

GIRLS HUB

YOUNG WOMEN OF TOLEDO

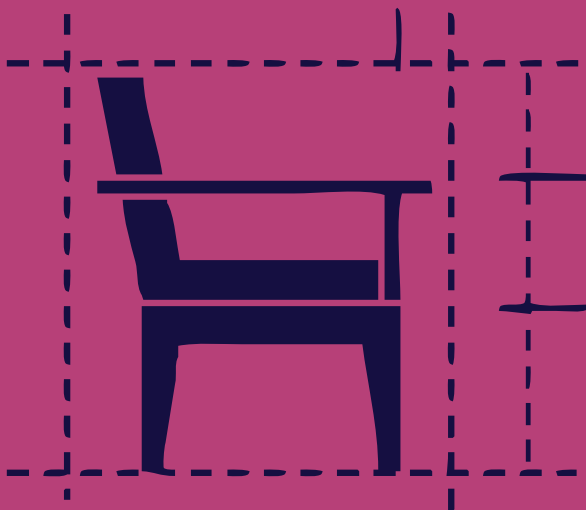
If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.

-Shirley Chisholm

Women of Toledo says



Build Your Own!



Your seat is your identity and what you care about.
The table is where decisions are made.

Overview: Young Women of Toledo



Our Young Women initiative offers an opportunity for intersectional and young women ages 12 to 26 to share, discuss and debate constructively to help build empowerment.

Under the Young Women of Toledo initiative, we introduce Girls Hub Circle, a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) program/activity for girls and young women ages 12 to 17 that offered a dedicated workspace in design and construction, through classes in carpentry, architecture, and civic art. With the support from our STEAM mentors, our Girls Hub's Builders use their creative voices and power tools to build their individual chair that represents their uniqueness while examining the value of identity, voice, and lived experience in civic spaces.

We aim to support and equip a community of fearless builders. Integrating Mentor's technical skills, we believe our programs equip youth with the personal power and literal power tools to build the world they want to see.

More info: <https://www.womenoftoledo.org/girlshub>



- 4:30 pm VIP Reception & Chairs Exhibition
Imagination Station Lobby Area
- 5:15 pm Proceed to Keybank Discovery Theater
- 5:30 pm Welcome by Carlena Johnson, President of Women of Toledo
Opening & Welcome - Lori Hauser, CEO, Imagination Station
Program Overview - Nina Corder, Managing Director & Julia Labay, Lead Instructor of Girls Hub
Presentation & Storytelling, Emcee by Mary Brucker, Board of Director, Women of Toledo
- 7:00 pm Fearless Builder Recognition and Certificate
- 7:30 pm Program concludes



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A Seat At The Table Project

CLASS
of
2022

MEET TOLEDO'S FEARLESS BUILDERS



Aamaree Arrington 14 years old

Chair Name: Unity

My chair is meant to share a message-- that women can do as much or even more than men. Building my chair gave me confidence, accountability, empowerment and satisfaction. Never let anyone tell you what you can or can't do, unless it's your mother, then I can't help you there. I'll leave you with this: how do you want people to perceive you? Quiet, closed, weak? Or do you want the world to see you and the women after you as strong, fearless leaders? If you want something to happen, work for it.



Daniya Ford 12 years old

Chair Name: 1965

My chair is about Nina Simone. She was a very independent woman who made great music. Her song "Feeling Good" was recorded in January 1965 and it inspires my chair name. She released powerful songs like "Four Women" during the civil rights movement addressing racism and other injustices. For me, as a young black woman, I get scared of that a lot. Nina Simone quotes, "I'll tell you what freedom is to me: no fear."



Dylan Kevorkian 12 years old
Chair Name: Joseph Chairiani
I was the inspiration for my chair. I thought, "Is this how I would look as a chair?" This program took me from building a chair to building a bigger idea of leadership to building a good group of friends. And that is how my chair got its name. Friends is my favorite show and Joseph Tribiani is my favorite character.



