

girls inc. One Hundred Committee Scholarship Luncheon

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS FOR GIRLS!

By Kerry Methner / CASA

EMBODYING THE GIRLS INC. THEME OF BEING STRONG, SMART, AND BOLD, participants at the recent One Hundred Committee Scholarship Luncheon filed into the Lotusland gardens for the 25th Anniversary event benefitting Girls Incorporated of Greater Santa Barbara. The

luncheon featured guest speaker Debra Martin Chase, known for producing movies with strong, positive female role models including *The Princess Diaries* and *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. Twenty-five Girls Inc. scholarship recipients were also honored for taking their places in the community, including Paula Lopez, KEYT anchor.

Benefactors who were present. “You all are the key to success for continuing scholarships in the future,” Thompson noted. “Like the fairy godmother in Cinderella, you have been waving your wand and thousands of girls have realized their dreams,” Luther continued. The Pavilion, Madame Ganna Walska’s home, was fully appointed by Cabana Home. A raffle featuring a prize from Silverhorn and a silent auction were part of the fundraising efforts.

“I not only thank you on behalf of past recipients of your generosity but encourage you to invest in the future of more girls... They truly are the future of our community,” Lopez shared.

This year’s luncheon, co-chaired by Anne Luther and Caroline Thompson, was held at Lotusland, a unique 37-acre estate and botanic garden in Montecito, with 450 guests in attendance. It raised \$350,000 for scholarships for girls, ages 4 ½ to 18 years, to participate in after school and summer programs.

Following the luncheon, guests strolled through the gardens enjoying the beauty of the spectacular grounds.

New this year, a *Godparent Reception* was held in the evening of April 28th the Pavilion at Lotusland. There Co-Chairs of the event expressed their appreciation to the Godparents and

The One Hundred Committee was formed in 1985 by local women, Perri Harcourt, Joanne Holderman, and Jeri Rovsek along with other Girls Inc. supporters. Their original goal was to have 100 women contribute 100 dollars each to attend a luncheon and to hear a distinguished speaker. Monies raised would provide scholarship support for girls to attend programs at Girls Inc. In honor of the silver anniversary, these founding women were recognized for their dedication to the scholarship programs of Girls Inc.

The One Hundred Committee Scholarship Luncheon has grown to become the major source of funding for the scholarship programs of Girls Inc. Over 70 percent of the girls participating in the program are on scholarship. Without this financial aid the girls would not have the means to participate in the after school and summer programs offered by Girls Inc.

The committee is comprised of a group of 70 women who have been instrumental in raising over 3.5 million dollars of scholarship funds for girls in our community over the past 25 years.

For information about Girls Inc. of Greater Santa Barbara visit www.girlsincsb.org.



Girls Inc. participants from the Goleta Valley Center performed *Reach Out And Touch Somebody's Hand* at the Godparent Reception. They are (Back, lft to rt): **Caitlin Malone, Rosalind Borah, Kylee Heather, Manali Knox, and Hali Mecklin,** (Front) **Katie Berris, and Kaitlin Donahue**



Girls Inc Board President **Sarah Stokes** with **Debra Martin Chase**, guest speaker and two-time Emmy nominated television & film producer



Perri Harcourt; Debra Martin Chase, Caroline Thompson, Anne Luther, Gwen Stauffer, KEYT anchor Paula Lopez; Jeri Rovsek, Kathleen McClintock, and Monica Spear, Exec Director Girls Inc of Greater SB



Arlene Larsen, Joyce Shaar, Diana MacFarlane, Gail Pearl, and Bridget Murphy



Event Co-Chairs **Caroline Thompson** and **Anne Luther** with Girls Inc President **Sarah Stokes**



Paula Lopez, Monica Spear, and Lydia Hall, former Girls Inc. Scholarship recipient



Lotusland was a perfect venue to sport wide brimmed beauties. **Melody Taft, Lady Leslie Ridley-Tree, Jean-Marie Hamel, and Jill Nida**



At the God Parents Reception: **Tom Mielko, Chad Dreier, Ginni Dreier, and Eileen Mielko**



Sirens for a cause..... **Donna Fisher Yates, Terry Stanford Jacobson, and Patricia Durham**

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