



girl scouts   
of california's  
central coast



# Monthly Newsletter

## March 2026





## Featured Pages

Meet out 2025  
Women of Distinction

Kaleidoscope

Celebrating Service Unit  
Success

Growing the Girl Scout Movement Together

Lillian Ersonmez

Gold Award Girl Scout



Media Room Experience

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# A Standing Ovation for Our Women of Distinction



Chris Amendt



Lynda Fairly



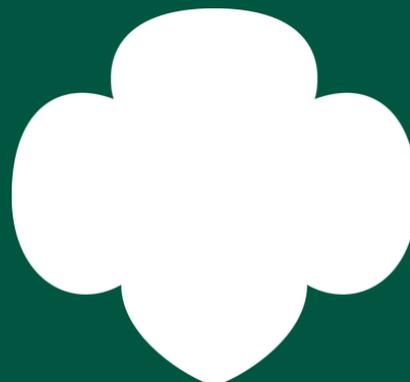
Denise Hand



Mary Anne  
Rooney



Karen Bauerle



Vicky Grisham

# GSUSA AWARDS

## Appreciation Award

Allison Turkish  
Amanda Hubbard  
Amber Blizinski  
Breanna Dahlstrom  
Brook Howell  
Carissa McCann  
Carolyn Tran  
Cathy Greenman  
DJ Barber  
Glenda Learn  
Jillian Van Enckevort  
Karen McElfresh  
Michelle Leicester-Caderet  
Mina Canning  
Nancy Brace-Thompson  
Susan Riojas  
Beverly Christian  
Lori Luck

## Thanks Badge

Amy Yakel  
Debbie Jaeger  
Karma Simons  
LeAnne Breslauer  
Melissa Piatt  
Michelle Berard  
Nancy Cooper  
Neena Moriyama  
Rainia Knapp  
Susan Downing  
Theresa Carter

## Honor Pin

Vicky Grisham

## Volunteer of Excellence

Diana Galloway  
Erin La Rue  
Violeta Esparza-Reniere

## Thanks Badge II

Kathy Carrington  
Nancy Beckstrom

# GSCCC AWARDS

## Art McLoughlin Award

Kenneth Cooper

## Girl Scout of the Year Award

Kaytlin Kimball

## Heritage Award Pin

Jenny Macartney  
Theresa (Tess) Wright

## Man Enough to be a Girl Scout Award

Jake Nipp  
John Ambrecht  
Jonathan Franco  
Justin Hyde  
Kenneth Rosell

## Super Service Unit Award

Amy Bosso  
Amy Sue Caperton  
Emma Vetter  
Karen Bauerle  
LaTanya Wilson  
Laura Achee  
Neena Moriyama  
Rob Grossberg  
Sharon Hall

## The Innovator Award

Anne Wilson  
Carrie Knight  
Cat Nipp  
Celia Churchill  
Genevieve Balicki  
Jacklyn Gabel  
Jennifer Stewart  
Jody Owen  
Mackenzie Aluffi  
Renee Regnier  
Tammy Adams

## Regional Leader of the Year Award

Heather Hughes - Santa Cruz County  
Linda Hong - Monterey County  
LeAnne Breslauer - San Benito County  
Tonya Willett - San Luis Obispo County  
Sarah Brownlee - Santa Barbara County  
Tatiana (Tanya) Inouye - Ventura County

# GSCCC AWARDS

## The Go-Getter Award

America Cleary	Hilary Papendick	Marsha Hill
Ana McHugh	Jennie Huber	Melissa Jaqua
Angela Draper	Jennifer DiSanto	Miranda Finnell
Angela Jevons	Jennifer Sanchez	Monica Schwehr
Ashley Birch	Jessica Ferqueron	Nancy Brace-Thompson
Beth Hernandez-Jason	Joy Shah	Nicole Raven
Blanca Rodriguez	Julie Ingram	Olivia Vasquez
Catherine Handschuh	Justine Ambrecht	Patricia Henkin
Cheryl Griffith	Karen Abram	Richard Tao
Danielle Obinger	Kellie Kwan	Sarah Errea
Danielle Rosell	Kiki Arens	Scott Dornbos
Darcy Wronkiewicz	Kimberly Cuna	Sheridan Kahn
Debbie McNulty	Kristen Nusbaum	Susan Downing
Deborah McLaughlin	LaTanya Wilson	Susie Harris
Diane Newman	Lilian Ramey	
George Ayala	Lucinda "Cindy" Goodyear	
Heather Votava	Luck Phayrin-Ito	

