

Girls With Gifts presents The Reach Back, Pull Forward Experience



Suicide. Teen pregnancy. Scholastic underachievement. Generational cyclical poverty and financial dependence. Girls of diverse backgrounds, across various communities, face the risk of these discouraging realities each day. These girls are too often overlooked and underserved. Their passions may be stifled by a lack of resources available to help them achieve their goals. Their potential may be unrealized, due to limited experience and feelings of inadequacy.

In an effort to defeat these risks amongst girls who dream beyond just the boundaries of their communities, Girls With Gifts, Inc. has crafted a unique and exciting summer experience through **Reach Back, Pull Forward Los Angeles and Reach Back, Pull Forward Houston.**

Over the last 4 years, **the Reach Back, Pull Forward Experience** has provided an enriching opportunity for more than 65 selected girls in Flint, Los Angeles and Houston. They have received one-on-one mentorship from GWGMentors – a high-powered coalition of accomplished women who work in each Mentee's field of interest. Mentees have been directly exposed to professional arts and entertainment careers through a week-long intensive, aimed to inspire, educate and enable them to reach their highest potential.

You can gift the Reach Back, Pull Forward Experience to a talented young girl in 2017! **With your contribution of \$2,500 for RBPF LA or \$1,800 for RBPF Houston, you will sponsor one girl for this intensive week of character-building and skill-strengthening.** You will expose her to community-oriented, professional women who are personally invested in her success. You will give her access to career opportunities she may not have known existed. This exposure will create the potential for positive life outcomes, which will ultimately improve the community, the nation and the world.

Throughout the RBPF Experience, Girls With Gifts focuses on its core principles of:

- Growing -

All Girls with Gifts will be capable of exhibiting strong character through personal development and soft skills strengthening.

- Giving -

All Girls with Gifts desire to Reach Back and Pull Forward in service to others.



- Gifting -

All Girls with Gifts are convinced that they play an important role in making the world a better place, by sharing their gifts with society.

The Reach Back, Pull Forward intensive invites girls, 12 – 18 to experience:

Strategies for Setting and Achieving Real Life Goals

- Planning for success in life begins with having a goal. “If you aim for nothing, you will hit it every time!” Girls are encouraged to think about and envision goals for their personal and professional lives. The process teaches how to develop and execute an action plan that allows for twists and turns while always moving toward a goal. Girls leave The Experience with a vision and brand for their lives.

Safe-Space Sharing

- Girls are predominantly relational in communication. Communities, families, and some social norms may not encourage or even allow honest, authentic communication. The Experience encourages girls who may feel marginalized or censored to share thoughts and feelings in a safe, positive environment. By sharing, girls may feel more connected to a larger community of people who care and avoid self-defeating behaviors.

Good, Better, or Best

- Girls learn soft skills designed to complement the hard skills and rigor in their technical courses. Soft skills help build character traits that allow for effective interpersonal relationships with others. Practiced and perfected over time, girls will learn to be empathetic, understanding, active listeners, follow social cues, and troubleshoot and negotiate challenges. Girls also learn how to carry and present themselves well in various social situations.

Technical Skills Strengthening

- Dance and vocal classes
- Group choreography and performances
- Recording studio sessions
- Commercial shoots
- Shadowing & Professional Role-Play
- Writing & Drawing
- Vision Boards

Gifting to Others

- Girls will learn that their gifts are not just for themselves, but to impact and influence others as well. The community service session provides an opportunity for the girls to give of themselves without asking or receiving anything in return, creating a culture of reaching back and pulling forward. Girls have an opportunity to reflect on the experience and decide what personal service they will continue following the week-long program.

Expanding our World

- During the week, the girls will experience a field excursion to a surprise location that combines both art and culture. The field trip is designed to broaden understanding, and experience life beyond the norm.
- Exposure to non-traditional career paths such as producing, directing, casting and screenwriting

Access to the Experts

- Interspersed throughout the week are presentations from industry and topic experts who help translate lessons learned into real-life experiences and answer questions from the girls.
- Celebrity Appearances

Bringing it all Together!

- One week following the end of The Experience, the girls come together to present a Grand Finale Showcase. During the week prior, girls interact with their mentors and work on the production.
- One selected recipient will be granted a Scholarship to assist in further honing her particular talents and interests.

...and more!



FAQ's



Is this a residential camp?

No, the girls are expected to arrive on-time each morning and are dismissed at the end of the day.

Do the girls have to get to The Experience venue on their own?

Parents and/or guardians are responsible for transportation to and from a daily meeting point. Transportation to and from sessions held outside the meeting point is provided through the experience.

Are meals included?

Yes, snacks and lunches are included with The Experience.

What follow-up is available?

In addition to the intensive industry-immersion during the RBPF Experience, Mentees also develop lasting friendships with fellow Mentees and continued support from Mentors for a minimum of one year. Graduate Mentees are supported and encouraged to pursue higher education in their respective fields.

How are the girls selected for participation?

Because The Experience is intentionally small, limited to no more than 10 girls, each girl completes an application and an interview. Criteria for selection are based on the Mentee's demonstration of her passion.



For more information:

Email: Candice@GirlsWithGifts.org

Website: www.girlswithgifts.org

Social Media: [@girlswithgifts](https://www.instagram.com/girlswithgifts)

