council connect

girl scouts heart of the south

April 2019

HER NEXT STEP

POWERED BY GIRL SCOUTS!

What path will she choose next year?

With new programs in outdoor adventure and STEM and the promise of dozens of new skills to learn and awards to earn, at Girl Scouts the trail is hers to blaze! Whatever her next step looks like, we can help her make it happen.

RENEW TODAY AT WWW.GIRLSCOUTSHS.ORG/JOIN

EARLY BIRD GETS THE WORM

All girls who are renewed between April 2 and April 19 will have first access to a virtual badge workshop, featuring one of the NEW badges that will be unveiled by GSUSA this summer!

Girls who are renewed by May 3 will be invited to our Early Bird Camporee held September 13-14, 2019 at Camp Fisherville.

Girls who are renewed by May 17 will receive this special Early Bird fun patch.

	APRIL 2 - 19	APRIL 20 - MAY 3	MAY 4 - 17
Virtual Badge Lab + Badge	✓		
Early Bird Encampment	✓	✓	
My Next Step Fun Patch	✓	✓	✓

Beyond Badges: Her Girl Scout Growth Chart

Did you know Girl Scouts are more likely than other girls to get excellent grades, graduate from high school and college, and to expect a great future for themselves? Through Girl Scouts, your daughter will grow in ways that change everything about the way she holds herself, the way she expresses herself, and how big she dreams. This kind of growth is the most important outcome of her Girl Scout experience and what will help her harness her potential and live her best life.

Although some youth-oriented organizations pride themselves on handing out medals and awards to boost a child's sense of self, at Girl Scouts we believe in education over decoration. By that, we mean that our program comprises meaningful experiences that have been proven to teach girls about themselves and their own potential in their schools, communities, and society at large.

When your girl takes part in Girl Scouting, she's following in the footsteps of numerous female world leaders, astronauts, inventors, entrepreneurs, and artists. There's no limit to where Girl Scouts can take her!

Watch for and celebrate these five areas of growth in your girl:

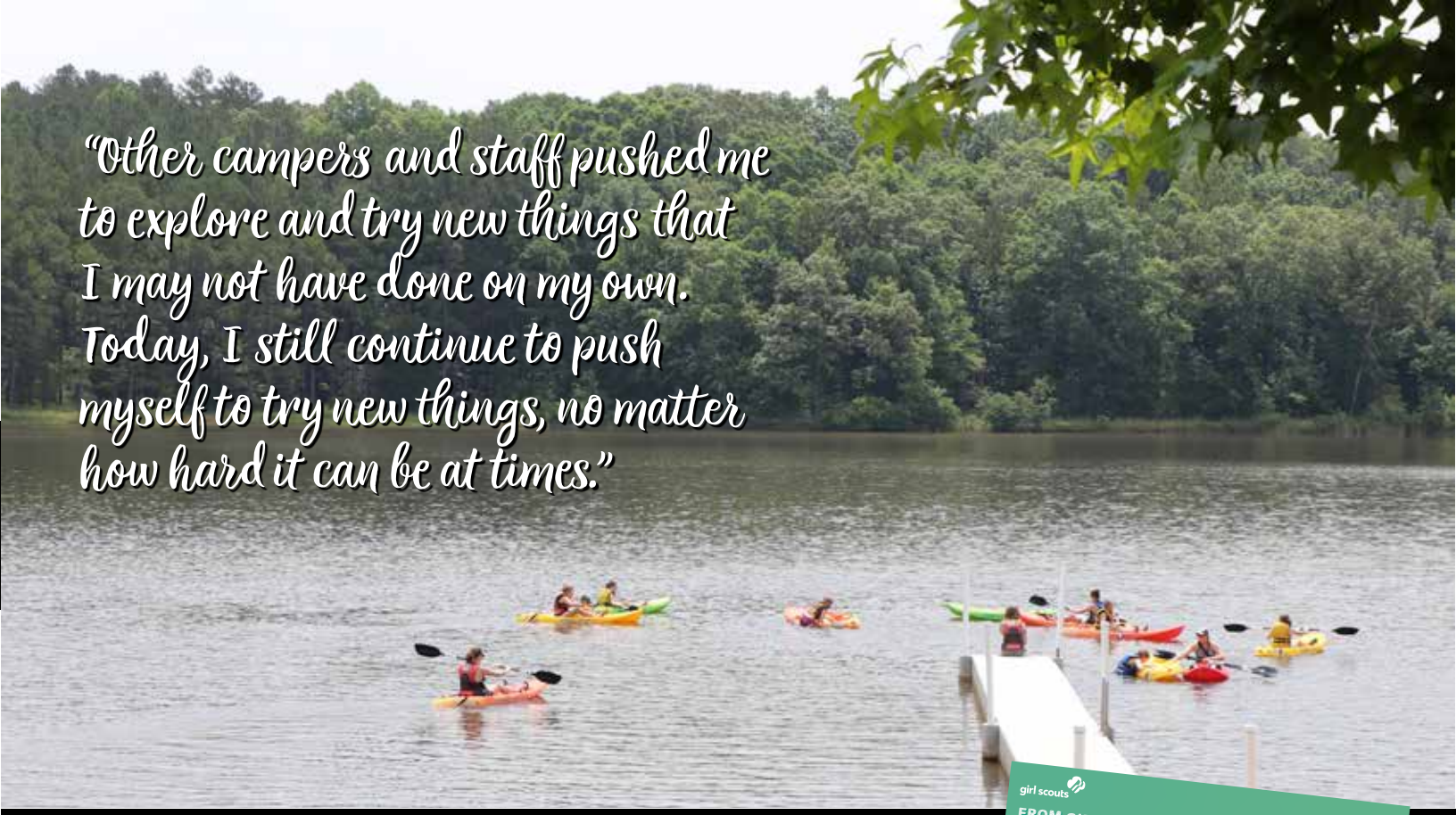
STRONG SENSE OF SELF: She'll find confidence in herself and all that she's capable of as she tries new things, faces her fears, and learns from her mistakes—forming a healthy identity in the process. This will help her stand up for herself, avoid peer pressure, and stay authentic as she pursues her dreams—whatever they may be.

