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

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 every-one’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
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 myself 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 workplace and environment and I wouldn’t change it for the world.

Somaya Anderson
WINS II
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 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 NEWSLETTER**

**Women In Natural Sciences**
The Academy of Natural Sciences
1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103

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**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 Museum of Natural History**
Saturday, December 12th - Meet at the Academy at 8:00am, back by 7:00pm

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**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

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**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

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**Dates to Remember**

**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

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**Coming Jan. 2010**

**All WINS Safari Overnight**
Jan. 8th - 9th

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**WINS NEWSLETTER**