



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways Honors Local Volunteers**



*(R-L) Girl Scout volunteer Diane Bootie of North Brookfield, N.Y., is presented with the Hall of Fame Award for a lifetime commitment to the Girl Scout Movement through the GSNYPENN Council by Director of Membership Support Grace Nassar (courtesy of Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways)*

**Syracuse, N.Y.** (May 13, 2024) — During April, the [Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways](https://www.gsnypenn.org/) Council recognized thousands of adult volunteers for giving their time and dedication to Girl Scouting in celebration of National Volunteer Appreciation Month. Each year, the council, members, families and community find special ways to thank volunteers throughout the month.

Volunteers are also celebrated on April 22, Girl Scout Leader's Day, a national recognition date to honor volunteers who work as troop leaders and mentors to Girl Scouts. Many local volunteers received special awards at the council's annual regional volunteer appreciation dinners held in mid-to-late-April. Celebration locations this year included New York Mills, Binghamton, Pompey, Victor, Watertown and Painted Post, N.Y.

"The words 'thank you' never seem enough to celebrate the adult volunteers who deliver our Girl Scout Leadership Experience," says Christina Verratti, Vice President of Membership Support & Product Programs. "We were so excited to see so many of them at our volunteer appreciation dinners and remain forever grateful for their dedication and commitment to the Girl Scout Movement."

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## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 2**

**The following GSNYPENN volunteers were presented special awards in appreciation and recognition of their dedication and efforts during the 2023-2024 membership year:**

### **Hall of Fame**

*Recognizes a volunteer with a lifetime commitment to the Girl Scout Movement within Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways; the recipient has sustained GSNYPENN in various ways including supporting Girl Scouts in the community, volunteering in a variety of roles and financial support of the council*

Diane Bootie, North Brookfield, N.Y.

Diane became a Girl Scout volunteer 43 years ago when her daughter expressed her desire to join the organization. There wasn't a local troop in their area, so Diane stepped up to form a troop and be its leader. Since then, she has held various volunteer roles including troop leader, service unit manager, recruiter, trainer and product program coordinator.

Throughout the years, members of her numerous troops have benefited greatly from her extensive knowledge, experience and unwavering dedication. Diane always makes it possible for anyone to join Girl Scouts regardless of background or ability. Additionally, for those involved in other extracurricular activities, she ensures they can still participate. Even after her granddaughter graduated from high school, she has continued volunteering.

Diane has held every volunteer role in her Service Unit and has gone above and beyond to serve wherever needed. When her former council was at risk of canceling summer camp, she served as its camp health supervisor for two years. She is an active recruiter for her community, reaching out to the school district, handing out flyers, attending open houses and promoting Girl Scouts whenever possible. Diane has also trained and mentored many GSNYPENN volunteers as an adult facilitator.

Diane is also part of GSNYPENN's History & Archives Committee. She continues to archive and coordinate council and Girl Scout history and works to ensure it is preserved and maintained. She also played an instrumental role in revamping the council's heritage and fashion trunks and the Honoring Our Heritage program which are now available to all troops across the council thanks to Diane and the H&A Committee.

Diane's dedication and hard work have had an immeasurable impact on the success of GSNYPENN.

### **President's Award 2024**

*Recognizes a Service Unit team that surpasses unit goals and results in a significant, measurable impact toward reaching the council's overall goals*

Service Unit 213 - Northern Community (Oneida County, N.Y.)

Service Unit 260 - Little Falls (Herkimer County, N.Y.)

Service Unit 416 - Victor (Ontario County, N.Y.)

Service Unit 417 - Newark (Wayne County, N.Y.)

Service Unit 421 - Three Sisters (Wayne County, N.Y.)

Service Unit 425 - Caywasco (Cayuga County, N.Y.)

Service Unit 433 - Sugar Moss (Bradford County, Pa.)

Service Unit 446 - Crooked Lake (Steuben County, N.Y.)

Service Unit 451 - Wa-Co-Na (Steuben County, N.Y.)

