

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 6, 2026

TO: Council Voting Members

FROM: Council Nominating Committee:
Natalie Ludaway, Chair Matt Ferguson Alex Orfinger
Mary Abbajay Cheryl Gooding Kate Shattuck
Paul Donato Tammy Lockett-Benjamin Erica Thomas

SUBJECT: Slate of Nominees for Elective Positions

The Nominating Committee submits for consideration this year's nominees:

- Seven for Officer positions (three-year term)
- Seven for Members-at-Large, Board of Directors (three-year term)
- One for Member-at-Large, Board of Directors (unexpired two-year term)
- One for Member-at-Large, Board of Directors (unexpired one-year term)
- Two for Members-at-Large, Board of Directors (one-year term, teen Girl Scouts)
- Three for Members of the Nominating Committee (three-year term)

In accordance with the Council's Bylaws, twenty-one members of the Board of Directors are elected for three-year terms in rotation; that is seven members elected each year except where nominees are elected to fill an unexpired term. Two teen Girl Scouts are also elected for a one-year term on the Board of Directors each year. Three Nominating Committee members are elected each year in rotation out of a total of nine, except where nominees are elected to fill an unexpired term. Additionally, every three years Officers are elected for a term of three years, except where nominees are elected to fill an unexpired term.

All nominees were chosen for their willingness to commit themselves to the goals of Girl Scouting and bring their skills to the organization. With their background and experience these new members, together with the ongoing members of the Board and Nominating Committee, will provide leadership for our future. A brief biographical profile of each nominee follows. Ongoing Board and Nominating Committee members are listed on subsequent pages for your information.

The Nominating Committee worked many hours to build the attached slate and unanimously recommends the following nominees to the Council for election.

Attachment

Nominees and ongoing Board and Nominating Committee Members

NOMINEE FOR CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three-year Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Nicole (Nikki) Clifton
Falls Church, VA

President, Social Impact and The UPS Foundation
UPS

Nikki Clifton is President of Social Impact and The UPS Foundation, where she leads UPS's global philanthropic strategy, employee engagement, and community investment efforts. Nikki brings deep expertise in public policy, legal and government affairs, and nonprofit governance, with a career spanning business, government, and the social sector.

A lifetime member of Girl Scouts, Nikki has a longstanding and deeply personal commitment to the movement. She has served as her daughter's co-troop leader at People's Congregational Church since 2017 and has been instrumental in planning, coordinating and supporting annual traditions, including Girl Scouts Sunday, MLK Service Day, World Thinking Day, Investiture and Court of Awards. She has curated Girl Scouts Sweet Success, a signature UPS fundraiser for GSCNC that connects Girl Scouts with Members of Congress and senior staff on Capitol Hill. Nikki has served on the GSCNC Board of Directors since 2021 and is currently First Vice President. A labor and employment lawyer and a nationally recognized voice on leadership, antihuman trafficking advocacy and corporate social impact, Nikki is committed to strengthening governance, expanding strategic partnerships, and advancing GSCNC's strategic plan.

Nikki earned her bachelor's degree magna cum laude in Communications from Howard University and her J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law. Nikki and her husband, Robert, have four children and a Goldendoodle and reside in Falls Church, VA.

NOMINEE FOR FIRST VICE CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS Three-year Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



María Rodríguez
Arlington, VA

President and CEO
Vanguard Communications

María is a Lifetime Member and is in her second term as Treasurer of Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board of Directors, which started in 2023. She served on the CEO Transition Team and is a member of the Governance Advisory and Investment Committees. She also served as a National Delegate for the 2020 National Council Session of GSUSA.

María leads a talented staff of diverse individuals at Vanguard Communications — the PR agency she co-founded with a business partner at age 27 — to advance social change and champion causes to help protect the health and well-being of our planet and its people.

As the daughter of Spanish immigrants, María learned the importance of education and hard work early in life. Finding her true “calling” as a PR practitioner, she has been honing her skills at social marketing, media relations, multicultural/multiethnic outreach and event production for the last three decades. At the time of its inception in 1987, Vanguard was one of only a few agencies in Washington, D.C., working exclusively on social issues led by nonprofit or government agencies. With a keen eye on cultural and linguistic competence and the needs of underserved populations, María and her colleagues carved out a unique market space for Vanguard to thrive.

María and her team have helped Willie Nelson raise awareness about the critical role of the family farmer in caring for our health, economy and environment by promoting the annual Farm Aid concert. She promoted Earth Day 1990, leading to the establishment of national recycling programs across the country. She has implemented communication strategies to reduce infant mortality, prevent substance abuse and rally communities to address underage drinking.

María also has brought attention to the mental health needs of children and helped educate minority women about the risk of heart disease. She demonstrated her commitment to mentoring young PR professionals through the Comunicadores for the Future, a joint program she conceptualized in partnership with The George Washington University’s Cisneros Hispanic Leadership Institute to expand diversity in the communications field. María has built a distinguished roster of longstanding clients in the areas of public health, behavioral health, diversity and inclusion, education and the environment. And all the while, staying true to the company’s mission of helping nonprofits, government agencies and foundations lift up the communities they serve.

María received her bachelor's degree in Business Administration from The George Washington University.

NOMINEE FOR SECOND VICE CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three-year Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Tiffany Waddell
Darnestown, MD

Director of Government Relations
National Governors Association (NGA)

In 2024, Tiffany joined the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors and also serves as a member of the Women's Advisory Board. She is a proud Girl Scout mom and actively leads her daughter's troop. Tiffany grew up in Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, earning both the prestigious Silver Trefoil Award and the Girl Scout Gold Award, and participated two summers in the Congressional Aide Program, which she credits with inspiring her career on Capitol Hill.

As the head of NGA's Office of Government Relations, she ensures Governors' federal priorities are kept at the forefront. She works closely with the nation's Governors, the White House, Congress, Federal Agencies, and the International Community on meaningful bipartisan solutions to the country's toughest public policy issues. Before joining the NGA, Tiffany was a political appointee for nearly six years as Senior Advisor & Director of Federal Relations for Governor Larry Hogan, serving as his Washington Representative. Prior to that, she served as Manager of Government Affairs for Delta Air Lines, leading PAC and grassroots political activities. Tiffany also serves on the board of advisors at George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management and joined the adjunct faculty in Fall 2022.

A Maryland native, she graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in political science and earned her master's in legislative affairs from George Washington University. She and her husband, Alex, live in Darnestown, Maryland, with their daughter, Savannah, and two sons, Brady and Grant.

NOMINEE FOR THIRD VICE CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS Three-year Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Kathleen Matthews
Chevy Chase, MD

Former Communications & Public Affairs Executive
Marriott International

Kathleen grew up in California and was a Girl Scout and a Camp counselor through her teen years. She is in her first term as Third Vice President of Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board of Directors, which started in 2023; she served as First Vice President from 2020-2023. She served on the CEO Search Committee and is the co-chair of the Major Gifts Committee. She served as Alternate National Delegate for the 2020 National Council Session of GSUSA and is a former recipient of the Officers’ Award. Kathleen is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member and a Camp CEO participant.

Kathleen is a former local news anchor, executive officer, and chairwoman of Maryland’s Democratic Party. Born in the San Francisco Bay area, Matthews graduated from Stanford University in 1975 before moving to the DC area where she joined WJLA-TV as a production assistant. She worked her way up to the level of producer, and soon she was on camera, first as a reporter, and later as an anchor for the 5, 6, and 11 p.m. broadcasts. She also hosted the shows *Working Women* and *Capital Sunday* towards the end of her news career.

