



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BridgeValley Community and Technical College Hosted
“WV Introduce A Girl To Engineering Day on February 25th.”**

Charleston, W.Va. — BridgeValley Community and Technical College hosted “WV Introduce A Girl To Engineering Day” on Thursday, February 25, at the Columbia Gas Auditorium in Charleston. More than 150 eighth grade females from across southern West Virginia were in attendance.

“West Virginia needs more scientists, technicians and engineers to move our state forward, said Dr. Jo Harris, President of BridgeValley. ”These types of events are designed to get young people excited about limitless opportunities in these areas and to discredit the misconception that engineering and related occupations are male-dominated fields.”

In its eighth year, WV Introduce A Girl To Engineering Day introduces young women to many career opportunities that have been traditionally known as male-oriented. By increasing awareness of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) professions, and by celebrating the past and present engineering achievements by women, these students are provided the knowledge and encouragement to begin laying the foundations to secure their places in the rapidly evolving STEM communities.

BridgeValley welcomed students from Stonewall Jackson Middle School, South Charleston Middle School, Huntington East Middle School, Horace Mann Middle School, John Adams Middle School, Richwood Middle School, Madison Middle School, Sherman Junior High School, Van Jr./Sr. High School, Hurricane Middle School, Homeschool Group, Matewan PK-8 School, Cross Lanes Christian School and Glenwood Middle School, who all participated in activities which allowed them to explore the fundamentals of physics, chemistry, as well as other scientific principles essential to engineering.

BridgeValley coordinates this annual event with the support of its sponsors, Columbia Pipeline Group, American Electric Power/WiNUP group, Dow, Bayer CropScience, Toyota, ZMM Architects and Engineers, West Virginia American Water, CAS Structural Engineers and West Virginia University Institute of Technology.

Introduce a Girl To Engineering Day is a nationally recognized event held annually on the Thursday of National Engineers Week. Female engineering faculty, students, and professionals encourage the girls to “Dream Big.” The National Engineers Week Foundation, a formal coalition of more than 100 professional societies, major corporations and government agencies, is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of, and interest in engineering and technology careers among young students and by promoting pre-college literacy in math and science. More information is available at <http://www.discovere.org/>.

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