

"Girls 4 Science played a very important role in teaching me how to work with others.

Teamwork was heavily encouraged, and I gained great communication skills from meeting new people. The program exposed me to pioneers in STEM and I was comfortable interacting in an environment where there was no pressure regarding right or wrong answers.

The experience continues to shape and guide me professionally."

~Darcell Creswell, Class of 2013



#### Mission

The mission of Girls 4 Science is to enrich the lives of girls through early exposure to the study of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and women of color practicing in STEM fields; hands-on problem-based learning and mentorship for careers in STEM.

#### Vision

Girls 4 Science endeavors to create a sustainable pipeline for women of color in STEM careers.

### Saturday STEM Academy

Girls 4 Science fulfills its mission through its Saturday STEM Academy, which provides hands-on experiential learning and professional mentorship in STEM for girls age 10-18 years from Chicago and its surrounding communities. The Saturday STEM Academy's innovative program model is based on evidence that science exposure and increased science literacy will equip young girls with the knowledge and confidence needed to pursue study in the sciences and careers in STEM.



Jackie Lomax Founder & Executive Director Girls 4 Science

## Girls 4 Science

#### 2009

First Summer and Fall sessions at Olive Harvey

#### 2010

**Summer session at Olive Harvey** 

#### 2011

Summer and Fall sessions at Olive Harvey

#### 2012

Program expanded to 4 sessions/year Malcolm X College added as program site

#### 2012

First Women's History Month Reception

#### 2013

University of St. Francis added as program site

## A Decade of Empowering Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

In 2008, Jackie Lomax found herself at an impasse. During a conversation at the dinner table, her daughter expressed an interest in science and mathematics. Lomax searched for programs geared toward young girls but was unable to find opportunities for her daughter to explore these topics outside of the classroom.

Lomax founded Girls 4 Science (G4S) in 2009 as a direct response to the lack of accessible and affordable quality science programs for young girls of color from the Chicago area. The goal of G4S was to offer quality programming

in a non-competitive environment to help girls develop skills, self-esteem, awareness and relationships to overcome barriers that may prevent them from achieving greater success in studying science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and entering STEM careers.

The first Saturday STEM Academy was held in the summer and fall of 2009 at Olive Harvey, one of the City Colleges of Chicago located in the far south Roseland neighborhood. In 2012 the program expanded to four sessions yearly and added Malcolm X City College as a site. The St. Francis University in Joliet, Illinois was added as a site in the summer of 2013.

G4S offers its Saturday STEM Academy four times per year – Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall – at three locations: Malcolm X City College, Olive Harvey City College and the University of St. Francis. Participants meet for two hours on six consecutive Saturdays, working in small groups on real world problems with hands-on science exploration and experimentation. A different STEM topic is introduced in each session.

As it enters its next decade, Girls 4 Science will continue to offer the only free, year-round, non-selective out-of-school STEM program for girls age 10-18 years in Chicago and its surrounding communities as it endeavors to create a sustainable pipeline for women of color in STEM careers.

