

Girls Got GRIT students and mentors were invited to the governor's chambers following a successful presentation week.

Girls Got GRIT meets Governor Ige

Now in its third year, five new teams of Girls Got GRIT (GGG) students worked diligently with their mentors throughout February and March to answer the question "If I were Governor, what would I do to make Hawaii better?"

Armed with creative solutions to this complicated challenge, the teams presented their projects to captive audiences throughout the beginning of April, resulting in an invitation to share their ideas with the Governor at the State Capital.

On April 22nd, 2019, representatives from each team gathered in the media room and gave a summary of their project as Governor Ige took notes and praised the students for their bravery, creativity and perseverance.

"It was an experience I will never forget! He wrote our suggestions down and explained how his office was currently already working on many of our ideas. Getting to meet him was really special." – Ivy Li, junior.

The second half of this year-long program includes internships at several sites around Oahu as students practice the skills learned from their mentors, gain work experience and build their professional networks.

Presentation Days Inspire Girls to Dream Big

The 2019 Girls Got GRIT presentation season brought 130 attendees from over 50 different companies. From April 10th to April 18th, each team and their two inspirational mentors, presented their unique answer to the 2019 challenge:

If I were Governor. what would I do to make Hawaii better?

Mentors provided guidance, encouragement and professional experts to help the students create their unique solutions.

Results ranged from environmental sustainability to pedestrian safety and teams presented their ideas to a unique audience of guests invited by their mentors on the beautiful Sacred Hearts campus.

"Each time I've attend these presentations, I am amazed at the professionalism of the airls and enjoy the content presented" – Koren Dreher, former Senior VP of First Hawaiian Bank, attended Teams 2, 3, & 4.

Companies who attended the presentations were given an opportunity to support the ongoing efforts of Girls Got GRIT and fund two \$5000 scholarships.

In the Summer and Fall months, students will continue their professional development training by interning at two companies in Oahu.



Dr. Ginny Pressler, former Director of Dept. of Health

Presentation season increased the exposure of this innovative program and welcomes new internship partners such as Element Media, the Humane Society, Hawaii Food and Wine Festival and Susan G Komen Hawaii.





Sara Lin, Senior Special Assistant to the Office of the Governor



Stephanie Shipton, Teach For America



Circuit Court Judge Michael Browning

PRESENTATION DAY TOPICS



Teen Vape: Vaporizing the Future

Mentors:

- Gidget D. G. Ruscetta, Chief Operating Officer, Pali Momi Medical Center
- Suzie So-Miyahira, Director, Kapi'olani Women's Medical Center



Improving the Relationship Between Humans and Nature- Environmental Sustainability

Mentors:

- Joan Bennet, President & CEO, Bennet Group Strategic Communications
- Jenai Sullivan Wall, CEO, Foodland Super Market, Ltd.



The Drug Epidemic and its Effect on Young Adults

Mentors:

- Sharon Brown, President, First Hawaiian Bank Foundation
- Alethea Seto, Senior VP of Sales & Service, First Hawaiian Bank



FIT 4 LIFE Program- Lifeskills for HS Seniors Mentors:

- Kat Lin-Hurtubise, Owner, Gourmet Events Hawaii
- Colleen Reyes, Owner, Island Style Innovations



A State of Oblivion - Pedestrian Safety

Mentors:

- Sharlene Tsuda, VP of Community Development, The Queens Health Systems
- Dr. Elizabeth M Ignacio, Surgical Director,
 Queens Medical Center Sports Medicine

2019 Internship

Locations



























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