

LTC REGION 1, NAWIC HOLD M.A.G.I.C. SUMMER CONSTRUCTION CAMP FOR TEEN GIRLS



When the temperatures rise in Louisiana to typical June levels, many high school girls find relief in air-conditioned malls or the clear blue waters of a swimming pool.

But the girls enrolled in the MAGIC (Mentoring a Girl in Construction) Summer Camp instead turned up the heat and donned hot pink hardhats as they built skills that could lead to a career in construction.

For two weeks, journey-level tradeswomen teamed with instructors at Louisiana Technical College (LTC) Region 1's Jefferson Campus (June 1-7) and Slidell Instructional Service Center (June 8-15) to teach area teen girls safety, carpentry, electrical, plumbing and welding skills during this free week-long day program sponsored by LTC Region 1 and the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC).

The program brought together NAWIC and LTC Region 1 as hosts and partners, with sponsorship by local construction businesses, and industry associations with one goal: to introduce high school girls to the opportunities available to them in the construction industry.

The curricula included presentations on the history of NAWIC, discussion of NAWIC scholarship opportunities; guest lectures by local business, industry and union leaders; safety training; and hands-on carpentry, electrical, plumbing and welding projects. The final day featured a Graduation Ceremony with award and certificate presentations.

The M.A.G.I.C. Summer Camp was initiated last year at the LTC Jefferson campus in Metairie, La., and because of its popularity expanded to include an additional North Shore program in 2009.

