Program Updates

Girls Inc. programming started back in schools at the end of September and we have had so much fun with the girls. We have continued our IMPACT programs at our partner schools (Libby, Clay, and Ruggles) and started new partnerships with Aldridge Elementary and Perspectives Charter Math and Science Academy. We continue to meet with our high school group, the Bold Girls Society, on a bi-weekly basis and we have started a new club called "Lego League Junior" located at Gill Park (Uptown).

Girls Inc. Facilitators have engaged in programming activities like "Girl Money" where facilitators help girls understand the key elements of paper money and encourage girls to think about the absence of women on U.S. bills. Also, Facilitators work with girls to empower them on how they want to use the Girls Inc. space. During a Bill of Rights activity the girls reflected on the "Girls Inc. Bill of Rights", what it means to them and how they resonate with each proponent.

Some highlights of our activities so far include:

- Hearing all the girls express how excited they were to be in a space where the expectation was that everyone will be respectful and kind, without being overshadowed by boys. (Looks Like, Feels Like, Sounds Like)
- Girls were able to be creative and make their own money. (Girl Money)
- Girls shared their experience of getting something in a trade that they wanted to keep, but since it didn't fulfill their need, they had to keep trading. This helped to reinforce concepts of needs versus wants and how our budgets and available income impact the choices we're able to...
She Shines Announcement

Girls Inc. of Chicago is very proud to announce the first cohort awardees for the She Shines Award. Far too often, the stories of everyday women who do extraordinary things are left untold. Girls Inc. Of Chicago is changing that narrative. Through She Shines our newly created leadership recognition award, we want to shine a bright light on Chicago’s strong, smart, and bold female leaders.

Girls Inc. of Chicago is proud to award these women and are excited to celebrate them in the coming year. They will engage with the Girls Inc. community by participating in events and programs. GloC will honor them at an event on March 31st at 8:30am at 444 W, Lake Ave in the DLA Piper Space. RSVP if you would like to attend!

Our awardees are:
- Angela Esposito, Senior Manager of Education at the Chicago Architecture Foundation
- Karen Foley, President and CEO of the Juvenile Protective Association
- Whitney Morrison, Opera Singer at the Chicago Lyric Opera
- Leslie A. McKinney, Executive Director of Black Women in Science and Engineering (BWISE)
- Phaedra Leslie, Director of Business Relations and Economic Development at Workforce Board
- Veronica Johnson, Co-Pastor at Hyde Park Union Church
- Susan Sadowski Garza, 10th Ward Alderwoman
- Lindrea Reynolds, Founder and Executive Producer of Next Level Brand Behavior

To Learn more about She Shines and to purchase tickets visit our website.

Spotlight On: Janisse Malicdem

Through her work with Taking Action, Janisse Malicdem was selected by the Girls Inc National Public Policy team as one of the twelve members of the National Teen Advisory Council. In this role, Janisse will have the opportunity to inform Girls Inc. National about issues facing young women in the Chicago community. The girls may also be called upon to support Girls Inc. advocacy efforts in a number of different ways, such as writing blog posts, sharing messages on social media, and speaking publicly about the #GirlsToo campaign. Janisse is a senior at Lincoln Park High School.

Luncheon and Comic-Con Highlights

A huge thanks to all of our amazing supporters and partners. Between the Luncheon and Comic-Con, we raised over $200,000 for Girls Inc. of Chicago.
Giving Opportunities

As the season starts to change and we welcome in the holiday season, we want to remind our readers that Girls Inc. of Chicago is a non-profit that provides free services to the girls in the program. We cannot continue to do this without your help! Please consider giving a gift, of any size, to Girls Inc. of Chicago this holiday season!

Bold Girls Society Recruitment

Do you know a High School Freshman who is looking to build leadership and advocacy skills? Tell them to join the Bold Girls Society (BGS)! BGS is a group of Chicago girls, who use their voice to create a healthier culture for women, through leadership and advocacy projects. For more information, contact Lead Program Facilitator, Ozakh ahmend at ozakha@girlsincofchicago.org

IMPORTANT DATES

- November 5 - November 20 - Canned Food Drive. Bring a canned food item to Girls Inc. of Chicago main office (2210 S. Michigan Ave) to help with the Canned Food Drive match at the schools!
- November 9 - Girls Inc. attends the Young Feminist Conference
- November 11 - Veterans Day NO PROGRAMMING
- November 16 - Bold Girls Society Advocacy Presentation