

**THE ACADEMY
OF NATURAL SCIENCES**
of DREXEL UNIVERSITY

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103



Dates to Remember...

WINS I & II

WINS Holiday Get-together - Wednesday, December 18th 4:00pm to 6:00pm

WINS Safari Overnight - Friday, January 10th at 6:30 until Saturday at 7:00am

"Life After WINS" Alumnae Panel - Thursday, March 20th 4:00pm to 6:00pm

WINS I

First Class of Winter Session

Wednesday, January 8th
4:00pm to 5:30pm

Field Trip! Wagner Museum

Monday, January 20th
9:00am to 2:00pm

Field Trip! Adventure Aquarium

Saturday, March 8th
9:30am to 3:30pm

WINS II

"Sisters of the Planet" Workshop

Thursday, January 16th 4:30pm to 6:00pm

Seniors PEEC Trip!

Friday to Monday, January 17th-20th

"Love Yourself: Polish Your Professional Image" Workshop

Saturday, February 8th 9:30am to 3:00pm

"Marcelus Shale" Workshop

Thursday, February 13th 4:30 to 6:00pm

Field Trip! - Rider University & NJ State Museum

Saturday, March 1st 8:45am to 5:30pm

WINS

WINS Newsletter

Editors

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Send your comments or questions to:

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All activities are
rain or shine!

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

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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 Newsletter

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Alumnae Bridging the Gap

The WINS college tour was not something that was new to me, but chaperoning as a WINS alumna was a completely different experience. This year there was a good integration between the current ladies and the alumnae. Kerienne Huggins, Manna-Symone Middlebrooks, and I were able to be active mentors to the ladies this year throughout the weekend on the college tour.



WINS alumnae and Lincoln University student Donnicee Brownlee Robinson (right) worked as a chaperone of this year's college tour, while Kerienne Huggins assisted in a tour of Notre Dame of Maryland University where she is currently in her 3rd year of nursing.

Bridging the gap between the high school girls and the graduates is a great combination in my opinion. The ladies had the same questions, excitement, and thirst for the experience of college life as I once had while attending the college tours. Having current college students around seem to have enhanced the trip because the girls had the opportunity to have more intimate conversations with us about the ins and outs of college life that were not sugar coated by the tour guides. Needless to say, they trust our opinions and guidance because we've literally come from where they are.

It's a good feeling coming back and interacting with the ladies after completing WINS. Being in college and having the chance to talk the girls about their next step of gearing up for college can be very helpful especially for those who may be the first generation going to college in their households.

Seeing the growth in not only the girls, but the program, reminds you that we're a part of something that has made an impact on so many lives. If there is any way that more alumnae could be active in not only the college tour, but WINS in general, I think that they should. I know I personally get excited when I'm around the girls and I can only hope that they feel the same about the alumnae. I think it is important to bond and bridge the gap between the two since we all have a common ground called *Women In Natural Sciences*.

Donnicee Brownlee Robinson
WINS Alumna 2007-2011



WINS alumna and American University 1st year student, Manna-Symone Middlebrooks (second from left) joined the current WINS in the Washington memorials tour. With her are (from left) Rabi Jalloh, Gabrielle Davis and Betty Louis.

My WINS Experience

WINS has been an amazing opportunity and experience for me. Not only is it an engaging learning environment, it's a program that opens up the minds of young girls to different aspects of science and life. Even though WINS stands for Women In Natural Sciences, we get to learn about biology, paleontology, ecology, waste treatment, etc.; a variety of topics get covered as we move through the program.



Jacquelyne Ng exploring the macro-invertebrates at PEEC in her first summer as a WINS I in 2010.

We don't *only* learn about science stuff either. We learn important life skills too, like communicating, scheduling, solving problems and becoming more well-rounded and open-minded overall. These are especially useful in moving forward in education and career settings.

