

January Monthly Newsletter



Issue 1 | The Power of Girl Scouts

Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

The Girl Scout Program

Grounded in the Girl Scout Promise and Law, Girl Scouting is an experiential, cooperative education program that promotes girls' personal growth and leadership development. Partnering with caring adults, girls design fun and challenging activities that empower them and raise their voices within a local, national, and global sisterhood.

Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:

to serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be

honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do,

and to

respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

January

Monthly Newsletter

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Contact Us!

Phone: 406-252-0488 Email: customercare@gsmw.org Mail: 2303 Grand Ave | Bilings, MT 59102



facebook.com/GSMWcouncil

@girlscoutsmtwy



https://www.linkedin.com/ company/gsmw

Facebook Groups

GSMW - Billings, HDQ GSMW - Northeastern Wyoming GSMW - Eastcentral Wyoming GSMW - Southeast Wyoming GSMW - Southwest Wyoming GSMW - Southcentral Wyoming GSMW - Southcentral Wyoming GSMW - Northcentral Montana GSMW - Northcentral Montana GSMW - Northwest Montana GSMW - Central Montana

Text Reminders are Coming!

GSMW will soon be implementing text reminders as a way to stay in touch with you!

Depending on your role, you can expect important updates about the cookie program, upcoming events, how to register for volunteer trainings, and more!

> Not the texting type? No worries! Opt-out at any time.



Top Fall Enterpreneurs

2023 Fall Financial Literacy Program

2023 Fall Financial Literacy Program Rewards should have arrived to Service Units right around Christmas. If you haven't heard anything yet, you should be hearing from your Service Unit soon about when and how-to pick-up rewards for your Girl Scouts. If you need assistance, please email customercare@gsmw.org.

Top Fall Entrepreneurs

Congratulations to all our Girl Scouts and Troops who learned to OWN YOUR MAGIC and reached some incredible goals! Check out all the Top Entrepreneurs in our <u>2023 Fall Program Top Entrepreneur Video</u> and with our list below!

Top Entrepreneurs			
1st	Emma O.	Troop 3074	\$2,836.00
2nd	Jordana B.	Troop 1643	\$2,717.00
3rd	Lillianna D.	Troop 2017	\$2,548.00

Top by Grade Level			
Daisy	Emma O.	Troop 3074	
Brownie	Brecklyn B.	Troop 2153	
Junior	Lilliana D.	Troop 2017	
Cadette	Jordana B.	Troop 1643	
Senior	Aubrey M.	Troop 2281	
Ambassador	Tessa S.	Juliette	
Juliette	Jessica K.	Juliette	

Top by Region		
Eastern Montana	Aubrey M.	Troop 2281
Headquarters	Lilliana D	Troop 2017
Southcentral Montana	Sienna S.	Troop 3510
Central Montana	Brecklyn B.	Troop 3514
Southwest Montana	Alexandria T.	Troop 3748
Northwest Montana	Izziebella W.	Troop 3347
Northcentral Montana	Emma O.	Troop 3074
Northeast Wyoming	Jordana B	Troop 1643
Southcentral Wyoming	Elizabeth M.	Troop 1808
Southwest Wyoming	Elliot W.	Troop 1216
Eastcentral Wyoming	Abigail G.	Troop 1042
Southeast Wyoming	Abigail R.	Troop 1628

Participation Giveaway Troop 3593

2023

Great Falls, Montana

Top Troop

OWN YOUR



Troop 3514 Butte, Montana

Opal Winners



Emie A. | Troop 3074 Maddie A. | Troop 1245

2024 Cookie Program





Caramel deLites



eanut Butter Sandwicl



Lemonades



Thin Mints



Toast-Yay!



Peanut Butter Patties







It's Cookie Time!