POSITIVE VALUES: She'll learn to act ethically, lead with honesty, be responsible, and show concern for others with every step she takes. These solid values will help her do the right thing even in the face of peer pressure from her school friends today or from her colleagues in the future.

CHALLENGE SEEKING: In Girl Scouts' all-girl environment, she'll feel free to take appropriate risks, which will open new opportunities and new experiences in her world. Importantly, she'll also learn that failure is never a reason to give up, only another opportunity to try something different.

HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS: She'll practice communicating her feelings directly and resolving conflicts constructively—the kind of relationship-building skills that will help her successfully navigate her school years, form treasured friendships, and understand how to navigate conflict with respect. These skills will also help her ace job interviews, manage teams, and lead with positivity and empathy as she grows older.

COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVING: She'll identify problems in her school and neighborhood and create plans to solve them. And she'll always know her contributions are meaningful and filled with purpose. This will set her on the path to being an involved member of her community—one who not only speaks up for change but also brings innovative solutions to the table.



From Girl Scout Camp to Real-World Champ

Think summer camp is all about swimming and s'mores? Well it is, but it is sooo much more!

The Girl Scout Research Institute collaborated with the American Camp Association (ACA) to explore whether the skills, behaviors, and attitudes youth learn at camp carry over to other parts of their lives.

The From Girl Scout Camp to Real-World Champ! study found that **Girl Scout camp helps girls develop important life skills and positive characteristics.**

girl scouts

FROM GIRL SCOUT CAMP TO REAL-WORLD CHAMP!

How Girl Scouting in the Great Outdoors Builds Female Leaders

For more than 100 years, Girl Scout camp has brought girls unmatched outdoor adventure full of learning (key skills! life lessons!), challenge (ropes courses! rapids!), and, of course, a whole lot of friendship and fun. At camp, Girl Scouts' leadership takes center stage as they dive into age-appropriate activities they love—enabling them, at every turn, to discover their values and their passions, connect with others from a range of backgrounds, and take action to make a meaningful difference in their world.

In summer 2018, the Girl Scout Research Institute collaborated with the American Camp Association (ACA) to explore whether the skills, behaviors, and attitudes youth learn at camp carry over to other parts of their lives. Survey responses from over 700 adults who attended camp as kids—424 alums of Girl Scout camp and 286 alums of non–Girl Scout camps—provide compelling evidence that Girl Scout camp sets girls up for success!

