

# News Flash from Girls Inc. of the Island City Meyers Center

FEBRUARY/MARCH  
2006

## Girls to Become Money and Media Wizards

According to a study in 1999, the teen consumer market is estimated to be worth \$140 billion. That's a lot of money! We believe that in order for our girls to make smart choices about what they buy, they have to be well informed. What are we doing about it?

For the month of February, girls at the Meyers Center will learn the ins and outs of money and media through our national identity programs, Girls Inc. Economic Literacy® and Girls Inc. Media Literacy®. Each program has age-appropriate

components that build on one another, going more in depth on the topic as the girls get older.

*She's on the Money!* and *Dollars, Sense and Me* are the two components in which girls will learn and practice skills in banking & saving, determine needs versus wants, explore related financial careers and look at the importance of charity and community service. In *Media and Me* and *Media Smarts*, girls identify different types of media, break down advertising messages, explore media-related careers and

create media of their own. Girls Inc. Media Literacy® is a newly revised program that just became available to us in the fall of 2005. We are so excited to be offering this to our girls! On February 22nd, girls will have the opportunity to showcase what they have learned at our Women of the 21st Century Speaker Event. At this event we will have a panel of speakers visiting to discuss the issue of girls, body image and media. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend the event. See Tristen for more details.

## Emergency Preparedness in the Hands of our Girls

On Wednesday, January 25th, the girls became certified by CARD, Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters, in the Kid Safety Training program. Girls learned what to do in case of an emergency, when it is

good to yell, and how to signal to adults using a flashlight or whistle. One flash/blow means yes, two means no, and three means HELP! Girls also learned to creatively think of ways to use anything to help in an emer-

gency. Got a plastic baggie? Use it to waterproof a note and attach it to a door, or to hold water if you don't have a cup nearby. Ask your girl about 'Drop-Cover-Hold' and 'Shake-Look-Listen'. Stay safe and be prepared!

## Field Trip to the Dump Far from Stinking

Our first of 3 field trips to the Davis Street Transfer Station was a hit, despite the rotten smell following us around on the tour. Girls first learned about The Four R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot. Then they got their hands dirty and sorted

through a scoop of enriched soil from a worm bin, removing all the worms so they can stay behind and continue doing their composting work. We took a tour of the transfer station, and saw where they put those Four R's into action.

Although the smell was not exactly pleasant, the girls had a great time learning about where garbage goes after leaving our hands, and what we can do to minimize waste. See the schedule to the right for the date of our next trip to the dump.

Hello Parents and Guardians!

We, at the Meyers Center, want to keep you informed on what's happening here with your girls in our after-school program. Please read through this newsletter and contact Program Director Tristen Fredrickson with any questions or comments.

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### MEYERS CENTER SCHEDULE FEBRUARY— MARCH 2006

- **Thurs. & Fri. February 9 & 10** — Father Daughter Valentine Party at O'Club, Alameda Point
- **Fri. February 17** — CLOSED for Lincoln Day (Lum AC Open)
- **Mon. February 20** — CLOSED for Presidents Day Holiday
- **Fri. & Mon. March 10 & 13** — CLOSED for AUSD Trimester Break (Edison AC Open)
- **Wed. March 22** — Davis Street Transfer Station Field Trip, girls ages 9 and over, space is limited

### ??????? DID YOU KNOW ????????

- Girls are less likely than boys to describe themselves as very knowledgeable (17% vs 29%) or confident (24% vs. 35%) about financial issues or managing money. (Harris & Associates)
- Women-owned businesses generate \$1.5 trillion in sales and employ 9.2 million people. (BPW Foundation)