I've learned a lot from WINS...from working with people to dissecting squid. I've been exposed to so many

things other high schoolers don't normally get a chance to experience. I'm so grateful for the opportunities I get just by being in WINS. The various trips we go on help to reinforce things that were taught in previous lessons; they really drive home how things work and the importance of it. School just teaches the concept of things, but to actually see it in person and get hands-

on experience gives so much more depth into the subject.



Jacquelyn Ng (left), along with Sierra Grayson and Priya Smythe, suiting up to go into the marsh at the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge on a recent WINS Interns' trip.

All in all, WINS has helped me to grow and become more knowledgeable. I would continue with this forever, if I could. It has inspired me to continue learning throughout life.

Jacquelyne Ng, WINS II

Editor's note: Jackie has taken advantage of every opportunity the WINS offers. Through her participation in "WOW" (Women on the Water) she was able to do a two week internship in PEEC, that later led to her employment at PEEC for a month as a camp counselor. She is currently an Intern as a wetland crew and field assistant in the Academy's Patrick Center.

DECEMBER

3rd - Arianna Bradley
 3rd - Ariel Bradley
 18th - Tamira Bell
 18th - Tiarra Bell
 22nd - Ng Tran
 27th - Keisha Medina
 28th - Jayde Hammond
 28th - Fionna Truong
 29th - Jessika Gbai

JANUARY

2nd - Gabrielle Davis
 4th - Betty Louis
 7th - Allure Gray
 9th - Kyra Sacksith
 15th - Rabiya Jalloh
 21st - Danaya Johnson
 21st - Daysha Johnson

FEBRUARY

9th - Jada Parris
 19th - Alyssa Fairfax
 21st - Stephany Alcantara
 26th - Jasmane Harvey



College tour

This year's college tour was amazing! For me personally, being my first college tour, it was totally different than what I expected. College tour is available to WINS II and helps them gain an understanding about a college and to show what the typical "College Life" would be like. I expected it to be stuffed with boring information that would make me even more nervous about attending college – but it was the total opposite.

College tour really helped me realize that college is just like high school, but only this time it costs a ton of money, and it is up to you if you really want to succeed. Also, what you hear about college life is not always true. For example, the "popping" parties and hazing that you always hear about, nine times out of ten, your school work comes before any of those because now you are actually paying for your education.

The week also involved sharing rooms, and spending time together after visiting colleges for the day. One thing I really enjoyed besides visiting different colleges, was hanging out afterwards.



John Hopkins University was one of 5 school visited in the 2013 WINS College Tour; the others were Howard University, American University, Morgan State University and Notre Dame of Maryland University.

ments? If not, you should clear a day and take the journey, because nothing else is like it. It's a beautiful scene with deep stories and memories behind it. We also went to so many different places that I could personally never see myself going to visit on my own. We had dinner at Union Station in Washington, D.C., and dining at Hard Rock Cafe was tasty and the music was also a new experience. Stopping for dinner on the roads was pretty amazing; there were many selections of food and a beautiful view along the highways.

Spending time with the seniors of the trip also made me realize that college tour is serious. Even as a sophomore, it is never too soon to start applying for scholarships, signing up for programs, starting your college essays, and making a good connection with you teachers for later recommendations. I love to take advantage of the trips that are offered by the WINS program, because it can only help you. You will take in so many new things from the overall experience. College tour is here to help you decide what you may be looking for in a college, or even in life. I know for me personally, this experience will help me to make the right decision for my future. I love having WINS on my side.

All in all, college tour was amazing, and I honestly cannot wait to go again. I also can't wait for the younger WINS girls to experience what I did on their first college tour. Shopping, eating and bonding with the seniors and juniors was great but visiting the colleges was the best part of the trip. I don't think anyone should turn down an opportunity like this, and I'm glad I didn't. College tour was truly something new, and I just can't wait for next year to go again.

Danielle Williams, WINS II



Danielle Williams (on right) with WINS senior Rayna Green touring the dorms of Notre Dame of Maryland University.

Even after each whole day of taking in important information, we were able to take a look around the different cities. Have you ever visited the Washington monu-