After working at WJLA for 25 years, Kathleen retired to pursue public relations. She took a job as the Chief Communications and Public Affairs Officer for Marriott International in 2006, where she worked until 2015. Kathleen then decided to run for office, and she entered the race to be Maryland’s 8th Congressional District Representative to Congress. Though she did not win, this gave her the opportunity to join Maryland’s Democratic Party, where she would become chair in 2017, first as interim before being elected to the position formally. She held this position until December of 2018.

After a long career in different fields, Kathleen has accumulated several accolades, including nine local Emmys, and an Edward R. Murrow award, an Associated Press award, a George Foster Peabody, a Scrips-Howard, an Ohio State and Gracie Allen awards. She also sat on several organization boards, including the Catholic Charities of Washington, DC and Maryland, the Black Student Fund, Suited for Change, and former President Barack Obama’s Travel and Tourism Advisory Board as Vice Chair.

NOMINEE FOR SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three-year Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Nedra Agnew
Vienna, VA

Senior Vice President/Wealth Management Advisor
The Agnew Group
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc

Nedra is a third-generation Girl Scout and a Lifetime Member. She joined Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board in 2023 and is a member of the Women’s Advisory Board (WAB) and Major Gifts Committee.

Nedra is the lead for a team of financial advisors, The Agnew Group, at Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. Born and raised in Detroit, she “graduated twice” from University of Michigan – ultimately, with a Master’s degree in Public Health. After graduate school, Nedra joined the U.S. Army and became a hospital administrator in Hawaii. Later, she worked at University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health running fieldwork for the Master’s program. In the San Francisco Bay Area, she ran a segment of the Tobacco Tax and Health Protection Initiative. For Procter & Gamble she headed up a product launch, and for the U.S. Foreign Service she served as a diplomat in Bosnia and elsewhere. Nedra began her financial services career in 2002 at Legg Mason Wood Walker which was acquired in 2006 by Smith Barney (later, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney). Nedra arrived at Merrill in 2010.

Making a difference in people’s lives is Nedra’s mission inside the office and out. Over the years, she has also participated in the Washington, D.C. AIDS Bike ride from Raleigh to Washington, D.C., has raised funds for children and their education, and has been an avid supporter of the arts. She has served as a Director and as an advisor to a number of local non-profit organizations in health, education and the arts, including College Bound and the James Renwick Alliance. She currently serves as a Director for the Center for Craft. When she is not “giving back,” Nedra enjoys gardening, cooking and being a “foodie.”

NOMINEE FOR TREASURER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Three-year Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Susan J. Moser
Arlington, VA

Retired Partner,
Cherry Bekaert Advisory LLC

Susan grew up as a Girl Scout in our Council, and she was a Brownie leader for five years before becoming a mother to two sons. She is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member and has been a member of the Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board of Directors since 2020. She is Chair of the Governance Committee and serves on many other board committees and the Women’s Advisory Board (WAB).

Susan has always been deeply involved in her community serving on numerous boards and leadership roles including the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce (Board & Treasurer), National Capital Chapter for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (Board & Treasurer), Habitat for Humanity of Washington, DC (Board & Board Chair), Leadership Greater Washington (Class of 2010) and others. She was named a “Women Who Mean Business” by the Washington Business Journal in 2010.

Susan was a partner with Cherry Bekaert, a national accounting & advisory firm for 28 years until she retired in 2024. She held various leadership roles in the firm including serving as Managing Partner for the Mid-Atlantic, Industry leader for the Government Contracts practice and the firm’s People Leader. During her last two years with the firm, she was asked to lead the firm’s community & charitable endeavors which included founding the Cherry Bekaert Foundation. She served as the President of the Foundation through 2025. Susan is a CPA (inactive) licensed in Virginia. Since retiring Susan has added Grandmother to her resume, the best job ever!

NOMINEE FOR ASSISTANT TREASURER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS Three-year Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Mary Abbajay
Washington, DC

President & CEO
Careerstone Group LLC

Mary joined Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board of Directors in 2023 and is former chair of the Ad Hoc Strategic Goals Committee, and former member of the Major Gifts Committee. She enjoyed being a Girl Scout Brownie growing up—especially loved the uniform and her troop leader—which happened to be her mother.

Mary Abbajay, author of the best-selling, award winning *Managing Up: How to Move Up, Win at Work, and Succeed with Any Type of Boss* is the president of Careerstone Group, LLC, a full service organizational and leadership development consultancy that delivers leading-edge talent and organizational development solutions to business and government. As a sought-after author, speaker, consultant, and trainer, Mary helps clients develop the strategies, skills and sensibilities needed for success in the 21st century. Her work and advice have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Harvard Business Review*, *Fast Company*, *Forbes*, *The Financial Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Huffington Post*, *Money Magazine*, *Southwest Airlines Magazine*, CNN.com, Monster, CNBC, and the BBC.

Mary currently serves on Truist Bank’s Community Board for Greater Washington is a past Board Chair for Leadership Greater Washington where she has chaired and led the adult Signature program, the Youth Leadership Program, and the Rising Leaders Program. She was a volunteer mentor for Mentor’s Inc., an urban youth mentoring program and served for six years on the Board of Directors of the Woolly Mammoth Theatre in Washington, D.C. Additionally, Mary was the co-owner of the Toledo Lounge and Crush Nightclub in Adams Morgan.

Past honors and awards include *Washington Business Journal’s* Women Who Mean Business and was a Smart CEO’s Brava Award. Mary lives in Washington DC, with her husband and fur baby, Valentino.

NOMINEES FOR MEMBERS-AT-LARGE, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three-year Terms: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Matthew Ferguson
Alexandria, VA

Senior Trial Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Securities Exchange Commission

Matt joined Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board of Directors in 2024 and is a member of the Nominating Committee, Governance Advisory Committee, and SHARE Task Force. He is a former troop leader, former Service Unit SHARE Chair, and former Association Chair.

Matt is a Senior Trial Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel at the U.S. Securities Exchange Commission. He has previously served as a counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice, an associate at the law firm Sidley Austin in New York City, and a law clerk to the Honorable Alicemarie H. Stotler for the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Matt is a lifelong Scout, earning his Eagle Scout in his hometown of Cleveland, Ohio. Matt has been a co-leader of Troop 4914 (and its earlier iterations) for many years. In that time, he helped his Troop camp, canoe, kayak, and hike. Matt is particularly committed to the outdoors: he has helped restart a teen high adventure group in Fairfax, led several high adventure encampments, is an active high adventure leader and trainer, and is a certified trainer for canoeing and kayaking.

Matt has a J.D. from the University of Southern California, an M.A. in Applied Ethics from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium, and an A.B. in Philosophy from Princeton University.



Michelle Floh, CAP®
Rockville, MD

Managing Partner
Castlefield Consulting, LLC

Michelle Floh gets energy from seeing people reach their full potential and give back to their communities and families. She is a connector who brings people, money, and ideas together to create real change. She works with donors, foundations, and companies to use their resources in smart and clear ways. Michelle has helped guide over \$500 million in charitable funds and makes sure the

money is used well and leads to real results. She is known for setting clear goals, bringing the right people together, and turning plans into action.

Michelle's passion for mentorship and financial independence comes from her own story. Born in Chile and raised in Toronto, she learned early what it means to think and grow in another language. Her time in the Girl Guides helped shape who she is today. There, she found mentors, learned new skills, and built confidence. Michelle believes that when people, especially women and girls, have guidance, skills, and access to money, they can build their own future and help others do the same.

