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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**GIRLS ACTION NETWORK®**  
**SGB COMMITTEE HOSTS MINI-CONFERENCE**

Philadelphia, PA – The **Girls Action Network® SGB Committee** hosted a mini-conference on Saturday, October 27, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Temple University's Ritter Annex, located at 1301 Cecil B Moore Avenue, Philadelphia, PA. Cost was \$5 per student with breakfast-lunch included.

The conference theme was **"Unlocking Opportunities: Leadership, Education and Empowerment"** emphasizing **GAN's** core mission, which is the realization that greater steps needed to be taken to increase the number of: (i) students studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics ("STEM fields"); (ii) female students choosing occupations in these STEM fields; and (iii) workforce-ready graduates for the 21st century labor market who reflect a diversity of aptitudes and cultural perspectives, and who possess a personal foundation to contribute and lead in a global society.

With over 130 participants attending, including girls, ages 11-18, parents, and educators, conference participants were able to attend various panel discussions and workshops such as the **Morning Panel** moderated by **Dionne Mobley** with professional women who shared their leadership styles and a range of different perspectives and personal experiences with questions and group discussion. Panelists included **Marisa Henry (Project Engineer, Campbell Soup Company)**, **Syreeta Mitchell (Founder, EH Magazine)** and **Elisa Basnight (Military/Law/GAN Founder)**. Participants also had an opportunity to attend each of three workshops comprised of **Finding My Passion** led by **Shalena Diva**: a workshop to help participants discover their purpose and passion, and use this information to guide them to develop an education and career plan; **Protecting My Social Media Brand** led by **Stephanie Humphrey (Tech-Life)**: a workshop to examine why good social media management is important for Facebook, Twitter, and other networks, as well as the consequences of having a negative reputation online; and **He Said, She Said: Image, Attitude, & Etiquette** led by **Alana Lee (Educator/Actress)** with **Al Butler (Radio Host)**, **Kharisma McIlwaine (TV Host)** and **Brian and Donna Terrell-Rice**: this workshop conducted in an interactive game show format looks at how the way a young lady presents herself to the public is perceived, from a female and a male perspective.

The afternoon kicked-off with a **Financial Seminar** led by **Mary Jackson, MBA, Financial Analyst of Prudential**, followed by the **Keynote Address** delivered by **Jamira Burley, Executive Director of the Philadelphia Youth Commission**. The GAN-SGB Mini-Conference was made possible by the leadership of **Gail Hannah**, Conference Chair, the generous support of Temple University, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, Telrose Corporation, Spike's Trophy's & Awards, Motorola Mobility LLC, Villa Sneakers, individual sponsors, GAN supporters and volunteers.

**Girls Action Network® (GAN).**

GAN is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that educates and empowers girls in grades middle school and high school with special emphasis on girls from underserved communities. Girls Action Network® encourages girls to shatter stereotypes that limit their career options and enables them to fully explore their career opportunities and guide their own direction toward personal success with a particular focus on STEM. [www.girlsactionnetwork.org](http://www.girlsactionnetwork.org)

PHOTOS:

<p>Participants with GAN Board Director</p>	<p>Participants attending <b>Finding My Passion</b></p>	<p><b>Morning STEM Panel</b> L-R: Dionne Mobley, Elisa Basnight, Syreetah Mitchell, and Marisa Henry</p>
		
<p>Participants attending <b>Financial Seminar</b></p>	<p>L-R: Elisa Basnight, <b>Keynote - Jamira Burley</b>, Stephanie Humphrey</p>	<p>Participants attending <b>Protecting My Social Media Brand</b></p>
		
	<p>Participants attending <b>He Said, She Said: Image, Attitude, &amp; Etiquette</b></p>	
		

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