

The Virgin Islands Consortium

More Than 30 Students Attend Women of AT&T Girls In Future Technologies Workshop

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ST. THOMAS -- Coding. Aerodynamics. Astronomy. STEM careers. These were some of the topics young girls from 8 U.S. Virgin Islands schools learned about during a Girls In Future Technologies (GIFT) Workshop hosted by the U.S.V.I. & Puerto Rico chapter of Women of AT&T (WOA) at the University of the Virgin Islands. WOA is an AT&T employee resource group focused on professional development and community efforts to prepare students, especially young girls, for the future.

According to a release AT&T issued Thursday, students from Bertha C. Boschulte Middle School, Addelita Cancryn Junior High School, Antilles School, Virgin Islands Montessori School & Peter Gruber International Academy, All Saints Cathedral School, New

Testament School, Joseph Sibilly School, Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School, and St. Thomas and St. John Girl Scouts attended the 4-hour workshop.

Staff from the university's IT, Science and Astronomy departments, the Virgin Islands Children's Museum and the Virgin Islands Next Generation Network led activities for the girls that exposed them to the possibilities of careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

"Women are underrepresented in the STEM fields," said Catherine Kling, a member of the U.S.V.I & Puerto Rico Women of AT&T chapter. "The goal of the GIFT Workshop is to spark interest in STEM education for young girls and make them aware of the different paths to a STEM career."

In-kind sponsors for the event included McDonalds, the University of the Virgin Islands, the Virgin Islands Children's Museum, Virgin Islands Next Generation Network and Emerald Beach Resort.

Feature Image: A UVI professor led the girls into the Planetarium where they learned about the planet system. A current student of UVI (Credit: AT&T)