PROJECT AWARDS

2023

CLASS
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INTRODUCTION

Girl Up Project Award’s allow any youth advocate around the world to apply for funds up to $1000.00 USD to apply towards a project that they are passionate about. Youth receive funding to make their vision and makes that idea a reality. Girl Up continues to be committed to supporting youth ideas, dreams, and goals towards gender equality.

Girl Up works alongside awardees and provides guidance on utilizing their leadership skills and project design including SMART Goals, team building, and budgeting. The fund helps these leaders pursue these projects by covering most, if not all, of the project finances. Applicant criteria, selection guidelines, additional resources, and reporting guidelines provided to awardees can now be found in Girl Up’s Project Award Resource.

Girl Up’s 2023 Project Award Class represents 50 awardees who represent 9 U.S states and 25 countries including Canada, India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Malawi, Rwanda, Zambia, Kenya, Mozambique, Sierra Leon, Ghana, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Kuwait, Morocco, Tukey, the UK, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, and Honduras.

This class represents Girl Up’s entire Girl Up community with a range of project topics and varying involvement from Club Leaders to Teen Advisors within Girl Up’s movement.
"Dignity Flow: Empowering Low-Income Women & Girls with Menstrual Hygiene will be supporting four period packing events in Ashley’s further community that will put together period supplies and other hygiene items that will be disbursed to three groups: One Heart for Women and Children, The Center for Women and Families, and the homeless at Lake Eola in Downtown Orlando.

ANNETTE L., UNITED STATES (STEM)

The Girls International Three-Minute Science Competition is a competition that allows for female-identifying teens (ages 12-19) around the world to submit a 3-minute recorded speech on a scientific topic/idea to be judged by a panel of female professors from top universities, including Brown, UC Berkeley, and Cambridge. The project was established by a small group of high school and college students passionate about gender equality in STEM and is being carried on by a team of six high school students following in their footsteps. The money in particular is being used to help with grand prize money.
YouthWell United is aiming to be a network of youth in the Greater Toronto Area, hereafter referred to as the GTA, working to improve wellness, education, and social awareness in youth and in-need communities. Their aim is to help in-need youth in difficult situations/struggling communities through familiar media, youth specific resources and unique youth led programs. The program specifically supported by the Project Awards Fund will include a Care Packages Program which will include toys, books, a Mental Health Journal, a Coloring Book, Mental Health Pamphlet, Activity Booklet (made by YouthWell United Team), Stickers, and Card/craft made by our volunteers. It also will support an arts and crafts program and donation drives.
ANGELA Y., UNITED STATES (STEM)

Girl Up’s Project Award Funding will be used to support Angela’s STEM Discovery Girls Camp [SDG Camp]. The STEM Discovery Girls camp will be a free, 5-day summer camp for middle schoolers at LAPD Devonshire PALS (https://www.devonshire-pals.org/), a local LAPD-sponsored nonprofit that offers after school enrichment programs for at-risk and low-income students. The camp is themed around STEM innovation and showing STEM’s potential to achieve different SDG goals.

SARANYA S., UNITED STATES (LEADERSHIP/ ADVOCACY)

Women in Debate is a 501(c)(3) national student-led, non-profit that supports gender minorities in the debate space through free mentoring, scholarships, articles, and events. Saranya applied to the Project Awards to help with the entry fee and travel related funds for different debates throughout the school year so that they could continue to combat the low-income gender minority statistics in the debate space to ensure that all women’s voices continued to be included in all debate spaces.
The Sport Boot Camp is a transformative program dedicated to empowering young female athletes in Ibadan North, Oyo State. Over the course of two action-packed days, this fitness initiative aims to nurture self-esteem, confidence, and leadership abilities while combatting the increase of young girls dropping out of sports. Catherine’s focus is on students in grades 7–12, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds who lack access to these opportunities.

