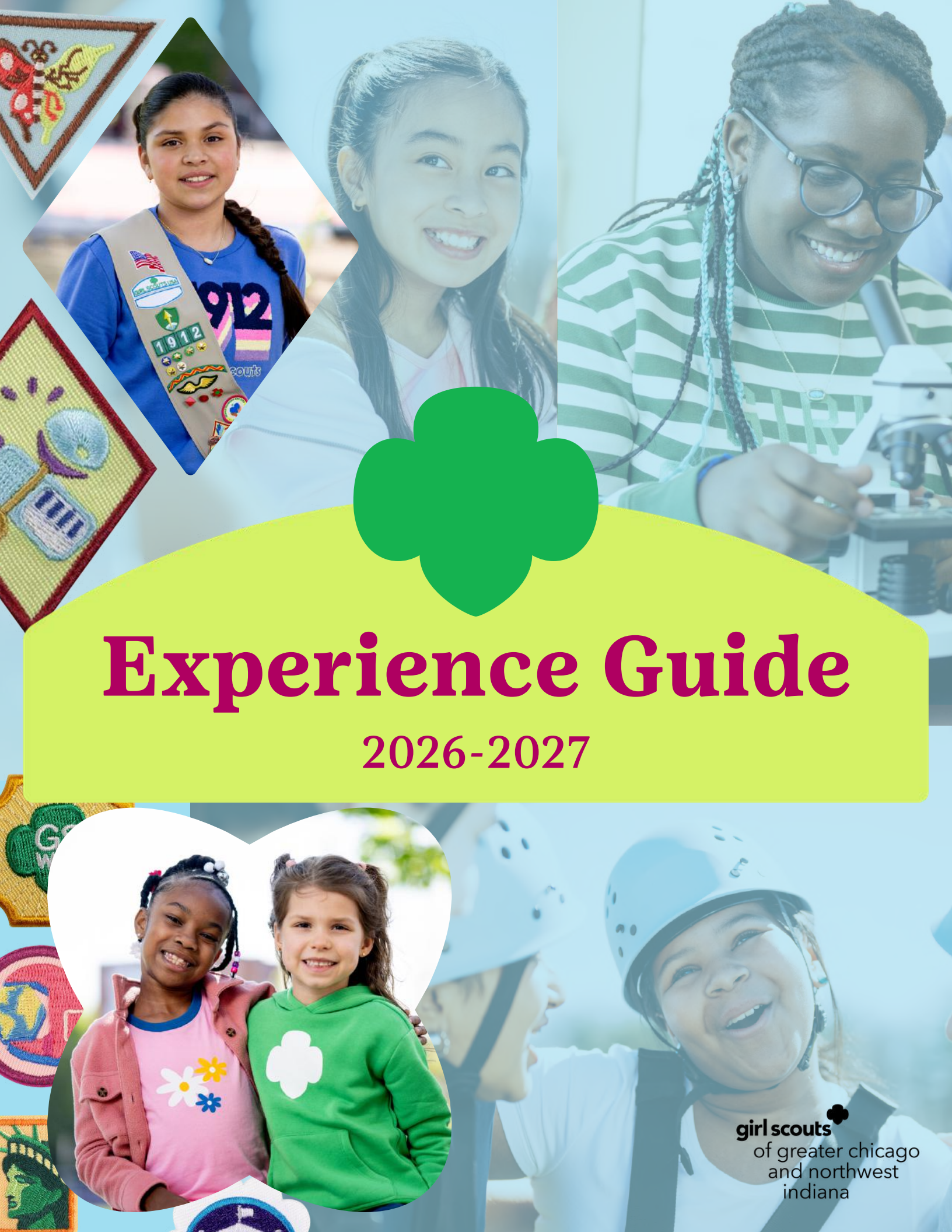


Experience Guide

2026-2027

girl scouts
of greater chicago
and northwest
indiana

Explore Girl Experiences

Every council-led Girl Scout experience is designed to help you build confidence, make new friends, strengthen your community, and discover passions that can last a lifetime.

Along the way, you'll develop new skills, earn badges and awards, and find meaningful ways to make a positive impact on the world around you.

No matter where your journey takes you, Girl Scouts is a place to belong, explore your interests, and grow into a leader who is ready to make a difference.

Swipe through the flipbook to find an experience, and register today.

Jump to Girl Experience Registration

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

CAMP CEO 2026

Girl Experience Quick Links

CLUBS

HIGHEST AWARDS

LIFE SKILLS

SERVICE PROJECTS

STEM

TRAVEL

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Experience Guide Contents

Highlights
Spark Days
Community Service
Life Skills
S.T.E.M.
Trip and Travel
Girl Scout Days
Leadership Awards
Junior Experience
Older Girl Experience
Financial Literacy

Jump to Girl Experience Registration

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Free for all Cookie Rally attendees!

Cookie U
at the Cookie Rally

Saturday, December 12 | 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Your Family Entrepreneur Pin!

Girl Scouts will make their way through stations where they'll set a cookie goal, get to know the cookies, practice their pitch, build money skills, and create a Family Cookie Business Plan—all while completing the requirements for the Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin.

After completing their Cookie U courses, Girl Scouts will celebrate with a Cookie U graduation and receive their certificate!

Get your Cookie Rally tickets below to attend Cookie U.