## 2019 Report Card

# Participants ..... 360

New Registrants ..... 29%

Elementary/Middle School (grades 4-8) ...... 74%

High School (grades 9-12) ..... 26%

# Zip Codes represented ...... 88

# Schools represented ...... 84

African American/Black ...... 67%

White ..... 16%

Hispanic/Latino ..... 7%

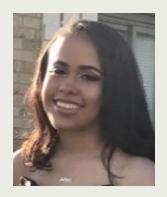
Asian ..... 7%

..... 8% Biracial

American Indian, Alaska Native/Other ..... 1%

## **Careers in STEM**

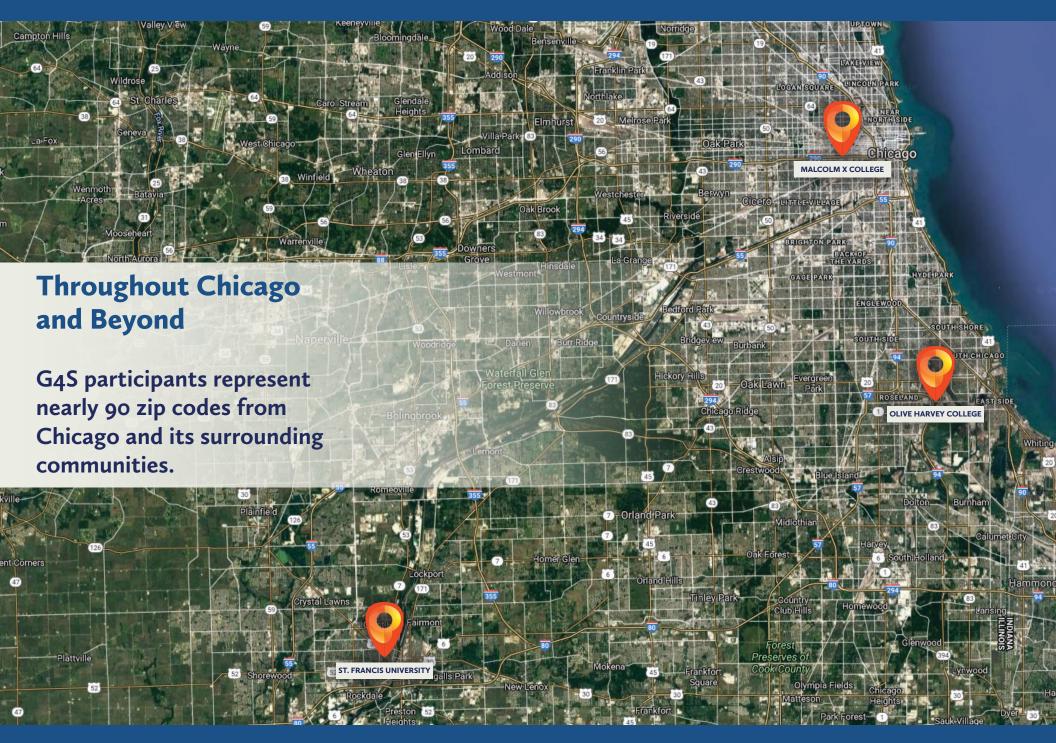
"Girls 4 Science always pushed me to be the best that I can be. Due to the lack of a state budget, my school really didn't get funds for laboratory activities. Girls 4



Science allowed me to experience handson experiments and gave me so many opportunities that shaped my character. I loved the connections I made with my Program Directors and peers. Most of my Program Directors were engineers so I got a better understanding of engineering. I'm sad that I no longer can be a part of Girls 4 Science since I graduated high school this year.

Girls 4 Science gave me confidence in STEM and I'm proud to say that I will continue on the STEM track by studying biopharmaceutical engineering on my way to a career in pharmacy."

~ Ariana McCray Girls 4 Science Participant



## Women In History

## A Student STEM Showcase & Panel Discussion



Karmon Hearan, 10th grade, Liptastic Lip Balm



Deche' Lewis, 10th grade, Garlic Through the Eyes of the Raman Spectrometer



Kennedi Carpenter, 6th grade, The Power of Fruits and Vegetables



Girls 4 Science hosted its Women in History Spring Fundraiser on April 30 at 1871 in the Merchandise Mart. With 75 guests in attendance, the event raised more than \$10,000 to support the Girls 4 Science Saturday STEM Academy.

The student STEM showcase featured projects by:

- Karmon Hearan, 10th grade, Liptastic Lip Balm
- *Kennedi Carpenter*, 6th grade, <u>The Power of Fruits and Vegetables</u>
- *Deche' Lewis*, 10th grade, <u>Garlic Through the Eyes of the Raman Spectrometer</u>
- *Jasmine Tyler*, 5th grade, <u>The Cozy Kitten</u> Cleaner

#### Not Pictured

- Shreya Kannan, 6th grade, Bionic Fish
- Anise Puckett, 10th grade, Trebuchet



Jasmine Tyler, 5th grade, demonstrates The Cozy Kitten Cleaner

## Women In History

## A Student STEM Showcase & Panel Discussion



*Gayle Jones*, Director of Patient Access at Horizon Pharma, was honored with the Girls 4 Science 2019 Female STEM Professional of the Year Award. Ms. Jones was introduced by *Synim Rivers*, MPH, CHES, a member of the Girls 4 Science Board of Directors and Director of Research & Development Communications at Horizon.

The award presentation was followed by a panel of notable women in STEM who shared leadership experiences and accomplishments within their respective fields.



