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Business Innovation Group (BIG) News

Georgia Southern University

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Georgia Southern SBDC offering Quickbooks Online Class

July 11, 2018

Learn to use QuickBooks Online July 24, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the College of Education, room 2151 on the Statesboro campus.

QuickBooks Online is fast becoming one of Intuit's primary products, as it allows users to access data anytime and anywhere. Developed specifically for beginners and prospective users, this course provides a practical hands-on approach to learning the features and functions available to online users.

Using case studies, participants will be able to access QuickBooks Online, set up a new company file, create product and service items, manage a chart of accounts, add customer and vendor profiles, process daily transactions and also view reports.

Key elements of training will include: accounting principles overview, new company set up, recording daily transactions and reports.

Lunch will be provided. Space is limited, so register now at www.georgiasbdc.org/southern or call 912-651-3200 with any questions.

Thanks to LDP Certified Public Accountants and Georgia Southern for sponsoring this event.

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Georgia Southern University Student Launches a Kickstarter Campaign to Expand his Longboard Manufacturing Company

July 11, 2018



DISPLACEMENT BOARDS
KICKSTARTER

BIG Partners with Youth Career Camp for 2018 Youth Entrepreneurship Program

July 11, 2018



The Business Innovation Group partnered with Wayne Williams' Youth Career Camp this July to host a week-long summer camp called the Youth Entrepreneurship Program (YEP) to teach youth useful career skills along with what it takes to start a business.

Rev. Wayne Williams founded Youth Career Camp Inc. (YCCI) in 2006 as a free youth event for teens in high school, exclusively supported by the NAACP. The mission of YCCI is to help build strong communities by providing workforce development, career pathway exposure, mentorship and supervised community engagement for youth; help prepare them for post-secondary education; help youth set attainable goals and make sound decisions for their future; and to provide a safe, secure and caring environment to facilitate successful youth development.

Rev. Williams said, "This was the first collaborative effort between YEP and YCCI, and it was very successful. Joining together just made perfect sense... Together YEP-YCCI conducted a unique comprehensive residential workforce readiness, career exploration and entrepreneurship immersion camp."

Rev. Williams recruited 12 young people from around the area who came to stay in Georgia Southern's Eagle Village dorms from June 6 – 11. The participants learned how to form business ideas on Monday afternoon, followed by icebreakers and

leadership on the CRI ropes course on campus.

“The youth learned the value of working together through fun and very challenging outdoor activities; they became better strategists and problem solvers. Through this intense two-week live-in agenda, they learned an assortment of life skills to improve and maintain good personal and professional lifestyles.” Rev. Williams continued, “Local chefs volunteered to teach them vital cooking skills, which they put into practice during the program.”

Participants visited the Department of Labor for the career skills assessment, toured Ogeechee Technical College to learn about their workforce development programs, toured local industry WL Plastics, visited the Office of Career and Professional Development at Georgia Southern, participated in physical training with soldiers at Fort Stewart, and got some air time at WTOC in Savannah.

Between all of the tours and visits, students were learning the ins and outs of starting a business. They conducted local research, learned the basics of 3D modeling and prototyping, and produced their own slide decks and elevator pitches.

A banquet was held on Monday, June 11, in which students pitched the businesses they worked on all week to a panel of judges and their families. Following the pitches, all participants received certificates of completion, and two students received high honors for being camp leaders. Congratulations to Joshua Johnson and Jadaya Alston for their leadership and to all participants for completing the YCCI-YEP program.

Rev. Williams also took the students on a trip to Texas later in the week, where they visited AT&T Stadium in Dallas, the new state of the art Toyota Manufacturer’s Headquarters, Six Flags Over Texas and Space Center in Houston.

Special thanks to all who helped make this possible through sponsorships, donations and volunteering! We couldn’t have done it without you!

Bi-Lo, Archie Simpson, Boro Takeout Express, Chef Stephen Minton, Crider Foods, Chic-Fil-A, Subway, Seni Alabi-Isama and The Smoque Pit, John Witherington, WTOC, Primos, Fort Stewart 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, Curtis Williams, The Clubhouse, the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art for the Betty Bus, Gregory Thomas, Pita Pit, Donnie and Angela Alston, Spirit and Truth Worship Center.

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Entrepreneurship Spotlight: Marie Williams

July 11, 2018



The Business Innovation Group's Marie Williams is Changing the Educational Landscape in Statesboro One Child at a Time

Marie Williams is currently offering Statesboro's first traveling tutoring camp and summer program for students ages 6 – 12 in an effort to bridge grade-level standard gaps in the area. Statesboro resident Shunda "Marie" Alston Williams, 33, is the owner and operator of Williams Events, an educational event planning service, and Innovation Incubator client. After experiencing a downturn in her event planning business and witnessing academic disparities in her son, Williams began the W.E. Move! Tutoring Camp and Summer Fun program.

Williams said she thought W.E. Move! could do two things: provide supplemental income during the decline in Williams Events clientele and support her son in his academic areas of need. After further research, Williams realized that W.E. Move! was an academic supplement that could benefit many young students in the Statesboro area.

Results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reading test in 2009 showed that 85 percent of low-income fourth-graders who attend high-poverty schools do not reach the NAEP's reading standard. According to the 2016 U.S. Census, more than 50 percent of the Statesboro population is below the poverty line which puts many elementary school students in Statesboro in jeopardy of falling below the national standard.

In partnership with BIG, the We Move! summer program focuses on developing students' reading and mathematics skills through individualized attention to combat Statesboro's negative educational statistics.

Currently, the program is only being offered during June and July, summer vacation months for Georgia school systems. However, Williams has greater plans for the program.

"...I'm really thinking about how [I can] develop We Move! to be a year-round source for parents and children that have academic areas of need," Williams said.

The W.E. Move! program has received a positive response from the Statesboro community, so much so that Williams was forced to shut down registration for the summer of 2018. Williams hopes to continue W.E. Move! as a branch of Williams Events.

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