Michelle serves on the Board of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, helping support 90,000 girls as they grow into leaders. She also serves on the Global Wellness Institute, helping improve health and well-being around the world. She has an MBA from the Schulich School of Business and speaks English and Spanish. She is also a Transcendental Meditation teacher. Michelle believes that when people are trusted, supported, and given a chance, they rise—and their communities rise with them.



Cheryl Gooding
Washington, DC

Retired Mathematics Teacher
DC Public School High School

Cheryl is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member and got into Girl Scouts when her daughter joined over 30 years ago. She has served in several volunteer positions including Parent Volunteer, Troop Leader, Service Unit Manager, Association Chair, Annual Meeting Delegate, National Convention Delegate and member of the Council's Nominating Committee. Some of her favorite Girl Scout activities are camping, tomahawk throwing, walking in parades, and travelling. She currently has a very active Cadette troop of 15 girls, serving as Troop Leader.

As a Girl Scout Troop Leader, she travelled with her girls to Walt Disney World, where girls had an opportunity to meet and work with animators, illustrators, and Imagineers as part of the Youth Education Series. On that same trip, the girls had an opportunity to go behind the scenes on Disney property and learn about hydroponics as part of their SOW What Journey. The summer after Hurricane Maria wreaked havoc in the Virgin Islands, Cheryl's troop took a cruise to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico and brought books with them that they donated to a library in the Virgin Islands that was being rebuilt. Here in Washington, DC, Cheryl's troop has a partnership with the Sasha Bruce House where they make Go Bags for youth who are in transition. The Bags contain toiletries and inspirational messages. Cheryl believes that it is important for girls to learn to give back to their community.

Cheryl also worked as the coordinator of the DC STEM Ready program at Phelps HS, Eastern HS and Capital City HS, which was an afterschool scholarship program where students were exposed to STEM careers like Coding and Gaming. She is an alumna of Howard University and the Catholic University of America. She is a retired District of Columbia Public Schools teacher, where she taught High School Mathematics for 31 years. Her favorite course to teach was Geometry because it was so visual, and students have more opportunities to do hands on activities with the material.

Cheryl is the mother of four - three daughters and one son. All her daughters were Girl Scouts. Their Girl Scout accomplishments: 2 Lifetime Members, 2 Bronze Awards, 3 Silver Awards, 2 Silver Trefoil Awards, and 2 Gold Awards. She is also a very active member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Beta Zeta Chapter in the District of Columbia.



Jenny Herrera
Fairfax, VA

Partner
Citrin Cooperman

Jenny is in her second term as Assistant Treasurer of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors, which started in 2023. She is a member of the Governance and Audit Advisory Committees. She served as a National Delegate for the 2020 National Council Session of GSUSA and is a Lifetime Girl Scout member.

Jenny is a partner in Citrin Cooperman's D.C. Metro office, with over 30 years of public accounting experience. She is responsible for the auditing and accounting services, inclusive of a broad range of consulting and management advisory services of not-for-profit clients, specifically those with grant funding and global operations. Jenny's expertise includes extensive involvement with financial statement audits, internal and operational controls, management structure, business processes and procedures, unrelated business income tax, and compliance with government regulations under the OMB Uniform Grant Guidance. Prior to joining Citrin Cooperman, Jenny was a shareholder at a Washington D.C. based accounting firm.

Jenny is an active member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), serving as an Inclusion Champion on the AICPA National Commission on Diversity and Inclusion Committee. She is a past President of the Greater Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants (GWSCPA). Her community involvement includes serving on the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee of the George Mason University Foundation where she Chairs the Audit Committee. Formerly, she served on the Board of the Northern Chapter of the Virginia Society of CPAs and Chaired the George Mason University Accounting Advisory Council. Jenny is a frequent speaker and presenter on issues and concerns facing not-for-profit organizations.

In 2019, Jenny received the George Mason University Business School Alumna of the Year Award and was inducted by George Mason University as an honorary member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. She is also the recipient of the AICPA/GWSCPA 2019 Women to Watch Experience Leader Award, and the 2018 George Mason University School of Business Service Award.

Jenny earned her Bachelor of Science in Accounting from George Mason University. She is a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Virginia and a Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA).



Debbi Jarvis
Chevy Chase, MD

Former Vice President & Chief Communications Officer
Washington Gas (AltaGas Enterprise)

Debbi joined Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors in 2023 and is a member of the Major Gifts Committee and the Women's Advisory Board (WAB). She is former Vice President and Chief Communications Officer. In this role, Debbi was responsible for all corporate communications functions, focusing on the design and execution of a multifaceted communications strategy to promote Washington Gas and the broader AltaGas enterprise. Leading both internal and external communications, her role encompasses media relations, enhancing brand recognition, advancing environment, social and governance (ESG) reporting, and supporting the overall vision, mission and values of the enterprise.

Debbi has over 25 years' experience as a Communications and Corporate Relations executive, including substantial experience in a regulated utility environment, with a proven ability to lead teams. She is an experienced business leader and counselor to C-suite executives on image and reputation, crisis communications and management, strategic brand building and advertising, media relations, cause marketing, community engagement, strategic philanthropy, CSR (corporate social responsibility) and ESG. With proven skills in a full range of communications including media relations, presentation & public speaking, advertising / marketing, and corporate video production.

Debbi most recently served as Senior Vice President Corporate Relations at Howard University where she was recruited by the HU President to serve on Cabinet and create the HU Office of Corporate Relations to focus on corporate relationship building.

Prior to joining Howard in 2018, Debbi spent 14 years with Pepco Holdings, Inc, an Exelon Company, serving in many capacities during her tenure including Vice President Corporate Communications, Vice President Corporate Citizenship and Corporate Social Responsibility and Vice President Corporate Relations.

Debbi holds a Bachelor of Arts, International Business degree from Hope College in Holland, Michigan. Pursued Graduate Studies in Broadcast Journalism from American University and other ongoing executive education courses at Harvard Business School and Howard University.



H. H. Leonards
Washington, DC

Founder
O Museum in The Mansion

H.H. Leonards is an author, entrepreneur, and social innovator, and the founder of O Museum in The Mansion, a 501(c)(3). Over her career, she has led multiple organizations simultaneously, including serving as executive director of a global computer foundation that distributed more than \$100 million in equipment and services, and as CMO for several international corporations. Her expertise lies in digital marketing, long-term strategy, and measurable impact, with a focus on helping corporations align philanthropy with business value. She also contributed to the development of cause-related marketing through her work with Ogilvy & Mather and has led major design and construction projects, including American Express offices and L'Enfant Plaza in Washington, DC.

As founder of numerous mission-driven organizations—all active today—including the O Street Museum Foundation, The Mansion on O Street, PIR Marketing, 51 Steps to Freedom, and Sign the Promise, Leonards has dedicated her work to creativity, social justice, and human connection. She is also a board member of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, the DC Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Rosa Parks lived with her for nearly a decade as part of the heroes-in-residence program. Through all her efforts, her mission has remained consistent: to inspire people to turn their vision into action, strengthen communities, and expand opportunity for others.

The Girl Scouts changed my life in ways I never expected. Growing up in a time when girls were expected to be seen and not heard, when we weren't allowed to speak unless spoken to or participate in sports, the Scouts gave me a space to break free from those limitations. It was more than just activities—it was a place where I was encouraged to lead, to take charge, and to challenge myself in ways I never thought possible. Through the Girl Scouts, I learned that I could speak my mind, take risks, and dream beyond the restrictions placed on me. The lessons I learned in that sisterhood helped me realize that everything is possible, as long as I dare to be different.

