



## News Release

**Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc.**  
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### **GIRL SCOUTS BUILDING FUTURES WITH LEGOS®**

**ATLANTA, June 15, 2009** – Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta has recently been awarded a \$10,000 grant from Motorola to allow Girl Scouts from across the metro-Atlanta area to take part in the *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO League competition, which begins Sept. 3. Girls who participate will be completing a series of challenges that will increase their teamwork and goal setting skills as well as building an autonomous robot using LEGOS and their imaginations.

Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta will be forming at least five teams made up of 10 girls, ages 9-14. Each team will have a volunteer mentor to coach them through the competition. This year's theme is "Smart Move," which will encourage teams to consider the many modes of transportation beyond their daily routine and to streamline their options by making "smart moves." The *FIRST* LEGO League competition is a two-part challenge that requires teams to research the particular challenge subject and learn about science and engineering to complete their robot.

The competition year kicks off Sept. 3, when girls will have access to support materials related to the "Smart Move" challenge including a LEGO kit used to build their robots, viewing the challenge playing field and downloading help videos from the *FIRST* Web site. The build and competition season lasts from November to January and culminates with teams from across the globe competing in the World Festival, hosted in Atlanta and scheduled for April 2010.

Partnering with *FIRST* is a perfect fit for Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta. For the past six years, Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta has been offering more science and technology related programming through the program, Girls Go Tech. With participation in *FIRST* Lego League, not only will girls be learning about robotics and engineering but they will also be increasing their logical thinking and problem solving skills, practice project management, connect with positive adult role models and improve their public speaking and presentation skills.

For information on volunteering as a team coach, or if you are a girl between the age of 9 and 14 and would like to participate on one of the Girl Scouts' *FIRST* teams, contact Lissa Snowden, program specialist for Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta at (678) 420-6844 or [lsnowdon@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org](mailto:lsnowdon@girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org).

### **About Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc.**

Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc. serves approximately 40,000 girls and over 17,700 adult members in 34 counties in the greater metropolitan Atlanta area, northwest Georgia and Polk County, TN. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. For more information on how to join, volunteer or donate to Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, Inc. call (800) 771-4046, or visit [www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org](http://www.girlscoutsofgreateratlanta.org). For information on the national organization visit Girl Scouts of the USA's Web site at [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org).

### **About *FIRST*<sup>TM</sup>**

Accomplished inventor Dean Kamen founded *FIRST* (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., *FIRST* designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology and engineering. With the support of many of the world's most well-known companies, the not-for-profit organization hosts the *FIRST* Robotics Competition and *FIRST* Tech Challenge for high school students, *FIRST* LEGO® League for children 9-14 years old and Junior *FIRST* LEGO® League for 6-9 year-olds. To learn more about *FIRST*, go to [www.first.org](http://www.first.org).

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