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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Girl Scout Programs STEMming Out: Include Haptics and Robotics

Baltimore—Girl Scouts have been saying “we’re more than Cookies and camp” for a while now. New programs like Girl Scouts of Central Maryland’s (GSCM) Engineering Exploration, a program developed with Johns Hopkins University biomedical and mechanical engineering graduate students that introduces girls to the fields of science, technology, engineering and math, prove just that. On Saturday, February 7, from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. the council’s Engineering Exploration program, which was implemented at Highlandtown Middle/Elementary School in Baltimore City and Marley Middle School in Glen Burnie, will culminate with a Science and Technology Summit at Johns Hopkins University’s Mudd Hall. Girls will display projects created from recycled materials and program participants selected to “shadow” sci-tech professionals will talk about their experiences followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with the mentors. The summit is funded in part by a Lockheed Martin Career Exploration Grant in partnership with Girl Scouts of the USA.

“We are very pleased with the results of this program,” said Patricia Dash, GSCM Vice President of Membership and Program. “Many of the girls who began the program with a slight interest in science and technology are now exploring career options in these fields.” She added, “That’s what Girl Scouts is all about, opening a door of possibilities and helping girls achieve their goals.”

GSCM has also worked with NASA astrophysicist Dr. Ann Hornschemeier, to bring space exploration programs to middle and high school aged Girl Scouts. As a result GSCM is the first Girl Scout council to offer the newly developed Afterschool Universe program for girls in grades 6-9. “GSCM has helped us to understand how to develop programs and work with girls,” Dr. Hornschemeier, commented. Hopefully, she added, these programs will help more girls become interested in the professions associated with science.

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Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland serves 30,000 girls in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties providing programs and activities that allow them to Discover, Connect and Take Action.

Where Girls Grow StrongSM