



## Dates to Remember...

### ALL WINS

**“Life After WINS” Alumnae Panel** - Thursday, March 20th 4:00pm to 6:00pm  
**Senior Farewell** - Wednesday, May 28th 4:30pm to 6:30pm

### WINS I

**Field Trip! - Adventure Aquarium**  
Saturday, March 8th 9:30am to 3:30pm  
**Field Trip! - Lady Maryland**  
Saturday, May 3rd 7:30am to 6:00pm  
**Field Trip! - “Cape to Cape”  
overnight camping trip to  
Assateague Island**  
Saturday, May 17th from 8:00am to  
Sunday, May 18th at 4:00pm

### WINS II

**Workshop: Intern Presentations**  
Thursday, April 24th 4:30pm to 6:00pm  
**Field Trip! - Philadelphia Science Festival**  
Saturday, April 26th 9:30am to 12:30pm  
**Intern ONLY Field Trip - Streams**  
Tuesday, May 6th 8:00am to 4:00pm  
**Field Trip! - Bartram’s Garden**  
Saturday, May 10th 9:00am to 1:30pm  
**Workshop: Fossil Field Work**  
Thursday, May 15th 4:30pm to 6:00pm

#### WINS Newsletter

**Editors**  
Betsy Payne  
Allison Krisch

**Contributors**  
Tamirra Bell  
Lataeya Carr  
Tenin Sissoko

**Send your comments or  
questions to:**  
Betsy Payne, WINS Manager  
The Academy of Natural Sciences  
of Drexel University  
1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
payne@ansp.org  
(215) 299-1064  
(215) 299-1165 fax

All activities are  
**rain or shine!**

Please let  
Ms. Betsy know  
if you cannot  
make it to an  
activity  
beforehand.

**Women In Natural  
Sciences (WINS)** is an  
innovative and successful  
science enrichment  
program conducted by  
the Academy of Natural  
Sciences of Drexel Uni-  
versity in collaboration  
with the School District  
of Philadelphia. Since its  
founding in 1982, WINS  
has been providing  
female public school  
students with hands-on  
science classes, scientific  
literacy and skill-building  
activities, and opportuni-  
ties for personal growth  
in a uniquely nurturing  
setting.

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# WINS Newsletter

VOLUME II ISSUE I

MARCH 2014

## My Last Few Days in WINS

Starting WINS, I didn't really know how I was going to cope with being in a program like this. It seemed like I would be out of my element, until we started the summer session. I really enjoyed the summer session and was excited to find out that the fall session would be very similar to the summer session. WINS opened my eyes to a lot of new things to helping me in high school, college and my everyday life after that. I grew up a lot from my first day at WINS to my very few last dwindling days of WINS.

Our Senior Trip had many winter activities alongside confidence and team building courses. During the trip we knew what we were going to do but didn't expect it to have lasting memories of our first PEEC trip. We took a walk through a trail and saw many squirrel tracks and occasionally a deer track or two in the snow. Two things that really amazed me were rhododendrons leaves curling up when it gets cold



Tenin Sissoko (far right) in 2010, her first year as a WINS I exploring the Wissahickon in Fairmount Park with (from left) Keshia Medina, Mjaan Mclvor and Dakota Foster.

instead of falling off and the bear scratches on a wooden pole. This is another WINS trip put into my memories.

The Senior Trip was our last overnight with the remaining girls. During the trip, we learned to put everything else aside and to help each other with the team building and confidence courses. Even though we did ones similar or exactly the same, we learned to get everyone across the obstacle and to let them know that we have their back no matter what. WINS helped me to find long-time friends, helped me with my attitude, and to learn to cope with different people and not stick to people similar to myself. WINS was a learning experience for me and has helped me to figure out what I actually want to do with my life after college.

Tenin Sissoko, WINS II Senior



Tenin Sissoko (on left) with Jacquelyne Ng and Dakota Foster showing off the winter shelter they made during the WINS Senior Trip to PEEC in January 2014.

## Alumnae perspective



Lataeya Carr (on right) with Ebony Dyson when they were WINS I celebrating the WINS 25th Anniversary in 2007.

I think every WINS girl's goal is to be old enough to chaperone a WINS trip. It's just another excuse, I think, to be involved, to stay connected with the program, and to be a current WINS girl all over again.

I recently got a chance to hang with the WINS I girls this past month. I took a trip with them to the Wagner Free Institute of Science and had an awesome time. It instantly reminded me of my time in the program as a WINS girl. You know – waking up early in the morning and heading down to the Academy before the bus leaves to go on a fun-filled day full of science.

