

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley wishes EVERYONE a Happy New Year & Kick Off 2012 by offering Technology Courses for all ages!**

(Pasadena, CA, January 6, 2012) – In an effort to prepare our girls and women for the job market, the YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley is offering beginning and intermediate computer courses. According to the U.S. Department of Labor Women’s Bureau, future growth projections indicate that computers, software, and applications for information technology will continue to impact the employment opportunities for women and is a driving force of the economy.

To kick off 2012, the YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley will begin offering additional TECHGyrls classes for elementary, middle and high school girls. As well as, an Adult Computer Learning Course for women over the age of 18. Classes begin the week of January 9<sup>th</sup> and enrollment will continue until June 2012. TECHGyrls courses are age appropriate and cover topics such as internet safety, social media do’s and don’ts and Microsoft Office in a fun and exciting way. The TECHGyrls program objectives are 1) Increase confidence in the use of technology 2) Increase the knowledge of vocational computer programs 3) Increase confidence in the ability to manage personal finances and 4) Increase knowledge of business practices. Like the TECHGyrls classes, Adult Courses utilize appropriate software that promotes mastery learning, problem solving and a classroom experience that is student centered. All courses are free and are available for students who reside in the YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley service area. TECHGyrls courses are 12 weeks and space is limited. The Adult Computer Learning Courses are 5 weeks. Currently, both courses have open enrollment, so Register Now!

For more information about how you can enroll in any of the upcoming TECHGyrls classes or the Adult Computer Learning Course contact Shanetta Robinson – Program Director at 626.296.8433 ext. 13 or [srobinson@ywca-pasadena.org](mailto:srobinson@ywca-pasadena.org).

Since the start of the TECHGyrls program in 1997, it has grown to be one of the most highly successful nation-wide YWCA after-school empowerment programs. Not only does the program raise girls’ interest, confidence and competence in the crucial area of technology, it also helps them develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.

**About the YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley**

The YWCA acts via a wide range of programs that strive towards the elimination of racism and the empowerment of women in Pasadena and the West San Gabriel Valley. Learn more and donate to the programs of the YWCA at [www.ywca-pasadena.org](http://www.ywca-pasadena.org). (626) 296-8433. Located at 1200 North Fair Oaks, Pasadena.