For the past four years, I've had the privilege of working with the Girl Scouts to create meaningful experiences, starting with Girl Scout Day at the O Museum in the Mansion.

Now, I'm taking it a step further by creating five augmented reality experiences for the National Convention, each designed to bring the rich history and empowering spirit of Girl Scouts to life in an innovative way. The Girl Scouts gave me the courage to be myself, to rise above societal expectations, and to find my own path in life. As I share this experience with new generations, I hope they can feel the same empowerment and sense of possibility that I did—knowing that no dream is too big and no barrier is too strong if we dare to cross it together.



Lisa Odom
Alexandria, VA

Pre-school Teacher
Franconia United Methodist Church

Lisa is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member. She has served as Committee Chair of Association 53, Service Unit Manager for 53-6, and a Troop Leader, providing oversight for volunteer teams, community initiatives, and organizational programs. In addition to her leadership roles within Girl Scouts, Lisa is the mother of two Girl Scouts and has actively been a troop leader, cookie mom, money manager, and advisor. She has supported girl development through troop leadership, event coordination, and parent engagement.

Her professional background includes extensive experience teaching and supporting students from preschool through high school, with demonstrated success in building strong relationships with students, families, educators, and community partners. Lisa's work across schools, nonprofit organizations, and military-connected communities—combined with living in multiple states and countries—has strengthened her ability to connect with diverse populations, lead collaborative efforts, and create welcoming, service-focused environments.

Two-year Unexpired Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2028



Rebecca Linder
Washington, DC

Founder & Chief Visionary Officer
Linder Global Events

Rebecca, a leader, entrepreneur, and innovator, is a beacon of inspiration in the global event industry. With over thirty years of visionary leadership, her passion for strategic convening, cutting-edge design, and seamless production has propelled her to the forefront of the field.

Under Rebecca's stewardship, Linder Global Events is not just an event agency, but a

catalyst for industry change. We craft experiences that transcend traditional boundaries, drawing inspiration from the latest adult learning theory, neuroscience, and design principles. Our meticulously formulated strategies cater to the unique needs of our clients and stakeholders, promising transformative outcomes.

Rebecca's leadership is rooted in the belief that meaningful connections are transformative. In the post-COVID world, where work dynamics have drastically changed, Linder Global Events has adapted to facilitate impactful engagements that resonate with the evolving professional dynamics. Our ability to understand and cater to these changes is what sets us apart.

As a leader in this evolving industry, Rebecca is dedicated to navigating the complexities of the modern event landscape. Whether orchestrating virtual gatherings seamlessly bridging distances or curating in-person experiences prioritizing connection and engagement, Linder Global Events is at the forefront of shaping the future of strategic convening. Under her mentorship, Linder will continue to exceed the demands of the present while anticipating the complexities of the future.

One-year Unexpired Term: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027



Laura Calderone
Washington, DC

Founder & Owner
Relish Catering + Event Design

Washington, D.C.–area native Laura Calderone is the Founder and Owner of Relish Catering + Event Design, a premier culinary and event company known for refined hospitality, thoughtful sourcing, and impeccably executed experiences.

In 2025, Laura was recognized as one of the *Industry Innovators: Catering and F&B Professionals*, honored on the *Washington Business Journal's Women Who Mean Business* list, and led Relish to be named the #1 Event and Design Firm in Washington, D.C. by the Washington Business Journal and a Finalist for Sustainable Catering at Catersource 2025— distinctions that underscore her influence and leadership within the regional hospitality and events industry.

Laura's love of food began early, cooking weekly dinners for her lively Polish-Italian family. As a Girl Scout, she discovered volunteering in retirement homes and her first foray into selling food — an early hint of the entrepreneur she would become. While studying at Boston University with plans to attend medical school, she realized her true calling was in the culinary arts. She graduated early with a degree in Biology and enrolled at The Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, where she refined her technical skills and deepened her understanding of food's power to create connection and community.

Her culinary journey took her to Northern California, where she immersed herself in the philosophy of seasonality and sustainability that defines West Coast cuisine. Laura worked under Michelin-starred Chef Hiro Sone at Terra in Napa Valley, cultivating a lifelong respect for farmers, local sourcing, and minimizing waste. She later joined the opening team at Ame in San Francisco and completed a stage at the three-Michelin-starred Quince, further refining her standards of excellence and fine-dining precision. Returning to the East Coast to raise her family, Laura joined Occasions Catering, where she translated her fine-dining background into large-scale event execution. Most notably, she contributed to the culinary team for President Barack Obama's first inauguration. During her tenure, Laura transitioned into leadership roles, gaining expertise in sales strategy, financial management, logistics, and complex event operations — foundational experience that would shape her future company.

In 2017, Laura founded Relish Catering. What began as an after-hours venture has grown into a highly respected, multi-million-dollar catering and event design firm serving corporate clients, weddings, nonprofit galas, private celebrations, and mission-driven organizations throughout the Washington, D.C. region. Under her leadership, Relish is defined by elevated cuisine, operational precision, strong vendor partnerships, and a meaningful commitment to sustainability and community impact. “During the COVID-19 pandemic, Laura spearheaded a contract with Montgomery County Health and Human Services, directing her team to produce three meals a day for 300 guests across men's and women's shelters — a commitment she sustained for two and a half years and one of the most meaningful chapters in Relish's history.”

Laura is known for her hands-on leadership style, investment in team development, and ability to seamlessly blend culinary artistry with operational excellence. Beyond her business, she remains deeply engaged in her community, formerly serving on the Board of Nourish Now and as an Advisory Board Member for FACES (Freeman Assists Community with Extra Support) in Montgomery County, Maryland. She is also involved with Women's Giving Circle for Habitat for Humanity, Les Dames d'Escoffier, DC Central Kitchen, SOME, LEDC and HRC.

When she's not leading her team or designing events, Laura enjoys staying active outdoors, playing soccer, and spending time with her friends, family, three children, and partner.

One-year Term for Teen Girl Scouts: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027



Nikita Hvozda
Brunswick, MD

Student

Bridgemont International School & Village Montessori School of Bluemont

Nikita Hvozda is a Junior at Bridgemont International School, where she has maintained a 4.0 GPA. Other school activities include the Drama Club, Yearbook Committee, and the Student Council. Nikita also enjoys playing piano, participating in Equestrian activities (Dressage, Jumping and Fox Hunting) with her thoroughbred horse, Freddy, and competing as a nationally ranked archer. Nikita is also a member of the United States Hunter Jumper Association, the United States Equestrian Federation, the National Field Archery Association, USA Archery, and the Lancaster Archery Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD) Team.

She has won the USA Archery Maryland Indoor State Championships for her category for the past several years and has earned numerous other archery titles. She is currently ranked 13th in the Nation for the 2025 Compound U18 Women's Division for USA Archery. Nikita also participates in National American Miss, where she has earned many titles and awards, and was crowned the 2025-2026 National Jr. Teen Cover Miss. She also understands the importance of giving back and volunteers at Wheatland Equestrian's Faith and Family Foundation, which provides therapeutic and para riding for children and adults.