Where:
The Skyline Room

Across the street from the
Allstate Arena
6920 N. Mannheim Road
Rosemont, IL 60018

The Family Entrepreneur Pin will be available for purchase at the pop-up shop.

Questions?
Contact: Customer Care
855-456-8347
Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/cookierallytix

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Custom Programs

We'll bring the programming to you!

Custom programs are back!

Are you looking for a fun, hands-on activity that's perfect for your troop? Our Custom Programs are designed to inspire creativity, learning, and teamwork.

Choose from five engaging themes:
Spa Science, Fairy Tale STEM, Craft It Engineer It, Colorful Science, or Babysitting Training.

Custom programs range from $30-$50 per participant. The cost includes all supplies, staff facilitation, and a patch!
Must meet 12 girl minimum, 30 girl maximum.* See form for complete details.
*Service unit managers can request larger programs

How Do I Reserve?

Complete the form to get started, and a member of the Girl Experience Team will follow up to confirm your program details.
Reservations must be submitted before September 1, in order to gaurantee your request.

Where?

You may use a location of your choice, but you must reserve it and cover associated costs. To use a gathering place, list that in your application and we will do our best to accommodate!

Complete the form using the QR code or the link below:

girlscout.info/CustomPrograms

Questions? Contact:

programs@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Spark Days

Contact: Jasmine Wardlaw

Girl Experience Administration Specialist
Phone: (815) 651-2727
Email: jwardlaw@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Girl Scouts Money Workshop with U.S. Bank

Saturday, November 14 | 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Grades K-8

Calling all future entrepreneurs!

Join us as we team up with U.S. Bank to discover what it takes to turn ideas into income.

Where:

Columbus Park Refectory Building
5701 W. Jackson Blvd
Chicago, IL 60644

Free Event

Patches will be given to Girl Scouts the day of the event.

Questions?
Contact: Customer Care
855-456-8347
Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/usbank

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Community Service

Manager: Jessica Hickman

Phone: (708) 658-2312
Email: jhickman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Spreading the Shine

October 1 - 24, 2026 | Council Community Service Project | $30/kit

Let's spread some sparkle and kindness!

Join us as we create and share handmade bracelets with uplifting messages to brighten someone's day. Purchase your Spread the Sparkle Bracelet Kit today.

This kit includes bracelet making supplies to create ten bracelets, beads with positive sayings, elastic cord, cards to share your bracelets with others, and ten patches.

Where:

Kits will be available for pick up at all Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana Gathering Places.

When:

October 26 - October 30
Tues. - Fri.
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(closed 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. for lunch)

Scan the QR Code or use the link to pre-order a $30 Spreading the Shine Bracelet Kit

https://girlscout.info/shine

Share your photos to girlEXP@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Financial Assistance Available

Questions? Contact:
girlEXP@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Feed My Starving Children

Council Community Service Event

Join us for a hands-on service opportunity with Feed My Starving Children (FMSC), a nonprofit organization committed to ending hunger by providing nutritious meals to children around the world.
During this event, volunteers will work together to hand-pack meals that are shipped to over 70 countries.

This is not a drop off event.
All Girl Scouts are welcome. Adults must register.

When:

Saturday, November 7

Where:

555 Exchange Court
Aurora, IL

Available Shifts
9:00 -10:45 a.m.
2:00-3:45 p.m.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Fun Patch

Cost:
$12 (includes a patch and donation to FMSC)

Shift: 9:00 - 10:45 a.m.
Scan QR code or
use the link below
girlscout.info/117fmsc9am

Shift: 2:00 - 3:45 p.m.
Scan QR code or
use the link below
girlscout.info/117fmsc2pm

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Financial Assistance Available

Questions? Contact:

girlEXP@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Let's Celebrate!

Help those in need celebrate birthdays with their children or loved ones by making kits to bring joy on their special day.

Accepting Donations

January 19-February 26

Donations can be dropped off in person at all Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana Gathering Places except Chicago.

Tuesday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Limited number of patches at each donation drop off location. Girls must donate three items to receive a patch.

BIRTHDAY IN A BOX!
gcnwi

Donation Items Needed:

Boxed cake mix
(allergy-free and regular)

Canned soda
7up or Sprite (canned pop replaces the need for vegetable oil and eggs)

Frosting

Disposable foil cake pan with lid

Disposable foil cupcake pan

Small gifts
(toy cars, dolls, art supplies, etc.)

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Any questions or concerns, contact
Jessica Hickman **jhickman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org**

Life Skills

Manager: Fran Delacey

Phone: (224) 207-9246
Email: fdelacey@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Reading Challenge

Fall 2026 - Summer 2027

Challenge details:

Fall Challenge: September 1, 2026 - November 1, 2026
Winter Challenge: December 1, 2026 - February 1, 2027
Spring Challenge: March 1, 2027 - May 1, 2027
Summer Challenge: June 1, 2027 - July 31, 2027

How it works:

1. Register for 2026-2027 Reading Challenge Pack
2. Choose at least one book to read from our Girl Scout Book List. Book List will only be shared with registered participants.
3. Complete 20 hours of reading.
4. Submit your reading reflection each season log to earn your patch piece.

Register Now!

Register using the QR Code or Link below:

girlscout.info/readingchallenge

Cost: $28*
**Financial Assistance may be available.*

New Patch Design for 2026-2027

4 patches, 1 shape.