Led by *Ilene Gordon*, former CEO of Ingredion, the panel included *Suzzette Jaskowiak*, Divisional Vice President of Pharmacy, Healthcare and Customer Engagement Technology at Walgreens; *Patricia Saldaña Natke*, President and Design Principal of UrbanWorks Ltd; and **Kari Steele**, President of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago. The event was sponsored by The Joseph and Bessie Feinberg Foundation and Horizon Pharma.



(I to r) Ilene Gordon, Kari Steele, Patricia Saldaña-Natke, and Suzzette Jaskowiak



Synim Rivers, G4S Board member and Director of Research & Development Communications at Horizon Pharma

## Past Female STEM Professional of the Year Award Recipients

#### 2018

Amy E Wilson, PhD, JD Senior Corporate Attorney IP, Legal Astellas US LLC

#### 2016

Linda Rae Murray, MD, MPH, FACP Social Justice & Human Rights Advocate General Internist Adjunct Assistant Professor University of Illinois School of Public Health

#### 2015

llene Gordon
President & CEO
Ingredion Incorporated

#### 2014

Jacqueline Kunzler, PhD
Director of Business Model InnovationInternational
Baxter Healthcare Corporation

#### 2013

Kawtar Hafidi, PhD Physicist Argonne National Laboratory

# "Girls 4 Science helped me in so many ways." Each year when I returned to school my academic focus increased in part due to my participation in G<sub>4</sub>S." Aerial Shaffer, Class of 2018

## 10th Anniversary Student Recognition & Awards Ceremony

Girls 4 Science hosted its 10th Annual Student Recognition and Awards Ceremony on August 10 at Malcolm X City College. More than 125 students, family members and alumni gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of the first 10 years of Girls 4 Science.





ABC 7 reporter Evelyn Holmes served as Master of Ceremonies.







Keynote speaker **Dr. LaJena Miller**, Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine, Navy veteran and Chicago native, shared her STEM journey and offered advice to students.

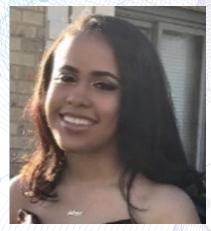
Girls 4 Science Program Coordinators, volunteers and mentors were recognized, and the 2019 participants received a specially designed medallion to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of Girls 4 Science. Three G4S high school seniors received Linda McGill Boasmond Scholarships.

The Student Recognition & Awards Ceremony was sponsored by Cedar Concepts Corporation and The Joseph & Bessie Feinberg Foundation.

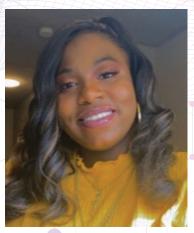
## **Linda McGill Boasmond Scholarship Recipients**



Samaree Ames
Richard J. Daley City College of
Chicago
Major: Computer Technology



Ariana McCray
University of Kentucky
Major: Biopharmaceutical
Engineering



Morgan Pratt
University of Illinois at Chicago
Major: Biology

Linda McGill-Boasmond was the founding Chair of the Board of Directors for Girls 4 Science. She is owner, President and CEO of Cedar Concepts, a manufacturer of chemicals for the personal care, home, agriculture and aerospace industries, among others. McGill-Boasmond runs the country's first and only African American and woman-owned chemical manufacturing plant.

Since 2013 Girls 4 Science has provided \$18,000 in scholarships for high school seniors who have completed at least 12 weeks of the G4S program and are applying for undergraduate study in a STEM field. Many thanks to Linda McGill-Boasmond for funding the scholarship opportunities through Girls 4 Science since 2018



## Previous Girls 4 Science Scholarship Recipients

- 2013 Darcell Creswell, Western Illinois UniversityGraphic Communications
- **2013 Leona Barnes**, Alma College Art, Anthropology
- 2014 Brooklyn Payne, Wilmington College Biology
- **2016 Sairyia Jemison**, Northern Illinois University –Engineering/Industrial Management
- **2016 Kenyana Tyiska**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Biochemistry
- **2016** Lauren Lomax, Central Michigan University Recreational Therapy
- 2017 Sydney Shaffer, Milwaukee School of Engineering – Civil Engineering/ Environmental and Water Resources Engineering
- 2017 Nakia Chappell, Marquette University Neuroscience
- 2017 Deasiah McIntosh, Eastern Illinois UniversityCriminal Justice
- **2017 Isabella Baumann**, University of St. Thomas Neuroscience
- 2018 Nia Autman, Northern Illinois University Biological Sciences
- 2018 Eryn Brazil, University of Michigan Movement Science/Public Health
- 2018 Sofia Santamaria, Joliet Junior College Communications
- 2018 Erika Jones, University of Michigan Aerospace Engineering
- 2018 Aerial Shaffer, Washington University in St. Louis Biology

