



FUNDED MINI-GRANTS September 2007-May 2008

Northwest

Palouse Kids Judge! Neuroscience Fair

Collaborating Organizations: AAUW-Dayton, WA; Palouse Discovery Science Center; and Graduate Women in Science – Psi Chapter (WA)

Girls Served: Grade 5

This grant sent 5th grade girls from Dayton, WA to the Washington State University Neuroscience Fair. The fair is an annual event of the National Brain Awareness Week where students use creative problem-solving at activity stations and judge 24 science projects developed by WSU Neurophysiology undergraduates. The program also helped the Dayton girls prepare their own science projects with AAUW mentors for their upcoming local science fair.

<http://www.palousescience.org>

<http://www.aauw-wa.org>

<http://www.sfn.org/BAW>

Got Curiosity – AWSEM Symposium for Young Women

Collaborating Organizations: AAUW-Ashland, OR and AWSEM

Girls Served: Grades 6-8

AWSEM (Advocates for Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics) Southern Oregon University's Symposium for Young Women introduced 100 southern Oregon middle school girls to professional women role models in science, math, engineering, and technology. Participants took part in a variety of hands-on workshops, heard a female scientist keynote speaker, attended a luncheon, and watched a special dynamic presentation.

<http://www.aauwashland.org>

<http://www.saturdayacademy.org/Default.aspx?tabid=97> (AWSEM)

<http://www.sou.edu>

Media Boot Camp

Collaborating Organizations: Reel Grrls and King County Superior Court Juvenile Probation Department

Girls Served: Ages 15-18

This three-day intensive project allowed teen girls with little or no prior video production skills to learn how to conceive, write, shoot, edit, and animate a short video piece. The goals of the project were to introduce teenage girls to the medium of video as a vehicle for creative self-expression; offer a media arts program to minority, low-income, and "at-risk" girls who otherwise would not have access to arts education and technology; allow the girls to network with women professionals; and help the girls overcome "technophobia" in an all-girl environment by learning video production skills.

<http://www.reelgrrls.org>

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/courts/JuvenileCourt.aspx>

TechREACH: Girls/Mentors Soaring Together

Collaborating Organizations: Puget Sound Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology and The Museum of Flight (Seattle, WA)

Girls Served: Ages 11-14

The Museum of Flight partnered with TechREACH to provide an innovative and educational experience to create strong bonds between girl participants and their mentors. Event attendees worked in small

teams to experience a variety of group building and empowering activities. The activities included an interactive simulated space exploration mission in the Challenger Learning Center (CLC), “a day in the life of a pilot” in the Aviation Learning Center (ALC) including a virtual flight, and a self-guided tour of the Museum galleries. The CLC and ALC introduced STEM topics through a variety of experiential, hands-on instructional activities.

<http://www.museumofflight.org>

<http://www.psclt.org/techreach>

Girls and the Environment: Connection to Pre-Service Teacher Preparation

Collaborating Organizations: WSU Spokane CityLab and the Woodland Park Zoo (Seattle, WA)

Girls Served: K-12 Science Teachers

At the one-day “Girls and the Environment” (GATE) workshop at the Woodland Park Zoo, university science methods faculty members met with governmental agencies and informal science education representatives to discuss human and material environmental resources that can support university pre-service science teacher preparation programs. The workshop emphasized ways to build confidence and competence of K-12 girls out-of-doors and in the study of environmental subject areas. Three groups were served by the GATE Project: 1) University faculty members from across the state of Washington who prepare K-12 teachers to teach science; 2) Pre-Service teachers at Washington’s colleges and universities through science methods courses; 3) Governmental agencies and informal science education representatives.

<http://www.spokanecitylab.wsu.edu>

<http://www.zoo.org>

Women in Neuroscience (WIN)

Collaborating Organizations: Graduate Women in Science – Psi Chapter (WA) and Palouse Discovery Science Center

Girls Served: Ages 15-18

High school girls in the Palouse region of eastern Washington and northern Idaho visited the newest exhibition, “Brain Power,” at the Palouse Discovery Science Center (PDSC) and were recruited to become the core members of a team of “Youth Explainers” at the science center. Interested girls attended an Orientation Session to become “Women in Neuroscience” (WIN). As WIN, the girls assisted PDSC visitors as they explored the “Brain Power” exhibits and helped PDSC evaluate the exhibits. The girls learned about possible career choices in neuroscience and met with regional brain scientists.

<http://www.palousescience.org>

<http://www.gwis.org>

Hillsboro/Forest Grove High School Girls in STEM

Collaborating Organizations: Pacific University and AAUW-Hillsboro/Forest Grove

Girls Served: Grade 11

This one-day event was held for high school girls in their junior year who demonstrated ability in science, technology, or math. The AAUW Hillsboro/Forest Grove (Oregon) Branch recruits the girls through their teachers, invites women in STEM careers to campus to participate in a forum and informal interaction with the girls, presents certificates of achievement and awards, and plans the event. Women in STEM careers described their work and how they moved from a high school student to their present status. The Center for Gender Equity also provided a tour of a science facility at Pacific University.

