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## **Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast to Participate in Cybersecurity and Internet Safety Course with the California Cyber Training Complex**

*'Being Secure in a Cyber World' will take place at Cal Poly on November 4*

Ventura, Calif. — Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast (GSCCC) announced today that they will participate in a tailored cybersecurity program offered by the California Cyber Training Complex (CCTC) on November 4, 2017. The program, entitled "Being Secure in a Cyber World," will be held at California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly). It will provide the girls with hands-on education on internet safety and inform them about protecting their identities online. Participants will earn a patch upon completion.

At the event, girls will learn about 'the cyber age' as it relates to smart phones, computers and the web, including internet safety and protecting private information. The event will also give girls a taste of cybersecurity careers and the skills they will need in order to navigate an increasingly tech-driven world.

"We are excited about bringing 'Being Secure in a Cyber World' to Girl Scouts," said Jody Skenderian, CEO of Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast and Cal Poly alumna. "The programs being offered by the CCTC are important for girls along the central coast as parents look for resources to help keep their daughters informed and safe online. This partnership provides a perfect opportunity as Girl Scouts prepare to offer the first national Girl Scout Cybersecurity badges for grades K-12 starting next year."

"Cal Poly and the CCTC value increasing the participation of girls and women into science, technology, engineering and mathematics and furthering the training of our future cyber workforce," said Bruce Burton, CCTC Program Manager. "This event allows us to help the local community make progress on both fronts."

"Being Secure in a Cyber World" will take place on Saturday, November 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm at Cal Poly, and is designed for Girl Scouts of all ages and levels. The cost is \$5 for girls and includes a patch. There is no cost for adults,

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but they must register to attend. For more information or to register, visit [girlscoutsgccc.org/events](http://girlscoutsgccc.org/events).

Cybersecurity is part of *today's* Girl Scout experience, providing girls throughout GSCCC's six counties a variety of opportunities to have a foundation and inspiration to embrace science and technology while developing leadership skills. The first science-related Girl Scout badges offered in 1913 were "electrician," "health" and "naturalist." Today's badges include, "computer expert," "inventor," "product designer" and "website designer"—all areas for girls to investigate and explore in the age of technology. There will be 18 new cybersecurity Girl Scout badges available to Girl Scouts starting in September 2018. The badges will be available to troops across the country.

### **ABOUT CCTC**

The California Cyber Training Complex (CCTC) is a robust, multi-agency effort to protect California through enhanced cybercrime forensics and statewide tactical response training. Our partners are the California National Guard and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. The CCTC aims to educate the next generation cyber workforce and provide faculty and students with a new, hands-on research and learning environment. The CCTC serves as an extended Learn by Doing space for Cal Poly students, where they can explore new cyber technologies and train and test tactics alongside law enforcement professionals and cyber forensics experts. The program offers an environment for cyber defense innovation through advanced study and applied research on emerging issues and technical challenges, helping to shape California's cyber standards and practices. For more information, visit [cctc.calpoly.edu](http://cctc.calpoly.edu).

### **ABOUT GSCCC**

Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast serves over 16,000 members across six counties and is committed to making the Girl Scout Leadership Experience available to girls in ways that impact their lives both in the moment and into the future. Girls participate in troops, individual projects, council events, day camps and more. In a unique all-girl setting, girls get to choose exciting activities like earning badges, getting outdoors, going on trips, exploring science and the arts and doing community service projects. To join or volunteer in Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara or Ventura County, visit [girlscoutsgccc.org](http://girlscoutsgccc.org).

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