Key Findings

1. **Girl Scout camp helps girls develop important life skills and positive characteristics.** As expected, girls who attend Girl Scout camp learn to appreciate nature and become environmental stewards. But as the research also uncovered, Girl Scout camp provides additional benefits, helping campers build important socioemotional and leadership skills. The majority of Girl Scout camp alums say their camp experience was central to the development of their sense of self, positive values, challenge seeking skills, healthy relationships, and leadership skills!

2. **Overall, Girl Scout camp alums are more likely than non–Girl Scout camp alums to say that camp helped them develop the above skills and attributes.** The most significant differences between Girl Scout and non–Girl Scout camp alums? The development of a strong sense of self and leadership skills—essential components of Girl Scout programming!

Role of Camp in Development of Life Skills and Positive Characteristics

Skill/Characteristic	Camp was critical to the development of my...	Girl Scout Camp Alum	Non–Girl Scout Camp Alum
Sense of Self	Confidence in my ability to be successful	70	56
	Understanding of who I am and what I want to do in life	70	58
Positive Values	Ability to take responsibility for my own behavior	65	55
	Ability to empathize with others	55	50
Challenge Seeking	Willingness to try new things	81	75
	Ability to persevere in the face of challenges	74	62
Healthy Relationships	Appreciation for different people and perspectives	73	61
	Ability to form relationships with others	61	56
Leadership	Ability to lead a group of peers in a task	81	63
	Ability to work as part of a team to complete a task	68	54
Outdoor	Appreciation for nature	84	80
	Understanding of how to protect/preserve the natural world	75	

Data represent the percentage of respondents who rated the 5th skill/attribute on a 5-point scale (1=Not Very True). Bolded data indicate a significant difference ($p<.05$). Item was not included in the non–Girl Scout camp alum survey.

83% of Girl Scout camp alums say their first camp experience was at a Girl Scout camp

Click to read study.

Girls who attend Girl Scout camp learn to appreciate nature and become environmental stewards. But as the research also uncovered, Girl Scout camp provides additional benefits, helping campers build important socioemotional and leadership skills they need to become successful adults.

What girls learn at Girl Scout camp lasts far beyond their camp experience. Responsibility, an appreciation for diversity, the ability to persevere, and willingness to try new things were rated by camp alums as most important to their daily lives today and learned primarily at camp.

Whether they attend for a day, a week, or longer, and for one summer or several, at Girl Scout camp so many girls are given first-rate opportunities to learn and explore, expand their horizons, and have unforgettable fun with friends old and new—all under the guidance of caring, trained adults committed to helping them unleash their remarkable leadership potential.

And as *From Girl Scout Camp to Real-World Champ!* confirms, these memorable experiences provide girls with benefits that serve them long after the campfires of their youth are behind them.

GET OUTDOORS Summer Camp

Attending camp is consistently cited as girls' favorite memories of their Girl Scout years. By sending your girl to camp, she will develop leadership and outdoor skills and develop a deep appreciation for our natural world.

Camp is a magical experience... an opportunity to truly escape and focus on building courage, confidence and character.

Girl Scouts Heart of the South offers six weeks of summer camp in June and July, with the first two weeks being at Kamp Kiwani in Middleton, TN, and the remaining four at Camp Tik-A-Witha in Van Vleet, MS.

KAMP KIWANI

Session 1	June 3-8
Session 2	June 9 - 14

CAMP TIK-A-WITHA

Session 1	June 16 - 21
Session 2	June 23 - 28
Session 3	June 30 - July 5
Session 4	July 7 - 12

Each week features a variety of sessions designed with girls in mind, and offers a variety of activities that include aquatics and equestrian programs, archery, culinary and creative arts, high-adventure travel, and a whole lot of campfires, songs and s'mores!

There are tons of fun activities, cool themes and unique programs for girls to choose from! We can't wait for your girl to Get Outdoors and get to camp!

Prepare your girl for summer camp by attending some outdoor activities with the council or your troop. Also, make sure to attend our summer camp open houses so she can see where she'll eat, sleep and play the summer away. No registration is required.

