

GIRL TALK

Summer 2019

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WNY STEM Hub, in partnership with Girl Scouts of Western New York Buffalo State, and GM, provided the 4th Annual Girls Coding Project to 84 girls with the opportunity to learn to code, as well as hear from prominent women in the STEM field.



Girl Scout Camp Life

Summer Camp is a great way for girls to explore leadership, build skills, and develop a deep appreciation for nature. Whether for a day, a week, or longer, Girl Scout camp gives girls an opportunity to grow, explore, and have fun in an all-girl environment under the guidance of caring, trained adults. This edition features all of GSWNY's amazing camps and shines a spotlight on the all-volunteer-run summer camp at Windy Meadows that provides additional opportunities for girls to live the #GirlScoutCampLife.

OUR CAMPS INCLUDE:



Camp Piperwood
(Day Camp)



Camp Timbercrest
(Resident Camp)



Camp Seven Hills
(Resident Camp)



Camp Windy Meadows
All-Volunteer-Run (Day Camp)

CEO Remarks

Thank you to our amazing volunteers and donors! It is because of **you** that for more than a century, Girl Scouts continues to prepare girls for a lifetime of leadership. Today and always, we are committed to helping ensure that all girls develop to their full potential. Whether girls are engaging in immersive experiences in STEM, outdoors, entrepreneurship, or life skills, Girl Scouts is the place for current and aspiring go-getters, innovators, risk-takers, and leaders.



Alison Wilcox, CEO of GSWNY, at Camp Seven Hills with visitors from Girl Guides of Ghana.

I am so proud to congratulate the 58 outstanding young women who earned the Girl Scout Gold Award on June 1, 2019. Speaking of outstanding women, I invite you to join us for Women of Distinction, the all-girl-led women's event of the year on September 26th at 5:30pm, honoring nine amazing Western New York women for their strength in character, dedication to community service, and commitment to mentoring and encouraging girls and young women. Visit gswny.org to purchase a ticket today.

WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

Join Girl Scouts of Western New York for the 2019 Women of Distinction, the girl-led women's event of the year on September 26, at 5:30 p.m. Nine amazing Western New York women will be honored for their strength in character, dedication to community service, and commitment to mentoring and encouraging girls and young women. Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. For sponsorship and tickets please visit gswny.org or call Eileen Hettich at 716.935.6030 or Eileen.Hettich@gswny.org.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION HONOREES!



Christine Bonaguide

Partner
Hodgson Russ LLP
(Erie County)



Linda Clark, M.D.

Doctor of Preventive/Occupational Medicine, Founder and CEO
Clark Occupational Medicine Services
(Monroe County)



Katherine Conway-Turner, Ph.D.

President
State University College at Buffalo
(Erie County)



Tory Irgang

Executive Director
Chautauqua Region Community Foundation
(Chautauqua County)



Candace Johnson, Ph.D.

President & CEO
Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center
(Erie County)



Joyce Markiewicz

Executive Vice President
Catholic Health &
CEO Home and Community Care
(Erie County)



Nadia Pizarro

Homeless Services Director
BestSelf Behavioral Health, Inc.
(Erie County)



Lori Van Dusen

Founder and CEO
LVW Advisors
(Monroe County)



VOLUNTEER OF DISTINCTION:

Linda Zakrzewski

Teacher
Family and Consumer Science,
School 81 Buffalo
(Erie County)

Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend

Girl Scouts of Western New York participated in the national Girl Scout State Park Weekend, an event aimed to encourage more girls to have outdoor experiences in State Parks across the country. Locally, more than 350 girls and their families voyaged to Allegany, Beaver Island, Buffalo Harbor, and Letchworth State Parks.



Allegany State Park



Beaver Island State Park



Buffalo Harbor State Park



Letchworth State Park

Save the Dates

GSWNY Service Centers & Shops Closed for Labor Day:
September 2, 2019

Women of Distinction Event:
September 26, 2019

Fall Product Program:
September 28 - October 26, 2019

Great Girl Scout Sign Up:
September 27 - October 13, 2019

Girl Scout Spirit Day:
October 4, 2019

Check out the Program Guide at gswny.org for details and more upcoming programs!

The 2019 Women of Distinction Alumnae Party on July 18, 2019, welcomed upcoming and former honorees of the Girl Scouts of Western New York Women of Distinction award.



The 2019 Girl Scout Gold Award

Congratulations to the 2019 Gold Award Girl Scouts! Girl Scouts of Western New York presented 58 young women with the Girl Scout Gold Award. The Gold Award is the standout achievement of girls who develop meaningful, sustainable solutions to challenges in their communities and the world.

It is Gold Award Girl Scouts like Alexis Barron of Wilson, NY who tackled the issue of environmental safety by building a floating dock to aid the local rowing club, fishermen, small boaters, and the general public. Alexis knows the value of collaboration and worked with local agencies to help acquire the supplies needed to get the job completed.

There was no shortage in girls' willingness to tackle the critical issues in our communities in this year's Gold Award Girl Scouts. Girl Scouts educated the community about more effective ways to recycle and preserve the environment, built initiatives to prevent

children from passing from curable tragedies in Ada, Ghana, Africa, organized production of hygiene bags for the homeless, built initiatives to address issues that lead to teen suicide and so much more. A minimum of 80 volunteer hours was required in order to earn the award. Congratulations to this year's Gold Award Girl Scouts.