## **Space Camp**



All expenses covered (air fare, lodging & meals). Travel date To Be Announced. \*An adult Girls 4 Science team member will travel with the students.

Girls between the ages of 10-18 are eligible to submit an application

Sponsored by







SPACE CAMP® is an adventure of a lifetime! Space Camp encourages trainees to pursue science, SPACE CAMP Is an adventure of a lineume! Space Camp encourages trainees to pursue science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through exciting hands-on educational activities. The facility technology, engineering and matriolism, unrough exciting nands-on educational activities. The facility is located on the grounds of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center® which is also the official visitor center for NACA to Magnetial Space Eligible Center located in Uniterally Alaborate Activities include Center Mission Is located on the grounds of the U.S. Space & Hocket Center which is also the official visitor center for MASA's Marshall Space Flight Center located in Huntsville, Alabama. Activities include: Space Mission, NASA'S Marshall Space Flight Center located in Huntsville, Alabama. Activities Include: Space Mission,
Mars Mission, History of Space Exploration, Experiments on International Spacestation, IMAX 3-D Mars Mission, History of Space Exploration, Experiments on International Spacestation, IMMA 3-D.
Movies, Rocket Construction and Launch, Engineering & Design, Remote Communication Systems,
Page 1997 Space Space Space Space Space Space Spaces Space Movies, Rocket Construction and Laurich, Engineering & Design, Remote O. Robot-Based Space Simulators, Programming Concepts and Teambuilding.

1. Applicant must type a one page essay (double spaced in 12 point font) expressing why she would like to To qualify for this very special opportunity, the following criteria must be met: . Applicant must type a one page essay (acuble spaced in 12 point fort) expressing why go to space camp and how the trip can help achieve her educational and career goals.

Participants' Girls 4 Science program attendance will be taken into consideration as part of eligibility for this

- Selected participants and guardian agree to: Share photos from the trip on the G4S website.
- Journal each day about their experience and share with G4S.

Design a poster poetra to visually display rearrings.
 Attend a luncheon with the CEO of Ingredion Incorporated date to be announced.

All applications and letters of recommendation must be sent no later than Friday, May 17, 2019 via fax to (773) 928-6744 or email to jlomax@girls4science.org. P. O. Box 288958 • Chicago, IL 60628 • 773-401-6685 • http://girts4science.org • 501c3

Girls 4 Science coordinates a summer program at Space Camp, an educational camp in Huntsville, Alabama, on the grounds of the U.S. Space & Rocket Center museum at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. Space Camp provides a 6-day, 5-night residential educational program for children and adults on themes such as space exploration, aviation and robotics. Space Camp's educational experience illuminates real-world applications of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

One girl from each G4S site is competitively selected to attend the program each summer. The Space Camp experience is sponsored by Ingredion Incorporated.

"Space Camp taught me discipline and fundamental life skills." ~De'Asiah McIntosh, Class of 2017