Yes, it's that time of the year and we can't wait for a MAGICAL Cookie Program with you and your Girl Scouts! Don't miss important upcoming training dates:

- January 9th: <u>New Troop Training</u>
- January 11th: Juliette Cookie Kickoff
- January 16th 20th: Regional Cookie Conferences
- January 23rd: <u>Virtual Cookie Conference at 6:30 PM</u>
- January 30th: <u>Cookie Tech Webinar</u>

Check out all the great resources at gsmw.org/cookieresources



Cookie Conferences: Free Swag!

RSVP today or by January 10th to attend a 2024 Cookie Conference to get a FREE It's Cookie Time zip bag. Remember you must RSVP AND attend to get your special cookie swag! There will be LOTS of new information that you don't want to miss... plus a simpler, shorter training!

Shop Orders

Want to save on shipping? If you're attending a Regional Cookie Conference in-person, place your shop order with Carol at customercare@gsmw.org or call 406-252-0488 by January 10th to receive your order at the conference.

2024 Cookie Program Dates

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January 22	Volunteer Access to Smart Cookies and Digital Cookie
January 30	Digital Cookie Setup Begins for Girls
February 2	Cookie Program Begins
February 12	Booth Sign-ups Begin (at 5:00 PM)
February 17	Caregiver Order Entry in Digital Cookie Due
February 19	Paper Order Taking Ends
February 20	Troop Initial Orders and Rewards Due in Smart Cookies (by 11:59 PM)
February 22	Additional Order Taking Begins
March 12 - 20	Cookie Pickups from the Service Unit
March 22 - April 14	Cookie Booths
April 14	Cookie Program Ends
April 17	Troop Final Rewards Due in Smart Cookies (by 11:59 PM)



Thin Mints



Caramel Chocolate Chip



Peanut Butter Patties



Toast-ray:



Lemonades



Peanut Butter Sandwich



Caramel deLites



Caramel Chocolate Chip

Meeting in a Minute



Let us plan your next Troop meeting! Are you worried about creating new and exciting activities for your Girl Scouts? Our new Meeting in a Minute box has you covered! This all-inclusive activity box is designed for your Daisy, Brownie, and Junior troops! The best part? Meeting in a Minute takes the guesswork out of preparing for your next troop meeting.

Each box contains all the primary supplies you need to conduct a successful troop meeting:

- · Creative, fun, and age-appropriate activities
- Detailed instructions
- Activity supplies*
- And snacks!

*Each kit will have basic supplies you will need to provide.

Your troop can look forward to new and exciting themes, so you can spend less time planning and more time mentoring your girls! Meeting in a Minute launches in January with the Art and Design Badge. This box will unleash a troop of budding artists and teach girls the significance of art beyond the brush!

If you have any questions, please reach out to your MEM or email customercare@gsmw.org.

Meeting in a Minute: Art and Design Badge

Earning the Girl Scout Art and Design badge will teach girls how to find inspiration in daily life, learn different ways to create their artistic masterpieces, and encourage them to share their work with others. Makers are people who use their imaginations to create art and design objects. They might paint, sketch, build, sculpt, or invent a machine! Art can even solve problems and make a difference. Designers are makers who create objects from toys to buildings. They build, sew, animate, and even cook. They solve problems, too! With this box, girls can make custom string art creations and a trefoil with the included templates.

Boxes are available in the following sizes, and shipping is included:

- 6 activity sets \$25
- 12 activity sets \$40

*The only supplies you'll need to provide include paper and pencils/crayons/markers.

Please note that no alternative box sizes are available. Also, badges are not included, but they can be ordered at the same time and will be delivered in your box.



Order Meeting in a Minute Today!

Volunteers

Monthly Volunteer Trainings

Don't have time to watch the monthly trainings live? Listen to the recording later <u>here</u>!

December: <u>Managing Conflict</u> – Please access the recording in the gsLearn module under Additional References

January 23rd at 6:30 PM: <u>GSMW Virtual Cookie</u> <u>Conference</u>

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Training

Don't miss <u>getting signed up</u> for our next Youth Mental Health First Aid training on Thursday, February 29th from 5-8 PM and Saturday, March 3nd from 11 AM – 3 PM. It is \$30 per person and registration closes on February 15th.

