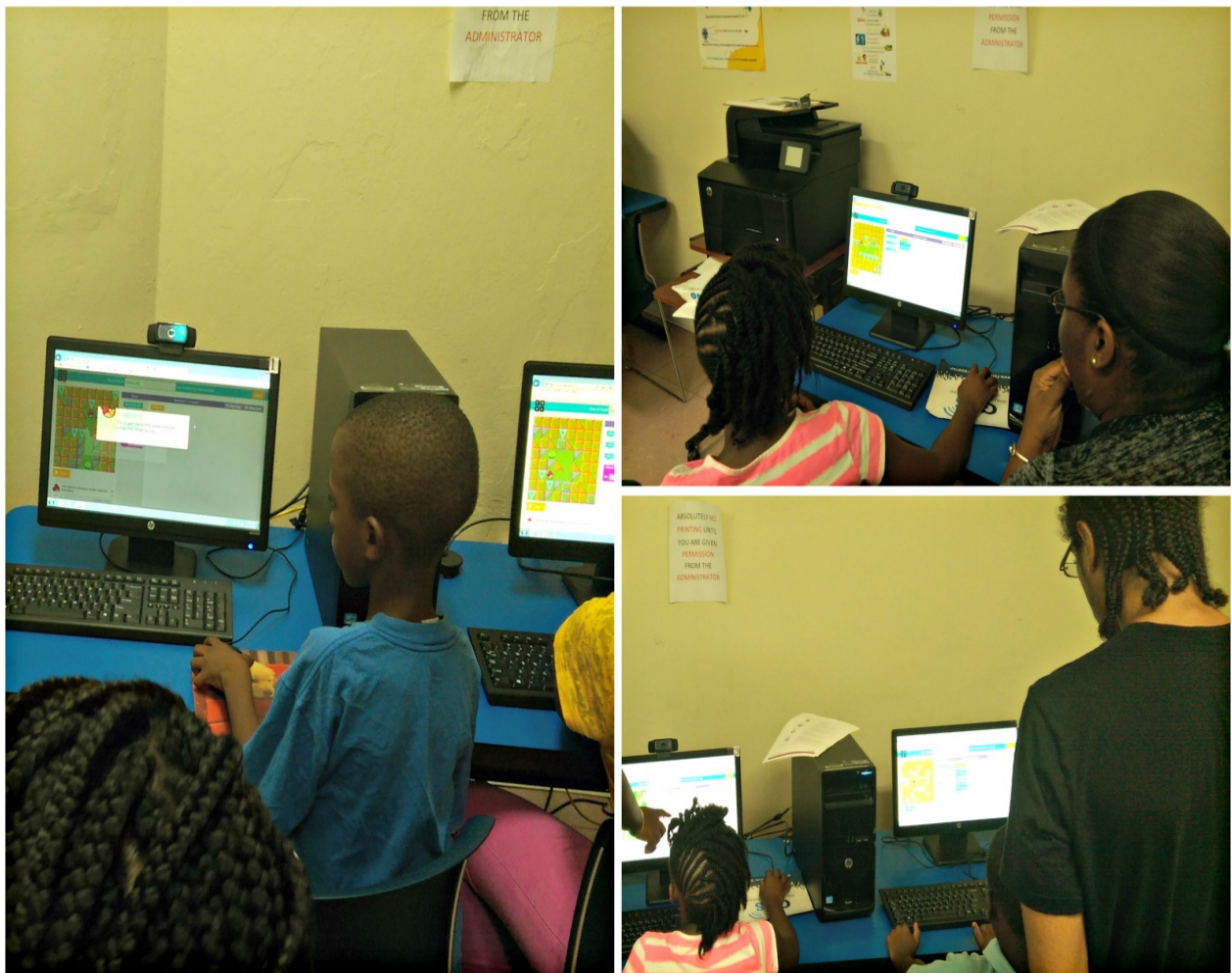


The Virgin Islands Consortium

UVI's Innovation Design And Entrepreneurship Members And viNGN Interns Host 'Hour Of Code'

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ST. THOMAS -- University of the Virgin Islands Innovation Design and Entrepreneurship Association (UVIdea) members and viNGN Interns Shakaja Mercer and Dave Schjang led young residents here in an introduction to programming, the Hour of Code, on Tuesday Nov. 10, a press release viNGN issued on Thursday has revealed.

An additional session is scheduled for Nov 17. (3-4:30 p.m.) at the viNGN Public Computer Center located on the grounds of the Michael J. Kirwan Terrace community.

The goal is to spike kids' curiosity and encourage them to explore the countless possibilities of what they can do with code. Though code is at the center of our lives

today, minorities and women are not equally represented in the creation of these technologies. We were encouraged to start coding workshops to help change that. Together, we can help ensure that more Virgin Islanders become the creators, and not just the consumers, of our collective digital future," said Project Coordinator and UVIdea member/viNGN Intern Daricia Wilkinson, according to the release.

Several students took part in the activity, which uses blocks of code to create commands and accomplish 20 tasks, leading to a certificate from Code.org, the organization that hosts the international movement known as "Hour of Code" during Computer Science Education Week (Dec. 7-13, 2015).

This year's theme is "Star Wars: Building a Galaxy with Code."

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