

PRESS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

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Girl Scouts Compete in *First* Lego League Qualifier

Baltimore—Girl Scouts of Central Maryland (GSCM) will host the *First* Lego League (FLL) qualifier on Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 9:00 am – 3:30 in its new Urban Program & STEM center located at 4806 Seton Drive in Baltimore City. Girl Scouts of Central Maryland's Lego team – Robogirls -- will be among 12 area teams competing to move on to the State Championship at UMBC. GSCM is a partner with the Maryland branch of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), a non-profit organization founded by inventor Dean Kamen. FIRST uses robotics and sports-like competitions to help students develop technology and robotics skills. Each September, a new Challenge is unveiled to FLL teams across the world. Over the ensuing 8 weeks, the teams strategize, design, build, program, test and refine a fully autonomous robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS™ technology. At FLL competitions, the teams are evaluated on their robot's performance, their presentation, team work and robot design.

Maryland has more than 250 *FIRST* teams, from kindergarten through 12th grade, ages 6-18. GSCM's robotics team has been working together since September 2011 and demonstrated their newly acquired skills to Sen. Barbara Mikulski when she visited the GSCM headquarters in October of last year. Currently the Council has one Lego League team, but is hoping to have two teams for the next challenge round. Interested girls can contact Su Kim, skim@gscm.org or attend the Robogirls recruitment meeting at the GSCM STEM Center in late March of this year. Call or email Su Kim for more details or visit GSCM's STEM blog at

<http://gscmstem.blogspot.com/>.

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Girl Scouts of Central Maryland provides leadership programming for nearly 27,000 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; follow us on Twitter, like us on Facebook, visit our blog (<http://blog.gscm.org>)

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