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ASI welcomes Toccoa Boys and Girls to NGTC’s Nuts, Bolts, and Thingamajigs

The Nuts, Bolts, and Thingamajigs Camp was back this year by popular demand and 18 campers from the Toccoa Boys and Girls Club spent an action packed week in June at North Georgia Technical College designing, building and producing from scratch an invention they could show with pride.

“We had great success last year with the first camp on the Clarkesville Campus,” said Vice President for Economic Development Dr. Mark Ivester. “We were determined to open it up to campers on the other campuses because this is a great opportunity for young people to experience a different kind of career option. For the Boys and Girls Club, it wouldn’t have happened without ASI. They stepped forward and came through by not only providing speakers and touring the campers, they also paid for the kids to come to camp. ASI is a great community partner, and this is just one example of the way they are committed to growing the workforce in this area.”

Aimed at introducing young persons in grades six through nine to new technologies and careers, these toured local manufacturing facilities including TI Automotive, King’s Hawaiian, and Global Partitions to learn what types of careers exist, what skills and training are required, and how those businesses developed.

Each morning of camp began with a safety meeting before students hit the lab. During the week, they learned how to use computers and machining equipment to build and program a robotic spider. The process was designed to let them learn and experiment with automated movement of machines and the programming language that tells the robot where and what to do.

“To watch these kids come up with an idea, work the design up on the computer, and take it all the way to the CNC machine was fantastic,” said Ivester. “We are grateful for the commitment and generosity of the ASI Group for providing scholarships to make sure these young people were able to take advantage of this opportunity. Our future is bright because of the talent and energy of this generation.”

This camp is part of a national manufacturing summer camp program designed and sponsored by Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs, through the Foundation of the Fabricators & Manufacturers Association.

Learn more about
these organizations at www.nutsandboltsfoundation.org. For more information about non-credit classes North Georgia Technical College, call 706-754-7715.

Photo: Campers from the Toccoa Boys and Girls Club say “Thank You!” to ASI Group.

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