

## Georgia Young Women's Leadership Symposium Inspires Female Students



*Mentor and attendee of the Young Women's Leadership Symposium*

The InGirls Initiative held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Young Women's Leadership Symposium on Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at the Home Depot Headquarters in Atlanta, GA. The purpose of this event was to reach out to 8<sup>th</sup> grade female students to encourage and prepare them for college, which will ultimately provide them with higher paying career opportunities.

“At the Young Women's Leadership Symposium, we wanted to create an environment for young women that would promote the development of future business leaders by giving them access to female mentors and businesses that support their goals,” said Dennis Kennedy, Founder & CEO of the

National Diversity Council.

The InGirls Young Women's Leadership Symposium began with an introduction given by Dennis Kennedy and Rainia Washington, Director and Human Resources Site Lead, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics – Marietta Facility. Following the introduction, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students received insight and knowledge from the keynote speaker, Trish Mueller, Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer at Home Depot.

In her keynote address, Trish shared with the students how her drive as a young woman to be a leader led her to study harder

and to strive for “nothing less than an A.” Trish also encouraged the young women to work hard and seek guidance from people they knew. She stated that young women should lead versus follow and set goals for themselves. “It is important to think about tomorrow today,” she said. Her insight and wisdom perfectly accentuated the purpose of the InGirls Young Women in Leadership Symposium.

Following the Keynote address, the students broke into eight speed networking sessions with various business leaders. Each session was 12 minutes long. After the sessions were complete, each young female had the opportunity to take pictures with the women leaders.

InGirls would like to thank all of the speakers and attendees for helping make the 2<sup>nd</sup> Young Women Leadership Symposium a success.

