



girl scouts
nation's capital

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Gold Award



Then

Girl Scouts founder Juliette Low pins one of the first Gold Award Girl Scouts



Now

President of the Board of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Faye Fields pins a Girl Scout in 2015



1916 - 1919
Golden Eagle of Merit

1919 - 1939
Golden Eaglet

1938 - 1940
First Class

1940 - 1963
Curved Bar

1963 - 1980
First Class

1980 - Present
Gold Award

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From the president

BUILDING THE PIPELINE

BY FAYE FIELDS, CEO of Integrated Resource Technologies, Inc. | *President of the Board of Directors, Girl Scouts Nation's Capital*

Girl Scouts is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its highest achievement, the Gold Award. Despite the award's 100-year history, I've found that many people are unfamiliar with the award and with the magnitude of achievement it represents. They nod approvingly when I explain that the Gold Award is the "equivalent" of the Eagle Scout award. That's a problem, not only for girls, but for the larger society.

Women are graduating from college and earning advanced degrees at higher rates than men, yet women are still underrepresented in high-level positions. Less than five percent of Fortune 500 CEOs are women and only one fourth of the fastest growing careers in STEM are held by women. Girls and women are an untapped powerful resource. As President of the Board of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, I've seen firsthand how girls thrive when given a chance to lead.

We must use our position of



Faye Fields

authority to support women in the workforce, and that starts with our girls. I encourage you to leverage your networks; open doors for girls by introducing them to potential careers through internships and mentorship programs, and provide them with opportunities

to demonstrate leadership. It is our responsibility to cultivate the emerging talent shown by our Gold Award Girl Scouts. Not only do these girls demonstrate exceptional commitment to service; they exemplify intellect, confidence and drive.

Girl Scouts, through many

planned and varied experiences, exposes girls to powerful women and men from all walks of life, like the trailblazers featured throughout this piece. I implore you to join our effort to close the leadership gap and elevate the status of girls and women.

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A century of Gold Awards

2016 marks the centennial anniversary of Girl Scouts' highest achievement, the Gold Award. Gold Award Girl Scouts create sustainable change in their communities. Nearly 200 Girl Scouts earn the highest award annually in the Greater Washington Region. Each year, through the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Gold Award Scholarship endowment, Gold Award Girl Scouts compete for scholarships to support the pursuit of higher education.

While the Gold Award has had many names over the years, during the centennial all recipients are part of the Gold Award family. Golden Eagle (1916-1939) | Curved Bar (1940 - 1963) | First Class (1964 - 1980) | Gold Award (1980 - present)]



Eleanor Putzski of the District of Columbia Troop 1 was the award's first recipient in the Greater Washington Region. She was named "Best Girl Scout in America" in 1918 and received the Golden Eagle of Merit from First Lady Edith Wilson at a White House ceremony.



To help guide them on their Gold Award journey, aspiring Gold Award Girl Scouts receive mentoring from the Girl Scouts Women's Advisory Board which includes successful businesswomen from across the Greater Washington Region.



Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low established Girl Scouts' highest award in 1916, naming it the Golden Eagle of Merit. Girls were required to earn 14 proficiency badges, ranging in topics from aviation and athletics to nursing.

Awards through the years



In 1940, the award became known as the Curved Bar, which signified a girl's commitment to serving her community. Initially, the award was an embroidered patch due to a metal shortage during WW11. In 1947, a pin was introduced.



By 1963, the award was renamed First Class. Girls were required to earn badges and complete four challenges that tested their skills in real-life situations. In 1972, new challenges were added: arts, community action, environment, international understanding, knowing myself, my heritage, out-of-doors and today's world.



Since 1980 the award has been known as the Gold Award. Gold Award Girl Scouts devote up to two years completing a project ranging from STEM education and environmental protection to solving social issues like bullying.



Taylor Lane

MY GOLD AWARD

BY TAYLOR LANE, Girl Scout Ambassador, Dunn Loring, VA

When I joined Girl Scouts in kindergarten, I knew it would help me make friends. But I never guessed how it would help me discover so much about myself, including a love for the outdoors and an interest in international relations. Girl Scouts has given me the confidence not only to explore

my interests, but also to make a difference in the world.

When considering a topic for my Gold Award project, I knew I wanted to do something to help people in communities around the world. In Mexico, I gave a presentation to children in Spanish on the importance of living a healthy lifestyle and

I distributed “Healthy Habits Kits,” which included supplies like toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and toilet paper. I also created a website and videos in five languages that could be used to educate children at refugee camps around the world. By using education as a tool, I hoped to help kids across the globe become change agents in their communities.

