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Inspiring all girls to be **strong, smart, and bold**<sup>SM</sup>

**Girls Incorporated®  
of Metropolitan Dallas**

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**An All-Star Lineup of Speakers, Including Basketball Hall of Famer Nancy Lieberman and North Texas Olympians to Explore Value of Increased Female Participation in Sports, plus Female Teambuilding and Competition**

*Girls Inc. lecture series held in collaboration with the Junior League of Dallas will focus on the impact of the revolutionary Title IX law, the value of women in the world of athletics and how increased participation in sports has helped women compete and achieve success in business and other nontraditional fields.*

DALLAS, February 25, 2013 – It’s hard to imagine that only 40 years ago, the primary physical activities deemed suitable for girls were limited to cheerleading and square dancing. Fittingly, the unprecedented success for U.S. female athletes at the 2012 Olympics marked the 40th anniversary of Title IX, the landmark law without which these achievements would have been unthinkable. How has Title IX revolutionized opportunities for girls and women? How has the law affected the lives of two generations of women? And what are the unique dynamics of female teambuilding and competition?

These and other questions will be explored by Basketball Hall of Famer Nancy Lieberman and an all-star lineup of speakers and panelists, including North Texas Olympians, in the upcoming Girls Inc. 2nd Annual Lecture Series: What Is a Girl?, which will be held in collaboration with [the Junior League of Dallas](#). The three-part series will focus on the value of women in the world of athletics and explore how increased participation in sports has helped women compete and achieve success in business and other nontraditional fields.

“Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas, which has been empowering girls to be strong, smart and bold for 45 years, is focused on elevating the conversation about girls in our communities,” says Girls Inc. CEO Lori Palmer. “In its inaugural 2011-2012 lecture series, the agency explored the characterization of girls and young women from ancient mythology to today’s popular culture and in tomorrow’s leadership in science and technology. This year the conversation about ‘the girl’ continues with an exploration of her physical power.”

“Increased participation in sports yields benefits for women in other important areas of their lives. Sports participation teaches teamwork, leadership, discipline, persistence, focus and other values critical for success,” added Aimee Griffiths, president of the Junior League of Dallas. “As an organization committed to developing the potential of women, the Junior League of Dallas is

excited to collaborate with Girls Inc. and engage the Dallas community in a discussion about the role and value of women in the world of athletics and beyond.”

The lecture schedule is as follows:

**March 26, 2013 – “Title IX: The Ultimate Game Changer”**

Jody Conratt, retired coach and athletic director at the University of Texas, whose commemorative statue stands in the University of Texas basketball arena, will explore the effect of Title IX on women’s sports and the past, present and future of women in sports. Conratt is a Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Inductee whose coaching career spanned 38 years, with the last 31 years at UT. The event will take place at Communities Foundation of Texas at 6:00 pm. Following an informal reception, the lecture will begin at 6:30 pm, concluding at 7:30 pm.

The subsequent two lectures will build on the conversation by focusing on the contributions of women in the world of sports and the dynamics of female teams and team building.

**April 10, 2013 – Signature lecture – “Becoming the Best of the Best: How Girls Rise above the Competition”**

Nancy “Lady Magic” Lieberman, Basketball Hall of Famer, two-time Olympian, broadcaster, motivational speaker, author, and the first female coach of a men's team under the NBA umbrella, will lead and moderate this signature lecture. A multigenerational panel featuring North Texas Olympic shot-put athlete Michelle Carter will focus on women’s participation in sports and competition from an Olympian perspective. The notable speakers will share and reflect on personal experiences.

The event will take place at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science (Lower Level Auditorium and Sports Hall of Fame). Guests will have the opportunity to explore the Sports Hall of Fame - where Lieberman is featured - at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science, a national and cultural landmark. Attendees are welcome to arrive at 7:00 pm. The lecture will begin at 7:20 pm and conclude at 8:30 pm.

**April 30, 2013 – “Igniting Female Teams to High Performance,” presented by Katie Filkins, Ph.D.**

Sports participation teaches teamwork, leadership, discipline and other values key to success. Eighty percent of female managers of Fortune 500 companies have a sports background. Additionally, high school girls who participate in team sports are less likely to drop out of school, smoke, drink or become pregnant. Katie Filkins, Ph.D., strategic advisor, executive coach, business consultant, and former collegiate and professional basketball player, will conclude the series with a conversation about the power of high performing female teams and how that builds business acumen and emotional intelligence. The event will take place at Communities Foundation of Texas at 6:00 pm. Following an informal reception, the lecture will begin at 6:30 pm, concluding at 7:30 pm.

Attendees can register online for the entire series or individual lectures at [giod.convio.net/Lectures](http://giod.convio.net/Lectures) at or by contacting contact Christina Onabajo at (214) 654-4507 or

[conabajo@girlsincdallas.org](mailto:conabajo@girlsincdallas.org). Admission is \$35 for adults and \$25 for children for the first and third lectures. Tickets for the second lecture are \$40 for adults and \$25 for children. Season tickets for the full series are available at a discounted rate of only \$90, which includes free admission to all three lectures for one child. Additional children's tickets are available at the regular rate of \$25 each, per lecture.

#### About Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas

Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas aims to inspire all girls to be Strong, Smart, and Bold<sup>SM</sup>. For more than 40 years, Girls Inc. has provided effective life skills and enrichment programs that empower girls to take daily charge of their lives. At four campuses, Girls Inc. offers learning and development opportunities for personal effectiveness, academics, and career planning so that girls ages six to 18 are inspired to lead successful, independent, and fulfilling lives. To learn more, visit [www.girlsincdallas.org](http://www.girlsincdallas.org).

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