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SciGirls is a groundbreaking project designed to engage girls ages 8 to 13 in science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM. At the heart of SciGirls is an Emmy Award-winning PBS television series, website and outreach initiative produced by Twin Cities Public Television (tpt) in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Each half-hour SciGirls episode follows the science and engineering adventures of real-life middle school girls mentored by female STEM professionals. SciGirls episodes have been broadcast over 44,500 times on 481 PBS channels garnering an estimated 25 million gross viewer impressions.

The SciGirls website is the first safe social network for children on PBS and includes videos, games and opportunities for users to post their own science projects and share their science interests.

SciGirls CONNECT is a five-year on-the-ground STEM initiative that provides a national network of partner organizations with the face-to-face and online professional development training, videos and activity guides they need to inspire girls around STEM study and careers.

The SciGirls approach is based in the SciGirls Seven, a set of research-based strategies that successfully engage girls in STEM. Girls prefer projects that involve:

1. Collaboration
2. Personal Relevance
3. Hands-on, Open-ended
4. Preferred Learning Styles
5. Specific, Positive Feedback
6. Critical Thinking
7. Role Models & Mentors

SciGirls is made possible by generous funding from The National Science Foundation.
SciGirls CONNECT is an outreach effort that seeks to build a vibrant network of empowered professionals dedicated to inspiring more girls to pursue STEM study and careers.

HOW IT WORKS

Girl-serving organizations nationwide apply to become a SciGirls Partner Organization.

Once accepted, partners receive a $200 stipend to support staff and programming at their site.

SciGirls staff, or a Certified SciGirls Trainer, provide a free face-to-face training in gender equitable teaching strategies at their program site.

Partners invite staff and educators in the community to participate in the training.

Trained staff and educators develop SciGirls programs to inspire girls to explore STEM.

All programs have full access to SciGirls resources, including research, leader materials, videos, activity guides, webinars and ongoing program support.

TRAIN-THE-TRAINER

All trained educators are eligible to apply to the SciGirls Train-the-Trainer program, where they become certified to empower other educators with gender equitable strategies.
**SciGirls by the Numbers**

**in 2013 - 2014**

- **14** SciGirls trainers provided
- **14** trainings for
- **847** educators

SciGirls partners & educators created

- **345** programs

**37** NEW partners joined spanning **24** states

SciGirls inspired

- **13,500** emerging STEM leaders

**all years SINCE 2011**

- **39** trainers completed **139** trainings resulting in
- **1,855** educators versed in SciGirls’ gender equitable teaching strategies

partners & educators have implemented nearly **500** SciGirls programs

- **116** organizations have partnered with SciGirls across **34** states

SciGirls has reached

- **25,000** youth participants
The full SciGirls CONNECT network includes **116** Partner Organizations across **34** states.

SciGirls Partner Organizations represent a variety of institutions. The majority of partners are community organizations (33%), while a significant proportion are Science Centers (24%) and/or serve Hispanic communities (19%). Schools and Universities account for 11% and 13%, respectively, of partners.
Each year, SciGirls partner organizations complete a Partner Yearly Report (PYR) reflecting on all SciGirls programs implemented throughout the program year.

Individual educators complete an Educator Program Report & Reflection (EPRR) after each SciGirls program, developed in collaboration with external evaluator Knight Williams Inc.

This report presents findings from PYRs and EPRRs completed by partner organizations and formal and informal educators that ran a SciGirls program during the 2013-14 program year (September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2014). Staff and Knight-Williams Inc. contacted 86 partner organizations and 800 educators to complete these reports. We received a total of 29 PYRs and 90 EPRRs for a response rate of 34% and 11%, respectively.
The majority of SciGirls programs served youth from urban communities (41%), while 34% served youth from suburban communities and 25% served youth in rural settings. Among SciGirls partner organizations, 55% served more than one community type.

While SciGirls is primarily focused on engaging girls in STEM study and careers, our programming is accessible to all youth, independent of gender. In 2013-14, 9015 girls and 4582 boys participated in a SciGirls program.

In 2012-13, SciGirls programs served 10835 girls and 1019 boys.