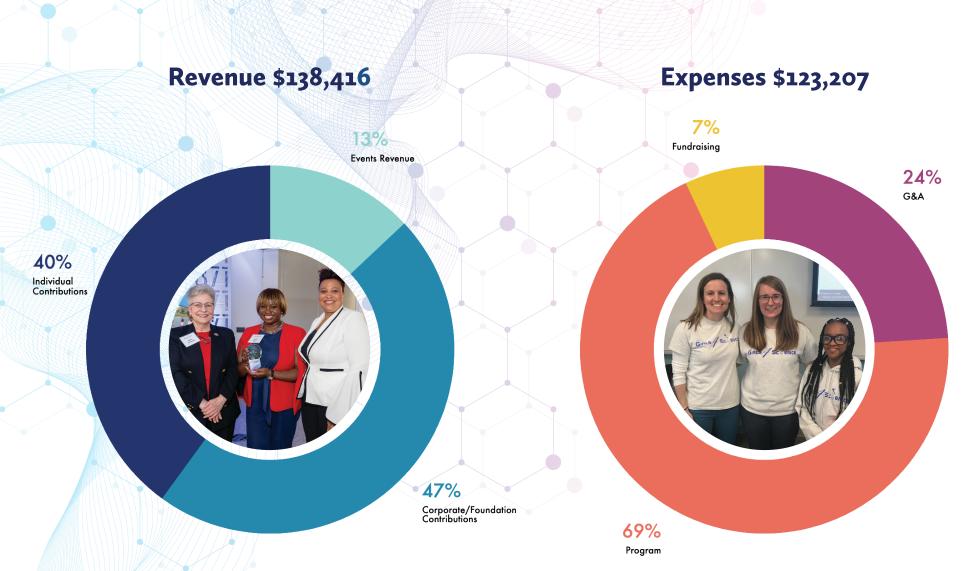


In 2019, Taylor Butler (Malcolm X), Audra Spielman (University of St. Francis) and Afua Rashid (Olive Harvey) were selected to attend Space Camp at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center.

(I to r) Taylor Butler, Audra Spielman, Afua Rashid



## **Financial Summary**



### 2019 Programs



G4S students at the Malcolm X location work on coding.



G4S students and team members from the University of St. Francis location.

## Winter Computer Technology 1: Coding

In partnership with Girls Who Code, the Winter Saturday STEM Academy introduced students to the concepts of loops, variables, conditionals and functions that form the basis of all programming languages.



## Spring Computer Technology 2: Coding

During the Spring Saturday STEM Academy, the students continued learning about coding. Working in groups, the girls designed online magazines showcasing women in science, technology, engineering and math. For six weeks the groups were immersed in CSS, Java Script and HTML, the languages that run the web.



## 2019 Programs continued







## Summer Tinker's Workshop

The summer Saturday STEM Academy was a Tinker's Workshop. For one project the girls made Art Bots (a robot that creates its own art) using DC motors, battery packs and switches, as well as cups, markers, and lots and lots of tape. Each art bot created different patterns on paper depending on the robot design.





### 2019 Programs continued





### Fall Biology

In the Fall Saturday STEM Academy students studied the function of human cells, created edible cells (using Twizzlers, marshmallows, gummie bears, whipped cream and cookies), dissected owl pellets (which are a record of what owls have eaten) to learn more about the owl's diet and the ecosystems in which they live, learned about the DNA of fruits and vegetables in a laboratory experiment and went on a field trip to the International Museum of Surgical Science to learn the history of surgery and medicine through the exhibits of medical artifacts, apparatus and instruments.



Constructing an edible cell.



## Why STEM?

In an ever-changing, increasingly complex world, it is more important than ever that youth are prepared to bring knowledge and skills to solve problems, make sense of information, and know how to gather and evaluate evidence to make decisions. These are the kinds of skills that students develop in science, technology, engineering, and math—disciplines collectively known as STEM. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics have always been the foundation for inspirational discovery and transformative technological innovation.

STEM education helps students gain the skills required to succeed in today's challenging world, including the ability to think critically and solve complex problems along with soft skills such as cooperation and adaptability. STEM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators.

STEM literacy and STEM skills are increasingly important for all people to succeed in the workplace and in their everyday lives. To simply function as an informed consumer and citizen in a world of increasingly sophisticated technology requires the ability to use digital devices and STEM skills such as evidence-based reasoning.

STEM employment in the U.S. continues to grow at a faster pace than employment in other occupations, and STEM workers command higher wages than their non-STEM counterparts. STEM degree holders enjoy higher earnings, regardless of whether they work in STEM or non-STEM occupations.

"Girls 4 Science kept me interested and intrigued outside of the classroom on Saturdays. After participating in G4S for over six years I knew that I wanted to pursue a career in STEM."

~Nakia Chappell, Class of 2017



"Girls 4 Science gave me confidence in my capabilities as a woman in the field of STEM. The program encouraged me to be curious and I gained a better understanding of STEM in a low-stress environment that was friendly and fun."

