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## **Sister-to-Sister Summit Gives Middle-School Girls Voice, Guidance**

*Submitted by Sophia Tan*

A sea of girls and their laughs and smiles will once again fill the Bentley School gymnasium from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 28 as part of the annual Sister-to-Sister summit - a program started by the American Association of University of Women (AAUW) that is dedicated to celebrating friendship and sisterhood with middle-school girls.

For the past 12 years, the Sister-to-Sister program has recruited high-school girls who are willing to provide a network of support and care for sixth- through eighth-grade middle-school girls. High-school facilitators attend nine three-hour monthly training sessions during the early fall in order to prepare for the spring summit day. The Sister-to-Sister program helps guide and provide answers to younger girls for some of the questions they may have as they transition through middle school and from middle to high school.

The summit day includes speakers, small group discussions between middle-school girls and high-school facilitators, a panel of high-school girls to answer any and all types of questions, games and much more. This year, the program has also incorporated a community service project into the summit day for all the girls. Together, the middle-school and high-school girls will be tying blankets the day of the summit, packaging them, and sending them off to girls in Afghanistan-a way for the girls involved with and participating in Sister-to-Sister to reach out and help girls in other parts of the world.

Sister-to-Sister would love as many girls as possible to join them for this special day of girls helping girls. For more information, please visit [www.sister2sister.info](http://www.sister2sister.info) or contact Laura Wittenberg at (925) 788-0901 or Valarie Burgess at (925) 997-0118. (Girls must sign up by April 23. Every girl will receive a t-shirt, and lunch and beverages will be provided.)

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