Girl Scouts has inspired me to pursue my passions and to do things outside of my comfort zone. After completing

my bachelor’s degree in government with a concentration in international relations at Dartmouth College, I plan to earn a master’s degree and follow in my mom’s footsteps in Foreign Service. My Gold Award project has prepared me for the path ahead, and positioned me to be a role model for others. When I talk with younger girls about my Gold Award project, they can’t wait to start tackling one of their own. As Gold Award Girl Scouts, we are a living example of what hard work and dedication can accomplish.

“Girl Scouts is where I became acquainted with the idea that women can do anything.”

— Lisa Ling, Girl Scout Alumna

Girl Scout Greats

59 million women in the United States are Girl Scout Alumnae. Were You?

- **Madeleine Albright**, Former Secretary of State
- **Sandra Day O’Connor**, Supreme Court Justice
- **Hillary Clinton**, Former U.S. Senator and Former Secretary of State
- **Condoleezza Rice**, Former Secretary of State
- **Mae Jemison**, Astronaut
- **Lucille Ball**, Entertainer and Businesswoman
- **Venus Williams**, Athlete and Businesswoman
- **Robin Roberts**, Media
- **Ellen Ochoa**, Astronaut
- **Lisa Ling**, Media
- **Kathleen Matthews**, Media and Businesswoman
- **Diane Tipton**, Principal at Self Storage Zone
- **Donella Brockington**, Vice President, Xerox

“My father once said there’s nothing his little girl couldn’t do. I believe that too, there is nothing you can’t do! Don’t ever stop learning, growing and serving. Your community needs you and so does our nation.”

— Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State and Girl Scout Alumnae



Resilient girls, strong leaders

BY LIDIA SOTO-HARMON, CEO of Girls Scouts Nation's Capital

Girls face a litany of external pressures from a young age, often holding themselves to impossible standards of perfection. As a result, many learn to hold themselves back later in life. When girls believe there's no chance for success, when they don't see women role models in careers that interest them, they often quit before they even begin. This is why Girl Scouts is essential.

When I think about the inquisitive, hardworking girls I encounter at Girl Scouts, I know there's an urgent need to provide all girls with support and encouragement. I'm proud that Girl Scouts offers girls a safe place to try new things, take risks, step outside their comfort zone and demonstrate leadership. It

offers girls a proven model for developing courage, confidence and character.

When a Girl Scout sells cookies, she sees herself as an entrepreneur. When she summits the rock wall at camp, she learns to conquer her fears. As girls progress through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, when they ultimately attain the Gold Award, Girl Scouts' highest achievement, they develop critical leadership skills and tenacity to be successful in life.

Helping girls feel supported and confident enables them to face life's challenges with determination and grit. It's not just our charge here at Girl Scouts—but our collective duty—to raise resilient girls who are bold, brave and destined for leadership.



Lidia Soto Harmon, (center) CEO Girl Scouts Nation's Capital



DELIVERING SUCCESS

UPS is proud to support the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Gold Award Centennial Celebration. Through a commitment to building courage, confidence and character, your work inspires the next generation of leaders to make a difference in the world.



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At EY, we're proud to support the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Gold Award Centennial Celebration. It's one of the ways we're helping to make our community a better place to work and live. A better and brighter future starts with all of us.

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Pat McGuire with Gold Award Girl Scout Trinity Washington University scholars

Trinity Washington University Makes Dreams Come True

Trinity Washington University, the only women's college in the region, and Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, the largest nonprofit serving local girls, together are helping girls pursue higher education.

In 2002, Trinity President Pat

McGuire launched the Trinity Girl Scout Scholarship program to recognize the excellence of Gold Award Girl Scouts. "These girls are accomplished and confident young women who are our great hope for the future," said McGuire. "Girl Scouts continues to achieve huge success inspiring

girls to serve and create positive change in their communities."

Gold Award Girl Scouts receive \$5,000 scholarships for each year they are enrolled at Trinity. Girl Scouts who've earned the Silver Award are eligible to receive \$4,000 a year, and Girl Scout alumnae

can receive \$3,000 a year in Trinity scholarships. To date, this initiative has resulted in a total of over \$2 million in scholarships, which includes 50 Gold Award Girl Scout scholarships.

