

## **New Barrymore Film WHIP IT Stirs Excitement for GENaustin's Girls Now! Conference**

*Austin, TX, October 12, 2009* -Drew Barrymore hosted NBC's Saturday Night Live this past weekend in the wake of her directorial debut of the film *WHIP IT*. The film has done extremely well not just in box office numbers but in its mission to portray strong women in the media - something GENaustin is excited about and will reinforce at the second annual Girls Now! Conference on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Devoted to one full day of exploring the issues of Bullying, Body Image and Being a Girl, the Conference will feature Keynote Speaker Alexis Jones, a *Survivor* reality star who has used her celebrity status to help speak about the lives of girls around the world. Her message of empowerment is filled with humor, passion and her popularity with girls and women is contagious. Jones is in Austin and available for in person interviews through Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

GENaustin (the Girls Empowerment Network) is a local non-profit that provides programs to connect parents, teachers, and girls who have questions with resources and experts who have answers. The non-profit helps girls in Central Texas build self-esteem and strong relationships.

To register for the Conference visit [www.genaustin.org](http://www.genaustin.org). Registration closes on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Monday, October 12, 2009  
CONTACT:  
Christine Carlucci  
GENaustin  
(512) 841-4040  
[christine@genaustin.org](mailto:christine@genaustin.org)  
[www.genaustin.org](http://www.genaustin.org)

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### About GENaustin

GENaustin (The Girls Empowerment Network of Austin) fosters healthy self-esteem in girls by engaging them to explore and define their personal values and build skills that empower them with confidence and courage to make wise choices. For more information about GENaustin, a 501(c)(3) non profit organization visit [www.genaustin.org](http://www.genaustin.org)

### About GENaustin's Girls NOW! Conference

The Conference is a one-day seminar, designed for girls grades 5-12, their parents and educators to explore the issues of Bullying, Body Image and Being a Girl through group presentations and hands-on interactive sessions led by nationally recognized experts that are designed to identify the problems and offer solutions. Visit [www.genaustin.org](http://www.genaustin.org)