



For Immediate Release
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Girl Scout Leadership Day to Be Celebrated at Oregon's Capitol March 12 ***Nearly 100 Girl Scouts Gather as Governor Kate Brown becomes Lifetime Girl Scout***

Salem, OR—Governor Kate Brown will proclaim March 12, 2018 as Girl Scout Leadership Day in Oregon. The date marks the 106th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, which began March 12, 1912 when Juliette Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia for the first Girl Scout meeting. Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington will also honor Governor Kate Brown as a lifetime member of Girl Scouts.

"Girl Scouts teaches girls that their voices count—that they bring a valuable perspective and that the world needs their leadership," says Karen Hill, Chief Executive Officer for Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington. "Girls benefit so much from seeing women like Governor Kate Brown in the highest leadership role in Oregon—it helps them envision themselves there. It's our pleasure to honor Governor Kate Brown during Women's History Month, in the presence of so many of our country's future female leaders!"

Girl Scout Leadership Day will celebrate and recognize Girl Scouts throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington who positively impact their communities and prepare for a lifetime of leadership through their participation in programming geared specifically for girls, including opportunities in the areas of civic engagement, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), outdoor skills and financial literacy.

Girl Scout Leadership Day is sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick (D-Portland) and Representative Margaret Doherty (D-Tigard). "Girl Scouts of the USA has a proud history of raising up generation after generation of female leaders. I am proud to welcome this group of future leaders to the Oregon Capitol," says Sen. Ginny Burdick. "Girl Scouts play valuable roles in their communities through community service and learning skills that will help them succeed in life."

"With every Girl Scout I meet, I am reminded of how bright of a future we have with these courageous, confident, young women of character," says event Co-Sponsor, Representative Margaret Doherty. "I am certain that among these young women are future legislators, business executives, and community leaders. Undoubtedly, through their involvement in the Girl Scouts, these young Oregonians are already leading the way and making a difference in their local communities."

Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington will also celebrate the G.I.R.L. Agenda—a nonpartisan initiative to inspire, prepare and mobilize girls to lead positive change through civic action. "Just last session, a troop of local Girl Scouts helped pass legislation that will save the lives of animals and children who are locked in cars on hot days," says Sen. Ginny Burdick. "That is just one example. If a group of elementary school students can accomplish this as Girl Scouts, it bodes well for what they will be able to achieve as adults."

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WHO | WHAT: Girl Scout Leadership Day

1. **GOVERNORIAL PROCLAMATION**—Governor Kate Brown will declare March 12, 2018 as Girl Scout Leadership Day.
2. **PINNING CEREMONY**—Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington (GSOSW) will honor Governor Kate Brown as a lifetime member of Girl Scouts.
3. **RECEPTION**—a light reception, hosted by Girl Scout Service Unit 28 (*Polk County*), will immediately follow the Program, featuring remarks by Representative Margaret Doherty.

WHERE: Oregon State Capitol, 900 Court Street NE, Salem, OR, 97301—Senate Lobby (2nd Floor)

WHEN: Monday, March 12, 2018

3-3:30 p.m. and 3:15-3:45 p.m.—Girl Scouts will participate in Guided Tours (2) of the Capitol.

4 p.m. Proclamation and Pinning Ceremony—the Program will begin promptly at 4 p.m. and is expected to run until 4:15 p.m.

4:15 p.m. Reception—a hosted Reception immediately follows the Program, from 4:15-4:45 p.m.

VISUALS: Nearly 100 Girl Scouts, staff and volunteers from GSOSW, Governor Kate Brown, Rep. Margaret Doherty, legislators (and their staff) and media will be in attendance.

Distinguished guests planning to attend include Oregon State Treasurer, **Tobias Read**, as well as:

Gov. Barbara Roberts—Girl Scout alumna, 2013 Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington Marie Lamfrom Woman of Distinction, former GSOSW board development committee member; and,

Hon. Adrienne Nelson—Girl Scout alumna, 2015 Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington Marie Lamfrom Woman of Distinction, former member of the Girl Scouts Beyond Bars advisory board.

ON-SITE INTERVIEWS: Media are invited to interview Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington's Chief Executive Officer, **Karen Hill** and Director of Communications, **Sarah Shipe**.

Interested media should R.S.V.P. to Maureen Kenney via email: mkenney@girlscoutsw.org.

OREGON HOUSE BILL 2732

Members of Girl Scout Troop 10037 in the Salem area supported legislation that became House Bill (HB) 2732, signed into law on June 22, 2017. The law provides that a person who enters a motor vehicle to remove a child or domestic animal in imminent danger of suffering harm is not subject to criminal or civil liability. To learn more, please see: [http://www.girlscoutsw.org/content/dam/oregon-sw-washington-forms/Press Release Good Samaritan Law.pdf](http://www.girlscoutsw.org/content/dam/oregon-sw-washington-forms/Press+Release+Good+Samaritan+Law.pdf).

G.I.R.L. AGENDA—GIRL SCOUTS' CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM!

In October, Girl Scouts of the USA launched the G.I.R.L. Agenda, a nonpartisan initiative to inspire, prepare, and mobilize girls to lead positive change through civic action. To learn more, please visit: girlscouts.org/girlagenda.

GIRL SCOUTS' HISTORY OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Since its founding in 1912, Girl Scouts has emphasized the importance of being civically engaged, by teaching and encouraging girls to create positive change in their communities through advocacy and action. Girl Scouts learn to stand up for what they believe in, identify issues they care about, and develop leadership skills to make the world a better place.

Girl Scouts has a century of success which is reflected in the realm of public service by the fact that 16 out of 22 (73%) women in the United States Senate were Girl Scouts; 61 out of 111 (55%) female members of the 115th Congress (House and Senate) were Girl Scouts; and, 100 percent of female U.S. Secretaries of State are Girl Scout alumnae.

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ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS OF OREGON AND SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

Girl Scouting inspires millions of girls and women—including more than 23,000 active members in Oregon and Southwest Washington—with the highest ideals of courage, confidence, and character.

Our council serves 13,955 girls in 37 counties with the help of nearly 10,000 volunteers. The Girl Scout mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Every opportunity in Girl Scouting develops these essential skills in an all-girl, inclusive, safe environment. For information, please visit girlscoutsosw.org.

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