

Kitchen Table

Global Girls, Inc. Quarterly Newsletter

VOLUME 15 ISSUE FALL 2016



Global Girls Company for hire!

Dance and raise awareness of Sickle Cell

Little London looks like any other four year old. She smiles brightly and laughs easily when playing with friends at the Global Studio. She's petite and sometimes tires easily, but she never quits.

Little did we know when London missed a few days from our summer program, that she was suffering a sickle cell disease (SCD) flare up. When we learned that she is one of the estimated 100,000 people, mostly African Americans, affected by the blood disorder, we were heartbroken.

A few weeks later, we learned that another Global Girls participant, Katharine, also has SCD.

Sickle cell is a life-long illness. About 1 in 13 African American babies is born with *sickle cell trait*. Today in the US, the life expectancy of a person with

SCD is about 40-60 years compared to 14 years in 1973. About 1 in every 365 black children is born with SCD.



So, now what? Well, we'll do something on behalf of our girls.

On Monday, January 16, 2017, Dr. King Day, Global Girls will sponsor our first annual Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Dance-a-thon.

In partnership with local hospitals and businesses, Global Girls will kick off a series of community and school based activities leading up to September 2017, Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month.

Get your dancing shoes ready!

Global Girls has resumed our adult theatre in anticipation of a thrilling 2016-17 season. Interested actors can audition Tuesdays 6p at the Global Studio, 8151 S. South Chicago.

Soon we'll have a group of entertainers for senior shows, daycare shows, corporate and school events! Our youth Company is still available for shows in the evening, on weekends and during school breaks

Below are pictures from a performance at Victory Senior Center during their annual picnic this summer. Our youth sang and danced. And as you can see, the seniors were not about to let them have all the fun.



We had a ball with the "young at heart" residents. She told us, "I'll never stop dancing!"



This resident got out of her wheelchair for a dance..



Youth Performance Camp 2016!

We're going to Camp Duncan in October!

2015 was the first year we didn't take a group of girls on a weekend get away to YMCA Camp Duncan in 10 long years.

But, we will return Halloween weekend with 35 girls. They'll leave cell phones, tablets and laptops at home as they head for the wide open outdoors.

While we reserve spaces for girls who participate in our regular programs, we

always save two or three extra slots for readers like you who might want your daughter or granddaughter to participate.

The girls will wall climb, sing around the campfire after a traditional hayride, take nature walks, star gaze, learn survival skills, bike ride, enjoy a costume themed talent show and just have loads of fun being girls. Sounds like good times to me!

Youth Performance Camp 2016

Global Girls completed our 2016 Youth Performance camp on a very high note thanks to our committed and hardworking team, dedicated parents and tenacious youth. Even though many began school, or left town for vacation or moved to different areas and could no longer come to camp, we maintained about 85% attendance and participation until the very last day.

We ended with a sleepover at the studio, and the girls and parents loved it. Many are now in our after school program, and all parents said they will enroll their daughters in the 2017 camp and even refer others after seeing the growth in their children. Now, we are seeking a larger space to accommodate all of our participants. Some of the 2016 activities included:

- Trips to Lincoln Park Zoo and the Field Museum,
- Skating trip,

- Beach outing at South Shore Cultural Center beach,
- Love parade down South Chicago to meet our neighbors and engage them in spreading love rather than stopping violence. The girls created love posters, sang songs, danced and passed out love tips to passers-by,
- Carnival Day at the studio and in the yard

Our 2016 Showcase was amazing and highlighted the dance, acting and social skills attained by each girl. We rented the Grand Ballroom on 63rd and Cottage Grove and packed the house (350 in attendance) with parents and community members who came out to support us.

The performances were outstanding. Parents were proud of their children and the girls beamed the entire evening. Even the Grand ballroom staff and

owner were surprised that our show was as organized and entertaining as it was. Management wants to partner with us on other events after seeing our youth in action.

It was a magnificent summer. Our girls as young as four and five came in as shy little girls and left as fearless young women who work hard and appreciate one another.

Pix from the summer below





YOUNG WOMEN ON THE MOVE!
A safe space for girls, ages 5 to 14

AFTER SCHOOL AT THE GLOBAL GIRLS STUDIO 

Courageous, talented girls can change the world!
Global Girls, Inc. is changing the way girls of color see themselves and their possibilities. Our girls create socially conscious driven theatre that addresses today's issues through the art of performing including: dance, theatre, song and spoken word.

