Inaugural Girls Build! Day expands successful series at the Chicago Architecture Center

Program initiated in 2016 encouraging young women to enter STEM fields and careers aligns with new legislation for Rebuild Illinois

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Media contacts
Zachary Whittenburg, Director of Communications
zwhittenburg@architecture.org, 312-322-1134
Anna Munzesheimer, Communications Specialist
amunzesheimer@architecture.org, 312-561-2109

CHICAGO – On Wednesday, December 11—as part of the implementation of the $45 billion capital plan Rebuild Illinois, passed in late June 2019—Governor Pritzker signed additional legislation (SB 177) to ensure equitable access to training for careers in construction and building trades.

This $25 million investment, called Illinois Works, will engage community-based organizations to recruit new apprentices to benefit from construction projects funded by Rebuild Illinois with goals to advance, maintain, and support a more diverse workforce.

Understanding that college and career readiness for future opportunities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) fields requires sustained commitment to young people, the Chicago Architecture Center (CAC) has long offered a wide range of education programs including camps, classes, field trips, and workshops.

Expanding upon the success of ten Girls Build! classes and camps it has offered since 2016, the CAC is excited to host its inaugural Girls Build! Day on Saturday, January 11 from 10am to 1pm, at the Chicago Architecture Center, located at 111 East Wacker Drive in downtown Chicago.

Young people and families attending this inaugural fair and festival will meet extraordinary women from a variety of STEM careers; interact with hands-on, STEM-based projects; and learn more about pursuing opportunities in the field. Girls Build! Day and programs are designed to increase gender equity in STEM fields, in addition to promoting self-confidence. (more)
Girls! Build Day admission includes refreshments and CAC giveaways. More than 15 esteemed local partners include Brookfield Zoo, the Chicago Urban League, the Field Museum, and the Kenneth C. Griffin Museum of Science and Industry, as well as DiscoverDesign.org, Girls Inc. of Chicago, and the Structural Engineers Association of Illinois.

Admission to Girls Build! Day is free for students ages 11 to 17, with an $8 ticket per adult parent or chaperone ($6 for CAC members). Register by phone at 312-922-8687 and click here to learn more about Girls Build! Day.

About the Chicago Architecture Center
The Chicago Architecture Center (CAC), formerly the Chicago Architecture Foundation (CAF), is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring people to discover why design matters. As an education leader in architecture and design, The CAC is a hub for everything architecture in Chicago, offering tours, programs, exhibitions, field trips, curricula, and online tools that are part of a dynamic learning journey for all ages. Proceeds from CAC’s tours and store, as well as from grants, sponsorships and donations, support this educational mission.

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