



**Girls Incorporated®
of Metropolitan Dallas
214-654-4530**

**August/September 2012
girlsincdallas.org**



Personal Effectiveness • Academics • Career Planning • Personal Effectiveness • Academics • Career Planning

Girls Inc. Summer Programs a Big Success!



“Thank you, Girls Inc. and Digital Connectors! This was a wonderful experience!” exclaimed 16-year-old Devon Ferguson who completed the Digital Connectors’ Young Women in Technology Program at Girls Inc. this summer. Girls Inc. high schoolers who graduated from the six-week program of intense project-based technology, leadership, and workplace skills training received laptops and two important credentials that will help prepare them for success: the Cisco I.T. Essentials certificate and the EverFi certification in literacy training.

Close to 300 girls took advantage of similar educational enrichment opportunities at Girls Inc. this summer. True to our mission to empower girls and young women, we were excited to create opportunities for learning and growing and to see our girls involved in college and career readiness, leadership, sports and arts workshops during the summer months when many kids experience brain drain. The younger girls, ages 6-14, participated in 8 weeks of Summer Camp Mania while the teens explored 8 institutes focused on science, technology and leadership training, college and career readiness and self-discovery. Here are some of the highlights from a summer well-spent:

“Science Explosion” Fair

With the help of volunteers from corporate partners Raytheon, Slingshot and Accenture, the girls channeled their inner scientists. They constructed robots, colorful card box rocket ships, elaborate card arrangements and molecular structures. Then it was time for some serious experiments: making lip gloss and green slime out of common household products, creating fake snow and tornadoes in a bottle and learning about the basics of electricity circuits with batteries, light bulbs and voltages.



Thanking Our Troops

To celebrate this Independence Day, Girls, Inc. of Dallas partnered with Which Wich Superior Sandwiches. Girls from all four campuses decorated sandwich bags with patriotic themes and messages of appreciation to the troops. Which Wich collected all bags, filled them with treats and shipped them to the troops overseas. In a flurry of red and blue sharpies, the girls went above and beyond to thank the troops by creating a total of 394 bags with colorful and thoughtful patriotic drawings! “Soldiers are a pot of gold,” one girl wrote. “Thank you for being good!” a young lady added to her carefully adorned bag. Another girl’s bag had the message, “I love the soldiers very much.”

“Big Tex College Trip” The trip was the culmination of our summer programming for teens, which was focused on college and career readiness. Thirty-one of our teens, led by the Teen Program facilitators, embarked on a four-day, college-bound trip in Texas. After raising money for the trip through Girls Inc. Young Women’s Company and other fund-raising activities, the girls carefully planned and prepared a budget for college visits at Baylor University in Waco, the University of Texas at Austin, Trinity University in San Antonio and Rice University in Houston.

Fall 2012 after School Program September 4-December 14!

Help with homework, critical thinking skills, financial literacy education, college and career readiness, leadership training, art, culture and heritage, health and nutrition... Our staff is working very hard to provide even better educational opportunities for our girls. This year, as we are getting ready for the fall, we’ve made an important change in the new enrollment process. We now require a form from each parent that will allow us to keep track of our girls’ grades and help them succeed in school. By monitoring our girls’ progress, we’ll be able to provide the tutoring and mentoring they need to excel in school!



Congratulations to Danielle Burrell!

“At Girls Inc., I learned that no matter how difficult a situation may seem, I need to believe in myself and follow through with accomplishing my goals,” reflects Girls Inc. of Dallas alumna Danielle Burrell. A determined young woman, Danielle received \$10,000 toward her college education through the Girls Inc. “Investment of a Lifetime” scholarship fund. Starting in the fall of 2012, the renewable scholarship will be given in increments of \$2,500 every year for the next four years. Danielle will use the scholarship to fulfill her dream of pursuing a career in criminal law. The first to attend college from her family, Danielle plans to apply to Abilene Christian University and University of Texas at Austin College.

Community Partners

We are very fortunate to have the support of our dedicated community partners who volunteer and share expertise and resources. Our partners help enhance Girls Inc. programs and services and expose the girls to a world of new opportunities. Here’s a glimpse of some of the recent projects that the girls enjoyed thanks to our valued community members:



This summer, in addition to being actively involved with various mock career activities for our girls, **Archon** welcomed middle school girls from our Love Field campus to teach them about professional development, working in a corporate environment and teamwork.



On July 27, Girls Inc. of Dallas held a Dare to Care Event for the community with more than 200 of our girls. Led and sponsored by **Starbucks**, the event is part of Girls Inc.’s year-long Discovery Leadership program sponsored by the company. The program teaches leadership skills and civic engagement through community projects, while bringing girls together with a diverse group of volunteers of various ages, ethnicities and backgrounds. We celebrated bridging the gap between generations and cultures with a performance by Girls Inc. members’ Drill Team, skits and other fun activities that promote an understanding of different age groups and cultures.

Make a Difference: Opportunities to Get Involved!

TUTORS: We need tutors to help our girls, ages 6-12, succeed at school by providing reading assistance and test preparation. Flexible tutoring schedules are available. *Get involved today! To learn how, contact lhall@girlsincdallas.com*

MENTORS: We also need mentors to work one-on-one with a girl to provide assistance with homework and standardized testing preparation and to provide ongoing support and encouragement. There are no special skills required to take advantage of the opportunity to mentor, only the willingness to encourage and support a young girl and serve as her positive role model and friend. *Get involved today! To learn how, contact lhall@girlsincdallas.com*



Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas

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MISSION: Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas is a nonprofit agency whose mission is to inspire all girls to be **Strong, Smart, and Bold™**.

VISION: To enable girls ages 6-18, to become **Strong, Smart, and Bold**, and graduate from high school equipped for success with personal effectiveness, academic and career planning competencies.

SERVICES: After-school programs are offered Monday through Friday from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. and summer programs are Monday through Friday, June through August, 7:30 .am. to 6:00 p.m. We supply healthy snacks and meals. And in the summers we add field trips that include swimming, museums, zoos, tours of corporations, colleges and universities.

INVESTMENT: 82¢ of every dollar goes directly to program services to help girls gain the necessary competencies to be successful. Invest today: www.girlsincdallas.org/InvestinGirls.