<http://www.pacificu.edu>

<http://www.aauw-oregon.org/item.asp?iid=52>

California

When I Grow Up: A Girls Go Tech Career Exploration

Collaborating Organizations: Girl Scouts of Northern California – San Francisco Bay Area Region and Girls Incorporated – Alameda County

Girls Served: Grades K-12

The Girl Scouts of Northern California invited 40 girls and their chaperones from Girls Inc. of Alameda County to the third annual “When I Grow Up: A Girls Go Tech Career Exploration.” Professionals and

college students from a variety of STEM fields presented table activities in order to give K-12 girls and their families an opportunity to see and do what a professional in a particular career does in her job. Each participant also had the opportunity to view a special museum show and explore the museum's exhibits.
<http://www.girlscoutsnorcal.org>
<http://www.girlsinc-alameda.org>

UC Santa Cruz – Expanding your Horizons Conference

Collaborating Organizations: Expanding Your Horizons-Sonoma County and UC Santa Cruz

Girls Served: Grades 8-12

The grant provided transportation for 25 girls to attend the 2008 University of California Santa Cruz Expanding Youth Horizons Conference. Attendees spent the day on Science Hill with women professionals in STEM who led hands-on activities, acted as role models, and shared the path to their careers. The goal of Expanding Your Horizons is to encourage young women to study math and science by providing hands-on experiential workshops so they may consider pursuing careers in STEM fields.

<http://eyh-soco.org>

<http://www.ucsc.edu>

Launch into Technology – Aeronautics Institute

Collaborating Organizations: NASA Ames Research Center and Girl Scouts of Northern California

Girls Served: Grades 9-12

The “Launch into Technology” week-long residential program at NASA Ames in June 2008 will allow girls to explore the technology used in aeronautics, robotics, and astrobiology in an engaging, hands-on environment. Through interactions with experts, girls will increase their confidence in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and be encouraged to consider STEM fields as career options. Girls hosted by this mini-grant will explore and experiment with all facets of aeronautics and aerospace engineering.

<http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames>

<http://www.girlscoutsnorcal.org>

Florida

Ornithology 101: Bird Detectives

Collaborating Organizations: St. Marks Refuge Association and Astoria Park Elementary School

Girls Served: Grades 4-5

This after-school program combined classroom and schoolyard activities, presentations with permanently disabled birds of prey, and birding on school grounds and at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. The 20 4th and 5th grade girl participants used binoculars and field guides to identify and carefully observe birds, and partner with scientists to collect meaningful data. The program combined activities and materials from the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Bird Sleuth](#) curriculum and the [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Junior Birder Program](#), to engage girls in the process of science by asking and answering their own questions based on observations, data collection, and publishing their original research.

<http://www.stmarksrefuge.org>

<http://www.astoriapark.leon.k12.fl.us>

Girls Go Green and Stormwater Reuse (FSGE)

Collaborating Organizations: Florida Technical College of Engineering; Society of Women Engineers, Space Coast Section; and Girl Scouts of West Central Florida

Girls Served: Grades K-12

The Florida Showcase Green Envirohome (FSGE) provides hands-on learning, education, research, and self-development for women and men and will demonstrate the economic and environmental benefits of building green. In the “Girls Go Green and Stormwater Reuse” event, girls will learn to connect STEM to the real world by touring the FSGE home, meeting female role models, and learning about stormwater

reuse and how to protect their environment. On the tour they will see five green roofs, four cisterns, solar power, wind generation, flexipave, landscaping with Florida natives, Engineering design, architecture, and more. The workshops will provide a hands-on look into career opportunities for women in STEM.

<http://www.flatech.edu>

<http://www.swe-sc.org>

<http://www.gswcf.org>

<http://www.fsge.net>

Galactic Girls Operation SMART Summer Camp

Collaborating Organizations: Operation SMART Summer Camp (Girls Inc. of Pinellas) and Mad Science of West and South Tampa Bay

Girls Served: Ages 5-13

Girls Incorporated of Pinellas operates a ten week Operation SMART summer day camp for 225 girls. The camp's mission is to "inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold." This innovative camp will include a combination of specialized STEM tracks with specific themes (earth sciences, marine biology, chemistry, and astronomy) designed to be holistic in structure, experiential in learning style, and conducive to new exposure to STEM topics. The Galactic Girls track will be interwoven into a broad array of camp activities, including a kick-off Astronaut Academy Fair, five educational field trips to area museums and nature preserves, relevant computer-based learning curricula, healthy eating classes, recycling projects, and more.

<http://www.madscience.org>

http://www.girlsinc.org/ic/page.php?id=7_florida

Introducing Girls to Engineering Workshop 2009

Collaborating Organizations: The PINK Team (Robotics Outreach)

Girls Served: Grades 3-6

"Introducing Girls to Engineering" is a one-day workshop that will include hands-on lab activities to introduce 500 girls to engineering concepts and engineering and technology career choices. The program also provides up to 150 parents with information on how to encourage their daughters in science and engineering career fields. The grant helped provide 120 tuition fee waivers for participants and bus transportation for 71 of these girls and five teachers from two Title I schools. Hands-on lab activities will include Alkaseltzer Rockets, Programming LEGO Robots, Design a Dessert, Straw Structures, and Truss Bridges. The workshop engages around 120 women engineers as volunteers to maximize the amount of one-on-one student to engineer exposure.

<http://www.thepinkteam.org>

North Carolina

Women in Science and Engineering Village (WISE) High School Chapter

Collaborating Organizations: North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) and Women in Science and Engineering Village (WISE) at North Carolina State University (NCSU)

Girls Served: Ages 11-12, college women

WISE at North Carolina State University and the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) High School will establish a Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) High School Chapter. The WISE Village at North Carolina State University intends to work closely with the new WISE Chapter to help provide mentors, speakers, and activities for high school girls and college women. Students from the WISE Village will be matched with girls from NCSSM to serve as mentors. Each month there will be an activity or speaker related to STEM majors and careers designed to expose the participants to new and exciting opportunities within STEM fields.

<http://www.ncssm.edu>

<http://www.ncsu.edu/wise>

<http://www.ncsu.edu>