



# Community organizing internship For Teen Girls of Color

Together we can take steps that shape the future...

Youth Leadership

Community Service

Consciousness Raising

Social Growth & Identity

Education & Career

**Applications are due on Friday, JUNE 12<sup>th</sup> 2009**

For more information and an application, visit [www.ggenyc.org](http://www.ggenyc.org), email Vanessa Nisperos at [organizing@ggenyc.org](mailto:organizing@ggenyc.org) or call 718-857-1393.

Girls for Gender Equity is a nonprofit organization committed to the physical, psychological, social and economic development of girls and women. Through education, organizing and physical fitness, Girls for Gender Equity encourages communities to remove barriers and create opportunities for girls and women to live self-determined lives.



Sisters in Strength Community Organizing Internship Application

Contact Vanessa Nisperos, Director of Community Organizing
organizing@ggenyc.org 718.857.1393

Girls for Gender Equity is looking for young women, ages 16-19 years old, for a part-time, paid Community Organizing Internship with our Sisters in Strength (SIS) program.

- 1) Youth Leadership: Building and utilizing skills in grassroots organizing...
2) Community Service: Mentoring middle school girls and boys...
3) Consciousness Raising: Challenging one's self and influencing others...
4) Social Growth and Identity: Gaining support in daily struggles...
5) Education and Career: Asserting the importance of education...

The interns receive a stipend of \$8/hour to work up to 8 hours/week from August 2009 to June 2010. A full description of the internship duties and expectations can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section of this application.

Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\* this is how we will contact you

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_

Are you eligible to work in the US? (circle answer) Yes No

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

What time do you leave school Monday - Friday? \_\_\_\_\_

What other Programs, Teams, Internships, or Jobs will you be participating in?

\_\_\_\_\_

This part of the application requires you to answer questions so we can get to know you better. Please be honest. Your answers are confidential and will not be shared with anyone outside of Girls for Gender Equity.

1. Have you ever participated in a youth organizing internship or program before? (circle one)  
Yes                      No                      If "yes", which programs:

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2. Why do you want to be a SIS community organizing intern?

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3. What skills can you bring to the SIS community organizing internship?

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4. What experience do you have working with young people (babysitting, mentoring, etc)?

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5. Describe your experience interacting with young women from various communities.

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6. What are your goals for this coming year? How do you plan to reach them?

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7. What is the most important thing you would want to change about your community? How would you change it?

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8. What have you done in the past to be active in your community?

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9. List the issues affecting young women that you feel are important for your community to address.

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10. Tell us about a time when you made a mistake. How did you correct that mistake?

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11. Are there any issues or personal matters that may keep you from completing or fully participating in this internship program from August 2009 – June 2010?

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12. Please write a little about yourself that you feel will help us to get to know you better.

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13. Is this your first time applying for this internship? (circle one) Yes No  
If you applied last year, what made you decide to apply again?

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13. How did you hear about this internship? \_\_\_\_\_

**Letter of Recommendation**

Please have a teacher, mentor or another adult you work closely with write a letter to us explaining why you should take part in this opportunity. Please mail or email completed application and letter of recommendation to:

Girls for Gender Equity  
Attn: Vanessa Nisperos, Director of Community Organizing  
1360 Fulton Street, Suite 314  
Brooklyn, NY 11216

## Memorandum of Understanding

The following are terms of agreement between GGE and \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the name of applicant). This agreement is effective from July 1, 2009 until June 30, 2010. As a Sisters in Strength Community Organizing Intern, I agree to fully participate in:

- SIS Community Organizing Internship Orientation (*mandatory* - held in July 2009)
- SIS Community Organizing Internship 3-week Training (*mandatory* - held in August 2009)
- Planning and implementing a Community Organizing Project
- Mentoring Middle School girls and boys in GGE's Urban Leaders program
- Cultural and Social Activities (plays, movies, etc.)
- Office Support and Outreach for GGE's programs

Sisters in Strength Community Organizing Interns are responsible for promoting a positive environment and showing respectful behavior *at all times*. You are a "living legend." Your actions will affect hundreds of girls; therefore, it is imperative that every member of GGE always engage in conduct that is positive and representative of GGE's mission. You are representing yourself *and* GGE, which promotes self-respect and respect for others. Conduct Violation includes:

- Fighting or threatening physical violence
- Possession or use of drugs/alcohol/tobacco
- Possession of or use of a weapon
- Disrespecting and/or verbally abusing a staff member, volunteers or other program participants
- Participating in a gang
- Vandalism of GGE property
- Not honoring your commitments (ex: showing up late or not showing up at all, not completing tasks)

GGE staff and volunteers are expected to treat interns respectfully, consistently and fairly at all times. We expect everyone involved with GGE to honor the code of conduct. If this agreement is breached by the Sisters in Strength Community Organizing Intern, it may result in suspension or expulsion from the organization.

I hereby grant to Girls for Gender Equity, the absolute right, for as long as they may elect, to copyright and/or use and/or publish in video, audio, print or any other media, my name and/or likeness and/or statements, in whole or in part, for purposes of public education and information. I grant these rights in perpetuity for use in news, education, art, or any other lawful purpose whatsoever.

I waive any right to inspect and/or approve any related products that GGE may develop or the use(s) to which they may be applied. I also hereby release GGE from any and all claims relating to or arising from the uses consented above. I understand that under no circumstances shall I have any right to maintain any cause of action against GGE by virtue of this agreement, the use of my name, likeness, and/or statements and anything done pursuant here to.

Signing this memorandum of understanding indicates that I have read this form, fully understand its contents, and agree to its terms knowingly and voluntarily.

_____ Name of Applicant	_____ Signature	_____ Date
_____ Name of Applicant's Legal Guardian	_____ Signature	_____ Date
<u>Vanessa Nisperos</u> GGE Internship Supervisor	_____ Signature	_____ Date

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- 1) **If I am chosen for this internship, what will my tasks & support look like?** This internship has 3 main parts:
  - I. *Service Delivery and Support*

The SIS program is designed to support the optimal development of young women of color. To do this GGE staff will work with you to build sisterhood within the group, as well as support you with workshops and resources that provide academic support, career and educational support, and support in other areas identified by you. You will have access to one on one meetings, resources, and trips meant to nurture and support you as you navigate your life and development as a young woman.
  - II. *Community Organizing Project*

With the guidance of GGE staff, SIS interns will build on GGE's past community organizing efforts by developing and leading a community organizing project of their own that centers on gender-based inequities in the New York City public schools; interns create strategies to address these issues. The young women will attend a mandatory 3-week long training in August 2009 on the history of social justice work, community organizing strategies and tactics, and best practices. They will go on a NYC Organizing Tour, where they will speak to local change makers in order to better understand communities throughout NYC and build their own grassroots organizing skills.
  - III. *Mentoring Youth at MS 61*

SIS interns assist the Urban Leaders Program Director by mentoring girls and boys in Middle School 61 for 4-6 hours per week. This teaches professionalism, builds leadership skills, and increase community connection. Interns assist instructors, lead workshops and homework assistance groups, and help with recruitment and outreach for the program.
- 2) **When and how will I be notified of a decision?** Everyone will be notified of their status via email or by phone by July 3, 2009. **Do not call to inquire about your status!**
- 3) **What are the days/times/locations of the internship?** The internship will take place primarily at MS 61 (400 Empire Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY) and at Girls for Gender Equity (1360 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY) during the hours of 2pm-6pm on Monday through Friday.
- 4) **Can I fax the application to you?** No, only emailed or mailed applications will be accepted. And the application must be in our office by 5pm on June 12, 2009.
- 5) **My teacher/counselor gave me the application on the day of the deadline. Can I turn it in late?** No, emailed or mailed applications must be in our office by 5pm on June 12, 2009. We won't accept late applications *for any reason*.
- 6) **I won't be able to do this internship for the whole year because I have softball/basketball/debate team practice. Can I still apply?** You can apply, but please let us know what your scheduling conflicts are in Question #10.
- 7) **How can I send my letter of recommendation electronically?** Have your recommender email the letter to [organizing@ggenyc.org](mailto:organizing@ggenyc.org) from their email address.

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