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Karen Peterson and Jennifer Stancil are available for interviews

National Girls Collaborative Project names new 2020 Board Chair *Jennifer Stancil brings innovative ideas and experience to envision NGCP's future*

January 8, 2020 (SEATTLE) - At a pivotal time in its history, the National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) has elected Jennifer Stancil, a nonprofit executive, to lead its board into the next decade. As inequity in STEM fields persists, NGCP has been working successfully for 19 years with a host of partners to identify inclusive practices, creating more spaces and places for women and girls to get excited about and pursue STEM careers. NGCP's *The Connector* is the largest single portal for STEM opportunities in the U.S. NGCP has built an ecosystem that supports collective impact and local opportunities for more than 20,000,000 girls in STEM from K-12.

New opportunities and partnerships with corporations like Mercedes-Benz USA, Amazon Studios, and others, as well as ongoing participation in ground-breaking research in out-of-school time STEM strategies, are pushing NGCP into new territory. "NGCP's collaborative network of diverse programs provides key audiences that can benefit from increased collaboration and resources. As we continue to strengthen our connections, Jen's innovative experiences will increase NGCP's reach and effectiveness," says Peterson. Stancil, as Chair, will focus on governance, strategy, and sustainability for NGCP, by recruiting new Board Members in areas of marketing, entrepreneurship, policy, and philanthropy. The NGCP collaborative focus, empowering the 41 state-wide Collaboratives will continue while the nonprofit explores leveraging its national ecosystem in new ways. "When we know that only 29% of our STEM workforce is women, we have an obligation to leverage all of our creativity, imagination, and entrepreneurialism to level the playing field for the next generation," says

Stancil. “The National Girls Collaborative has created a system where we can reach millions of girls where they are and help them shape a STEM journey of their own. I’m humbled to be a part of envisioning NGCP’s future.”

About National Girls Collaborative Project

The National Girls Collaborative Project ([NGCP](#)) is a network of organizations committed to informing and encouraging girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Established in 2002, the NGCP has served over 20,000,000 girls through over 35,000 programs committed to gender parity across 41 states in the U.S. Via [The Connector](#), the nation's largest and most prolific search engine of STEAM opportunities for K-12 engagement, NGCP's tapestry of programs make their way to educators, parents, and the youth they serve. In addition, through NGCP's research, the importance of mentors in girls' career path is essential, leading to the creation of [FabFems](#), a database connecting women working in STEM careers so they can directly spark girls' interest in STEM, dispel stereotypes, and expand girls' perceptions of their STEM career options. Through its ethos of collaboration, NGCP draws the resources of corporations, academia, governments, and nonprofits alike toward the shared goal of STEM equity. Learn more about the National Girls Collaborative and its programs at [ngcproject.org](#).

About Jennifer Stancil

Jennifer Stancil is an innovative and visionary C-Suite executive living in North Carolina. As a specialist in start-up nonprofits, particularly those aligned with museums environments, she excels by leading teams to not just strive for, but establish, new best practices in informal education.

For more than 20 years, Stancil's ethos of inclusion has permeated her roles, leading educational organizations (Glazer Children's Museum; Girls, Math & Science Partnership at Carnegie Science Center), creating impactful media through work with PBS, WQED, Twin Cities Public Television and inventing her own, Emmy-award winning TV show, iQ:smartparent. Early in her career she helped open two museums in the SouthEast (McWane Science Center; Marbles Children's Museum (previously known as Exploris) that still thrive today. She is a sought out national speaker and advisor for national conferences and TV and blogs on wide-ranging preK-12 educational topics, about creativity, innovation and equity (especially in the STEM fields) in education. Stancil is a former advisor to the Women and Girls Council formed by the Obama White House.