



Connections

Girl Scouts of Utah | Monthly Donor Update

September 2024

Utah Day of the Girl - Girl Speaker



Our annual **Utah Day of the Girl event**, celebrating women and girls in our community, is just around the corner on October 4. This year, we're excited to feature Emma Casey as our Girl Scout Speaker. A lifelong Girl Scout and a first-year student at the University of Utah, Emma's journey began as a Daisy, where she embraced cookie sales, entrepreneurship, and outdoor adventure.

Emma loved attending summer camp at Trefoil Ranch and Camp Cloud Rim, where she developed leadership skills as a Leader-in-Training (LIT) and Counselor-in-Training (CIT). Of all her experiences, Girl Scout STEM programming had the greatest impact, guiding her toward a STEM-focused education at AMES High School and a visit to the Girl Scout STEM Center of Excellence at Camp Whispering Cedars in Northeast Texas.

Emma's dedication to Girl Scouts is reflected in her words: "Girl Scouting has given me confidence in my leadership abilities and helped me understand that

stepping outside my comfort zone is the best way to grow."

Don't miss the chance to hear Emma speak at Utah Day of the Girl on October 4! Tickets are available until September 27 on [our website](#).

2024 Leadership Summit



The Leadership Summit is Girl Scouts of Utah's annual signature event dedicated to enriching and supporting our key administrative volunteers. Each year, we devote a weekend to sharing strategic initiatives and providing essential tools that are critical to the success and well-being of our Council. This August, 63 Service Unit volunteers gathered at Trefoil Ranch for an inspiring weekend. The theme for this year's event, "You Are the Inspiration," was a heartfelt nod to the dedication and impact of our volunteers.

The program kicked off with presentations by CEO Lisa Hardin-Reynolds and Board Chair Joelle Creager, who shared updates on how we are moving GSU's mission forward. We were also honored to have Jess Burns Lee, Board Chair Emeritus of Safe Zone Utah, speak on creating safer spaces for LGBTQ+ individuals through education and advocacy.

Volunteers participated in a variety of breakout sessions and presentations focused on key topics in the world of girls. One of the highlights was the popular "We're HEAR for You" session, a listening forum led by our CEO and Board Chair, where volunteers could share their insights, ask questions, and engage with our executive leadership. Another standout session, "Collaborating with Council," introduced the new Service Unit Toolkit—a marketing resource

designed to help our volunteers maintain on-brand public awareness efforts.

After a full day of learning and collaboration, we celebrated the achievements of Service Units that went above and beyond in delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and growing our membership. The weekend closed with a traditional friendship circle, leaving everyone rejuvenated and inspired to build girls of courage, confidence, and character in the year ahead.

Tanya Yu: Juliette Low Seminar



Tanya Yu, a recent Girl Scout alum and current data science student at the University of Utah, is making us proud once again! You may remember her inspiring speech at last year's Utah Day of the Girl. This month, Tanya is headed to Ghana to participate in the Juliette Low Seminar (JLS), a global leadership development program for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts aged 18-30. Since 1932, the JLS has been providing life-changing, intercultural experiences that build global competence and strengthen young women's leadership skills. This year's theme is Peace, and participants like Tanya will focus on creating meaningful connections, supporting their communities, and speaking out against injustice.

Over the last nine months, Tanya engaged in online learning and is now ready to attend the in-person event in Ghana. With 150 participants from 70 countries, the JLS empowers young women to be empathetic global citizens who celebrate diversity and work together for an equal, inclusive world. Tanya is excited to immerse herself in a new culture while staying connected to Girl Scouts, a

community that has shaped her life since 5th grade. Stay tuned for more on Tanya's journey in our next donor newsletter!

Girl Scouts Love State Parks!



We were thrilled to celebrate our fifth annual Girl Scouts Love State Parks last weekend, where we honored the beauty of Utah's natural landscapes.

This year, we partnered with Wasatch Mountain State Park and Antelope Island State Park to host a range of exciting events, including stargazing, service projects, and educational programs led by park staff.

At Antelope Island, 106 enthusiastic participants rolled up their sleeves for trail maintenance and helped prepare and paint the metal corrals and fences, followed by self-guided exploration time in the park and an awe-inspiring look at the night sky.

Meanwhile, Wasatch Mountain State Park was so popular it filled up completely, leaving eager attendees on a waiting list! Participants contributed to a service project focused on park maintenance, followed by an astronomy program led by a knowledgeable ranger.

At both events girls shared a meaningful experience, blending outdoor stewardship with a deeper connection to nature.

Hispanic Heritage Month Patch Program

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by having fun learning about all the communities it represents while earning a new patch!



The United States is home to approximately 60 million Latino and Hispanic people, representing a rich diversity of cultures and traditions. During Hispanic Heritage Month, from September 15 to October 15, Girl Scouts of Utah is helping girls celebrate with family and friends by recognizing the histories, cultures, and contributions that Hispanic and Latino people have made.

The [Hispanic Heritage Month Patch](#) is a great opportunity to explore the unique cultures of 21 Spanish-speaking countries and territories honored throughout the month. With plenty of activities to choose from, the discovery and fun are endless! Girl Scouts can earn the Hispanic Heritage Month Patch through engaging activities in English or Spanish.

Join Us for Utah Day of the Girl!

We hope to see you at this inspiring event celebrating the achievements and future of Girl Scouts! Don't miss out—purchase your tickets today and be part of a day dedicated to empowering girls across Utah!

LEARN MORE!

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