



## *Be a Voice for Girls*

*Support and champion girls in reaching their full potential as leaders.*

### 13th Annual Voice for Girls



Girl Scouts of Orange County hosted its 13th annual Voice for Girls (VFG) forum, presented by U.S. Bank, on Friday, May 3, at the Newport Beach Country Club. This year's VFG theme was "Mental Wellness-Balance in Your Life" and it was an unforgettable event. One highlight was a candid conversation with Olympic Gold Medalist Tara Lipinski. Tara

captivated the audience as she shared how she handled the intense pressure of competing on the global stage as a teenager, life since the Olympics including her long struggle with infertility, her decision to turn to surrogacy to make her dream of having a family come true, and the actionable steps she's taken throughout her life to improve her mental health and well-being. Recent Gold Award Girl Scout Alum Katelyn Saiki led Tara's conversation.

Another key highlight was the stellar, inspiring panel of Gold Award Girl Scouts which shared the sustainable "Take Action" projects they launched to help others overcome mental health issues. These

conversations are of critical importance given the mental health crisis among youth, especially teenage girls. These Girl Scouts positively impacted hundreds of young people through their Gold Award projects.

Voice for Girls is an inspiring and interactive annual think tank that aligns local leaders with a vital mission to support and champion girls in reaching their full potential as leaders in society. Our event attracted over 250 business, community, and education leaders across Orange County.

**2024 VOICE FOR GIRLS**

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## Trefoil Trot



Hundreds of Girl Scout supporters laced up their sneakers and hit the pavement at our 2nd Annual Trefoil Trot Community Walk on Sunday, April 14th, at Wild Rivers in Irvine. The fundraiser was co-emceed by ABC7 News Reporter David Gonzales and Girl Scouts of Orange County CEO, Dr. Vikki Shepp. Following the 5K walk, the event wrapped up when participants gathered for some Girl Scout family fun in the outdoor festival area.

**MORE ABOUT TREFOIL TROT**

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# Promise Circle Brunch



Girl Scouts of Orange County's Promise Circle members came together on Sunday, June 9th at the Balboa Bay Resort for our annual Promise Circle Brunch to celebrate our collective commitment to the Girl Scout Mission. Promise Circle members are a community of dedicated GSOC stakeholders and help ensure the sustainability of our Girl

Scout program. To date, we have 65 members and have raised over \$800,000 through Promise Circle giving.

## ABOUT THE PROMISE CIRCLE

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## Camps



It's summer and our enriching Outdoor Program is underway. We've planned outdoor adventures and activities for Girl Scouts of all ages, including a host of exciting local volunteer-led and staff-led Day Camps throughout Orange County, and, of course, Girl Scout Summer Sleepaway Camp, at our beloved Camp Scherman in the San Jacinto Mountains. It's

where they'll be conquering the climbing wall, navigating a canoe, hiking in the beautiful surroundings, or crafting among nature's beauty, all while making new friends and creating memories that last a lifetime. Summer Sleepaway camp starts on July 1st and ends on August 9th. There are weekend camp opportunities like Troop Cabin Camping and Family Camp beginning again in Fall 2024.

## VIEW CAMPS

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## GSOC Gold Award Scholarship & GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship



The tradition continues. This year, we presented four incredible Girl Scouts with a \$1,000 Girl Scouts of Orange County's Gold Award Scholarship at our inaugural Green & Gold Recognition event held on June 9. Congratulations to Gabrielle DeCuir, Katherine Given, Jacqueline Henriksen, and Kai Yamamoto. As you know, the esteemed Gold Award is the

highest achievement a girl can earn in Girl Scouts and our GSOC scholarship further elevates the prestige of earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. This year's four recipients were also all finalists for an academic financial prize presented by Girl Scouts USA (GSUSA) Gold Award Scholarship fund, which awards only one scholarship per council. Double congratulations to Gold Award Girl Scout Kai Yamamoto who was awarded the \$5,000 GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship for her standout educational project focused on Asian American Pacific Islander Ethnic Studies.

