



# James J. Hill Center and Foster Klima Present Girls Going Places®

**Paving a Path for Financial Independence!**

## **WHAT IS IT?**

*Girls Going Places® Entrepreneurship Conference* is a one-day event designed to encourage girls to take control of their financial future at an early age by broadening their understanding of the business world, creating an awareness of entrepreneurship and career options in non-traditional fields, and highlighting the advantages of financial independence.

The conference connects local women business owners and women in business (as Conference Mentors) together with high school girls for activities and discussions exploring business ownership and entrepreneurship. Women business owners facilitate discussions and interactive activities, and share their experiences as entrepreneurs.

## **WHO SHOULD COME?**

The conference is open to girls in high school. Approximately 100 high school girls attend each session. Many girls are selected by their schools to represent their most enterprising female students. These are girls who have great potential to become business leaders and business owners.

## **WHY GIRLS?**

Economic empowerment is critical to addressing the needs of young people today, and the statistics for girls are particularly alarming. Consider the following:

- Among children age 5 or younger who live in poverty, nearly half live in families started by teen mothers.
- Households headed by single women are the fastest growing segment of the nation's poor.
- 50% of all women and children who are homeless are on the street because of violence in the home and no economic safety net.
- Though 75% of women work at paid jobs, 40% of them earn wages below the poverty level.
- Women hold 2/3 of all minimum wage jobs.

Teens need to understand the opportunities to “make a job” as well as those to “take a job.” The overriding objective of the conference, therefore, is to promote and communicate to girls the advantages of business ownership, entrepreneurship, and financial independence.

## **HOW DOES SOMEONE GET INVOLVED?**

Teens are sometimes selected by teachers, guidance counselors or other school administrators from the local school district. In most cases, the girls self select; that is, they choose to come. **To get involved as a participant or a mentor, contact Lily Shaw at [lsaw@jjhill.org](mailto:lsaw@jjhill.org) or Jennifer Gustafson at [ggp@fosterklima.com](mailto:ggp@fosterklima.com).**

# Girls Going Places® Conference Agenda

## WHY MENTORS?

Girls need to see the number and diversity of women entrepreneurs and professionals in their communities. A successful businesswoman is not a novelty, and to see the different paths women take in business is an important and vital lesson to learn. Teens frequently say that the most important part of the conference experience is getting to talk one-on-one with successful women.

## WHAT DOES THE DAY LOOK LIKE?

- 8:00am **Registration**
- 8:30am **Opening and Welcome**
- 8:45am **Hot Company® Board Game** - Introduction to problem solving of business ownership.
- 9:20am **What is Economic Power for Teen Women?**
- 9:30am **Interviews with Women in Business**
- 10:30am **Budget Savvy®**
- 11:15am **Lunch & Group Photos**
- 11:45am **Business in a Box®** - Interactive, group activity to create or invent a new product
- 1:15pm **Evaluations**
- 1:30pm **End of Program**

## Get involved! Make a BIG difference!

To get involved as a participant or mentor contact:

Lily Shaw at [lshaw@jjhill.org](mailto:lshaw@jjhill.org)

OR

Jennie Gustafson at [ggp@fosterklima.com](mailto:ggp@fosterklima.com)

