Board President's Reflections: Boundless Horizons Await

Paul Burke, President of the NCGS Board of Trustees and Head of The Nightingale-Bamford School

NCGS is entering 2022 ready to embrace a new name, new collaborations, and global initiatives with optimism and energy. It is an exciting time to be part of our global network of girls’ school educators that counts 320 schools in 16 countries among its membership. And we're growing every day.

Our work extends worldwide, but I am most proud of the fact that in a decade that has been marked by phenomenal growth for the Coalition, we have never lost sight of the fact that our work is really about each of our unique and transformational schools—and even more importantly, it is about the girls who are educated and empowered within and beyond those schoolhouse walls.

As Executive Director Megan Murphy explains in this inspirational video message I'm pleased to share with you today, the time for girls—and for girls’ schools—is now.

On July 1, we will officially take on the name that more accurately and inclusively describes who we are: the International Coalition of Girls’ Schools. We’ll mark the occasion with a grand celebration during the Global Forum on Girls’ Education® III in Boston June 27-29. I hope you'll join us.

In the months leading up to that time, Megan, my fellow Coalition trustees, and I will host a series of Membership Assemblies to describe how we’ll make the transition to ICGS. Look for invitations to these gatherings soon. We also have created a “Becoming ICGS” page on the Coalition website with links to resources and answers to frequently asked questions.
Christ Educator Prizes Announced

NCGS is pleased to announce this year’s recipients of the Ransome Prize and H. William Christ Educator Prize.

Jeanne Goka, Founding Principal of the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders in Austin, Texas, has been awarded the Ransome Prize, which is presented in honor of NCGS co-founder Whitty Ransome. (Read Jeanne’s biography [here](#).)

Erika Rath, Director of Student Services, Residence Life, Grade 12 Program, and Personal Development Teacher at The Sacred Heart School of Montreal, has been given the H. William Christ Educator Prize, created to honor the former NCGS trustee and long-time visionary head of Hathaway Brown School. (Read Erika’s biography [here](#).)

Both Jeanne and Erika were selected for their tireless devotion to educating, empowering, and inspiring girls to achieve their utmost potential and live healthy and fulfilling lives. They will be honored at the Global Forum on Girls’ Education® III this June.

Please join us in congratulating Jeanne and Erika on this well-deserved recognition.

5 Reasons to Attend the NCGS Global Forum

1. You can join in the way that works for you — in person or virtually.
2. The Keynote Speakers are amazing!
3. All 10 conference themes are timely, engaging, and important.
4. Pre-conference and post-conference opportunities are inspiring.
5. Girls everywhere need advocates and allies like you.

Registration for the Global Forum on Girls' Education® III is now open. We hope to see you in Boston or online June 27-29!

Girls as Environmental Champions

Girls and women have long been leaders in efforts to preserve the earth. Author Diana Kapp has recently published Girls Who Green the World: Thirty-Four Rebel Women Out to Save Our Planet, a collection of profiles of girls and women who have devoted themselves to this important cause.

Opportunities for Girls in STEM

Girl Up, United Nations Foundation is excited to share two terrific upcoming STEM programs. On February 25, from 4–6 p.m. EST, Girl Up is hosting STEM for Social Good Bootcamp: Exploring Space, which is focused on allowing girls to learn more about space-related careers and deepen their understanding of the historical accomplishments of women in the space field. Register here!
As we approach Earth Day on April 22, Diana has also created a Girls Who Green Toolkit for educators. The toolkit provides all the information and materials teachers and librarians need if they are planning Earth Day or environmental-related programs. In it, you'll find a range of program ideas, based upon the level of involvement of students, and step-by-step guides to make it easy to host events.

The Girl Up $500 STEM Project Award Application is open until March 1 for youth interested in solving an issue in their community using STEM. Both of these offerings are open to girls globally ages 13-24, and we encourage you to share them with your students. Questions? Email maroberts@girlup.org.

Scholarship for NCGS Educators

The CalWest Educators Lee Miller Scholarship is an annual award presented to two members of the NCGS community in memory and honor of CalWest Founder Lee Miller, established by her family and friends at CalWest Educators Placement.

The CalWest Educators Lee Miller Scholarship will be awarded annually to educators in NCGS member schools in the form of a scholarship grant to attend the annual NCGS conference, which this year will be the Global Forum on Girls' Education® III. Applications are now being accepted through March 31.

In The News

Headlines from around the world.

- Huddled in secret schools, Afghan girls refuse to give up on education
  The Times
- How Nneka Ogwumike is championing gender equality on and off the court
  Forbes
- Promoting mathematics to girls in Ghana
  Nature

International Women's Day

The United Nations has designated March 8 as International Women's Day, challenging all of us to imagine and create a gender-equal world. We know our member schools will answer the call to #BreakTheBias.

So, we're curious: How do you plan to celebrate International Women's Day—at your school, in your community, or in your personal life? Tell us here.

We'd love to amplify your efforts.