Nikita has been a Girl Scout for the past 12 years and has earned the Girl Scout Summit Award (all levels), the Girl Scout Bronze Award, the Girl Scout Silver Award, the Girl Scout Torch Awards, and the Girl Scout Silver Trefoil Award. She is also currently working toward her Girl Scout Gold Award. She has volunteered as a Unit and Center Aide at Camp Tagalong for 5+ years, volunteered at Camp Girl Power, served as a Delegate for SU 70-17, and was most recently selected to serve as a 2026 National Delegate for GSCNC. She also earned the Presidential Volunteer Service Award at the Silver Level in 2022 and the Gold Levels from 2023-2025.



Sydney Thomas
Upper Marlboro, MD

Student
The Key School

Sydney spends time participating in several different activities, including her school's student government since 2023. She was recently elected to serve as Vice President starting this 2026 term. Sydney served as the Communications and Technology Liaison for the 2025 school year. In addition to serving in student government, she also founded her school's community service club, as well as being a Gold Ambassador for the school's Admissions Office. Sydney also played on the school's volleyball team for three years, as well as on a competitive team since 2022, ranging from November through June of each year, and she finds that participation reinforces her teamwork and collaboration skills.

Sydney has also been an active member of her local community since kindergarten, through involvement with her Girl Scout troop and through volunteer work at various food banks in the Washington, D.C. area since 2023. She is a member of the Peace and Leadership Program, which is a program through the National Voices for Equality, Education, and Enlightenment, where she will be pursuing a role as a junior counselor this summer at a Leadership Summit. Since 2024, she held two different part-time jobs year-round. Sydney currently works at AMC Movie Theatre as a crew member responsible for serving customers. These experiences are preparing her for the future.

NOMINEES FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Three-year Terms: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029



Dayna Keene
Washington, DC

Principal
Korn Ferry, DC Region

A key member of the firm's Global Nonprofit and Government Affairs Practices. She partners with leading corporations, associations, and mission-driven nonprofit organizations at the local, national, and international levels, specializing in the recruitment of a diversity of CEOs and senior executives. Her work is driven by a commitment to strengthening leadership in organizations that create meaningful social impact.

Dayna brings a global perspective to her work. She was the first Principal at Korn Ferry

to undertake a two-month international tour across nine countries in Europe, where she built relationships with colleagues, clients, and candidates while expanding the firm's engagement in the public and nonprofit sectors abroad. This experience deepened her ability to support organizations with global reach and mission-driven priorities.

Prior to joining Korn Ferry, Dayna spent three years in executive search consulting focused on higher education, healthcare, and nonprofit organizations. Prior to her career in executive search, Dayna served at the Washington State Department of Health as a Communications Consultant, where she managed quality assurance processes for 15+ public health programs.

Dayna's commitment to service and global engagement began early in her career as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural South Africa, where she supported grassroots HIV prevention and care initiatives. She earned her M.S. in Global Health from Northwestern University, including fieldwork in a remote clinic in the Philippines, and holds a B.S. in Communication from Cornell University. While at Cornell, she participated in the Semester at Sea program, visiting 11 countries across Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

Dayna currently serves as a Board Member for History UnErased, advancing inclusive education and storytelling. A native of New Milford, Pennsylvania, she was an active member of Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, an experience that helped instill the values of leadership, collaboration, and service that continue to guide her commitment to mission-driven work today.



Joanna Pratt
Rockville, MD

Sr. Vice President & Chief Investment Officer
NEIL (Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited)

Joanna joined NEIL as its Sr. Vice President and Chief Investments Officer in January 2026. Joanna oversees the Company's Investments operations and more than 40 external managers that invest the Company \$5+ billion portfolio, coming to NEIL with a significant background in investment portfolio management. She was most recently the Deputy Chief Investment Officer and a Partner with Investure, where she oversaw all aspects of investment management for seven educational institutions and eight foundations, with \$20 billion in managed assets. Before her time at Investure, Joanna held multiple positions of escalating responsibility, including Managing Director for the Johns Hopkins University Office of Investments, Director of Investments at the Stanford Management Company, and Portfolio Manager for Fundamental Energy Commodities at Citadel Investment Group.

Joanna earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Princeton University and a Master of Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. She is also a Chartered Financial Analyst. Joanna resides in Rockville, Maryland.



Wendelin A. (Wendy) White
Chevy Chase, MD

Of Counsel,
Goulston & Storrs PC

Wendy is a Lifetime Girl Scout and past Board of Directors member and Secretary of Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital. She served as the chair of the CEO Transition Committee, the co-chair of the Bylaws Revision Ad Hoc Committee, and chair of the Property Advisory Committee, as well as a member of the Governance Committee. In addition, she served as a National Delegate for the 2020 and 2023 National Council Sessions of GSUSA and will serve as a National Delegate for the 2026 National Council Session. Wendy received her B.A. from Sweet Briar College, her M.F.A. from University of California at Irvine, and her J.D. from University of Miami School of Law.

Wendy is the former Chair of Goulston & Storrs PC’s D.C. Real Estate transactional group; however, she is mostly retired from the practice of law now, but for her representation of Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital, on a pro bono basis, in connection with various real estate matters.

Wendy sits on the Board of Directors of Chevy Chase Trust Company (a private trust company with over \$40 billion of assets under management). She has previously served as a board member and officer of various nonprofits and business industry associations. Wendy also served on the Board of Trustees of the oldest public REIT in the country and on the Board of Directors of MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, where she currently volunteers as an official “Cuddler” in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit once a week.

ONGOING MEMBERS-AT-LARGE, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Vicky A. Bailey
Washington, DC

Founder
Anderson Stratton International, LLC

Vicky is a lifetime Girl Scout member and a current member of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors (2025-2028). She is a former board member (2015-2021), and former member and Chair of the Nominating Committee.

She also served on the Major Gifts Committee, Gold Award Panel, and as a Camp CEO participant.

Vicky is Founder, Anderson Stratton Enterprises LLC and prior equity partner of BHMM Energy Services, LLC a certified minority owned energy facility management company. She was appointed to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as Assistant Secretary, for both the Office of Domestic Policy and International Affairs during the first term of President George W. Bush. In the aftermath of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, she was chair of several bilateral international working groups with the goal of implementing our national energy policy and strengthening our relationships with other nations to foster energy security. During her time as well, the International Energy Forum was established in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Also, in her role, she served as Vice Chair and the U.S. representative to the Paris based International Energy Agency (IEA), working with all the energy producing nations gaining her additional international experience and stature. Bailey oversaw the development and implementation of domestic energy policy in the areas of clean coal technologies, Clean Skies initiative, nuclear power, oil and natural gas development, and LNG production.

Vicky previously was in the corporate arena as President of Cinergy/PSI now Duke Energy (Indiana) the largest utility in the state. She was a Commissioner, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) appointed by President William J. Clinton where she was one of the architects of the landmark Order No. 888 (open access rule for electric transmission) and worked on implementation of Order No. 636 (the rule restructuring natural gas pipeline services). She was a Commissioner, Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) appointed by Gov. Robert Orr and reappointed by Gov. Evan Bayh.

Her corporate board positions are TXNM Energy, Occidental Petroleum, and EQT Corp. In the non-profit sector, her board positions include American Association of Blacks in Energy, Resources for the Future, a trustee of The Conference Board, and an inaugural board member of the Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation at DOE.

Pres. George W. Bush appointed her to the Presidential Commission, National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) which opened on the

NationalMall, Secretary of Energy Steven Chu at the direction of President Barack Obama appointed her to the Blue Ribbon Commission for America’s Nuclear Future, and Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz appointed her to the National Petroleum Council. Vicky became the first female and African American Chairman of the Board, United States Energy Association (USEA). A native of Indianapolis, IN, Vicky is a graduate and distinguished alumna of the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University and a graduated of the Advanced Management Program, The Wharton School, at the University of Pennsylvania.



