



1724 Santa Clara Avenue ■ Alameda, CA 94501 ■ Tel: (510) 521-1743 ■ Fax: 510-521-4417 ■ Internet: <http://www.girlsincislandcity.org>

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Contact: Kellee Hearn

khearn@girlsincislandcity.org

510 521 – 1743 ext 201

Girl's Inc Honors Women and Teens in Science, Technology, Engineering and Science



ALAMEDA - On Saturday, March 27, 2010, Girls Inc. of the Island City will honor six women and teens from the Bay Area at our 11th Annual Women Who Dare Awards Event. Women and teens from Alameda and the San Francisco Bay Area will be recognized for working and pursuing the study of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) subjects. The event will take place at, Scott's Seafood Restaurant Pavilion in Oakland from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Each year, Women Who Dare celebrates the strides women have made in their chosen career or contribution and inspires girls to reach for equality and success. The event raises awareness in the community about the important work that still needs to be done to empower girls. It encourages people and businesses to continue their support of Girls Inc., especially during these uncertain economic times.

This year's honorees include:

Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

- **Eco-Leader**
Chantal Currid – Launched city wide, schooled focused go green campaign and Alameda's free cycle group. She created a successful waste-free lunch program.
- **Innovator**
Kristina Stone – Science Department Chair and Science teacher at St Joseph Notre Dame High School. She uses technology in the classroom in innovative ways , embracing the 21st century tools and serves as an inspiration to students pursuing science as a major at top university and colleges.
- **Women for Women Award**

The mission of Girls Incorporated of the Island City is to inspire all girls to be **strong, smart and bold**^(SM) through innovative programs, activities and advocacy.

Lyn Gomes – A member of the Society of Women Engineers, TechBridge participates in MentorNet and talks to schools about opportunities in engineering. She is also head of Carollo Engineering's outreach program.

Teen in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

Emily Ball – Sierra Student Coalition member, launched Environment Club at Alameda High School with the goal of implementing a comprehensive recycling program at AHS through fundraising, and working with leaders in the community to save the school money.

Kerry Chin – perfect score on SAT2 Math, 1st student to take college physics as a junior from Alameda Science and Technology Institute.

Caitlin Grey – Invited and will attend the International Climate Convention in Copenhagen , December 2010, also President of the Sierra Student Coalition at Alameda High School.

Mika Hernandez – Sierra Student Coalition member, launched environmental club, instituted comprehensive school recycling program.

Bronte Mak – High academic achievement in science, initiated science mural at school, TA for Chemistry at community college

Yaldah Sultan – Leads study groups in AP Environmental Science at local high School.

This year's theme, "**Science, Technology, Engineering and Math,**" is obvious to support our current program Operation Smart®, designed to help the girls develop enthusiasm for and skills in STEM education and careers. We here at Girl's Inc. developed the program in response to a growing concern about the shortage of women entering careers in science, math, engineering and technology. The program is designed to increase STEM gender equity by building interest in girls for science, to be competent and confident and aware of careers available. Reaching out to our girls will help raise awareness and empower girls in the community.

Girls Inc. will honor women and teen (STEM) who have: contributed to savings in energy and natural resources; created incremental and emergent changes in thought, products, process or organizations; and impacted t a national or global circle of influences by mentoring women or girls, or creating a service or product for women or girls.

Like Girls Inc., women and girls who are studying, working or contributing to STEM subjects in meaningful and honorable ways inspire all girls to be **strong, smart, and bold**.

This year's event will be at Scott's Seafood Restaurant Pavilion in Oakland from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm and is open to the public. **Tickets are \$40 and must be purchased in advance** by visiting www.girlsincislandcity.org or by calling (510) 521-1743 ext. 225.

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Nancy O'Malley – District Attorney for Alameda County, will emcee the event, O'Malley is the first female district attorney in Alameda County. She has taken what was traditionally a male position and lead the way for women seeking non-traditional positions in the county. This year Girl's Inc supports girls and women in the non-traditional careers by honoring women and teens in "STEM."

The event will be hosted by the members of the "Best Foot Forward Program" at Girl's Inc in Alameda. The Best Foot Forward Program won the prestigious Annie E. Casey award for "Outstanding Program in Self-Reliance's and Life Skills." The multi-workshop series is designed for girls ages 6-12 that teaches a variety of skills including interviewing, public speaking and etiquette. The girls in the program interview awardees and will also present the awards.

There will also be an exciting prize drawing although people do not need to be present to win. For information, or to donate to the prize drawing please call (510) 521-1743 ext. 225.

Interested in sponsoring the event? For sponsorship information, please contact Kellee Hearn at 510 521-1743 ext. 201.

Girls Inc. of the Island City is an affiliate of the national organization Girls Inc. Since 1964, Girls Inc. of the Island City has provided the only program in Alameda designed specifically for girls. Our programs "fill in the gap" on issues that parents and schools do not always have the time or resources to cover. We provide more than 25,000 hours of programming each year to girls ages 6 to 18. At Girls Inc. of the Island City, girls and teens are challenged to explore science, math and computers, sports and health, friendships and conflict resolution, as well as to examine how money is earned and invested, and to ask questions about and take leadership roles in the world.

We also offer a licensed childcare service called Alameda Island Kids for both girls and boys at seven elementary schools around Alameda, including Bay Farm, Earhart, Edison, Franklin, Lum, Otis, and Paden. For more information about Alameda Island Kids, call (510) 521-1743 ext. 202 or visit our website at www.girlsincislandcity.org.

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