

Girl Power Press

A publication of Girls Incorporated of the Island City
Volume 3, Issue 1, June 2003

Three Grants Bring Exciting Opportunities

Girls Incorporated of the Island City received three grants this spring that will provide money for several important learning experiences this year.

Homegrown

We received a \$1,500 Strengthening Families grant from the Girls Inc. national office for a new mother/daughter gardening program - **Homegrown** - at our Meyers Center this summer. The program is part of our *Courageous Women* program, which allows women from the community to become teachers and give girls some practical work experience or a chance to develop a new hobby.

Nine girls, ages 7-10, and their moms spent Saturday morning, June 7, at the Meyers Center planting assorted flowers, fruit, and vegetables, painting a colorful mural on the back fence, and creating stepping stones by embedding costume jewelry into cement.

Center mom Konami Chisholm, who is a volunteer at Alameda's community garden, taught the participants about planting, watering, and other gardening tips while Site Director Sara Mancini tied those skills into how to nurture and raise children.

Throughout the summer, the girls will take turns watering and weeding the garden. In August, the project will culminate in a harvest activity. Moms interested in helping with the garden can call Sara at 521-1743.

Digital Camera

The Rotary Club of Alameda donated \$1,000 to allow us to purchase a digital camera and software. The camera will be used by our staff and our girls to take photos for our website, and for two programs - *Girls Get the Message*, which encourages girls to evaluate the messages in media and create their own - and *Operation S.M.A.R.T.*, which focuses on teaching girls about science, math, and relevant technology.

Tech Museum

We also received a \$670 Summer Youth Project grant from Northern California Grantmakers. The money will help cover the costs for the field trip to the San Jose Tech Museum this summer.

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www.girlsincislandcity.org



Julie Ann Rushing-Nelson and her daughter Annabelle work in the garden.

Everyone Invited to Annual Awards Dinner

Girls Incorporated of the Island City will hold our 39th Annual Awards Dinner and Installation of Officers on Thursday, July 10, 2003. At the event, we will welcome new board members, say thank you to those who are leaving, and give awards to people who have made extraordinary efforts to help us inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold^(SM).

Friends of Girls Inc., parents, and people from the public are invited to join us at the Elks' Rathskeller, 2255 Santa Clara Ave., in Alameda. No-host bar begins at 6:00 p.m., dinner is at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25, please RSVP by July 3, (510) 521-1743.

We will be saying a fond farewell to board members Charlotte Tlachac, John Abrate, Nicholas Chung, and Renie Stamm-Kirk. (* indicates new board members)

Board of Directors for 2003-2004

Susan Adams: *President*
Mary Kenney, *1st V.P.*; Diann Castleberry, *2nd V.P.*
Juelle-Ann Boyer, *Recording Secretary*
Gordon Fullmer, *Treasurer*
*Russ Grant, *Director-at-Large*
Dorie Guess-Behrstock, *Past President*
Samarial Brown; *Vicki Brown; *Ellen Chin;
*Melissa Marsh; David Mercado; Donna Milgram;
Frances Montell; *Neil Tam; and *Kathy Wagner.

Thank You to Our Supporters!

Girls Inc. would like to thank the following businesses, organizations, and individuals for helping us inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold^(SM) this year:

Celebration of Excellence Luncheon 2003

Luncheon Co-sponsor

Hills Newspapers and the Alameda Journal

Mentoring Sponsors

Port of Oakland

Trans Pacific National Bank

Soroptimist International of Alameda

Program Sponsors

Alameda County Industries; Alameda Police Officers Association; Alameda Power and Telecom; Alameda Welfare Council; Andy and Nadine Barbera; Boehm and Associates; Ellen Hoffman; Herbert and Dorie Guess Behrstock; Island Eyecare; I Touch U, Inc.; Wind River Systems, Inc.; Zonta Club of Berkeley/North Bay

Volunteers and In-kind Sponsors

Val Ghera, The Beveled Edge: For Creating Awards
Al Wright, Raintree Studios: Photographer
Valeri Clarke, artist: Program Logos for our Banners
Whales and Friends: Donating Table Decorations
Grand View Pavilion: Venue and Catering Discount
Oakland Leos Club: Providing Volunteers

Major Sponsoring Members for 2002-2003

Silver Donors

Virginia Bartalini; Eloise Shaffer; Nicholas Chung; Mary Gray; and Jeanne Justin

Gold Donors

James Ferris; Donna Milgram and the Institute for Women in Trades, Technology, and Science; Kaye Van Valkenburg; and Clara Bordona Wentz

Youth Summit Volunteers

Thank you to new board member Melissa Marsh and former board member Melissa Mischak, who volunteered to represent Girls Inc. at the youth summit, "Hands in Progress," put on by students at Homebase charter high school on June 7.

The "Melissas" spent the morning leading a workshop on leadership that is part of *Magic Within*, an award-winning curriculum Mischak (a training and business planning consultant at www.tsirigosorbit.com) created for Girls Inc. last year.



Board member and luncheon chair Samarial Brown (left) and Site Director Sara Mancini (right) watch Mutti Matingou, Megan Chan, and Sarah Johnson introduce awardees at the *Fourth Annual Celebration of Excellence Luncheon* on May 3, 2003.

How To Help

There are many different way you can help Girls Inc...

Sara's Wish List

Site Director Sara Mancini is looking for donations of the following items:

- Children's size portable basketball hoop
- Clear toothbrushes
- Craft supplies or a gift certificate for a craft store
- Hand-held chalk boards, erasers, and chalk
- Paint

Website

Girls Inc. is also looking for a volunteer to help with our website maintenance and /or to teach our girls how to design web pages. The person should know *Web Objects Fusion*.

Leave a Legacy

Girls Inc. is looking for donors who want to contribute by making us a beneficiary in your will or by making a tribute in honor or memory of a special person to commemorate a birthday, anniversary, holiday, retirement, graduation, or the loss of a loved one. For information, call 521-1743 or visit our website at www.girlsincislandicity.org.

Girls Inc. thanks volunteers from the Goldman Sachs San Francisco office for helping the girls in our *Courageous Girls* program mail this newsletter!

Girls Inc. is dedicated to inspiring all girls to be Strong, Smart, and Bold^(SM)