



## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

The challenges of today’s world don’t only affect grownups. Young people—especially girls—are facing a mental health crisis of their own. Supporting them as they grow and face life’s complexities is a top priority.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) have joined forces to support Girl Scouts’ overall mental well-being. Beginning later this summer, they will offer mental wellness workshops for girls in grades 4-12. Through this partnership, Girl Scout councils will have access to NAMI’s local resources and expertise, building the capacity to support Girl Scouts, volunteers, and families’ mental well-being, and providing more resources and experiences to Girl Scout troops.



**Girls:** Try activities from the “[Girl Scouts: Resilient. Ready. Strong.](#)” program to unlock a patch and strengthen your mental wellness. Scientists have found that certain activities may lift your mood, calm you down when you’re stressed, and help you face challenges—and you can do many of these activities at Girl Scouts.

Find even more information and resources on our “[For Parents and Families](#)” page.

# Upcoming Events

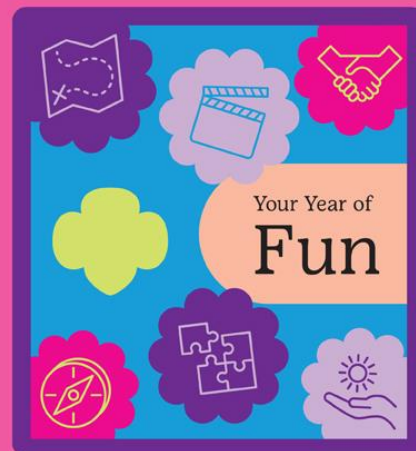
- **Living History Performance: “1773 Baptist Preacher Trial” May 7**—Come inside the historic Gloucester Court House for a free, interactive performance of the trial that led Americans on the path towards religious freedom as we commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution! (While you’re there, visit the Camp Burke’s Mill Pond exhibit at the Gloucester Museum of History!)  
Levels: All
- **Canoeing, May 20**—Canoeing is a great team-building exercise and a fun way to enjoy the outdoors! Learn about canoes and practice basic skills, then take a trip down the southern branch of the Elizabeth River that winds its way through The Outback behind A Place for Girls. (*Registration deadline is May 12*)  
Levels: C/S/A
- **Hurrah Players present “Madagascar” May 20 and 21**—All of your crazy fun Madagascar characters in a really catchy musical! Come take a journey out of the zoo and onto the stage with your favorite crack-a-lackin’ friends from the blockbuster DreamWorks film!  
Levels: All
- **STEM Events on the Outer Banks, June 3**—Meet us at the beach on Jennette's Pier for a fun day of STEM activities! Brownies and Juniors, you’ll use solar panels to build a solar car or airboat and observe microscopic organisms that are vital to the marine food chain. Older girls will use a hydrophone to listen to sounds beneath the waves and then take a close-up look at squid. (*Registration deadline is May 22*)  
Levels: B/J (morning), C/S/A (afternoon)
- **Hanging Out, June 4**—The Adventure Park at Virginia Aquarium presents Girl Scouts of Colonial Coast Day! Includes 30 minutes for a safety briefing and harnessing session along with 3 hours of climbing in the trees. Bring or wear a piece of your Girl Scout uniform and receive a special patch!  
Levels: All
- **Celebrating the Power of Girls, June 4**—Join us at Norfolk Collegiate School for our annual girl awards event! From helping children in foster care to stocking their local food pantry, there is no challenge too big or need too small for a Girl Scout to tackle and we want to recognize Girl

Scouts who are making a difference through their Gold, Silver and Bronze Award projects. We will also recognize this year's Buck Harris Award recipient. *(Registration deadline is May 19)*

Levels: All



2023 First Day  
Patch



Early Bird  
Patch

Renewal Incentives  
for Girls Scouts K-12!

Earn ONE or BOTH  
Renewal Patches!

Today is the first day of early membership renewal, which means that any girl who renews her Girl Scout membership for 2024 by 11:59 p.m. tonight will receive the special First Day Patch designed by our contest winner, Girl Scout Brownie Adalyn! Learn more at [gsc.org/renew](https://gsc.org/renew).

## Cookie Season Wrap-Up

Wow! Girl Scouts, you have had such an amazing cookie season. We're still crunching the numbers but just wanted to tell you congratulations on a record-breaking year! And to your troop leaders, parents, volunteers and anyone else who helped you reach your goals—thank you for all you do to support Girl Scouts during this busy, exciting time. More news and announcements regarding the wrap-up of cookie season will be coming your way, so stay tuned!



## Register for Camp by June 1

Sessions are selling out, don't wait another day to sign your girl up for the best adventure of her summer! Questions about [summer camp](#)? Join one of our upcoming Parent/Caregiver meetings, held on Zoom. [Register online](#) for any of the following dates.

