

Girl Power Press

A publication of Girls Incorporated of the Island City
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Girls Inc's Teen Program Going Strong

Now in its third year, Girls Incorporated of the Island City's Teen Program continues to offer girls the opportunity to investigate and speak out about the issues that are most important to them.

Youth Radio - On May 27, three Alameda girls – Precious Neil from Alameda High School, Zoe Moter from Island High School, and Ashley Nelson from Saint Joseph Notre Dame High School - from our teen program were interviewed by *KPFA 94.1 Youth Radio* in Berkeley about the work they are doing in our *Blueprint: Promoting a Positive Body Image* program.

They spoke about the outreach they are doing in the community - planning and leading self esteem building activities with younger girls and conducting a survey about the body image attitudes of teenage boys and girls – and about how girls often buy into the images they see in the media and receive a significant amount of pressure from family and friends to look a certain way.

Body Image Video- The *Blueprint Body Image* group was also the focus of a short documentary film produced by John Fortes – a local filmmaker who volunteered to produce the video for Girls Inc. to help us raise awareness about this issue.

Youth Political Conference - On June 20-23, teen program member Precious Neil also represented Girls Incorporated of the Island City at *Women in Politics 2006* in Sacramento. This “Capitol Focus” program was organized by the California Center, a non-profit, non-partisan project that strives to engage students in public policy and state politics.

She was one of 40 young women representing communities from throughout the state that participated in the conference to explore public policy, political issues, and political processes, both in general, and juxtaposed with issues of gender. She and her fellow participants met professionals

(continued on page 2)

Girls Inc. Meyers Center
1724 Santa Clara Ave.,
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 521-1743
www.girlsincislandcity.org



Adventure Girls

This spring and summer, Girls Incorporated of the Island City piloted a new program for the Girls Inc. National Resource Center called *Adventure Girls*. A new component of the national program *Girls Inc. Sporting Chance*®, *Adventure Girls* is a program that shows middle school girls that there are other ways to be physically active than going to the gym or playing on a formal sports team. The program encourages girls to try new activities and includes skill development, trust-building activities, and excursions.

During the spring, four girls participated in the program and during the summer 12 girls participated in the program. Both groups took excursions that included hiking in Redwood Regional Forest, Rock Climbing at Berkeley Iron Works, and a ropes course at Deer Hill Ranch. The spring group chose horseback riding at Point Reyes as their final excursion and the summer group chose windsurfing at Crown Beach in Alameda.

The program was supported through a grant from the Rotary Club of Alameda. Visit our website at www.girlsincislandcity.org to see a slide show of our girls created by Sean Connelley, photographer with the Oakland Tribune!

Women Who Dare Event

Girls Incorporated of the Island City's 7th Annual *Women Who Dare* benefit luncheon on May 20th was a huge success, thanks to many hard-working and generous people.

Thanks go to hula dancer Edna Cabcabin Moran; emcee Carolyn Tyler of KGO-TV; auctioneer Sgt. Jill Ottaviano; and awardees Roma Pauline Guy, Daisy Newman, Anna Towata, Dawn Carraway, Jasmine Walls, and Morgan Turner.

Thanks go to Chair Dawn Wade; committee members Susan Adams, Karla Dayton, Alicia Faugier, Karen Granados, Mary Kenney, Melissa Marsh, Sgt. Jill Ottaviano, Kate Rezucha, and Arlette Walls; production volunteers Joyce Denyven, Gretel Gates, Dorie Guess Behrstock, Audrey Lord-Hausman, Paige Pryor, and Natasha, Jasmine, and Alexandria Walls; and event volunteers Annie Anderson, Joel Wilmot, and Al Wright.

Thanks go to in-kind donors Christine Clark; Karen Granados; Dwight S. Yassany; Happy Trails; Mindful Toys; Sophia Women's Apparel; Katherine DuRocher; West Coast Cajun/Zydeco Music & Dance Association; Cycle City; Alameda Bicycle; Bike Alameda; Island Eyecare; Southwest Airlines; Juelle-Ann Boyer; Seelenbacher Jewelers; Roma Pauline Guy; Linda Burnham; Three Wishes; We Are Hair; Captain David Lehrer; Lori Hope; Kate Rezucha; Nanou Matteson; KQED Studios; Drama Mamas; Spellbinding Tales; Towata Flowers; Sam Kong Kee; Alicia Faugier; Judy Flowers; Alameda Police Department; Impact; and Books Inc.

And special thanks go to our *Best Foot Forward* girls Myranda Allen, Kaila Bryant, Imani Diltz, Challenga Gilbert, Georgia Harris, Jasmine Kissinger, Margeaux Knuth, Danessa Lacap, Mikayla Torres, Alexandria Walls, and Elizabeth Rezucha Brown!!

Our Activity Center Program has a new name: *Alameda Island Kids!* We'll celebrate our name change during a wave of ribbon-cuttings Sept. 18-26. For more information, call 521.1743.

(*Teen Program* from page 1)

representing the legislative and executive branches, lobbied organizations, interacted with the media, examined contrasting perspectives on statewide issues, conducted mock legislative hearings, and then cast their own votes.

Teen Volunteers - Thank you to our wonderful teen volunteers - Joanne Wong, Jenny Wong, Vanessa Bastos, and Hanh Nguyen - who helped out all summer with our summer camps and who were excellent role models to our younger girls. They were awesome!!!

Teen Summer Program - The teens participated in two great camps at Girls Incorporated of the Island City this summer. *Health Week* was a week of teen girl bonding and education about important teen health issues, such as body image and healthy relationships. Thanks go to Erik and Maria from Kuk Sool Won of Alameda who did a self-defense workshop with the girls. Thanks also to Cristin Barnes, who did a yoga and meditation session with the girls at Alameda Beach, and to Jen Span who did a workshop on sexual health.