## The Risk-Taker Award

Amanda Sturges-Melby  
Amber Blizinski  
Carolyn Tran  
Karen Gauthier  
Karen McElfresh  
Katie Dornbos  
Laura Belzer  
Lisa Lott  
Michele Pinkerton  
Miranda Roberts  
Rebecca "Becca" Scheiblauber  
Susan Lopez  
Violeta Esparza-Reniere

# GSCCC AWARDS

## The Leader Award

Ann Padden-Rubin	Laura Maskrey
Annie Amos	Monica Eckert
Candace Villarta	Naomi Bush
Candice Bello	Nicole Cunningham
Christy Douglass	Nicole Dion
Cori Yost	Ramona Evey
DeeDee Forster	Sandi Israel
Deborah Vaughn	Shannon Lomeli
Drew Messier	Stacey Anderson
Karin Childress	Stacie Rappleye
Kayce Mastrup	Teresa Sample

## Lead the Way Award

Alicia Potes	Julie Sainz
Angela MacMartin	Kara Kasteen
Christine Estrada	Karissa Oien
Diana Galloway	Leah Schoen
Eileen Dooley	Marisa Renshaw
Elizabeth Kellner-Christensen	Marisa Brenninkmeyer
Erika Adler	Michael Reniere
Erin LaRue	Michelle Renteria
Fara Perez	Rachelle Paris
Jackie Hall	Sharolyn Robinson
Juliana Canalez	Tracy Cano
	Yuhsuan Yen



## Don't Wait - Grab your Women of Distinction Tickets!

Celebrate the extraordinary women and volunteers who make Girl Scouts shine across the Central Coast at our 2026 Women of Distinction celebration.

**When:** Saturday, April 25, 2026, 3:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**Where:** The Monarch Breeding Research Institute –  
Camp Arnaz

Tickets are on sale now—secure yours today and be part of this inspiring celebration.

GET YOUR  
TICKETS  
NOW!

## Hotel Rooms Available!

## Get Your Rooms for Women of Distinction!

Overnight accommodations are now available for our event guests at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach. We've secured a special room block to make your stay in Ventura as comfortable and convenient as possible.

Reserve your room **here**.

We encourage you to book early, as availability is limited.



**Virtual Micro Trainings will be offered  
at 12:30-1:30 p.m, 3:30-4:30 p.m., and  
6:30-7:30 p.m.**

**March 11, 2026**

Rewards and Recognitions - Celebrating Success, Creating Early, Main and Troop Orders in SMART COOKIES, Opting In - Opting Out of Rewards Timeline of rewards, Allocating Cookies to girls, Reports to review, and Reward choices

If you're new to Cookie Season, these trainings are a great place to start! Our virtual sessions are designed to walk you through everything step-by-step so you can feel confident, prepared, and fully supported as you begin your cookie journey.

[Sign up \*\*HERE.\*\*](#)

**COOKIE PROGRAM –  
ACH REMINDER  
DRAFT DATES**

**Mar 4 – ACH #3**  
75% of cookies  
acquired by 2/27  
**Mar 25 – Final ACH: 100%**

As cookie season continues, please note the upcoming ACH draft dates. Troops should deposit all cookie cash promptly and ensure sufficient funds are available in their troop bank account prior to each draft to avoid returned payments or bank fees.

Please review Smart Cookies regularly and plan ahead for each draft. If you are transitioning between bank accounts, contact [accounting@girlscoutsccc.org](mailto:accounting@girlscoutsccc.org) directly to confirm which account the ACH should be processed from.





# Mark Your Calendar: March 12 is Match Day!

Support Care to Share  
and watch your impact  
multiply!



When customers donate cookies through Care to Share, those boxes go directly to military members and local community partners, and on Match Day their impact grows even more. It's a great chance to talk with customers about giving back and why the program matters to you and your troop. Every donated box spreads kindness, supports your cookie goals, and shows what Girl Scouts can do — one box at a time. ❤️🍪

## Camp Arnaz

Spring is waking up Camp Arnaz in the best way! Our Ranchera program is officially underway, and it's been so fun to see the girls bonding with the horses - and it's been wonderful to see the confidence and responsibility growing as the girls step into their roles.

