

# Permission Form for Take a Girl to College Day at Columbia University

I hereby give permission for my child or subject of my legal guardianship,

\_\_\_\_\_ , to participate in Take a Girl to College Day at Columbia University in the City of New York on April 23, 2008.

I understand:

1. that this event includes visiting laboratories under the supervision of undergraduate students and faculty of Columbia University
2. that this event includes touring the campus, classrooms, and dormitories of Columbia University including Barnard College, and
3. that participants will be required to obey all safety mandates and instructions from department staff and faculty and will be asked to leave the program in the event of non-compliance.

I have listed below any allergies, health conditions, or other physical conditions that might impact the participation by my child in this event.

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Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Websites for Girls!

<http://www.girlsinc.org/gc/index.html>

<http://www.girlstart.com/>

<http://www.engineergirl.org/>

<http://www.girlsgotech.org/>



## Directions

Columbia University is located at 116<sup>th</sup> St and Broa. The Schapiro/CEPSR Building is circled in red and located behind Uris, the business school. Don't confuse this building with Schapiro Hall- please look at the map of campus below!



## Take a Girl to College Day at Columbia University



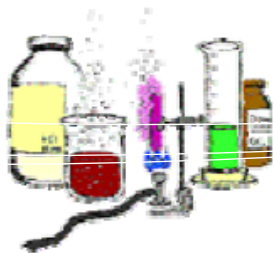
Wednesday, April 23, 2008  
(Spring Break for NYC schools)  
9:30 am-4 pm



Take a Girl to College Day is a fun event designed to inspire and motivate middle school girls by giving them a taste of college life.

We invite girls from around New York City to Columbia University to spend the day shadowing a female college student. The pair will visit a college lecture, tour a dorm, and have lunch together on campus. Later in the day, the middle school girls will hear from representatives from Columbia admissions on how to work throughout high school to build a good college application.

Take a Girl to College Day is hosted by WISC (Women in Science at Columbia), so this event will have an extra emphasis on science. The girls will have the chance to participate in hands-on science demos throughout the day, as well as accompany female grad students on tours of their laboratories.



## The Importance of Mathematics and Science for Middle School and Junior High Students

In the United States today, mastering mathematics has become more important than ever. Students with a strong grasp of mathematics have an advantage in academics and in the job market. The 8th grade is a critical point in mathematics education. Achievement at that stage clears the way for students to take rigorous high school mathematics and science courses--keys to college entrance and success in the labor force. However, most 8th and 9th graders lag so far behind in the classes they take that getting on the road to college is difficult.

- Students who take rigorous mathematics and science courses are much more likely to go to college than those who do not.
- Algebra is the "gateway" to advanced mathematics and science in high school, yet most students do not take it in middle school.
- Taking rigorous mathematics and science courses in high school appears to be especially important for low-income students. Low-income students who took algebra I and geometry were almost three times as likely to attend college as those who did not.
- Despite the importance of low-income students taking rigorous mathematics and science courses, these students are less likely to take them.

**Reference: U.S. Department of Education**

<http://www.ed.gov/students/prep/college/thinkcollege/early/educators/edlite-mathsci.html>

Take a Girl to College Day is an initiative to introduce middle school girls to college life. Visiting classes, dorms, and laboratories, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls from the Harlem area will experience life as a college student at Columbia University. As part of the event, the middle schoolers and their parents will receive information on free and low-cost tutoring and college guidance resources and brochures with tips on how to ensure your daughter attends college.

Female college students majoring in science, engineering, and math will host the girls. Graduate students in science and engineering will give tours of their research laboratories and lead science demonstrations throughout the day.

How to register?

1. Register on-line at [www.columbia.edu/cu/wisc](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/wisc)  
Click on "Take a Girl to College Day"

2. Register by mail by completing and mailing in the registration slip

**\*\*All registered participants will be notified by phone or by e-mail as confirmation\*\***

For more information, see [www.columbia.edu/cu/wisc/tgcdday.html](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/wisc/tgcdday.html)