### **Appreciation Pin**

*Recognizes a volunteer's exemplary support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, presented to a recipient who has had a measurable impact on one geographic area and helps the council reach and surpass mission delivery goals in that area*

Andrea Tochelli-Ward, Liverpool, N.Y.

Molly Russell, Vestal, N.Y.

Sandra Barner, Andover, N.Y.

Katie Williams, Ithaca, N.Y.

Laurie McLaughlin, Dansville, N.Y.

Jean Mendelsohn, Millport, N.Y.

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## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 3**

Marjorie (Kim) Stage, Horseheads, N.Y.  
Corrine Tilton, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Tawnya Burns, Auburn, N.Y.  
Erin Krell, Auburn, N.Y.  
Heather Demaria, Auburn, N.Y.  
Paula Noll, Jamesville, N.Y.  
Marie Campos, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Tammy Brown, Blossburg, Pa.  
Charlotte Gaines, Watkins Glen, N.Y.  
Kimberly Vitale, Manlius, N.Y.  
Elizabeth Hosmer, Nichols, N.Y.  
Brianna Parker, Endicott, N.Y.  
Ashley Place, Clinton, N.Y.  
Elizabeth Woodhams, Macedon, N.Y.  
Rebecca Szalay, Clifton Springs, N.Y.  
Nicole Payne, Victor, N.Y.  
Corinne Wilson, Little Falls, N.Y.  
Sean Crittenden, Farmington, N.Y.  
Priscilla Larry, Rome, N.Y.  
Sharon Mcguinness, Endwell, N.Y.  
Sarah Adams, Wyalusing, Pa.  
Melissa Arthur, North Rose, N.Y.

### **Ever-Green Award**

*Recognize volunteers who have previously received the Appreciation, Honor, Thanks or Thanks Badge II; the recipient continues to provide amazing efforts for a minimum of three years after receiving the original award*

Katharine Smith, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Anna LaRocca, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Holly Pelzer, Little Falls, N.Y.  
Colene Hulbert, Akport, N.Y.  
Carleen Lattin, Elmira, N.Y.  
Penny Harageones, Delancey, N.Y.  
Jeff Osborn, Blossburg, Pa.

### **Rising Star**

*Recognizes a first- or second-year volunteer who has hit the ground running to make an immediate impact on Girl Scouts*

Maria McKown, Chenango Forks, N.Y.  
Erin Earl, Big Flats, N.Y.  
Carrie Vogel, Bath, N.Y.  
Amy Felker, Horseheads, N.Y.  
Ellie Nierstedt, Ithaca, N.Y.  
Kassandra Williams, North Rose, N.Y.  
Rebecca Painter, Woodhull, N.Y.  
Tina Berry, Rochester, N.Y.  
Natasha Fay, Little Falls, N.Y.  
Deborah Robinette, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Samantha Koch, Clinton, N.Y.  
Leona Vryhof, Central Square, N.Y.  
Tess MacQueen, Ithaca, N.Y.  
Erin BrindAmour-Smith, Rushville, N.Y.  
Sasha Snyder, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Nereida Nava, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Katelyn Roe, Cobleskill, N.Y.  
Marissa Stevens, Wysox, Pa.  
Elizabeth Watson, Watkins Glen, N.Y.  
Genevieve Fuller, Potsdam, N.Y.

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## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 4**