Morlon Bell-Izzard
Washington, DC

Senior VP of Customer Operations & Chief Customer Officer
Pepco Holdings

Morlon joined Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board of Directors in 2022. She served on the CEO Search Committee and is a member of the Women’s Advisory Board, Governance and Audit Advisory Committees, and the Investment Committee.

Morlon Bell-Izzard provides overall leadership responsibilities for Pepco Holdings’ customer strategic governance and planning. She also oversees financial planning, process and technology initiatives, and customer experience where she is responsible for customer research, data analytics and ensuring the voice of the customer is incorporated into all programs.

Morlon joined Pepco Holdings in 2019 from parent company Exelon, where she was responsible for the integration of customer systems and processes for Exelon’s six energy utilities and led efforts to identify and implement customer experience best practices. Prior to that, she spent 22 years with BGE in various leadership roles, including director of Customer Care, director of Business Transformation, manager of Customer Projects and Systems Support, director of Customer Relations Initiatives, and supervisor of Applications Development.

Morlon is actively involved in the local nonprofit community and currently serves on the Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan Washington, DC and Eastern Pennsylvania. She is also a graduate of Leadership Baltimore County.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Commerce with a concentration in Accounting from the University of Virginia and obtained executive certification in Transformational Leadership from The Darden School of Business. She is also a certified public accountant.



Joanne Berdine
Falling Waters, WV

Instructional Designer
Citigroup

Joanne is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member. She joined Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors in 2024 and a member of the Council Recognitions Panel. Joanne began her adult Girl Scout career in 2006 when she became a Daisy Troop leader so both daughters could have the Girl Scout experience. Four Gold Award recipients later, she stepped back from her leader role in 2019 when the last of her troop graduated high school. Joanne has been a troop leader, Service Unit Welcome Specialist, step team coach, and has co-chaired several local events. As a volunteer with Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, she has been recognized with the Outstanding Leader, Outstanding Volunteer, Appreciation, and Nation's Capital pins/awards as well as the Commend Coin.

Joanne Berdine was born and raised in England where she spent a brief time in the Girl Guides organization. She moved to the United States in 1989 and within a year began her career with the global banking organization, Citigroup. Over the past three decades, she has gained experience in a variety of roles. She is currently a Learning Experience Designer responsible for working with business partners to create and maintain web-based and in-person learning solutions.

Joanne is passionate about giving back to her community and has earned the President's Volunteer Service Award multiple times. As part of her work site's inaugural Community Involvement Team, she was responsible for initiating and fostering community partner relationships. Organizations supported include Relay for Life, The United Way, Habitat for Humanity, and March of Dimes as well as many local non-profits. As a result of her work with the March of Dimes, she was invited to take on board roles at the Western Maryland and DC/Baltimore Regional levels. She served in this capacity for about four years between the two boards. Currently, she actively volunteers with Girl Scouts, Quilts of Valor, YoungLives and various other organizations throughout the year through Citi community programs.

Joanne resides near Martinsburg, WV with husband Kevin. They are proud parents to Emily and Kassidy who both earned the Girl Scout Gold Award and are lifetime Girl Scout members.



Tracy DeCock
Washington, DC

Executive Vice President and Corporate Banking Market Leader for Greater Maryland and Greater Washington Area
PNC Bank

Tracy is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member and joined Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors in 2022. She is a member of the Investment Committee and a former member of the Major Gifts Committee.

Tracy has more than 25 years of corporate banking experience, advising clients on financial decisions in the areas of capital raising, treasury management, mergers and acquisitions, etc.. She runs one of the bank's largest corporate markets and has also led the bank's Commercial and Corporate Banking Development Program (CCBDP). The CCBDP role involved recruiting, training and placing collegiate talent across the bank's franchise. Prior to joining PNC, she worked for her family business in the real estate and retail industries. She also worked for Bank of America in Chicago.

Although her day job has been helping clients and developing future banking/industry leaders, Tracy has served in several DEI Leadership Roles for PNC as well. These roles include founding and sponsoring our headquarter women's EBRG, Women Connect and currently serving as Executive Sponsor of C&IB ForWARD. This initiative is focused on retaining and promoting early career women in corporate banking. Tracy has received recognition for her professional success and diversity leadership which includes Western PA Athena finalist, Girl Scouts of Western PA Women and Girls of Distinction (2017) and Working Mother of the year for PNC in Working Mother Magazine. She has served on The United Way of Southwestern PA Board of Directors and was the chair of their Women's Leadership Committee for two campaigns. She also was on the board of Little Lake Theatre.

Tracy is a graduate of Indiana University with a B.S. in finance. She and her husband are recent empty nesters with two adult children and a rescue dog.



Farah Salim Eck
Arlington, VA

Managing Director
United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA)

Farah began her pathway as a troop leader for her first daughter, Rayna, in 2021, by establishing a Daisy troop and again in April 2024, when she started a Daisy Troop for Aliyah when she began Kindergarten. In between, she also stepped up to serve as the Service Unit's Recognitions Chair from 2022-2023, and from 2023-2024.

She is also serving as Service Unit Manager (SUM) of 60-7, and Welcome Specialist.

As Managing Director for the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA), she is able to leverage her personal passion for empowering gender equality and human rights in a global context. Her role at the UNA-USA also proves the importance and relevance of volunteerism—of which she champions via Girl Scouts—as she had started as a volunteer with the movement in 2013.

Farah’s previous career positions have also provided the scaffolding that frames and supports her roles with Girl Scouts. As head of the global membership division at Lions Clubs International, she understood the motivation to join others to tackle local problems and roll up sleeves to initiate service projects. As part of the Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) based in Nairobi, Kenya, she was able to really define her skills and acumen for youth empowerment and leadership development. When she traveled around Asia-Pacific to reinforce engagement between University of Chicago alumni and their alma mater, she fostered connections between people’s minds and hearts with what they could do to improve their surroundings. As a consultant for her own nonprofit practice, she probed and produced results for more than 25 nonprofit organizations that enabled them to grow their fundraising, communications, and stakeholder engagement areas of practice. And earlier in her career, she was able to use storytelling and personal narratives to help fundraise for multiple children’s healthcare-oriented organizations, including for a children’s hospital, a statewide organization focused on children with autism, and an emerging kids’ museum focused on health and wellbeing.

Coming from a multicultural background and living in places where women’s opinions and rights aren’t always fully embraced, Farah experienced firsthand the importance of having a space that supports and empowers girls. Her mom created that space within Girl Scouts by serving as her troop leader overseas when she was a Brownie and Junior. Her mom set into motion Farah’s love and passion for Girl Scouts, and after having her own two daughters, she was eager to start them in Girl Scouts; Farah even developed an unofficial “Girl Sprouts” troop for her preschooler because she was too young to serve as a Daisy!



Divina Gamble
Laurel, MD

Managing Partner and Global Nonprofit Practice Leader
Korn Ferry’s Washington, DC Region

Divina is also a member of the firm’s Board & CEO practice and specializes in providing holistic talent solutions to some of the world’s most admired and impactful organizations. For nearly two decades, she has recruited a diversity of CEOs, senior leaders, and board members across nonprofit, philanthropy, corporate social responsibility, and social enterprises. She has placed leaders of regional, national, and

global organizations, start-ups and renowned foundations, leading social service organizations, aging services, impact investing, advocacy, arts, sport, and prominent associations.