Each challenge, participants will earn the patch piece for that season.

Full Patch Design!

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Book Club

Are you a Junior or Cadette who loves to read? Do you want to discuss reading with other Juniors and Cadettes? Join us for our monthly Book Club sessions! Book Club meets virtually one Sunday of each month and is free to attend. Juniors and Cadettes meet separately. Meetings are facilitated by Girl Scout staff and volunteers. Zoom meeting information will be sent to participants the Thursday before each meeting.
Stay tuned for more! Book Club will continue in 2027.

Dates	Junior Book Titles	Cadette Book Titles
9/27/2026	The Burning Season by Caroline Starr Rose	Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed
10/25/2026	Coraline by Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean	The Spirit Glass by Roshani Chokshi
11/15/2026	Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin	Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes
12/13/2026	Let It Glow by Marissa Meyer and Joanne Levy	The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Meeting Details:
Junior Meeting Time: 5:00 to 5:45 p.m.
Cadette Meeting Time: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Location: Virtual (meeting link will be sent to email week prior to meeting).
Cost: Free
Register using the QR Code or link.
https://girlscout.info/Clubs

gcnwi

Babysitting Badge Intensive

Multiple dates and locations | Grades 6-8 | $50*

Locations and Dates

Greene Wood Gathering Place
Date: November 8, 2026
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Address: 3155 71st St.
Naperville, IL 60540
girlscout.info/bbgw

Joliet Gathering Place
Date: January 10, 2027
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Address: 1551 Spencer Rd.
Joliet, IL 60643
girlscout.info/bbjl

Vernon Hills Gathering Place
Date: April 18, 2027
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Address: 650 Lakeview Pkwy.
Vernon Hills, IL 60061
girlscout.info/bbvh

Chicago Gathering Place
Date: May 16, 2026
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Address: 20 S. Clark St. STE 200
Chicago, IL 60603
girlscout.info/bbchi

Schererville Gathering Place
Date: June 16, 2027
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Address: 705-A US-41,
Schererville, IN 46375
girlscout.info/bbsch

Ready to become the babysitter everyone wants, and the First-Aid helper everyone trusts?

Participants will earn their babysitting badge by

- interviewing experienced childcare specialists
- learning how to market a babysitting business
- researching traits of different age levels
- learning how to make a tasty snack

After lunch, participants will earn their CPR/First Aid Certification by:

- learning CPR Protocol
- basic First Aid
- practicing choking protocols
- practicing seizure care

Please bring a packed lunch.

Each participant will receive their Babysitting Badge and CPR/First Aid certification at the conclusion of the program.

**Financial assistance may be available.* Questions? Contact: Customer Care at 855-456-8347

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Social Butterfly Badge

Etiquette Course with Ashley Nicole Fox

October 25, 2026 | Grades 4-5 | $45*

Confidence through Etiquette

Give your Junior Girl Scout the confidence to shine in any setting! This fun and engaging etiquette course is designed to help girls feel comfortable, prepared, and poised as they practice the everyday skills that make a lasting impression.

Where:

ANF Etiquette
2041 W. Carroll Ave, #C211
Chicago, IL 60612

Session 1:
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
https://girlscout.info/etiquette1

Session 2:
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
https://girlscout.info/etiquette2

Session 3:
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
https://girlscout.info/etiquette3

**Financial Assistance may be available*

Social Success
Girl Scouts will enjoy learning how to:

- Make confident introductions and feel comfortable meeting new people.
- Use respectful conversation skills, including active listening and thoughtful responses.
- Practice table manners and dining etiquette in a fun, age-appropriate way.
- Show kindness, appreciation, and gratitude through words and actions.
- Strengthen leadership skills by practicing courtesy, respect, and confidence.

Questions? Contact: Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Junior Scribe Badge Event
with Author Sara Shacter

November 1, 2026 | 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Grades 4-5 | $40*

Write. Create. Inspire.

Junior Girl Scouts are invited to earn the Scribe Badge with Author Sara Shacter. Each participant will receive the Scribe Badge and a copy of Shacter's "*Georgia Watson and the 99 Cent Campaign* " with registration.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Where:

Joliet Gathering Place
1551 Spencer Road,
Joliet, Illinois 60433

Throughout the day, Girl Scouts will experiment with several forms of writing, Activities will encourage girls to use writing to express themselves, connect with others, entertain, educate, and advocate for change.

Participants will practice haiku, interview a partner and share what they learn, write about a meaningful personal memory, collaborate on an original group play, and create a letter they can send into the world.

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

**Financial assistance may be available.*
Questions? Contact: Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
girlscout.info/juniorscribe

You and Me: Junior Simple Meals Badge

Earn the Simple Meals Badge!

Girl Scouts, alongside their favorite adult, will explore the kitchen, plan meals, taste foods from around the world, make and take home a dessert, and earn their badge.

For Girl Scouts in grades 4-5 and an adult.