Marlena Lerch, Central Square, N.Y.  
Francesca McBride, Clay, N.Y.  
Lauren Carlyle, Manlius, N.Y.  
Miranda Markwardt, Poland, N.Y.  
Michelle Martin-Baron, Geneva, N.Y.  
Jennifer Cassidy, Fillmore, N.Y.  
Penny Swarthout, Friendship, N.Y.  
Angie Deiter, Scio, N.Y.  
Delores Finamore, Wellsville, N.Y.  
April Molloy, Wellsville, N.Y.  
Chelsea McAllister, East Syracuse, N.Y.  
Nicole Olmsted, East Syracuse, N.Y.  
Melissa Miner, East Syracuse, N.Y.  
Karen Trapasso, Dewitt, N.Y.  
Ashley Seppeler, Victor, N.Y.  
Vanessa Denslow, Remsen, N.Y.  
Stormee Shepardson, Little Falls, N.Y.  
Meghan Rutherford, Penn Yann, N.Y.  
Latrisha Gaboriault, Dundee, N.Y.  
Laura Coplai, Penn Yann, N.Y.  
Alicia Parkhurst, Penn Yann, N.Y.  
Amanda Tilburg, Manchester, N.Y.  
Jennifer Brown, Manchester, N.Y.  
Allison Petrone, Shortsville, N.Y.  
Rachel Finogle, Monroeton, Pa.  
Susan Williams, Wyalusing, Pa.  
Lauren Diop, Canton, N.Y.  
Cheyenne Johnson, Troupsburg, N.Y.

### **Spirit Award**

*Recognizes a volunteer who supports the Girl Scout Movement within GSNYPENN; the recipient works diligently behind the scenes, provides extra assistance and supports fellow volunteers/troops*

Ashley Decker, Bloomville, N.Y.  
Melissa Wagner, Horseheads, N.Y.  
Katherine Peterson-Lyle, Pulteney, N.Y.  
Samantha Bell, Prattsburgh, N.Y.  
Sarah Munsey, Macedon, N.Y.  
Sarah Hilton, Prattsburgh, N.Y.  
Ruth Chaffee, Prattsburgh, N.Y.  
Kara Welliver, Wyalusing, Pa.  
Stacie Mullen, Rexville, N.Y.  
Rebecca Winterson, Syracuse, N.Y.  
Cindy Warshel, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Linda Jeffery, Sabinsville, Pa.  
Aubrie Goebert, Port Byron, N.Y.  
Catherine Capeling, Auburn, N.Y.  
Stephanie Gillis, Morrisville, N.Y.  
Darren Snyder, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Baldomero Campos, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Justin Kieffer, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Matthew Gragg, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Kayla Sherman, Calcium, N.Y.  
Kaitlyn Wheatly-Kichline, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
John Brown, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Melinda Jensen, Stanley, N.Y.  
Katrina Smith, Canandaigua, N.Y.  
Katie Revere, Clay, N.Y.

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## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 5**

Amy Sturgeon, Clay, N.Y.  
Joelle Springer, Farmington, N.Y.  
Jennifer Kellogg, Burdett, N.Y.  
Megan Riedl, Potsdam, N.Y.  
Jeanne Albanese, Syracuse, N.Y.  
Mindy Andrews, Canandaigua, N.Y.  
Jennifer Farman, Little Falls, N.Y.  
Christin Morsez, Farmington, N.Y.  
Kerri Mastin, Springwater, N.Y.  
Krista Schwenzer, Wayland, N.Y.  
Lorraine McGovern, Frankfort, N.Y.  
Agnes Hoey, Canton, N.Y.

### **Thanks Badge**

*Recognizes a volunteer whose ongoing commitment, leadership and service had had an exceptional, measurable impact on meeting the mission-delivery goals and priorities of the entire council or Girl Scout Movement*

Katherine Haberer, Central Square, N.Y.  
Erika Lambert, Manlius, N.Y.  
Mary Coykendall, Watkins Glen, N.Y.

### **Thanks II Badge**

*Recognizes a volunteer who has previously received the Thanks Badge and has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role, resulting in a measurable impact that benefits the entire Girl Scout Movement*

Amy Szewc-Mcfadden, Clifton Springs, N.Y.  
Kathleen Hougland, Fayetteville, N.Y.

### **Trefoil Award**

*Recognizes a Girl Scout volunteer team within GSNYPENN; this team works together to accomplish amazing goals*

Service Unit Team 409 - Geneva, Geneva, N.Y.  
Service Unit Team 440 - Pegasus, Horseheads, N.Y.  
Service Unit 512 - Indian Trails, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Service Unit Team 453 - Rambling River, Wellsville, N.Y.  
History & Archives Committee, Binghamton, N.Y.