Chaperoning this past WINS trip has reminded me of the gap between WINS alumnae and the current girls. It's a gap that needs to be bridged and the best way to do so is by being involved and chaperoning trips when needed. It's a great way for us girls to stay connected with the program, but also to stay connected as a sisterhood. Whether it's being there for the younger girls to let them know that they do,



Lataeya Carr (on left) with fellow WINS alumnae Kerienne Huggins, Saroya Royster, Marissa Pinder, Shanaya Shoats, Donneice Brownlee-Robinson, and Katreena Thomas celebrating the WINS 30th Anniversary in 2012.

in fact, have someone to talk to who has been in their shoes other than their coordinators or just simply acting as that older role model. It keeps the sisterhood chain connected.



Lataeya Carr (second from right) with fellow WINS alumnae Shanaya Shoats, Donneice Brownlee-Robinson, Janai Keita and Dominique Thomas taking a break for a picture during the ALL WINS Safari Overnight, of January 2014. Lataeya and Donneice were the activity's manager; the others group leaders.

Hanging with WINS I has reminded me so much of my 2007-2010/11 class of WINS. Their excitement to learn new things and to explore the world of science is an awesome thing to see. Interacting with the girls gives me the drive to want to continue to give back to the program and to be there for the girls, acting as their big sister. When I was in WINS there was always some type of alumnae involvement whether it was on trips or in the classroom. Seeing alumnae staying connected influenced me to do the same things.

Being in WINS was by far was one of the best opportunities of my life. It has been the gateway to a lot of my life experiences. From being introduced to science in the classroom to taking a ton of science based trips. From camping and kayaking to learning how to love yourself, from college tours to internships, to learning how to network to gaining my first job. WINS is a program that doesn't have to end with high-school graduation; it is a program that can follow the rest of your life if you let it.

Lataeya Carr, WINS Alumna

## A Day to Polish your Image

A few weeks ago, WINS II had a "Love Your Self: Polish your Professional Image" activity. This activity taught us how to conduct ourselves on a job interview, how to dress on a job interview, and how to beautify ourselves using natural ingredients. For the first half of that activity, Caitlin Day from the non-profit organization, Career Wardrobe, came to speak to us about how to properly handle yourself in the workforce. Also, Marilyn Torres the Academy's Director of Visitor Services gave a talk on "Techno Etiquette". Then for the second part of the activity, we used simple things that we can find in our pantry to make beauty products.

First, Ms. Day gave us crucial information about employment that could help us to get and to maintain a job. She said that for a job interview, we should always dress professionally, and that we should be prepared for any questions that the interviewer might ask. She also explained that when we go on an interview, our interview starts when we first walk into the door. This means that we come in the place that we are seeking to be employed by with a friendly attitude, willing to talk to people other than the interviewer, for instance the receptionist. Ms. Torres gave us information on how to be aware of what we put on the internet and how to behave in the virtual world.

In the second portion of the activity, Susan McGinnis a Teacher Naturalist at the Academy showed us how to make beauty products using natural ingredients. The first thing we did was rub green tea and vitamin E ice cubes on our faces to help remove the puffiness. Next, we made a facial cleanser.

We made it by mixing honey, sugar, and olive oil together, and then we rubbed it on our face. This cleanser helps remove dirt and evens the skin tone on your face. We also created lip smoother using a dab of honey, sugar, and Vaseline.



Tamira Bell (front right) next to her sister Tiarra testing which natural remedy is better for soothing puffy eyes: cooled cucumber slices or chilled steeped tea bags.

I think this activity was very useful because we were taught many beneficial things about the workforce that people my age and older probably don't know. Also, so many people spend tons of dollars each year on beauty products that are full of chemicals which can damage your skin. Instead, they can make their own products that are effective and worthwhile for your skin.

Tamira Bell, WINS II Sophomore



- MARCH:** 2nd - Tara Houser 5th - Harleen Gonzalez  
6th - Tenin Sissoko 20th - Faatimat Sylla
- APRIL:** 3rd - Yasmeen Taylor 10th - Mabendu Kamara  
21st - Michelle Huynh 25th - Sierra Grayson  
27th - Chelsea Middlebrooks 30th - Samiha Tahsin
- MAY:** 5th - Janiyah Jones 12th - Dakota Foster  
12th - Jaidah Murray 17th - Nyree Harris