Future Planning Week gave girls an opportunity to prepare to enter the working world. The girls set goals, researched colleges, and now have the "know how" to get their first job. They were introduced to the One-Stop Career Center, which is located at the College of Alameda, where Jean Rowland gave an informative presentation on how to be successful at getting a part-time, first-time job. They also visited Mills College to learn about scholarships and financial aid, and did mock interviews with Mitzi Bridges of Manpower.

A Fond Farewell - Teen Specialist Gina Vittori is leaving Girls Incorporated of the Island City to pursue a graduate degree at San Jose State University in Public Health. We wish her well and know she will do great things out there as a strong, smart, and bold Girls Inc. girl!!!

To enroll in the teen program, call 521-1743!

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

42nd Annual Awards and Installation Dinner

Our 42nd Annual Awards & Installation Dinner was held on Thursday, July 13, 2006, at Otaez Restaurant in Alameda. Past Board President and Chair Diann Castleberry organized the lovely evening and Marilyn Sandifur, Media and Public Relations Manager at the Port of Oakland, served as the MC.

Outgoing Board President Melissa Marsh reflected on the accomplishments of the past year of transition and incoming Board President Kate Rezucha looked toward the opportunities of the coming year.

New Board members and officers were sworn into service by Mayor Beverly Johnson and a number of special board members, donors, volunteers, and staff members were recognized for their generosity and service.

Award-Winners

- Outstanding Board Member Award - *Ellen Chin*
- Dr. Edith Meyers Center Award – *Hank Stephenson*
- Distinguished Service Award – *Gary and Susan Adams*
- Benefactor Award – *Janice Lee and Dorothy Drummond*
- Certificate of Appreciation – *Karla Dayton and Linda Williams*
- Outstanding Service Award – *Karen Granados, Dawn Wade, and Pam Williams*
- Board “Alum” Award – *Joanne Robinson*
- Advocacy Award – *Soroptimist International of Alameda*
- Founders Award – *Kaye Van Valkenburg*
- Board Member Emeritus – *Dr. Alice Challen*

Retiring Board Members

- *Ellen Chin*
- *Karen Granados*
- *Samarial Brown*
- *Lillian Taddei*

(Awards Dinner continued)

Staff Service Awards

- *Karen Reinhardt* – 25 years
- *Siuping Ho* – 10 Years
- *Rose Schlack* – 10 Years
- *May Ling Lee* – 5 Years
- *Eunice “Jane” Pegram* – 5 Years
- *Jim Thomas* – 5 Years

2006-2007 Board Officers

- President - *Kate Rezucha*
- 1st V.P - *Dawn Wade*
- Treasurer - *Susan Adams*
- Recording Secretary - *Gail Graves*
- Director-at-Large - *Juelle-Ann Boyer*
- Past President - *Melissa Marsh*

Women of the 21st Century Club

In June, the Club put on its seventh speaker event: “*The Impact of Sports on Girls’ Self Esteem.*” The event was sponsored by Esurance, supported by Team-Up for Youth, and hosted by Wind River Systems, Inc.

Our panelists included Marlene Bjornsrud, CEO of Bay Area Women’s Sports and former MD of the CyberRays; Ann Kletz, Director of Girls Sports and Coaching Corps at Team-Up for Youth; Tanya Haave, Head Coach of Women’s Basketball at USF; Kristina G. Hentschel, Executive Director of Girl Ventures; and Robin Bousquet, Sr. Physical Therapist at Children’s Hospital and Research Center of Oakland.

In August, the Club put on its first meet-the-author event and fundraiser at Books Inc. in Alameda. Author Paula Goldman of the International Museum of Women read excerpts from her book “*Imagining Ourselves: Global Voices from a New Generation of Women*” and Books Inc. and Tucker’s Super Creamed Ice Cream both donated a percentage of their proceeds from the evening to Girls Inc.

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**Girls Incorporated of the Island City 2005-2006
Annual Giving Major Individual Donors**

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Girls Inc. would like to say a very special thank you to **Dorothy Drummond**, for the generous donation she gave through her estate to Girls Incorporated of the Island City this year, and to former Girls Inc. Board Member **William Dickerson**, for his invaluable assistance in bringing in this very important donation! To make a gift to Girls Inc. through your estate, please contact Executive Director Karen Kenney at 510.521.1743 or kkenney@girlsincislandcity.org

**Girls Incorporated of the Island City
2005-2006 Annual Giving Major Corporate
and Organization Donors**

Strong, Smart, and Bold Circle

Esurance
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Harbor Bay Realty, Inc.
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Future Leader Circle

Alameda Lodge #1015 B.P.O.E.
Soroptimist International of Alameda

Mentor Circle

Alameda Police Officers Association
Inner Wheel Club of Alameda

How to Help Girls Inc.

- Give a generous personal or corporate donation
 - Donate money in honor of or in memory of someone special in your life
 - Purchase a Girls Inc. perpetual calendar
- List Girls Inc. as a recipient in your Workplace Employee Contribution Program
- Help your company make a matching gift or grant
 - Remember Girls Inc. with a bequest
 - Donate stocks, bonds, or real property
- Become a member of the Women of the 21st Century Club
 - Participate in the "Sharing Sheroes" Small Business Partnership Program
- Attend a Women of the 21st Century Club or Women Who Dare event
 - Give an in-kind donation
 - Host a fundraising event for Girls Inc.

For more information about ways you can support Girls Inc., call Development & Communications Director Kristin Butler 510.521.1743

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