Stop by and register your budding Global Girl at the Global Studio today! [Also ask about our Saturday acting and dance class schedule.](#)

Program Includes:

Dance & Acting Training	Homework Help	Evening Meals & Monthly Trips	Performances
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SESSION BLOCKS
Sept. thru Dec.
Jan. thru June
Mon. thru Fri
3pm - 6pm



REGISTRATION
\$100 PER BLOCK
Sessions Start
September 6 at 3pm

Global Girls, INC
8151 S South Chicago Ave
Chicago, IL 60617
info@globalgirlsinc.org
773-902-2359

Spotlight on board member Angela Williams

All 501c3 organizations are headed by a Board of Directors. These volunteers are the lifeblood of successful nonprofits, and Global Girls is proud to say that our board is one of the best.

The seven women (listed right) who regularly give their time, talent, personal references and, yes indeed, their financial contributions have demonstrated their commitment to the vision, mission and long, long life of Global Girls, Inc.

Each one of the board members will be highlighted in upcoming Kitchen Table issues and brief bios are on the website. We're introducing one of those members here, in part, because her exceptional work appears in this newsletter, and because she is a mom in true Global Girls fashion.

Angela Williams joined the board in February along with our current board chair, Stephanie Brathwaite, and our vice chair, Donna Beasley. All have hit the ground running!



Their energies blended smoothly with other members as we are moving into one of the most productive years in recent Global Girls history.

Angela is the mother of two loving, energetic and talented children, Paris and Brooklyn. Paris, now a freshman is pursuing a theatre degree at NYU.

With an extensive and impressive background in the corporate sector, Angela lends her talent and knowledge to our marketing and fundraising endeavors. She created the flyers and postcards in this issue as well as most of the announcements in our social media. The ones that look like the work of a preschooler are mine. I confess.

I wish all nonprofits board members who are as engaged and productive as ours. If you are a 501c3 org and need help educating, motivating and even building your board, give us a call.

However, you can't have Angela. She's a jewel we're keeping to our-

Girls raising their voice for change!

YAY!!! for the brave girls, as young as 13 at Pretoria Girls High School in South Africa who fought for the right to wear their hair any which way they want. They protested the school's code of conduct and, according to one report, "...students were reportedly told that they would be barred from writing their exams if they wore dreadlocks or did not straighten their hair."

The school rules have been suspended pending the results of an independent investigation.

Our affair with hair has long been an issue for many girls of color whether in our personal or professional lives. We hear it all the time in Global Girls session. Nothing starts an argument faster than one girl talking about another

girl's hair. Yet the girls in South Africa are fighting to stay nappy, or straight or whatever **they** choose.

From the tops of our heads to the soles of feet, we, each one of us has the right to be authentically who we are - the person deep, deep inside whispering and sometimes shouting our essence.

If only we would tune out the incessant noise and listen. Like these fearless girls I first heard on NPR, I want all of my Global Girls to tune in to their truths and tell their stories and tell them out loud. Every story is a bit of the collective truth. Every fight is a fight for your and someone else's right to a more peaceful, productive and, yes, perfect life.

Global Girls Inc.
The Global Studio
8151 S. South Chicago Ave.
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773 902.2359 phone & fax
info@globalgirlsinc.org
www.globalgirlsinc.org

Board of Directors

Stephanie Brathwaite, Board Chair
Donna Beasley, Vice Chair
Angela Williams, Secretary
Chaka Washington, Treasurer
Jessica Lawson, Member
Stephanie Prather, Member
Marcia Thomas, Member

Staff

Marvinetta Woodley-Penn
Executive/Artistic Director
Tiffany Bean, Business Manager
Jessica Griffin, Program Specialist
Ryonn Gloster, Program Specialist
Jaime Wesley, Bookkeeper
Gabriel Hawkins, Facilities Manager

Teaching Artists

Tiffany Bean
Tiffany Fulson
Ryonn Gloster
Jessica Griffin
Kiara Jones
Rosalind Rogers

Junior Facilitators

Shacorri Jackson
Madison Mosely
Avionna King

Mission Statement

Our mission is to equip girls of color with skills that nurture their individual growth and inspire them to use their talents for positive change in their communities and throughout the world.