Volunteer Recognitions

Our volunteers are amazing! Did you know that you can nominate a fellow volunteer to show your appreciation for everything they do?

Caregivers, do you think your daughter's troop leader is the best? Nominate them for the Outstanding Volunteer Award.

Troop Volunteers, is there that special someone who goes above and beyond for your troop? Maybe it's the person who makes your Cookie Program go smoothly or brings awesome programming to the troop meeting.

You can nominate them for the Volunteer of Excellence. Don't forget your Service Unit Managers and Product Managers or Day Camp Directors, you can nominate them for the Appreciation Pin.

Find out more about Volunteer Recognitions, the nomination and endorsement requirements with the <u>Adult Award Criteria</u> or reach out to your Member Experience Manager. The deadline to submit <u>nominations</u> is February 2, 2024.



Join Our Girl Scout Alumna Community!

Are you a Girl Scout Alumna? We would love to learn more about you and hear your Girl Scout stories, from cookies and camp to careers and confidence! Your stories help keep our Girl Scout legacy alive, and we would love to connect with you whether it be through our amazing Girl Scout Alumna Facebook community or learning about your experience with Girl Scouts in an email. We love hearing from you and learning about what you're up to now.

Troop Leader Volunteer Orientation Coupon

Don't miss using your Troop Leader Volunteer Orientation Coupons by January 5th! Email shop@gsmw.org or call 406-252-0488 to place your order. All coupons expire January 5th, no exceptions will be made.

Don't miss out! Place your coupon orders by January 5th!

Scholarship Opportunities

GSMW offers college scholarships that Girl Scouts can apply for. We provide links to other scholarship resources, so be sure to check out our <u>College Scholarship page</u> on the website!

Upcoming opportunities include: (*The Deadline to apply for GS scholarships is April 15th*)

- <u>Herb Waltermire</u> Cascade County \$2,500 This scholarship is available to Girl Scouts who reside in Cascade County and who are working on (or received) their Gold Award. Must demonstrate strong community service, leadership, and have a 2.75 GPA or higher.
- <u>University of Wyoming</u> up to \$1,000 This scholarship is available to Girl Scouts who are enrolled at the University of Wyoming (high school seniors or college students may apply). Applicant must submit three letters of reference (one from an adult active in Girl Scouts), have demonstrated leadership and community service, and have a 2.75 GPA or higher.
- <u>Lucie P. Osburn</u> \$250

High school senior Girl Scouts or college students may apply for this leadership scholarship. Must demonstrate leadership and have community service experience. Three letters of reference (one from an adult active in Girl Scouts) and a 2.75 GPA or higher is required.

• Nancy Fifer - \$300

High school senior Girl Scouts whose field of study is of a financial interest (Banking, Business Administration with emphasis on finance, etc.) are encouraged to apply. Three letters of reference are required, one of which must be from someone in the banking/finance industry.

• <u>Suszanne Salzmann</u> - (Teton County only) - multi-year \$1,250 This scholarship is available to Girl Scouts who reside in Teton County, WY. Applicant must have strong community service and leadership experience and have a 2.75 GPA or higher. Preference is given to those working on or have received their Gold Award. Renewable for up to four years total.



GSMW Summer Camp: Hiring! Are you or someone you know interested in working at camp? We have started hiring for the 2024 summer camp season! <u>Learn more here.</u>



Winter Outdoor Challenge The GSMW Outdoor Challenge is back again! Girls, families, or troops can complete these activities with a goal of reaching 100 points. You can submit the finished sheet online and earn a free fun patch from GSMW. Find the challenge on our website <u>here</u>.

