

## BuildGirls.org Announces Launch of the BG STEM Scholarship Program



Washington, D.C., February 15, 2025 -- buildgirls.org, a non-profit NGO, with a mission of educating, engaging and empowering high school girls to explore future careers in real world STEM fields today announced the launch of its Buildgirls STEM Scholars program. The program, which is now open to high school juniors and seniors, will award two scholarships in May 2025. The top awardee will receive \$5,000 and the second-place awardee will receive \$2,500. Buildgirls is thankful of the support it received from the community, especially its premier sponsor, King & Spaulding LLP.

Part of Buildgirls mission is education and it believes by helping young females with obtain more education, it can make a difference in the fight for gender equality. Buildgirls knows that by discovering promise and rewarding excellence we will begin to make an impact on gender inequality. The gender inequality and inequity in STEM have been widely recognized, but no sustainable initiatives have been established at a younger age when girls decide what they may want to pursue. According to a Microsoft survey, girls cited a lack of female role models a key reason they did not follow a career in the sector. Today, schools offer STEM programs but don't really focus on applications in the real world – including infrastructure – an area of focus at BG.

Architecture, Construction and Engineering have less than 10% female representation in the workforce. Data shows that firms with more diverse workforces, performance improves, companies are more profitable, companies grow faster and have higher employee satisfaction levels. While levels have increased slightly over the last decade, the way to make the biggest impact on this challenge is to connect with high school females so they can learn about career opportunities in ACE while they are still exploring career pathways.

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