



## **Girl Scouts IMAGINE Program Explores STEM Careers for High School Girls**

**(Spokane, Wash–July 10, 2012):** High school girls throughout the Yakima Valley can explore a variety of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers through a program offered exclusive by Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. The “IMAGINE: Your STEM Future” curriculum is provided by Girl Scouts USA and a grant from AT&T. The grant covers the cost of participation and a current \$12 Girl Scouts membership.

The IMAGINE curriculum offers opportunities for high school girls to team up with Girl Scouts and other volunteers to participate in interactive activities and visual experiments, such as extracting DNA from a banana. These activities are designed to help students imagine a future STEM career and spark interest in taking additional STEM courses in high school and college and open doors to new career options. Already 75 high school girls from the Grandview School District are participating in the IMAGINE program as part of their summer school program which began June 29.

The program is a high energy, fun and informal science education experience. It includes hands-on, student-led experiments and introduces girls to a variety of STEM careers including lab work, product design, engineering, environmental science and architecture. The sessions provide opportunities for girls to learn from women in science careers and expand upon their leadership skills by developing a “Girl Scout though of the day.”

High school girls in the Yakima Valley can register for a **July 19** “IMAGINE: Your STEM Future” program to be held at the Southeast Community Center, located at 211 S. Seventh Street in Yakima. The session will run from 1-5 p.m. Interested high school girls must register for the session by July 18 by contacting GSEWNI Yakima Program and Outreach Coordinator Alicia Ullom at (509) 834-0867 or [aullom@gsewni.org](mailto:aullom@gsewni.org).

There are nearly 1,000 active Girl Scouts in the greater Yakima Valley region and hundreds of Girl Scout alumnae and volunteers working with girls every day. Contact Ullom if you are interested in forming a troop, adult volunteering, community partnerships or learning more about Girl Scouting in the Yakima area.

### ***About Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho***

Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls, the leading authority on girls’ healthy development and is working with girls and women to transform the leadership landscape for girls into the next century. Girl Scouts of all ages are recognizing 2012 as the *Year of the Girl*, with council Centennial celebrations and campaigns held throughout the year. Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho serves nearly 8,000 girls and 2,600 adult

volunteers in a region encompassing 67,000 miles that includes 20 counties in central and eastern Washington and 10 counties in northern Idaho. Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho is committed to discovering, celebrating and fostering the leader in every girl.

Follow and “like” GSEWNI on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. For more information about the council and the many ways to be involved with GSEWNI, visit [www.gsewni.org](http://www.gsewni.org).



-1226-

Contact:

*Susan Nielsen, vice president of communications, (509) 991-9151, [snielsen@gsewni.org](mailto:snielsen@gsewni.org)*