Jasmeona Baker
13 years old
Chair name: Moody



Journey Houston
14 years old

Kylee McMillian 11 years old
 My message to you: Imagine. Believe. Achieve.



Kynned Knighten 13 years old
 Chair Name: Bubbles
 My chair is based on my childhood. When I was younger, I loved the water and everything around it, especially the seashells. My grandmother Ludelle and I loved to collect seashells. We talked and bonded all day. My signature is on the side of my chair plus the activities and people that are important to me.

Lienna Rausch 14 years old
 Chair Name: Growing into Something New
 Things that impacted my life and that I love inspired my chair—from the states I chose to the inclusive pride flag to the colors I picked. I even added a couple of surprise elements. I was trying to show that even if I seem calm on the outside, I'm very busy with thoughts and have a scattered brain inside. Girl Hub helped me become the stronger person I have been wanting to be for a while and it finally happened!



Lisandra Hardy 8 years old

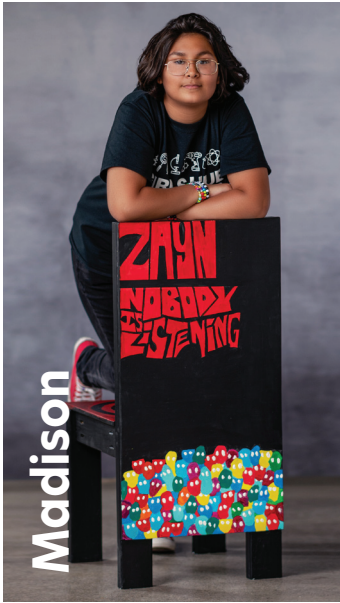


Lucy Chao 16 years old

Luma Alaraje 17 years old

The chair represents my Palestinian roots. The fishnet pattern on the seat symbolizes abundance and grace. The flag colors represent oppression, peace, and hope for a thriving future. On the chair back is Handala. He appears in every cartoon that Naji Al-Ali drew. His back is turned to the world so he can watch the cartoon's action. He invites all to do the same.





Madison Perales 13 years old

My chair is inspired by one of my childhood bands One direction. I chose to do one direction because I absolutely love their music. It used to make me so happy when I was little. And they bring back a lot of memories from when I was little. I took three of the members' solo album covers for inspiration. On the back of the chair is Zayn Malik's album cover for the album nobody is listening to. I chose to do that album cover because Zayn himself painted it and was inspired by expressionism. I feel like we have a little in common when it comes to art.



Manhattan Cook 13 years old

Chair Name: Cookies and Cream
 You probably can guess the theme of my chair—cookies and cream. My chair is good enough to eat. I worked with the painter to figure out how to draw so many Oreos. The chair back has a cow which ties the cookies and cream theme together.



Maysun Harris 13 years old

This chair represents the thoughts in my head and the things I find beautiful in life. For example, the flowers on the legs are roses, my favorite flower. The heart is the center of my chair represents love and the wings represent peace. The black chair represents the darkness in this world. Therefore I want to show how the beautiful things in life can overcome the darkness.

Nahtalia Duron 13 years old

Chair Name: Home of the Brave

I love America. This chair is for every soldier of every war. My chair "sits" for freedom because anyone who comes to my table will be treated equally



Naomy Torres 15 years old

I am Mexican-American, I have immigrant parents, and I struggled through parts of my life with my differences. My differences don't decide who I am but help make a portion of who I am. I'm glad and proud of the person I am and for the people who helped me to where I am. There have been many people who were before me and I want to show my appreciation for them with a part of my chair. I chose to incorporate something from the Aztecs, one of the many Indigenous people of Mexico. On my chair, I used a Dremel to carve into my chair Aztec Script, also known as Nahuatl script. I placed them on the legs, or what I enjoy calling "The Foundation of my chair".