Divina joined Korn Ferry from Discovery Communications, Inc. where she worked on the Global Project Management team. Prior to media, she worked in K-12 and higher education.

A fifth generation Washingtonian and proud Hoya, Divina received a Bachelor's and Master's of Arts from Georgetown University. She served as a chair for the Georgetown University Alumni Admissions Program and on the Board of Directors of Girls Inc DC and Melwood, Inc. She is a member of Pipeline Angels, with a mission to generate capital, investments, and entrepreneurial opportunities for women and underrepresented groups. Divina is presently on the Executive Committee of the Board of Junior Achievement Greater Washington and has served as a member of the National Black MBA Association Advisory Council. She is also a member of the Economic Club of Washington, DC, and a Trustee of the Federal City Council.

Divina was first engaged with Girl Scouts in elementary school where she served as a proud Brownie and had a memorable experience learning to face her fears while camping and her first exposure to the world of entrepreneurialism. Today, she is a lifetime Girl Scout member.



Nancie Lynch
Bethesda, MD

Executive Director

Richard E. & Nancy P. Marriott Foundation, the Nancy Peery Marriott Foundation, and the Marriott Daughters Foundation

Nancie joined Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors in 2024 and is a member of the Investment Committee.

Nancie Lynch (Suzuki) is the Executive Director of the Richard E. and Nancy P. Marriott Foundation, the Nancy Peery Marriott Foundation, and the Marriott Daughters Foundation, two of which focus on the Washington, DC region. Over the past 19 years, Nancie has taken these foundations from grant-making entities to impactful foundations that support the surrounding communities through mindful partnerships.

The foundation's focus on education and youth enables Nancie to further her vision that every child deserves the same opportunities regardless of their background. Her passion is driven by her own experiences. As a child of immigrant parents, Nancie went to public school in a small town that gave her the best education it could and was the first in her family to get a college degree.

A graduate of Salisbury University's Perdue School of Business, Nancie then went on to get her MBA at the University of Maryland University College. She currently serves on the board of Easterseals DC/MD/VA and Leadership Greater Washington.

On a personal note, Nancie enjoys spending time with her husband Kris, her daughter Jordyn, and son Dax. She also loves scuba diving and is a PADI-certified Divemaster.



Jodi Morton
Ashburn, VA

Former Partner and US Chief Data Officer
KPMG

Jodi is a Lifetime Girl Scout member and has been a member of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors since 2021. She is also a member of the Juliette Low Legacy Society Task Force, Council Recognitions Panel, and the Ad Hoc Strategic Goals Committee. She is former member and chair of the Nominating Committee, former member of the Golf Classic Committee, and former co-chair of the Major Gifts Committee.

She is passionate about Girl Scouts and has held several volunteer positions in the Council including serving as National Delegate for the 2020 National Council Session. She is also a member of the Women's Advisory Board (WAB), and an Adult Educator and Area Training Manager. She is a former member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Ad Hoc Task Force, STEM Advisory Group, and has held other Girl Scout positions such as Association Money Manager, Troop Leader, Association Delegate, LOGO Chairperson (Loudoun Older Girl Organization), Gold Award Panel Member, and Service Unit Manager.

As former Chief Data Officer at KPMG, Jodi drove the firm's data strategy to build a state-of-the-art data supply chain, and the related governance, standards and processes. Prior to joining KPMG, Jodi worked at Freddie Mac for 15 years, most recently as Vice President and Chief Data Officer for the Single-Family Business. Jodi is also an alumnus of PwC.

Jodi is a CPA. She earned a master's degree in finance from American University, a B.S. in accounting and B.S. in business administration from the College of Charleston in Charleston, SC.



Stephanie Mathews O'Keefe
Kensington, MD

Chief Executive Officer
International Women's Forum

Stephanie was appointed CEO of the International Women's Forum in September 2016. Her career has spanned the private sector, government and non-profit organizations where she has held senior leadership positions for over two decades. Most recently, she served as the Chief Communications Officer for CTIA, the telecom trade association and as Executive Vice President for Communications at the American Bankers Association. She began her career in finance as an investment banker at Credit Suisse.

Her government service includes positions at both the state and federal level as the Executive Director of the Governor's Task Force on Children, Youth and Families in her home state of West Virginia and as the Executive Vice President for Communications at the Export-Import Bank of the United States. For over a decade, she was the Executive Vice President for External Affairs for Local Initiatives Support Corporation, a US community development intermediary. She has led change in every organization she has served, successfully creating new programs, executing new strategies and strengthening communications and brand visibility.

O'Keefe holds an AB in economics and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. She serves on the vestry of St. Columba's Episcopal Church and lives in Kensington, MD. She was a Girl Scout growing up (Brownie, Junior, Cadette) and was Scout of the Year for her troop when she was 10 years old.



Kathleen Purtill
Alexandria, VA

Principal
Deloitte's Government & Public Services

Kathleen is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member and has been a member of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors since 2024 and is former co-chair of the Golf Classic Committee.

Kathleen is a former US Navy officer with more than 20 years of experience in government consulting focused on delivering enterprise transformation enabled by innovation and technology.

Kathleen leads Deloitte's civil government sector, which encompasses a wide range of clients including the Department of Treasury, Department of Commerce, Department of Transportation, Department of State, Department of Energy, Department of

Housing and Urban Development, Department of Agriculture, Department of Social Security, and Department of Education as well as the US Postal Service and US Agency for International Development. She is an experienced business advisor with a proven track record of delivering large, digital-enabled business transformations and has more than 20 years of professional consulting experience across both the private and public sectors.

Kathleen serves as a Board Member for Athletes for Hope and is on the Women's Advisory Board, of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital. Additionally, Kathleen is passionate about mentoring veterans transitioning out of the military, including a 7-year commitment with American Corporate Partners – something close to her heart as a veteran herself. Outside of the office, Kathleen enjoys spending time and remaining active with her husband and three kids. She is an avid runner and enjoys anything and everything to do with the outdoors.

Kathleen earned her Bachelor's in Business Administration from Villanova University. She had the fortune to return to Villanova to teach Leadership and Ethics while also earning her Master's in Business Administration. As a lifelong learner, Kathleen has retained her PMP and earned her NACD Certification.



Cheryle Thorne-Harris
Washington, DC

Pillar Program Director
National Bankers Association Foundation

Cheryle is a Lifetime Girl Scout member and became a member of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Board of Directors in 2020. She served on the CEO Transition Team and is a member of the Investment Committee, Women's Advisory Board (WAB), former co-chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Ad Hoc Task Force, and former member of the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee. She is also a member of the Juliette Low Legacy Society (JLLS) and the recipient of the Girl Scout Appreciation Pin, Thanks Badge I, and Thanks Badge II honoring her volunteer service to the Girl Scouts. Cheryle is former Board Chair of Girl Scouts of Colonial Coast before moving to the Washington, DC area.

Cheryle is the Pillar Program Director for the National Bankers Association Foundation. As a former Senior Vice President, Commercial & Industrial lender with Capital Bank, N.A., Cheryle worked with small business clients helping them build wealth by providing access to capital in the VA, DC and MD markets. She had the benefit of holding positions in Treasury Management consulting, lending, and management with various financial institutions, which provided a solid foundation for her to consult with businesses and deliver all-encompassing creative financial solutions. Prior to joining Capital Bank, Cheryle was the Vice President and Relationship Manager in Commercial Banking at Burke & Herbert Bank. She was also a Senior Vice President at BB&T Bank.

