



FUTURE PROOFING THE USY! WORKFOREE:

TRAINING, TECHNOLOGY & TRANSFORMATION

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

Registration

8:45 AM - 9:00 AM

Emcees: Sana Joseph Smith, Governor's Policy Advisor on Workforce Development & Education

Asiah Clendinen Gumbs, Member, VI Workforce Development Board

Welcome: Michael Carty, Chairman, VI Workforce Development Board

Greetings: Nesha Christian-Hendrickson, Assistant Commissioner & Legal Counsel VI Department of Labor

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Remarks: Honorable Tregenza Roach, Esq. Lieutenant Governor, United States Virgin Islands
Honorable Albert Bryan, Jr., Governor, United States Virgin Islands

9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Break

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

GOVERNOR'S YOUTH SESSION

THEATER 2

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

DREAM IT, THEN DO IT: BUILDING A BOLD VISION FOR YOUR FUTURE

What if your biggest dream isn't too big, it's just waiting for you to believe? This empowering session invites youth of the Virgin Islands to explore what's possible when they combine imagination with action. Governor Albert Bryan,Jr. will share how shaping bold goals, staying focused despite challenges, can turn ideas into impact.

Walk away inspired, equipped, and ready to design a powerful vision for your future.

12:00 PM -12:15 PM

LUNCH BREAK



WHAT EMPLOYERS REALLY WANT: MASTERING SOFT SKILLS AND FIRST IMPRESSIONS THEATER 2

In today's competitive job market, technical skills get your foot in the door, but soft skills seal the deal. This interactive panel explores the qualities employers value most, from communication and attitude to problem-solving and professionalism. Learn what makes a lasting first impression and how to stand out in any hiring process.

Moderator: Dr. Monique Faulkner, State Director, State Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, VI Department of Education

Panelists: Melene Cooper-Shelford, Assistant Director, Human Resources, VI Department of Education

Cindy Richardson, Director, Division of Personnel

Aaliyah Brumant, Millennial Community Member

Amaia Colby, Student, CAHS

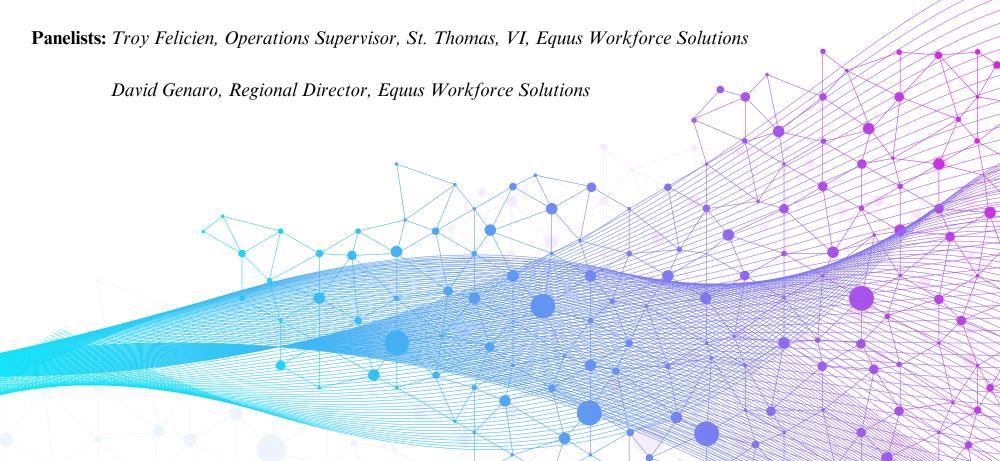
K'Moniece Emanuel, Student, CAHS

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN: APPRENTICESHIPS, INTERNSHIPS, AND WORK-BASED LEARNING THEATER 3

Work-based learning is transforming how we prepare for careers. This session drives into the power of "earning while learning", from formal apprenticeships and internships to job shadowing and on-the-job training.

Join workforce leaders, employers, and educators to explore how these models can expand career pathways and provide real-time skills that lead to lasting employment.

Moderator: Khalil Al-Arefi, Project Director, EQUUS Workforce Solutions



1:20 PM - 2:25 PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS THEATER 8

WELLNESS WINS: BALANCING MENTAL HEALTH, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND REAL LIFE THEATER 2

How do we stay mentally strong in a world of digital distractions, pressure to perform, and nonstop connection? This timely session explores the mental wellness challenges faced by youth, workers, and professionals in the age of social media. Join health experts, educators, influencers, and advocates as they offer practical tools for managing stress, creating balance, and protecting emotional health while staying connected to what matters.

Moderator: The Honorable Justa "Tita" Encarnacion, Commissioner, VI Department of Health

Panelists: Jamilya Christopher, People Operations Partner, Marshall & Sterling, Inc

Jessica B. Whyte, MA, LPC, Owner and Lead Clinician, J.W. Behavioral Center

Rolda M.L. Mason, MPA, SHRM-SCP, SPHR, Deputy Commissioner of Human Resources and Labor Relations, VI Dept. of Human Services

Dr. Nicole Craigwell-Syms, Assistant Commissioner, VI Department of Health

ASK THE EXPERTS – CANDID CONVERSATIONS WITH INDUSTRY LEADERS THEATER 3

This dynamic, unscripted session puts the spotlight on top professionals from key industries shaping the future of the Virgin Islands. Attendees get a rare opportunity to hear honest reflections on what it takes to succeed, how to navigate change, and what leaders are really looking for in the next generation of talent.

Come curious, this is your chance to ask the experts directly.

Moderator: Neisha Christian-Hendrickson, Esq., Assistant Commissioner & Legal Counsel, VI Department of Labor

Panelists: Tina Comissiong, Esq., MPA, FACHE, CEO, Schneider Regional Medical Center (SRMC)

Rudy Racine, Vice President, Equus Workforce Solutions

Gabrielle Querrard, Social Media Influencer, Co-producer/Co-host Caribbean Mystics Podcast

2:30 PM - 2:35 PM CLOSING REMARKS

Sonia Boyce, Executive Director, VI Workforce Development Board

Sana Joseph Smith, Governor's Policy Advisor on Workforce Development & Education