SAVE THE DATES!

Mon. thru Fri.
YOUNG WOMEN ON THE MOVE
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
for girls 5 to 14
3pm until 6pm
The Global Studio
Registration required

Saturdays Sessions are back
The Global Studio
Girls ages 4 to 15
\$5 per session

Thursdays starting 9/15/16
6:30pm
Adult Theatre Rehearsals
For experienced and new actors
The Global Studio

Saturday, 10/15 & 11/19
10am until 2pm
CLOTHES DRIVE
All collections will benefit Global Girls

- Toys
- Books
- Shoes & purses
- Small appliances
 - Jewelry
 - Bedding
 - Towels

Saturday, 11/12/16
8pm until 12am
HOUSE PARTY AT THE STUDIO
Camp raffle drawing, karaoke,
refreshments
The Global Studio
\$5 before 9pm, \$10 after 9pm

Friday, 11/18/16
7pm until 10pm
OPEN MIC NIGHT
All talents welcome
The Global Studio
\$2 admission for non performers
Cash Café available

For more info, call 773.902.2359 or
email info@globalgirlsinc.org



Get your own beautiful and warm Global Girls hoodie for cool Chicago nights. Only \$25. Proceeds support Global Girls programs.

Amazon Smiles for Global Girls

Before I even realized it, I had joined the online shopping community. Not only is it convenient, but it also allows me to exercise much more discipline. I can create a shopping cart, save it while I surf for reviews, better prices and even take time to change my mind before pressing, “complete this purchase.” How empowering is that!

As you begin your holiday shopping, you can also support Global Girls. Remember to first log onto Amazon Smile, select Global Girls as the organization you want to support and then, continue shopping as normal.

Your bill won't change, and, here's the best part - amazon charities will give a percentage of what you spend to programs that empower girls all over Chicago.



Youth debate who/what controls our lives?

As youth create their productions in our Take the Stage, After School Matters program, they write, discuss and debate. One of those topics this summer was “Are our lives preordained?” Below are some of the writings.

To control or not to control. My life is my life. I make my own destiny. With the power invested in me, I leave my own legacy cause I control my life and can be what I want to be. No one has power over me. *T. Kelly*

I think my God decides my life because when he put me on this earth. He already had a plan for me. So I can see what I can be in his kingdom of glee. He wants me to follow his path whether I'm doing wrong or right. He knows I will get back on track. *D. McGee*

To be in control of your choices in life, well your life can be the best thing ever. I mean like your parents can tell you that you'll be this or that, but only you can say and determine what you want to be because you say yes when others say no. You rise when others sleep. You do what others will not. You control your destiny. *E. Aldridge*

God determines my future because he is the truth of life. He deserves all of the glory. By worshipping him, he will reward you. Praying and praising will help you get close to God. Following all his righteous rules will help you get in heaven and have wonderful days on earth. *K. McGee*

I believe my destiny is controlled by God and me. I choose my own decisions not

God. God helps lead me to the right decisions if I pray to him. For example, you can't pray for an A and not study, but think you're gonna pass. You have to pray AND study. Also, you can think just because you prayed for an A, it's all good. You and God have to work together. We are all our own persons and choose our own decisions. You could say if my friend wants to be an actor but she thinks she can't do it and beats herself up, but she prayed on it. Before you make any step, you have to believe in yourself and work to believe what your destiny is. A wise man once said, “Be true to yourself, and God will be true to you.” *B. Coleman*

I don't know what you've been told, but God isn't the one who decides the roads. Truth be told no one knows if God is real our just our living souls. What I believe is something different Kings and Queens put us in this. They came up with this thing called God so we can play and live this fraud. I believe that God is just a law. Something that people has never, ever saw. God is something we simply cannot see. So how are we to know that he is to be? *S. Harris*

I believe in God, but He doesn't determine my destiny. What I do today determines the best in me. With education and the right mindset, I can do my best. I have brains and education, and I know I can do the rest. I know what will happen because of my choices. No need to think there are outside voices. *L. McKenzie*

The Girls' Pages

What an FUNTABULOUS 2016 Camp!

The pictures really say it all. We ran two programs, Youth Performance Camp and Take the Stage, this summer at the Global Studio. In 2017, we will definitely operate in a larger location, perhaps a school...hmmm... yeah, a school!



