



Contact: Victoria Waterman, President, Leading Women Mass
401-597-0649
vwaterman@LeadingWomen.biz

For Immediate Release

LEADING WOMEN MASS SPONSORS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY TEAM AT GIRLS INC. OF WORCESTER

Volunteer Women Mentors from Bank of America, EMC Corp, Fallon Community Health Plan, Junior League of Worcester, Leading Women Mass, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), Staples, TJX Companies, and Verizon mentor 20 girls at Girls Inc. of Worcester

Worcester, MA (November 2011)

The Girls Incorporated of Worcester Leadership Academy recognizes the amazing leadership potential in young women today. By pairing girls in grades 10 -12 with professional women from our community as mentors, this program encourages and inspires girls to challenge themselves and gives them amazing opportunities to learn and grow.

Yamilex, a sophomore at North High School, says "I want to be part of Girls Inc. Leadership Academy to learn how to be a leader, have better communication skills, and be motivated. Everything is possible if you work hard!"

Leading Women Mass is sponsoring a team of women leaders to participate as Volunteer Mentors for the Girls Inc. Leadership Academy.

The team of Volunteer Mentors:

- Mary Cartier, Bank of America
- Deb Gallagher, EMC Corp
- Ursula Arello, Fallon Community Health Plan
- Cathy McCarthy, Junior League of Worcester
- Luanne Remillard, Junior League of Worcester
- Kim Schultz, Junior League of Worcester
- Victoria Waterman, Leading Women Mass
- Colleen Dowd, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Lisa Prior-Stokes, Staples, Inc
- Cynthia Wilkinson, Staples, Inc
- Fran Rogers, The TJX Companies
- Ellen Cummings, Verizon

Building upon the strong and highly impactful relationship with Worcester Public Schools, the Girls Inc. Leadership Academy provides an intensive gender-specific leadership development program for 20 girls from North High and Abbey Kelley Foster.



Program highlights:

- Rock Climbing at the Central MA Rock Climbing Gym
- Conflict resolution and appropriate assertiveness
- Goal setting and time management
- Field trips to area colleges, college access and readiness
- Public speaking and presentation skills
- Stress reduction techniques
- Making the most out of your money
- Shopping spree (\$50 gift card included!) for an interview outfit
- \$500 Scholarship for one student who best embodies the concepts learned in the Girls Inc. Leadership Academy
- Personal letter of recommendation from the mentor

The Girls Inc. Leadership Academy wraps up with a Keynote Conference, which is shaped throughout the program based on the girls' interests and needs.

"I'm proud to participate in this endeavor and look forward to continued engagement with these young women and to one day hear about their achievements and successes as they continue throughout their lives" explains Deb Gallagher, a volunteer from EMC Corp, when asked why she joined the team.

Victoria Waterman, President of Leading Women Mass, proudly serves as Board President of Girls Inc. of Worcester. When asked why she is a strong advocate for girls, she replies, *"Today's Girls Are Tomorrow's Leading Women."*

About Leading Women Mass

By providing innovative solutions based on proprietary research, Leading Women helps F500 and other companies achieve their goals for women's advancement. Each solution delivers a unique perspective and practical tools for overcoming the common barriers to women's advancement. To fit the reality of today's workplaces our solutions are delivered live, virtually, online and in combination. Leading Women is a certified *WBENC* woman-owned business. www.LeadingWomen.biz

About Girls Incorporate of Worcester

As the oldest and only facility based, girl-centered organization in Central Massachusetts, Girls Incorporated of Worcester has been transforming girls' views of themselves and creating opportunities for generations. Girls Incorporated is the leading national expert on girls' issues and houses the largest, most comprehensive research center on girls in the country at its National Resource Center (NRC) in Indianapolis. Because our core programs are researched, developed, and piloted by the NRC, Girls Inc. provides the highest quality, cutting edge, and age-appropriate programming available to girls in the Greater Worcester area.

With local roots dating to 1916 and national status since 1945, Girls Inc. responds to the changing needs of girls and their communities through nationally-tested, research-based programs.
www.girlsincworchester.org