Thanks to the recent rainstorms, camp has turned into a bit of a wildlife haven, and everything is looking greener and more alive than ever. You may notice a little construction happening around camp this month - some of it is exciting grant-funded work, and some is new improvements we've been dreaming up to make Camp Arnaz even better for our community.



**Program**  
**Calendar**



**Ranchera**  
**Program**



# March

It's March Madness, Girl Scouts! 🍪 Our 2026 Cookie Season is wrapping up — but there's still time to finish fierce and strong. Cookie Season is your chance to dream big and hit bold goals. Booths are still available through March 15 for troops and individual Girl Scouts — grab a spot and boost those final numbers!

Hit 800 packages to earn 2 MLB Girl Scout Day tickets and level up to 1,000 packages for an unforgettable Overnight Event Experience!

Be brave, stay fierce, and finish strong — you've got this!





# A Brand-New Reward Level has Been Added!

1,000 package level!



SF Academy of Science  
- Penguin Sleepover

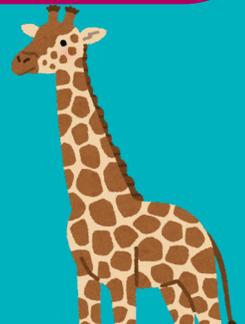


Santa Cruz Boardwalk



Santa Barbara Zoo Snooze

girl scouts  
of california's  
central coast



# Join the Western Monarch Call to Action

Western Monarch Numbers Remain at Historic Low. The 29th annual Western Monarch Count revealed a historically low population for the Second year in a row. Approximately 12,260 monarchs were recorded, the third-lowest tally since the count began in 1997.

Here are five key steps you can take now to help recover the western monarch population in the short term:

- Restore monarch breeding and migratory habitat
- Protect monarchs and their habitat from pesticides
- Protect and manage California overwintering sites
- Spread the word about monarch and pollinator conservation
- Participate in community science





**Meet Karey Muller**  
**Heritage Committee Chair**

## Volunteer Spotlight

### **Helping Girls Discover What They Can Do**



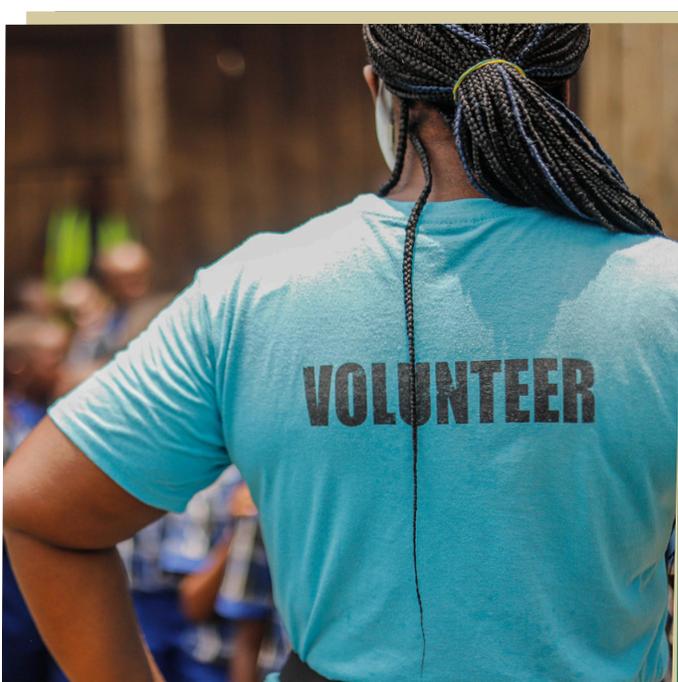
With roots in Girl Scouting that began as a Brownie, followed by two years as a Junior, Karey fondly remembers her Brownie investiture ceremony and the lessons learned while earning the Manners badge—skills she still carries today. One of her most cherished memories is attending Patrol Leader Camp at Camp Whispering Pines in Louisiana. Although her childhood troop disbanded due to a lack of volunteers, it set the stage for a remarkable 32-year journey of service to Girl Scouts.

