

NEWS RELEASE

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Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania take away valuable lessons from annual PA Governor's Conference for Women

November 19, 2010 (PITTSBURGH, PA) – “Find your dream and go after it!” – That was the message the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania who recently attended the 2010 PA Governor’s Conference for Women took away from the event.

Nearly 20 Ambassador Girl Scouts made the trip to Pittsburgh along with some adult volunteers for the seventh annual conference where they were exposed to several renowned speakers from various career paths. The theme at this year’s conference was “Your Time is Now,” and topics covered included internet safety, maintaining a healthy lifestyle, improving organizational skills and many more. Some of the girls also attended a career fair and mentor match program.



Pictured above are the girls from the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Council who attended the seventh annual PA Governor’s Conference for Women in Pittsburgh, PA in October.

“It was very inspiring to have the opportunity to hear speeches from all those empowered women who are leaders in their workforce,” said Dena Hillison, a 17 year-old Juliette Scout from Carlisle. “There were CEOs and even a woman who had flown in a space shuttle, and they really showed us all the things we can do and what was available to us,” she added.

The girls attended the Young Women’s Program portion of the Governor’s conference, which was made up of a series of breakout sessions geared toward junior and senior high school girls. More than 15 speakers, including authors, TV news anchors and CEOs, presented at the Young Women’s Program. They also attended a speech given by Pennsylvania Governor, Edward G. Rendell.

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"This was wonderful for these girls," stated Belinda Stefl, an adult volunteer from Milton, who attended the conference with her daughter. "Thanks to the Girl Scouts, they were able to attend this event and learn directly from women who are making a difference. They got a chance to demonstrate critical thinking, presentation and teamwork skills in a real-life setting."

Girls were selected to attend the Conference through a nomination process. "I was very excited," said Bekah Stefl, 17, of Milton, "It made me feel like I've done a good job in Girl Scouts to be considered for this big of an honor." To be eligible for nomination, a girl must be a junior or senior in high school and a participating member of Girl Scouts. They are then nominated by an adult volunteer or troop leader who has worked with them in Girl Scout programs. "It was a great opportunity to network with women who have made an impact," Bekah remarked, "And I just hope I can follow in their footsteps and make an impact of my own."

In addition to learning about a wealth of career opportunities and valuable life skills, girls who attended were also eligible to receive scholarship funding. More than 40 Pennsylvania colleges and universities commit to this program to provide scholarship funding for qualified attendees. Four-year institutions dedicate \$2,500 in scholarship funds for four years for each attendee. For girls planning to attend two-year colleges, \$750 is awarded for two years.

Girls who attended the conference also met several girls from the Girl Scouts in Western Pennsylvania Council and spent the night at one of their camp locations. During their stay, they experienced some of the sights of the city of Pittsburgh, including a River Cruise and a tour of the Pittsburgh University campus.

Congratulations to the 2010 conference attendees!

Angelica Balesteros	Megan Misiak
Brianna Davis	Skylar Ogden
Erienne Galvin	Juliana Raia
Dena Hillison	Rachel Savidge
Ashley Kline	Nikole Schroder
Kristin Kurtz	Kaela Semon
Corey Leight	Rebekah Stefl
Lucie Loftus	Maura Warner
Marie McAllister	Audrey- Marie Winn
Samantha Miller	

To view a complete list of speakers who presented at the conference and participating colleges and universities in the scholarship program, logon to www.pagovernorsconference.org.

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