November 15, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Where:
Joliet Gathering Place
1551 Spencer Road, Joliet, IL 60433

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
https://girlscout.info/simplemeals

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Junior Musician Badge

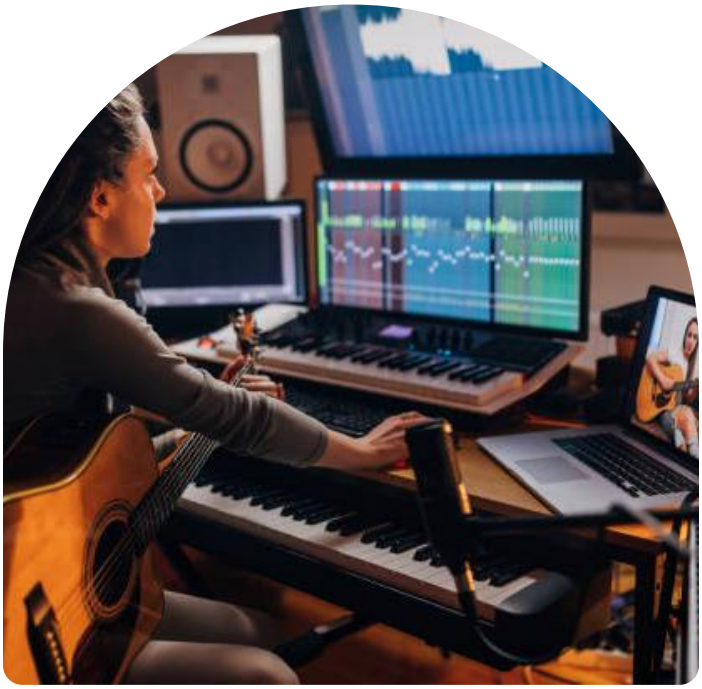
Saturday, December 5 | 10:00 - 11:45 a.m. | Grades 4-5 | $30*

Music Meets Technology

Juniors are invited to earn their Musician Badge through a session with Today at Apple. Girl Scouts will participate in the Make Your Own Theme Song session, where they will use provided technology and software to create a song. Badge is included with price of registration.

Where:

Apple Store on Michigan Avenue
401 N Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60611



Get Your Grove On!

Participants will meet outside at 10:00 a.m. and our session will begin at 10:30 a.m. We will have a SWAP to create while we wait for our group to gather. Bring more to share!

Participants will be provided with all materials.

Participants will have the opportunity to create a theme song for a favorite show, book, or game using GarageBand on iPad. We'll cover rhythm basics, experiment with drums, play with prerecorded loops, and remix their theme song!

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at
855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
girlscout.info/musicmaker

gcnwi

Body Appreciation Badge Fest

Beautiful You

Participants will earn the Body Appreciation Badge for their respective level.
Badge is included with registration.

Appreciating You

Girl Scouts are invited to explore what it means to care for their bodies, minds, and friendships during the Body Appreciation Badge Fest.

Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors will participate in the Celebrating ME! Curriculum. Move your body for fun, learn how to use your body to feel your best, and discover the differences and similarities that make you YOU.

Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors will participate in the Every Body is Special curriculum. Learn to see through the media's beauty standards, explore the mind-body connection, and celebrate yourself and all the things that make you your amazing self.

All Girl Scout Levels
Date: January 16, 2027
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Location: Joliet Gathering Place
Address: 1551 Spencer Rd. Joliet, IL 60643

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347
Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/bodyappreciation

Spring Break Event!

Democracy for YOU!

March 24, 2027

Democracy is for everyone!
You are invited to earn your Democracy Badge by attending a tour at the Dirksen Federal Courthouse!

Each Girl Scout participant will earn their Democracy Badge for their respective level.

Please note: The tour itinerary will be shared with participants prior to the event once federal proceedings and personnel schedules are finalized.

Details:
We will meet at the Chicago Gathering Place and walk approximately three blocks to the Dirksen Federal Courthouse.

Date: March 24, 2027
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Location: Chicago Gathering Place
Address: 20 S. Clark St STE 200, Chicago IL 60603
Cost: $25*
**Financial assistance available.*

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/democracy4u

Apply Now!

Phillip J. Becker Eco-Advocacy Award

Applications open April 1-May 31

How it works:

1. Use the QR code or link to register (registration is free).
2. Open the application found in your confirmation email.
3. Submit your application by May 31 at 11:59 p.m.
4. Applications will be reviewed by council committee.
5. Results will be shared in June!

Celebrating Environmental Innovation

Apply for the Phillip J. Becker Eco-Advocacy Award!

This award recognizes Girl Scouts working on projects aimed at helping the environment and promoting sustainability.

Girl Scouts in grades 4-12 working on a project related to the environment and sustainability are encouraged to apply.

Awardees will earn at least $250 to fund their project.

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below to apply:
girlscout.info/becker

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Questions? Contact: Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Craft and Tinker Badge Fest

April 11, 2027 | 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Grades K-5 | 25*

It's time to Craft and Tinker!

Join us for the Craft and Tinker Badge Fest! Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors are invited to the Joliet Gathering Place to earn their Craft and Tinker badge.

Participants will rotate to different stations to complete each badge step.

Drop in anytime between 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Time expected to complete Badge Steps is approximately 1 hour.

Badge is included with registration!

Where:

Joliet Gathering Place
1551 Spencer Rd., Joliet IL 60433

Each participant will have the opportunity to:

-Learn about different inventions and how they have changed over time.
-Discover how form and function determine an invention's use.
-Learn how different materials work together.
-Craft their own instrument invention out of recycled materials.
-Market their instrument to someone specific with personalization.

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at
855-456-8347
Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
girlscout.info/craftandtinker

Financial Assistance may be available.