The Girls' Pages

The staff can and does trumpet many 2016 Youth Performance camp success stories. Hearing from the girls is quite a different matter indeed. Some liked it. Some didn't. Here's their truth in their own words. Names are not included to protect the innocent.

I came here to camp and I became a decent dancer and I still have some way to go but I made some progress. I also have learned that everybody opinion and ideas matter and I should listen to them. Now with working with difficult people its kind of hard but I know how to hold my irritation in.

Global Girls make me happy because, they changed my attitude. They made me feel more comfortable. They made me feel like I don't have to be shy. They made me think about positive energy ad not negative energy.

I come everyday so when they learn something new I can be near to learn it too.

I thought that I would make lots of friends but I don't have a lot but I still have friends.

I made friends on the first day!

I thought the girls were going to be nice. And, they turned out to be nice!

When I grow up I want to be a teaching artist at Global Girls. I love Global Girls. I never want to leave them in my life.

We act and sing do modeling, and they help us with other stuff.

It was not fun at all I wanted to be at home.

The Showcase was so much fun. We worked hard in rehearsal everyday. Sometimes, we didn't have enough space and had to work outside. But all that work paid off cause my mom said we killed it!

I can't wait to come back next summer.



Global Girls and Chicago Sister Cities

Global Girls facilitated a leadership through the performing arts workshop for 24 youth at the 2016 Global Youth Ambassadors Leadership Summit in July.

Co-sponsored by Chicago Sister Cities International and the University of Illinois at Chicago, the weeklong summit was designed to bring together girls ages 14 to 16, build networks and friendships and introduce skills they can use to empower their futures.

Three Global Girls participants assisted Mrs. Penn and Ms. Ryonn with the



Mrs. Penn working with a group.

hands-on performance workshop designed to enhance empathy, communication and teambuilding skills.

“Working with the girls reminded me of the activities we did with the girls in Grenada,” remarked one of our youth. We began the session with a “check in” which broke the ice and gave the girls a chance to really say what was in their hearts.

Even though they were from different countries (Bogota, Paris, Durban, Columbia and Lucerne to name a few) they all agreed that many of the identified issues girls face are the same everywhere. Ain't that the truth!

State Senator Trotter's Back to School Health Fair



Our Global Girls Company performed at State Senator Donne Trotter's Back 2 School Health & Wellness Festival on July 30 at South Central Community Services, 1021 E 83rd St., Saturday, July 30.

Pictured upper left: Rep Elgie Sims, Alderman Michelle Harris, Marvintia Penn and State Senator Donne E. Trotter. Upper right: M. Penn, Kiara Jones, Ricki Welch, Jessica Griffin, Shacorri Jackson, Nykelle Posey and Ryonn Gloster. Left bottom: Emmanuel Lewis, Jonah McKinnon, Roosevelt Curry, Jr., Gabriel Hawkins and Terrion Kelly, members of or GENTS.

Northwestern volunteers

Summer soot sticks to the walls and no matter how hard we wash, the walls never seem clean in the studio. So, we are always happy to welcome Northwestern University Law students on their Day of Service.

This year, 18 volunteers painted the studio a creamy, soft shade of yellow. Youth returning for the after school

program said the room looked brighter, larger and much cleaner.

Thanks, guys. You're the best. See you next year after another intense, hot, sweaty, sooty summer camp! Walls will be waiting.



2016 Power Lunch



Every summer we bring together professionals from a variety of fields to share their stories with our youth at what we call a Power Lunch. Nine presenters interacted with 42 youth ages 12 to 18 at the 2016 event.

We are very grateful to our volunteers and hope they'll join us for the 6th annual Power Lunch Wednesday, August 2, 2017.

2016 PRESENTERS

Latisa Kindred
Al Hawkins
Genice Ferrell
Donna Beasley
India Parson
Aubrey Spears
Carolyn Booth
Vashaune Lee
Julia Hunter.

