

# Girl Power Press

A publication of Girls Incorporated of the Island City  
Volume 3, Issue 4, March, 2004

## ***5th Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon***

Emmy award-winning broadcast journalist **Dana King**, who co-anchors CBS 5 Eyewitness News, will serve as emcee at Girls Inc.'s *Fifth Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon* in Alameda on May 1.

This is the first year Girls Inc. has invited such a distinguished guest to host the luncheon, which is both a program for girls and the non-profit's one major fundraising event each year. **Girls Inc. is looking for businesses and individuals to sponsor the event.**

At the luncheon, Girls Inc. honors women and girls who represent excellence in their fields. This year the luncheon is also special because Girls Inc. is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Alameda.

The mission at Girls Inc. is to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold<sup>(SM)</sup>. The women and girls honored at the luncheon help Girls Inc. meet this mission by serving as role models for Alameda's young women.

This year's keynote speaker is **Tara VanDerveer**, Stanford women's basketball head coach and the woman who coached the 1996 Women's Olympic Basketball Team to win gold in Atlanta.

The *Celebration of Excellence* luncheon will also recognize adult awardees **Lateefah Simon**, Executive Director at San Francisco's Center for Young Women's Development and winner of the MacArthur Foundation's "Genius Award," and **Dr. Alice Challen**, a local civic leader, philanthropist and retired Alameda physician who became a doctor when it was rare to see women in the profession and whose practice included deliveries of a large number of the babies born in Alameda.

In addition, five youth from Alameda have been chosen as finalists and one will be named an awardee at the event. The Bank of Alameda has agreed to donate savings bonds to be given to each of the youth finalists this year.

***(continued)***

Girls Inc. Meyers Center  
1724 Santa Clara Ave.,  
Alameda, CA 94501

(510) 521-1743  
www.girlsincislandcity.org



Members of Girls Inc. read their poetry at the Frank Bette Center for the Arts on March 17 to kick off a year of celebrating our 40 years serving girls in Alameda!

## ***40 Years Serving Alameda!***

Girls Incorporated of the Island City is celebrating our 40th Anniversary in Alameda this year!

In addition, the national Girls Inc. organization is celebrating its 140th Anniversary!

We will be commemorating these milestones throughout the year in a number of ways, including art exhibits and poetry readings, award ceremonies, and timeline projects with the International Museum of Women.

In addition, our girls are filming a documentary about our evolution and successes over the last 40 years that they will preview at our *Celebration of Excellence Luncheon* on May 1, 2004.

**We are looking for former Girls Inc. members, volunteers, and staff** to participate in our celebration. If you would like to share your Girls Inc. experiences with our current girls or would like to volunteer for one of our projects or programs, contact Girls Inc. at 521-1743 or [kbutler@girlsincislandcity.org](mailto:kbutler@girlsincislandcity.org).

(Luncheon Continued)

Girls in Girls Inc.'s *Best Foot Forward* program will interview all the awardees in April, write the scripts themselves, and serve as table hosts and present the awards at the luncheon.

Girls Inc. is giving free tickets to each high school and middle school in Alameda and is looking for businesses and individuals to donate money to help cover the cost. Larger sponsors will also be included on posters, banners, or media, including print ads, radio PSA's, and on the CBS Channel 5 website.

The luncheon will be from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 1, 2004, at Alameda's Spotlight on the Square, which is donating the space to Girls Inc. for the event. Tickets are \$50 and must be purchased in advance.

**To purchase tickets or become a sponsor, contact Girls Inc. at 521-1743 or [kbutler@girlsincislandcity.org](mailto:kbutler@girlsincislandcity.org), visit [www.girlsincislandcity.org](http://www.girlsincislandcity.org), or contact one of the following people:**

**Luncheon Honorary Chairs**

**Carol Beaver**, Community Development Manager, City of Alameda

**Bernida Reagan**, Director Social Responsibility, Port of Oakland

**Renel Brooks-Moon**, Radio/TV Personality, 98.1 KISS FM

**Hon. Fortney "Pete" Stark**, U.S. House of Representatives

**Melody Marr**, CEO, Alameda Chamber of Commerce

**Dr. Cecilia Cervantes**, President, College of Alameda

**Jill Ottaviano**, Sergeant, Alameda Police Department

**Margie Sherratt**, Principal, Alameda High School

**Kappi Hommert**, Owner, Grace Under Pressure

**Hon. Beverly Johnson**, Mayor, City of Alameda

**Karen Kenney**, Dean of Students, UC Berkeley

**Charlotte Tlachac**, Optometrist, Island Eyecare

**Dennis Pagonas**, President, Harbor Bay Realty

**Lena Tam**, Director, Alameda Hospital Board

**Sara Heaps**, Student, Encinal High School

**Janice Lee**, Partner, Edward Jones

***New Teen Programs at Girls Inc.!***

Girls Incorporated of the island City has recently started two new programs designed to meet the needs of middle school and high school girls in Alameda. The programs - *Blueprint* and *Courageous Girls* - are each unique in their effort to build girls that are strong, smart, and bold<sup>(SM)</sup>. Each of these programs gives teen girls a chance to make a difference in their community while gaining valuable skills in leadership, community service, and group facilitation.

***Blueprint***

This program began as a result of our *Girls Take Charge Summit* for high school girls on November 8, 2003. At the Summit, girls decided that the issue of domestic abuse against teens was the number one topic that Girls Inc. should address in our teen program during the next year.

Girls participating in *Blueprint* meet every Monday night from 6:00-7:30 p.m. and are designing the program themselves with support from our new Teen Specialist Erin Sander. Girls will meet throughout the year to learn about the causes and types of abuse among teens and plan effective ways to educate the community through pamphlets, presentations, and other strategies. They will present their results at the next *Girls Take Charge Summit* in November.

***Courageous Girls Program***

*FacilitateHER*: This program begins April 1 and will continue through the remainder of the school year. Participants will meet after school Monday through Thursday to learn skills in leadership/facilitation. The girls practice these skills by working with younger girls in our Meyers Center program.

*Summer Program*: Our eight-week summer program will include special new enrichment programs for high school girls that range from photography and resume building to hip hop classes and trips to San Francisco.

To participate or volunteer, please call 521-1743.

***Girls Inc. is dedicated to inspiring all girls to be Strong, Smart, and Bold<sup>(SM)</sup>***