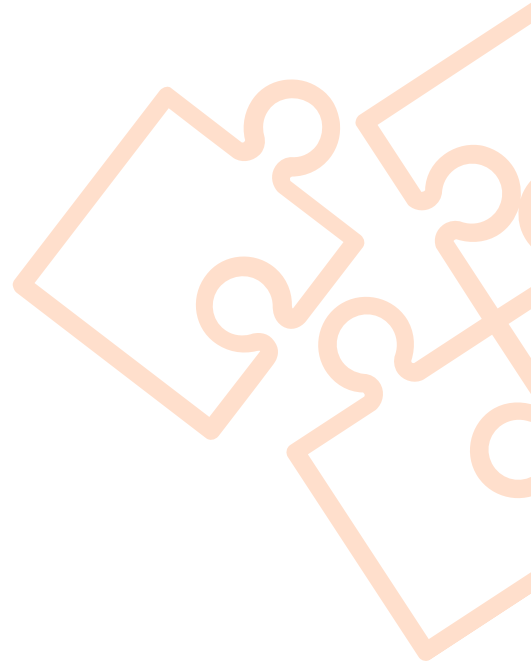


# YOUTH AGENDA

**SEIZE THE MOMENT: TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR  
TOMORROW!**

**WORKFORCE  
SUMMIT 2023**



**8:00–8:45**

Registration

**8:45–9:00**

**Emcees:** Asiah ClendinenGumbs & Mike Fazio

**Welcome:** Michael Carty, Chairman, VI Workforce Development Board

**Greetings:** Honorable Gary A. Molloy, Commissioner, VI Department of Labor

**9:00–9:30**

**Remarks:** Honorable Tregenza Roach, Esq. Lieutenant Governor, United States Virgin Islands

Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr., Governor, United States Virgin Islands

**9:30–9:45**

Break

**9:45 – 10:45**

## **GOVERNOR'S SESSION**

**Keynote Panel Discussion:** *Leveraging Partnerships for Economic Growth and Sustainability*

**Moderator:** Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr., Governor

**Panelists:** Keith O'Neale, Jr., President/CEO, O'Neale's Transport Inc.

Samuel Rey, President/CEO, Host-U Services & Training Consultants

Dr. David Hall, President, University of the Virgin Islands

Jed JohnHope, CEO, SFT Solutions

Panelists will explore how a skilled workforce contributes to the economic growth and sustainability of the territory; aligning workforce development with key industries and sectors; attracting and retaining talent in the territory; leveraging workforce development as a driver of overall community prosperity.

**OCTOBER  
10th**

**ST.CROIX  
CARIBBEAN CINEMA, SUNNY ISLES**

**10:45– 11:00**

Break



# YOUTH AGENDA

**SEIZE THE MOMENT: TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR  
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## **SESSION ONE**

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### **1. Effective Communication- *The Keystone of Success* 11:00-11:30**

**Why is communication critical in the workplace?**

**What are the various forms of communication to master?**

**What is the role of critical thinking in workforce development?**

**How can students develop problem-solving skills?**

**How can networking benefit career growth?**

**What platforms and events are suitable for student networking? How to maintain and foster professional relationships?**

**Moderator:** Marcy Heistand, Vice President – Caribbean, Fly the Whale

**Panelists:** Zyad Saleem, Co-founded, Boomerang Eats

Victor Somme III, Assistant Commissioner, VI Department of Education

Michael C. Vidal Bell, Cohort 3 of the GVI Fellow Program

Dr. Kevin Dixon, Project Manager at Alliance Data Services and Smartnet

## **SESSION TWO**

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**11:30-12:00**

### **2. Financial Literacy: *Taking Charge of Your Economic Future***

**Why is financial literacy important for individuals to take charge of their economic future?**

**What are the potential consequences of a lack of financial knowledge and skills?**

**What are some key components of financial literacy that individuals should be aware of, such as budgeting, saving, investing, and managing debt?**

**How can individuals acquire and develop these skills?**

**What are some effective strategies and resources for improving financial literacy, both for individuals starting from scratch and those looking to deepen their existing knowledge?**

**What strategies can be implemented to spark interest in entrepreneurship, particularly among students and career changers?**

**How does entrepreneurship training contribute to economic development, and how can this impact be maximized?**

**Moderator:** Jed JohnHope, CEO, SFT Solutions

**Panelists:** Cusa Holloway-Christian, Incubator Program Manager, VI Economic Development Authority

Michael Pemberton, Founder and Managing Partner of Modern Caribbean, LLC

Kyle Sexius, Financial Education Entrepreneur

## **LUNCH- KEYNOTE PANEL DISCUSSION**

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**12:00-1:00**

### **3. Unleashing Potential - *Cultivating a Growth Mindset***

**What is a growth mindset and why is it essential?**

**How can a growth mindset influence career choices and progress?**

**What strategies can students employ to cultivate a growth mindset?**

**How can one build resilience and turn failure into a steppingstone for success?**

**How does a growth mindset influence goal setting and time management in academics?**

**How can one differentiate between constructive criticism and negative feedback?**

**What strategies can be used to replace limiting beliefs with empowering ones?**

**Why is it important to recognize that not being able to do something now doesn't mean never being able to do it?**

**How can a growth mindset impact relationships with friends, family, colleagues, and community?**

**Moderator:** Michael Carty, Founder & CEO, Smartnet

**Panelists:** Roberto "Robbie" Smalls, Motivational Speaker

Kai A. Nielsen, Founder & CEO, Virgin Islands Collaborative Solutions

**1:00**

**CLOSING REMARKS**

