



Be a Voice for Girls

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

A Message from Vikki

Since we last shared this special newsletter, Orange County Girl Scouts have had an exciting few months. Girl Scouts are bounding into the experiences and adventures that are healing their post-pandemic hearts and souls and preparing them for a lifetime of leadership. From summer camp to Fall Product sales and STEM exploration, Orange County Girl Scouts are busy bees.

Of course, our excitement and enthusiasm for our mission and all its possibilities has been supercharged by the [remarkable \\$2.8 million donation](#) we received last month from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott. We will share much more in the coming months about how her gift will power leadership opportunities for Orange County girls – from supporting mental wellbeing and increasing accessibility, to bolstering arts and entertainment programming. Thank you for joining us at this exciting time as a champion for the next generation of powerful female leaders!

Warmly,

Vikki Shepp
Chief Executive Officer

STEM Expo, Robotics, and More



In mid-October, our 7th annual STEM Expo, organized by Girl Scouts of Orange County's STEM Patrol volunteers and [STEM Consortium](#), proved to be one of the most compelling events of the year. Over 250 girls enjoyed hands-on experience alongside inspiring professionals from the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Several elected representatives including U.S. Congressman Lou Correa, State Senator Dave Min, Assembly member Cottie Petrie-Norris, Irvine Mayor Farrah Khan, and Irvine Councilmember Larry Agran kicked off the afternoon with inspiring comments. Later, girls launched rockets with Raytheon, built "Raspberry Pi" computers with Broadcom Foundation, and learned about circuits with the Society of Women Engineers.

Earlier in October, we hosted a mock tournament for robotics teams preparing for the [FIRST Lego League](#) competition in November. Thanks to generous support from Muff and Pete Tennyson and the Girl Scouts of Orange County [STEM Consortium](#), girls engaged in hands-on STEM activities while using their imaginations and having fun. Guided by professional mentors, the teams research real-world problems and develop a solution by designing, building, and programming a robot.

Indeed, within the context of the [Girl Scout Leadership Experience](#), our programs offer girls opportunities to combine STEM learning with leadership development, growth mindset development, and so many other skills. In Girl Scouts, our flexible, informal environment supports exploration and experimentation and is proven to increase girls' interest in STEM, increase girls' confidence in their STEM-related abilities, educate girls about STEM careers, and expose girls to STEM professionals at an early age. This is a huge WIN for our entire community as prime the pipeline for our future STEM leaders.

Argyros Girl Scout Leadership Center: 5 Years of Inspiring Girls



Five years ago, Girl Scouts of Orange County (GSOC) opened the Argyros Girl Scout Leadership Center (GLSC) in Newport Beach as a hub for Girl Scout STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs. Since then, thousands of girls have participated in INSPIRE, GSOC's signature interactive multimedia program, exploring exciting 21st

Century careers and learning how to take-action on issues they care about, while developing an understanding of the importance and relevance of STEM in their everyday lives. And many more girls have visited the GLSC to create lifelong memories – kayaking from the bayfront property, toasting s'mores on the sprawling patio, and participating in fun water and sand activities on Newport Beach's beautiful Balboa Peninsula.

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Camp Scherman



For nearly 55 years, Girl Scouts of Orange County's Camp Scherman has been a cherished place where girls from Orange County come to explore the outdoors and connect with one another. It is a place for girls to discover their strengths and realize their potential. An ongoing revitalization campaign is underway, bringing new activities and

adventures to more girls.

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OC Gold Award Girl Scout Earns National Scholarship



Congratulations to Emily Tran for being our council's Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) Gold Award Scholarship recipient! Emily's Girl Scout Gold Award project focused on helping girls have free and sufficient access to menstrual products. She secured pad and tampon dispensers for 27 Title 1 schools across California and got bill AB-367 approved by Gov. Gavin

Newsom. The bill requires California public schools (grades six through 12) to provide free menstrual hygiene products for their students. Emily's heart, vision, and drive will have a sustainable impact. She is now attending Stanford University and we can't wait to see what Emily does next!

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Challenge Cup



Individual and corporate teams joined together in August for our 2nd annual [Challenge Cup](#). This unique event provides a philanthropic, team building experience inspired by the time-tested leadership and development journey of our Girl Scouts. Teams, including those from COX Business and Western Digital,

competed in rotations of different challenges around Newport Dunes. Other teams and sponsors included Deloitte, Blank Rome, Baker & McKenzie, LLP, Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, KPMG, Sunwest Bank, and Ankura. There was kayaking, challenge puzzles, beautiful Southern California skies, and over \$78,000 raised to help champion girl ambition – a recipe for success!

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Trefoil Trot



Mark your calendar for Sunday, March 12, 2023 – our first annual Trefoil Trot! This inclusive 5K and fun run is for our entire community to enjoy getting together outdoors and to raise awareness of and support for Girl Scout program and leadership opportunities. Participants will enjoy a post-race expo showcasing Girl Scout programs, experiences, supporting

vendors, and community partners.

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Juliette Gordon Low Society Spotlight: Mohamed and Gulie Hamir



When Mohamed and Gulie Hamir came to the United States over 50 years ago, they dreamt of streets paved in gold and abundant opportunity. Over the years, they built an incredible life together, including prioritizing community involvement, an ethic ingrained in them by their mothers, women who were exemplars of strength and caring.

Since Mohamed retired from a successful career in financial services and Gulie as a professional nurse, they now honor their families through philanthropic endeavors focused on supporting girls and women, most especially Girl Scouts.

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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 new 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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