



PRESS RELEASES & STATEMENTS

**UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 7, 2009

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN SCHOONER ROSEWAY AND V.I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONTINUE IN 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

Governor John P. deJongh, Jr. has signed an extension to an agreement between World Ocean School and the Virgin Islands government that will allow St. Croix students to once again participate in a unique opportunity that facilitates a hands-on, sail and learn program during the school year.

"My Administration is proud to support this creative learning opportunity that provides students with a view of alternate career paths available to the young people in the territory, while also providing solid course instruction in an open classroom setting," deJongh said Friday. The Roseway effectively operates as a school at sea, holding lessons and providing course instruction to seventh grade students from various middle schools on St. Croix. Students from the Arthur A. Richards Junior High School, Elena Christian Junior High School and John H. Woodson Junior High School are once again expected to participate in the program during the upcoming school year.

Students aboard Roseway learn team-building skills and are taught lessons in Science, Environmental and Climate Change, Math, History, English, Arts Leadership and Communications. Lesson plans also include coursework in: navigation, message coding and decoding; sea charting, compass and map reading as well as history of pirates; the Caribbean; Roseway-era boats; journaling and hands-on sailing lessons.

The World Ocean School is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide educational programs focused on community building for young people aboard Roseway. The program provides junior high school instruction for local youth on St. Croix in the winter and spring, and operates sessions along the Northern Atlantic for high school students in the summer.

Built in 1925 in Essex, Massachusetts, Roseway has had an adventurous 84 years as a fishing vessel in the Grand Banks, a pilot boat in Boston harbor, a Coast Guard reserve vessel during World War II and as a windjammer along the coast of Maine. To add to her career, she is now part of the World Ocean School.

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