

# PRESS RELEASE



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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Girl Scouts CEO, Traci A. Barnett, named Innovator of the Year**

**Baltimore--**Girl Scouts of Central Maryland CEO, Traci A. Barnett has recently been named Innovator of the Year by the Daily Record. She shares this honor, given to Maryland individuals and companies that have created a product, service, program or process that has had a positive effect on their business, industry or community, with 23 other business innovators.

Ms. Barnett's innovation award is directly related to the creation of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) center at the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland (GSCM) headquarters on Seton Drive in Baltimore. After three years of work and dedication, which included a council-led campaign to secure Maryland State Bond Bill funding and extensive renovations and remodeling, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland's Urban Program and STEM Center opened its doors on October 26, 2010. The center is the first Girl Scout program center in Baltimore and the second Girl Scout Council-owned STEM center in the nation.

"We had worked with Northrop Grumman, Lockheed Martin and Johns Hopkins University in the past to assist us with providing engaging STEM programs for girls of all ages," Barnett noted. I was thrilled when Northrop Grumman agreed that Girl Scouts was an ideal organization to partner with to increase STEM awareness among girls. We look forward to providing thousands of girls with hands-on activities that will get them excited about study, careers and opportunities in STEM," Barnett stated.

After piloting several cutting edge STEM programs, including a series created just for Girl Scouts by Techbridge – a STEM educational firm—The Seton Urban Program and STEM center has provided programs for nearly 1,000 girls in the central Maryland area.

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*Girl Scouts of Central Maryland provides leadership programming for nearly 30,000 girls in central Maryland residing in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties. For more information about the programs GSCM offers visit [gscm.org](http://gscm.org); follow us on Twitter, like us on Facebook.*