In keeping with the values of Trinity and the Girl Scouts, scholarship recipients pay it forward in their community. Angelica Lara is teaching computer skills to sixth grade children. Sydney Cross is serving her country in the U.S. Diplomatic Corps. Charity Blackwell is a public affairs officer at the U.S. Census Bureau and Christa Burgess promotes exercise for children through AmeriCorps.

"We need Girl Scouts to lift up the community values they represent, and to call our society back to a shared sense of responsibility for our collective future," said McGuire. "Gold Award Girl Scouts embody these qualities."

Call 202-884-9400 to learn more about the Trinity Girl Scout Scholarship program.

Gold Award Girl Scouts Say...



"Through my Gold Award project I learned

to be outspoken, confident, and accomplish my goals without succumbing to the challenges and obstacles along the way. I realized that even a small initiative can impact someone's life in a very big way."

— **Amulya Kotha**, Ashburn, VA, who started a health and safety program for middle school girls at an orphanage in Vizag, India



"I learned that problems are not stop

signs. Instead, they're guidelines that enable you to further your abilities and hone your skills for challenges to come."

— **Brianna DiSanza**, Sumerduck, VA, who founded a non-profit organization, SurgiCaps4Kids, to supply hospitals with surgical caps for pediatric patients



"Being a Gold Award Girl Scout means

that I have the responsibility to raise awareness for issues in my community. It also means that I have the ability to lead a group of people toward a solution or common goal so we can better the community."

— **Melody Doan**, Gaithersburg, MD, who captured the stories of Vietnamese boat people in a documentary film to preserve her heritage



"Being a Gold Award Girl Scout means setting an

example, mentoring, and motivating younger girls who are attempting to achieve their own Gold Award. Completing the Gold Award has allowed me to make a significant contribution to my community."

— **Carson Wheeler**, Washington, DC, who organized a senior citizens fair where speakers presented on estate planning, healthcare, and using social media

Four reasons you should join Girl Scouts

Visit our website www.gscnc.org to learn how you can join and support Girl Scouts.

1



Camp

Through amazing outdoor experiences, girls develop an appreciation for nature and become good stewards of our planet. They also gain confidence and learn important skills like navigation, pitching a tent, and building a fire.

2



Cookie Program

The largest girl-led entrepreneurial program teaches girls important life skills like goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics.

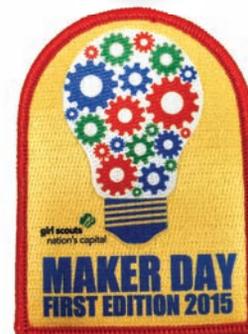
3



Community Service

Girl Scouts learn the value of giving back to their community through service that benefits their schools, neighborhoods and country.

4



STEM

Hands-on learning inspires inquiry, giving girls the opportunity to discover, experiment and push boundaries as they develop 21st century skills through exciting activities in science, technology, engineering and math.

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Girl Scouts Gold Award Centennial

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We're proud to support the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Gold Award Centennial Celebration and all those who come together to make a difference for the communities we serve.



Energy for a changing world.™



Once a Girl Scout, Always a Girl Scout

MOVERS AND SHAKERS IN DC

Sharon Dunbar

Major General, U.S. Air Force (retired) and Vice President, Human Resources, General Dynamics Mission Systems

I grew up in a small community in central Illinois during the 1960s, a time when multicultural families were uncommon. My parents knew that Girl Scouts invested in all youth, so they involved their children early. Girl Scouting taught me how to achieve team and individual excellence, a lesson that has been formative in my approach to life. Wearing my Brownie uniform to school, I felt proud to be different, something I didn't always

feel as a multiracial child in the 1960s.

My Girl Scout experience shaped how I approach people, opportunities, work and life. Even as a Girl Scout Brownie, I learned how to tackle seemingly daunting challenges by planning and learning how to be accountable. These lessons have served me well in leading people and organizations in the military and business sectors. And, of course, I learned the importance of abiding by



higher values, which is why I chose to work for employers that share these ideals. Girl Scouts provides a structured program and supportive network that invests in the development of young girls – an investment that pays a lifetime of dividends.

Barbara Krumsiek

Retired CEO, Calvert Investments; Senior Industry Fellow, Georgetown University, Women's Leadership Institute; and Independent Director, Pepco Holdings

I have been a Girl Scout as far back as I can remember, rising through the levels at the council in my Richmond Hill, Queens neighborhood. I even recall my troop number, 4-685! I have many fond memories, from camping to the annual cookie sale, and most importantly, friendships that have lasted over 50 years.



