



FOR EVERY
STUDENT
FOR EVERY
COMMUNITY

There's
a place
for you.



Triton College

For immediate release: **Aug. 26, 2022**

**Triton College Instructor Screens *Gadget Girls* Film at
Film Showcase in Kyrgyzstan
*Film Documents Triton's GADgET Girls Summer Camp***

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Triton College adjunct instructor Risé Sanders-Weir screened her documentary, *Gadget Girls*, at the American Film Showcase (AFS) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, June 19-25. Sanders-Weir was invited by the U.S. Embassy.

Gadget Girls focuses on the social pressures that girls face when showing an interest in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). Sanders-Weir showcased the many doubts of older girls (14 years of age) pursuing an interest in the field.

Sanders-Weir filmed the documentary at Triton College's GADgET (Girls Adventuring in Design, Engineering & Technology) Camp on Triton's campus in 2012. The film features girls ages 12-14.

"I wanted this film to alert both girls and boys that there may be gender-based stresses when taking classes in STEM," she said.

The film was screened to a variety of audiences, ranging from middle schoolers, high schoolers and college students at the Kyrgyzstan AFS. According to its website, AFS organizes screenings, workshops and masterclasses for more than 60 countries and is the premier American film diplomacy program of the U.S. State Department.

She noted that the audience at AFS was captivated by *Gadget Girls* since they were able to relate to the struggles of the girls in the documentary. Many in attendance were surprised that American girls had similar feelings when it comes to STEM.

"I wanted to make this film based on my experiences," Sanders-Weir said. "Growing up I wanted to be an astronaut, but I felt discouraged since I struggled with math. When I found out about the GADgET Camp, I wanted to support it."

Sander-Weir's trip also consisted of teaching master classes on documentary production and ethics to college students majoring in journalism and documentary making, as well as appearances with many local media outlets.

She is currently working on several other films regarding social issues.

For more information, please contact risesanders-weir@triton.edu or (708) 456-0300, Ext. 3202.

###

Media Contact

Maryann Pisano

Staff Writer

maryannpisano@triton.edu

(708) 456-0300, Ext. 3202

ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is a two-year college dedicated to helping members of the 25 Western Cook County communities in our district and beyond to achieve educational, professional and personal success. Located in River Grove, Ill., Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs on its 110-acre campus, featuring a comfortable, friendly and diverse atmosphere. Triton also holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's dedicated faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 14,000 students each year. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at www.triton.edu.