



**Women In Natural Sciences (WINS)** is an innovative and successful science enrichment program conducted by the Academy of Natural Sciences 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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## Where has summer gone?

Is it just me, or did summer pass by too quickly? Not only did some of our students already started school in August, but September started with a chill in the air! Of course, the reason it felt like it went by too fast is that it was an extremely busy one. Between WINS I & II, there wasn't much time to spare.

Our new WINS I class consists of 27 girls which will be going on to 15 different high schools. They have been quiet busy during the summer with trips to a water treatment plant, a coal mine, a green roof, and an urban garden, among many others. They finished the summer with the customary and much anticipated trip to PEEC.

The WINS II weren't idle either. They had the opportunity to hunt for fossils in New Jersey, visit the headquarters of the Eileen Fisher Foundation in New York, go kayaking in the Wadding River of NJ, visit the Wyck Garden in Germantown, and share with their fellow classmates while they presented the results of their internships at the USDA.

Also, for the first time in many years, we had 3 of our girls participate in internships within the Academy. We would like to thank Dr. Jerry Mead, Dr. Nate Rice and Ms. Judie Marie Roxzek for the great opportunity they afforded the WINS.

But now that the girls are back in school is no time to relax - we have another year to plan!



Betsy Payne  
WINS Manager

WINS II at the Eileen Fisher Foundation in Irvington, NY

## My PEEC trip

When I first heard that we were going to PEEC, I thought, oh gosh! We are going to be with bugs, dirt and I just thought the absolute worst. When we arrived and looked around, I thought "this isn't going to be so bad..."

Between waking up at 7:00am, hiking and everyone's personalities, PEEC was amazing. I learned so

much about insects and wildlife. We saw the most beautiful waterfall during the Tumbling Waters hike; we found our way through the woods during Orienteering and went swimming in a lake.

I got to bond with some of the most amazing young women... and Shanaya and Kerienne (WINS II assistants) who were more like mother figures while we

were away.

I never thought that I would have such an awesome experience at PEEC. Yes, there were some bad but the good outweighed the bad. I am so happy to have experienced this with WINS

Janai Keita  
WINS I



WINS I at Tumbling Water in the Poconos

## Being part of WINS...



Somaya at work at the  
2009 Bug Fest

*"The various trips we went on and the classes we had and enjoyed together have affected both my views of the world and other people."  
-Somaya Anderson*

I have been a member of the Women In Natural Science program since the summer of 2006. It was right before I started high school and a completely new experience for me. I had never been in a program not directly associated with school and it was such a large change of environment that I was afraid I would have trouble adapting, that I would not fit in. But I was wrong. The girls I met here became like an extended family as has our instructor, Ms. Betsy Payne, and our previous instructor, Najwa Smith.

The various trips we went on and the classes we had and enjoyed together have affected both

my views of the world and other people. I was never outspoken and hated participating but WINS has managed to break me out of my shell so that I am more confident, independent and happier than ever!

Another thing WINS has offered me is a job here at The Academy of Natural Sciences. Though I've always been very much interested in science and nature, I'd never pictured myself working in any sort of museum. However, to find myself working here has been fantastic. I learn new and interesting things with every meeting and my colleagues have been nothing but sweet and

accepting. I've had no problems with anyone and am always able to find help or ask questions without facing contempt. Furthermore, it really is rather difficult for teenagers such as my self to find such a fantastic and respectable job and with the upcoming payments expected of me as a soon-to-be senior, I need the money.

Ultimately, I personally can't think of any other place I'd rather be. I have wonderful friends, a charming work place and environment and I wouldn't change it for the world.

Somaya Anderson  
WINS II

## WINS I Summer

My summer at WINS was the best experience I ever had. I feel it taught me a lot of things I did not know before. I really enjoyed the Coal Mine and PEEC (Poconos Environmental Education Center).

WINS opened new doors I may have never been able to encounter. Most people believe a program with all girls is trouble, but its not. WINS is a total family, we're there for each other.

When we went to Rittenhouse Square to survey people and asking questions- that experience showed different people's opinion and what they feel about the environment! What can I say, "It's all about WINS" and "I'm a WINS girl for life!"

Arlana Brown  
WINS I

Arlana (in striped shirt) with some of her WINS I classmates, in Rittenhouse Square



# “Cape to Cape”

This was the trip where we went “old fashioned” camping. It was our last trip as WINS I girls. This was many, if not everyone’s, first time setting up camp and sleeping in a tent outside. We went from Cape May in NJ to Cape Henlopen in DE and stayed in a campsite called Camp Henlopen. I think most of my fellow WINS classmates appreciated that one night right in the center of all the nature.

Every overnight field trip we go on we seem to look up at the stars and notice that we can clearly see the stars in



Alaya taking a turn at the grill.

the sky. We realize that the abundance of pollution in our neighborhoods rob us from the beautiful star-gazing moments we share.

This trip became a little emotional because we had a “circle time” and reminisced on our

previous field trips, classes and our overall experience as WINS I.

In the morning we walked to the beach and tried to find out what the water contained and what types of sea creatures we could find. One thing I thought was interesting was the horseshoe crabs. We

are practically experts on horse shoe crabs now.

Cape to Cape was our last WINS I trip and it was great because we all were moving on to bigger and better things—WINS II.

Alaya White  
WINS II



WINS I enjoying smores at Camp Henlopen

## Happy Birthday to.....



- 9th - Somaya Anderson
- 11th - Kemeka Hernandez
- 14th - Saieda Bethea
- 17th - Evelyn Ogden
- 25th - Aliyah McLeod
- 30th - Sunnise Faust-Saunders



- 6th - Chelsea Roque
- 6th - Dominique Thomas
- 15th - Jasmir Turner
- 22nd - Alyssa Brown
- 26th - Maranda Parker



- 6th - Brittany Studevan
- 12th - Nadaysha Screven
- 15th - Linda Croskey
- 20th - Alisa Randolph
- 26th - Janai Keita
- 28th - Yasmin Akmed

**WINS Newsletter**

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## Dates to Remember



**Coming  
Jan. 2010**  
**All WJNS  
Safari Overnight  
Jan. 8th - 9th**

### ALL WINS

**Maize Maze, Bear Rock Junction** - Friday, September 11th - 4:30pm to 10:00pm  
**Holiday Party at the Academy** - Thursday, December 17th - 4:00pm to 6:00pm

### WINS I

**First class of Fall session**  
Wednesday, September 9th  
4:00pm to 5:30pm

**Field Trip! - Bronx Zoo**  
Saturday, October 10th - Meet at the  
Academy at 8:00am, back by 7:00pm

**Field Trip! - Hawk Mt. Sanctuary**  
Saturday, November 7th - Meet at  
the Academy at 8:00am, back by  
6:00pm

**Field Trip! - The American Mu-  
seum of Natural History**  
Saturday, December 12th- Meet at  
the Academy at 8:00am, back by  
7:00pm

### WINS II

**Show Me My Money Workshop**  
Thursday, September 17th  
4:30pm to 6:00pm

**Horticultural Society Field Trip**  
Thursday, October 15th  
4:30pm to 6:00pm

**Day of Service at Mill Creek Farm**  
Saturday, October 24th  
8:00am to 1:00pm

**Pre-College Tour Workshop**  
Thursday, November 12th  
4:30pm to 6:00pm

**College Tour - DC & Maryland**  
November 19th to 22nd  
Thursday 5:00pm to Sunday 4:30pm