S.T.E.M

Manager: Andrea Vesecky

Phone: (219) 472-1972
Email: avesecky@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

iFLY STEM Day

Experience the thrill of STEM and flight!

Girl Scouts will explore all things STEM in a special workshop and earn their STEM Careers Exploration badge. Then, they will suit up and practice indoor skydiving with trained staff to assist them. Girl Scouts will also have the opportunity to try the High Fly, soaring to the top of the dome. First-time flyers are welcome to join us.

This program is for Brownies through Ambassadors.
Grades 2-12

October 17 | 9:45 a.m. -12:30 p.m.| $55

Financial assistance may be available.

Where:

iFLY Chicago (Rosemont)
5520 Park Place, Rosemont IL 60018

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
https://girlscout.info/ifly

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Wreath Making

A You and Me Program!

December 5 | 10:00 a.m- 12:00 p.m. | $25

Come get cozy and craft!

Girl Scouts and adults are invited to create wreaths together while also enjoying winter crafts and snacks.

Where:

Greene Wood, Schererville, and Bubank Gathering Places

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347
Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
https://girlscout.info/STEAM

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

girl scouts
of greater chicago
and northwest
indiana

SAVE THE DATE

STEM Fest

March 20, 2027

Join us for

A day of STEM exploration and fun for the whole family.

When

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Where

Vernon Hills
Gathering Place

Questions? Contact:

Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/stemfest

girl scouts
of greater chicago
and northwest
indiana

You and Me:

Spring Into Crafting

Start off spring with crafting!
Girl Scouts and their adult will create paper flower garlands, decorate flowerpots, and enjoy sweet treats while they work.
A fun patch is included.

$20 per person

financial assistance is available

Saturday, April 10 | 10:00 a.m. - Noon

For all Girl Scouts, families, and friends.

Where:

Vernon Hills Gathering Place

Joliet Gathering Places

Registration for Vernon Hills Gathering Place

Scan the QR code to register
or use the link below
girlscout.info/springcraftvh

Scan the QR code to register
or use the link below
girlscout.info/springcraftjoliet

Be a Maker

Daisy, Brownie, Junior (Grades K-5)

Burbank and Schererville Gathering Places

June 5, 2027

10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

$25* **Financial assistance is available.*

Earn your Create & Innovate Badge

Put your creativity and problem-solving skills to work! Girl Scouts will identify a problem, brainstorm possible solutions, and create something designed to help others. They'll bring their idea to life, share their creation, and earn the Create and Innovate Badge.

