Girl Scout Senior Troop 45065 is doing their part to build a better world! After years of progressive travel and money-earning, this Portland, Oregon troop traveled to the Ecuadorian Amazon in 2016 to help build a high school. Living and working alongside community members, the girls discovered that some Ecuadorian students must walk up to five hours to attend school while hauling a week’s worth of food and that it can be a struggle to find clean water. Despite these challenges, the community’s teamwork and resilience inspired the girls.

“They were able to make the best of what they had,” says Quinn McElroy-Fuchs, 16. “They made their community really strong and worked together for what they wanted.”

While the girls enjoyed some leisure—including a visit to the Galapagos Islands—the troop’s favorite parts of the trip were working with the community to dig footings and cut rebar for the school’s foundation, and getting to know the students who would study there. The trip had such an impact that many of the girls found inspiration for their Girl Scout Gold Award projects!
14,381 girls grades K-12 participated in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience

9,482 adult members
85 staff
824 adults

2,500 attendees enjoyed 30 workshops and 90+ program partners and exhibitors at GirlFest 2015

751 day camp volunteers provided more than 3,500 volunteer hours

1,302 girls attended overnight camp at Camp Arrowhead, Camp Cleawox and Camp Whispering Winds

2,269,386 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies sold

8,859 girls participated in the Girl Scout Cookie Program

Find Even More Online!
Visit girlscoutsosw.org to see details of the 2016 membership year, including Girl Scout Gold Award projects, program center and property improvements, and a detailed statement of financial position. Also available online is a complete list of our valued donors and corporate sponsors - thank you for your support! - and a listing of GSOSW’s board of directors.

Want to stay up-to-date with all things GSOSW? Connect with us on Facebook or Instagram (@girlscoutsosw) to see the amazing things girls do all year long!
Courage to Lead the STEM Future

Studies have shown that girls begin to lose confidence and interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) subjects during middle school. GSOSW programs give girls the courage and confidence to keep their hands raised!


GSOSW STEM programming is designed to connect girls with local program partners and female role models in STEM careers, inspire interest and confidence in STEM topics, and prepare girls for success as the leaders of our STEM future!

Courage to Get Outdoors

Even more girls were able to build their courage in the outdoors during summer 2016, thanks to the introduction of new programs and several facility updates.

The Classic Camp program provided more girl-led camp opportunities through camper-chosen focus areas ranging from archery to rock wall climbing to pottery. This new approach encouraged girls to get to know their instructors, progressively build skills and gain confidence each day.

Family Camp provided one of the first steps in outdoor progression—visiting camp and seeing what it's all about. Many Family Camp participants had never had a camping experience before, and through this new program were able to meet staff, explore facilities and try activities together. Many of the girls who attended Family Camp returned as individual campers later in the summer!

A new family-friendly check-in process, more private shower facilities, and the introduction of equity training for camp staff all contributed to a more inclusive and welcoming camp environment.

Courage through Hands-on Learning

Hands-on learning opportunities and girl-led experiences are what Girl Scouts is all about! As girls try new things and make decisions for themselves (individually or as a group), their courage grows.

Girl Scouts from Forest Grove and Woodburn learned valuable design, math and teamwork skills as they built a boat by hand with Wind & Oar Boat School during summer 2016. The girls completed and tested the boat under the guidance of female design and construction professionals, and it’s now available for use at Mountaindale Outdoor Program Center!

Girl Scouts in Medford learned the art of canning with the Jackson County Master Food Preservers. The event was part of the launch of the new Girl Scout Community Garden at the Medford Service Center, funded by a grant from the Carrico Foundation.

Participants in the Girl Scouts Beyond Bars program made 211 valentines and voted to donate them to causes they care about, including Doernbecher Children's Hospital and CARES Northwest.

