

Girl Power Press

A publication of Girls Incorporated of the Island City
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Girls Inc. of the Island City Celebrates 40 Years!!

This year, Girls Incorporated of the Island City celebrates 40 years of service to Alameda. Hundreds of strong, smart and bold girls, women, and men (like you!) have contributed to the ongoing success of Girls Inc. of the Island City, formerly Alameda Girls Club.

We are celebrating this milestone by reaching out to past members, staff, volunteers and other Girls Inc. participants, and will be sharing memories and inspirational stories with our readership and the community.

We invite you to join us in commemorating 40 remarkable years in Alameda and in honoring all those outstanding individuals who support Girls Inc. Our celebration will include events throughout the year, so please attend/save the dates for:

- July 4th Parade
- 40th Awards Event & Installation Dinner: Thursday, July 8, Elks Lodge, \$40
- 40th Celebration Garden Party: Sunday, Oct. 3, 1-5 p.m., \$30 advance/\$40 gate
- *Girls Take Charge Summit* for high school girls in the fall (date to be announced soon)
- 40th Open House for the Alameda Community at the Meyers Center: Saturday, Feb. 5, 2005
- 6th Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon: Saturday, May 14, 2005

Girls in our Meyers Center are creating a book to capture memories from the past 40 years. It will be on display throughout the year.

Also, we would like to know how **Girls Inc. (Girls Club)** has impacted your life!! Please take a few moments to answer the questions on the back page.

A collection of your stories and quotes will be used in a special **40th Anniversary Memory Book** to be available in 2005. In addition, selected submissions about our **four decades** will be sent to local media.

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

(510) 521-1743
www.girlsincislandcity.org



Keynote Speaker Tara VanDerveer and emcee Dana King pose with awardees, staff, and girls in our *Best Foot Forward* program at the 5th Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon on May 1.

5th Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon May 1 a HUGE Success!

Chair **Diann Castleberry** and her intrepid committee took this annual fundraiser to a whole new level this year, with more exciting speakers, volunteers, media coverage, youth participation, and money than ever before!

Emmy Award-Winning broadcast journalist **Dana King** graciously served as mistress of ceremonies and a snippet of the event was aired for the first time on Channel 5 Eyewitness News the following day!

Almost 300 guests were on hand to hear **Kaye Van Valkenberg** - an Alameda "Girls Club" founder - give the inspiration; Board President and long-time supporter **Susan Adams** and Executive Director **Romy Amos** give opening remarks; and awardees **Lateefah Simon, Dr. Alice Challen, and Amy Liu** all give inspiring speeches. Keynote Speaker **Tara VanDerveer** finished off the event with a humorous and invigorating address!

(Luncheon continued on back ...)

40th Anniversary Memory Book Questions

1. When and how were you associated with Girls Incorporated of the Island City (a.k.a. the Alameda Girls Club)?
2. What do you remember most about your time at Girls Inc. and could you share it as an anecdote?
3. What impact did your involvement with Girls Inc. have on your life choices for education, employment, community service, family, etc.?
4. What are you doing now?
5. Do you keep in touch with any women from your time with Girls Inc.? If so, may we contact them (please provide name and contact information)?

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary as Girls Inc. of the Island City, we want to capture our strengths, review our history and launch our future. It is key that we remember those who participated and supported us in the past. Your support, ideas and advice will help Girls Inc. to reach more Alameda girls and to strengthen our contributions to Alameda families and the community.

Please contact our office at (510) 521-1743 if you would like to volunteer or participate in any of our 40th events. The 40th Anniversary Committee has periodic meetings and welcomes your help!

Also, please remember to be in touch with your anecdotes as well as your comments or photos. We look forward to your continued relationship with Girls Incorporated of the Island City!

Upcoming Events ...

- July 4: Parade, Girls Inc. float, volunteers needed
- July 8: Annual Awards Event and Installation Dinner
- Aug 13: End-of-Summer potluck BBQ for Girls Inc. kids, staff and all volunteers

... Info: 521-1743

Sara's Wish List

- **G-Rated Movies**
- **Art Supplies**
- **Money for our new Teen Program:** Our New Teen Program is in DESPERATE NEED of funding this summer to cover the costs for activities such as science, art, career development, furniture refurbishment, and preventing teen dating violence.

To donate or volunteer call (510) 521-1743

(Luncheon continued ...)

But the ones who stole the show were the Girls Inc. Girls who participated in the *Best Foot Forward* program or as helpers before and during the event. Their poise and energy were very impressive!

A big THANK YOU goes out to everyone who helped with this event, including:

Sponsors: Alameda Times-Star, Channel 5, 98.1 KISS FM, Bay Area BusinessWoman News, Port of Oakland, Spotlight on the Square, AC Transit, Alameda Power & Telecom, PG&E, Edward Jones and Janice Lee, Goldman Sachs, Bank of Alameda, Alameda Police Officers and Managers Associations, Soroptimist International of Alameda, and the City of Alameda Employees!

Honorary Chairs: Carol Beaver, Renel Brooks-Moon, Dr. Cecilia Cervantes, Sara Heaps, Kappi Hommert, Hon. Beverly Johnson, Karen Kenney, Janice Lee, Melody Marr, Sgt. Jill Ottaviano, Dennis Pagonos, Bernida Reagan, Margie Sherratt, Hon. Fortney "Pete" Stark, Lena Tam, and Dr. Charlotte Tlachac!

Volunteers: Gary Adams, Herb Behrstock, Pat Bennett, Rachel Brumit, Bill Kenney, Nicole Kidd, Melissa Mischak, Gayle Uchida, the Alameda Leo Club, and the entire Girls Inc. Board of Directors!

Youth Finalists: Cindy Huang, Mikhalia Rutherford, Mona Lisa Macalino, and Nicole Sparks!

Press: Alameda Journal, Alameda Magazine, Alameda Sun, and Alameda Times-Star for their coverage!

Please call 521-1743 to help with next year's event!

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