SciGirls is committed to serving youth from diverse communities as shown by the racial and ethnic backgrounds of participants.
SciGirls programming is designed for girls ages 8 to 13, consistent with the PYR and EPRR results. SciGirls content resonates well with middle school students, a critical stage for STEM identity development.

However, with support from SciGirls staff, educators and leaders customize their programs to best serve their students of all ages, from kindergarten through high school.

SciGirls programs take place in a variety of settings. All educators are encouraged to weave SciGirls content into current program models to best leverage their existing assets.

Across partner and individual programs, the majority took place afterschool, with significant programming during summer months. Several organizations offer a variety of program formats, including weekend, overnight and evening programs.
“The girls all learned so much and many of them told me that their grades had improved since starting SciGirls and that they were starting to really enjoy science.”

SciGirls Afterschool Club

“Working with SciGirls has been so much fun. All the youth who have participated in the inquiry based labs have had a lot of fun and a great time exploring the engineering design cycle. I think it’s critical for students to learn to think for themselves, try something out, fail and then go through the process until they are able to find a solution to the problem.”

Chenango County 4-H

“By the end of the program the girls were discussing what they wanted to be when they grew up.”

Girl Scouts of Kentucky’s Wilderness Road Council

“SciGirls has really taken hold in this community. Especially with afterschool programs. The New Mexico Afterschool Alliance has been creating a system of quality standards for all afterschool programs across the state. SciGirls fits perfectly in this community for engaging girls in STEM careers. We love it!”

New Mexico PBS

“As participants experienced hands-on projects of their own design, they better understood their relationship to the natural world and toward each other. In the end, the students grew to appreciate the differences in learning styles and what each could bring forth as they worked toward success. Their increased confidence empowered them to be more proactive in committing themselves toward positive learning at home and school and to respect what every person, regardless of gender can bring to the table.”

UMaine 4-H Camp at Tanglewood and 5-Towns Communities that Care

“The girls really enjoyed taking things home with them. They enjoyed creating a personalized relationship with the role models/volunteers.”

Grove City Parks and Recreation

“It was a fantastic collaboration with public media and an after school program that we hope to continue in the future.”

WSKG Public Media

“[The] first question asked in the wrap up was ‘when can we do this again’?”

American Chemical Society Nashville Section
SciGirls’ unprecedented success over the past 3 years is leading to some exciting expansions across all SciGirls platforms. This year SciGirls will premiere the newest season of our Emmy Award-winning television series, recruit more trainers to lead our gender equitable training, deepen our partnership with the National Girls Collaborative Project and reveal a brand new SciGirls website with even more games and activities. Stay tuned!

SciGirls Season 3

From their own backyards to a NASA research center, the girls featured on the popular series are seriously into citizen science. Citizen science projects invite ordinary people—like the SciGirls—to observe and record data about everything from birds to beaches, monarchs to maple trees. By working with female STEM professional mentors, the SciGirls share their data with scientists, who use it to research the natural world! SciGirls debuts on PBS stations from coast-to-coast this April 2015 on PBS. Check local listings or watch online.

Train the Trainer

This upcoming year, SciGirls will add 25 new trainers to our existing cohort of 39 Certified SciGirls Trainers. These educators are key to our sustainability, as they amplify our program reach. SciGirls is poised to engage over 900 new educators by the end of 2015.

National Girls Collaborative Project

A longstanding SciGirls partner, NGCP manages a vast network of girl-serving organizations: 31 collaboratives, serving 39 states, that facilitate collaboration between 12,800 organizations who serve 8.35 million girls and 4.5 million boys. This model is an ideal avenue to disseminate SciGirls educational materials and training. This spring, 10 NGCP staff members will participate in Train-the-Trainer. NGCP is also home to FabFems, a role model database that links our trained role models to future mentoring opportunities.

New SciGirls Website

In tandem with the Season 3 premiere, SciGirls is unleashing mobile-friendly website upgrades this spring. The features will let kids play new games, watch shows and videos, and safely connect with fellow STEM explorers anywhere, anytime online.
The SciGirls Seven: How to Engage Girls in STEM is available at http://scigirlsconnect.org/page/scigirls-seven
All SciGirls educational materials, full episodes and activity guides are available in English and Spanish at http://scigirlsconnect.org/.
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