Samantha H

Samantha Humberston 13 years old

Chair Name: Poco

I like bright colors, funky designs, and patterns. I learned how to use a lot of super cool tools. I put pom-poms on my chair because they remind me of my dog, and I love my dog. You should put your name and signature on everything you make so people know you made it!



Ri'Nease

Ri'Nease Hood 12 years old

Chair Name: Aether

I believe planets are good luck so I painted many planets, stars, and NASA's logo. This program has taught me independence, generosity, accountability, and leadership. I've been inspired by many people and learned it's okay to come up with your own ideas and not have other people like them.

Samantha Krauss 15 years old

Chair Name: Nature

I started with simple colors, green and brown. The brown legs turned into the bark and the green seat into a leafy canopy. It's like sitting atop a tree. I painted the sky on the back of my chair. There isn't a time of day that I don't love the sky. I am always excited or at peace when I'm in nature. There's too much going on and too many amazing things to witness to be worrying about your troubles. A few breaths of that rich forest air and it all melts away.



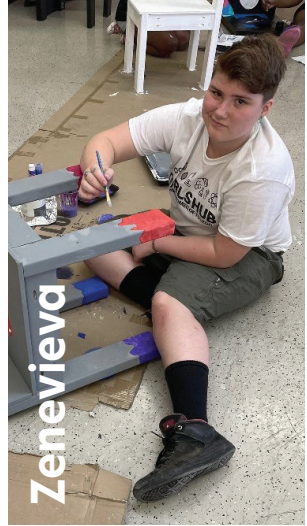
Samantha K



Serenity Parker 12 years old

Chair Name: Aleaforio

My inspiration came from the internet, and with that method, I chose a piano and checkerboard. I chose the piano because I want to learn to play and a checkerboard because I tried to learn how to play chess when I was younger. I originally planned for my chair to be monochrome because I've always liked black, white, and various shades of gray. Now my chair is made up of things I found to look well together.



Zenevieva Rogers

12 years old

My chair is based on bisexuality, horror, and vampires. I designed it this way because it is me. I'm bi and I'm not ashamed to say it.



Builders with Nina Corder, and Apprentices Lily and Shreya.



Builders with Instructor, Julia LaBay

Julia LaBay Darrah is currently instructing at the University of Toledo Department of Art. She is also the Curator for the Blair Museum of Lithophanes. She received her BFA in sculpture at the University of Toledo in 2012 and her MFA from Bowling Green State University in 2015. She also manages her own design company, LaBay Designs.

Even though Julia is a bit “cringey” at times, she can help you gain the confidence to overcome any task life throws at you. She is skilled in many materials and processes to create any three-dimensional form.



Program Organizer

Women of Toledo: Established in 2014, Inclusive for Women Inc. - Women of Toledo is a 501c3 nonprofit organization serving the Greater Toledo community that advocates for diversity and inclusion with a focus on economic empowerment. The organization offers programs and services that help tackle issues critical to women's economic advancement and interrupt various biases in the workplace, marketplace, community, and family. Learn more at www.womenoftoledo.org

Acknowledgments & Program Partners



Thank you to Imagination Station Team for curating the Chairs Exhibition and Portraits Display

Thank You!

On behalf of our Circle of Friends, Supporters, Board of Directors, Partners, Volunteers, women, and young women at Women of Toledo, we would like to thank all of you for attending this program. Please know that your support truly offers hope to all women and youth that our organization will continue to serve by acknowledging, celebrating, and honoring their presence and value in our community.

Girls Hub Team

Girls Hub Team: Nina Corder, Julia LaBay Darrah, Penny Tullis, Brenda Singletary, Cassie Easterwood and Hannah Lehman

Mentors: Mary Brucker, Dr. Brenda Holsey, Carlena Johnson, Cassie Tinta, Dr. Anju Gupta, Nicole Rene De Cotret and Mikayla Rummell

Apprentices/Fellows: Farah El Nahal, Lily Hickey, and Shreya Bhoopathi