Karey's volunteer journey began in the San Fernando Valley before joining Girl Scouts Tres Condados and later GSCCC. Starting as a co-leader, she moved quickly into roles such as Fall Funds Chair, Day Camp Craft Co-Chair, Day Camp Co-Director, and eventually Service Unit Manager for Simi Valley. After retiring from that position, she continued to serve on the Gold Award Committee, the Council Board Recruitment Committee, and the Kaleidoscope Committee. She also chaired the Southern Hub's GS 100th Anniversary Celebration, leading the creation of council-wide patches and T-shirts—work that introduced her to the Heritage Committee, which she now chairs.

Among her proudest achievements is helping build a thriving Simi Valley community of 996 girls, 600+ adults, and over 90 troops, known for its teamwork and public pride in Girl Scouting.

Today, Karey leads the Heritage Committee, preserving local Girl Scout history and inspiring today's girls to appreciate the legacy they're part of. The committee is seeking new members—especially those who enjoy history, organizing, sewing, scanning, or simply love Girl Scouts. Meetings are held during the day in Ventura, where the collection is stored.

For more information or to get involved with the Heritage Committee, email [kareymsvgs@att.net](mailto:kareymsvgs@att.net).



Kaleidoscope 2026!

Registration is Open!!!

### **Get Your Gear!**

Sweatshirts? Check. Carabiners? Check. Order online by March 8! Bonus: a few surprise items, like stickers, will be available at Kaleidoscope. Grab your items now!

### **Show Off Your Talent!**

Skit, song, flag ceremony, or Girl Scouts' Own? We want to see it!

Email

[kaleidoscope@girlscoutsccl.org](mailto:kaleidoscope@girlscoutsccl.org)  
to sign up.

### **Time to Camp!**

Have you camped two nights yet? If not, now's the time. Practice your outdoor skills, decorate your campsite, or craft a funny hat for the Just for Fun contest.

### **Cook-Off & More!**

Plan your troop meal and test it before the big day. With skits, songs, hats, decorations, and food, there are so many ways to shine!

### **See You at Kaleidoscope 2026!**

Bring your energy, creativity, and sparkle. It's going to be amazing!

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Are YOU Ready to Create Your Own Kaleidoscope Story?**

**If so, we're seeking volunteers for:**

### **Village Hosts –**

Experienced Kaleidoscope volunteers who support troops throughout the weekend.

### **Workshop Leads –**

Leaders for Cooking, Skills, or Crafts

Both roles receive a half-off discount for the weekend.

[Sign Up Now!](#)

# Kaleidoscope's Trading Post is back!

The Trading Post pre-order shop is officially open for sweatshirts and memorabilia! All pre-ordered items will be distributed at Kaleidoscope through your Village Host.



## DEADLINE IS MARCH 8TH!!

Please submit orders by troop (not individually) to ensure smooth pickup onsite. If you miss the pre-order deadline, there will be a small selection of items available for purchase at the event. Please note: cash or troop checks only will be accepted onsite (items range from \$1-\$5), as internet service at Live Oak is unreliable for card payments.



## Give Your Troop an Unforgettable Start to the Year

### **The Girl Scout Experience Box™: Limited Special Edition for Juniors Starts April 1!**

This exclusive, one-time offer equips your troop with everything needed to kick off your Girl Scouting experience.

To get your box, renew or register one adult and four Girl Scout Juniors (4th–5th grade during the 2026-2027 school year. Multi-level troops that include Juniors also qualify.

#### **What's Inside:**

- Uniquely Us badge activities and supplies
- Digital Leadership badge activities and supplies
- Digital Well-Being activities
- Family Resources

Renew early April to reserve your Girl Scout Experience Box for Juniors. Act quickly—quantities are limited! Boxes will ship this summer, while supplies last. Visit [girlscouts.org/juniorbox](https://www.girlscouts.org/juniorbox)



## New Troops ALERT

Please join us in congratulating three new troops that formed from December to February! We are so excited to see our Girl Scout family grow.

As these new leaders and girls begin their journeys, let's surround them with the support that makes our community so special. Reach out with a friendly welcome, invite them to upcoming programs, and share opportunities to engage, especially as the holidays approach. A simple connection can spark confidence, courage, and a strong start to their Girl Scout year.

Here's to new adventures, new friendships, and a season full of Girl Scout spirit!

You've  
Got the  
Power

Troop 65537 - Brownie  
Troop 65052 - Daisy  
Troop 65329 - Daisy

## Growing Troops - And Earning Program Credits

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the incredible troops who earned \$25 per girl in Troop Program Credits by welcoming one or more new girls from the waitlist into their troop.