Michelle’s SRHRJ project will facilitate raising awareness surrounding period myths and also facilitate hands-on training of sewing pads. This training will be given to women (10 in total). The sewing of pads will be facilitated by the Michelle’s club members and is hoping to reach at least 50 girls from different upper primary school and secondary schools who will then act as a champion on issues to deal related to menstrual hygiene. They hope these soon to be champions in various schools will then be able to conduct the same trainings of sewing pads and spread awareness.
SecureHer Project is a comprehensive initiative designed to empower young girls in underserved communities in Lusaka Province, Zambia, with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate the digital world safely. The project addresses the pressing issues of digital security, cyber threats, and online bullying and harassment, which disproportionately affect these young girls and hinder their personal and academic growth. The project encompasses a multifaceted approach to digital safety and empowerment. This includes comprehensive training sessions to educate the girls about digital security, safe online practices, and recognizing and responding to cyber threats. Additionally, publicity and awareness campaigns will be launched to highlight the importance of digital safety and gender equality.

The Girl Up Edu Summit will be an educational event designed to inspire and guide young individuals, particularly women and girls aged 13-24, in discovering their career paths. This full-day summit aims to provide a platform for young people to explore and chart their future career journeys. This summit will bring together a diverse group of young professionals from various fields, each with unique experiences and insights to share. It will feature keynote speakers, panel discussions, workshops, and an exhibition area showcasing educational resources, scholarship opportunities, and career development tools.
GreenTechGirls Challenge: Empowering Environmental Innovators- is a project that will help create AI chatbots/ an app to help inform green practices in communities. These eco-friendly practices include tips and tricks for recycling and other sustainable living tips. Anisha will also host an event about how they are creating the AI tools within the app to further teach the community about how they can create tangible STEM solutions in their community.

Priyanshi’s project aims to install pad machines in at least 4 underfunded schools across Delhi NCR. They will first be partnering with a pad vending machine company called 'VENDIGO' which has successfully partaken in a similar program in Tamil Nadu state of India. We will be using these funds, along with our sponsorship with the company to install pad machines in these schools and colleges. Through this adolescent girls will be able to get easier access to such products. Girls will be able to get 3 sanitary napkins when they put in just one rupee.
IKHTIYOR A., TAJIKISTAN (STEM, STORYTELLING)

The "Empowering Environmental Voices" project seeks to provide 30 girls and women in Tajikistan with the opportunity to express themselves through creative writing while focusing on the crucial topic of environmental justice. The course duration-2 months (online and offline). Through this free course, participants will not only enhance their creative writing skills but also learn to be advocates for environmental change, amplifying their voices for a sustainable future.

EYLÜL E., TURKEY (ARTS, LEADERSHIP)

2-Month Leadership Through the Performance Arts Workshop for Underprivileged Children: Istanbul. In this 2-month program, Eylül is aiming to provide an estimated number of 20 underprivileged kids with an educational experience where they will be taught to express themselves through the performance arts and will be introduced to the concepts of community, empowerment, gender equality, and more. At the end of the program, the students will perform a play centered around similar themes; with free tickets reserved for children who may be interested in taking part in a second edition of the program.
The Mexican women scientists coloring book project is an initiative that seeks to promote science, gender equity and access to information in remote areas of Mexico. This project combines artistic talent and science education by presenting illustrations of Mexican women scientists accompanied by playful activities, such as crossword puzzles, mazes and riddles, as well as a practical and safe experiment, using recycled materials for its production. Each illustration is accompanied by a brief biography of the scientist and a QR code that redirects to a web page with complete information, which expands the opportunities to access the information. The illustrations are created by the collective "Científicas del Arte", a group of girls and adolescents from rural communities.

**FERNANDA L., MEXICO (STEM)**

This project is a 12-week virtual academy during which it will provide training on environmental education, its foundations, leadership with a gender perspective, transversal skills, and socio-environmental problems in Chile. The academy is focused on adolescents and young people from the national territory aged 14 to 25 years old. The main objective is to train educators to promote a culture of sustainability and further actions throughout the community of Chile.

**ISIS F., CHILE (STEM)**