



girl scouts
of north east ohio



It's hard to believe another summer has come and gone. There has been no shortage of happenings here at Girl Scouts of North East Ohio.

This past July, I attended the 58th National Girl Scout Convention with adult and girl delegates. I was able to witness our delegates take action on important matters facing the Girl Scout Movement. It was incredibly inspiring to see the worldwide impact of Girl Scouts with 10,000 in attendance! Thank you to our incredible National Council delegates for their dedication, leadership, advocacy, and sisterhood.

We also wrapped up another great season of summer camp. Over 3,193 Girl Scouts made new friends and enjoyed a whole slew of new camp themes! Thank you to our amazing camp staff for their time and dedication in making sure each Girl Scout had a great experience and left with new skills and forever memories.

As we head back into the school year, your support is instrumental in continuing to build girls of courage, confidence, and character. The skills they learn today will empower them to face the challenges of tomorrow. It's because of supporters like you, that we continue to expand our outreach and create a more equitable future for every girl.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Girl Scout family, and best wishes for a happy autumn.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Jane Christyson, CEO
Girl Scouts of North East Ohio

Fall 2026

IN THIS ISSUE

HAGS in Iceland
Changemakers
Women in Manufacturing
Rockwell Automation
Donor Spotlights



Troop Spotlight

For the High Adventure Girl Scouts (HAGS), Adventure Doesn't End When Girls Get Older—It Evolves

In early June 2026, HAGS embarked on an unforgettable eight-day journey through Iceland, combining exploration, cultural discovery, service, and the kind of once-in-a-lifetime experiences that remind us why Girl Scouting is so powerful. From dramatic landscapes and new cultural experiences to the bonds formed along the way, the trip offered older Girl Scouts an opportunity to stretch beyond their comfort zones and experience the world together.

HAGS is designed with an important idea at its heart: **Girl Scouts should have opportunities to keep growing, exploring, and building memories at every age.** For girls 12 and older, the troop provides flexibility to pursue unique adventures that complement traditional Girl Scout programming while keeping their Girl Scout experience fresh, relevant, and exciting.

The Iceland adventure also reflected the HAGS commitment to service as part of the journey. As the girls explored a new country, they had the opportunity to give back through a service project, putting the Girl Scout values of community,

leadership, and making the world a better place into practice far from home. Their experience demonstrated that adventure and service can go hand in hand—and that being a Girl Scout means finding ways to contribute wherever you are.

Most importantly, HAGS gives older girls a reason to **keep saying “yes” to Girl Scouts.** Whether traveling across the globe, taking on a new challenge, serving a community, or simply sharing an experience with friends, HAGS creates space for girls to shape their own adventures.

For Girl Scouts age 12 and older, the possibilities are wide open. **The next adventure could be closer than they think—or halfway around the world.**