Burbank Registration

girlscout.info/makerburbank

Schererville Registration

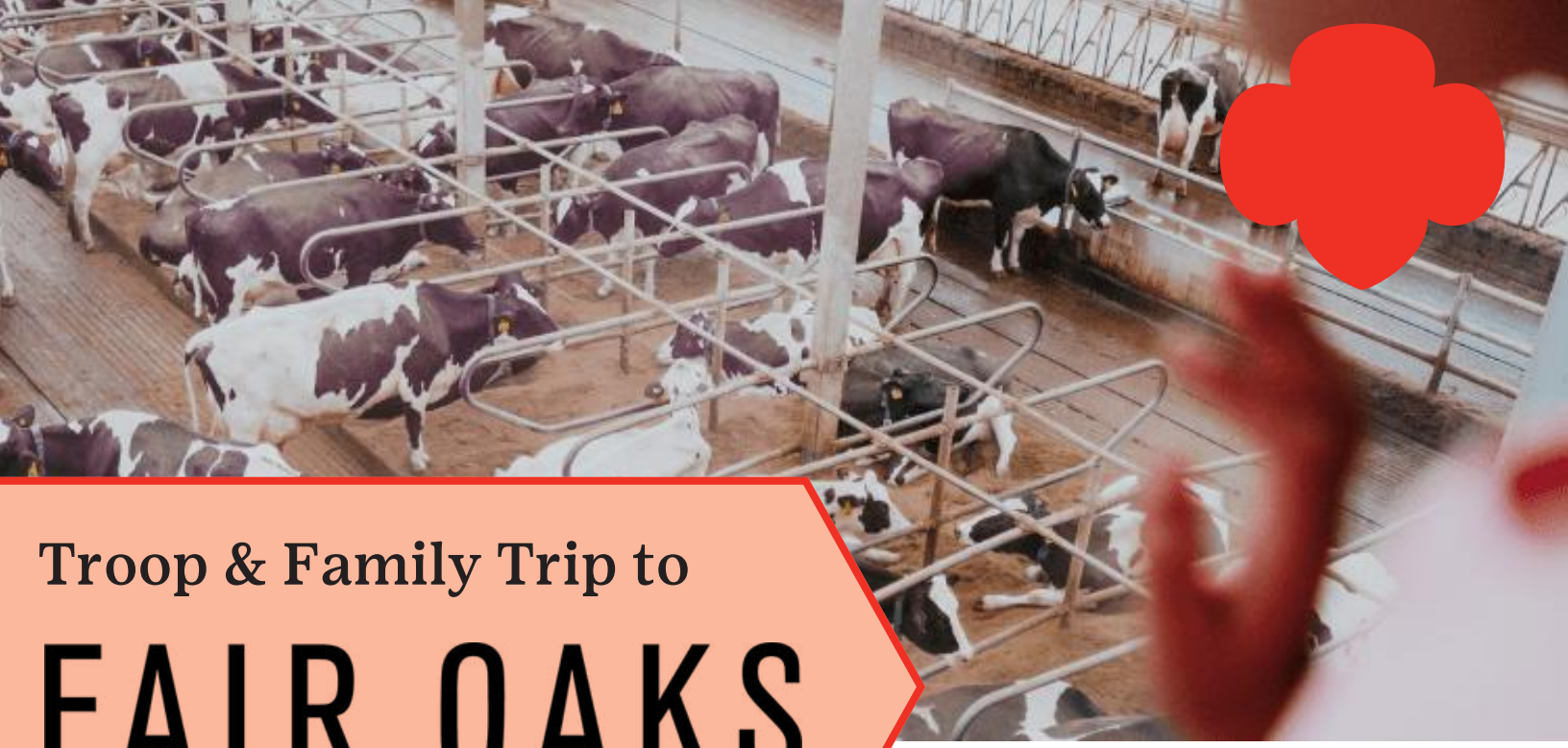
girlscout.info/makerschererville

gcnwi

Trip and Travel

Contact: Kisa Fitzgerald

Phone: (219) 472-1958
Email: jfitzgerald@girlscoutsgcnwi.org



Troop & Family Trip to

FAIR OAKS

FARMS

Sunday, October 18, 2026

12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

$25 per participant

For all Girl Scouts, families, and friends.

Where: Fair Oaks Farm
856 N 600 E, Fair Oaks, IN

Let's Farm!

Join us for Dairy and Pig Adventure tours where you'll get up close with cows, meet playful piglets, and see firsthand how farmers care for animals every day. You'll also have time to explore the farm's other interactive play and learning areas for even more hands-on fun and discovery. A fun patch is included.

Registration Closes:
October 9, 2026

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347
Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
girlscout.info/farm

gcnwi

Girl Scouts Fall Fun at the Zoo

Travel with your troop or family and meet us at the Lincoln Park Zoo Fall Fest! Enjoy seasonal activities, explore the zoo, and make lasting memories with your Girl Scout friends and family.

Event Details

Date: Sunday, October 25, 2026

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. | Group photo at 1:00 p.m. at the Pepper Family Wildlife Center

Location: Lincoln Park Zoo

Address: 2001 N Clark Street, Chicago IL 60614

Cost: FREE!

Scan the QR code or click the link to register!

girlscout.info/zoofallfest

2027 TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY

Atlanta & Beyond:
The Civil Rights Movement

Girl Scouts will experience the places, stories, and moments that changed America. This unforgettable journey includes visits to Atlanta, Montgomery, and Birmingham, the cities where history was made and the Civil Rights Movement changed America forever.

Come to the information session on Thursday, September 17 at 6:00 p.m. to learn more about this tour, including:

- What we'll see and do
- Travel logistics
- Payment options & fundraising
- How to enroll on this trip

We look forward to seeing you there!

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

girlscout.info/civilrightstour

The Chicago Big Bus Tour & Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, April 24, 2027 | 11:30 a.m. | Cost $50.00

You're Invited! Family Event!

Climb aboard this double-decker bus and take a one-of-a-kind adventure and see Chicago's must see sights.

Then, embark at your own pace on a fun and interactive scavenger hunt. A fun patch is included.

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below.

girlscout.info/bustour

Financial assistance may be available.

Questions? Contact:
gstravel@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

gcnwi

Troop & Family Getaway to Kalahari Resorts

Meet us at Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells, WI for an unforgettable family and troop adventure with Girl Scouts.

July 9 - 11, 2027
Wisconsin Dells, WI

Flexible One and Two Night Options Available

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

https://girlscout.info/Kalahari2027

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Girl Scout Days

Manager: Jessica Hickman

Phone: (708) 658-2312
Email: jhickman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Girl Scout Day at Annie

Sunday, November 15 | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

All Girl Scout Grade Levels

$35 per ticket | fun patch included

Where: Drury Lane Theatre
100 Drury Ln, Oakbrook Terrace, IL

Gather your troop, friends, and family for an unforgettable theater experience filled with laughter, heartwarming moments, and timeless songs like "Tomorrow" and "It's the Hard Knock Life." Follow the inspiring story of Annie, a courageous and optimistic young girl who reminds us that kindness, hope, and perseverance can change the world.

This is not a drop off event.
Financial assistance may be available.

girl scouts
of greater chicago
and northwest
indiana

Annie

Scan the QR code or use the link below

https://girlscout.info/annie

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347

You're Invited

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Girl Scout Day at The Nutcracker

Sunday, December 6
2:00-5:00 p.m. or 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Where:
Rosemont Theatre
5400 N River Rd
Rosemont, IL 60018

Cost: $65 | Fun patch included.

Experience the magic of the holiday season with Girl Scout Day at The Nutcracker, where timeless tradition meets unforgettable memories. Financial assistance may be available.

Register for 2:00-5:00 p.m.
girlscout.info/nutcracker2pm

Register for 6:00-9:00 p.m.
girlscout.info/nutcracker6pm

Leadership Awards

Manager: Andrea Vesecky

Phone: (219) 472-1972
Email: avesecky@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

girl scouts
of greater chicago
and northwest
indiana

Program Aide + VIT

Cadette - Ambassador | Grades: 6 - 12 | Cost: $30

Empower the next generation of leaders with Program Aide and VIT Leadership Training.