CAMP TIK-A-WITHA
Sunday, April 28
2-4 p.m.

KAMP KIWANI
Sunday, May 5
2-4 p.m.

american CAMP association ACCREDITED

Send Your Girl to Camp with Confidence

We know it can be hard to send her to camp for the first time, but you can feel at ease that, while she's having the time of her life discovering all the wonders of the great outdoors, trying new things, playing games, making friends, and so much more, she's well taken care of, happy, and learning critical life skills every step of the way.

Kamp Kiwani and Camp Tik-A-Witha are proud to be accredited by the American Camp Association!

The American Camp Association collaborates with experts from The American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Red Cross, and other youth service agencies to assure that current practices at your child's camp reflect the most up-to-date, research-based standards in camp operation. Parents can feel at ease that, while she's having the time of her life she's safe, well taken care of, happy, and learning critical life skills every step of the way.

At Girl Scouts, we care about your experience, good or bad, and we want to hear from you!

In April, Girl Scouts of the USA will be conducting a national online survey with all parents/caregivers and troop leaders called Girl Scout Voices Count to find out what's working, and what's not, in Girl Scouts.

Girl Scout Voices Count is Girl Scouts of the USA's annual survey to learn how girls, parents/caregivers, and troop leaders experience Girl Scouting.

We use your feedback to improve the Girl Scout experience for all families and volunteers.

If you are a troop leader who also has a girl in Girl Scouts, we'll send you the troop leader survey. A survey link will be emailed to troop leaders on April 3 and parents on April 8.

Save the date and be sure to check your email for the invitation to participate.

As a Thank You, upon completion you will be entered to win the following:

Girls
- One $50 Passport Bucks
- One $25 Passport Bucks

Troop Leaders
- One FREE night stay for your troop in the Possibility Place at the Girl Scout Leadership Center in Memphis
- One $25 Trefoil Trunk Gift Card

Parents
- One "Dinner on Us!" Skip cooking and let us take care of dinner. A pizza dinner will be delivered to you!
- One $25 Trefoil Trunk Gift Card

In addition, GSUSA will be entering everyone that completes a survey to win one of twenty $50 gift cards – treat yourself or share with your girl's troop.

We can't wait for you to make your voice count!

Girl Scout Voices Count

TIMELINE:

GIRLS
Launch April 3

Reminders:
April 3, 15 and 26

TROOP LEADERS
Launch April 3

Reminders:
April 11, 19 and 28

PARENTS
Launch April 8

Reminders:
April 17 and 29

SERVICE UNIT VOLUNTEERS
Launch in May

Girl Scout families and troops, please help GSHS

invest in girls

Every year, Girl Scouts Heart of the South has a waiting list of girls who desperately want to join Girl Scouts, but can't, because they can't afford the membership dues.

As Girl Scouts, we help out our sisters!!!

invest in girls helps ensure that every girl in our area who wants to join Girl Scouts - can.

Girl Scouts Heart of the South's invest in girls program is designed to teach girls philanthropy, at the troop level, by supporting their Girl Scout sisters who struggle with paying their membership dues. Even the smallest gift counts. And girls, families, friends, teachers, employers and community members can all invest in girls!

As part of the program, a patch will be given to ALL girls in a troop once the troop achieves the patch requirements by June 1, 2019. In order for each girl to receive a patch:

- At least 50% of the families in the troop must make an invest in girls contribution by June 1. Gifts may come from parents, grandparents, friends, or employer matching contributions. Remember, others you know may be willing to contribute - you just have to ask! Don't forget to complete an invest in girls contribution form for each gift.
- In total, the troop must contribute at least $5 per registered girl in the troop.

So, if your troop has 10 girls, five families must participate and contribute at least a total of $50.
When the troop becomes eligible, the troop leader submits a patch request form. Patches will be given to the troop leader for distribution to all the girls in the troop.

How you can invest in girls

Contributions can be made by June 1, 2019 with check, credit card, cash, online, or on the Girl Scouts of the USA registration form.