~Erika Jones, Class of 2018



## Why Girls?

Women comprise 50% of the American population and more than 50% of the college-bound population, yet they remain underrepresented in the STEM fields, especially women of color. While nearly as many women hold undergraduate degrees as men, they make up only about 30% of all STEM degree holders.

The gender gap in STEM begins with education. In childhood and adolescence, girls' interest in STEM is dampened by stereotypes and cultural norms that consistently portray ideal scientists, engineers and technology innovators as male. Girls participate in high level math and science courses at similar rates as males as they move into high school, and then a gender gap in participation starts as girls take fewer of the more advanced STEM courses as they get closer to college. This gap widens the longer girls are in school and larger gaps exist between students of different racial and ethnic backgrounds or family income.

There are several measures can help build STEM identity and interest among girls -- especially girls of color -- including extracurricular and single-sex programs, Black and female role models and project-based instruction. Informal STEM experiences are useful to girls, as they provide unique

"Girls 4 Science gave me the academic, financial and emotional support I needed to achieve my educational and career goals. The program has opened my eyes to the endless possibilities of what I can achieve, and for that I will be forever grateful."

~Erika Jones, Class of 2018

opportunities to engage and connect with science in an inquiry-based manner without the academic requirements of memorization and standardized testing. Such programs can have profound impacts on girls at the time when they are involved, and these impacts relate directly to their confidence, attitudes, and future plans.



## Why Girls 4 Science?



G4S targets girls age 10-18 years, primarily from low- and moderate-income communities. The Saturday STEM Academy's innovative program model is based on evidence that science exposure and increased science literacy will equip young girls with the knowledge and confidence needed to pursue study in the sciences and careers in STEM.

"The Saturday STEM Academy was a staple for me because the field trips connected with real world opportunities that I may have never been aware of. Girls 4 Science is a dream come true in so many ways. It fostered a deeper interest in me for a career in neuroscience.

~Erika Jones, Class of 2018

Early exposure to STEM fields, specifically in an all-girls environment with hands-on, problem-based learning, can combat the negative stereotypes and attitudes that contribute to the under-representation of women in many STEM fields. This is especially true for girls of color. Increasing the opportunities for science exposure for girls will affect change in multiple areas including self-esteem, post-secondary study and increased employment opportunities.

The Girls 4 Science **Saturday STEM Academy** employs strategies that have proven successful in increasing girls' interest in, positive attitudes toward, and identification with STEM. The evidence-based aspects of the program include:

- Single-sex program.
- Science exploration through project-based instruction with emphasis on creativity, problemsolving, hands-on, small group experiential learning and teamwork, which fosters a growth mindset, self-confidence and collegiality.
- Field trips to corporations, organizations, cultural institutions and other sites that provide opportunities to link the concepts learned in the STEM curriculum to real-world applications, and expose participants to a range of STEM industries, career options and working STEM professionals, especially women, to redefine how they see STEM.
- Mentorships to introduce participants to female role models -- especially women of color -who are professionals in STEM fields, to help girls see potential futures and develop resilient STEM identities.

### 2019 Donors

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\$10,000 +

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#### 2019 Board of Directors

Girls 4 Science is led by Founder and Executive Director, Jackie Lomax, and a dynamic Board of Directors that represents a wide range of knowledge, skills and experience in education, finance, business and STEM fields.

Founder & Executive Director Jackie Lomax

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Malcolm X City College

Dezarae Brooks

Noreen Corbett

**Danielle McDaniels** 

University of St. Francis

Sandrine Davis

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Jennifer Roberts

#### 2019 Volunteers

Girls 4 Science is indebted to its dedicated volunteers who generously give their time to the Saturday STEM Academy, Women in History event, Summer Student Recognition & Awards Ceremony and other G4S activities.

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Jenna Berting

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Kwaku Okraku

Gretchen Prem

**Monique Puckett** 

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. .. -..

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Bill Schmitz

Ashley Wayman

#### 2019 Advisory Board

The Girls 4 Science Advisory Board comprise community leaders who advise the Board of Directors and staff on current and future work of the organization, and assist in strategic development and fundraising, and planning, promotion and execution of G4S events. The Advisory Board is also a pipeline for Girls 4 Science leadership.

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**Kemper Corporate Services** 

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