- Wednesday, May 10, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – What to Expect at Camp
- Wednesday, May 24, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – Help Prevent Homesickness
- Wednesday, June 7, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – Camp Prep Checklist
- Wednesday, June 14, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – What to Pack for Camp

**Want to work with us at camp?** If you or someone you know would like to spend the summer getting paid to have fun, the [perfect job is waiting for you](#) at Girl Scout camp! (We offer training, certifications, bonuses and more!)



Gold Award: Adogable



Another Beautiful Day at  
the Pond



Bronze Award: Shelter  
Donation Drive

## In The Spotlight: Stories from the GSCCC Blog

**Gold Award: Adogable**—Girl Scout Ash planned and executed projects within the Chesapeake Humane Society with the intention of helping animals, big and small, find their “FUR”-ever homes, including the construction of an agility course and Chin Huts. [Read the full article](#)

**Another Beautiful Day at the Pond**—Community Relations Volunteer Southern Van Auken shared this story with GSCCC, detailing how Girl Scouts spent a fun day with the Blazing Blue Herons canoe team at Camp Burke’s Mill Pond. [Read the full article](#)

**Bronze Award: Shelter Donation Drive**—Girl Scout Troop 723 of Moyock collected items for the Currituck Animal Shelter. They also handcrafted over 300 cat and dog toys, 10 snuffle mats, and spent time reading to cats at the shelter, helping them to become better socialized for their forever families. [Read the full article](#)

### Share your story, Girl Scout!

Let us celebrate your accomplishments with you. Submit your news and announcements to [marcomm@gsgccc.org](mailto:marcomm@gsgccc.org) or use the form on the “Our Stories” page at [gsgccc.org](http://gsgccc.org).



World Travel Opportunities: the ultimate adventure for individual Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts! There's a unique, life-changing experience for every girl.

### **Puerto Rico: July 2024**

Discover the diverse and fascinating ecosystems of Puerto Rico—where Spanish, African, and Taino influences come together to create a uniquely vibrant culture. Snorkel along sandy beaches, snap a selfie by a waterfall, and explore the only tropical rainforest in the U.S. Visit the Cabo Rojo Salt Flats, an unexpectedly pink-hued wildlife refuge, and witness the mesmerizing glow of a bioluminescent bay. Open to girls 13 years old and up at the time of travel. *Girls \$3,239 per person. Adults \$3,639 per person. Limited amount of adult spaces are available.*

[Learn more and sign up online.](#)

**Questions?** Contact Eileen Livick at [gscddestinations@gmail.com](mailto:gscddestinations@gmail.com).

*Future GSUSA Destinations:*

### **England, Ireland & Wales: July 2023**

Experience the old world wonders of England and Ireland. Kiss the Blarney Stone outside of Cork, marvel at the Gothic spires of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, and explore the bustling streets of London. Open to girls entering 7th, 8th, & 9th grade at the time of travel. [Learn more and apply online.](#)

## Bell'Italia: June 2024

Discover the regional traditions, the unique sights and the vibrant culture of Italy. Venice's canals make this city like no other on Earth. In Florence, history and culture are one and the same—and the Roman Colosseum reminds us of the ancient empire's crucial role in shaping our world. Open to girls entering 9th-12th grade at the time of travel including girls who will graduate high school in 2024. [Learn more and apply online.](#)

## Camp is Calling Virtual Auction

*Happening now!* [Join us online this week for our annual Virtual Silent Auction](#) benefitting Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast. Once again, our theme is “Camp is Calling” to benefit our great outdoor program; in particular this year we are raising funds for the Virginia Enmeier Program Center at Camp Skimino. Place your bids now on fantastic items like travel offers, golf packages, designer fashion items, gift cards and more, while supporting a worthy cause.



## GSCCC Shop Specials

### May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31: Discount Wednesdays!

Pick a beach ball at checkout and receive a 10% or 15% discount off the entire purchase. *May not be combined with any other offer.*

**Graduation Sale:** Congratulations to the graduating class of 2023! Personalize your graduation day look with a finishing touch that represents all the adventures and achievements of your Girl Scout experience. [Order online now!](#)

**Bridging Kits:** Each kit contains items to be presented to girls as they bridge to the next level. [View list with pricing](#) (PDF)

**May is Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month:** This month's [multicultural celebration fun patch](#) is designed to celebrate all people in the U.S. whose ancestors came from the Pacific Islands or the Asian diaspora, and to acknowledge the many contributions of the AAPI community to our nation. (You can learn more about earning the entire patch series on our [DEI page](#).)

**NEW:** [Visit our online pop-up shop](#) to see—and buy—all the beautiful items from the GSUSA Legacy Collection!

We have the perfect gifts for bridging, graduation, Mother's Day and so much more [so let's go shopping!](#)

## **We're hiring! Join our team!**

We're looking for strong, open-minded, innovative individuals who embrace our mission and values. We offer competitive compensation with a first-class benefits package, growth opportunities, a variety of flexible working arrangements and support for maintaining work-life balance. [View our Recruitment Coordinator Position and apply online today!](#)