

# Success is in the Air!

**girls  
inc.**

14 June 2024



**Cheryl Jones, St. Louis American Charitable Foundation Non-Profit Executive of the Year**

Cheryl experienced a 'pinch yourself moment' as she was honored at the 22nd Salute to Excellence in Business Awards and Networking Luncheon on Thursday, February 22, at the Ritz-Carlton St. Louis.

This prestigious recognition underscores our dedication to inspiring the next generation of leaders through engaging and educational programs.

During the ceremony, Cheryl expressed...*"To be recognized by your own is such an honor and it is our mission to ensure that girls "be strong, smart, and bold with their life choices. It's not enough. We've got to keep going, keep doing. And, there is always more to be done."*

*Girls Inc. of St. Louis staff (pictured below) joined Cheryl in honor of her achievement and to share in accolades the relentless contributions to the young .*



**Cheryl Jones Named 2024 St. Louis American Charitable Foundation Non-Profit Executive of the Year**

**Girls Inc. Launches New Business Leadership Academy**

**Girls Inc. Project Accelerate Embarks on It's Third Year**

**Girls Inc. Summer Programs Are In Full Bloom**



**Girls Inc. Business Leadership Academy Takes Center Stage at University Missouri-St. Louis**

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our first mini-business cohort, the Girls Inc. Business Leadership Academy.

On June 10th, our 8th-grade girls embarked on a six-week business program facilitated by the UMSL College of Business Administration, led by Professors Dr. Perry D. Drake and Dr. Carla Jordan, along with their exceptional team of business, marketing, and IT educators and experts.

Each participant will receive comprehensive business training, culminating in a capstone project on July 19, 2024. They will also engage in hands-on experiences with local corporations to explore marketing, product, and business development practices.

We are equally excited to share that First Bank Board Member, Ellen Dierberg (pictured above), has committed to a multi-year investment in Girls Inc. to ensure the success of the Business Leadership Academy.

We owe a special thanks to First Bank and UMSL for their commitment and partnership!

## Summer Enrichment Programs In Full Bloom

We are thrilled to welcome more than 200 girls to our summer enrichment program, featuring a wonderful mix of new and familiar faces. Our staff has kicked off the summer with engaging, experiential learning activities that challenge the girls academically while fostering personal growth, confidence, and lasting friendships.

Additionally, we've introduced clubs where the girls can choose from a variety of exciting courses and activities that spark their interests. Offerings span diverse disciplines, including broadcasting, art, physical education, and more.

This week, our Girls Inc. Eureka! program commenced an intensive five-year journey designed to build girls' confidence and skills, preparing them for college entrance and careers in STEM. The program runs from June 10 to July 19.

## Ms. Woolfolk Inspires Curiosity & Creativity Among Our Youngest Girls

In the early learning, kindergarten, and 1st-grade group, Ms. Woolfolk is greeted each day with bright smiles and a cheerful morning song. She facilitates a discussion about the word of the week—RESPECT—exploring its meaning and usage.

With enthusiasm, the girls sing the Girls Inc. "Strong, Smart & Bold" song, setting a positive tone and reminding them of their potential. Each girl shares something she enjoyed about the previous day, practicing their speaking skills and celebrating small joys.

Storytime is a highlight, featuring captivating tales about friendships and being bucket fillers. The girls learn about the parts of a book and the importance of respecting books. They rate the story and draw their favorite parts, expressing creativity and reflecting on their learning.

Engaging lessons in math, ELA, science, or Girls Inc. programming ensures interactive learning. Early finishers choose from activities like puzzles, reading, or quiet play.

Recess offers a chance to run, jump, and play, soaking up fresh air and sunshine while developing physical skills. The afternoon concludes with Art Club, where the girls work on creative projects, filling the classroom with their wonderful artwork.

We are grateful for Ms. Woolfolk's passion and enthusiasm which keeps our young girls engaged and excited to return each day.

## WORD OF THE WEEK

# RESPECT

I Will **LISTEN** TO OTHERS

I Will **FOLLOW** THE RULES

I Will be an **HONEST** PERSON

I Will be **RESPONSIBLE**

I Will be **KIND** TO OTHERS

I Will be **HELPFUL**





## Girls Inc. Celebrates Three Years of Project Accelerate

This week marks the third anniversary of Project Accelerate, a remarkable collaboration for our 18-24-year-olds. The program is poised to transform the career trajectories of young women in St. Louis by providing exposure to college life and offering internships or externships during their fourth and fifth years.

To date, 264 young women have participated in the program, engaging in activities and programming for those interested in STEM, creative arts, business, and other fields. In partnership with UMSL, Maryville University, Washington University, Fontbonne University, and Southern Illinois University Carbondale, our participants thrive in STEM programs (science, technology, engineering, mathematics), learning from top industry executives whose mentorship helps pave the way for young women who have been previously excluded.

We're excited for the recent college graduates and those who have begun embarking on new careers in the workforce. We look forward to the continued success of the program and new experiences awaiting our girls.



## Deloitte Impact Day at Girls Inc.

Last Friday, we were thrilled to have our corporate partner Deloitte join us on Friday, June 7, to celebrate their annual day of service, Impact Day. Nearly 20 volunteers spent the day with our girls, creating fun projects and memorable moments. Thank you, Deloitte, for an amazing day!



### Friendly Reminders:

**PICK UP YOUR  
BADGE ASAP!**



**WE'RE CLOSED**  
**Juneteenth Holiday**  
Wed., June 19th  
**Independence Day**  
Thurs., July 4th

### CONTACTS

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*Thank you for sharing your daughters with us!*



**INSPIRING ALL GIRLS TO BE STRONG, SMART AND BOLD.**