With Girls at the Center, There's Nothing We Can't Do

by Danielle Heard, President of the ICGS Governing Board and Head of Nashoba Brooks School

“It’s not about the absence of boys, it’s about the presence of girls.”

With this one statement, Vee—our impressive student tour guide at The Harpeth Hall School in Nashville, Tennessee—captured the sentiment we so often use to describe the power of girls-centered spaces that recognize, celebrate, and amplify the voices and impact of our students.

As ICGS Global Executive Director Megan Murphy often reminds us, girls-centered spaces are not simply focused on education with girls, they are about education for girls. This work is active, informed, and intentional. As I reflect on gathering with colleagues and peers from around the world at the ICGS Governing Board meeting and the Educating Girls Symposium at Harpeth Hall in October, I continue to be struck by the ways in which ICGS celebrates our roots as we create an even stronger future together.

From our humble beginnings in borrowed space with volunteered time, this Coalition has always been willing to tackle challenging topics in challenging times, knowing that through Mission, Meaning, and Making Connections, we grow the young leaders who will shape our collective future.

There is no better time than now for this important work.

read more

Girls' Schools: Understanding the Research

The Coalition has a deep and rich history embedded in research on girls’ schools, and we continue to provide member schools research to support them in situating the value of girls’ schools upon a theoretical and pedagogical base. The resources found in our robust Research Library help families and communities better appreciate the positive outcomes of a girls’ school education. ICGS also engages member schools in research projects with academic partners, collaborates with researchers working on issues of importance to girls’ education and girls’ schools, and tracks prevailing research to keep member schools up-to-date with the latest findings. Visit the Coalition website to learn more.
Call for Proposals: Share Your Voice with ICGS

We want to hear your perspective! Submit a proposal to present at one or both of these 2023 ICGS gatherings: the February 6 ICGS/NYSAIS Educating Girls Symposium at The Nightingale-Bamford School in New York, New York, and the June 26-28 ICGS Conference at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown in Cleveland, Ohio. The deadline for proposals is November 28, 2022.

At the Educating Girls Symposium, school leaders and educators from around the world will come together to explore essential questions centered on the theme of Meaning, Mission & Making Connections.

These include:

- What does it mean to be global citizen? What does it mean to be a leader, an ally, a student and a girl in today's world?
- Does our mission clearly capture what we strive to do for every student within our care? Does it underpin our strategic goals and initiatives?
- How are we communicating with all members of our school community and facilitating healthy, respectful connections among and between them?

At the 2023 ICGS Conference, we will celebrate and explore a hallmark of ICGS schools, which is to drive innovation and appreciate the limitless opportunities the future holds. We are infinitely more intrigued by the question “What’s next?” than we are by the idea of "What now?"

At no point in our history will this mindset serve us better. Indeed, we are poised to reflect on the lessons learned since early 2020 and rethink how our schools can best prepare girls to be the leaders and changemakers the world needs.

It is also time to recharge and reengage with others who share your commitment to the young people you serve. The ICGS Conference will be full of opportunities to practice self-care, be in community with others, and experience joy.

Submit a Proposal:

Educating Girls Symposium Call for Proposals | ICGS Conference Call for Proposals
all materials due November 28, 2022

Moulton Student Global Citizenship Grant Awarded

Congratulations to students at Miss Hall’s School, located in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and Gashora Girls Academy of Science and Technology in Bugesera, Rwanda, who are working in collaboration on a project geared toward supporting young woman in the Nyabagendwa community located in the Bugesera district - eastern province of Rwanda. The project goal is to provide the next generation of girls and young women with
On Educating Girls Episode 14: Girls Who Find Their Way to "Yes"

NOW STREAMING: We want the girls in our lives to have big ideas and the passion to bring them to life. Yet, how do we, as their adult role models, set the tone, become their partners, teach them the transferable skill sets they need when the big idea might need some help being brought to life? You do it with curiosity and positivity. You do it by asking the right questions. You do it with a learner’s mindset. Together—with her—you create the satisfying “journey to yes.”

On Educating Girls host Trudy Hall learns how that is done well at Academy of Our Lady of Peace in San Diego, California. Tune in and share this episode with parents and colleagues in your community!

Coalition Videos Available for Download

Whether a girl wants to be an astronaut, ambassador, author, or attorney, girls need to know—not just think, but really know, deep down—there’s nothing that can stand in their way. That’s the Girls’ School Advantage. Visit the Coalition’s YouTube channel for a wide array of videos that illuminate and celebrate the transformational power of girls’ schools.

Items of Interest

'I was their teacher': A chance encounter as Afghans protest after a suicide bombing
NPR

Why More And More Girls Are Hitting Puberty Early
The New Yorker

Malala And Greta Thunberg - Two Global Icons Spurned In Their Own Countries - Op-Ed
EurasiaReview

Opinion: Afghan girls' will to learn is powerful. Even a bomb won't crush it.
The Washington Post

Join Us for an Upcoming Event

Plan your Professional Development participation using the Events Calendar on the ICGS website! With this feature, you can easily search for ICGS
5 easy ways to help girls squash gender bias
Yahoo! Sports

Discover Career Opportunities at Girls’ Schools
www.girlsschools.org

educational and networking opportunities taking place online or in person. Member schools are invited to Add Your Own Events to this calendar as well.