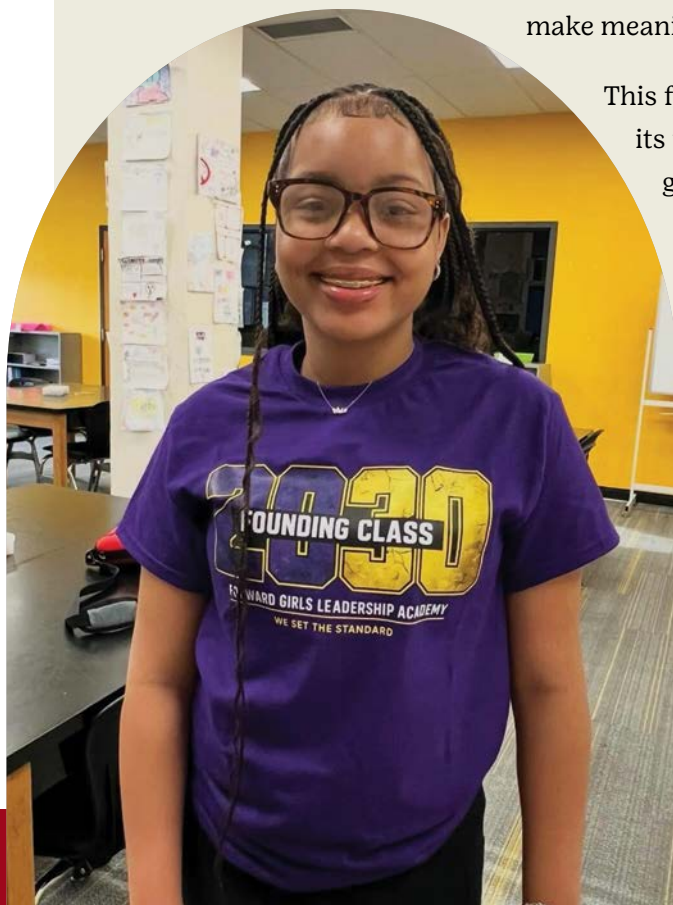


Changemakers: Girls Who Lead, Girls Who Change the World



Girl Scouts of North East Ohio is developing **Changemakers**, an exciting new initiative designed to help more girls pursue and achieve Girl Scouting's highest honors—the Silver and Gold Awards. Through mentorship, workshops, coaching, and dedicated project support, Changemakers will provide girls with the guidance, encouragement, and resources to transform their ideas into meaningful community projects. Powered by caring volunteers and stipend staff, the initiative will help girls identify needs, develop solutions, strengthen leadership skills, and discover that their voices and ideas can create lasting change.

A foundational partnership with **FORWARD Girls Leadership Academy** reflects a shared commitment to cultivating confident, courageous young women who lead with purpose. FORWARD is Cleveland's tuition-free, all-girls public charter high school, built around three foundational pillars: leadership, sisterhood, and mentorship. Its innovative model combines academic rigor with real-world, project-based learning, and two leadership-focused pathways—**Leadership in STEM and Innovation** and **Leadership in Global Humanities**—preparing girls to develop their voices, pursue their ambitions, and make meaningful contributions to their communities.



This fall marks an exciting milestone as FORWARD welcomes its founding class of 2030 and begins a new chapter in girls' education in Cleveland. Together, FORWARD and Changemakers can create a powerful continuum of leadership development, equipping girls with the confidence to identify what matters most to them, the mentorship to turn vision into action, and the opportunities to leave their communities stronger. This enduring legacy of Girl Scouting is amplified through visionary partnerships like FORWARD, expanding access to experiences that help more girls dream boldly, lead confidently, and realize the extraordinary difference they can make.

Sparkling Curiosity, Inspiring Possibility: GSNEO Partners with Women in Manufacturing at the STEM Center of Excellence

In August, Girl Scouts of North East Ohio hosted a special event in collaboration with Women in Manufacturing Ohio at the Vivian von Gruenigen, MD, STEM Center of Excellence. With a shared commitment to creating more opportunities for women and girls in STEM, the partnership brought together STEM professionals and the next generation of STEM leaders for an evening of connection, exploration, and hands-on learning.

Unlike a traditional networking event, this family-friendly gathering gave girls the opportunity to explore the STEM Center of Excellence alongside women working in STEM and manufacturing. Attendees explored the same types of activities that Girl Scouts and K-12 students enjoy throughout the year, from examining insects under microscopes in the Wet Lab, to getting hands-on with tools in the Workshop, and experimenting with coding robots in the Tech Lab. Together, these experiences showcased how the STEM Center brings concepts to life in engaging, real-world ways.

As students return to the classroom, GSNEO remains committed to expanding access to meaningful STEM experiences. Through strategic partnerships, educational field trips, innovative programs, and hands-on learning opportunities at the STEM Center of Excellence, both Girl Scouts and K-12 students from across the region can develop critical skills, build confidence, and spark curiosity while exploring STEM in an engaging and supportive environment.