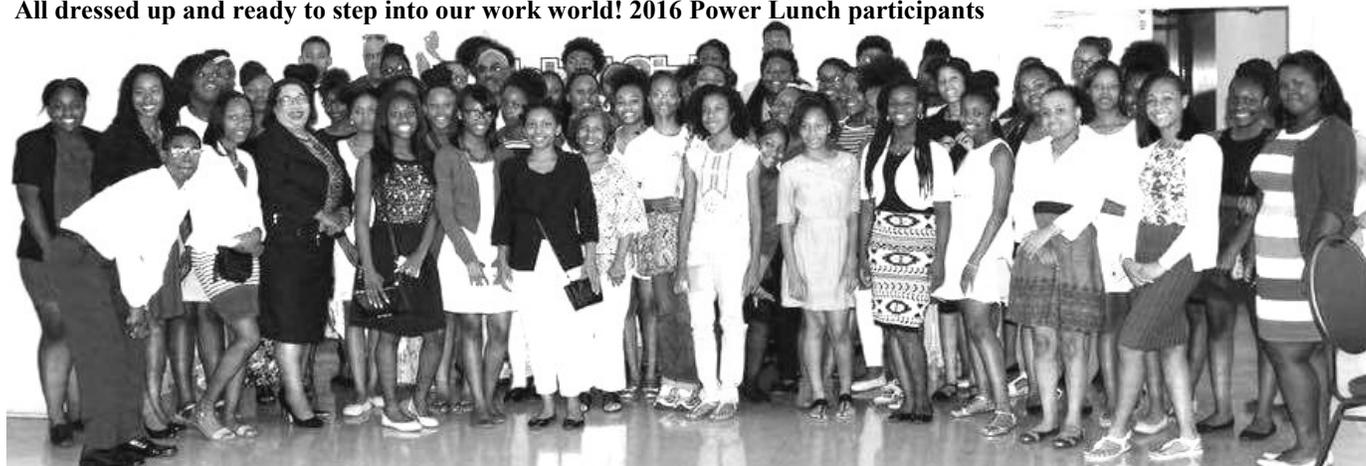
Thanks also to the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge for again hosting us.

Kudos to everyone!!



CAN TV has moved to a beautiful new location on South Wood Street. And, a new group of young, vibrant hosts with fresh perspectives and ideas have moved into the host, guest and technician chairs for our show. We welcome (l to r) Symone Stokes, Kiara Jones, Shacorri Jackson, Madison Mosley and Avionna King. You can see the fall series on YouTube, CANTV Global Girls.

All dressed up and ready to step into our work world! 2016 Power Lunch participants



Kitchen Table is your source for information and news about today's girls. Advertise your product or service and reach more than 1000 households and businesses 4 times a year.

Ad rates based on 9pt. type, single-spaced, three columns.

Five lines + picture or image = \$150 per year. Four lines = \$100 per year. Three lines = \$75 per year.

Name _____ Email _____

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Complete this form, and attach ad with image (if applicable), along with payment and return to 8151 S. South Chicago, Chicago, IL, 60617
Pay via PayPal to User ID - globalgirls@sbcglobal.net

Global Girls thought of the season

Our sessions begin with a ritual. Each and every session whether at the Global Studio, a school or even in another country starts with reciting the Global Girls Law, costal breathing, stretching and focusing on a word and a thought of the day.

We're sharing a word and a thought with you. Like us on Facebook and share meaningful words and thoughts. Let's spread some positive memes.

Word: Authenticity - real, genuine, not false or affected.

Thought: Everything will line up perfectly when knowing and living the truth becomes more important than looking good. *Alan Cohen*

**92% of every dollar goes towards our programs.
Your contributions help us help more girls.**

Name _____

Address _____

City, State/Zip _____

Phone/Email _____

Yes! I want to support courageous, talented girls who will change our world.

Enclosed is my gift: ___\$10 ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$100 ___Other \$ _____

Please use my contribution for:

___ General operating expenses

___ The Global Studio Capital Campaign (*your name on the Builders' Plaque*)

___ Global Girls performance support (*Get free tickets to shows*)

___ Bi annual trips abroad (*Mombasa and Grenada were our 2016 trips*)

Kitchen Table is a quarterly publication.
Send all comments, questions and inquiries to
info@globalgirlsinc.org

Feel free to contact us:

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The Global Studio
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8151 S. South Chicago Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60617

We want. We work. We win.

Global Girls Sickle Cell Disease Dance-a-thon Saturday, December 5, 2016

Dance for the fun of it and help us raise awareness of the disease and raise funds to support research!

7pm until 12am (*The dancing doesn't stop!*)

Global Studio 8151 S. South Chicago Ave. 77.902.2359

For more info visit www.globalgirlsinc.org.