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**Girls Quest's Summer Experiential Education and Development Program (SEED)
Kicks off at Camp Oh-Neh-Tah**

More than 300 Disadvantaged Girls Age 8-14 Sign up to Beat Summer Learning Loss

NEW YORK, NY – July 10, 2007 – Girls Quest, an organization that provides out-of-school enrichment programming for disadvantaged girls from the greater New York regions, has announced the commencement of the Summer Learning Summer Experiential Education and Development Program (SEED). During one of three consecutive two-week sessions 300 disadvantaged, at-risk girls will visit the Camp Oh-Neh-Tah program site in the Catskill Mountains, starting at the beginning of July and ending in mid-August.

"We help girls get excited about the everyday adventures of learning—in and out of the classroom—so they can go home and back to school more motivated and better prepared to learn," says Girls Quest Executive Director Susan F. Hall.

The SEED Program focuses on reducing the Summer Learning Gap, the loss of learning and knowledge that disproportionately affects children living in low-income and under-resourced communities. To reduce and even reverse this erosion of learning, Girls Quest has developed the SEED Program. The Program consists of literacy classes and additional fun, structured activities such as arts and crafts, dance, music, fashion and design, ecology and swimming.

"SEED is very important to our girls and their families, most of whom live in distressed communities with little opportunity for enriching activities during the summer," says Hall. "SEED provides experiences many of our girls could not have by spending the summer at home. Our goal is to provide them with the best part of their summer and the best chance at moving ahead."

Girls Quest's SEED Program serves girls ages 8-14 from all of New York City's boroughs, Westchester County, Long Island, and the Catskills region. Over 84% are from low-income families, and 92% live in what are considered high-risk neighborhoods, with almost half residing in the most high-risk neighborhoods in New York.

For more information about the SEED Program or other Girls Quest programs, please contact us at 212-532-7050 or visit <http://www.girlsquest.org>. Executive Director Susan Hall is available for interviews about the SEED Program and Girls Quest.

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About GirlsQuest:

Girls Quest is a 71 year old organization whose mission is to nurture girls from low-income families in New York to help them achieve their full potential and become active members of their communities by building academic and social competence.