**Want to see the STEM Center
of Excellence for yourself?
Explore upcoming tour dates
and plan a visit to experience
this innovative space
firsthand.**

2027 Women of Distinction Nominations are Open



*Visit gsneo.org/wda or scan QR code to nominate a woman,
Girl Scout, or organization by November 30.*



Donor Spotlight:

Tari Rivera : Building Opportunity, Empowering Girls

Throughout her career, Tari Rivera has been a builder in every sense of the word, creating opportunity, developing people, strengthening communities, and advancing a vision that has earned her recognition both locally and nationally. Her entrepreneurial leadership was instrumental in founding and growing Regency Construction Services, Inc. Through her determination and steadfast commitment to her vision, she helped build the company into a respected and enduring presence in Northeast Ohio's construction industry. Yet Tari's impact extends far beyond the workplace. She has consistently used her leadership, expertise, and generosity to open doors for others—particularly women, young people, and communities too often overlooked.

That commitment is reflected in her extensive community service and philanthropy. Tari has been involved with the ACE Mentor Program of Cleveland since its inception, helping introduce and mentor minoritized high school students for careers in construction and the built environment. She is a past Board Chair of the Sisters of Charity Cleveland Foundation, which supports organizations addressing the root causes of poverty,

particularly in Cleveland's Central neighborhood. She also serves on the boards of the Construction Employers Association and Cleveland Build and is a member of the National Association of Women in Construction.

As a longtime supporter of Girl Scouts of North East Ohio, and a past Women of Distinction honoree, Tari understands first-hand how important it is for girls to have encouragement, strong role models, and opportunities to discover what they can do. For Tari, giving back is about helping others see what is possible and providing the support to achieve it. Her commitment to girls is a natural extension of the work she has done throughout her career, connecting people to opportunities, building confidence, and helping others succeed.



Inspiring Girls Through Robotics with Rockwell Automation

This summer, the generous support of Rockwell Automation helped bring hands-on STEM learning to life for Girl Scouts across Northeast Ohio. Through their partnership, GSNEO was able to offer the Robot Bonanza day camp at the Vivian von Gruenigen, MD, STEM Center of Excellence.

During the one-day camp, girls explored robotics and coding through a series of hands-on activities and challenges. Campers learned basic coding and commands to control Sphero robots, created art through coding, built their own robots in the Workshop, and tackled a series of robotics challenges. The day culminated in a real-world manufacturing scenario where girls had to move their “product,” a Starburst candy, using a Dobot crane to a drone and then fly their sweet cargo to a warehouse. Through imaginative challenges like these, campers had the opportunity to see how the skills they were developing connect to real-world careers in STEM and manufacturing.

The experience was made even more meaningful by Rockwell Automation volunteers who spent the day with campers, sharing their experiences as women in STEM and the robotics industry. Their involvement gave girls the chance to learn directly from professionals in the field and see firsthand the many exciting opportunities a future in STEM can offer.

Thank you to Rockwell Automation for investing in hands-on STEM experiences that encourage girls to explore, create, and build confidence in their STEM skills while inspiring them to imagine what's possible for their future.



girl scouts
of north east ohio

One Girl Scout Way
Macedonia, OH 44056
gsneo.org

Office of Fund Development
330-983-0430

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
AKRON, OH
PERMIT NO. 226



*Mark your calendars
for these important
GSNEO dates!*



November 30

Deadline for Women of Distinction
Award nominations

December 1

Deadline for Volunteer Recognition
Award nominations

January 11

Girl Scout Cookie Season Begins

February 19-21

National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend

February 22

World Thinking Day

March 12-April 4

Girl Scout Cookie Booths

April 10

Volunteer Recognition
Celebration & Annual Meeting

May 13

Women of Distinction
Awards Luncheon

For more information and to stay
up-to-date, follow Girl Scouts of
North East Ohio on social media.



Girl Scouts of
North East Ohio



@GSNEO