Because of you, these new Girl Scouts will have the chance to build lifelong friendships, develop leadership skills, and explore exciting new experiences—one girl at a time!



Troop 10059

Troop 45112

Troop 45313 (two girls)

Troop 66033

Troop 65452 (six girls)

Troop 15024

Troop 20017

Troop 35612 (two girls)

Troop 30115

Troop 65537 (seven girls)

Troop 15524

Troop 65316

Troop 25007

Troop 65039



# Celebrating Service Unit Success

*Growing the Girl Scout Movement Together*

From October 1 to February 15th, 2026, these Service Units stood out for their commitment to growing the Girl Scout Movement by welcoming new families and strengthening their communities. Their success reflects the dedication of volunteers and a shared belief that every girl deserves access to the Girl Scout experience.

We proudly recognize these Service Units for their leadership in membership growth and for building strong foundations that will support girls now and into the future.

## New Daisy Members

30 Daisys - SU 660  
Thousand Oaks

**Led by SU Manager:**  
Deborah Vaughn/Tammy Adams

29 Daisys - SU 656  
Rancho Sierra Vista

**Led by SU Managers:**  
Jessica Ferqueron

## Total New Girls

58 New Girl Scouts - SU 555  
Costa De Oro

**Led by SU Manager:**  
Marisa Brenninkmeyer/Lisa Pitre

51 New Girl Scouts - SU 655 -  
Whispering Oaks

**Led by SU Managers:**  
Julie LaPaglia & Jennifer Bovatsek

## Growing New Adults

58 New Adults - SU 555 - Costa De Oro

**Led by SU Managers:**  
Marisa Brenninkmeyer/Lisa Pitre

38 New Adults - SU 356 - Monterey Bay

**Led by SU Manager:** Candace Villarta & Mary Horsley

38 New Adults - SU 357 - Salinas Valley

**Led by SU Manager:** Olivia Vasquez



## Help Us Update the 2026 Troop Catalog! Troop Leaders — we need your help!

Please take a moment to complete the 2026 Troop Catalog Update so we can place new girls quickly, keep troop records accurate, and ensure your meeting location is up-to-date for insurance coverage.

Your update helps us welcome more girls into the Girl Scout experience they're eagerly waiting for!

👉 **Complete your Troop Catalog Update [here](#):**

**Thank you for making Girl Scouts shine!  
Your leadership opens doors for every girl.**

### Varisty Girl Scouts Pullover - \$36.00 Available at your local Program Centers



Body of cotton (60%) and recycled polyester sanded fleece (40%). Trims of cotton (60%) and recycled polyester (40%).

# Share Your Troop in Action

Girl Scouts are making a difference every day—and we'd love to showcase your troop! Send us photos or short video clips of Girl Scouts exploring outdoors, earning badges, serving the community, meeting inspiring people, or having fun together. Your submissions may be featured in GSCCC promotions, social media, newsletters, and more.

By submitting, you grant GSCCC permission to share your content (first name + last initial only). Email to [media@girlscoutscce.org](mailto:media@girlscoutscce.org).

## Quick Video Tips

- Film landscape (turn your phone sideways)
- Use good lighting (natural light works best)
- Keep it steady and capture clear sound
- 10-30 seconds is ideal
- Send the highest quality file (don't compress)

## What to Include

- Troop number + Service Unit
- Who's featured (first names only)
- What's happening and where
- Any fun context (badge, event, project)

## Thousand Oaks Program Center News

### First Aid/CPR Course

Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 10 am to 1 pm -  
\$75.00 per person



[REGISTER  
HERE!](#)

Learn how to stay calm, act fast, and save lives. This hands-on course covers essential skills to respond to common emergencies - CPR, choking, bleeding, burns, and more, all through interactive instruction and real-world scenarios.

## D'Arrigo Program Center Live Scan Event

Saturday March 7th 11am to 2pm



Remember that this is grant funded until April 1<sup>st</sup> so now is your chance to bring your family members/troop members in for it!

**Register  
Here!**



## D'Arrigo Leadership Center

**First Aid/CPR Certification - \$85**

Saturday March 7th 11am to 2pm

**Register  
Here!**



Learn how to stay calm, act fast, and save lives. This hands-on course covers essential skills to respond to common emergencies - CPR, choking, bleeding, burns, and more, all through interactive instruction and real-world scenarios.