In 1967, I earned Girl Scouts' highest award, known then as the First Class. Earning the award helped me understand the importance of setting long-term goals, and the leadership skills I gained were critical to my professional development as a business executive and ultimately a CEO in the mutual fund industry.

I'm passionate about elevating the visibility and status of the Gold Award. On a young woman's resume, this award signals to universities and potential employers that the applicant will be a great asset to their organization. Through the Gold Award, and the Girl Scout Leadership Experience as a whole, girls benefit from opportunities to lead at an early age. The most important step we can take to prepare girls for success in life is to support Girl Scouting as it develops the essential qualities of courage, confidence and character in this next generation of leaders.

Laura Lane

President, Global Public Affairs, UPS

Girl Scouting has always been a part of my life, from making my first sit-upon as a Girl Scout Brownie to earning every badge I could as a Junior to volunteering as an adult. One of my favorite childhood Girl Scout memories is hiking the Appalachian Trail with my troop. Every girl showed that resilience, courage and confidence are important ingredients for success and great leadership.



Once I became a mother, I

reengaged as a troop leader for my daughters' troops from Daisies through Ambassadors. And though I never earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, both of my daughters did. Realizing all that Girl Scouting did for my

daughters and the girls in my troop, I now proudly serve on the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors, hoping to bring the joys of Girl Scouting to more girls in our area. I also am a proud member of the Juliette Low Legacy Society, helping to keep the legacy of Girl Scouting strong for future generations. Girl Scouting does more than shape future women leaders. It shows others the important role that women can and should play in our world. Girl Scouts creates a world where everything is possible for our girls.



Maureen Bunyan

News Anchor, ABC7 News

I come from a scouting family. My aunt founded the "Girl Guides" in what was then British Guiana and was honored in the 1930s by "The Chief Scout," Lord Baden-Powell, for her efforts. My father founded the first Boy Scout troop in Aruba in the early 1940s

and I was the mascot. I was thrilled to help the boys with their projects, cleaning beaches and building a club house.

When we moved to Southeastern Wisconsin in the 1950s, scouting helped my entire family "fit in" with the rural community. My dad trained other Boy Scout leaders and executives. My mother, who was a

nurse, became the nurse at Girl Scout Camp, and my sisters and I loved earning any badge related to the outdoors, whether it was for setting up camp, identifying field flowers or tracking animals. I was a terrible swimmer, so I did not earn my swimming badge. Instead, I convinced the troop leader to "create" a badge for me in recognition of

my amazing ability to hold my breath under water.

Girl Scouting helped me learn how to plan and accomplish things, as well as how to respect myself and work with other people toward a common goal. Those are the building blocks of society. What more important things could a young girl or young woman anywhere ever learn?

Natalie Givans

Senior Vice President,
Booz Allen Hamilton

Not having siblings, Girl Scouts had a major influence on my life, helping me form friendships that have lasted for many years. I was a Girl Scout in California, where my most treasured memories include summer camp and backpacking the Sierra Nevada Mountains. In addition to learning skills that have served me well in life and in business, the experience later inspired me to volunteer as a trip leader for my son's Boy Scout troop, spending six days backpacking 42 miles with a 35-pound pack.

Girl Scouts nurtured and rewarded my goal-oriented personality. I was proud to earn 88 badges at the Junior and Cadette levels, and later earned Girl Scouts' highest achievement, then known as the First



Class. I benefitted from leadership opportunities and exposure to powerful adults in my community.

More than ever, girls need opportunities to learn and lead, as well as access to strong adult role models. I have been proud to help offer such opportunities to girls through the Booz Allen Hamilton conceived *Make the Connection* mentorship program. Since 2006, more than 2,500 Girl Scouts have completed this program. By focusing on mentorship, increasing access to the outdoors and cultivating the power and potential of young women who achieve Girl Scouts' highest award, Girl Scouts is making success possible for all girls.

Ris Lacoste

Chef/Owner, RIS

Growing up, I was one of seven kids. Somehow, my mother fed us three hot meals a day and was there for us every minute. But she didn't have time to coach us as much as she would like—and that's where Girls Scouts came through for me. I was a Girl Scout in the early '60s in New Bedford, Massachusetts and I loved every minute of it. I still have my sash of badges and fondly recall summers spent at Camp Wind in the Pines.