This training prepares young leaders to co-lead and inspire younger troops through effective activity facilitation and event planning, fostering leadership skills and a passion for community service.

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Burbank Gathering Place
4850 W 87th St, Burbank, IL 60459
November 7, 2026

Vernon Hills Gathering Place
650 N Lakeview Pkwy, Vernon Hills, IL 60061
January 9, 2027

Greene Wood Gathering Place
3155 71st St, Naperville, IL 60540
February 27, 2027

Schererville Gathering Place
705A, US Highway 41, Schererville, IN 46375
May 1, 2027

Scan the QR code or visit https://girlscout.info/awards to register.

Contact customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org with any questions.

You're invited!

True North to Awards

Come earn the NEW True North Award! The True North Award is about discovering what matters to you and staying true to yourself.

Girl Scouts will spend the first two hours of our program earning most of their True North Award, followed by a one-hour training about going for the Girl Scout Highest Awards.

Grades: 4 - 12 | Cost: $30*

*Financial assistance is available.

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347
customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
https://girlscout.info/awards

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Schererville Gathering Place
November 21, 2026

Greene Wood Gathering Place
January 16, 2027

Vernon Hills Gathering Place
February 20, 2027

Burbank Gathering Place
May 8, 2027

Junior Experience

Manager: Fran Delacey

Phone: (224) 207-9246
Email: fdelacey@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Junior Pearls

A year-long leadership experience for Girl Scouts in Grades 4-5.

Named for the pearl

The Junior Pearls are inspired by Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low, whose passion for empowering girls led her to sell her cherished pearl necklace to help fund and grow the Girl Scout Movement.

Like Juliette's pearls, our girls are reminded that something beautiful can emerge through growth and perseverance. In the same way, challenges, experiences, and learning opportunities help shape our Junior Pearls into confident, resilient, and compassionate leaders.

Every Junior Pearl is encouraged to shine brightly and discover the unique value she brings to the world.

Register Here

Registration Closes October 31!

*Financial Assistance and payment plans are available.

Junior Pearls Grade 4
Cost: $200*
girlscout.info/juniorpearls4

Junior Pearls Grade 5
Cost: $150*
girlscout.info/juniorpearls5

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at 855-456-8347

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Junior Pearls

A year-long leadership experience for Girl Scouts in Grades 4-5.

Junior Pearls is a year-long leadership experience designed to inspire, educate, and support Junior Girl Scouts as they grow into confident, compassionate community leaders. Through mentorship, educational enrichment, life-skills training, community service, and personal development activities, participants are given tools to build the foundation of being a community leader.

Each month from November - June, Junior Pearls will meet virtually via Zoom. Throughout the year, we will have meetups to participate in community service, civic engagement, and to celebrate our accomplishments.

Junior Pearls 4

Junior Girl Scouts in Grade 4

Girl Scouts in Grade 4 will participate in Junior Pearls 4. Each participant will earn the Leadership Award of their choice (True North award, Junior Aide award, or Community Advocacy award). Each month, participants will progress through their award, sharing their progress and experiences with one another. Each meeting will also have activities for Girl Scouts to explore community issues so they can design and complete a community service project. Throughout the year, meetings will have surprise guest speakers, such as state legislators, librarians, community activists, and more!

Junior Pearls 5

Junior Girl Scouts in Grade 5

Girl Scouts in Grade 5 will explore their futures. Girls are more likely to pursue a career when they see another woman in that role, as it improves their perception and aspiration of achieving their goal. Each month, participants will explore a different career path. Throughout the year, participants will get to hear from women in these fields. Each participant will choose a path to explore and present about at the end of the year.

Entrepreneur
Social Media and Marketing Manager
Physician
Pilot
Computer Scientist
Agriculturist
Government Officials

Meeting Schedule

This is the meeting schedule for Junior Pearls 2026-2027.

Dates are subject to change; participants will be notified of any changes as soon as possible.

Zoom meeting information will be sent to participants via email.

Meetups for civic engagement opportunities and community service projects will be coordinated based on cohort availability throughout the year.

Date	Meeting	Grade 4	Grade 5
August 1-October 31	Registration Period	Registration due 10/31/2026 at 11:59 p.m.	Registration due 10/31/2026 at 11:59 p.m.
11/15/2026	Induction Ceremony - Joliet Gathering Place	3:00 - 4:30 p.m.	3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
12/3/2026	Meeting 1 - Virtual	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
1/14/2027	Meeting 2 - Virtual	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
2/11/2027	Meeting 3- Virtual	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
3/11/2027	Meeting 4 - Virtual	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
4/8/2027	Meeting 5 - Virtual	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
5/13/2027	Meeting 6 - Virtual	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
6/27/2027	Celebration - Vernon Hills Gathering Place	2:00-4:00 p.m.	2:00-4:00 p.m.

gcnwi

Junior Dance and Patch-a-Hat Party

Saturday, May 1 | 10:00 - 12:00 p.m. | Grades 4-5 | $25*

Dance, Create, Celebrate!

Turn up the tunes, hit the dance floor, and design your own patch-packed custom hat at our Junior Dance and Patch-a-Hat Party! Join us for an day of fun, creativity, and being a Junior Girl Scout.