$5	minimum per girl average for all girls in the troop to receive patch
$25	provides annual Girl Scout membership dues for one girl
$35	provides extended year Girl Scout membership for one girl
$100	provides dues assistance for at least four girls

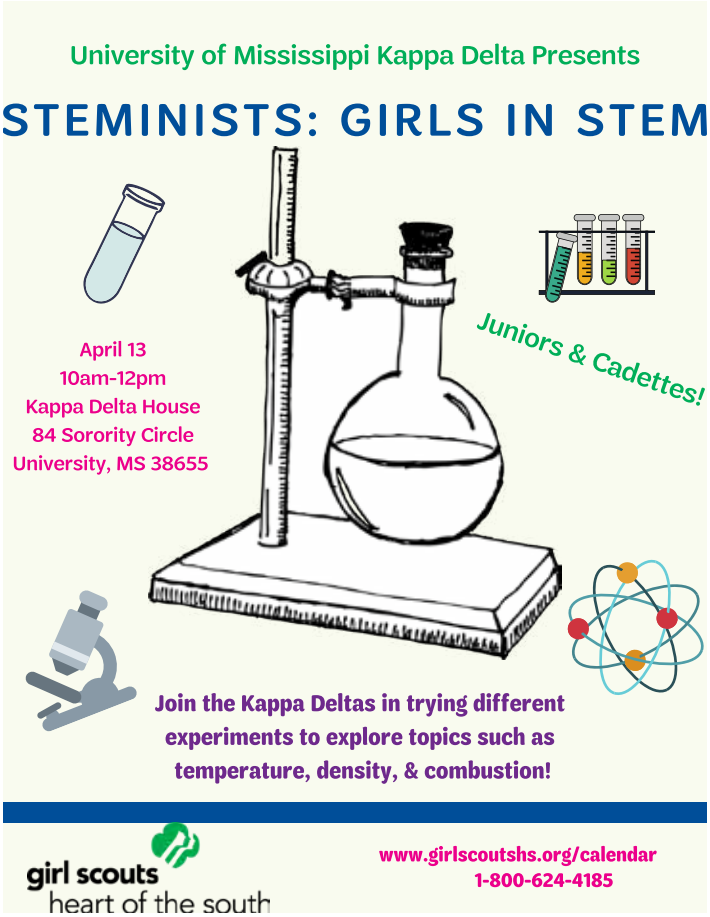
Don't let a girl miss another year of Girl Scouts.

For more information, contact Venus Chaney, Chief Development & Advocacy Officer, at 901-334-3465 or via email at venus.chaney@girlscoutshs.org.

EVENT CALENDAR

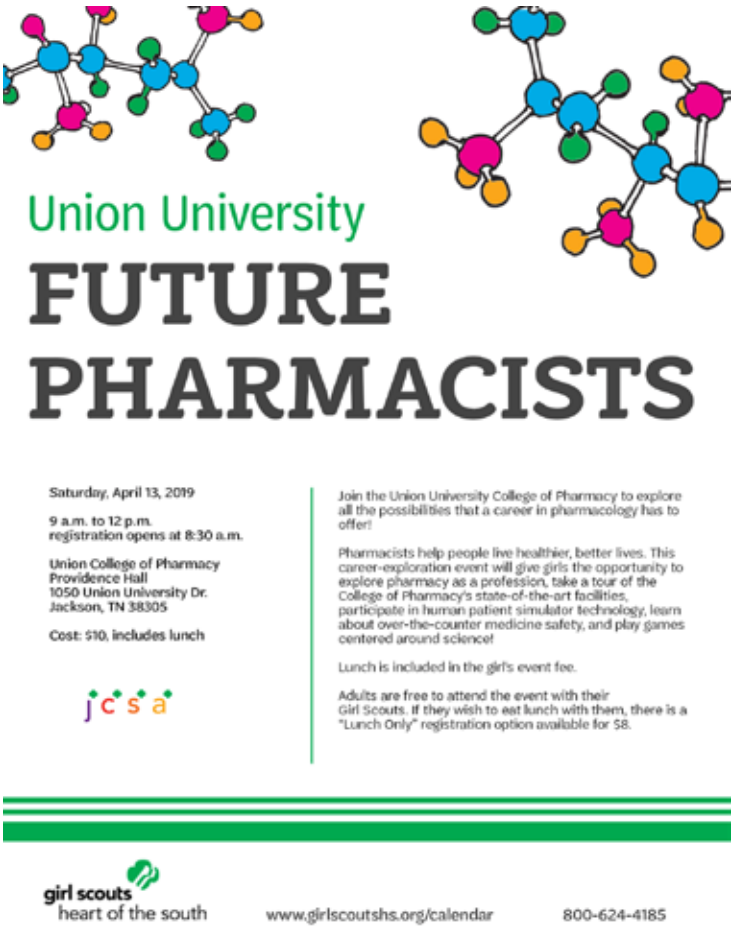
Find out more about events online at www.girlscoutshs.org/calendar