### **Volunteer of Excellence**

*Recognizes a volunteer who has contributed to outstanding service while partnering directly with youth in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience or who has contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to members*

Cassandra Millett, Central Square, N.Y.  
Katie Palm, Delhi, N.Y.  
Monica Hernandez, Lyons, N.Y.  
Kristen Gallo, Vestal, N.Y.  
Jennifer Cummings, Bainbridge, N.Y.  
Amy Huggins, New Berlin, N.Y.  
Beth Calhoun, Honeoye, N.Y.  
Juanita Rosenbloom, Hammondsport, N.Y.  
Katy Wilson, Hammondsport, N.Y.  
Helen Harer, Covington, Pa.  
Melissa Miller, Lyons, N.Y.  
Erin Cunia, Manlius, N.Y.  
Kristy Fitch, Delancey, N.Y.  
Jennifer Thorne, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Kimberly Jurenko, Central Square, N.Y.  
Jaclyn Stevens, Williamstown, N.Y.

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## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 6**

Meghan Barbay, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Samantha Dailey, Parish, N.Y.  
Erica LaRussa, Geneva, N.Y.  
Kristi Stevens, Parish, N.Y.  
Jaclyn TeRiele, DE Kalb Junction, N.Y.  
Emily Pascale, Syracuse, N.Y.  
Adlain Milheim, Mansfield, Pa.  
Amanda Fosberg, Liverpool, N.Y.  
Katie Green, Owasco, N.Y.  
Tanya Kuhl, Mansfield, Pa.  
Annie Latterell, Elmira, N.Y.  
Susan Hoskins, Elmira, N.Y.  
Dawn Adams, Middlebury Center, Pa.  
Amanda Prigge, Wayland, N.Y.  
Anna Osborn, Blossburg, Pa.  
Karen Schultz, Blossburg, Pa.  
Gina Cooper, Syracuse, N.Y.  
Korena Onyper, Canton, N.Y.  
Michelle Dee, Painted Post, N.Y.  
Danielle Cima, Cicero, N.Y.  
Sarah Gridley, Fayetteville, N.Y.  
Corry Derschang, Fayetteville, N.Y.  
Laura Drachenberg, Manlius, N.Y.  
Alicia Frisbie, Manlius, N.Y.  
Julie Pierson, Phelps, N.Y.  
Kessie Andrus, Clifton Springs, N.Y.  
Heather Snyder, Clifton Springs, N.Y.  
Brenda Belcher, Phelps, N.Y.  
Meredith Ritter, Fayetteville, N.Y.  
Dolly Peterson, Remsen, N.Y.  
Catherine Browning, Remsen, N.Y.  
Susan Donahue, Norwood, N.Y.  
Sara Day-Schulz, Madrid, N.Y.  
Jamie Fairchild, Waddington, N.Y.  
Mary Ann Sawyer, Morrisville, N.Y.

### **Membership Numeral Guard**

*Recognizes the total number of years registered as a Girl Scout member, including youth and adult years*

#### **5 Years**

Elizabeth Watson, Watkins Glen, N.Y.  
Ashlynn Harris, Liverpool, N.Y.  
Stormee Shepardson, Little Falls, N.Y.  
Katelyn Millay, Adams Center, N.Y.  
Melissa Gragg, Fort Drum, N.Y.  
Ashley Lewis, Central Square, N.Y.  
Amber Potter, Norwich, N.Y.

#### **10 Years**

Amanda Jones, Norwood, N.Y.  
Melinda Sheppard, Moravia, N.Y.  
Stephanie O'Brien, Oswego, N.Y.  
Paige Kennedy, Fayetteville, N.Y.

#### **15 Years**

Rose Cook, Alfred, N.Y.  
Jenny Townsend, Canton, N.Y.  
Jennifer Foster, Brewerton, N.Y.

## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 7**

Pyperanne Bender, Ogdensburg, N.Y.  
Heather Wainwright, Rensselaer Falls, N.Y.  
Amanda Lambright, Adams Center, N.Y.  
Krista Schwenzer, Waylan, N.Y.  
Jeanie Farrell, Victor, N.Y.  
Samantha Hanbach, Andover, N.Y.  
Kathryn Rine, Farmington, N.Y.  
Renee Rivera, Addison, N.Y.  
Lisa Westmiller, Auburn, N.Y.  
Daneille Tracy, Union Springs, N.Y.  
Rachel Pflueger, Auburn, N.Y.  
Tammy Slougher, Ovid, N.Y.  
Tina Kallin, Nicols, N.Y.  
Serafina Sortino, Utica, N.Y.

### **20 Years**

Robyn Kennedy, Wyalusing, Pa.  
Anna Osborn, Blossburg, Pa.  
Stacie Mullen, Rexville, N.Y.  
Jennifer Cummings, Bainbridge, N.Y.  
Janice VanHouten, Afton, N.Y.  
Ashley Chambers, Geneva, N.Y.  
Jessica Chambers, Bainbridge, N.Y.  
Rosalind Gatto, Sidney, N.Y.  
Verna (Diane) Apgar, Afton, N.Y.  
Leslie Tallmadge, Afton, N.Y.  
Elizabeth Renzetti, Geneva, N.Y.  
Helen Pflueger, Auburn, N.Y.  
Stacy Curtis, Auburn, N.Y.

### **25 Years**

Jennifer Vanderlinde, Williamson, N.Y.  
Dolly Peterson, Remsen, N.Y.  
Mary Lawrence, Ogdensburg, N.Y.  
Lindsey Remington, Lisbon, N.Y.  
Karen Miller, Clyde, N.Y.

### **30 Years**

Sandra McCarthy, Ogdensburg, N.Y.  
Tara Crowley, Ogdensburg, N.Y.  
Erica Kelso, Ogdensburg, N.Y.  
Heather Mcadoo, Victor, N.Y.  
Rhonda Sorber, Apalachin, N.Y.  
Mary Creller, Tioga Center, N.Y.  
Kathryn Sackett, Athens, Pa.  
Colleen Weibel, Locke, N.Y.

### **40 Years**

Terrie Haynes, Auburn, N.Y.  
Kristy Partridge, Auburn, N.Y.  
Christina Danylec-Thornton, Cayuga, N.Y.

### **45 Years**

Katherine Bootie, North Brookfield, N.Y.  
Diane Bootie, North Brookfield, N.Y.  
Donna Clark, Auburn, N.Y.

## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 8**

### 60 Years

Doris Whitehead, Ogdensburg, N.Y.

### **Volunteer Service Pin**

*Recognizes an adult member for years of active volunteer service at five-year intervals*

### 5 Years

Sirene Garcia, Penn Yann, N.Y.  
Michele Pate, New Berlin, N.Y.  
Elizabeth Pizzuto, New Berlin, N.Y.  
Rebecca Moffitt, Sherburne, N.Y.  
Angelica Palmer, Cherry Valley, N.Y.  
Alissa Creighton, Horseheads, N.Y.  
Annie Latterell, Elmira, N.Y.  
Dacie Dusseault, Pine City, N.Y.  
Lisa Orth, Baldwinsville, N.Y.  
Rebecca Porter, Memphis, N.Y.  
Brent Phillips, Heuvelton, N.Y.  
Billiejo Vecchio, Adams Center, N.Y.  
Becky Begley, Ilion, N.Y.  
Candina Harmer, Phoenix, N.Y.  
Sarah Woodward-Jones, Minoa, N.Y.  
Jared Arthur, North Rose, N.Y.  
Monica Hernandez, Lyons, N.Y.  
Sam Cook, Whitesville, N.Y.  
Melinda Fry, Whitesville, N.Y.  
Rashell Pastore, Whitesville, N.Y.  
Corinne Wilson, Little Falls, N.Y.  
Laura Hartpence, Hamilton, N.Y.  
Meaghan Gyarmati, Chenango Forks, N.Y.  
Deirdre Ballard, Whitney Point, N.Y.  
Andrea Waterman, Durhamville, N.Y.  
Jennifer Erzen, Manlius, N.Y.  
Corrine Tilton, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Cindy Warshel, Seneca Falls, N.Y.  
Kathryn Mckay, Clay, N.Y.  
Abbie Marnell, Locke, N.Y.  
Madeleine Grobelny, Moravia, N.Y.  
Karen Laboranti, Laceyville, Pa.  
Michelle Heeman, Wyalusing, Pa.  
Stephen Matyas, Memphis, N.Y.  
Mark Brizzi, Central Square, N.Y.  
Ashley Lewis, Central Square, N.Y.  
Holly Schell, Central Square, N.Y.  
Jennifer Townsend, Canton, N.Y.