# Join us for our Wilderness Hiking Program!

## Basic Backpacking Course

C/S/A/V

Santa Cruz County

## Wilderness Hiking Course

J/C/S/A/V

Thousand Oaks

March 14<sup>th</sup> 2026 9am-4:30pm

March 15<sup>th</sup> 2026 9am-4:00pm



# Congratulations Leila!



Congratulations to Leila from Troop 65029 on her design winning the Early Bird Patch Contest!!

Leila's beautiful design stood out for its creativity, heart, and thoughtful detail. Her artwork will proudly represent our Early Bird campaign for the upcoming membership year — and will be worn by Girl Scouts across our council.

Thank you to every girl who submitted a design. The talent, imagination, and courage to share your creativity truly reflect what Girl Scouting is all about.

Leila, we are so proud of you! ❤️



## Great News!

### Event Registration Just Got Easier

As part of our commitment to supporting Service Units, the council provides approved registration tools to help streamline registration, financial tracking, and insurance requirements for SU-hosted events. These tools are designed to make event planning easier, ensure accurate rosters, and help protect both volunteers and participants. To best support your needs, the council offers two approved platforms for Service Unit events:

**Cheddar Up** – A flexible, council-approved option that allows Service Units to manage event registration, customize questions, and control fund transfers.

**Doubleknot** – Used for council-managed events; Service Units may request setup by submitting the SU Event Request Form.

### Why Choose Cheddar Up?

Cheddar Up is a simple, user-friendly platform for Service Units that want ownership of event setup and registration.

### Important: Use the Council Link

To receive council partnership benefits, including no credit card fees, events must be created using the council's Cheddar Up link. Email [info@girlscoutsgcc.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsgcc.org) to request access for authorized SU volunteers.

### Registration & Roster Requirements

Please use the TICKET option in Cheddar Up to capture the required insurance information. All attendees—girls, adults, and participating tagalongs—must be included on the roster. Full name and email address are required; additional details may be collected as needed.

### Camporees & Day Camps

These programs follow separate council processes, covered in the 2025–2026 mandatory trainings.

Thank you for your leadership and partnership in creating meaningful experiences for girls—we're here to support you.

Click [Here](#) to learn more about Cheddar Up



Mental Health **FIRST AID**

from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING



# YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

## WHO SHOULD KNOW MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

- Teachers.
- School Staff.
- Coaches.
- Camp Counselors.
- Youth Group Leaders.
- Parents.
- Adults who Work with Youth.

## WHY YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18.

**10.2%**

of youth will be diagnosed with a substance use disorder

in their lifetime.

Source: Youth Mental Health First Aid\*\*

**1 IN 5**

teens and young adults live with a mental health condition.

Source: National Alliance for Mental Illness\*

**50%**

of all mental illnesses begin by age 14, and 75% by the mid-20s.

Source: Archives of General Psychiatry\*\*\*

Sources \* National Alliance on Mental Illness. (n.d.). Kids. <https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults/Kids>  
\*\* Mental Health First Aid. (2020). *Mental Health First Aid USA* for adults assisting children and youth. National Council for Mental Wellbeing.

\*\*\* Kessler, R., Berglund, P., Demler, O., Jin, R., Merikangas, K.R., Walters, E.E. (2005, June). Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of DSM-IV disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication. *Archives of General Psychiatry*. 62(6); 593-602. doi: 10.1001/archpsyc.62.6.593

## REGISTER TODAY!

### Delivery Format:

Blended - Learners complete a 2-hr self-paced on-line course and participate in a roughly 5.5-hr in-person instructor-led training.

### Date and Time:

Friday, March 13, 2026 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Location:

5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo CA, 93035

### Where to Register:

<http://vcoe.k12oms.org/1616-275531>

The course will teach you how to apply the MHFA Action Plan (**ALGEE**):

- **A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- **L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- **G**ive reassurance and information.
- **E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- **E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies.

FREE to register! Digital material provided. Instructor-led session facilitated by Jackie Avena & Daisey Valadez.