April 5-7	Teen Camporee	Kamp Kiwani, Middleton, TN
April 7	Take the Lead with Kappa Delta	Starkville, MS
April 9	Gab About Gold	Memphis, TN
April 12-14	Troop Camping	Camp Tik-A-Witha, Van Vleet, MS
April 13	Memphis Express Girl Scout Combine & Game	Liberty Bowl, Memphis, TN
April 13	Mother's Day is Blooming with Kappa Delta	Cleveland, MS
April 13	STEMinists: Girls in Stem	Oxford, MS
April 16	STEAM Weeknight Series	Imagine Center, Memphis, TN
April 13	Union University College of Pharmacy Program	Jackson, TN
April 20	Snack Attack! with Kappa Delta	Memphis, TN
April 22	Girl Scout Leader Appreciation Day	Nationwide
April 22	Earth Day with Kappa Delta	Memphis, TN
April 27	G.I.R.L. Celebration	Memphis, TN
April 27	Finding the Fighting Okra with Kappa Delta	Cleveland, MS
April 28	Camp TIk-A-Witha Open House	Van Vleet, MS
April 28	Get Outside with Kappa Delta	Jackson, TN
May 3-5	Me and Mine	Kamp Kiwani, Middleton, TN
May 4	Samoa Day Camp	Camp Tik-A-Witha, Van Vleet, MS
May 5	Kamp Kiwani Open House	Middleton, TN
May 18-19	Zoo Snooze	Memphis Zoo, Memphis, TN
June 8	Volunteer Leadership Summit	Memphis, TN
July 7-12	New York, New York! Trip	New York, New York
July 19-21	Camp TIk-A-Witha 50th Anniversary Reunion	Camp Tik-A-Witha, Van Vleet, MS
July 26-27	Go Gold Overnight	TBA



PROGRAMMING FLYERS

Click on the flyer to download and print!

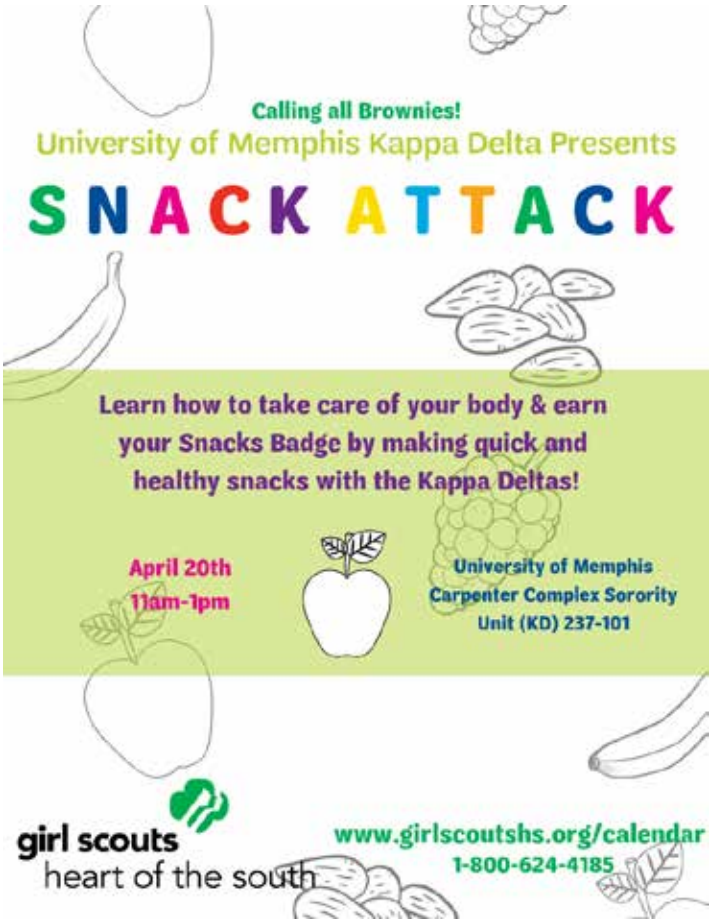


STEAM WEEKNIGHT SERIES

TUESDAY, APRIL 16
6 - 7:30 p.m.
MEMPHIS LEADERSHIP CENTER

Girl Scouts are invited to our STEAM Weeknight Series to investigate the different types of math and calculate how fun it can be!