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"The badges make us try new skills and use our courage to earn them." – Megan, age 9

"Girl Scouting has given me courage and made me be more outgoing. It has helped me feel comfortable around new people and make new friends." – Sadie, age 9

"Girl Scouting has given me courage and made me be more outgoing. It has helped me feel comfortable around new people and make new friends." – Sadie, age 9

"I'm not as afraid to talk to adults and ask for sales and other things." – Emily, age 15
Courageously Changing the World: 100 Years of the Girl Scout Gold Award

2016 marked 100 years of girls changing the world through the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn. Throughout the year, GSOSW celebrated this prestigious award and the women who earned it. A special centennial fun patch program encouraged current Girl Scouts to learn about the award and get ready to Go Gold! In July, nearly 150 alumnae, friends and family gathered to celebrate the legacy of the Gold Award and its equivalents in Oregon and SW Washington (pictured above). Perhaps most exciting was the launch of the Emerald Circle Scholarship, a merit-based program for Gold Award recipients for college or technical school. Three inaugural scholarships totaling $6,000 were awarded during the 2016 membership year. To learn more about the Emerald Circle Scholarship, visit girlscoutsosw.org/scholarships.

Congratulations to GSOSW’s 2016 Girl Scout Gold Award Recipients!

Discover more about their incredible projects at girlscoutsosw.org/gogold.

Lauren Berky*
Portland, OR
Julie Chavez
Happy Valley, OR
Madison Cowles
Eugene, OR
Haley Crowder
Klamath Falls, OR
Katelyn Fabian
Beaverton, OR
Sofia Gispert-Tello
Hermiston, OR
Andrea Gispert-Tello
Hermiston, OR
Juliana Guthner*
West Linn, OR
Danielle Keerbs
Battle Ground, WA
Frannie Mace
Portland, OR
Sarah McDougald
Beaverton, OR
Shannon Moyer*
Bend, OR
Allison Mulcare
Pendleton, OR
Mckenna Murray*
Lake Oswego, OR
Samantha Olson
Brush Prairie, WA
Paige Olson
Oregon City, OR
Morgan Postlewait
Astoria, OR
Katelyn Fabian
Beaverton, OR
Sofia Gispert-Tello
Hermiston, OR
*2016 Arlene Johns Memorial, Luella & George Shaver Family, or Emerald Circle scholarship recipient

Spreading Courage through Caring

When one of their Girl Scout sisters faced bullying, the innovative Girl Scouts of Troop 50049 set out to take action. This incredible group of brave, resourceful risk-takers worked together to create a plan to help combat bullying. The girls created a “Buddy Bench” at their elementary school in Redmond, Oregon to help their peers make new friends with one main goal: “If you feel lonely, sit on the bench and a new friend will come along!”

“Girl Scouting has helped me to become less shy. Today, I’m not intimidated or nervous when I talk to people.” – Elizabeth, age 12
At Girl Scouts, a commitment to inclusivity is part of our DNA. For more than 100 years, we have carried forward the legacy of openness, inclusion, and unity that Juliette Low established in 1912.

We know that a true commitment to inclusivity requires continual reflection, rededication, and improvement. This is why—through a grant from The Collins Foundation—GSOSW’s staff and board of directors participated in training with the Center for Equity and Inclusion in 2016. Out of this experience, a staff-driven Equity Team and equity sub-committees were formed to support ongoing organizational learning and to outline a strategy to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion within GSOSW. This includes an equity lens guiding decision-making, an equity statement outlining our values and commitment, and an equity plan setting out specific actions. Stay tuned for more on this important process coming in 2017.
2016 Marie Lamfrom Women of Distinction Luncheon Grows to New Location

On September 14, 2016, 560 Girl Scout alumni, friends and community supporters gathered to celebrate Girl Scouting and recognize honorees Sally Bany and Dr. Judith Ramaley at the Women of Distinction Luncheon. In a new location at the Portland Hilton, the event raised $130,430 in support of financial literacy, healthy living, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), and outdoor leadership experiences for more than 14,000 girls throughout Oregon and SW Washington.

Save the Date!

Join us for the 2017 Marie Lamfrom Women of Distinction Luncheon

Tuesday, September 26, 2017
Portland Hilton Hotel | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

2017 Honorees:
Rukaiyah Adams and DJ Wilson

For event and sponsorship information, visit girlscoutsosw.org/marielamfrom.