Cheryle is a true advocate for small businesses and is never too busy to participate in community event discussions on women leadership and access to capital. She has participated as a panelist for the Norfolk Southern WiNs “Women’s Education – Women’s Empowerment” event, Norfolk State University Women Economic Development Center’s “Sister to Sister” event, the Commercial Banking Panel at The College of William and Mary, the 2019 symposium for racial equitable community development panel, the 2019 & 2022 Washington Business Journal’s Bizwomen event and a guest speaker for The Offices of Two Five & J.

Cheryle holds a finance degree from The College of William and Mary and her MBA from Regent University. When she is not volunteering, she loves to bike, travel and scrapbook.



Brigitta S. Toruño
Ashburn, VA

Founder/CEO
UNO Translations and Communications, LLC

Brigitta joined Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Board of Directors in 2022. She is a member of the Women’s Advisory Board (WAB) and the Grievance Committee.

Brigitta’s love of her native language, Spanish, fueled her desire to work with languages and launch UNO Translations and Communications, LLC (UNO) in 1998. UNO considers itself a linguistic partner to companies, not only offering translation services in more than 200 languages, but also consulting with companies in international cultural business issues. Her personal experience seeing her parents struggle in learning another language and culture gives Brigitta a true passion for her work and has formed the basis for her company’s philosophy and mission.

Brigitta, a bilingual native of the Washington, DC area, was born in Bethesda, Maryland, and grew up in Alexandria, Virginia. The daughter of an Argentine father and Ecuadorian mother, her native language is Spanish. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Averett College and successfully completed the Minority Business Executive Program from Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business and University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business. In 2020, Brigitta was appointed by the Office of the Governor to the Virginia Council on Women. She is honored to serve as the Chair of the Loudoun Literacy Council, and a board member for 100 Women Strong. She is a past board member of: the George Mason University Women in Business Initiative; Devotion to Children, a Northern Virginia-based organization dedicated to providing services to needy children under the age of six; Mobile Hope, a Loudoun County-based organization assisting at-risk youth; Loudoun Hunger Relief, a Loudoun County-based food pantry; and Leadership Loudoun.

In 2019, Brigitta was awarded the Enterprising Woman of the Year as well as the Top 100 MBE award from the Capital Region Minority Supplier Development Council (CRMSDC). For the past four years, Brigitta has been named to Loudoun Business Journal's Top 100 Women Who Mean Business. Brigitta is a member of the American Translator's Association (ATA) and the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce.

ONGOING MEMBERS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Mary Abbajay
Washington, DC

President & CEO
Careerstone Group LLC

Mary's full bio is listed under "Nominee for Assistant Treasurer, Board of Directors."



Paul Donato
Arlington, VA

Principal
Ernst & Young LLP

Paul became a member of Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Nominating Committee in 2025 and is a former member of the Board of Directors (2020-2025). He served on the CEO Search Committee and is a former member of the Golf Classic Committee, former co-chair of the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee, and former member of the Governance Advisory Committee.

As the Principal at Ernst & Young LLP, Paul leads the Business and Technology Consulting practice for the Government & Public Sector practice. He holds a BA from the University of Virginia.

Paul is the proud father of a Girl Scout and has been instrumental in helping her sell Girl Scout cookies.



Matthew (Matt) Ferguson
Fairfax, VA

Senior Trial Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Securities Exchange Commission

Matt’s full bio is listed under “Nominee for Board Member-at- Large.”



Tammy Lockett-Benjamin, MD, MBA, FACOG
Reston, VA

Medical Director
CareSource

Dr. Tammy Lockett-Benjamin is a Lifetime Girl Scout Member and joined Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Nominating Committee in 2024. She is a proud parent of a Girl Scout Senior and a Girl Scout Ambassador and has been a dedicated Troop leader for over 12 years. Her commitment and leadership in this role have earned her the Jan Verhage Spirit of Leadership Award.

Dr. Lockett-Benjamin is a board-certified Obstetrician/Gynecologist with over 25 years of experience in clinical medicine. She currently serves as a Medical Director at CareSource, a national nonprofit managed care organization. Prior to her transition to utilization management, Dr. Lockett-Benjamin worked in private practice and as an OB/GYN hospitalist. She earned her B.S. from Xavier University of Louisiana and received her M.D. from Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans. Additionally, Dr. Lockett-Benjamin holds an MBA from Louisiana State University in Shreveport.

Aside from her professional career, Dr. Lockett-Benjamin is also an active community member.



Alex Orfinger
Washington, DC

Publisher
Washington Business Journal

Alex joined Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital Nominating Committee in 2025.

After serving as Executive Vice President of American City Business Journals for several years, Alex has returned to the role that first brought him to Washington, DC. He is excited, at this important moment, to help the Business Journal be at the center of conversations around economic recovery, income disparity, systemic racism, and why these issues must matter to the business community.

For over two decades as publisher, Alex worked out front and behind the scenes to develop a strong identity for the region's business sector. He built a team to report on the diversity of the business community – the robust commercial real estate but also the nascent tech and venture communities, the retail and restaurant industries, the service sector, and the burgeoning hospitality industry.

Over the last several years and today as he takes up the mantle of Publisher again, Alex is committed to working at the intersection of business and community. He believes the road to economic renewal runs through deeper relationships, connectivity, and leadership and that innovation and entrepreneurship will be front and center as the engine for growth. He shines a light on complex and important social issues business leaders should know and understand. He believes what is good for business is also good for the greater community. Alex is a champion of collaboration and is dedicated to developing relationships that strengthen the connection among business leaders and between the business and philanthropic communities.



Erica Thomas
La Plata, MD

Head of People and Culture
RP3 Agency

Erica joined Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Nominating Committee in 2025. She was a Girl Scout growing up, where she learned many valuable life skills that she continues to apply today. Her experience in Girl Scouts helped shape her leadership, resilience, and commitment to service.

Erica Thomas is a dynamic leader and strategist with a long- spanning career in Human Resources, business development, and career coaching. In her current role with a woman-owned advertising agency, she focuses on fostering an engaging and inclusive workplace, supporting employee development, and driving strategic HR initiatives.

Throughout her career, Erica has worked extensively in workforce development, relationship-building, and community engagement, specializing in cultivating meaningful partnerships with businesses, organizations, and legislators. Previously, she served as a Blueprint Program Specialist for Charles County Public Schools, strengthening connections between education and the workforce. She was employed by

the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, where she focused on career development, talent strategy, and labor market research.

Erica pursued studies in Communications with a concentration in Public Relations at Alabama State University, where she developed a strong foundation in strategic messaging, public engagement, and organizational leadership. She has continued to build upon this expertise through extensive professional development, industry certifications, and hands-on leadership experience in HR, business strategy, and workforce development.

With a servant's heart, Erica is deeply committed to uplifting her community through advocacy, volunteerism, and meaningful collaborations. She has been appointed by the Charles County Board of Commissioners to serve on the Charles County Commission for Individuals with Disabilities, where she helps drive initiatives for accessibility, inclusion, and equity.

She sits on multiple advisory councils for Charles County Public Schools, including: The Equity Task Force, working to ensure equitable policies and practices in education; and The Parent Action Committee, advocating for meaningful parental involvement and student success. She is also an active volunteer with several impactful organizations, including March of Dimes, The Children's Heart Foundation, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and various community-focused initiatives supporting workforce development, career readiness, and social equity.