register now



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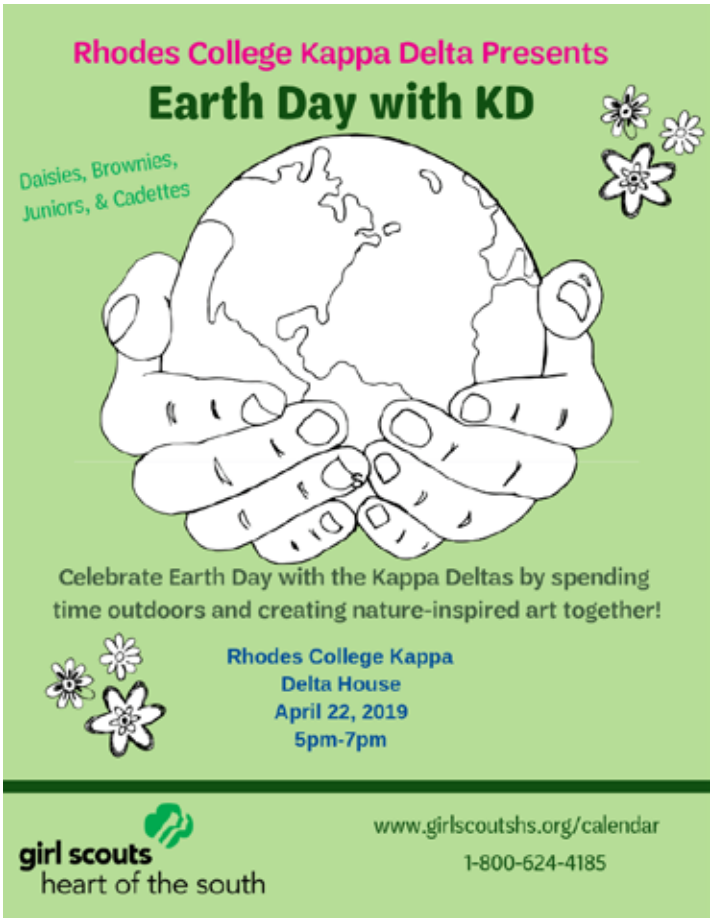