Alexis Barron
Korren Baskerville
Theresa Bienko
Annabella Bogart
Erin Brege
Alice Camaione
Ellen Chapman
Lauren Cody
Gabiella Commisso
Kennedy Craven
Elizabeth Del Vecchio
Micaela Deutsch

Maeve Devine
Erin Fisher
Julia Frank
Elizabeth Fredette
Megan Gearing
Reagan Gensiejewski
Krystina Gierlach
Lyndsey Giuffrida
Anne Susan Glenning
Emily Glidden
Brianna Grine
Sydney Grossman

Kaitlyn Hoitt
Theresa Homeier
Elizabeth Humphrey
Samantha Jaeger
Anna Jegierski
Courtney Jung
Eliza Klos
Sophie Kosich
Hannah Lehsten
Elisabeth McAllister
Samantha McAllister
Hannah Rose McGroarty

Hannah Mercer
Victoria Perez
Emilia Peracciny
Paige Phillips
Hannah Rauh
Megan Reilly
Olivia Rosen
Elizabeth Ruhland
Bethany Sielski
Shira Silverstein
Jacquelynn Smith
Charlotte Spaulding

Cassandra Stanton
Kayla Stevens
Haley Storms
Mora Sullivan
Emily Tills
Emily Townsend
Hanna Walker
Monica Weber
Isabelle Wittmann
Jillian Wojtkowski

2019 Girl Scout Scholarship Recipients

Since 2001, 192 scholarships totaling \$171,100 have been awarded to help girls pursue higher education.



Educational Scholarship Fund Recipients:

Olivia Borkowski, Henrietta
Natalie Brechtel, Snyder
Olivia Cinquino, Buffalo
Lauren Cody, Mendon
Gabiella Commisso, Pittsford
Elizabeth Del Vecchio, East Aurora
Grace Deroo, Williamsville
Audrey DeVault, Penfield
Erica Ekholm, Honeoye Falls
Alexandra Gordon, Elma

Brianna Grine, Buffalo
Elizabeth Haley, Henrietta
Anna Jegierski, Alden
Alyssa Johnson, Lancaster
Judith Monickaraj, Rochester
Morgan Oun, Alden
Izabella Roth, Honeoye Falls
Jenna Sniatecki, Getzville
Kayla Stevens, Pittsford
Jillian Wojtkowski, Williamsville

Hans and Charlene Schoenenberger Golden Opportunities Recipient:

Hannah McGroarty, Rochester



Ralph & Mary McLean Wilson Scholarship Recipients:

Samantha Jaeger, Lockport
Shira Silverstein, Honeoye Falls



Kim Welsh Memorial Scholarship Recipients:

Olivia Borkowski, Henrietta
Elizabeth Del Vecchio, East Aurora
Julia Frank, Lockport
Anna Jegierski, Alden

Girl Scouts Who Make An Impact

By Alexandra Snow,

Girl Scout Ambassador
in Troop 30028



When people hear I'm a Girl Scout, they immediately think of cookies, camping, and crafts. But Girl Scouts is so much more than that.

As a Girl Scout, I'm able to challenge myself every day in fun and new ways. When it's just my troop together, without the boys around, I feel more courageous to try new things and gain the confidence I need to take the lead.

Through Girl Scouts I have had the opportunity to step into greater and more meaningful leadership roles. In daily life at school I was very shy, but Girl Scouts has given me the opportunity to be more assertive. In my sophomore year, I applied for and was elected to be a National Council Delegate representing the Girl Scouts of Western New York, Inc. at the Girl Scouts USA's 2017 National Council Session and National Convention in Columbus, Ohio. My interview with the selection committee gave me the opportunity to describe my strengths as a candidate, and I am very proud to have been chosen as the only teenager among the National Council Delegates from our region. The National Convention gave me the chance to participate in discussions and vote on decisions for the entire national program, as well as to network with adults from around the country.

My troop loves to travel, and we plan fantastic trips. We have gone dog-sledding and snowshoeing at a five-star resort in Muskoka, ON, where we swam at night in a heated pool surrounded by snowbanks. We have been horseback riding near Ithaca, NY and hiked in Watkins Glen State Park. We visited Harvard University, Cornell University, Oxford University, and Wellesley College. We ate dim sum and sang karaoke in New York City. We toured Windsor Castle, the Tower of London, and the Louvre.

I have been able to explore my passion for biology through various STEM programs. My troop has identified bear tracks, sung around a campfire, and blazed a trail. Girl Scouts has created lifelong friends and mentors for me that I likely would have never connected with, without this great organization.

Being a Girl Scout is boosting my confidence and leadership skills—and it's also really FUN! I get to spend time with some of my best friends as we all learn from one another and lead in our own lives, community, and the world, setting us up to serve as tomorrow's leaders, too. That's right—we laugh and play just as much as we get down to the business of saving the world, one community action project at a time. There are so many kids today standing up and speaking out, and being a Girl Scout has equipped me with the skills I need to not only use my voice but also create real change.

Remember When



Tug of War at Skills & Chills

October 30, 1971 - Camp Windy Meadows

Community Partner Highlight: Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys



Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys (GRAWA) honored Girl Scouts of Western New York with the distinguished Director's Award.


girl scouts
of western new york

Batavia Service Center
5 Jackson Street
Batavia, NY 14020

Buffalo Service Center
3332 Walden Ave., Suite 106
Depew, NY 14043

Jamestown Service Center
2661 Horton Road
Jamestown, NY 14701

Lockport Service Center
5000 Cambria Road
Lockport, NY 14094

**Niagara Service Center
(Satellite Office)**
1522 Main St., Suite 307
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Rochester Service Center
1000 Elmwood Ave., Door 9
Rochester, NY 14620

gswny.org
1.888.837.6410