Programming

Digital Street Smarts Virtual Programs (K-12)



Digital Street Smarts Cybersecurity Badge Programs

Throughout January, February, and March, Girl Scouts of all ages can earn their Cybersecurity badges online with STEM the Gap Academy. These online cybersecurity workshops will help keep girls safe while they learn and play online. <u>There are badge workshops</u> <u>available for each Girl Scout level</u> as well as multiple date options, so make sure to register for a workshop that is specific to your grade. All workshops are led by live teachers who are female STEM experts! All STEM the Gap Academy virtual programs are hosted by the Academy and NOT by GSMW. Please note that STEM the Gap Academy runs their own registration and programming externally from GSMW. For more information and to find registration links, <u>click HERE</u>.

Third Annual Girl Scout Day of Science: March 2nd, 2024

Mark your calendars, get your troop, friends, and families together for the third Girl Scout Day of Science, coming to a children's science museum near you! On this special Girl Scout Day of Science, museums will open their doors to Girl Scouts and their friends and families for STEM-tastic opportunities to explore STEM, enjoy the council-wide sisterhood, and earn the GSMW exclusive Girl Scout Day of Science fun patch. Later in January, check out www.gsmw.org/events for the myriad of STEM events happening all across Wyoming and Montana.



Save the Dates for Girl Scout Week: March 10-17, 2024

Honor the beginning of the Girl Scout movement with a week of fun with your troop, families, and GSMW! NEW THIS YEAR: Celebrate Girl Scout Week with one of our Meeting in a Minute boxes for your Daisy, Brownie, and Junior troops. The Girl Scout Week Meeting in a Minute all-inclusive activity box will take the guesswork out of preparing for your Girl Scout Week troop gathering. This special March box will include outlines for fun activities, detailed instructions, fun supplies, GS Week fun patches, and snacks! Keep your eye on our <u>Meeting in a Minute</u> page for all our Meeting in a Minute box information.

Programming



Third Annual Girl Scouts' Virtual Viewing of the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival!

The Big Sky Documentary Film Festival (BSDFF) has invited all Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming to special virtual access to their school-age appropriate documentary films, otherwise known as Schoolhouse Docs.

The films have been rated for students by local educators and offer a variety of age-appropriate and perspective widening themes, bringing non-fiction film to the next generation.

<u>Registration will open in late January</u> for exclusive access to a number of short and long-format films that will show online during the last week-and-a-half of February. For more information, visit <u>BSDFF's Schoolhouse Docs page</u>, which will be updated throughout January and February.

Keep an eye our events page for more information and registration.



Celebrate World Thinking Day: Start Thinking, Start Changing!

Join your fellow Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from over 150 countries around the world to celebrate World Thinking Day!Start learning about World Thinking Day and embracing perspectives outside your own! Think about this year's focus of "Our World, Our Thriving Future: The Environment and Global Poverty" and explore how these issues are even more challenging for girls and women in your communities and around the world. Think about the issues that contribute to the problems and about the little things you can do to make a big difference! Find out more and download World Thinking Day activity guides by going to <u>GSUSA's World Thinking Day web page</u>.

Travel the World: Destinations

Girl Scout Destinations are the ultimate adventure for individual Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts. Push past your comfort zone by applying for a trip on your own, and make friends from all over the country as you travel with new Girl Scout friends. There's a unique, life-changing experience for everyone!

Trip hosts are still accepting Destinations applications, so check out your options, and apply through GSUSA today! <u>Check out all the</u> <u>trips HERE</u>. Scholarships are still available, too! Email customercare@gsmw.org if you have any questions about Destinations.

If you will be a high school-age Girl Scout next fall, and you want to travel a little closer to home, consider an action-packed STEM focused Destination hosted by GSMW! Based out of Red Lodge and Cody, travelers will ride horses and whitewater raft, and in between the high adventure, they'll explore the importance of our forests and how even younger citizens can help mitigate harm to our environment. This Destination will illuminate your role in protecting the animals, forests, and geological features - not only in Yellowstone, but around the world.

<u>Read more and apply to travel with</u> <u>GSMW on GSUSA's Destinations web page</u>.