### 10 Years

Terry Hall, Sayre, Pa.  
Amy Huggins, New Berlin, N.Y.  
Sheena Reny, Sherburne, N.Y.  
Tonisha Tompkins, Horseheads, N.Y.  
Nicole Schiffer, Binghamton, N.Y.  
Amie Rouse, Binghamton, N.Y.  
Kim Griswold, Oneonta, N.Y.  
Lisa Spencer, Nedrow, N.Y.  
Kelly Berger, Nedrow, N.Y.  
Meghan Barbay, Seneca Falls, N.Y.

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## **GSNYPENN VOLUNTEER AWARDS / PG. 9**

Sarah Hooper, Rome, N.Y.  
Kathleen Wilde, Union Springs, N.Y.  
Jackalyn Grobelny, Moravia, N.Y.  
Kati Batty, Aurora, N.Y.  
Christina Akins, Auburn, N.Y.  
Sarah Gridley, Fayetteville, N.Y.  
Beth Dewalt, Ithaca, N.Y.  
Liz Westcott, Oswego, N.Y.  
Korena Onyper, Canton, N.Y.  
Gina O'Shea, Canton, N.Y.

### 15 Years

Catherine Browning, Remsen, N.Y.  
Alicia Frisbie, Manlius, N.Y.

### 20 Years

Gina Tricamo, Sodus, N.Y.  
Nicholas Potter, Towanda, Pa.  
Jaclyn TeRiele, DE Kalb Junction, N.Y.

### 25 Years

Barbara Ray, Palmyra, N.Y.  
Agnes Hoey, Canton, N.Y.  
April Allen, Hermon, N.Y.

### 30 Years

Deborah Rachon, Newport, N.Y.  
Priscilla Larry, Rome, N.Y.  
Dianne Zelaska, Nicols, N.Y.

### 40 Years

Bonnie Bailey, Millerton, Pa.  
Sharon Caspari, Weedsport, N.Y.  
Mary Coykendall, Watkins Glen, N.Y.

### 65 Years

Sharon Puleo, Utica, N.Y.

GSNYPENN serves Girl Scouts in grades K-12 across 26 counties: Allegany, Broome, Cayuga, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Oswego, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne and Yates in New York and Bradford and Tioga in Pennsylvania. Annual membership is just \$25; financial assistance is available. To start your Girl Scouts adventure, visit [gsnypenn.org/join](https://gsnypenn.org/join). To become an adult volunteer, learn more at [gsnypenn.org/volunteer](https://gsnypenn.org/volunteer). To help make Girl Scouting possible in your community, visit [gsnypenn.org/donate](https://gsnypenn.org/donate).

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### **About Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc.**

Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls in grades K-12. Our extraordinary journey began in 1912 when our Movement was founded by Juliette Gordon "Daisy" Low. Today, we continue the Girl Scout mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. We offer every girl the chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure and success. GSNYPENN is chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA to administer the Girl Scout program in 24 counties of New York and two in Pennsylvania. Learn more at [gsnypenn.org](https://gsnypenn.org).