# Girl Scout

# Gold Award Spotlight

**Lillian  
Ersonmez!**

*Congratulations!*

## **Comfort for Autistic Children**

Lillian Ersonmez's Gold Award project, Comfort for Autistic Children, addressed the need for inclusive, supportive environments for children with sensory processing challenges. Partnering with the Boys & Girls Club, Lillian designed and implemented "quiet corners" equipped with handmade sensory toys and calming resources to help children regulate during moments of sensory overload. In addition to creating and donating these tools, she led staff training sessions and developed educational materials to ensure caregivers felt confident supporting children with special needs. With nearly all children in the program utilizing the resources and staff reporting meaningful improvements, Lillian's project created a sustainable model of inclusion that continues to provide comfort, dignity, and belonging for children and families in her community.

## **Lillian Future Plans after High School Graduation:**

In the future, I hope to obtain a degree in Biological Sciences, on the premed route. After completing medical school and residency, I hope to become a Cardiologist, fueled by my desire to help others.



## Silver Award Spotlight Troop 50614



### Marvelous Musicians

Rachel Errea of Troop 50614 earned her Silver Award by launching Marvelous Musicians to spark interest in school music programs. Noticing declining band participation, she created engaging videos showcasing seven instruments, their sounds, and familiar songs. Rachel wrote scripts, selected music, coordinated performers, and shared the videos on her troop's YouTube page, giving teachers and families a lasting resource. Her creativity and leadership are inspiring younger students and strengthening music programs for the future.

## Bronze Award Spotlight Troop 45040 - Mission Paw-sibble



Congratulations to Girl Scout Troop 45040's Bronze Award team—Evelyn, Sawyer, Aliana, and Stella! After completing their Think Like a Citizen Scientist Journey, they supported animals at Woods Humane Society.

The girls organized donation bins, created wish lists, and taught other Girl Scouts to make rope toys for shelter dogs, collecting food and supplies while raising awareness of shelter needs. Through teamwork and leadership, they inspired their community and made a difference for animals in need.



## GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship

### **\$5,000 awarded to one Girl Scout per council**

Open to current seniors earning their Gold Award by April 1, 2026,  
and recent graduates who earned it during their senior year

Application window: March 13 – April 14, 2026

**Learn more & apply:**

<https://www.girlscouts.org/goldawardscholarship>



## GSCCC Bauerle Family Gold Award Scholarship

Funded through the generosity of the Bauerle family, GSCCC awards up to five Gold Award Girl Scouts each year scholarships totaling over \$15,000.

No application required, as eligibility is automatic upon earning the Gold Award. More info can be found [here](#).

Questions - call GSCCC Customer Care at 800-822-2427 and ask for Michelle Kienitz.





# NCS 2026: The Big Scoop!



The 58th National Council Session (NCS) is Girl Scouts' highest governing body, where elected delegates from across the country gather to shape our Movement's future. Held every three years, the 58th NCS in July 2026 will focus on strategic discussion topics and proposals aligned to Vision 2030. Delegates influence national priorities, vote on proposals, and provide guidance to the National Board through a transparent, collaborative agenda process. The NCS reflects our democratic tradition, ensuring members have a voice in strengthening Girl Scouting nationwide.

The following three proposals have been placed on the agenda for delegate deliberation and vote at the 58th National Council Session. More information will be coming, but stay tuned to ensure we hear your voice.

## **Proposal #1 - Girl Scout Highest Awards Solicitation of Contributions**

Submitted by: Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania

This proposal would allow Girl Scouts working toward the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards to solicit philanthropic donations for their projects (with council approval), expanding current policy that limits solicitation primarily to Seniors and Ambassadors pursuing the Gold Award.

## **Proposal #2 - Membership Dues and Procedures for Registration**

Submitted by: Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana

This proposal would reduce the threshold requiring National Council approval for dues increases from 25% to 15% within a triennium, increasing delegate oversight on national membership dues adjustments

## **Proposal #3 - Preservation of Girl Scout Leadership Experience Relating to the Entrepreneurship Program**

Submitted by: Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland

This proposal seeks to limit GSUSA licensing of Girl Scout cookie-related food products during council entrepreneurship program sales periods



## Contact Us!

Phone: 800-822-2427

Email: [info@girlscoutsccc.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsccc.org)

Mail: 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 110,  
Ventura, CA 93003



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Discover everything happening this year at our Girl Scout Program Centers! From STEM adventures to outdoor skills, leadership workshops, and creative badges, our 2025–2026 Program Guides are now live and ready for you to explore.

Finding the perfect experience is easy—simply locate your nearest Program Center and click the guide image to open a full calendar of exciting opportunities for Girl Scouts of every age. Your next adventure is just one click away!

