Women In Natural Sciences (WINS) is an innovative and successful science enrichment program conducted by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University 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 opportunities for personal growth in a uniquely nurturing setting.

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**WINS I**

Field Trip! Adventure Aquarium
Saturday, February 27th
9:30am to 4:00pm

Field Trip! - Spring Recess trip to Delaware Aquatic Education Resource Center
Tuesday to Friday March 22nd to 25th

Field Trip! Lady Maryland
Saturday, May 7th
7:30am to 3:00pm

Field Trip! - “Cape to Cape” overnight camping trip
Saturday to Sunday May 21st to 22nd

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**WINS II**

Smithsonian Museum Day at the Academy Self-Guided Activity
Saturday, March 12th

Workshop: Intern Presentations
Thursday, April 21st
4:30pm to 6:00pm

Field Trip! Rushton Farm
Saturday, April 23rd
8:00am to 2:30pm

Field Trip! Longwood Gardens
Saturday, May 4th
9:00am to 4:00pm

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**Dates to Remember...**

**ALL WINS**

“Life After WINS” Alumnae Panel - Thursday, March 17th 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Senior Farewell - Thursday, May 26th 4:30pm to 6:30pm

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It feels so surreal to come to think that our adventure-filled WINS experience is coming to an end. Going back to PEEC, for our last year seemed so surreal, yet I can still remember the scenic trails, team building activities, and the endless memories we all made together ever since we were rising freshmen. As we loaded the bus to go there, we never wasted a moment not reminiscing about past visits.

When we finally arrived at PEEC, we noticed that nothing had changed; it was like a time capsule. Everything stayed the same, just like the first time we came to PEEC. Most of the WINS girls have been here several times. Our instructors were impressed by our optimistic and energetic attitudes, something all of us have in common. There were silly games that involved hiding a rubber chicken, roasting s’mores, and building our own wilderness shelters. The senior trip was more a recreational trip for us in my perspective. Being so close to one another made the trip more relaxing and easy-going.

On one particular night hike our sisterhood bonds were put to the test. Fear in most of our poor hearts, we coupled up into pairs as we cowardly walked through the open woods, with nothing but small LED lights. During this time of the trip, I started to realize how influential WINS has been in my life. It has shaped me into becoming a more confident and strong-willed young woman and I would also like to say that for the rest of my WINS sisters as well. This trip is different from any other WINS trip because it shows our improvement and growth throughout the years we’ve spent together. The progression of our group has significantly changed as a whole. Our bond, our sisterhood has grown, some were strengthened and some possibly even created since the senior trip.

The final night, we all gathered in a circle and reflected on one of the best experiences we had in WINS. For some it was not easy, others shared common thoughts and some were just so flustered to not even think of one. But as we sat there on the cabin floor, I looked around and realized that I am grateful to know these awesome, gifted, young women.

Imani Jackson, WINS II
My WINS Experience

My experience at WINS so far has been an ADVENTURE. I would say my experience so far has been an adventure because your mind is always opening up when learning new things. In WINS you learn something new every single week and it always has you guessing and asking questions.

One of my favorite classes was the energy class during energy week, we learned about how much energy we really use and how we can save it. I also enjoyed the water week. I enjoyed it because we got to study the water and study how we use it, etc. I will say I didn’t know much about all the things that we have learned so far before WINS, but thanks to the WINS classes I have opened up and embraced everything I learned and had fun while doing it.

Jaelynn (center) participating in one of the first lessons for WINS I - “Design your own Experiment”. Once the experiment is designed, the girls get to use hissing cockroaches to test their hypothesis.

I’ve enjoyed all the hands on experiences as well, you get up close and personal with the things you are learning. I really love that there are new things to learn every class. One week you could be learning about habitats and the next week you could be learning about food webs. I would also say my experience so far has been an adventure because I have met different sciences and different people who work behind the scenes that make the adventure even more exciting.

Jaelynn Robinson, WINS I

Happy Birthday!

March
2nd - Tara Houser
12th - Pichmonyrath Peou
29th - Destiny Samuels

April
3rd - Yasmeen Taylor
27 - Chelsea Middlebrook
30th - Samika Tahsin

May
4th - Trinity Williams
14th - Makayla Drew

Love Yourself Workshops

Teaching young women to love themselves to me is one of the most important steps in becoming a strong independent woman. When I became a WINS II our “Love Yourself” workshops became one of my favorite classes. Each year I learned a different way to love myself and I went home knowing something new about myself.

We learned how to present ourselves by dressing professionally, minding our manners, and how to conduct conversation in the business place. Also how to present ourselves in an honorable way and give a nice firm handshake. Each class I learned different organic ways to keep my mind, body, and soul cleansed. One of my favorite lessons was learning some of the basics of yoga - even though I couldn’t participate due to an injury.

This Love Yourself series has given me life lessons; new fresh ways to relax and soak up my surroundings, less chemical enhancements and more honey and green tea and less slouching and more poise and persistence. This series has taught me to slow down sometimes and treat myself for my hard work. I’ve learned to love myself a little more.

Ti’anna Cooper, WINS II

Life After WINS Alumnae Panel

Our annual “Life After WINS” Alumnae Panel will be on Thursday, March 17th from 4:00 to 6:00pm at the Academy’s auditorium. This marks our 7th year getting together with our current WINS and the ladies that came before them.

This year’s panelists have very diverse backgrounds: they are Monique Maubert, Latasha Harling and Zakia Elliott who “graduated” from WINS in 1999, 2000, and 2011 respectively. As it turns out, Zakia will be our first panelist that also attended the panel as a WINS student.

Do come and reminisce!

Please RSVP to Betsy Payne at (215) 299-1064 or at payne@ansp.org.