

Girl Power Press

A publication of Girls Incorporated of the Island City
Volume 4, Issue 4, March 2005

40th Anniversary Art Contest, Reception, Calendar

Art contest finalists, winners, families, teachers and community supporters of Girls Inc. launched an exhibit of student artwork celebrating our 40th anniversary on March 15 at our Meyers Center. Artwork for the “Strong, Smart, and Bold Girls” art contest was entered by girls and boys ages 7 to 17 from throughout Alameda.

Art contest winners include: **Rachel Babasa-Young, Tiffany Davis, Imani Diltz, Samantha Dunn, Jaeneina Estandian, Alyssa Francisco, Shira Kharrazi, Michael Kudus, Amy Liu, James Padilla, Lori Siao, Layla Stebbins, and Haley Summerfield.** Finalists include: **Artosha Hearne, Dilpreet Kaur, Kiera Kenney, Sabrina Kongadai, Caroline Liu, Valerie Mondo, Mallory Penney, Elizabeth Rezucha-Brown, Alfredo Sanchez, Tselmuun Shijir, Mathew Woo, and Katrina Yang.**

Those attending the reception and awards showcase included: Girls Inc. founding board member **Kaye Van Valkenburg; Dr. Alice Challen;** Alameda Unified School District board member **Mike McMahon;** Alameda Chamber of Commerce President **Cathy Leong; Julia Park,** editor at Alameda Magazine; **Jan Brown,** owner of Urban Forest; and Alameda Art Center Executive Director **Lisah Horner.**

The event was a huge success thanks to the support of many groups and businesses in Alameda who spread the word about the citywide contest, including **Donna Fletcher** and the Alameda Unified School District; the Alameda Free Library; the Frank Bette Center for the Arts; and the Alameda Art Center.

Girls Inc. also wants to thank our art contest judges: **Carey Fruzza,** Art Program Coordinator at the Oakland Museum of California; elementary school teacher and Girls Inc. board member **Gail Graves; Lisah Horner,** Executive Director of the Alameda Art Center; local artist **Karen Lee;** and **Debra Owen,** Executive Director of the Frank Bette Center for the Arts.

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

(510) 521-1743
www.girlsincislandcity.org



“Strong, Smart, and Bold Girls “ art contest winners

6th Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon!

Our 6th Annual Celebration of Excellence fundraising luncheon will be Saturday, May 14, 2005. Themed “Women Who Dare,” the luncheon will be at the Oakland Hilton and our emcee will be **Noel Cisneros,** East Bay Bureau Chief for KRON 4 News.

At the luncheon we will honor Keynote Speaker **Gilda Gonzales,** CEO of Oakland’s Unity Council; **Ana-Marie Jones,** executive director of CARD (Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters); and **Gretel Gates,** Alameda Community Activist. We will also honor five youth finalists and one youth awardee, to be announced at the luncheon.

Tickets are \$25 for children ages 6-11 and \$50 for guests 12 and older. For the first time the luncheon will include a raffle and a silent auction. Raffle prizes will include: Two pairs of Southwest Airline tickets (\$1,600 value); One 18 karat gold pin from Seelenbacher Jewelers (\$1,200 value); and One Japanese handcrafted silk Haori (short Kimono jacket donated by Howard Sidorsky, valued at \$250).

To purchase luncheon or raffle tickets, donate items for the auction, volunteer, or become a sponsor, contact Development Director Kristin Butler at 521-1743 or kbutler@girlsincislandcity.org or visit our website at www.girlsincislandcity.org.

(continued from Art Contest)

Thanks also goes out to Alameda businesses, including Art and Soul, Peet's Coffee, Scott's Shoes, Sumbody, Tucker's Super Creamed Ice Cream, and The Wolf & The Hare, for donating prizes for all the finalists; Safeway on Harbor Bay and Starbuck's Coffee on Park Street for donating refreshments; and Urban Forest for donating their services to frame the artwork.

The art contest was organized by Girls Inc. Board Vice President **Dorie Guess Behrstock**, chair of the Girls Inc. 40th Anniversary Committee. She would like to thank her hard working committee, including Girls Inc. board members **Susan Adams, Karen Granados, Gail Graves, Mary Kenney, Melissa Marsh, and Gayle Uchida**, volunteer **Monica Davis**, and former board president **Rob Wonder**. A special thanks goes to Girls Inc. Executive Director **Romy Amos** and Office Manager **Karen Reinhardt** for their help.

The artwork of the 25 finalists can be viewed at the Alameda Art Center on 1701 Webster Street through the month of April. The 13 winning pieces will be used to create a Girls Inc. "**Perpetual Calendar**" which Girls Inc. will offer for sale starting on May 14 at our *Celebration of Excellence* luncheon and then also at the Girls Inc. Meyers Center and website, at the Alameda Art Center, and at businesses throughout Alameda. The funds raised through sale of the calendar will go to support Girls Inc. programming.

To help us by offering the Girls Inc. "Perpetual Calendar" for sale at your business, please call (510) 521-1743.

Women of the 21st Century Club Speaker Events

The Girls Inc. **Women of the 21st Century Club** is a membership group created for women who want to support Girls Inc. of the Island City. Members pay a \$250 annual membership fee, raise funds to support Girls Inc. programs, and serve as ambassadors for Girls Inc. in the community.

Members and the general community are invited to attend Speaker Events where they can learn about important issues impacting girls; hear guest speakers; and listen to girls in our program showcase one of the issues they are exploring.

Our Speaker series began on Jan. 31 with "**Violence Against Girls and Women.**" Guest speaker Tara Shabazz, Director of Programs and Operations for the California Alliance Against Domestic Violence, shared the podium girls with from our *Blueprint "Preventing Teen Dating Violence"* program.

On March 31, the series continued with "**Women and Girls in Leadership.**" Guest Speaker Helen Waters, president of the Institute for Women's Leadership, shared the podium with girls from our "*In Our Own Hands*" leadership program. Sponsored by Harsch Investment Properties.

Our series continues May 9 with "**Women, Girls, and Economic Literacy.**" Guest Speaker Lynn Jimenez, business reporter for KGO, will join girls from our "She's on the Money" program. Tickets, \$10 at the door for members and non-members. For info., to join the Club, or to sponsor an event, call 521-1743 or visit www.girlsincislandcity.org.

Upcoming Events ...

- **April 21:** Reception for our "Strong, Smart & Bold Girls" art contest finalists/friends/families, from 5:00-7:00 pm, at the Alameda Art Center as part of the WABA's Art & Craft Campus.
- **May 9:** Girls Inc. Women of the 21st Century Club Speaker Event, "Women, Girls, and Economic Literacy," 6:30-8:30 pm, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1910 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda; \$10 at the door.
- **May 14:** *Celebration of Excellence* Luncheon, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, Oakland Hilton; tickets, raffle tickets, sponsors, call 521-1743 or visit www.girlsincislandcity.org.

In-Kind Donations Wish List ... Old weight scales (any type), plaster, and all varieties of paint: 521-1743

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