Where:

Greene Wood Gathering Place
3155 71st St, Naperville, IL 60540

Hats, Hits, and New Friends

Each participant will have the opportunity to add their favorite song to the queue, create a custom hat with up to five patches, and dance with other Girl Scout Juniors.

Table crafts, games, and activities will be out for dancing breaks!

A dance party isn't complete without pizza!

Snacks and treats will be provided.

*Financial assistance is available.

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/juniordancehatparty

Questions? Contact: Customer Care at 855-456-8347

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Older Girl

Manager: Samantha Lehman

Phone: (630) 544-5924
Email: slehman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

girl scouts
of greater chicago
and northwest
indiana

Graduating Girl Scout Ceremony

For all Girl Scouts who graduate eighth or twelveth grade in 2027.

May 29 | 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Hilton Oak Lawn

Join us in a day celebrating YOU as a graduating Girl Scout - you made it!

Participate in a Bridge to Senior or Bridge to Adult ceremony, and receive your patch or pin.

Families and troop leaders are welcome to attend.

A plated lunch will be served for all guests.

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/gradceremony

Cost:

$20 for Graduating Girl Scouts and $35 for any additional guests.

Financial assistance may be available.

Questions? Contact: Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Highest Awards Workshops

Learn more about earning your Silver Award or Gold Award!

Want to tackle an issue important to you and your community while engaging in one of the oldest Girl Scout traditions? Join us for our Highest Award Workshops where our program staff will go through the steps, processes, and paperwork to ensure you're ready to hit the ground running.

All trainings are held virtually through Zoom. Link provided after registration.

Silver Award Workshops

(Generally the second Thursday of the month)
December 10, March 11, August 12

Cost: $8 | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Gold Award Workshops

(Generally the second Thursday of the month)
October 15, January 14, April 8

Cost: $8 | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at
855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below
girlscout.info/awards

Highest Awards Picnic

Saturday, July 10 | 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. | Grades 4-12

Calling all Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award Girl Scouts!

Join us for an afternoon of fun in celebration of the hard work you put into earning a Highest Award in 2026-2027.

This program is designed for Girl Scouts and their family and/or troop leader(s).

Where:

Greene Wood Gathering Place
31556 71st Street
Naperville, IL 60540

Activities will include recognition of all Highest Awards, yard games, crafts, s'mores and more!

Cost: $25 for Highest Award recipients (patch included), $10 for all other attendees

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/picnic

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Financial assistance may be available.

Questions? Contact: Customer Care 855-456-8347

Camp CEO

September 17-19, 2027 | Grades 9 - 12 | Cost $100

A Premier Leadership Camp for Girls.

Nothing is more empowering than having someone believe in you!

Camp CEO is dedicated to creating a safe space for Girl Scouts to network and interact with women from a variety of industries and backgrounds who believe in girls and all that they can accomplish.

Where:

Camp Butternut Springs
Valparaiso, IN

The weekend environment is fun, camp-based, and full of unique opportunities to hear about the twists and turns of the women mentors' career paths and ask questions about how they got to where they are today.

Their stories give Girl Scouts a "peek behind the curtain" and reinforce how tenacity, persistence, being curious, and taking risks without fear of failure can be the catalyst for interesting careers.

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Questions? Contact:
Customer Care at
855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to apply or use the link below

girlscout.info/campceoapply

Older Girl Craftapalooza

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. | Grades 6 -12 | Cost $20

Let's have a crating party!

Come meet and mingle with other Girl Scouts while getting crafty. Crafts will include: pressed flower bookmarks, decorating a canvas bag, and friendship bracelets.

November 14, 2026
Greene Wood Gathering Place
3155 71st St.,
Naperville, IL 60540

January 23, 2027
Vernon Hills Gathering Place
650 N. Lakeview Pkwy.,
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

While you are here, let us know what else you would like to see at Girl Scouts - we are here for you!

girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

Financial assistance may be available.
Questions? Contact: Customer Care at 855-456-8347

Scan the QR code to register or use the link below

girlscout.info/csa

Financial Literacy

Manager: Keonna Colbert

Phone: (219) 472-1955
Email: kcolbert@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Girl Experience Leadership

Latoya Gardner
Director of Girl Experience
(708) 658-2325
lgardner@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Carmen Evans
Vice President of Mission Delivery
(708) 658-2326
cevans@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

View all of our Girl Experiences by scanning the QR code or using the link below!

girlscout.info/girlexp2627

Girl Experience Team

Carmen Evans
Vice President of Mission Delivery
(708) 658-2326
cevans@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Latoya Gardner
Director of Girl Experience
(708) 658-2325
lgardner@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Andrea Vesecky
STEM & Leadership Awards
Girl Experience Manager
(219) 472-1972
avesecky@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Fran Delacey
Junior Experience & Life Skills
Girl Experiernce Manager
(224) 207-9246
fdelacey@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Jasmine Wardlaw
Spark Days
Girl Experience Specialist
(815) 651-2727
jwardlaw@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Jessica Hickman
Service Projects & Girl Scout Days
Girl Experience Manager
(708) 658-2312
jhickman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Keonna Colbert
Financial Literacy
Girl Experience Manager
(219) 472-1955
kcolbert@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Kisa Fitzgerald
Trip & Travel
Girl Experience Manager
(219) 472-1958
jfitzgerald@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Samantha Lehman
Older Girl & Highest Awards
Girl Experience Manager
(630) 544-5924
slehman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org