

Cool Girls, Inc.



dedicated to the self-empowerment of girls

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Christine D. Collier

c.collier@thecoolgirls.org

404-420-4362

Cool Girls Awarded Multi-Year Grant from the Gould Family Foundation

January 5, 2010 (ATLANTA, GA) - Cool Girls, Inc. (Cool Girls) Atlanta's premier organization dedicated to the self-empowerment of girls has been awarded a \$75,000 multi-year grant to help facilitate the Cool Tech program to the wonderful girls we serve. The program grant was awarded by The Gould Family Foundation and will be dispersed over a three-year period.

The Gould Family Foundation grant will allow Cool Girls to enhance the Cool Tech program and increase its impact on the educational opportunities of the girls we serve. Currently, the Cool Tech program is implemented during weekly after-school sessions and as part of the Cool Girls "Empower Me!" summer day camp program. With the support of the Gould Family Foundation grant, Cool Girls will have the ability to enhance the current curriculum to a 'stand alone' technological program focused on strengthening Georgia's science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education emphasis.

The Cool Tech program will serve 35 girls on two (2) Saturdays per month and will provide focused exploration in the STEM subjects. In addition, during the summer, approximately 100 girls will participate in Cool Tech's Summer day camp. Through the Cool Tech program, Cool Girls will ensure that the girls gain the competitive technological skills they need to support high academic achievement and graduation from high school as well as expose our girls to the ever-widening range of post-secondary education and career possibilities for women in technology.

Tanya Ekins, Cool Girls Director of Programs, expresses the importance of this program to the organization stating, "Cool Girls is very excited to enhance our Cool Tech Program. 35 girls will have an opportunity to interact with professionals in the Technology field through job shadowing as well as participation in hands on activities including designing video games and building robots. Cool Girls will collaborate with organizations such as TEC (TAG Educational Collaborative), Georgia Tech and Women in Technology (WIT) in an effort to bridge the digital divide between genders and socioeconomic classes."

About Cool Girls

An organization, whose conception stemmed from the compassion of its founder and ultimately the need of the East Lake community in 1989, Cool Girls is still Atlanta's only holistic program for girls. Cool Girls provides exposure to non-traditional studies and careers, a personal hygiene and health workshop, nutrition and fitness information and opportunities as well as academic support and scholarships for its participants. Cool Girls is an award-winning, independent 501(c) (3) organization. We provide the tools to help girls make positive choices to achieve academic success, break the cycles of teen pregnancy and poverty and to overcome the barriers resulting from the lack of resources and exposure to a plethora of life's opportunities for achievement. Our programs instill confidence and provide exposure to a broader world of opportunity through mentoring relationships, field trips, health and life skills education and academic support. All programs are provided free of charge. For more information about Cool Tech and other Cool Girls, Inc programs, please visit us at www.thecoolgirls.org.