Dear Friend,

**Here’s your chance to help develop critical thinkers, increase technical literacy, enable the next generation of innovators, and set talented students on the path to success.**

Science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) jobs are growing at nearly twice the rate of all other U.S. jobs. STEAM skills are essential to problem-solving and lead to high-paying careers that support the American Dream.

But many of our students are getting left behind.

**Untapped talent**

Women make up 47 percent of the U.S. labor force, but hold only 26 percent of computer science and math jobs. The architecture and engineering sector is only 15 percent female.

Women earn more bachelor’s degrees than men earn, but pursue far fewer degrees in STEAM. Recently, only 19 percent of bachelor’s degrees in computer science have been awarded to women; Black and African American women have earned just one percent of bachelor’s degrees in science and engineering, and Hispanic women and Latinas have earned two percent.

Innumerable students are missing out on the benefits of a STEAM career—and we’re missing their contributions to STEAM—because they’re not pursuing STEAM fields.

**A proven solution**

**To ensure our students, families, communities, and economy thrive, we need to welcome more girls and young women into STEAM education and careers.** Women mentors have been shown to be a powerful force to help female students maintain confidence in their skills, feel a sense of belonging, and stay committed to personal and career goals in STEAM.

You’re invited to become a sponsor or make a donation to support Girls STEAM Ahead, a roundtable luncheon that brings together 7th-12th grade female students from the Chicago Southland and Northwest Indiana with women who are studying and working in STEAM fields. This afternoon of mentoring and networking can inspire lifelong journeys in STEAM.

As one student wrote, “I would love to meet more STEAM women and learn about their experiences and careers. A lot of what I’ve seen in engineering has been very male dominated. In my engineering class I’m the only girl, and the majority of kids in my internship this summer were male. I attended this lunch last year, and I loved talking to all of the successful women that attended. I can’t wait to do that again.”

**Support local students**

Girls STEAM Ahead is offered free of charge, thanks to generous donations from the community. This year’s event will be held March 7. To learn more and review sponsorship opportunities, please visit [www.homewoodsciencescenter.org/gsa](http://www.homewoodsciencescenter.org/gsa).

Homewood Science Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Thank you for your support.

Warm regards,

Edie

Edie Dobrez
Executive Director
“Exploring Pathways”  
March 7, 2020  
11am-3pm  
Idlewild Country Club  
19201 Dixie Highway  
Flossmoor, IL

www.homewoodsciencecenter.org/gsa

Sponsors of Girls STEAM Ahead receive:  

Proud Supporter window cling.  
Logo / name on event program and signage.  
Use of images from Girls STEAM Ahead 2020.  
Recognition on HSC’s website and digital marketing.

$10,000 Girls STEAM Ahead Luncheon Sponsor  
Example: YOUR COMPANY provided lunch for 250 attendees at Girls STEAM Ahead!

$10,000 Girls STEAM Ahead Directory Sponsor  
Example: YOUR COMPANY powers the online Girls STEAM Ahead directory, which connects students to professionals and internship, volunteer, or job shadowing opportunities year-round!

$7500 Girls STEAM Ahead Technology Sponsor  
Example: YOUR COMPANY powered the technology needs of Girls STEAM Ahead!

$2500 Girls STEAM Ahead STEAM Showcase Sponsor  
Example: YOUR COMPANY provided students the opportunity to explore their interests during the STEAM Showcase at Girls STEAM Ahead.

$1500 Girls STEAM Ahead Transportation Sponsor  
Example: YOUR COMPANY provided transportation so that students could attend Girls STEAM Ahead!

Individual Donors of Girls STEAM Ahead receive:  

Name on event program and HSC’s website.  
Proud Supporter window cling.

$1000 Platinium  
$500 Gold  
$250 Silver  
$150 Supporter  
$50 Sponsor a Girl

Thank you for supporting Girls STEAM Ahead.  
Individual donations may be completed online,  
Sponsorship may be mailed to Homewood Science Center.  
Questions? Email Edie Dobrez at edobrez@homewoodsciencecenter.org
Girls STEAM Ahead

“Exploring Pathways”
March 7, 2020
11am-3pm

Idlewild Country Club
19201 Dixie Highway  Flossmoor, IL

FREE!

Register Online December 15 - February 21
www.homewoodsciencecenter.org/gsa

Space is limited.
Please register early to guarantee your participation!

HOMEWOOD SCIENCE CENTER

Are you a female student in 7th-12th grade?
Join us for lunch, giveaways, and prizes!
Meet women in STEAM careers & learn about their success.

What students are saying about Girls STEAM Ahead:

Meet other girls with STEAM interests  Breanna Henry, 7th grade
Talk with professional women in STEAM  Jaden Whittaker, 12th grade
Practice communicating my interest in STEAM  Meghan Crawford, 10th grade
To gain confidence and keep persevering in STEAM  Jasmine Dunbar, 10th grade
Ask women questions about their careers in STEAM  Jamila Ghosheh, 11th grade

Welcome Donna Miller
County Board Commissioner, 6th District

STEAM Showcase
Design Challenges
Inspirational Talks
Goal Setting

#GIRLSSTEAMAHEAD
#GSAGOALS

Questions? Please contact Holly Kelsven, Program Manager.
hkelsven@homewoodsciencecenter.org

www.homewoodsciencecenter.org/gsa