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Date: October 9, 2015

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heritage University Event to Show Middle School Girls the Benefits of Careers in Science

Toppenish, WA – More than 300 middle school girls will gather at Heritage University Saturday, October 17 for a day filled with science and fun. The event, "Expanding Your Horizons," is being offered through a partnership between Heritage and the University of Washington's Gear-Up program.

The goal of Expanding Your Horizons is to increase the numbers of women in science by building girls' excitement for STEM fields at an early age. Seventh and eighth graders are matched with a group of volunteer mentors who are professional women working in STEM careers in the greater Central Washington region. This year's EYH presenters include Microsoft, Cub Crafters and Battel. They will engage the young ladies in a variety of hands-on activities, informative displays and professional mentoring which will inspire them to pursue a career in STEM-related fields.

"Careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields can be very lucrative and prestigious," says event program chair Michelle Alegria. "We also want them to know about the exciting careers that await them close to home in our agriculture-based economy. After the event is over, we want these girls to envision themselves as future scientists and engineers," says Alegria.

Expanding Your Horizons is being held at several locations on the Heritage campus in Toppenish on Saturday, October 17th from 8:15 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information contact Michelle Alegria at (509) 865-8594.

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