GSOC started its own scholarship last year through the generosity of an anonymous donor. We're excited to offer the opportunity to our Girl Scouts supporters to be a part of a beautiful GSOC tradition. Please contact Addy Lerner, Director of Philanthropy, at [alerner@girlscoutsoc.org](mailto:alerner@girlscoutsoc.org) to learn more or donate directly on the [Gold Award Scholarship](#) giving page.

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## Chief Marketing & Development Officer

Girl Scouts of Orange County is thrilled to announce the promotion of Sarah Butler to Chief Marketing & Development Officer. Sarah joined





GSOC in June of 2020 and has been an integral part of the Marketing team for four years, most recently serving as Chief Marketing Officer. Sarah has more than 25 years of experience in corporate marketing and

development, most recently with Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) Foundation and the Irvine Company. Sarah now oversees GSOC's philanthropic endeavors from major events, like Voice for Girls, to the Promise Circle, our special community of donors united in our mission of helping to build confident, resilient girls who dream big and, in turn, change the world for the better. To connect with Sarah directly, please reach out via email [sbutler@girlscoutsoc.org](mailto:sbutler@girlscoutsoc.org).

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## Donor Spotlight



Girl Scouts of Orange County (GSOC) has an incredible and dedicated community partner in U.S. Bank. The financial institution's focus on powering human potential aligns perfectly with the Girl Scout mission, and our girls have benefitted from U.S. Bank's meaningful philanthropy.

Our valued relationship began over a decade ago in 2013, when U.S. Bank employees made individual gifts to GSOC. Now, U.S. Bank and the U.S. Bank Foundation are among GSOC's most significant and impactful donors. In fact, U.S. Bank recently served as the 2024 Presenting Sponsor for our signature Voice for Girls Forum. The Forum is a high-profile advocacy event that raises funds for our organization and

champions Girl Scouts, and U.S. Bank has been a proud sponsor for several years.

In addition to sponsoring Voice for Girls, U.S. Bank has also donated funds earmarked for girls from underserved communities, including those who are from low-income families or are housing insecure. U.S. Bank and U.S. Bank Foundation giving primarily supports girls from Title-1 schools across Orange County so they can participate in Girl Scout programming at no cost. U.S. Bank is helping break the barriers to entry—be they socioeconomic or cultural barriers, family hardships that don't allow for volunteer availability, transportation, and/or other challenges. This has helped ensure every Girl Scout can benefit from our programs—including a wide variety of after-school programs leaning on our areas of focus, STEM, life skills, entrepreneurship, arts, entertainment and hospitality, and the outdoors.

U.S. Bank's valuable contribution goes beyond just financial support. It also extends into the life-enhancing girl programming we provide. U.S. Bank also leads GSOC's "Save, Share, Spend" Financial Literacy workshops where Girl Scouts learn age-appropriate critical financial skills, such as budgeting, saving, writing checks, what a credit score is, and even how to share money to do good in the world. So far, 1,707 girls, ages 5-18, have taken part in the workshops, earning badges and critical life skills in the process.

We are deeply grateful for the caring commitment U.S. Bank has shown us. Together, we empower girls. Together, we are building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Thank you, U.S. Bank, for everything you do for Girl Scouts.

[VISIT U.S. BANK](#)

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You are receiving this newsletter because Girl Scouts of Orange County recognizes you as a voice for Girls in Orange County (donor, alum, or Voice for Girls event attendee). You may have previously

received separate donor, alum, or Voice for Girls newsletters from us. This streamlined format is sent quarterly and includes inspiring stories and opportunities to be a champion for girls' and women's leadership in Orange County.

## Invest in Girls. Change the World.

### [Donate Now](#)

Your gift in any amount will support Girl Scouts of Orange County in bringing life-changing experiences to more OC girls.

### [Many Ways to Give](#)

Learn more about our Juliette Gordon Low Society for estate gifts, matching gifts program, in-kind donations, and more. Help bring the life-changing leadership development programs only Girl Scouts provides to more girls all across Orange County!

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Have a question? Don't be shy!  
[Contact us](#) for more information.

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