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GIRL SCOUT COOKIES RETURN FOR LIMITED TIME

Every Purchase Helps Girls Learn Leadership Skills and Fund New Adventures

BOSTON, MA (December 2, 2019) — Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) is announcing the return of the Girl Scout Cookie Program on December 3! For a limited time, Girl Scouts will be selling cookies across the region, learning valuable financial and life skills while earning money to fund their next adventures. With each purchase, members of the community are supporting tomorrow's leaders.

After its much-celebrated debut last year, the gluten-free, peanut-free Caramel Chocolate Chip Cookie will return to eastern Massachusetts. Girl Scout Cookies are \$5 per package and available in eight other delicious flavors: Thin Mints®, Caramel deLites®, Peanut Butter Patties®, Thanks-A-Lot®, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Lemonades™, Shortbread, Girl Scout S'mores®.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is proven to help girls develop five essential life and business skills (goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics), fostering the next generation of entrepreneurs. Every purchase of Girl Scout Cookies is an investment in girls—100 percent of the net revenue stays local. And girls can use their earnings to experience incredible things, such as travel, summer camp, STEM field trips, and more.

"Nearly 80 percent of female entrepreneurs are Girl Scout alums, and that's in part because they learned how to build their own small business through the Cookie Program," says Caitríona Taylor, CEO of Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts. "Girls from Kindergarten through high school choose why want to sell cookies, and then plan and execute their strategy to meet their

goals. That's why our cookie fans can take pride that every purchase helps local girls take the lead to change the world!"

This year's Girl Scout Cookie packages also include updated nutrition labels, to ensure transparency about any allergens that may be present in the bakery where your favorite Girl Scout Cookies are made. <u>ABC Bakers</u> has not made any recipe changes from last season, and its manufacturing processes remain the same. ABC Bakers has added the optional "may contain" statements to all packages, due to Food and Drug Administration (FDA) labeling updates going into effect this season.

Cookie fans can use the online <u>Cookie Finder</u> at girlscoutcookies.org to locate booth sales. Online ordering is available through a Girl Scout (GSEMA covers 50% of customers' shipping costs for all online Direct Ship orders of five packages or more).

Through the Cookies for a Cause program, girls can offer customers the opportunity to buy cookies that the troop will deliver directly to a charitable organization of their choosing. Girl Scouts may also collect cookie donations for United States military, which will be delivered at GSEMA's annual Cookies for a Cause event at Hanscom Air Force Base in the spring.

To learn more about the Girl Scout Cookie Program, visit <u>girlscoutcookies.org</u>. For more information about Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts, including how to join or volunteer, visit <u>gsema.org/join</u>.

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We're Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) We're 45,000 strong, with 30,000 girls and 15,000 volunteers in 178 communities in eastern Massachusetts who believe in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)™ to change the world. Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. GSEMA is the 10th largest Girl Scout council in the United States, building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. To volunteer, reconnect, donate, join, or learn more, visit gsema.org.