

Girl Power Press

A publication of Girls Incorporated of the Island City
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Annual Holiday Sale a Big Success!

On December 5, Girls Incorporated of the Island City held the *Annual Holiday Sale* at our Meyers Center. The event is an opportunity for children in our programs to purchase gifts for their families for under a dollar each.

The gifts - ranging from picture frames, ceramics and vases to key chains, wallets, and cosmetics - were all donated, as were the wrapping paper and ribbons. More than 80 children from our Meyers Center and Activity Centers participated.

“The best part about the event was the pure excitement the children felt as they were able to leave with bags of goodies for their families,” said Meyers Center Site Director Sara Mancini.

A number of adults volunteered throughout the day to help set up, price the items, and help the children buy and wrap the presents. They included: Susan and Gary Adams, Pat Bennett, Juelle-Ann Boyer, Samarial Brown, Bev Buhnerkempe, Joanne Griffin, Mary Kenney, Melissa Mischak, and Betty Rossi.

Members of U.C. Berkeley’s National Society of Collegiate Scholars – including Christina Buonaccorsi, Tiffany Kirk, Michael Stevenson, Natasha Hastings, and David Hazlehurst - also volunteered at the event.

Girls Inc. would like to thank the follow people for donating gifts or wrapping supplies for this event:

Romy Amos; Deirdre Araujo; Arlene Black; Barbara Capon; Jordan Elderts; Sue Fischer (Zonta Club of Berkeley/North Bay); Linda Grant; Joanne Griffin; Michael Mayfield (Oakland Association of Insurance Agents); Jean Nelson; Rachele Patin (Family House CHO); Sherry Price; Jeanie Quinn; Annie Rutter (A. Rule Designs); Sandra Yoshizuka; Marilyn Appezato and Virginia Isaacs of the Alameda Welfare Council; and Charlotte Tlachac (Eyeland Eyecare), Pauline Kelley, Martha Turner, and Candace Workman of Soroptimist International of Alameda.

To donate to the 2003 Holiday Sale, call 521-1743

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Girls Inc. Board Member Samarial Brown helps Julia Deutsch wrap presents at the Girls Inc. Annual Holiday Sale

Committee Chooses Awardees for Celebration of Excellence 2003!

Girls Inc. committee members have chosen awardees for the *Fourth Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon* to be held on May 3, 2003, at the Grand View Pavilion in Alameda.

The luncheon is both a program for our girls and our only major fundraising event of the year. At the event, we will honor women and girls who represent excellence in their endeavors. The 2003 awardees are:

Keynote Speaker

Janice Lee - V.P., Edward Jones Investments

Adult Awardees

Bernida Reagan - Director of Social Responsibility, Port of Oakland.

Sergeant Jill Ottaviano, Alameda Police Department

Youth Awardees

Sara Heaps - Two-time Bay Area science fair winner and a science scholarship winner at Encinal High
Mia Kabasakalis - 8th grade Kid Reporter for “Time for Kids” and award-winning Alameda golfer

To purchase tickets, make a donation, or serve on the luncheon committee, please contact us at 521-1743 or kbutter@girlsincislandcity.org.

Meyers Center Gets New Staff, Serves More Girls, Offers Exciting New Programs!

Girls Incorporated of the Island City has hired two new staff members at the Meyers Center for girls, allowing us to inspire even more girls to be **strong, smart, and bold^(SM)**.

Sara Mancini is our new Meyers Center Site Director. We also added an additional Program Assistant position at the center and filled it with new staff member Jennifer Giang.

Sara and Jennifer joined hard working and reliable veteran Program Assistant Teodora Tibayan in November.

Sara comes to Girls Inc. with a recreation major from Western State College in Colorado. She has experience in outdoor leadership and has designed programs for both the corporate world and the general community.

Jennifer comes to Girls Inc. with a degree in American Multicultural Studies from Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park. She has worked to empower youth to confront issues of diversity and oppression.

By adding a new position, we are now able to take girls off our waiting list. We also hope to be able to serve more girls through outreach programs at Alameda Point and other parts of the community.

The new staff are bringing with them exciting, creative changes to our Meyers Center Program.

Sara has started a painting project to spruce up the kitchen and bathrooms in one of our classrooms while giving the girls a chance to express themselves creatively.

The girls voted on how they wanted the area to look, Sara said. The kitchen will be decorated with blue and white clouds. One bathroom will be covered in flowers and butterflies. The walls of the other bathroom will be painted with an underwater scene.

Sara and Jennifer drew the outline of fish which the girls will fill in with paint. The teachers also cut sponges into the shapes of flowers and butterflies, which the girls will use to paint the walls as high as they can reach.

(cont.)



The Meyers Center's Jennifer, Sara, Teodora

Sara also has plans this winter to offer a photography program. She wants to give each girl a disposable camera and send them on assignments that will follow several themes. **We are looking for donations of disposable cameras for this project.**

Other Needs ...

- Girls Inc. recently launched our new, local website at www.girlsincislandcity.org. We are now looking for **volunteers** versed in NetObjects Fusion to teach the girls in our program to develop their own web pages.
- We are looking for **volunteers** to dismantle and remove our outdoor play structure.
- We are looking for women to participate in our **Career Exploration Program**. Women visit on Tuesdays to talk about their careers.
- We are in need of a donated automatic folding machine and a donated digital camera with editing software.

People who are interested in helping with the above projects or who want to bring a Girls Inc. program or speaker to their school or organization can call 521-1743.

Tupperware Party Fundraiser!

Come to an on-line Tupperware party and help raise money for Girls Inc! Local saleswoman and mom Denise Lum-Kan has offered to donate all the proceeds from this ongoing, on-line "party" to Girls Inc. So please go to her website at www.my.tupperware.com/shonline and click on the Girls Inc. party link after Jan. 1, 2003. All the profit from your purchases will go to Girls Inc. *Thanks!*

Girls Inc. is dedicated to inspiring all girls to be Strong, Smart, and Bold^(SM)