Through Girl Scouts, I learned goal setting, teamwork, leadership and confidence. I loved my troop leader, and it wasn't until later in life that I realized just how much I had learned from her. Under her influence, I was set on the path to success.



I became class president, valedictorian, a member of the honor society, most likely to succeed, and girl of the year. I attribute my success as a business owner and boss to my early days in Girl Scouting.

In today's world, where both parents often work full time, girls still need reinforcement and strength to guide them through life. At Girl Scouts, quiet girls can find their voice, singers can sing, and everyone is equal and accepted.

Gold Award Girl Scout Alumnae



Colleen Duffey

Award earned:
Gold Award
Year earned:
1999
Employer:
Lockheed Martin
Colleen Duffey's Gold

Award project sparked a lifelong interest in STEM. Colleen earned her Gold Award in 1999, by making a local campsite wheelchair accessible, widening doors and paths and building ramps to cabins. Today, as an engineer and proud parent to two Girl Scouts, Colleen says the lifelong lessons and skills gained through Girl Scouting helped her become a leader in a field where women are often underrepresented.

"Girl Scouts gave me the opportunity to feel comfortable to explore a career in STEM. It paved the way for my interest in figuring out how things work, how to make them work better, how to fix them when they break and how to be innovative," said Colleen.



Krysten Thomas

Award earned:
Gold Award
Year earned:
2009
Employer:
Office of Senator
Claire McCaskill
Krysten

Thomas credits Girl Scouts with preparing her for an exciting career in government. As a teenager, Krysten discovered her passion for health advocacy through her Gold Award project, "Get Up and Dance!" a free dance program to help children become active. She landed her first two jobs in through connections she made at Girl Scout Camp CEO, a mentorship program that teams teenage girls with successful, professional women at camp. She also participated in Girl Scout Congressional Aide, a week-long program where Girl Scouts shadow a congressional office.

"I have Girl Scouts to thank for making all the difference in my life and career," said Krysten, who now works as a legislative staffer on Capitol Hill.



Meghan Quinn

Award Earned:
Gold Award
Year earned:
2009
Employer:
United States
Navy

As a medical corps officer in the US Navy, Meghan Quinn says the skills and experience she gained through Girl Scouting, including earning Girl Scouts' highest honor, helped her gain confidence to compete in a male-dominated field. Meghan's Gold Award project taught fire safety and prevention to local students, and she created a children's book on the topic.

"My time in Girl Scouts taught me to advocate for myself and push myself with the knowledge that I can really accomplish anything," said Meghan.



Suzanne Le Menestrel

Award earned:
First Class
Year earned:
1979
Employer:
National
Academies of Sciences, Engineering
and Medicine

Suzanne Le Menestrel is a firm believer in the power of every girl. To earn her First Class in 1979, she set up a high adventure obstacle course at a local Girl Scout camp to showcase how girls can gain confidence through outdoor experiences. The skills she gained from her project helped on her journey to success, including earning her Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies. Today, Suzanne is a study director at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine and a proud Girl Scouts parent and troop leader.

"The skills that I developed throughout my project have definitely helped me in my career. Developing and completing a project like this takes a lot of project management skills, planning, organization and strong interpersonal skills," said Suzanne.



Man Enough to be a Girl Scout

Roland Hawthorne

Sales Representative,
The Meltzer Group

I have a long history with Girl Scouts. Like many proud Girl Scout dads I supported my daughters. I have served on the panel for the Gold Award Scholarships for the past two years, and I am a proud contributor to this nonprofit organization, along with The Meltzer Group.

I believe as dads it is important to not only be present in our daughters' lives, but to be involved in their activities. Through Girl Scouts, dads have the opportunity to share in the development of their daughters' leadership skills and character traits including, confidence, self-esteem, self-respect and the courage to take action.

There are many ways to



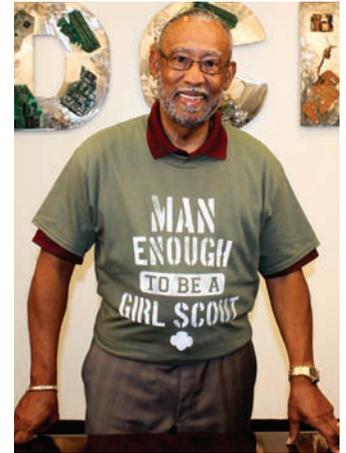
get involved, from leading a troop to serving as a high adventure leader. Participating in Girl Scouting offers dads the chance to spark their daughters' imagination and encourage them to dream and pursue their passions.

