

# **Connections** Girl Scouts of Utah | Monthly Donor Update

October 2022

#### Why I give: Allison Gerrard



Allison Gerrard's Girl Scout journey began when a friend she plays basketball with got her involved with the Board Development Committee. Meeting the Board for the first time in person is one of her favorite Girl Scout memories. She recalls the environment being genuine and authentic, believing it was a good model of what our programming means for Girl Scouts.

Girl Scouts, for Allison, means feeling like she

belongs, something she felt similarly for the first time when she first started playing basketball in high school. For her, basketball and Girl Scouts share a lot of similar qualities she loves, like being girl-led, fostering female friendship, and creating a sense of team and unity. Allison loves that girls get to use their voices in ways that are meaningful and that they feel comfortable being in charge. Growing up, she could see that many people didn't think leadership was for girls, and Girl Scouts shows young girls what's possible.

Allison gives because she believes in supporting women, supporting outreach troops, staff, the Board, and the community. In Allision's words, "Girl Scouts helps people know they're not alone."



**Recapping Utah Day of the Girl** 

On Friday, October 7, Girl Scouts of Utah celebrated Utah Day of the Girl in person for the first time since 2019. We awarded four women in the community who excel in each of our program pillars: Wendy Fisher for Outdoors, Dr. Tiana Rogers for Life Skills, Lavanya Mahate for Entrepreneurship, and Tami Goetz for STEM.

The program, emceed by PBS Utah's Liz Adeola, featured moving speeches from GSU CEO Lisa Hardin-Reynolds and Board Chair Leslie Egan, along with an inspirational keynote from former Utah State Representative Rebecca Chavez-Houck. Girls made connections with professionals in fields of interest to them.

Thank you to our attendees and sponsors for making the event a success! All money raised through the event will support our 'Gift of Girl Scouts' initiative, supporting membership fees for all Girl Scouts of Utah members. If you would still like to make a donation, you can visit our website and choose 'membership' for your designation.

Want to recap with us more? Whether you were able to attend or wish you had, check out the photos from <u>Utah day of the Girl</u>.

Give to membership



**Partner Spotlight: Promontory Foundation** 

Last month, GSU received a \$3,000 matching grant from the Promontory Foundation to support membership fees for girls in Summit County. The mission of the Promontory Foundation is to serve the unmet needs of the Park City Community in the areas of the Arts, Culture, and Social Services by providing matching dollars for worthwhile programs addressing these areas. GSU is very appreciative of the generosity of the Promontory Foundation for supporting girls in Summit County!

## **Empowering Older Girl Scouts**

Girl Empowered is a chance for our Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors to engage with their peers and hear from women who have found empowerment through a variety of different avenues.

This year each participant had the opportunity to choose two workshops, listened to a keynote, and discovered the pieces that make up who they are. The workshop topics included: engineering with Jenna Pike; improv with keynote speaker Danielle Susi; yoga/meditation with Chisi Wood and creative writing with Camille Peters, Lichelle Slater, and Alesha Anderson.

Each workshop allowed the participants to hear the story of how the women found empowerment in their own lives through engaging in these topics and then gave them a hands-on opportunity to try out the activity themselves.

#### In the News

On Tuesday, October 18, Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) announced an \$84.5 million donation from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott.

This donation has been allocated to GSUSA and 29 specific councils to power increased access to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

Girl Scouts of Utah is not a direct grant recipient; however, we applaud MacKenzie Scott for supporting girls during a time when it's critical to invest in their futures through organizations such as Girl Scouts.

We hope this news will inspire more donations globally and in Utah, so we may continue to give life-changing experiences, mentoring, and programming to girls in our community.

To donate to Girl Scouts of Utah today, contact Carrie Valentine Fuller or Casey Logan, or donate online.

**Donate today** 

## Support GSU's Annual Appeal

GSU's Annual Appeal is a way for Girl Scout families and members to invest in girls' futures by financially supporting programs, camp improvements, financial assistance, volunteer support, and other critical services. A donation to the Annual Appeal directly impacts your girl and all girls in Utah.

Check out the <u>Annual Appeal flyer</u> to learn more about getting your Service Unit involved.

## **Donate to the Annual Appeal**

Donate Now

Support our Movement by joining Girl Scouts as an Adult Member!

Stay Connected! Follow Us:



#### Have a question? Don't be shy!

## **<u>Contact us</u>** for more information.

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