



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

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St. Croix Educational Complex High School Cheerleading Team Wins Silver at World High School Cheerleading Competition, Making History for the U.S. Virgin Islands

The St. Croix Educational Complex High School Cheerleading Team has proudly made history for the U.S. Virgin Islands by securing the silver medal in the Non-Tumbling Super Varsity division at the World High School Cheerleading Competition (WSCC) held on February 9, 2025. This remarkable achievement marks the team's second appearance at the prestigious event, where they also earned 3rd place in the Nations Ranking category.

Comprised of 30 dedicated athletes, the team demonstrated unwavering commitment and resilience, enduring rigorous practice schedules with minimal rest days in preparation for the competition. Their hard work and perseverance paid off, culminating in an unforgettable performance that brought tears of joy to both athletes and coaches.

"We will treasure this moment forever," said senior cheer captains Nayelis St. Omer, Aniyah Williams, and J'Neolise Green, reflecting on the emotional experience. Junior cheer captain Melanie Lewis added, "We are so proud of our accomplishment and humbled by this experience."

Competing against teams with athletes who have been training since a young age, the St. Croix squad stood out for their grit and passion, especially considering many of them had no prior stunting experience before joining the team. "We admire their grit and passion for the sport," said Coach Dr. Dana Philogene-Victor. "Our vision became a reality, and we cannot ask for anything more," added Coach Aniah John. "Our Barra Cheerleaders were phenomenal and exhibited the Barracuda spirit and pride on that stage," said Assistant Principal Graham.

The talented roster includes: Alia Osborne, Aminah Emanuel, Alyna Richards, Aniyah Williams, Arielle Chery, Aure' Baptiste, Carilyz Marmolejos, India Ragnauth, Jahilah Carroll, J'Neolise Green, K'Asia O'Bryan, Kayda Baird-Williams, Kaylee Corcino, Kiara Gumbs, K'Layah Parris, K'Taesha Brewster, Kyla Miles, Leiani Byron, Mah'Kaijah Jean, Marley Cassius, Melanie Lewis, Nayelis St. Omer, Ne'zah Barnes, Samyrah Lake, Sa'Niyah Morris, Se'Kaijah Freeman, Sophia Henry, Terrise Mitchell, Zahaira Cromwell, and Aamyah Petersen (alternate).

The team is expertly coached by Dr. Dana Philogene-Victor and Aniah John, with specialized training provided by David Adam Stafford, a seasoned professional with over 25 years of experience in the cheerleading industry. Their incredible journey was supported by the enthusiastic cheers and encouragement of Commissioner Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Carla Bastian-Knight, Assistant Principal Verne Graham, along with devoted family members and friends who stood proudly by their side.

This victory not only showcases the talent and dedication of the athletes but also highlights the growing prominence of cheerleading in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The St. Croix Educational Complex High School Cheerleading Team has set a new standard of excellence, inspiring future generations of cheerleaders to aim high and dream big.

For additional information on the St. Croix Educational Complex High School Cheerleading Team, please contact Coach, Dr. Dana Philogene-Victor via email at dana.philogene@vide.vi.

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