Pedro Alfonso

President and CEO,
Dynamic Concepts, Inc.

Over the span of a decade, I've grown from a Girl Scout Daisy dad to the proud parent of a Girl Scout Senior who is currently working on earning her Gold Award. Much of that time has been spent supporting the movement, giving both my time and treasure. I've transported Girl Scouts Cookies for the troop, served as a guest speaker, and currently serve on Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors.

It is very important that we build girls' confidence to help them be leaders in life, to teach them to respect family, and to be socially conscious. Of course, women as role models are always key to the pathways of development. But men,



especially fathers, also play an essential role in developing girls' leadership qualities and building their confidence by giving encouragement, participating in activities as a family, and supporting all they do in Girl Scouting.

Girl Scout Crossword

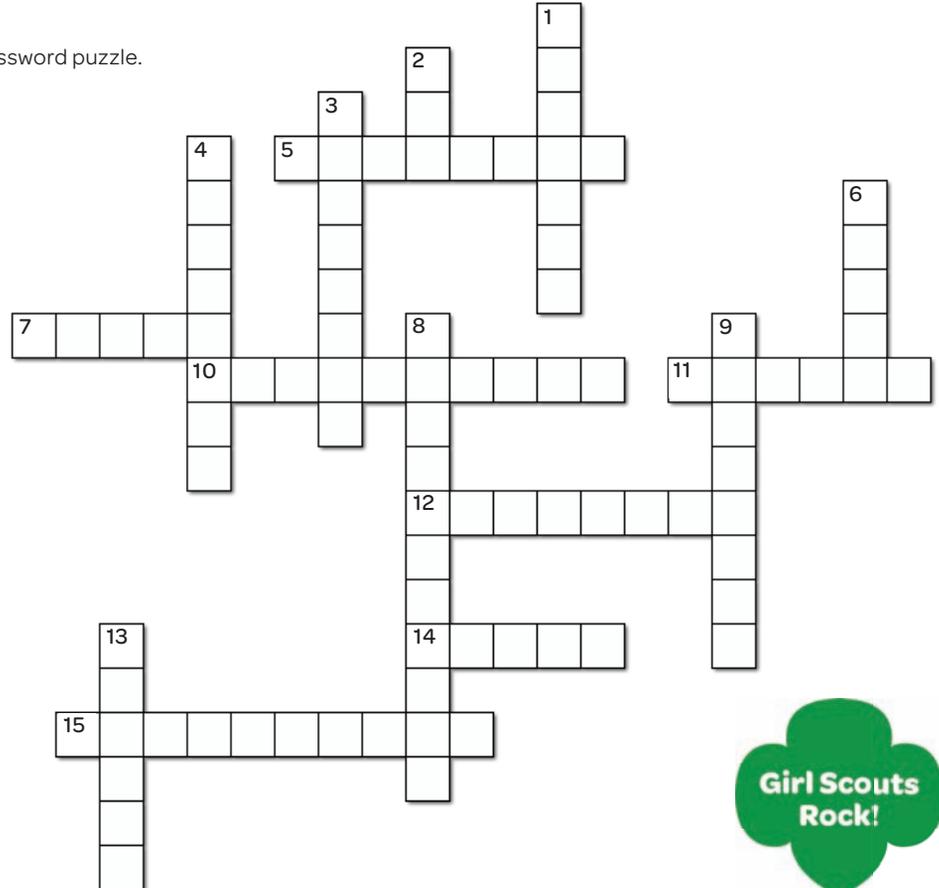
Test your Girl Scout knowledge with a special crossword puzzle.