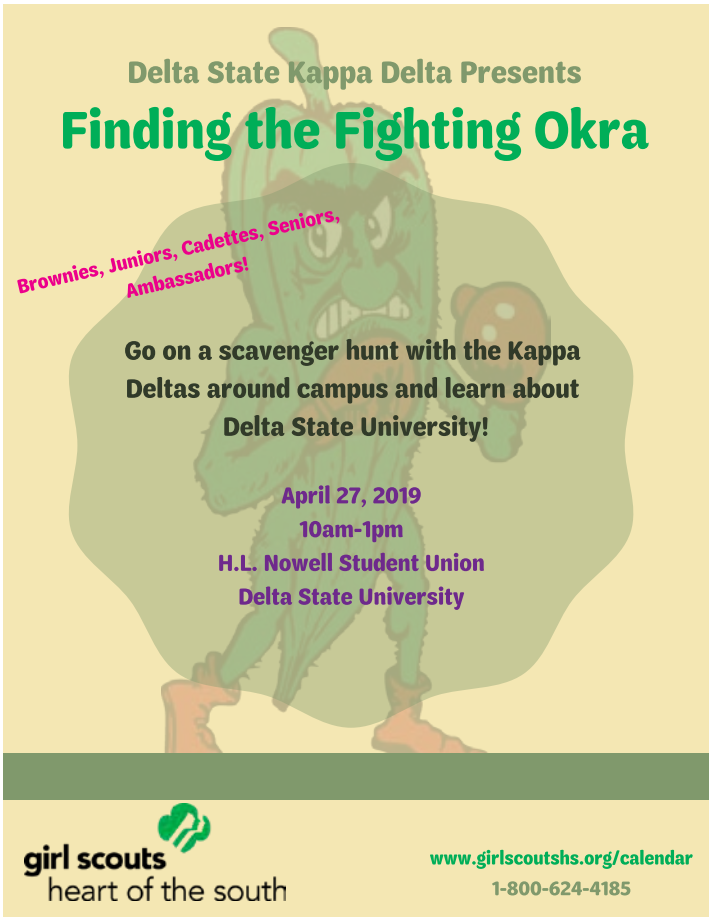

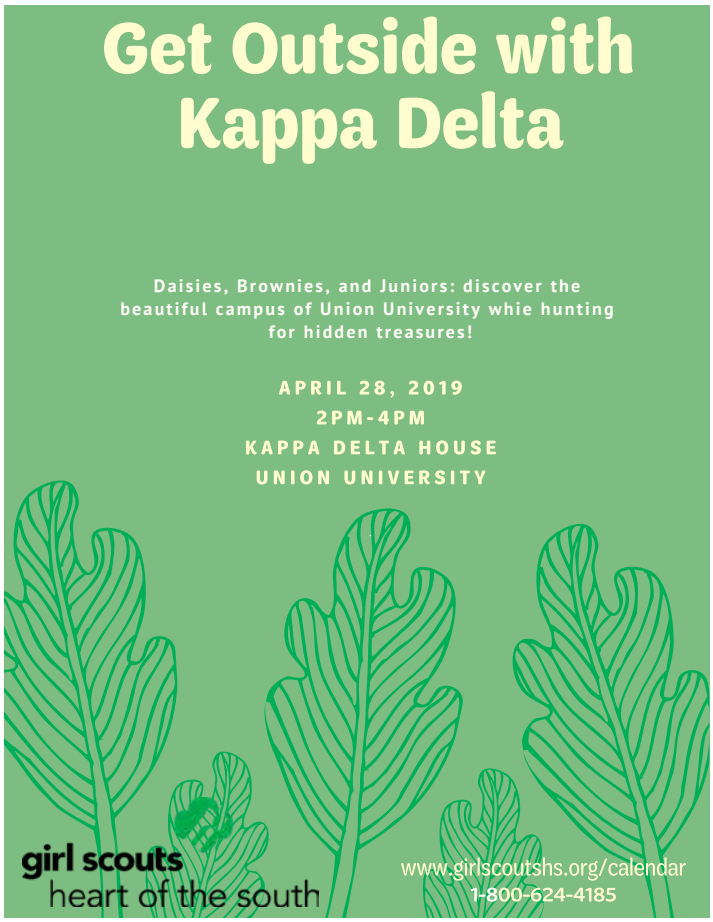

TREFOIL TRUNK COUNCIL SHOP

My Girl Scout Kit

If your girl is Bridging to the next level of Girl Scouts, get her ready with a Girl Scout Kit! These kits come with everything she'll need for the next level of Girl Scouts. PLUS, every kit gets a purple or black drawstring bag for free while supplies last!

Available online and in-store.

Girl Scout Brownie
Sash $50.50 / Vest $63
Girl Scout Junior
Sash $52 / Vest $64.50
Girl Scout Cadette, Senior or Ambassador
Sash $53 / Vest $70

Volunteering is a Work of Heart!

Girl Scout Leader's Day is April 22nd!
Show your appreciation with a gift for a volunteer or leader!

SHOP NOW

Girl Scouts Heart of the South Leadership Centers and Trefoil Trunk Shops

Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Shop online anytime at www.girlscoutshs.org/shop

Girl Scouts Heart of the South staff are committed to providing quality customer service to our volunteers, families and community.

Our Council Care team is available to assist you during normal business hours: 800-624-4185 or info@girlscoutshs.org.

MEMPHIS
717 South White Station Rd., Ste. 2
Memphis, TN 38117

JACKSON
1007 Old Humboldt Rd.
Jackson, TN 38305

TUPELO
1140 West Main St.
Tupelo, MS 38801