ACROSS

- 5. Girl Scouts who wear brown
- 7. What girls earn as they learn new skills; worn on sash
- 10. Most popular Girl Scout Cookie
- 11. Be a ___ to every Girl Scout
- 12. Home of Girl Scouts' founder
- 14. Youngest level of Girl Scout
- 15. Highest earned award in Girl Scouting

DOWN

- 1. Make new ____
- 2. Girl Scout Promise and ____
- 3. The process of moving from one Girl Scout level to the next
- 4. First name of Girl Scouts' founder
- 6. Great big Brownie ____
- 8. Oldest Girl Scouts
- 9. March 12 is Girl Scouts'
- 13. To help ___ at all times

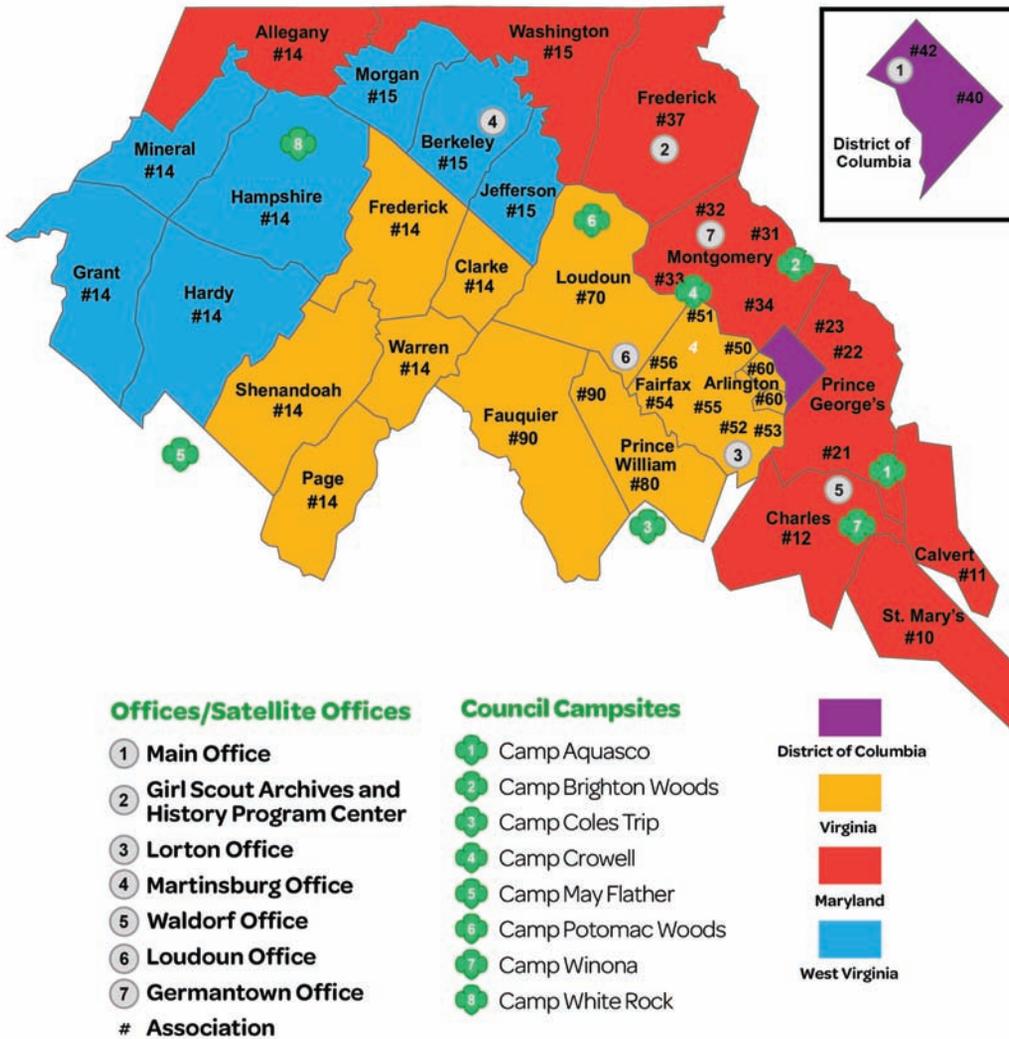


ANSWERS

(1) Juliette; (2) Thin Mints; (3) Gold Award; (4) Daisy; (5) Ambassadors; (6) Birthdays; (7) Law; (8) People; (9) Friends; (10) Brownies; (11) Badges; (12) People; (13) Smile; (14) Savannah; (15) Sister



Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Facts



Girl Scouts Nation's Capital
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- **Faye Fields**, President of the Board of Directors
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- **Colleen Cibula**, Chief Operating Officer
- **Laura Bassett**, Chief Financial Officer
- **Betsy Thurston**, Director of Development
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By the numbers

88,591

Members

62,265

Girls in grades K-12

\$15.6 million

Operating budget



988 acres

Total size of eight Girl Scout camp properties



32,162

Girl Scouts participate in grant-funded programs



4.2 million

Girl Scout Cookies sold



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